



HON PRESIDENT:
Mr John Grundy

CHAIR:
Marian Morrison



COUNTY DURHAM FORUM for HISTORY & HERITAGE

www.durhamweb.org.uk/

Issue 2: April 2024

CONTACTS

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Sarah Hillier

yb2u15@gmail.com

FORUM COMMITTEE

Chair: Marian Morrison

Vice Chair: Margaret Hedley

Secretary: Jan McGraw

Treasurer: John Banham

Ian Finlayson

Sylvia Hall

Dawn Layland (The Story)

Mark Smith

Win Stokes

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Marian Morrison

Well I have officially been doing this job for a year. March saw us hold my first AGM and thanks to everyone who came along and supported the whole committee by attending.

As AGMs go it went well and we even gained two new committee members and no resignations! The rest of the day was filled with an exceptional show from our members, The Fitzhugh Library team and their Hannah Hauxwell exhibition.



The Fitzhugh Library Middleton-in-Teesdale

The public attendance exceeded our expectation and we were heartened to find many of the visitors had found out about it from our new Facebook presence.

Reviving Facebook for the Forum had been one of our key tasks for 2023 and has certainly made many more folks aware of the Forum. Hopefully it will bring new members and refresh ideas for the future. We have plans for this year to maintain the drive for modernising whilst retaining the best of our past, you would expect no less from folks interested in history. We all need to have a dig around our area and see what we uncover whether just old files from work our groups have done or seeking to explore somewhere new in our landscape. Our countryside is at risk from the housing developers and the Carbon offsetting tree planters changing arable farming land into new short-lived forests. Can we trust them to put our history before their profits?

Be vigilant and preserve our past.

MEET US FOR A COFFEE

You may remember, a few years ago we organised regional coffee meetings to give our member groups the opportunity to meet face-to-face with Forum committee members so that they could tell us what they wanted from the Forum and we could ask how we were doing on a number of our initiatives. These were so successful, we are reinstating the exercise once again.

We have organised meetings at four venues across the County—north, south, central and west and of course, you are welcome to attend any of them, and don't forget, we buy the coffee!!

We are very interested in meeting our groups and hearing what you have to say. Our committee members will be at the following venues on the dates/times indicated:

Tuesday 28 May 10.30am

Monday 3 June 10.30am

Tuesday 4 June 10.30am

Wednesday 5 June 10.30am

Gala Theatre, Durham City

Hardwick Hall Hotel, Sedgefield

Class Act Coffee Shop, Prospect Business Park, Leadgate

Auckland Castle Tea Room



Your contributions at these meetings will inform our priorities over the next few months.

NEW APPLICATION FOR FORUM MEMBERSHIP

The committee have been working to improve the information provided about the Forum on our application for membership form and are ready to introduce it to our website. We are also in the process of having the leaflets printed so that they will be available when we are invited to history, heritage and archaeological events around the region.

Durham County Forum for History & Heritage, with over 40 members provides a network for history, heritage and archeology groups across the current and historic boundaries of County Durham. We exist without funding from any official body to provide advice and assistance to members and offer them the opportunity to communicate/meet/discuss matters of history and heritage

Our aims are:

- Celebrating, researching and raising awareness of the rich history and archaeology, family history and folklore of County Durham
- Sharing information, expertise and knowledge between members and creating opportunities for learning
- Promoting the activities of our members through a newsletter, social media and training opportunities
-

We look towards supporting our member groups in providing local history related fairs across the county which enable groups to share their recent research and learn from the experience of others.

We communicate via our quarterly newsletter and by our programme of Zoom talks held throughout the year.

