

JUNE 2012

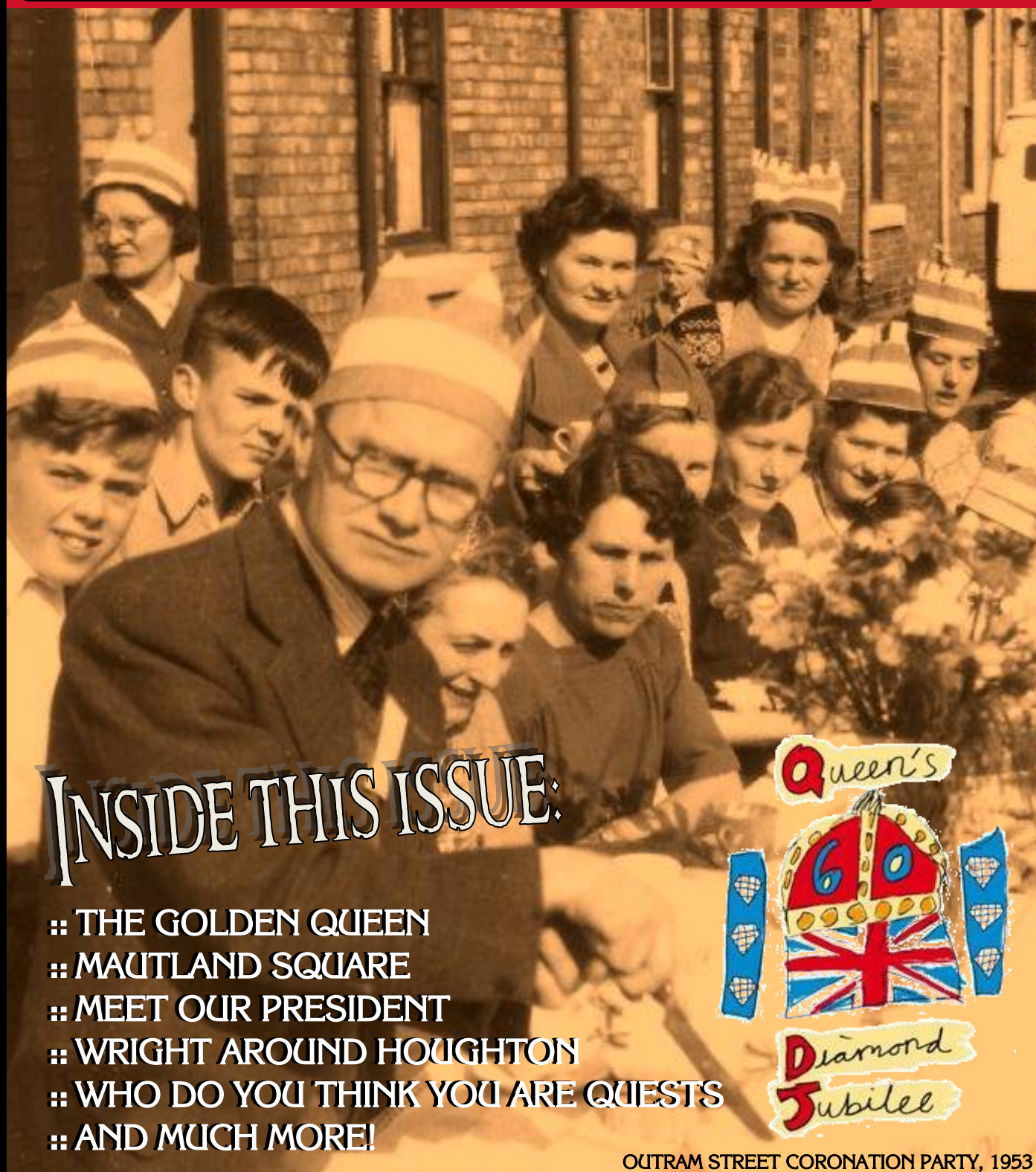
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THE HOUGHTONIAN



QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY

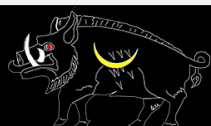


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OUTRAM STREET CORONATION PARTY, 1953



WWW.HOUGHTONLESPRING.ORG.UK

CAN YOU HELP?

If you have any old photographs of Houghton-le-Spring that you would like to share, please contact Paul Lanagan via www.houghtonlespring.org.uk

FACES AND PLACES

Photographs are treated with care and respect and are returned promptly once they have been copied.

Allowing your precious photographs to be copied and shared ensures that they will be around for generations to come.

1953 Coronation, 1977 & 2002 Jubilee photos also wanted for a special commemorative book later in the year!





WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTONIAN, the quarterly magazine of the Houghton-le-Spring Heritage Society. This is our seventh consecutive issue, numbered as Volume 2 Issue 2 and has taken a special Union flag theme to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

THE CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE, as June marks the 30th anniversary of Jean Holland's time as a barmaid in the Golden Lion and in this issue we pay tribute to her. We also pay tribute to Jack Morley, a son of Houghton and a supporter of Houghton Heritage.

IN MAY, Houghton Heritage Society visited Grangewood Care Home in Shiney Row and gave an illustrated talk to the residents as part of Dementia Awareness Week. Thanks are extended to all at Grangewood for their hospitality.

HOUGHTON HERITAGE Society would also like to place on record grateful thanks to showman Stanley Reeves of S&D Leisure for his recent generous donation of £100. Find out more the UK's premiere amusement rider provider at: www.sdleisure.com



AS ALWAYS, I do hope you enjoy this issue.

PAUL LANAGAN
CHAIRMAN
H-L-S HERITAGE SOCIETY

@ WEB UPDATES @
WWW.HOUGHTONLESRING.ORG.UK

THE **HH** WEBSITE IS UPDATED FREQUENTLY. JUST CLICK ON THE UPDATED LINK ON THE HOME PAGE TO SEE WHAT'S NEW. SOME OF THE UPDATED PAGES DURING THE PAST THREE MONTHS INCLUDE:

- ▄▄ **Knick Knacks & Curiosities** – page updated with details of small glass etched to commemorate the explosion at Houghton Pit in 1850.
- ▄▄ **Houghton's Cenotaph** – the page about Houghton's First World War memorial has been updated with new images and addition information about the Cenotaph.
- ▄▄ **Mautland Street & Mautland Square** – a house-by-house guide to the houses and shops on Mautland Street and later Mautland Square (1969-2001).
- ▄▄ **Houghton Hillside Cemetery Lodge** – details added about the erection of the lych gate archway next to the Cemetery Lodge on Sunderland Street.
- ▄▄ **Robinson Brothers Brewery** – time line about the old brewery maltings on Durham Road has been updated.
- ▄▄ **Sunderland Street: House by House Guide** – the Sunderland Street directory has been updated with more residents and occupants from the Censuses and old advertisements.
- ▄▄ **Houghton Pit Pony Hoof** - a miner's memento of his dead pit pony from Houghton Colliery, 1910.
- ▄▄ **Houghton's George V Coronation Bonfire** – the article about the Coronation Bonfire has been updated with other Jubilees and Coronations.

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If you're reading a printed version of The Houghtonian and are having difficulty seeing the print, did you know you can read the online PDF? This can be increased in size up to a whopping 6400% in Adobe Reader!

FOR INTERNET ACCESS AT HOUGHTON LIBRARY – TELEPHONE 0191 561 6383 FOR DETAILS.

MEET OUR PRESIDENT

DR JOHN SELWYN MORLEY, PhD, MD, DSc

Houghton Heritage Society is proud to announce that supporter Jack Morley, has been appointed as Honorary President. Jack was born at 32 Edwin Street in 1925 and his memories of Houghton, particularly of the 1930s, have been of great help to the Society since he first got in touch back in 2007. Jack is a modest gentleman, however the Society has recently learnt of his life achievements, which are detailed below, and is now seeking to have his name included in the Houghton Grammar School Book of Honour which records the achievements of the school's alumni.

