

# PEOPLE

## linked with Coley parish

St John's   
church on a hill  
Coley Road, Halifax, HX3 7SA

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST  
SERVING  
COLEY AND NORWOOD GREEN



### **Captain John Hodgson**

was in Coley Church when news was brought to him that the Royalists were besieging Bradford. He raised a posse to march to Bradford to repel the Royalist. In 1660 he was arrested at Coley and imprisoned for 5 months. He fought in several Civil War campaigns under General Fairfax. On his returned from the wars he rented Coley Hall. Captain John Hodgson, a Coley worshipper, broke away and formed a Congregational Church locally.

### **Captain Sutherland**

fined for being a Royalist and during the Civil Wars, Langdale Sutherland fought for the Royalists as a Captain of a Troop of Horse under the Earl of Newcastle and whilst he was resident at Coley Hall, it suffered badly from bombardment by passing Parliamentarian

### **Matthew Broadley**

was educated in Coley Church, a successful Silver Merchant in London, was paymaster general to King Charles, and bequeathed £500 for a Free Grammar School in the parish.

### **John King**

who died 1675, was esteemed the best archer in England by King Charles I. Lived in Kirk Lane

### **Richard Denton**

sailed to New England to escape persecution because he would not comply with the laws of the church. He took several of his congregation and while there he started the first Presbyterian Church in America and became the first minister of the church there.

### **Daniel Denton**

was christened at Coley produce a travel guide about what to expect in going to New York. A Brief Description of New-York: Formerly Called New- Netherlands... is a twenty-five-page pamphlet describing the topography, climate, soil, fauna and flora, settlements, crops, products, trades and occupations of the area between the Hudson and Delaware rivers, including Manhattan Island, Staten Island, and Long Island. Denton also included in his pamphlet some anecdotal relations of Indian custom and society

### **Oliver Heywood**



came to Coley he was only 20 so could not be ordained. For many years before he came there had been no communion and he restored a monthly celebration in 1655 and had 73 names on a list. He was a royalist Presbyterian. His troubles started when he refused to use the prayer book service. He was suspended in June 1662 but persisted in preaching, he was then excommunicated. Imprisoned for a riotous assembly in his house He approved of King James's declaration in 1687 for liberty of conscience and set up his own meeting house as a non conformist. He started the local non-Conformist movement and became a Presbyterian minister in the area, building a church in Northowram.

### **David Cameron**

the former Prime Minister is directly descended from Thomas Whitely of Coley and Margaret Bothes of Shelf, who were residents in the Parish of Coley.



### **John Kerry,**

the U.S. Secretary of State, mother is directly descended from Rev'd Richard Denton



### **Harry Percy Jackson**

the wood carver and his son lived at Morriscot, just above the school on Coley Road. Harry designed and carved the War memorial at Norwood Green and was responsible for many ornate wood carvings in the local house and nearby churches. Harry Percy junior, spent some years travelling the world after the war before returning to Coley where he joined his father in business.



### **Colonel Major The Hon. Archibald Norman McLeod J.P.**

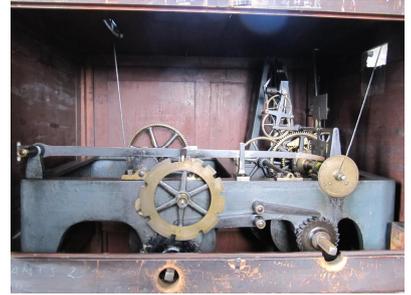
was a partner of the North West Company and a political figure in Lower Canada. In 1805, he built Fort Dunvegan. He was a member of the Beaver Club and represented Montreal West in the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada from 1810 to 1814. He fought in the War of 1812 as a Major with the Canadian Voltigeurs. McLeod Lake, British Columbia is named for him.

### **George Walker Milburn,**

wood-carver, stone-mason and sculptor, was born in York in 1844. In his early teens he was apprenticed to William Alfred Waddington, Pianoforte Manufacturer, at Stonegate, York, as a wood-carver. He also attended York School of Art and won several medals and awards. In 1865 he went to London as an apprentice stone-carver with Samuel J. Ruddock. About 1872 he returned to York and set up his own stoneyard. He worked for George Edmund Street on the restoration of the South Transept of York between 1872 - 1880, carrying out almost all the decorative stone work, on the interior and exterior. It was this work which brought him to the attention of other architects. George Edmund Street, called him "the best Gothic sculptor in the country". A small sample of his works is in our church.

### **Thomas Cook**

Thos. Cooke & Sons of York (Instrument Makers) are generally considered to be one of the finest Turret Clockmakers of the Victorian era. Our tower houses one of only 180 turret clocks produced by Thomas Cook and was made in 1875. It is unique as it is fitted with a single 5 leg gravity escapement flat bed construction, as designed by Lord Grimthorpe for Big Ben coupled with a 30 second remontoire, which drives the hands, making our clock a very special time piece. To have this form of construction was unusual for Cooke. These clocks are beautifully engineered pieces of art. Each tower has a 4 foot diameter dial clock face, so is visible on all directions. The clock is still working after 140 years and keeps accurate time.



### **Sir Robert Peel**

Robert Peel was born on 5 February 1788 in Bury, Lancashire Attended Hipperholme Grammar School for a period of time.

His father was a wealthy cotton mill owner, and Peel was educated at Harrow and Oxford, entering parliament as a Tory in 1809. His early political career included appointments as under-secretary for war and colonies (1809) and chief secretary for Ireland (1812). In 1822, he become home secretary, and introduced far-ranging criminal law and prison reform as well as creating the Metropolitan Police - the terms 'bobbies' and 'peelers' come from his name.



### **Sir Donald Thompson**

He was a Member of Parliament (MP) from 1979 until 1997. Thompson attended Holy Trinity School, Halifax, and Hipperholme Grammar School. Following National Service he ran a farm near Halifax then joined the family butcher business of his father, Geoff Thompson, known for its black puddings. His mother, Rachel, had worked as a weaver from the age of 12 until her marriage. Thompson expanded the business considerably and also developed a successful plastics manufacturing business.

Thompson became involved in politics at a young age, setting up Halifax Young Conservatives. He became a county councilor for the West Riding from 1967, joining the new West Yorkshire county council in 1974, then Calderdale district council from 1975 until 1979. He is buried in our graveyard.

### **John Noakes**

is a British television presenter and personality, best known for co-presenting the BBC children's magazine programme 'Blue Peter' in the 1960s and 1970s. He remains the show's longest-serving presenter, with a tenure that lasted 12 years and 6 months. He lived at the northern end of the parish. Wrote a book called The Flight of the Magic Clog which is based on his early life in Coley.