For membership information:
history.club2@btinternet.com

LOCAL HISTORY

FAMILY HISTORY

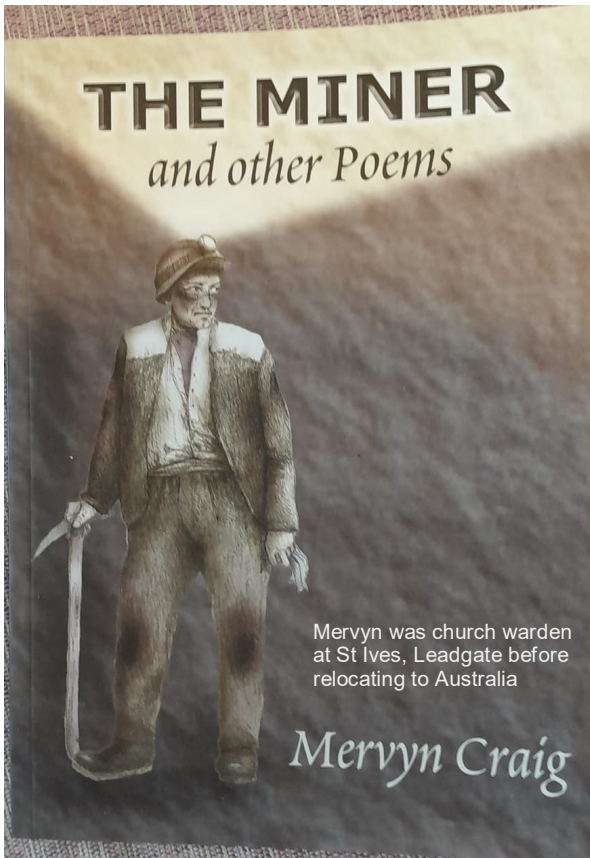
ARCHAEOLOGY

FOLKLORE

Contributing to the
HERITAGE
of County Durham



An independent organisation to promote history, heritage & archaeology in the historic County of Durham



COPIES AVAILABLE FOR A DONATION OF
£2

(postage & packing will be extra)

£1 from each donation will go to the
St Ives Church Repair Fund

and a link to make an optional
additional donation can be provided



Contact juddrichard1976@gmail.com to place your order

**AYCLIFFE VILLAGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
2024 PROGRAMME**

New Chairman: David Blair

8 May	North Riding Forgotten Admiral	S Woods
5 June	A Walk Around Yarm <i>(time to be confirmed)</i>	M Peagam
3 July	Edward VII & the Ladies	R&J Crouch

All Meetings are held in
Aycliffe Village Hall at 7.30pm

ALL WELCOME

Admission: Members £1.00/Non-Members £3.00
includes tea/coffee/biscuits

<http://www.aycliffehistory.org.uk>

**CROOK & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
2024 PROGRAMME**

27 May	The Durham River Wear Assemblage	G Bankhead
24 June	The Woman In Question	T Nicholson
23Sept	Pits, Pockmarks & Hagger- leases: The Story of Cockfield Fell	C Lloyd
28 Oct	The Durham Miner— an Illustrated Talk	G Whales

**Meetings held at
Methodist Church Hall, Dawson Street, Crook**
Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start
Admission – Members £5.00/Non Members £6.00

**More information:
Dennis Scarr – 07745018272**

**ARCH & ARCH
Lecture Programme 2024**

Face to face meetings held at 2.30pm in
Room ER140
Elvet Riverside, New Elvet DH1 3JT

11 May	Tour, Lecture & AGM at Lumley Castle
8 June	Someone from York Archaeology

*Afterwards, for those who would like to join us we will go
for a drink (tea/coffee/or stronger) at the public bar,
Royal County Hotel*

Email: archandarch.dandn@gmail.com
Website: <https://aasdn.org.uk>



**WHEATLEY HILL HISTORY CLUB
2024 MEETINGS**

Information: history.club2@btinternet.com

Meetings are held in
Wheatley House, Woodlands Avenue
at 11.00am £3.00 includes tea/coffee/raffle

29 May	Historical Helmets	I Craggs
26 June	The Miss Crimdon Competition	C Lloyd
31 July	Writing Historical Fiction Set in Old Ryhope	G Young

Latest newsletter:
<https://wheatley-hill.org.uk/newsletters/>

For more information:
history.club2@btinternet.com

**SEDGEFIELD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
2024 PROGRAMME**

Meetings are held in

Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.45pm
First Monday of the Month

6 May	From Telegram Boy to Bomber Boy	L Defty
3 June	Possible visit to the Auckland Project	
1 July		

**For more details:
Suzanne 01429 882250**



**EGGLESCLIFFE
LOCAL HISTORY GROUP
2024**

23 May	Egglescliffe; The Place And its People: "The Old Hall"	I Reynolds
27 June	The Rise and Fall of the Peases	W Stuart

