



Newsletter of the South Shields Local History Group



Issue 190
September 2023

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Introduction

In this month's edition of the newsletter, we have an invitation from our Chairman for members to participate in our WW2 project 'Their Finest Hour' by attending our Informal Meetings. We've some fascinating articles on 'Amelia Earhart and Yemenis sailors', Mr. Gladstone's visit to Tyneside, South Shields Rowing Club and ship-owner James Young. David Whale has all the news from the Wednesday Heritage Club and Ann Clouston has a new request for information regarding Westoe Cemetery. As always, your local history group needs your help with a number of 'Appeals for Information' and finally we've details of a wide range of local history books on sale at group meetings.



Our Special Informal Meetings

I'd like to invite members to our very special Informal Meetings on the 2nd October and the 6th November, to participate in our WW2 project 'Their Finest Hour'. Usually, our informal meetings start at 5.00pm, but both of these events will start at 4.30pm to give us time to proceed in a more relaxed atmosphere and refreshments will be available.

The plan is to interview as many members as possible regarding stories past down to them by family members or friends about WW2 and to photograph or scan any artefacts you bring along such as medals, letters, diaries, souvenirs or photographs....etc.

Committee members will be present to greet you and take your details, prior to you being interviewed and with your permission recorded (**audio only**). Finally, any items you have brought along will be photographed and handed back to you immediately. To this end we have hired all three rooms (A, B & C) upstairs in Cleadon Park Library and ushers will guide you to the various locations.



Please note, for those members not involved directly in the project (either as volunteers or interviewees) our normal Informal Meeting will take place in Room A, where you will be able to carry out your own research, ask for advice from other members and contribute to the newsletter, website or our displays.

Submitted by Alan Newham
alannewham47@gmail.com



Amelia Earhart or South Shields Yemeni Sailors?

The American woman Amelia Earhart became the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic as well as setting many other aviation records. In 1937 Amelia, and her navigator Fred Noonan, disappeared in the Pacific region while attempting to circumvent the globe at the equator. It has been suggested (www.tighar.org) Amelia and Fred ended up at Nikumaroro Island.

In 1929 the British ship SS Norwich City departed from Melbourne, Australia bound for Vancouver, Canada. Ten Yemeni-Arab sailors, some of whom had settled in the South Shields area, were also on board. Halfway to Honolulu, Hawaii the ship encountered cyclonic weather and ran aground at Gardener Island now known as Nikumaroro Island. 11 men were drowned when a lifeboat overturned in the surf. Three of the men were buried on the beach. Five of these men were Yemeni sailors who lived at a boarding house at 132 Commercial Road, South Shields. The original building, which has since been demolished, was located near modern day 70 Commercial Road near the Dolly Peel pub.



Kenton Spading, who visited South Shields from the 2nd to the 5th of August 2023 from his home in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA, is the author of a book titled: "Amelia Earhart's Shoes" which discusses the mystery of the disappearance. He spent an entire day with South Shields Local Group member Terry Ford exploring the town, interviewing residents and searching for clues about the missing sailors.

In April 1940, while clearing land, the colonists discovered a human skull/cranium on the Southeast end of Nikumaroro Island and buried it. A British official Gerald Gallagher, visited the site exhumed the skull and recovered twelve additional bones and various artefacts including a sandal which Gallagher assumed to be a woman's sandal and therefore Amelia Earhart's.

Gallagher shipped the bones to his headquarters in Fiji. However, by the time the bones arrived in 1941 Pearl Harbour was only months away. Soon, the Pacific region was in chaos. The Japanese were jumping from island to island, killing natives, British soldiers and citizens. During this period the bones were lost.

Before they were lost, Dr. D.W. Hoodless at Fiji's Central Medical School measured the bones. Spading discovered the doctor's forensics report in the British archives at Hanslope. Spading's colleague Dr Richard Jantz, who specializes in human skeletons, re-examined the doctor's report. Dr Jantz, with the assistance of forensic image expert Jeff Glickman, went a step further.



Glickman used photographs to approximate the length of Amelia Earhart's long bones. Jantz compared her height and bone lengths to Dr. Hoodless' measurements of the castaway's bones. "Earhart's height and bone measurements approximately matched the bones of the castaway," said Spading. "The castaway could have been Amelia Earhart."

However, since 1998 Spading has been working on a theory of his own. He hypothesized the bones belonged to one of the Arab sailors from South Shields or one of the British sailors. Spading added: "You've got to jump through a lot of hoops to get Amelia Earhart on that island. What about the Norwich City sailors that were lost that we know were at the island, right? They're really good candidates for the bones."

