

REMINDER ABOUT 2013/14 MEMBERSHIP FEES

From 1 April 2013 Membership Fees are :

ORDINARY MEMBERS	£15.00
JOINT MEMBERS (at the same address receiving one Journal)	£18.00

Student and Institutional Member fees remain the same at £5 and £20 respectively. Would Members paying their fees by Standing Order please notify their bank of the relevant change. It would be helpful to the Society's finances if all Members paid by Standing Order and completed a Gift Aid Declaration - copies of the forms for these can be found at pages 59 and 61 in Journal 77 or on the Society's Website

2012/13 MEMBERSHIP FEES

Members who have not paid their fees due on 1 April 2012 are no longer eligible to receive the Society's Journal since the deadline for the receipt of these fees was 30 November 2012.

JOURNAL 78

Unfortunately Journal 78 has been delayed due to the illness of our Journal editor - Pat Mussett. We wish Pat a speedy recovery. We also send best wishes to our Publications Editor, Gordon Batho, who has been in hospital recently.

TALKS PROGRAMME

The remaining talks in our 2012/13 programme at St. Giles Church, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 1QQ are :

16 February 2.00 pm : Francis Gotto : Durham Guilds

16 March 2.00 pm : Martin Roberts : The Architectural Woodwork of John Cosin

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year, to avoid the congestion of events in May, our AGM will be held at County Hall on the morning of Saturday 21 September. Our speaker for the David Reid Memorial Lecture that day will be Chris Lloyd of the Northern Echo. His talk on the History of Darlington Theatre is entitled : Of Fish and Actors .

More details will be available in the AGM papers.

THE SOCIETY'S FIRST HALF CENTURY 1964-2014

The Society's first half century coincides with a nationwide effort to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. Our Secretary, John Banham, would like to have a discussion with as many members as possible about how to mark the impact of the Great War on County Durham. Please contact him with your suggestions :

e-mail : jdbdclhs@gmail.com tel.: 01388 816209

The National Coal Mining Museum has continued its programme of opening up archives to researchers and members of the public. Last year *TownsWeb Archiving Ltd* developed a new *Archives* website for the Museum to showcase some of the unique material that the Library holds - starting with the first 10 years of the *Coal Magazine* dating back to 1947, the period of Nationalisation.

For details see : <http://www.ncmonline.org.uk/>

Durham Biographies Volume 7

Edited by Gordon Batho and Alisoun Roberts and published by The History of Education Project, this paperback volume contains 176 pages and costs £10 (plus p&p) from HEP c/o Miners' Hall, Red Hill, Durham DH1 4BD. Tel: 0191 370 9941

e-mail: hep_durham@hotmail.co.uk

The subjects in this volume range from Sir Bobby Robson to Arthur Wharton, the world's first black professional footballer and include Joseph Bouet, Artist and Teacher; James 'Jimmy James' Casey, Comedian; William Fowler Downey, Royal Photographer; and 'Viva Talbot' Lady Nussey, Wood Engraver.

The Surtees Society www.dur.ac.uk/surtees.society

was founded 1834 for the publication of original documents illustrative of the history of the ancient kingdom of Northumbria. Membership costs £25 annually at present. Members receive a cloth-bound copy of each volume on publication, and may buy earlier volumes for £17 each (inc. p&p), from :

The Honorary Secretary, The Surtees Society, Faculty Office, Elvet Riverside Block 2, New Elvet, Durham DH1 3JT.

Non-members may purchase volumes from Boydell & Brewer Ltd, PO Box 9, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 3DF (e-mail: boydell@boydell.co.uk). Recent volumes in stock are :