**Meetings are held in
St John's Church, Butts Lane, Egglescliffe
at 2.00pm**

Admission £2.00

For more details:
david_j_bate@ntlworld.com

Hartlepool Headland Local History Group

Headland Baptist Church
Baptism Street
HARTLEPOOL TS24 0QN

2024

20 May	MV Coronial/HMS Watchful	Graham
17 June	Buried in Hartlepool	F Wilson
15 July	Social Evening	

Meetings are held on the
Third Monday of the month
6.45pm—9.00pm



Drop In Sessions are held
Second Tuesday of the month
11.30am—3.30pm



COXHOE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

2024

MEETINGS HELD THURSDAYS 7.00pm
St Andrew's Church Hall, Church Street

2 May	Belief in North East Archaeology	Dr D Petts
6 June	Diet, Disease Death & James Cook	M Peagam
4 July	Secrets of the Attic (2)	T Nicholson

Website:

coxhoehistory.org.uk

Contact:

Jack Turton: 0191 3770771

Barbara Leo: barbaraleo88@googlemail.co

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Durham Postcard, Cigarette Card & Stamp Fair

Bowburn Community Centre DH6 5AT

Disabled Access

10.00am—3.00pm

Entrance £1.00

Accompanied children FREE

Saturday 6 July 2024

Free Valuations

CLEVELAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY SEDFIELD & HARTLEPOOL BRANCHES

Our Zoom meetings are open to all Cleveland
Family History Society members

Held First Monday in the Month
2.30pm

13 May	Apprenticeship Records	R Holt
3 June	The Amazing Story behind a painting	F Wilson
No meetings July or August		

For more information on
Joining the CFHS & Zoom Talks:

Contact Sylvia Hall
sylvia.hall2@googlemail.com

LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Meetings are held on
1st Friday of the month at 7.00pm

Room 3, Lanchester Community Centre DH7 0JQ
(check online at times of Public Holidays)

£3 for members £5 guests

10 May	The Banner of St Cuthbert	D Shotten
7 June	North East Department Stores	G Soult
5 July	The Guests of Queen Victoria In 1851	D Butler

[https://www.durhamweb.org.uk/
historyforum/
cdfhhlanchesterhistory.html](https://www.durhamweb.org.uk/historyforum/cdfhhlanchesterhistory.html)

THE STORY TO OPEN THIS SUMMER

Published 16 February 2024 by Durham County Council



The Story at Mount Oswald

A brand-new visitor attraction telling the tale of County Durham's heritage will open this summer.

We have confirmed that The Story, based at Mount Oswald in Durham City, is scheduled to open to the public from Friday 14 June.

A brand-new cultural venue and register office for Durham and the wider county, The Story will be housed in the recently restored Grade II listed Mount Oswald manor house, which has been extended to incorporate a purpose-built, contemporary building.

Combining period property restoration with state-of-the-art modern facilities, The Story provides a home for some of the county's most important heritage collections and an elegant backdrop for the register office, ceremonies, and events.

Thanks to funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, made possible by National Lottery players, alongside exhibitions there will be an exciting activity programme with storytelling sessions, kids' takeover days, behind the scenes tours, volunteering opportunities and community projects.

750th Anniversary
ECHOES OF HISTORY:
The Grand Bell Ringing Ceremony
28th April 2024
St Andrew's Church, Bishop Auckland, ALL WELCOME
Rededication of the Bells & Blessing the New Bell Ropes
Main Service at 2 PM | Quarter Peal from 1 PM
Special Guests:
The Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Mrs Sue Snowdon
The Dean of Durham Cathedral, Very Revd Dr Philip Plymng
RSVP before Wednesday 24th April to Yvonne Hawkey at comms@baccanalia.co.uk
 **Bishop Auckland Parish**
St Andrew's + St Anne's

TEESDALE RECORD SOCIETY

2024 Programme

1 May	What has Bowes done for the Romans Meet at Cotherstone Village Hall 6pm or Bowes Church 6.30pm	Sir Peter Smith
5 June	Guided Walk around Mickleton Meet at Cotherstone Hall 6pm or Mickleton Railway Walk Car Park 6.30pm	Prof B Roberts
3 July	Guided Walk looking at Teesdale's special flora Meet at Cotherstone Village Hall 6pm or Cow Green car park 6.30	Upper Teesdale Botany Group

Visitors are welcome. Please check with the Secretary

Further information: Judith Phillips: E: judyphillipsnott@hotmail.com M: 07816327209

**‘ New Light on the
Early Medieval
Monastery of Lindisfarne’**



Presentation by Dr. David Petts

Associate Professor, Department of Archaeology,
Durham University.