	Name	Age	Height	Discharge Nos and Notes
1	James William Horne	31	??	918546 , Birthplace West Hartlepool, Residence: Sandringham Street, Hull
2	Redman Yousef	23	??	R28560 , Birthplace: Aden, Yemen, 1904, CR1 Card height blank. Residence 132 Commercial Rd, South Shields
3	Saleh Ragee	37	5 ft. 6"	R66800 , Birthplace: Aden, Yemen, Residence 132 Commercial Rd, SS
4	Said Metanna	29	5 ft. 4"	R66798 , Birthplace: Aden, Yemen, 1899. Residence 132 Commercial Rd, SS
5	Ayed Naif	30	5 ft. 9"	R567064 , Birthplace: Aden, Yemen, Residence 132 Commercial Rd, SS
6	Ahmed Hassan	27	??	Birthplace: Aden, Yemen Residence 132 Commercial Rd, SS
7	Ali Hassan	31	??	Birthplace: Aden, Yemen Residence: 16 Prince's Dockside, Hull

Kenton's Request For Information

If he can access additional heights and photos of the sailors, Kenton will be able to determine whether the bones belonged to Amelia Earhart or South Shields Yemeni sailors!

"It'd be interesting to know if there are any family members of the sailors still living in the area," said Kenton. Perhaps they have photographs or other records. Perhaps they'd be interested to know their loved ones haven't been forgotten."

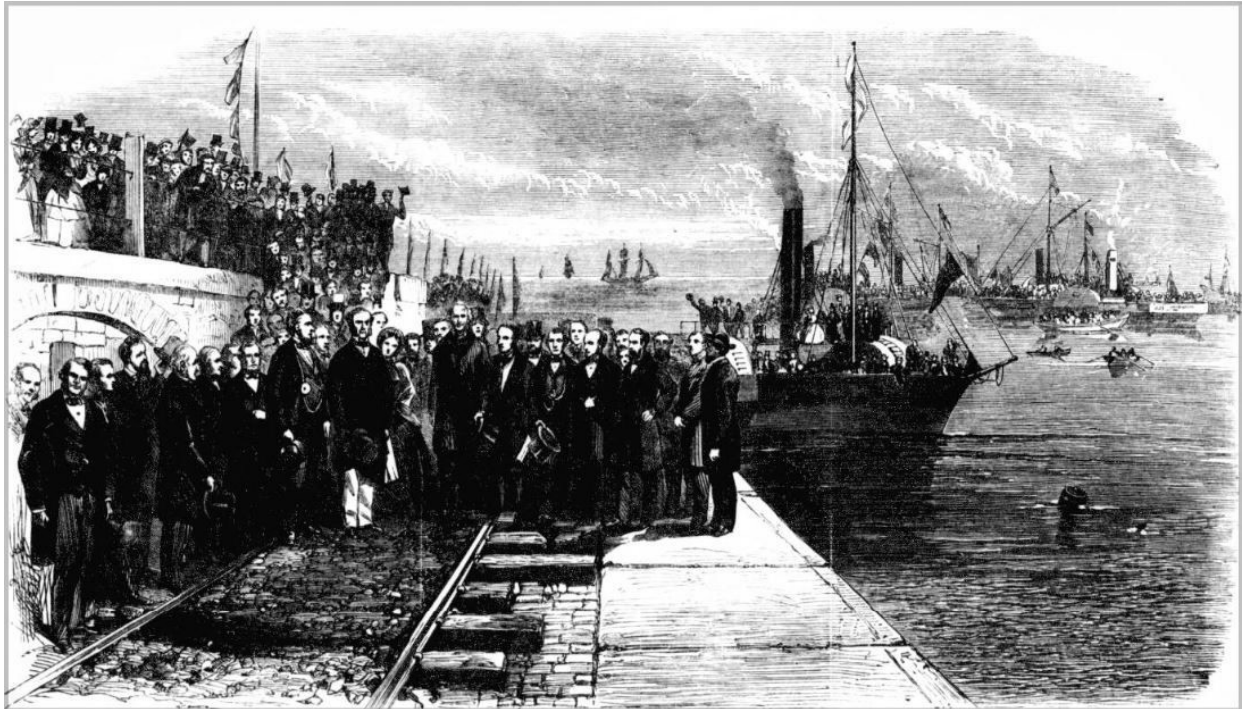
If you know anything about any of the men mentioned, about the SS Norwich's final voyage or would like to assist with research contact Kenton Spading at KSpading@Comcast.net or Terry at terryford1@blueyonder.co.uk .