Jack attended Newbottle Street Infant and Junior Schools from 1930 – 1937, Houghton Secondary/Grammar School from 1937 – 1942 and then went to University College Durham to study life sciences. After graduation in December 1945 (being Wartime, there were four terms each academic year), he was sent to the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine to continue his medical studies and do research on malaria.

His subsequent working life has been devoted to medical research, published in some 200 papers. The results won international acclaim, resulting in his being invited to be a main speaker at many meetings around the world.

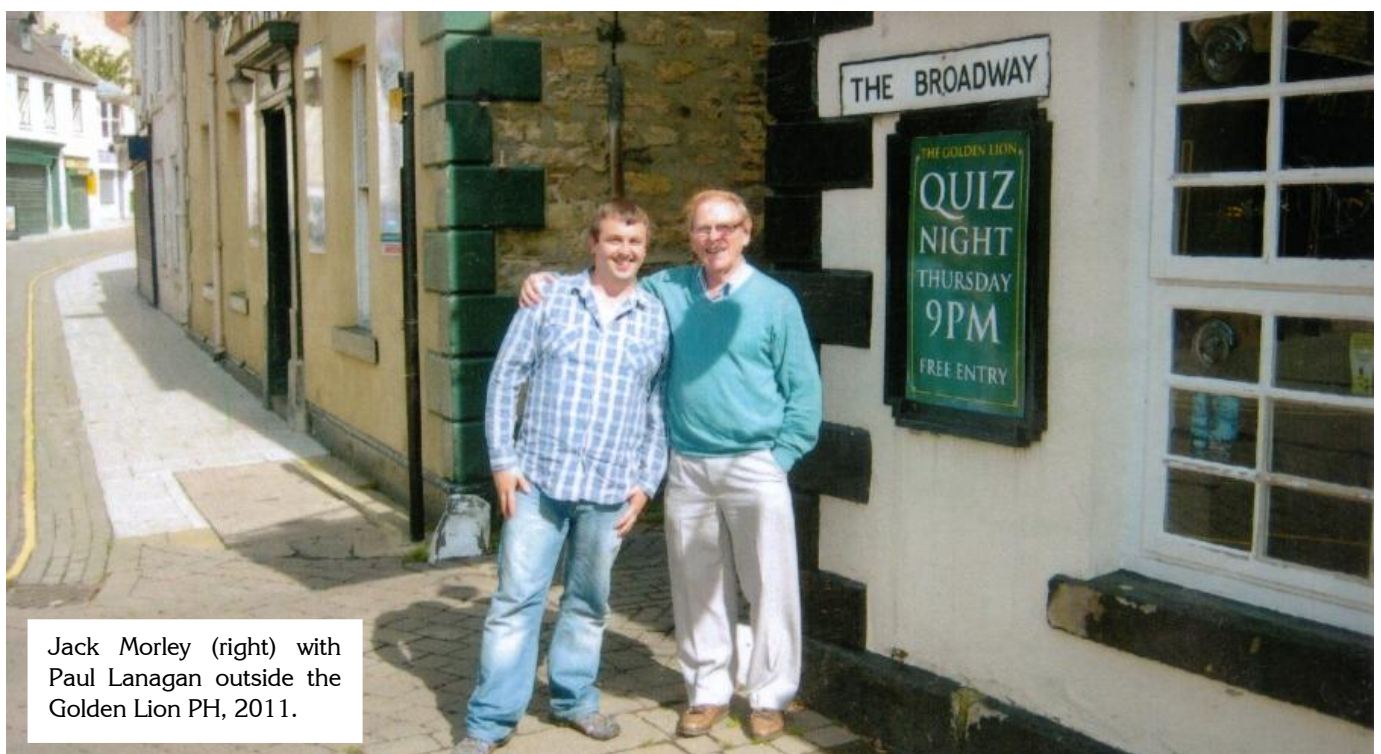
Until 1982, these researches were at Liverpool, Cambridge and Manchester Universities, and at ICI Alderley Park. Highlights were his prominent role in the isolation and characterisation of gastrin, the antral hormone; his discovery of a simpler form of the hormone now used in hospitals for the assessment of gastric secretory function; his role in the discovery of Zoladex, a gonadorelin analogue for the treatment of prostate cancer; and his pioneering research on endorphins – our body's natural opiates.

In 1982 he co-founded a unique multidisciplinary Institute at

Liverpool for research on chronic pain. On February 16th 2011, the Pain Research Institute was awarded Freedom of the City of Liverpool in recognition of the success of its work over the last 30 years. Jack personally raised research grants of over £500,000 during this period, and his own researches solved problems in the use of morphine, leading to new procedures which are used world-wide.

The move to the Institute also enable Jack to pursue research on his main interest in neurology – the possibility that regeneration of the human central nervous system (CNS) was possible. The teaching in medical schools was then that the CNS was 'fixed, immutable and can't be changed'. Using novel experimental systems, he demonstrated that regeneration was indeed possible. He applied his findings in the treatment of Parkinson's Disease, and initiated clinical trials which are still in progress.

He and his wife Nancy have been married for 63 years. They moved to a home in Cheadle Hulme, near Stockport, in 1954, and still live there. Both have been actively involved in local community work (he was an Urban District Councillor, magistrate, school governor, Chairman of the Scout's Association, Citizen's Advice Bureau etc).



Jack Morley (right) with Paul Lanagan outside the Golden Lion PH, 2011.



WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Can you help solve these Genealogical & Heritage Quests?

RITCHEY'S YARD

Dear Houghton Heritage, In one of the censuses it states that there was a Ritchey's Yard which was behind Ritchey's shop in Nesham Place. Can anyone tell me anything about it?

*Margaret Ritchey
A&M Ritchey's Good Grub
Newbottle Street*

SIR GEORGE ELLIOT

Dear Paul, It has been many years since we communicated regarding the life of Sir George Elliot for my book about Powell Duffryn. I hope you are well. Please can you help? I wish to write to the owner of Houghton Hall seeking permission to use a photograph I took of their in home in my forthcoming book about Powell Duffryn. The publisher, Black Dwarf Lightmoor, postponed publication of the Powell Duffryn book in 2008 due to the economic situation, but last year asked me to get ready for laying out my work this year. The task of laying out the book will begin soon. Please could you the name of the owner of Houghton Hall? Last year, Black Dwarf published my first book, 'Vickers' Master Shipbuilder: Sir Leonard Redshaw', and I attach 'MER Review of LR Book.jpg', which is a review of the book in MER (Marine Engineers Review), a journal published by IMAREST, formerly the Institution of Marine Engineers. Best wishes

Les Shore

RAINTON PIT DISASTER

Hi Paul, After some info off the St Michaels Burial register. Have the form here to send to you for 8 records of Blackbird's and Blenkinsop's but then thought I am probably related to all of them. Just for your info the main thing I am trying to work out is if the Thomas Blackbird who died in the Rainton Pit accident of 1823 is the same Thomas who is my 4 x Gr Grandfather. Cheers.

Steven Slater

EDWIN STREET SHOP

Hello, I have been looking at your website with great interest. My

father was born at Houghton on 3 March 1921 above his grandparents' corner shop. Unfortunately I don't know the name of the road but I was taken there in the 1960s by which time it had been re-converted into a house. The names of the grandparents were Elizabeth and H (Henry?) Davidson. They had four children. 1. Herbert who married Suzie and they had one son Tom and two girls Betty and Dorothy. Both girls married two brothers by the name of Fulton.

2. Grace who married Tom Lax. They had one daughter Bessie who was knocked down by a bus on 20 January 1939. She was aged just 9. They also had a son Harry who continues to live in Houghton. I am regular contact with him and he is trying to obtain a book on the history of Houghton which includes a photo of the aforementioned shop with both grandparents standing outside!