THURSDAY 2nd May
7 pm at St Andrews Church
£3 including refreshments.

All Welcome

TUDHOE & SPENNYMOOR LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

2024 Programme

MEETINGS AT ST DAVID’S CHURCH HALL, TUDHOE LANE
7.30pm (unless otherwise stated)

20 May	Moving the Archives to The Story	C Ball
12 June	Visit to Chris Gerrard's dig in Auckland Park	
24 June	SDR200	N Hammond C Hardy

VISITORS : £4.00

For more details:

SECRETARY: 01388 816850

www.durhamweb.org.uk/tslhs

**CLEVELAND AND TEESSIDE
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**



Articles Wanted

The society's journal CLEVELAND HISTORY is published twice a year. Each edition contains newly researched articles about local history in Teesside, South East Durham and North East Yorkshire.

Articles range from 500 to 5,000 words and can deal with any period of local history from the earliest times up to the present century.

Could you write an article for Cleveland History?

Would you like to see your name in print?

If you are interested, please contact
The Editor at
jkittle@btinternet.com



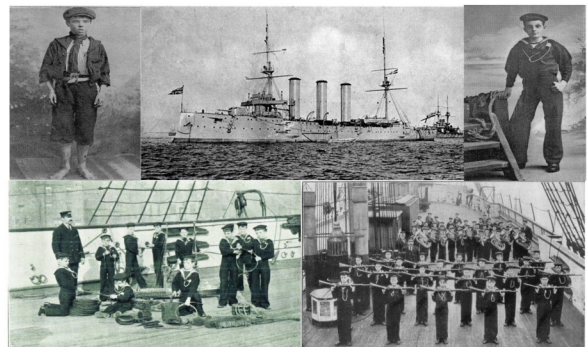
**Hetton Local & Natural
History Society**

BRENDA GRAHAM

Talk on

STEPHEN ELLISON McCAW

**The sad story of S E McCaw a Hetton orphan
from Houghton Workhouse who was lost at
the beginning of WW1 on the armoured
cruiser H.M.S. Monmouth.**



Everyone welcome, the meeting will be held on
Monday 29th of April 7.00pm
In the

Hetton & Eppleton Community Hall

(Formerly St Nicholas's Church Hall in the centre of Hetton)

Entrance Fee £3—Includes coffee/tea and biscuit

Our website: www.hettonlocalhistory.org.uk

Hetton Local & Natural History Society
For further information contact the Secretary Alan Jackson on 0191 5262804



Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade

Join our Coastal Search and Rescue Team

Applications now open!

Comprehensive training and all kit provided.



VLB Rescue Officers have the mental capacity, strength, and endurance to function in heavy seas and on rugged terrain during adverse weather conditions.

Our team of officers are able to respond to emergencies as directed by Humber Coastguard and is **on call round-the-clock 365 days a year**. Our team is currently undergoing training to achieve the Coastguard strict criteria for S&R teams.

Requirements:

- You must be at least 18 years old.
- You must live within 30 minutes travel time from the Watch house.
- You should be able to attend an incident at any time of the day.
- You must be reasonably physically fit and able to carry out your duties.



Contact us for more information:

Email: info@sunvlb.com

*Messenger: [m.me/sunderlandvlb](https://www.facebook.com/m.me/sunderlandvlb)

Telephone: **0191 529 2651**

***Please supply your email address and telephone number.**

Based at: The Watch House, Pier View, Roker, Sunderland.



Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade

*The S.V.L.B needs volunteers
to join our Coastwatch team.*

Mission and Purpose:

Sunderland Coastwatch is dedicated to enhancing safety and security along the coastline. This involves monitoring marine activities, alerting relevant authorities in case of emergencies, and promoting overall maritime safety.

Training:

Joining Sunderland Coastwatch involves training sessions to equip volunteers with the necessary skills and knowledge. Training covers topics such as radio communication, navigation, emergency procedures, and the use of specialized equipment.

Surveillance and Reporting:

Members of Sunderland Coastwatch engage in regular surveillance of the coastline. This includes observing maritime traffic, monitoring swimmers, paddleboarders, kayakers etc, and keeping an eye out for any potential incidents or hazards. Reporting any suspicious or emergency situations promptly is a crucial aspect of the role.

Equipment and Technology:

Members have access to specialized equipment such as radar systems, binoculars, and communication tools. Familiarity with these tools is part of the training process.