Further info below click on:-

[Amelia Earhart or South Shields Yemeni Sailors? – South Shields Local History Group](#)
[The Wreck of the Norwich City \(tighar.org\)](#)

Gladstone's Visit to the Tyne (part 2)

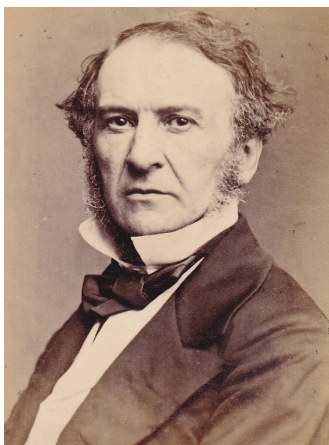
The highlight of William Gladstone's visit to Tyneside in 1862 was a procession of vessels down to the mouth of the River where the construction of the piers was taking place, under the guidance of the engineer Mr. John Ure.



Gladstone (wearing white trousers) with the Mayor of Tynemouth and civic dignitaries on the North Pier

(A sketch published in The Illustrated Times, London, on 25th October 1862)

As Mr. Gladstone and his party re-boarded the steamer Harry Clasper, cheers broke out from the spectators who had lined both stages of the north pier.



Gladstone in 1861 (Wiki.)

lined both stages of the north pier. The Harry Clasper at once directed her course across the river to the south pier, where another vast assemblage were in waiting to welcome the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr Gladstone and party on landing were at once conducted to a part of the pier which had been apportioned off for their accommodation, and where they were received by the Mayor, (R. Wallis, Esq, who wore the robes and gold chain of office), and a numerous gathering of the leading men of South Shields. As the Chancellor shook hands with the Mayor the assemblage gave vent to their feelings in a round of hearty cheering. When the acclamations had subsided—

North & Shields Gazette, 9th October 1862

After welcoming Mr. Gladstone to South Shields, Mayor Wallis went on to say...

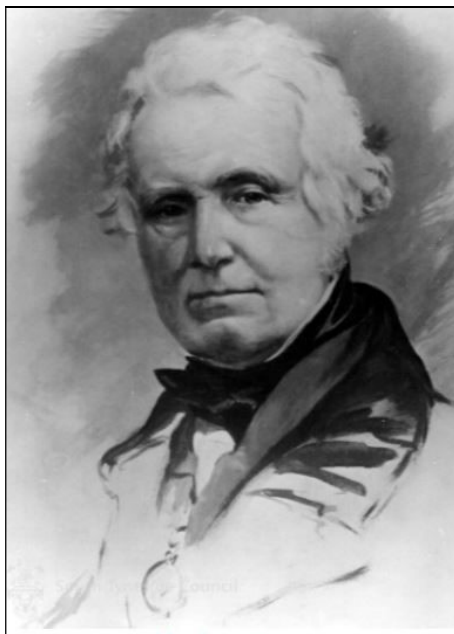


Mayor Robert Wallis

Shields. I have great pleasure on this occasion of representing a section of the busy hive of industry you have seen this day on our important river. When I tell you that the people of South Shields number above 35,000 souls, engaged in connection with manufactures and shipping, you will at once see that our borough is of no small importance. I have now in their name, Sir, as the only mode we have of expressing our high regard for you as a gentleman, and our deep respect and esteem for you as a gentleman, to beg your acceptance of an address from the Municipal Council of South Shields. (Applause.) I have also to announce to you that the Chamber of Commerce in the town wish to present an address to you. The Working Men's Institute, a public institution which has grown up amongst us during the last few years, which is very prosperous and is doing a great deal of good, likewise beg that you will accept an address from them.

North & Shields Gazette, 9th October, 1862.

There then followed addresses by the Town Clerk Mr. Salmon (on behalf of the Council), Mr. Jas. C. Stevenson (President of the Chamber of Commerce) and Mr. S. Sutherland (from The Working Men's Institute). Finally, the town's MP, Robert Ingham, said a few words, before The Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke.



Robert Ingham MP

Mr R. INGHAM, M.P., said—It has been my endeavour and duty in many Parliaments to represent the opinions of my friends of South Shields; now, the relation between us is inverted, for in every word of admiration and gratitude they have expressed in this address, they are my representatives. (Applause.)
Mr GLADSTONE, in acknowledging the addresses, said—It is with very deep pleasure I have the honour to offer in few, but, believe me, sincere and emphatic words, a joint reply to those addresses. I view in you, Mr Mayor, the representative of the community at large, as respects its several classes and local government. I have the pleasure of seeing in Mr Ingham a gentleman who, not less respected within the walls of Parliament than he is within the limits of his borough, indicates your capacity to make a fit choice of a person to represent you in the great councils of the nation. I have the pleasure, at the same time, of recognising the representatives, in Mr Stevenson, I may presume to say, of capital, in Mr Sutherland of the industry of this country. (Hear, hear.) I, therefore, may truly and justly say, with no ordinary sentiments of pleasure, that I receive in this address an expression of the feelings of the community of South Shields. (Hear, hear.) And

North & Shields Gazette, 9th October 1862.

