

## Family History Group

### Dying Matters Display

Overgate Hospice held another event in Hebden Bridge in May to highlight various aspects about death and dying. This year the Family History Group put up a display that highlighted the roll of Family History and how it can give us an insight into our lives.

The message we wanted to portray was that the real purpose of Family History is to bring names back to life, by researching where people lived, what jobs they did and how their community changed over time.



One panel in the display was 'One Family's Story'.

The story follows two families linked by marriage. The first are the Uttley's and, in the middle of the nineteenth century, they lived at Gorple Farm close to the Lancashire border.

Our interest is with one of the daughters, Grace, who married Crossley Sutcliffe and had a large family. Their eldest daughter, born in 1853, was named Betty.

The second family, that of William and Grace Shackleton, is found further down the hill at Ladyroyd in Wadsworth. Henry, their son, married Betty Sutcliffe in 1885. It was Henry's death in 1896 that was to change the course of this family. Betty was left with three young children and took her

By this time her brother-in-law Roger was making good in the weaving trade and it is believed he advised Betty to take her family to Canada to start a new life there, he even paid the fares.

The family in Canada kept in touch with the 'old world' by exchanging frequent letters and photographs. Betty's daughter, Nelly Grace, duly married William Bishop and reared a family of her own. It is largely due to her keeping contact with her family and friends in Heptonstall that we are able to tell this story. We thank the family for sharing these with us for this exhibition and Keith Stansfield for putting the story together for us.