Teamwork and Camaraderie:

Joining Sunderland Coastwatch provides an opportunity to work as part of a team. The camaraderie among members, shared passion for maritime safety, and a sense of community service contribute to a fulfilling volunteer experience.

Before deciding to join, it's advisable to reach out to the Coastwatch team directly to get the most accurate and up-to-date information about their activities, requirements, and how you can contribute to the important work they do along the Sunderland coast. **Please leave your contact details if you're interested.**

Email: info@sunvlb.com

Via messenger on our [Facebook](#) page



Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade Museum. Volunteer Recruitment.

Are you interested in the history of life-saving on the North East coast? Do you want to be part of a team that preserves and shares the legacy of a remarkable organisation that has been saving lives since 1877? If so, you might want to join the museum team at Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade!

The Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade is a registered charity that operates a museum at the Watch House, Pier View, Sunderland.

The museum displays a fascinating collection of artefacts, documents, photographs, and memorabilia related to the Brigade and its work. You can learn about the heroic deeds of the volunteers who used shore-based rocket equipment to rescue shipwrecked sailors, the development of the Brigade over the years, and the current role of the Brigade as a Coastguard Rescue Team.

As a museum team member, you will have the opportunity to:

- Welcome and assist visitors to the museum
- Provide information and guidance on the exhibits and the history of the Brigade
- Help with the maintenance and conservation of the museum and its collection
- Participate in events and activities to promote the museum and the Brigade
- Support the fundraising and administration of the museum and the Brigade

You do not need any previous experience or qualifications to join the museum team. All you need is a passion for history, a willingness to learn, and a friendly and helpful attitude. You will receive training and support from the existing museum team and the Brigade members. You will also enjoy the benefits of being part of a community of volunteers who share a common interest and a noble cause.

If you are interested in joining the museum team at Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade, please contact us at info@sunvlb.com or visit our Facebook page or website for more information. We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact us via:

Email: info@sunvlb.com

Via the [messenger](#) button or app



R A B Y

The Rising

Opening Spring 2024

Think acres of unexpected elegance, complete with heritage buildings, remodelled gardens, stylish shopping and local food. Our magnificent Dutch Barn and Riding School buildings are being repurposed to host exhibitions, conferences and events, and the Vinery Café will enjoy panoramic views of Raby Castle while offering specially-crafted seasonal menus. The Coach House and Stables will house displays telling the story of Raby Castle and the Teesdale Estate, alongside a new and improved retail area.



Women of Raby Tour

8th June | 10am

These exclusive events at Raby Castle highlight stories of some of the fascinating women who once walked our halls. From the familiar history of Cecily Neville, known as the 'Rose of Raby', to the lesser-known experiences of the women who worked in the household, this surprising tour will put working women, botanists, artists, and court influencers under the spotlight. Join our Senior Guides for a behind-the-scenes glimpse into rooms beyond the public route and gain an insight into women who have shaped Raby's history.

Sir Henry Vane the Younger - An Extraordinary Legacy

Thursday 4th July | 6:00pm

Join Julie, Raby Castle's Curator, in an event which explores the legacy of Sir Henry Vane the Younger at his family home. Using his own writings, family papers and various biographies, Julie will try to piece together the complicated story of his life as an idealist, family man, religious radical, parliamentarian and statesman.



Annie Garthwaite - Celebrating 'Cecily' and the launch of 'The King's Mother'

Monday 8th July | 6:00pm

Raby Castle welcomes Annie Garthwaite in the week that her much anticipated novel, *The King's Mother*, is published. Be the first to meet *The King's Mother* at the childhood home of its central character, Raby's own Cecily Neville. Annie will be in conversation with Julie Biddlecombe Brown, Curator of Raby, and introduced by Philippa Langley of 'Finding Richard' and 'The Missing Princes'.

Visit our website for more information and to book tickets. <https://www.raby.co.uk/whats-on/>
Stay connected with all the exciting news from across the Raby Estate including Raby Castle and High Force Hotel and Waterfall. Sign up to our newsletter and receive event updates and exclusive promotions directly in your inbox!



EVENTS COMING UP AT



THE AUCKLAND PROJECT

Weekly drop-in events...

Faith Museum: Objects in Focus

Every Wednesday, 3 April – 10 July, weekly,
Faith Museum
14:00–14:15

Join our team of curators as they reveal fascinating stories behind some of the treasures in the Faith Museum. Each week they will highlight an object and explore its significance.