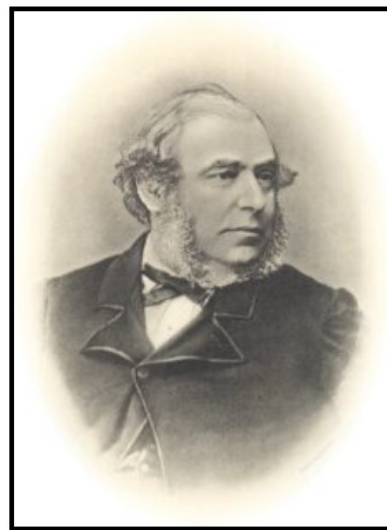
Gladstone then went on to infer, he'd seen so much he barely knew where to begin...

—but I will presume to say these two things. In the first place, I know not where to seek even in this busy country a spot or a district in which we perceive so extraordinary and multifarious a combination of the various great branches of mining, manufacturing, trading, and shipbuilding industry; and I greatly doubt whether the like can be shown, not only within the limits of this island, but upon the whole surface of the globe. (Hear, hear.) But another observation suggests itself with force to my mind, which I cannot but presume to lay before you. Much has been done for many generations on the banks of the Tyne towards the development of capital and of human industry; much is being now attempted, nor has it ever been my lot—of course it would be presumptuous in me to pronounce upon the particulars of the measures you are taking—but I must say, speaking on them as a whole, it never has been my lot to witness a group and mass of labour so comprehensive, and—I will presume to say in a favourable sense—so daring as those in which you and the Commissioners of the Tyne, to whose labours so just a tribute has been paid, are now

engaged—I cannot say so much for the improvement as really for the reconstruction of these ports and of this noble river. (Applause.) And great as has been in the past the development of your industry for the profit and advantage of all classes of the community, including, I rejoice to think, neither last nor least of that large class which is represented in our presence by Mr Sutherland—great as has been the development of capital and industry for the profit of all classes in time past, I cannot but entertain a sanguine hope that even what has been hitherto achieved will at some future time be eclipsed by that which you are about to accomplish; and that strong as is our beloved country in the union of the various classes of the community, and in the industry and intelligence of our citizens, that strength is about, with the lapse of time, not to undergo diminution, but increase alike for our own benefit and for the maintenance of peace and the progress of civilisation in the world at large. Mr Mayor and gentlemen, I beg to tender to you my most cordial, respectful, and grateful thanks. (Applause.)

After his speech, Mayor Wallis led the crowd in 'three cheers' for Mr. Gladstone.

Three hearty cheers for the right hon. gentleman brought this portion of the proceedings to a close. Mr Gladstone afterwards spent some time in examining the works at the south pier. On his re-embarking, the Harry Clasper at once cast off her moorings, and threading her way through the fleet of steamers which thronged the mouth of the river, started on her return voyage. The other boats followed the example, and in a few minutes the whole fleet was steaming through Shields Harbour amid the renewed booming of artillery and the acclamations of the thousands of spectators who again lined both shores of the river. The homeward voyage was attended by public demonstrations similar in kind, and scarcely inferior in enthusiasm to those which had greeted the procession in its progress down the river. All along both banks of the stream were assembled groups or crowds of spectators, who once more testified their good-will to the distinguished strangers in rounds of hearty cheering; while the cannon which had roared so vigorously in the afternoon were again brought into requisition to fire a succession of parting salutes.



Among those dignitaries on-board the Harry Clasper were Joseph Cowen (Chairman of the Tyne Commissioners) and his Vice Chairman John Robinson from South Shields. Later on Mr. Gladstone attended a banquet in Newcastle and among those present from the town were Alderman Terrot Glover, Alderman John Williamson and Mr. James C. Stevenson, along with the engineer Mr. Ure (see image above).