3. Mildred (my grandmother) who married Maddison Wilks. They had two boys William Maddison (my dad) and Thomas Davidson.

4. They also had a son William. I know nothing of him. My main question concerns the Houghton Cut. My grandfather used to tell me it had been cut by French Prisoners of War during the mid 1800s. Is this correct please? I remember visiting the cemetery off the cut in the 1960s. What a tranquil place it was. He also told me that some French PoW were buried there. Is that also correct? Many thanks and keep up the great work with your website!

Oh yes, and a Happy New Year to you all.

*Paul Wilks
Cheshire*

PAUL LANAGAN REPLIED:

There is a photograph in 'The People's History: Houghton-le-Spring' by Geoffrey Berriman, 2000, on page 52 showing Davidson's Grocery shop in Edwin Street, circa 1920. Could this be the photograph you refer to?

FOOTBALL TEAMS

Hi Paul, Last week I decided to give my grandfather's football medal to my grandson. My daughter put Monkwearmouth

Charity Cup into the Internet and up came a picture of the 1912 cup winning team, with my grandfather's picture. I remain totally gobsmacked! I have found a website that states that the only player so far identified is the goalkeeper, Jack Heath. My grandfather, Simon Graham is next to him, on his right, i.e. back row 4th from left. I need to find out where Simon was living in 1912. My early years memories are Simon and Isabel Graham living at 25 Bullion Lane, Chester-le-street. They had three children, Mary, my mother, Frank Graham and Ruth. Frank's children Peter and Patricia were brought up in Pelton/Perkinsville. I know that Simon's father was the landlord of the Ship Inn at Pelton, one reason why Simon was teetotal. I am totally fascinated by the picture, we have never seen this before. Magic! Kind regards.

Alan Dolman

DENE HOUSE FARM

Dear Houghton Heritage Society, I am a descendant from the Bowden family that owned Dene House Farm at Houghton-le-Spring circa early 1800. We will be in Durham soon and would appreciate the opportunity to research the family history. Could you direct us to the best location for help in this matter? We have the book 'The Peoples History Houghton-le-Spring' by Geoffrey Berriman; it has a photo of Dene House Farm being worked in 1954. We would like to know the origin of the photo and the exact location of the Farm. We would like to contact him by email and ask if you could provide us with his address and/or contact details please, if you have them. In fact if you have details of any other contacts that could be of assistance, thank you if you could forward to us. Look forward to your assistance with thanks. Regards.

*Moiria Moretti
Adelaide, Australia*

WHOSE CHABBLE?

Paul, I am a American woman living in Sacramento, CA, USA, and own a very old oak dining

table with a label on the underside of the table that is quite worn. Some of the writing is worn away but I can still read some. This piece of furniture came from Clingly Antiques:

-----ery Row Methodist Church, Houghton-le-Spring, England, ---s 2030, Sunderland 75012

Can you provide me of any assistance in determining this business? The address? The church? I have been fruitlessly searching on the internet and have yet to find much information. Sincerely.

*Susan Wilkinson
California, USA*

PAUL LANAGAN REPLIED:

Dear Susan, Thank you for your enquiry regarding the dining table. This piece of furniture came from Clingly Antiques. I have not heard of Clingly Antiques before but it appears that it was in Sunderland based on the old style telephone number of 75012 - before the 56 prefix was added. The table came from Colliery Row Methodist Church, located in Chilton Moor, near Fence Houses, just outside of Houghton-le-Spring town centre. I would assume it was probably the communion table - can you supply some photos? I don't know what the "-----s 2030" is; if it had been 1830 or 1930 I would have guessed the date it was donated to the church. Older locals recollect that when the church first closed it was used for storing antiques, so they probably sold the items left in the church. It is now used for the storage of building materials. You can see the Church on Google Maps. I do hope this information is of use to you.

SOUND FAMILIAR?

Hi Paul, I visited your site today and noticed the following burials relevant to my family history: Thomas Forest; Ann Forest; Jacob Forest; Ann Forest; Jane Forest; Jane Forest; John Forester; Jane Forrest; Jane Swales; Mahala Swails; and Robert Swales. Kind regards.

*John Forrest
Australia*

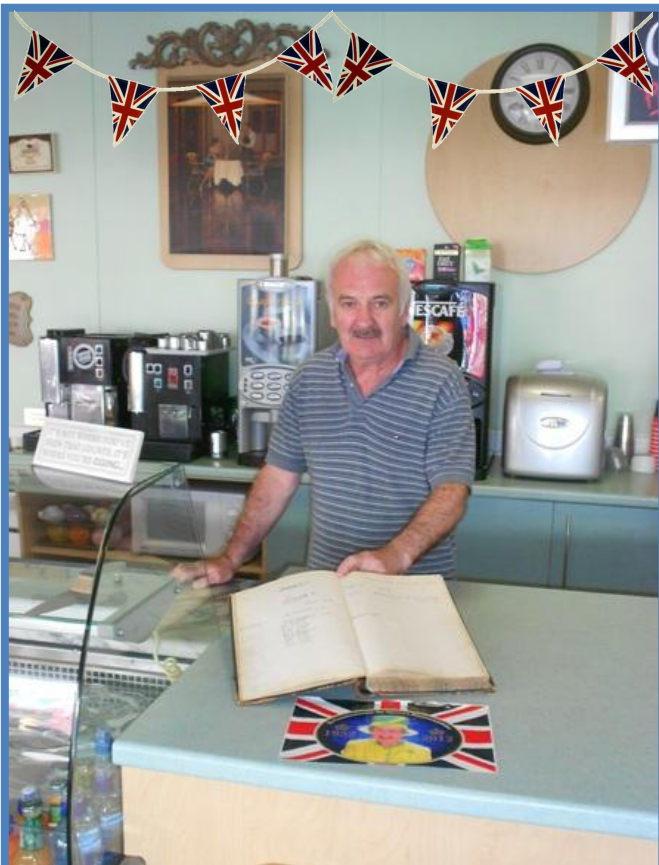
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1949



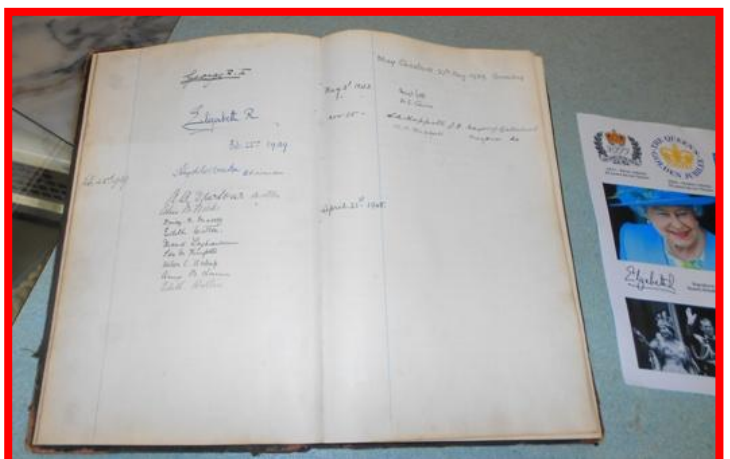
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A children's pageant in the Rectory Park, thought to be part of the opening celebrations, 1949. The children were dressed as important historical figures in the development of our country. The young boy at the right was David Livingstone. Pictured are, from left to right: unknown; unknown; unknown; unknown; Michael Allan; unknown; Alec Layfield; unknown; Alan Smirthwaite; unknown; unknown; unknown; Keith Littlewood; unknown; and Geoffrey Atkinson. Can any reader help name those currently unidentified?



SIGNED BY HRH

BE SURE TO visit the Peppercorn Café on Newbottle Street this Diamond Jubilee weekend, as on display are actual signatures from King George VI and his wife, Elizabeth. Both are inside a visitors' book from Gateshead Children's Home on the page dated February 22nd 1939. Café owner, Michael McGlinchey, is pictured left with the book which also contains the signature of actor Johnny Weissmuller, best known for playing Tarzan. Sadly the book shows that there were no visitors on Christmas Day.





WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Can you help solve these Genealogical & Heritage Quests?