Free with admission

Spanish Gallery: Exploring Art

Every Friday, 5 April – 12 July, weekly,
Spanish Gallery
14:00–14:15

Step into the Golden Age of Spanish art in our weekly short talks. Delve deeper into the stories behind the artworks on display and learn about the development of the gallery itself.



Mining Art Gallery: Personal Highlights

Every Thursday, 4 April – 11 July, weekly,
Mining Art Gallery
14:00–14:15

Explore artworks, artists and social history in our short talks each Thursday, as our volunteers pick their personal highlights from the collection.

Free with admission

Painting by artist, David Venables

Bob Olley in Conversation with Robert McManners and Gillian Wales

Tuesday 11 June, A Mining Art Gallery event,
held in the Spanish Gallery Conference Suite
19:00–21:00

Join artist Bob Olley and the Gemini Collection founders for a thought provoking conversation exploring Olley's journey from the mining industry to celebrated painter. Expect moments of profound reflection intertwined with Olley's trademark humour as he reflects on his works, and the upcoming Mining Art Gallery exhibition, *The Last Cage Down*.
£10, booking required www.aucklandproject.org



MEMORIES OF LEADGATE

THE CANT FAMILY BY JOHN WILLIS

(PART 1)

My family name is Willis, my mother's maiden name was Cant.

Looking at our family history I discovered that there are several different branches of the Cants and that our immediate ancestors can be traced back to parts of Northumberland before moving to North West Durham and eventually settling in Leadgate and Iveston.

My great great grandfather James Cant was born in the Bywell District of Northumberland in 1792. He was employed as an agricultural labourer, and moved first to Slaley and then to Benfieldside. He died in 1878 and was father to nine or more children including my great grandfather, John Cant who was born in Slaley in 1831.

Unfortunately little is known of their lives and information has been sourced from historical records.

In 1861, they were living at Bradley Cottages where he was in lodgings, John married my great grandmother Elizabeth Surtees, who was born 1834 at Hayden Bridge, Northumberland.

Their marriage certificate records him as employed as a railway porter at the time, and by 1871 they had moved to Winlaton where John was employed as an agricultural worker. They are first officially recorded as living in Front Street, Leadgate in the 1881 Census with two children, John James age 13 and Emily aged 11. (An elder sister having been born at Winlaton and by this date living independently). At that time John was employed as a coke burner, and continued to work as such until at least 1901. *(Coke making at the time was common in the Durham coalfield as coke was required for iron making and forge works. The process involved filling coke ovens described as beehive ovens with coal which was levelled manually, the oven was then sealed and heated for a few days before being opened and emptied manually. Obviously laborious and dirty work.)*

John and Elizabeth remained together in the Leadgate and Iveston area until 1906 when John died and was buried in St Ives Church churchyard. Following the death of her husband Elizabeth continued to live in Iveston with her daughter Emily, before she died in 1915 and was subsequently buried alongside John.



St Ives Church, Leadgate

John James Cant, my grandfather, was born around

1868, one of three children. He was baptised at Shotley Bridge Primitive Methodist Church on 21 February 1869.



Leadgate Co-operative Store

In 1881 John James was recorded as being a scholar aged 13, and on leaving school he commenced working in the local store as a Grocers Assistant. The 1901 census record his occupation as a Co-operative grocer living with his father, mother and sister at Iveston.

In 1905 John James married my grandmother Hannah Lizzie Parker, who was living with her family at Bank Foot Cottages near Iveston. They married at the parish church, Leadgate and they subsequently had three daughters Elsie, Nancy and Rachel.

by 1911 he was a self employed grocer according to the census record and was still living in Iveston.

By 1939 John James, now retired and Hannah having died earlier that year, was living with his daughter Rachel, at Stokoes Buildings, Leadgate, which is situated at the rear of the Miners Institute.

To be continued in July.