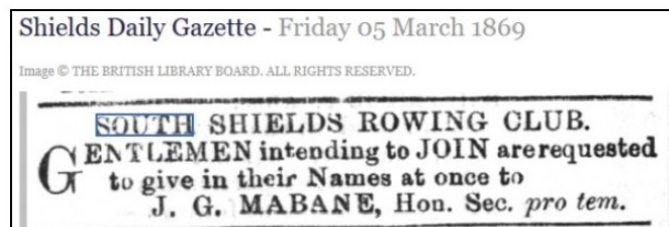
(Images of Wallis and Ingham appear courtesy of www.southyneshistory.co.uk . For more on the piers, visit <https://southshieldslocalhistorygroup.co.uk/index.php/buildings/structures/piers/>)

Submitted by James Mulholland

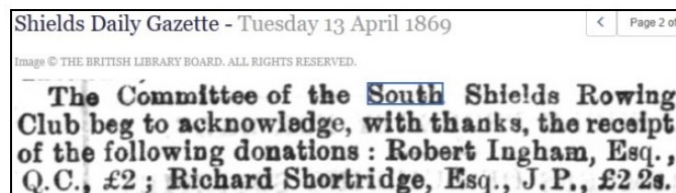
South Shields Rowing Club

The South Shields Amateur Rowing club was formed in 1869 though the Amateur element does not appear until 1871. They originally were based at the Coble Landing and Marsden then in 1938 they moved to Comical Corner near where North East Maritime Trust is now. The club lapsed during World War 2 then revived after the war but started to decline after 1947 and ceased to exist about 1957.

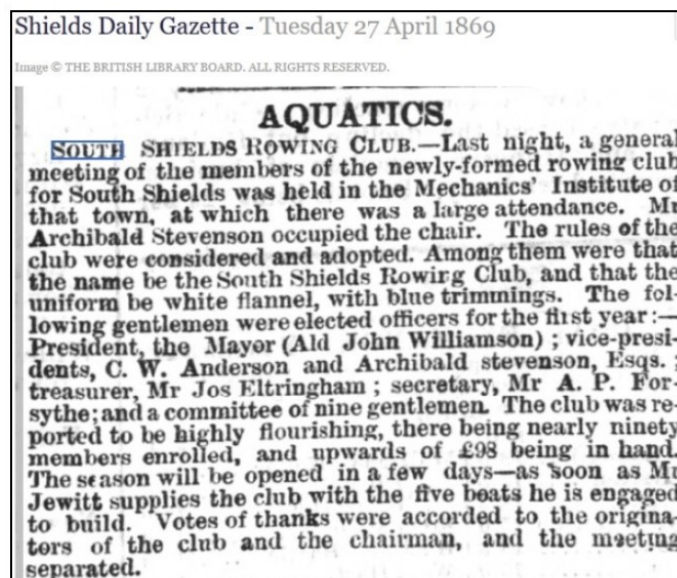
The photos below were originally from George E. Smith, a member in the 1930s, who later became the club treasurer and passed the photos onto Thomas Vasey (a club member and treasurer (1937-39). Thomas was a chartered accountant and great-nephew of the 'Vasey' in the well known Vasey and Reed company in South Shields. Finally, the photographs were passed onto his daughter Pat Rigg.



1869 start for "Gentlemen"



Robert Ingham M.P. donates £2



Uniform white flannel with blue trimming

The world famous South Shields born clarinettist Jack Brymer (who played on The Beatles album Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band) was a member of the rowing club in the 1930's, according to Tom Vasey and appears on the photos. Please note - there will be a follow up article on Jack in next month's newsletter.



Scotswood Boat House, Tyne Challenge Cup, Berwick crew left & South Shields right, Tom Vasey far right, Jack Brymer 2nd right???, Shields won the heat, for maiden oarsmen, (W Tate photo?) 6th June 1936??



Same person as above 2nd right? Jack Brymer (Wiki)

For more on the South Shields Rowing Club including newspaper articles and an extensive collection of photographs, visit <https://southshieldslocalhistorygroup.co.uk>

Submitted by Terry Ford



Wednesday Heritage Club @ The Word

Hello everyone and welcome to the latest 'Newsletter' from The Wednesday Heritage Club'. A couple of days ago – Wednesday the 13th – we had someone who many of you may recall seeing at the SSLHG - Ian Hudson. As previously Ian was excellent talking about 'The Tyne Piers' and he had added some new material providing more context into why the piers were so necessary. Incredible to think it took 50 years to complete the work and by today's prices the cost – 115million.

So we will complete our trilogy of maritime themed events next month – on Wednesday 11th October with Ian Richardson showing us and talking about just a selection from the many ships on 'our River' which he has photographed over the years. He has described himself as a 'A shipping anorak'.

That will take place as usual at The Word, top floor – The Round at 2pm on Wednesday 11th October. Tickets – priced at £2.00 are already going well, so please do not delay. You can order your tickets by telephoning The Word on 4271818 and can pay and collect on the day .

November will feature Anthea Lang and for Christmas - what better present – your own – Jean Stokes.

We have already started putting the programme together for next year - and one of the events will be a nostalgic look back through photographs of the area, showing schools and children playing / the shops we miss/ the traffic - buses and cars/ the clothes and of course – entertainment.

If you would like to receive the WHC monthly newsletter with additional facts about forthcoming events, please mail tyneholme@btinternet.com .