JOLLY FARMERS INN

Dear Paul, I was intrigued by the information you have been able to obtain about the village. I was wondering if you have any information on the "Jolly Farmers Inn" located in Houghton-le-Spring. It was owned by my great grandfather, Arthur Smith -wife Sarah Ann - and unfortunately there is little material that was passed on to the remainder of the family. The only thing that we have is an old postcard with the "pub" circled. Any remembrances of the establishment came from my great aunt Sadie who resided in the village till at least 1989. Any assistance in obtaining information is greatly appreciated, Sincerely,

*Craig Posmantur
Buffalo, New York*

THE JOLLY FARMERS INN

Information required on Spring Inn in Houghton-le-Spring re: Mr Wheatley - manager - around 1946 to assist in compiling my natural family background. Thank you for considering my request.

*James Brynley
Chacksfield*

NESHAM PLACE

Dear Houghton Heritage, My name is Pete Thomas. I am not sure if you are able to help me, I am retired from the RAF currently living in the Midlands but looking to relocate to the North East as it is where my wife originates from as she wants to be closer to her family. We are looking to purchase a house in the region and wondering if you know of any information concerning Nesham House, Nesham Place, Houghton Le Spring. I have spent many hours online but unable to come up with anything and several sites have suggested contacting local historians and I found you, hence my contacting you. I know it is probably an unusual request but I would appreciate any information you could give. I hope to hear from you, Regards.

Pete Thomas

SOUND FAMILIAR?

My father's family hails from Co Durham. I had a great aunt whose address was 21 Outram Street in Houghton-Le-Spring and her name was Mrs Jenny Williams nee Stewart. I was in touch with her all through the fifties, when I was a little girl, until her death. She and her husband did not have any children. I am not actually very sure where it was exactly that my father's family originated from but it was the Sunderland-Durham area. My father's father was a John Smith, which is not really very helpful but my grandmother's name was Margaret Purvis (Purves?) and she had a younger sister, Mildred, who married George Richardson, from Sunderland. There was possibly a brother as well (Tom?). Margaret trained as a tailor at Binns (?) in either Sunderland or Newcastle and John was a draper, I think, with the Coop. I am just wondering if anyone might have any memory of these people or know of any descendants.

Gillian McKim

FIELD HOUSE, 4 LANE ENDS

Paul, My wife's cousin's father was born at Field House, Four Lane Ends, Hetton le Hole in 1921. In my imagination 'Field House' could be anything from the stately home of Lord and Lady Field to a shed in a field! I can find nothing on the web and cannot find it in the 1911 census. I have looked at ordinance survey maps of the period and nothing stands out. Do you have any info? Regards

John

THE LAING FAMILY

Whilst tracing the members of my family, I came across two who died relatively recently and wondered if anyone knew them. I am waiting for their Death Certificates to find out exactly where they lived, but your members seem to know everything and everyone! Their names were:- Rachel J. Laing, nee Morrison, who died in 1989 at about 90 Years of age; and Ivy Laing, never married, who died in 1992 at about 80 Years of age. Hope to hear something.

Ray Laing

MOORE & WHEATLEYS

Dear Houghton Heritage, My great grandfather George Moore (from Leamside) worked the Pit until 1926 and then came to the United States. I am searching for any family connections to the Moore and Wheatley families. My Great grandmother Josephine (from Houghton-le-Spring) and George were members of St. Michael and All Angels. That is all I have to go on. Thanks for welcoming me to the group. I have no middle name for her. She had two daughters when they left Josephine (born 1920) and Gladys (my grandmother, Feb 25, 1923).

*Chris Bowen
USA*

STANLEY HORACE KAY

Dear Paul, I have been looking at the Houghton Heritage Website with great interest as my grandparents lived there at the beginning of the C20 and my father was born there in 1914. I remember trips to Houghton as a small child to visit the grave of my father's brother, Stanley Horace Kay who was killed in a very early motor car accident on Whit Monday in 1924. It was widely reported in the newspapers at the time. My father was born at 28 Sunderland Street in 1914. My grandfather, Horace Kay, had a cobblers/shoeshop and is shown as being in Electric Crescent in the 1911 Census. If you have any information regarding his life at this time, I would be very grateful as I have no one I can ask! I live in London so it is difficult to access local records. I wondered whether there are any local newspapers or trade papers that might help me pursue this. Look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes.

Val Lanceley

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

Just to say that this site is brilliant. I lived in Newbottle as a child but just love reading all of the postings on here. Fantastic dedication!

*Sandra Elvins
Kidsgrove
Staffordshire*

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Dear Houghton Heritage, I came across your site whilst trying to find out where I could locate an art teacher from Houghton Le Spring Grammar School (around 1968/69) called Helen Joseph, possibly Josephs. It brought back great memories of school there (I was at the Grammar). And of course Dimis. Keep up the good work.

George Blacklock

TWEDDLE & MCLAREN

Dear Houghton Heritage, I am researching into vessels lost off the Portland Bill area of the English Channel and I am trying to locate photos/information on the following steamship - Name S.S Hesledon Hall; Built 1878; Builder Chlesinger & Davis, Wallsend; Tonnage 595 grt; Owner Tweddle & McLaren, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham; Fate 25-7-1880 sunk in collision off Portland, Dorset. Any help you can give me would be most appreciated. Kind regards.

Alan Dunster

JUNCTION ROW QUERY

Re. Mr. Rob Leach's query about Junction Row. There is/was a terrace of about twenty cottages t'other end of Blind Lane from Grasswell called Junction Row. The terrace stood by Blind Lane surrounded by fields. Most likely they would be colliery houses. Funny enough although there was only that terrace there and we locals referred to the area for a mile or two around as "Junction Row." The isolation hospital up the lane was Junction Row hospital. It is on Google Maps. Photos? The best I can do is if you scroll down a bit on the Houghton Heritage Facebook group you will find our Betty as young girl perched on some railings. The lane crossing behind her is Blind Lane. Junction Row is a couple mile to her right.

Harry Smith

* * * * *



**Keep reading for
more Quests!**

MAUTLAND SQUARE

TODAY WE PAY A VISIT TO MAUTLAND SQUARE WHICH STOOD AT THE TOP OF MAUTLAND STREET BETWEEN 1969 AND 2001. THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THIS ARTICLE, INCLUDING HELEN MURPHY WHO PROVIDED PHOTOGRAPHS. THE HH WEBSITE HAS BEEN UPDATED WITH A SHOP-BY-SHOP GUIDE TO THE SHOPPING DEVELOPMENT.

MAUTLAND STREET SLOPED in a north-easterly direction from Newbottle Street towards George Street and Sunderland Street. It was intersected in the middle by Bowlby Street, which ran adjacent to the Primitive Methodist Chapel and along the back of Newbottle Street.

In the 1960s a mania for demolition swept Houghton-le-Spring and many old buildings were wiped off the map, not just those considered slums, but fine and impressive buildings such as the original White Lion pub, the old Town Hall and parts of the historic Church Street. Mautland Street was no exception and in 1969 many buildings were demolished leaving a cul-de-sac offshoot from Newbottle Street with a new shopping centre at the end. This was known as Mautland Square and consisted of shopping units on the ground floor with maisonettes and flats above. These were linked with concrete aerial walkways, synonymous to those seen at New Town developments like the Washington Galleries and Killingworth in North Tyneside. A climbing frame was even erected in the centre to keep the children entertained while their parents shopped!

The shopping units were filled with an eclectic mix of shops, including: a butchers, a fish and chip shop, a cafe restaurant, a fruit shop, a barbers, a TV shop and many others. The new Houghton-le-Spring Library took up an entire side of the Square.

Though billed as modern with underfloor heating, the flats above the shops were rife with dampness and former residents have described how their walls were black with mould, with the only advice available being to turn the heating up and open the windows. Around 1983 the top floor was removed and a pitched roof was added but this didn't seem to alleviate the problem. There were other issues with children using the walkways for BMXing; dog fouling on the walkways; and the lower level was often described as a 'wind tunnel'.