Groups Holding Regular Monthly Meetings		
Architectural Archaeological Soc of Durham & Northumberland 2.30pm Second Saturday in month Elvet Riverside DH13JT/www.aasdn.org.uk E: archandarch.dandn@gmail.com	 Aycliffe Village LHS Second Monday in month 7.30pm Aycliffe Village Hall www.aycliffehistory.org.uk/	Bowburn LHS Second Monday in month 7.00pm Bowburn Com Centre DH6 5AT www.bowburnhistory.co.uk
Brancepeth Archives & History Group First Saturday in month 9am—1pm Brancepeth Castle Brancepeth archive@outlook.com 17vivienne@gmail.com	 Brandon & Byshottles New Group	 Chester-le-Street Heritage First Wednesday in month 7.00pm Lambton Arms www.chesterlestreetheritage.org
 Cleveland & Teesside LHS 8 Saturday mornings Sept-Apr 10.30am Dorman Museum, Middlesbrough See www.ctlhs.co.uk for dates	 Coxhoe Local History Group First Thursday in month 7.00pm St Andrew's Church Hall DH6 4DD coxhoehistory@gmail.com www.coxhoehistory.co.uk/	Crook & District Local History Soc Fourth Monday in month 7.00pm for 7.30pm Meth Church Hall, Dawson Street Dennis Scarr 07745018272
Egglescliffe Local History Third Thursday in month 2.00pm St John's Church, Butts Lane david_j_bate@ntlworld.com	 Hartlepool Headland LHS Third Monday in month 6.45 – 9.00pm Headland Baptist Church TS24 0QN eileen.manners@ntlworld.com	 Hetton Local & Natural History Last Monday in month 7.00pm Hetton & Eppleton Com Hall DH5 5HR www.hettonlocalhistory.org.uk/
 Howden-le-Wear History Soc Third Monday in month 7.00pm, Village Hall www.howdenlewearhistsoc.co.uk joan.topsat@gmail.com	Lanchester Local History First Friday in month 7.00pm Lanchester Com Centre DH7 OJQ www.durhamweb.org.uk/historyforum/ cdfhhlanchester	Middleton St George Local History Third Thursday of month 7.30pm Community Centre DL2 1JG www.msglocalhistory.wordpress.com
 Newcastle Antiquaries Last Wednesday in month Check website for details events@newcastle-antiquaries.org.uk www.newcastle-antiquaries.org.uk	  NE Vernacular Architecture First Saturday in month Mar-Oct Guided walks etc various times & places throughout the region www.northeastvernaculararchitecturegroup.com	  Northumberland & Durham FHS See website for individual group meetings www.ndfhs.org.uk/
 Sedgefield Local History First Monday in month 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall, TS21 2AE 01740 620912	 Teesdale Record Society First Wednesday in month 7.30pm Cotherstone Village Hall DL12 9PG https:// www.teesdalerecordsociety.org.uk/	 Thorpe Thewles History Group Contact below for meeting dates 1.30pm Grindon Parish Hall TS21 3JN www.thorpe-thewles.org.uk
Tudhoe & Spennymoor LHS Fourth Monday in month 7.30pm St David's Church Hall DL16 6LL www.durhamweb.org.uk/tslhs/	 Wheatley Hill History Club Last Wed in month Mar-Nov 11.00am Wheatley House DH6 3JX www.wheatley-hill.org.uk	
Groups Holding Zoom Meetings		
 Cleveland Family History Soc First Monday in month sylvia.hall2@googlemail.com	 The Forum Usually Tuesday once a month yb2u15@gmail.com	 Cleveland & Teesside LHS Last Saturday in month www.ctlhs.co.uk/
Specific Interest Groups		
The Auckland Project    www.aucklandproject.org/	Durham County Local History Soc www.durhamweb.org.uk/dclhs	Durham Victoria County History Trust s.m.hingley@durham.ac.uk
Durham University Special Collections    www.dur.ac.uk/departments/library/ archives-and-special-collections/	The Fitzhugh Library Middleton-in-Teesdale, DL12 0QH fitzhughlibrary@gmail.com 01833 640074	 Friends of Vindomora www.friendsofvindomora.com/ juddrichard1976@gmail.com
 History of Consett Steelworks www.historyofconsettsteelworks.com/ juddrichard1976@gmail.com	 Memories of Leadgate www.memoriesofleadgate.com/ juddrichard1976@gmail.com	North East Methodist Society northeastmethodisthistory.weebly.com
 North East War Memorials Project https://www.newmp.org.uk/ dahall52@aol.com	 Picture the Past Postcard Collector g.l.naim@btopenworld.com	   Raby Castle www.raby.co.uk
 Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade admin@sunvlb.com	  The Story https://durhamrecordoffice.org.uk/	  Weardale Museum www.weardalemuseum.org.uk
  Weardale Railway www.weardale-railway.org.uk		