Finally, for What's On at The Word, please visit <https://theworduk.org/> and to access a wide range of fascinating local history photographs and to browse historical documents, please visit <https://southtynesidehistory.co.uk/> .

Submitted by David Whale



James Young, Ship-owner/ Meadowcroft, Westoe Village

James Young (1767-1842), mariner and ship owner was leased **Meadowcroft** in 1819 when the executors of the estate of **Jane Wright** transferred the lease to him following her death on the *15 Aug 1818 aged 96*. She inherited the house from her husband **Luke Wright** when he died on the 15 December 1805 aged 75 years. Both were buried in St Hilda's Churchyard and according to the records, Luke was also a ship owner. Luke married Jane Liddell at St Hilda's Church in 1768 when he was aged 38 and she was 46.

James Young was part of a South Shields shipping dynasty; the brother of **Cuthbert Young (1765-1835)**, manager then owner of the West Docks, one of the most significant South Shields ship owners and ship builders in the early 19th century whilst Cuthbert's son **James Young (1808-1886)** who lived in Ogle Terrace amassed an even larger shipping portfolio. On his death, his wealth contributed to the development of Cleadon Park as his daughter **Margaret Young (1834-1904)** married **Charles William Anderson (1830-1906)**. Ownership of the West Docks passed to the Wright family. **Mary Young (1777-1860)**, sister of James and Cuthbert Young married **William Wright** at St Hilda's Church in 1799. It was their son **Leonard Wright (1800-1864)** who developed **Wright's Biscuit factory** on the land, which had belonged to his paternal grandparents **Hannah Burdon** and, **Leonard Wright**.

Elizabeth Roseby, the mother of **James Young** died in 1841 at the West Docks living to the incredible age of 104 yrs and 4 months. She was widowed for almost 59 years; her husband **George Young** dying in 1782 leaving her as a sole parent for seven children ranging in ages from 3 to 17yrs. Three sons including James Young were Master Mariners and ship-owners whilst her eldest son **Cuthbert Young**, a shipwright managed ship yards renting then purchasing the West Docks in 1818 as well as having an extensive shipping portfolio. The family lived mostly in East and West Holborn, the area to which **James Young** eventually returned.

Selena Mary Young (1803-1892) married **John Toshach (1789-1869)** at St Hilda's Church on 18 Mar 1826.

James Young: Master Mariner and Ship Owner

There are numerous records relating to master mariners and ship-owners with their residency ascribed to South Shields in *Dictionary of Tyne Sailing Ships (1830-1930)* by *Richard E Keys*. However, most of them are associated with **James Young (1805-1888)**. There is one record, which can be connected to **James Young (1783-1842): -**

Robert and Ann (1814-1854) James Young was the captain of the ship commencing the 28 July 1824 and stated to be the owner in 1835 -3749

Ships owned or part-owned & registered at Newcastle upon Tyne 1786-1804: -

Samuel- Registered at Newcastle upon Tyne only in 1799. Owned by Anthony Hood, Esq., Newcastle upon Tyne; Alexander King, Gentleman, Newcastle upon Tyne; Cuthbert Young, Shipwright, South Shields; James Young, Mariner, South Shields

Neptune registered at Newcastle Custom House in 1803/1804 owned in partnership by brothers James Young, Cuthbert Young & George Young together with Benjamin Hobbs



of Redbridge, Hampshire, brother in law of James Young. James Young was master of this ship in 1803 & 1804 as also was his brother George Young & John Holliday Garritt
(Neil W Richardson, 2002)

He may have owned other ships registered elsewhere.

Master of Ships registered at Newcastle upon Tyne 1786-1804: -

Nautilus 1796; **Samuel** 1799; **Neptune** 1803 & 1804; **Aurora** 1803; **Bellisarius** 1804

Master Mariners for the year 1799 James Young (part-owner) & William Young, brothers of Cuthbert Young

Edward-James Young, Westoe sole owner in 1822;

Masters: - William Aaron (1794-1842); 1828 William Shepherd; 1833 Leonard Wright; 1834 William Kirkby.

16 April 1835 during gale off Gt Yarmouth ship collided with the Caroline of Chichester. Ship salvaged. Floundered off Bawdsey 1845. Two crew drowned.

Meadowcroft

The executors of the estate of Jane Wright transferred the lease to James Young in 1819 following her death in 1818. There is no obvious connection between Jane Wright & James Young. Luke Wright who died on the 15 December 1805 aged 75 years bequeathed the house to Jane (Liddell) Wright, his wife. Luke married Jane Liddell (1720-at St Hilda's Church on the 12th December 1768.