Not all of the problems were physical, some were spiritual: one resident claimed that her maisonette was haunted and she apparently had to sleep in one room with her children as they were so scared (the flat was subsequently exorcised by a priest); meanwhile, there were ongoing discussions about the suitability of the neighbouring Mautland Street Methodist Church - in 1977 it was recommended that it be merged with Nesham Place Chapel. In August 1979 the old chapel was demolished while the church halls and school rooms were retained and a new church, called Houghton Methodist Church, was officially opened on September 27th 1980.

Despite the modernising of the church, the issues with the neighbouring Mautland Square still existed and the housing aspect came to an end in the 1990s when the flats were boarded up. Some attempts were made to tempt the shoppers back to the development; Houghton lacked a public convenience (the one near the Rectory Park had a bad reputation) and a futuristic-looking automatic toilet was installed next to 9 Mautland Square and the car park in 1990.

However, in the summer of 1999 plans were submitted, and approved, for the demolition of Mautland Square. On November 24th 2000, work started on the development of a new Co-Op Supermarket and Mautland Square was razed to the ground. Some traders, such as the Peppercorn Cafe, relocated to the new library development on the former site of Newbottle Street School.

The 15,000 sq ft supermarket, which was designed by Newcastle-based Chartered Architects Coulson Swinbourne Moses and built by John Mowlem and Company, was officially opened on Tuesday December 4th 2001 by a pupil from one of Houghton's primary schools following a competition. More than 10,000 customers passed through the doors in the first three days. The happy news was blighted a week later when the Sunderland Echo ran an article claiming that shoppers, who had previously parked in the Mautland Square car park for free and without incident, were now being threatened with wheel clamping should they stay longer than two hours.

PAUL LANAGAN
CHAIRMAN
H-L-S HERITAGE SOCIETY



Photographs kindly shared by Helen Murphy. A full shop-by-shop guide to Mautland Square can be found on the HH website.



WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Can you help solve these Genealogical & Heritage Quests?

JOSEPH STOKOE

Hello Paul, I was just browsing though the Houghton Heritage Society site and came across the following on the Houghton Colliery Remembered page: 1881 - At this time, Houghton Colliery manager, Joseph Stokoe, lived in Gilpin House, The Quay, Church Street. He was presented with a golden coach clock with the following inscription: "Presented to Joseph Stokoe Esq, Viewer, on the attainment of his 50Th year by the officials of the Houghton Colliery as a mark of esteem July 30th, 1881" The clock now belongs to Joseph's great-great grandson, Mike Preiss, in South Africa, and still keeps good time. This was an exciting discovery as Joseph was my 3x gt uncle and I am in touch with his gt grandson Noel Stokoe. We knew that Joseph's son Joseph Laws Stokoe went out to South Africa and had at least two children but did not know that there were family still out there! Would it be at all possible for you to put me in touch with Mike Preiss please? Thanking you in advance.

Pam Bennett

HOUGHTON EMIGRANTS

Viriden, Illinois, USA is home to many descendants of former Houghton residents. Most emigrated around 1901-1903. My great great grandfather was George Smith, married first to Jane Thompson, and later to Ann Lampton. My great grandmother was Arthurina Ashman Smith, whose brothers and sister except for Phoebe remained in Houghton. Other families who emigrated were Osborne, Page, Rankin, Scott, Hutton--all local miners.

*George Rishel
Illinois, USA*

HOUGHTON'S ITALIANS

Dear Paul, I am an elderly MA student at Teesside University researching Italian immigration into the North East as little has been written about them. I am really impressed with your site and interested in obtaining the book and DVD that go along with it. I

would love to be able to have permission to quote from your findings and would of course give credit too any information used. I have information on many areas in the North East and want to compare experiences here with the larger Italian communities in the large cities, London, Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool to see if the smaller communities experienced the same changes in perception of the Italian immigrants especially in relation to 1940 and the rounding up of the local Italian population, Middlesbrough and their experience of riots and where the loss on the Arandora Star had such devastating effects on the Italian population. I have been promised oral testimony from a member of the Pacitto family and other families and I have contacted Michael Minchella in South Shields who is also going to talk to me. Unfortunately I am going into hospital in three weeks for major surgery so my research time is severely curtailed. Any help you are prepared to give would be gratefully received and as stated would be acknowledged in my dissertation. Yours faithfully,

*Dorothy Dinsdale
Teesside*

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prompted by a question from my cousin in Australia, I would like to find out more about Houghton le Spring Grammar School (known previously as Houghton-le Spring Secondary School). My Grandfather, Thomas Alfred King, taught there from 1926 when the school opened until his illness/death in 1949. My mother and her two sisters and her brother were all pupils at the school and they have plenty of memories, but no photos and no "official" documentation. I'd particularly appreciate memories and pictures.

Sheila Wheeldon

PAUL LANAGAN REPLIED:

The history of the Grammar School has been researched and is due to go on to the Houghton Heritage Society website in the coming weeks, once the book has been laid out.

YARD ROW

Can anyone help with photographs of Yard Row, Philadelphia, as one of the houses was where my Father, Thomas Graydon Lawton and his Mother and Father lived? They were Benjamin Bould Lawton and Elizabeth Mary who lived at 2 Yard Row which was within the NCB Philadelphia Workshops, where my Father did his apprenticeship, and later became Assistant Works Manager. The Works Manager at the time (early 1950s) was a Thomas Lawson who I think lived in Chester-le-Street. Yard Row was demolished I understand in the 1950s. I have one grainy image of Father and Grandfather taken outside of the house, which was taken sometime in the 1930s, but before 1939, as Benjamin Bould was killed in a colliery accident in November of that year, and is buried in the churchyard of St Matthews, Newbottle. Any info would be most welcome.

*Ian Lawton
Wakefield*

PLAIN PIT DISASTER

Dear Houghton Heritage Society, Just stumbled across this group and am thrilled. I do a lot of genealogy and some of my ancestors originated from Houghton Le Spring, back as far as 1800. Names include Patterson, Gardiner, Gardner, Gardener, Watson and Gibson. A lot of them are buried in St Michaels Churchyard including my 4x great grandfather and his son who were killed in the Plain Pit mining disaster in 1823.

Nicky Winkworth

LAYBOURN & ELLIOTTS

I'm looking for information on the following Laybourns and Elliotts, who may have been from the Houghton-le-Spring area: Bessey Laybourn; Thomas Laybourn; Susan Laybourn; Susanna Elliott; and Robert Elliott. They may have been buried in St Michael's Churchyard and Houghton Hillside Cemetery.

*Barbara Metcalfe
New Zealand*

STEWART FAMILY

Hi Paul, I've just been looking at the Houghton Heritage Society website it's really good and really informative. I am researching the Stewart family tree, and whilst we all live in Swindon, I had no idea we have such a strong heritage in Houghton Le Spring. Nearly all of my ancestors were born there or nearby (Rainton, Castle Eden, Hetton Le Hole) and I'm currently learning all about this place - of which I didn't even know existed! Do you have any tips or good places to look for more information? I'm looking at 1700s - late 1800s mostly. I'm interested to know more about the place and why they all decided to move to Swindon - most likely due to the Railways and working in GWR - but wondered if many other families did the same? Seems like a long journey too! Any comments or suggestions are most appreciated. Best wishes.

*Carly Steward
Swindon*

FIELD HOUSE FARM

Dear Sirs, I have been researching my Father's Mother's family. They were the Richardson family, and had a farm at Field House, West Rainton in the 1800s. I came across the Houghton Heritage Society site during my research, and saw a letter from Deborah Whinfield, regarding the grave of Hannah Richardson. I don't know if the Hannah Richardson that Ms Whinfield is seeking is related to my family, but I do have some information which shows 3 Hannahs, one born 1839, one born 1865 and one born 1897 (Mary Hannah Richardson, who lived at 7 Shiny Row). I appreciate there were a lot of Richardsons around at the time, and Hannah was a fairly common name, but we may find we are researching the same family. Is it possible for you to forward my email to Ms Whinfield? Yours faithfully.

