

Malcolm Waller, Scarborough 8/9/2007.

My great grandfather was the son of Claude De Sydenham, a French Merchant who introduced the "Kid Glove" into England. He was born in Suffolk in 1848 and died in Scarborough of peritonitis in 1891. He doctored in music at Leipzig University and composed many melodies, one being the Londesborough Waltz, dedicated to Lady Londesborough. He was living in The Crescent near Wood End at the time.

He worked in Bury St Edmunds as a choirmaster, where Malcolm's grandfather was born. He was organist at the All Saints Church in Scarborough and music master to Lord Londesborough's children.

He invented the third foot for the pianoforte and arranged many church hymns and scores. He was a strong swimmer. His widow lived on his royalties.

Malcolm's grandfather was an inventor and electrician, he made the Scarborough fishing reel. Malcolm's father was in the Signals Corps and they were posted to and lived at Flamborough head for 2 years. He later worked for Pearl Assurance.

Malcolm went to St Martins, Royal Avenue and Scalby school, leaving at 15 and spending his first summer working on the Hispaniola on the Mere dressed as Jim Hawkins. Malcolm did National Service and gained a City and Guilds in Catering. He worked at the Grand Hotel in the summers and Hull in the winter. There were 35 staff in the kitchen then and they prepared 400 lunches and dinners every day. The hot plates worked by steam and the lift by water balance transfer. The poultry arrived with feathers on and the peas in their shells.