Luke Wright (1831-1805) was a ship-owner, so described in the burial records for St Hilda's Churchyard so this may be the connecting factor. Luke Wright was the son of Esther and Matthew Wright. **Luke Wright (1831-1805)** was born at Bishopwearmouth on the 18th October 1731 and christened there on the 27th October 1731. His parents were Esther Wright and Mathew Wright and his siblings were Elizabeth Wright (1734-); Esther Wright (1736-); Margaret Wright (1738-); Matthew Wright (1750-). Jane (Liddell) Wright did reference all apart from Margaret Wright in her will.

Amy Flagg assumed that James Young occupied the house from 1829 onwards. However, in the 1841 census record and his burial record, Meadowcroft is not stated as his place of residence. Grew croft, the address given for him in 1841 was in Laygate, an area of the town where it was he resided prior to 1829, according to the extract (3).

Meadowcroft remained in the Toshach family and was leased to Thomas Henry Mason, the husband of Mary Hannah Toshach who was the niece of Dr John Toshach and eventually to Mary herself who died in the house in 1946. Following her death, the property was conveyed to their son, Clifford D Mason who died in 1963. It is suggested that the house had remained with the Young family over several generations. This was, however, not the case as Mary Hannah Toshach was not a descendant of James Young.

Cont...



References

Notes on Meadowcroft 2013

Substantial information about Meadowcroft was accessed relating to the original building, the subsequent fire, the Georgian house, ownership and occupancy. A few of them are as follows: -

- 1 'Forbidden road over Meadowcroft' in 1372 (5)
- 2 'Plan of the Township of South Shields & Westoe 1768' (6)
- 3 Meadowcroft-*History of Westoe Village*-pages 97-99.

Editor's Note: The above is a small extract from Heather's extensive research carried out over many years. Her website (<https://heathershistoricalsociety.neocities.org/>) has more in-depth coverage of James Young and Meadowcroft written in 2018 and more will be added in the near future. Heather's research of February 2018 includes records she received from the Hampshire archives sent to her by an enquirer relating to James Young who she helped with her research referred by Ann Sharp in the old Central Library.

Submitted by Heather V Thomas

Appeals for Information

Mike Bowman is looking for information and/or photos members may have on the Hall Bros. Coach Company, as well as any information about Thompson Ramsey (1811-1866), Master of the Tyne tug Rapid. Email mikebowman999@gmail.com

Ann Clouston has a number of requests for Information regarding Westoe Cemetery:-

- 1 Does anyone know where the Ships bell from the ship the Martin Weiner is now. It was found in the North Sea.
- 2 Any info about Captain Robert ROBSON Lost at Sea 7/12/1872 aged 55, brother in law of Barnfather
- 3 Any info about Henry Edgell SMYTH. Was he a banker? Died ?
Born 1823, Married Ann Allen in 1874 at St Hilda's
Brother William Royal Navy Captain
Brother Thomas Spencer Smyth, General Surgeon
His father was Admiral Spencer Smyth

If you can help or would like to join our group Friends of Westoe Cemetery, please email annclouston@talktalk.net

Your editor is still trying to get in touch with the descendants of the Hellyer, Fair, Wood, Field and Gibson families (all occupants of Woodside, 15 North Ave, Harton) and obtain photographs of this fascinating building. Any information could lead to an old photograph of the residents proudly standing outside 'Woodside'. Please email sslhq999@gmail.com



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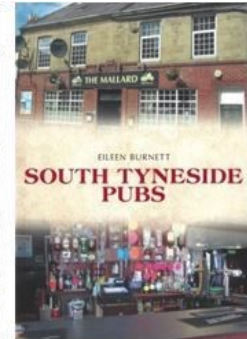
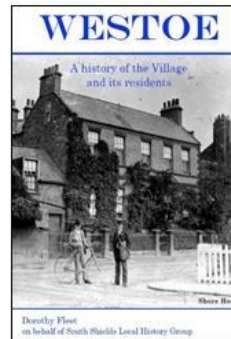
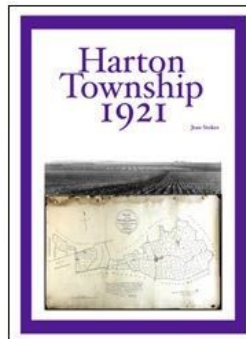
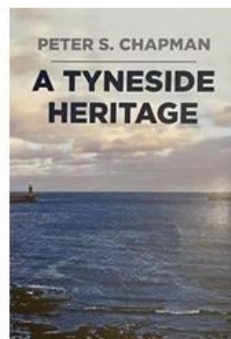
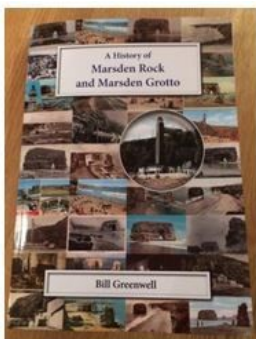


Volunteers are wanted to input names and photograph details from the South Shields Gazette onto a Microsoft Access database. Knowledge of Microsoft Access is needed. The Word now has a copy of Michael Mulhern's vast database of all the names (800,000) and photographs (166,666) that appear in the Shields Gazette between 1900 and 1938. So, far Lesley Collins has volunteered but 'the more the merrier'. For more details, please email terryford1@blueyonder.co.uk or jastokes@virginmedia.com .