David Bolton



Keep reading for more
Family Tree Quests only in the
HOUGHTONIAN

THE TATTOO



HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY is carrying out a survey about the Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony, which traditionally takes place on the Friday before Feast Sunday. In 1987 the first Military Tattoo took place and featured the Light Infantry Band, North East Pipe Bands, South Shields Sea Cadets Band, Ryhope Colliery Welfare Band and the Claire McKenzie Dancers. Over the years, Houghton Pipe Band had a growing presence in the Tattoo, which always concluded with the playing of the Last Post and illumination of Houghton's Cenotaph. The last Tattoo took place in 2002 and was subsequently replaced with a lantern parade and other forms of entertainment.

The 10 quick questions can be found at:
http://kwiksurveys.com/?s=MNKHOG_4802da84

"Ladies and gentlemen, the pipes and drums..."

THE GOLDEN QUEEN



PERHAPS ONE OF Houghton's oldest pubs and situated just at the bottom of Sunderland Street, the Golden Lion has served a central focus in the lives of all those that have drank in there. Once a coaching inn, the building dates as far back as 1824 (record-wise), however it is certainly much older than that.

This year the Golden Lion sees barmaid Jean Holland celebrating 30 glorious years behind the bar. Jean has stood behind the bar since the summer of 1982 and is now a part of the fixtures and fittings! She has seen many faces in her time while pulling the pumps. But never have the words "Hiya love, what can I get ya?" been more aptly spoken to a thirsty man.

Jean always has a smile upon her face, it is the warmth of that smile that makes you feel welcome and right at home when sitting in the lounge bar. I was in there last year with local historian Paul Lanagan, having a drink during the Houghton Feast week, but Paul being Paul he burst out and asked for a photograph of her. I won't repeat her reply but it was funny. The lads thought it was funnier when I just strolled up to the bar and politely asked if I could have a picture of her for something we were doing...and with no more questions I got it! I believe the words "you jammy git" were uttered from Paul's mouth!

I am pretty unanimous in this and I speak for all those that have been served by Jean, we look forward to another 30 years! You are a star and a pleasure to speak to.

D.W.



WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Can you help solve these Genealogical & Heritage Quests?

NEWBOTTLE COULSONS

Hello Paul, I must start with a great thank you for all your effort. Hope you can help me with some photos that I have. The writing on the back may not be true. One is of a farm with the person in it called Francis and says the farm was sold in 1940 after 75 year of Coulson working it. The next one is of Wilfred ploughing behind the Children's Hospital don't know the date. The next one is at the front of New Bottle farm with Uncle Fred on the horse and Uncle Jack on the cart unknown date. The last is Sunny Side Farm (Robbie and Arthur, grandfather's brother and son). My father came to Australia in 1927 to work in the railways; he used to work in the signal box in Newcastle on Tyne. He returned to England in 1929 to get my mother. She had 4 sons and 1 daughter who died in 1940. The back of the Newbottle Farm photo says that the farm was in the Coulson name for 75 years, so that means that Jacob and Isabella Coulson (1865) were probably the original owners. Jacob Coulson was the owner of Newbottle farm with his wife Margaret Thompson Pickett (nee Dagg) (1902). Jacob, my grandfather, died at the age of 45 years. The Farm, as the story goes, was occupied by the house keeper [Francis Lishaman] to her death, then it was sold (1940) and the grand children were provided in the Will by passing the next generation. My father was from Jarrah (that is the way we spell it out here); his name was William Ingram Coulson and wife Janet Kerr (nee Millar). He passed away at 59 years when I was 18 year old. I have another photo of my grandfather (I think) at a grave that I was told to be his father Joseph Coulson (1865). Thanks for the information on Sunnyside Farm. I looked up your link to see maybe a crescent went near the farm. It is a shame that the old houses and streets are knocked down. We have the same over here as we are a young city and in the name of progress they are knocked over. Our port city of Fremantle is totally different - no buildings are knocked over! The facades are in keeping and new ones built behind. The University of Notre Dane have taken over the city so it has become a large campus. I have looked up Houghton previously and have seen the Parish Church you mention in Houghton. The grave

yard at Hillside Cemetery has Coulson in the name register. How do I get any information on the Coulson on the named list? The above information that I have was mailed to me by my uncle who I never met. He has a 2 daughters; one has a lot of information but hand written. She lives in Scotland and I must get to see if I ever get to come to England. The names of the Coulson are: Margaret may have married Richard Coulson around 1775; George William Coulson husband of Mary married around 1822; another Richard who also married a Margaret around 1813; Mary Ann who may have married Joseph Coulson around 1865 (may be a second wife to him and may have been a second cousin); and there is a Mary married a George Coulson around 1822. Thanks again you have stirred up thing that I should have followed up a long time ago!

*Brian Coulson
Kelmscott
Western Australia*

ALL ABOARD!

We have just been reminiscing about the old Glendale Club trips to the seaside, when we were kids. How excited we were. How long a pound lasted, enjoying setting up the tents in a circle on the wet sand, and enjoying our seaside sandwiches even though you crunched on the sand that the gale force wind had blown your way! Spending the afternoon at the fair, overdosing on everything sweet and sickly, packing up windblown and tired, enjoying our exotic trip to Redcar, South Shields etc, like we had been far far away! Happy days!

Sandra Lavelle

THE RICHARDSONS

Sir/Madam, I am researching my Great Grandparents family history and have come across Houghton-Le-Spring as a place they lived in sometime between 1861 census and the 1891 census. I am having problems locating and identifying three children; Elizabeth Richardson who was born 29 May 1869 at Rainton Gate, Sacriston, Durham, and two other children who were definitely born alive but have no dates between 1854 and 1881. I

am assuming these three children died in early childhood as they don't appear on any of the Census but are known in family lore. No names unfortunately. What I am interested in is if you have any burial records of three children of Isaac Spence Richardson and his wife Agnes Richardson (nee Vance)? I have data on Elizabeth Richardson died Apr-Jun, 1875 (Houghton Le Spring 10a 301) aged 6 years; and Elizabeth Richardson died (Apr-Jun) 1874 (Houghton Le Spring 10a 321) aged 6 years. Either of these two fit the time, etc of one child but which, if either, is my problem? With regards the other two children I have no idea! Is it possible that you have a burial record or grave Monumental Inscription that may help me clear up part or all of my query? Margaret Jane Richardson (born 16 June 1856), probably married one of five persons; James Hardy 1881 (Chester Le Street), Thomas Liddell 1881 (Chester Le Street), or Abraham Hoy 1873, John Mitchinson Thompson 1873 or William Gildroy 1875, all later three of Houghton Le Spring. Rather than send away for five marriage certificates I'm hoping you may be able to reduce the odds for me? I look forward to hearing from you.

*Gordon Stevenson
New Zealand*

NEWTOWN SCHOOL

Dear Paul, thank you for the photograph of the little school in the Market Place. I can no longer remember the date of the photo but I know I did ask my sister about it and she seemed to think that both she and my late brother had both left for the Junior School by the time this was taken. I certainly don't recognise anyone on it other than Miss Kirtley who I absolutely adored as a child, no other teacher from thereon ever lived up to her standards! Thanks very much, it's lovely to have a good copy of this photo, even if I don't recognise any of the children. Regards.

*Lorna MacKenzie
Isle of Skye*

POTTERY YARD

Hello Paul, Just a quick mail to say I'm really enjoying your website. I've been researching my Minto/Blenkinsop ancestors and it was great to be able to read about the streets/pubs they lived in. Quite a few of them get mentioned in the London Gazette for bankruptcy - including my great great grandfather, Edward Minto, who was apparently a saddler in Pottery Yard. Thanks again!

Anne Thompson Melo

THE ONLY WOMAN...

