

Mr and Mrs Tom Percy, Caw House, Over Wyresdale, ages 64 and 59.

We travelled down to Wyresdale to see Mrs Percy's family MSS, and whilst there we learnt some of the family history.

Mrs Percy's father Edward Winder was one of five brothers, the others being James, John, Richard, and Tom. All are now dead. James and John were the two who danced the Greensleeves dance for Cecil Sharp.

Edward Winder's father was James Winder of Greenbank (Knowsley Farm), Over-Wyresdale. The MSS were written ca 1830 by an Edward Winder of Greenbank, who was presumably the father of James Winder (i.e. was Mrs Percy's great-grandfather). The MSS mention also a "John Winder, dancing-master", presumably Edward Winder's brother. It is a family tradition that Edward (?) and John were brought up at Wyre House Farm.

Mrs Percy's father told her of John, the dancing-master. He lived at Grassington in a little cottage [opposite the Ribbles bus station]. They do not know whether he was a full-time teacher, or whether he travelled round the area. He died before Mrs Percy was born. Although he was married, he had no family.

Mrs Percy has never heard the Greensleeves dance called a Morris dance. In her family it was just called "Greensleeves".

Mrs Percy has heard her father talk of the Swinging-6, but has never heard of the Square-8.

Mrs Percy and her husband have never seen a broom dance or the baby step.

Mrs Percy has a photograph of a band which played for dances around Dolphengholme; her father & two uncles played in it. The instruments were: 4 fiddles, bass cello, a large harp, two cornets (?) and a piccolo.

Cottagers was always the last dance at dances about 40 years ago. Their description was very vague, but it was something like the following.

2 Couples dance RH & LH star.

Then man takes opposite lady(?) & waltz on until they meet someone else.

There was no baby basket in it.