- 201 Darlington wills and inventories 1600-25, ed. J.A. Atkinson and others, 244p, (1993) (£25)
- 202 Customs Accounts of Newcastle upon Tyne 1454-1500, ed. J.F. Wade, 313p, (1995) (£25)
- 203 Lanercost cartulary, ed. J.M. Todd, 486p, (1997) (£40)
- 204 Songs and verse of the North-East pitmen c.1780-1844, ed. D.I. Harker, 240p, (1999) (£40)
- 205 The Justicing Notebook (1750-64) of Edmund Tew, Rector of Boldon, eds. G. Morgan & P. Rushton 338p, (2000) (£40)
- 206 Diary of Thomas Giordani Wright, Newcastle Doctor, 1826-29, ed. A. Johnson, 366p, (2001) (£40)
- 208 Cartulary of Byland Abbey, ed. J. Burton, 576p, (2004) (£50)
- 210 Matthew & George Culley: Farming letters, 1798-1804, ed. A.W. Orde, 670p, (2006) (£50)
- 211 Northumberland Eyre Roll for 1293, ed. C.M. Fraser, 524p, (2007) (£50)
- 212 Records of the Borough of Crossgate, Durham, 1312-1531, ed. R.H. Britnell, 478p, (2008) (£50)
- 213 John Denton's 'History of Cumberland', ed. A.J.L. Winchester, 236p, (2010) (£50)
- 214 Sunderland wills and inventories 1601-50, ed. J. Smith & others, 350p, (2010) (£50)
- 215 Letters of George Davenport 1651-77, ed. B.M. Pask with M.M. Harvey, 312p, (2011) (£50)

Earlier volumes still in print are £25 each. For details see the Boydell & Brewer website or catalogues.

Conflict In Cleveland – and beyond : Saturday 9th March 2013

This is the 16th day school organised jointly by the Centre for Regional and Local Historical Research and the Cleveland and Teesside Local History Society. The day is intended for the general public, who are especially welcome, as well as members of the University and the Society. Six speakers will be talking about military, religious and social conflict in North Yorkshire and South Durham.

Details from Jennifer Dobson, Centre for Regional and Local Historical Research, Teesside University, Middlesbrough TS1 3BA : Tel: 01642 384689; e-mail: j.dobson@tees.ac.uk
Leaflets are available in libraries and museums in Teesside, or visit : www.ctlhs.org.uk

Christine Bone writes from the University of Manitoba Libraries in Winnipeg, to let Members know that she has recently transcribed a family history from a collection that relates to County Durham. The bulk of the 246-page handwritten document was written in 1869, and is a history of the Bell and Gell families. Much of the narrative takes place in Durham, predominantly around the village of Brancepeth. The document is rich with genealogical information, local description, and anecdote, predominantly of the nineteenth century, but reaching as far back as the seventeenth. It also mentions by name many other families and individuals from our region. More information about the manuscript, along with a link to the full transcription, may be found on the University's website: http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/archives/digital/bell_manuscript.html

Barbara Elsmore of 28 Dunstan St, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3SE wonders if any member can tell her if her great grandfather's barber's shop in Mile End Road, South Shields is still standing. He was Joseph Jackson and the photograph below shows him standing outside his shop, which was also a travel agency.



Siemens in Spennymoor and Hartlepool – 1940s and 50s.

Are you an ex-Siemens employee? Do you know anyone who is? Do you have knowledge of the Siemens (later AEI/GEC) sites in Spennymoor or Hartlepool during the 1940s and 50s? Katherine Platt, a PhD student at the University of Manchester, is sponsored by Siemens and aims to track the company's twentieth century history in the north of England. As there is little written documentation about the Spennymoor and Hartlepool sites she is keen to speak to people who can help her to reconstruct their histories - no amount of information is too small. Please contact her via email : **Katherine.platt-2@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk** or telephone **07874027457**

Hartlepool Magnesia Plant

Robert Dunn and John Smailes have published the second volume of their trilogy on the Steetley Company in County Durham. **British Sea Water Magnesia 1936-1952** an illustrated paperback of 400 pages is available at a cost of £15 (inc. p&p) from :
J Smailes 5 Lichfield Road, Newton Hall, Durham DH1 5QW. e-mail : **smailesjohn0@gmail.com**

Bowburn Local History Society has an excellent new website :

www.bowburnhistory.co.uk

The British Library's EThOS service allows you to search across 300,000+ theses for free and order full text quickly and easily. **www.ethos.bl.uk**

YESTERDAY BELONGS TO YOU 2013 *Where our history comes home*

The Biggest Local & Family History Event Between Tyne and Tees
Saturday 18 May 10.00 am - 4.00 pm at County Hall, Durham

For more information : Tel: 01325 316749 e-mail: YB2U2013@gmail.com

This biennial event will feature displays and stands from a wide range of local and family history societies and traders, offering a range of local and family history books, postcards, prints and many other attractions.

Free Parking, Refreshments, Admission £1.00

... and why not take the opportunity to visit :

Durham County Records Office (tours available throughout the day)

The DLI Museum (within walking distance)

The Society's stall

For details of YBTU13 see : www.durhamweb.org.uk/historyforum