Hello Houghton Heritage Society, I've been trying to find out about my great great grandmother Esther Jane Mole/Rudkin/Urwin's suffragette and political history. She was the first lady treasurer of Eppleton or Easington Lane, and I have come across a picture of her on a march in the 1950s, she was the only woman allowed on a march with the miners when she was a suffragette I think, but there's just no mention of her (it's driving me crazy, 3 years I've been looking!). Do you have any ideas where to look or who to contact that's local to Houghton please? Your thoughts would be much appreciated. My father always told me it was the Jarrow March but the only woman on that one was Ellen Wilkinson so it's probably not my grandmother. I think it may have been miners who worked at Easington Colliery, or Eppleton Colliery if there was one? She was involved in politics until her death in 1977 so hopefully somebody remembers her, though it's a long shot!

Rachel Rudkin

THE WHEATLEYS

Love the article on the family! Was just asking my Dad all about the family on Christmas day! Will pass the article round for everyone to see! Cheers!

*David Wheatley
Houghton-le-Spring*



Keep reading for more
Family Tree Quests.

**MONDAY
JUNE 4TH 2012**

COMMUNITY EVENT

NEIGHBOUR REUNION ~ JUBILEE FUN ~ MARQUEES

FOOD ~ ICE CREAM ~ OLDE SPORTS

FACE PAINTING ~ MAGICIAN ~ KIDDIES RIDE



**HOMELANDS ESTATE
DIAMOND JUBILEE PARTY**

10.00AM - 2.00PM

SUPPORTING ST CUTHBERT'S HOSPICE

FIND OUT MORE AT:

WWW.HOUGHTONLESPRING.ORG.UK/EVENTS

FREE ENTRY



WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Can you help solve these Genealogical & Heritage Quests?

THE CHARLTONS

Hi, I am from Tiffin, Ohio, USA. I am looking for information on my husband's family. We know his 4th great grandfather came from Durham England. His name was Mathew Charlton and his wife was Mary Jane Kirtley. So I am looking for info on them plus George and Elizabeth Johnson Charlton, then William and Mary Roper Kirtley. If you have any pictures of the stone and/or dates that would be great! Any information at this point would be so helpful! Thanks.

*Elizabeth Charlton
Ohio, USA*

JOHN MICHAEL WALKER

Paul, My name is Lynne Westlake and I found your site by looking for Houghton Le Spring on Wikipedia. Recently I discovered that my great great grandfather, John Michael Walker, was not an Irish Sea Captain (as my aunt had insisted) but a grocer from the Trimdon/Wingate area. I see that he was born in Wingate in 1836. He married Charlotte Bainbridge (born Nov 12, 1842) in Apr of 1860. Charlotte's father, James Bainbridge, was born in Houghton on March 12, 1814. I am looking for any information on the Walkers, Bainbridges and the Sedgwicks as they are all my great great plus ancestors. When I was looking at the grave site information, I noticed that Margaret and William Wigham were listed. My grandfather was John Frederick Wigham born Nov 22, 1892 in Wakefield. Would he by any chance be related to the Wighams in Houghton? In looking at a rather large scale map of your area, I see that many of the places I have listed as birth and death places are quite close together and therefore stand a better chance of being the source of my ancestors. I realize that this is a large undertaking that you have shouldered and that you probably get all sorts of these requests. But if you were able to point me in the correct direction on this, I would appreciate it. I live in a little town in SW Ontario called Palmerston. I thank you in advance for any help that you could give me.

*Lynne Westlake
Palmerston
SW Ontario*

A RESPONSE

To Whom it May Concern, I am currently researching family history and searched a member of the family, Margaret Mawson into Google. It came up with the Houghtonian Vol 1 Issue 4 (Sept 2011) featuring information on those trying to find answers about genealogical issues surrounding Houghton-Le-Spring. A lady called Flora Borgese has written that she is looking for information on her great grandmother called Margaret Mawson. I believe that she is a common ancestor of us as she is my 4th great grandmother. I would be able to give her information about the family of the man which she married, William Edward Husband. Kind regards.

Jane Overton

PAUL LANAGAN REPLIED:

Thank you, Jane. Your message has been passed on to Flora.

JOSEPH BLAND PEARSON

Hello Paul, Regarding Joseph's second name [article about Joseph Bland Pearson's tragic death and subsequent burial at Hillside Cemetery], his Mother Anne Bland married Robert Pearson hence the name Bland. I am his Great Granddaughter through his eldest son John Charles Pearson, who also became a jeweller-pawnbroker, then to Thomas Pickering Pearson, who went to South Africa with his brother also named Joseph Bland Pearson continuing the family business of pawnbroking. I have a photo of a covered wagon advertising Pearson Bros Jewellers & Pawnbrokers on its side. My Father was William Henry Price Pearson. I found your article so helpful with my family research as well as being very interesting so for that I thank you. I forgot to mention that my grandparents settled in Australia in Toronto New South Wales. Australia. Regards.

Clella (Pearson) Jennings

PAUL LANAGAN REPLIED:

Thank you, Clella. Joseph's middle name had always puzzled me and it was the reason I remembered his name which I discovered how he had had his head severed in that tragic railway accident in 1897.

OLD HAUNTS

Hi Paul, Many thanks for putting the Grammar School photos online. The picture on the left I recognise no problem, but the one on the right is puzzling; I can't think which part of the school it was? If you come across any more I would love to see them. When I enquired about Burnside School I was hoping you may have had some pictures of how it was rather than what it is today. I have seen it but it's changed a lot since I was there (1971-75). I am fifth generation of my family who lived in Houghton (I now live in Trimdon). My father, grandfather, great-grandfather lived in Prospect Row - I don't suppose you have any pictures of Prospect Row, which I understand was located near Kerr's Garage bordering Grasswell? I'm annoyed with myself for not taking pictures of the schools I was at or the places I used to frequent when I was older i.e. the world famous Birds Nest!! You don't realise how poignant these places would become in later life. Your web site on Houghton is really interesting and extremely well put together. Well done on taking the time to do it! Best Wishes.

*Ian Coulson
Trimdon
Co Durham*

DOWN HETTON WAY?

Hi there - I have come across your lovely website, whilst researching my family tree. My 4 x great grandparents (John and Ann Thorrington) lived at Four Lane Ends, Houghton-le-Spring in the 1841 Census, and although I haven't found a death record for my 4xg grandfather his wife was interred at St Nicholas 12 January 1853. I have street Googled and obviously that area does not exist as it did in those days, but are there any old photographs or sketches available before Four Lane Ends was developed? I look forward to your reply. Kind regards.

Shelagh Ashford

THE BURDIS QUEST

Hello, A quest in the Houghtonian Vol 1 Issue 2 (March 2011) drew my attention. Mrs K. Gillinder of Cambridge has requested information about the "Burdass, Burdess, Burdis families. I have quite a bit of info. on a branch of this family starting with Edmund Burdasse (Hexham 1600s) aka Edward Burdis and ending with Frank C. Burdis in Newcastle (1966). The family lived at various times in Bellingham, Hexham and Corbridge districts including Belsay, Bolam, St. John Lee, subsequently moving to Newcastle and Gateshead. Could you kindly forward this email to Mrs. Gillinder? Many thanks in advance. Regards.

Jane Burdis

PAUL LANAGAN REPLIED:

Thank you, Jane. Your email has been forwarded.

GILPIN'S RELATIVES

In going through the old books at the Kepier School, Houghton-le-Spring, lately, I found a Cicero with the name "Arthurus Laton" on the fly-leaf, together with an autograph inscription in Latin, stating that the book belonged to Bernard Gilpin by the gift of Arthur Laton. One of the Gilpin books in Queen's College, Oxford, bears the autograph of William Layton, an uncle of Gilpin's, as well as that of Gilpin himself. Can any of your readers give me the relationship between Gilpin and Arthur Laton?

R.W.R.