Group member Pete Hampson is looking for information on Francis Daniel (author of the Angel of Comical Corner), family members and his other books & plays. Please email Hampson-p@sky.com

Peter Leech has made two large models of South Shields (circa 1900 - 1910) - 1 to 150 scale - mainly in card, and I'm looking for a home for them. One features the original Long Row between Fairles Quay and Thrift Street (Size 4ft x 3ft), while the other is of South Shields Railway Station (Size 26 by 36 inches overall). Hopefully it can go public display. Please email peter172leech@gmail.com or have a word with our editor.

Local History Books for Sale



A variety of local history books, penned by members, are on sale at group meetings, The Word and/or South Shields Museum including Bill Greenwell's excellent 'A History Of Marsden Rock and Grotto' (Price £10.00); The 'Westoe' book (by Dorothy Fleet) a fascinating history of the village and its residents (It costs £15.00) with all proceeds going towards our Local History Group; Peter Chapman's lavishly illustrated book 'A Tyneside Heritage' (Price £10.00); 'Harton Township 1921' (by Jean Stokes) – commemorates the existence of Harton Township (It costs £15 and all profits go towards St. Peter's Church); 'Abbess Hild's First Religious House' (by Alan Newham) reveals the history of St. Hilda's Church; David Whale's fascinating book 'A Beautiful Journey - Hildred's Life in Libraries' (£10.00); 'South Tyneside Pubs' (by Eileen Burnett) looks at the history of the drinking hostleries from South Shields through to Hebburn, while Terry Ford's excellent double DVD 'The Pubs of South Shields' is also on sale, priced at £10.00.



Newsletter of the South Shields Local History Group



Notice Board

Our next Speaker Meeting is on Monday 16th October and is a talk by Pete Hampson on Francis Daniel. If possible, please display our publicity poster in a church, pub, shop window or community centre near you. Thank you!

Our latest mini display (No. 4) at Ocean Road Community Centre focuses on the 'Scala Road Entrance' and runs until the end of August. Don't miss it!

Film-maker Gary Wilkinson's website/blog is a fascinating mixture of music, arts, culture, interviews and local history. Please visit or click on <https://garyalikivi.com/>

Recent website additions:- [Geordie Words – Jane Carr – South Shields Local History Group Resources – South Shields Local History Group](#) [Motor Buses – South Shields Local History Group](#) [Walker, James and Berry, Alexander, Franklin Expedition \(RN\) – South Shields Local History Group](#) [Geordie Humorous Stories – Jane Carr – South Shields Local History Group](#)

'*Scran! A History of Food and Drink in South Tyneside*' is the title of museums latest exhibition, which runs until January 2025. Don't Miss it.

The South Tyneside Branch of the NDFHS meets on the 3rd Wednesday in the month at 1.30pm at The Word (in the Charles Dickens Room). For more details, please visit <https://www.ndfhs.org.uk/branches/south-tyneside/>, while the North Tyneside Branch of the NDFHS meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month at 1.30pm at North Shields Central Library, please visit <https://www.ndfhs.org.uk/branches/north-tyneside/>.

And finally, on behalf of the group, I'd like to thank Julian Harrop from Beamish for his fascinating talk at last month's talk.

Contacts / Membership Details

If you have an article, a request for information or anything to do with South Shields' History that could be included in the newsletter, please leave details with our Editor James Mulholland at any of our group meetings or email sslhg999@gmail.com. Membership of the group is only £5 per year and this entitles you to free entry to the group's monthly meetings and a copy of our monthly newsletter. We hold all of our meetings at Cleadon Park Library, The Healthcare Centre, The Nook. An Informal Meeting of the group takes place on the 1st Monday of the month, while our monthly Speaker Meeting is on 3rd Monday - both normally take place between 5.15–6.45pm. Please visit our new website for details:- <https://southshieldslocalhistorygroup.co.uk>

Chairman: Alan Newham Library Officer: Catrin Galt Museum Officer: Adam Bell President: Dorothy Fleet Patron: Janis Blower