*Northern notes and queries
devoted to the antiquities of
Northumberland,
Cumberland, Westmorland,
and Durham : v. 1, no. 1-8,
Jan. 1906-Oct. 1907*

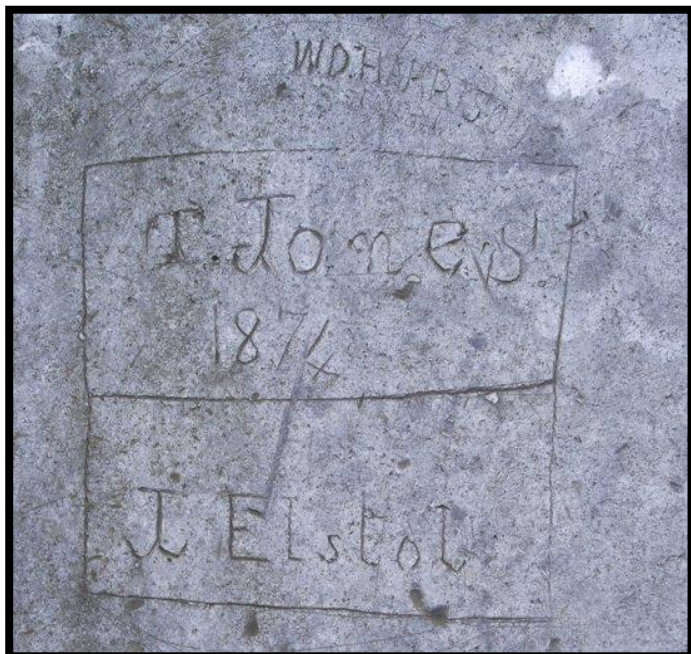


**More Family
Tree Quests in the next
issue of the
HOUGHTONIAN!**



WRIGHT AROUND HOUGHTON

ARTICLE BY
DAMIEN WRIGHT
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING



SHENTON'S LEGACY

ST MICHAEL & ALL Angels Church has had a tower for many years, however it is has not always been the tower that you and I see every day while making our way to Houghton town centre. Bernard Gilpin had a tower but it was a spire and nothing else. 1824 saw the spire removed to make way for the tower that is there today. It stands at an impressive three stories high and 90 feet. This new installment made for a greater number of bells, now consisting of six small bells and two large bells. The full peal of eight bells was installed in 1928. Now the tower is used as a storage space for books and sheet music for the bell ringers. Oddly there is no entrance for the tower from in the main building - you can only get to it from the side of the church by walking around the back.

1919 saw Mr William Shenton become St Michael & All Angels new organist after Mrs Adamson left. This made way for a new musical era to begin. He was the first to perform Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise in 1920. Shenton also composed a number of works including songs, anthems, chants, music for both the piano and the organ and a setting of the end of every service, from which the Amen is still sung. Having a fairly large choir called for a lot of rehearsing, especially on large events like Christmas and Easter but none more so than for the traditional Houghton Feast services. There are very few pictures of both William and the choir together apart from on top of the bell tower roof and maybe in the church.

William retired at the great age of 87 in February 1972 due to the antics of the young choristers and felt it was time he left after devoting 53 years to the church.



During the Great War all churches with bell towers were forced to stop ringing out the bells. The only time they were allowed to ring the bells in the towers was to notify the villagers of an invasion of the country. It wasn't until the War had ended that all churches were allowed to ring out their bells. During this time more than one million horses went to war along with the men. Farmers often sold them as the Army was paying good money. Sometimes they sequestered the horse whether the owner liked it or not. Once the War had ended bell ringers would ring out their bells in joyfulness and glee that the War was hereby over... and perhaps hopeful that some of the horse might return?

I recently went up into the bell tower and got some great pictures; the view is stunning from the roof! You can see as far as Durham, if not further. Looking down to the street below is amazing - it makes you think: 'wow what a view'. You can see all the shops and local businesses on Newbottle Street, up Sunderland Street, Church Street and beyond!

The last place you would expect graffiti to be is on the roof of the bell tower but as the picture shows a T. JONES left his mark in 1874. This may be from a child or even a grown man. There are dates and names upon the roof dating back as early as 1800, as it was not uncommon for people to be on the roof.

DAMIEN WRIGHT

This year we have two very special reasons for ringing out our bells across the land. Of course many of you will know that we have the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics. Bell ringer groups will be gathering and practicing right up until the big days. Churches and public buildings that have flag poles will be flying their Union Flags at full mast. For three full minutes the bells will be ringing out across the land to show that we are proud of our Queen and country and of our athletes that will be participating in the summer games.



CLASSIFIEDS

IN MEMORIAM



MAURICE WALKER

1938 - 2012

Maurice was a recognisable friendly face from Houghton-le-Spring - he always had a smile and a wave for anybody. He died peacefully, in hospital, on May 14th 2012, aged 74 years, after a short illness, having lead a long and happy life. Tributes were paid on the HHFB group by several members: "He was everybody's friend" "Bless him, RIP Houghton's son."

DURHAM MINERS GALA 2012



The 128th Durham Miners Gala will be taking place on Saturday July 14th 2012 in Durham City.

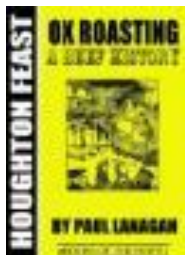
Last year, in our report about the Big Meeting, we commented on how there were so few people marching behind the Houghton banner compared to others. You can help change this! Get yourself to Durham Market Place nice and early and watch out for our favourite banner. Members of Houghton Heritage Society will in Durham from 7 o'clock.



Find us on
Facebook

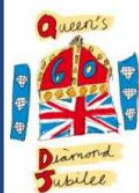
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HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY TIME CAPSULE

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING IS THE FINAL RESTING PLACE OF MANY TIME CAPSULES - DUBMIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL GROUNDS, HOUGHTON KEPIER SCHOOL'S FOYER, ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH FLOOR, THE NHS CENTRE'S GARDEN AND HILLSIDE CEMETERY'S ARCHWAY - AND A NEW ONE IS TO BE INTERRED IN COMMEMORATION OF THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

Everyone is welcome to donate an item for inclusion in the Diamond Jubilee Time Capsule. You could submit your family tree, a letter to the finder, a poem, a prayer, photographs of you and your family, drawings and pictures, or your memories and recollections of living in Houghton.

Pop your paper documents/ephemera into a sealed envelope no bigger than A5. This should then be placed into another envelope and posted or hand-delivered to the following address:

HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY, 120 BURN PARK ROAD, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, DH4 5DQ.

Submitted envelopes for the Time Capsule will not be opened. If you are enclosing photographs, please make sure they are not originals, as the Time Capsule cannot be unlocked once it is sealed.

THE TIME CAPSULE IS BEING INTERRED INSIDE ONE OF THE ANCIENT LISTED BUILDINGS IN HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING AFTER THE DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS ON TUESDAY JUNE 5TH 2012.



The next issue of the HOUGHTONIAN will be available to download in September. Send us your details and get a copy sent directly to your Inbox!

SUPPORT US

I would like to support the work of the Houghton-le-Spring Heritage Society and include a donation of £ ____.

- ☐ I WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.
- ☐ I WOULD LIKE TO RECORD THE FOLLOWING IN THE REGISTER OF BENEFACTORS (min £20):

Thank
You

NAME [please tick] ☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Miss _____

ADDRESS _____

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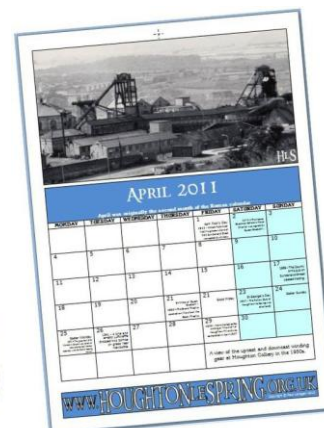
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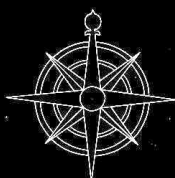
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