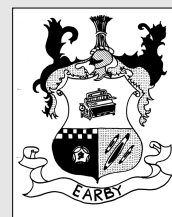


Earby Chronicles

Edition 47

WINTER 2007



SOCIETY AIMS:

to raise awareness, foster an interest and facilitate research into the heritage of Earby and district including Thornton in Craven, Sough, Kelbrook, Harden, Hague and Salterforth.

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See back page

£2.00

Members of
Society free

NEW ROAD COMMUNITY CENTRE AUTUMN FAIR

Arguably one of the best for a long time, this year's Autumn Fair was attended by over two hundred people and raised £1,200 for future running of this vital local resource. Centre Manager Julie thanked the many sponsors, and a presentation was made to Doris Haigh who retired recently from official duties after many years service.

The crowds were entertained by Members of the regiment of Lt-Col. John Lilburne, a Parliamentarian Foot Regiment in the Northern Association of the Sealed Knot Society. They gave a demonstration of their prowess in 17th century military drill by staging a mock attack on the Mayor of Pendle no less, illustrated below.



The regiment, comprising pike and musket units, attends English Civil War re-enactment's, known as musters, at weekends between April and October each year, at venues from the Highlands of Scotland to Cornwall. You can find out more about their events and activities by looking at their web site www.lilburnes.com

recent talks & features

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The Society contributed to the event with a bookstall selling its ever increasing array of books and publications, most of them published by the Society itself. In particular this year we were delighted to launch **'Shopping in Earby - A Backward Glance'** by Stephanie Carter. Daughter of William (Whitecap) Shuttleworth of Northholme Farm, Earby, Stephanie is a regular contributor to the Chronicles. Here we see Stephanie and Chairman Bob Abel at the launch. The book sold out almost immediately and a further print run is almost sold out. It is an ideal stocking filler at only £4.50 (£5-50 by post) and can be obtained by sending a cheque to
The Treasurer,
Earby & District
Local History Society,
22 Salterforth Road, Earby,
Barnoldswick, BB18 6ND.

WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE 'HIS' FATHER?

The book *'When did you last see your father'* by Blake Morrison, formerly of Thornton-in-Craven, got good reviews and the premier of the film based on the book is not long past, so we thought it would be **poignant** for people who knew Drs. Arthur and Kim Morrison to give us their own stories, put their own slant on the effect these two had on local peoples' lives. Here are a few

Firstly from Pamela Greenwood of Thornton: Arthur Morrison threw himself (and others) into village life in Thornton-in-Craven spearheading many initiatives for its improvement. For example, in the 1970s, the Youth Club. Arthur organised this in one of his own outbuildings at Thornton Rectory when his own children were teenagers. All the young people who were part of it have very fond memories of those Friday nights. The men of the village were recruited on a rota to supervise the young people and keep them from mischief!

1975 saw the renovation of the village hall, when Arthur 'persuaded' (something not much less than conscription) the local men to assist him in digging out the land below ground level at the rear for the addition of a kitchen and WC. Arthur was involved in all fund-raising events to finance this renovation, including the collection of

waste paper in the village. This paper was stored in his garage and stable at the Rectory before being transported to Langcliffe paper mill. Once again the men of the village were called to action; their reward being a stop-off at the Maypole Inn at Long Preston on the way home. Arthur often said how a pint of beer a day would help towards a long life! He also said that 'recruitment' was easier for him as he was one of the few people who could walk straight into people's homes, as he was 'the doctor!'.

In 1976 the village hall was re-opened with a big party night, Arthur buying copious amounts of cheap plonk. Many villagers over-indulged with the result that Arthur spent much of the following day checking on the state of their hangovers; one quite straight laced resident was quoted as saying "I even had to be helped home".

In the 1980s came the Britain in Bloom competition and Thornton-in-Craven entered, with eventual success, and the ever present Arthur busied himself, personally strimming the roadside verges around the village. Never one to hang back, in his forthright manner, he 'suggested' to one household that his front door could do with a coat of paint and to another that her hedge needed cutting back as it looked rather untidy, the responses to these particular suggestions are not repeatable here!

Another project for the beautification of the village involved re-cycling car tyres turning them into planters. This required turning the tyres inside-out, no mean feat of strength! Once again the men of Thornton were called into action, in one of the barns at Thornton Hall Farm, but none returned for a second session for fear of a hernia. However, the planters did last quite a long time.

Car boot sales for village funds were another of his favourites. Arthur didn't like the idea of throwing anything away and having been given a tea-trolley with a wonkey wheel, he spent a whole afternoon (with enlisted help of course) getting it into a saleable condition; in fact Dr. Arthur Morrison was a person it was very difficult to say no to!!"

From our Secretary Margaret Brown: David Wilkinson (my Dad) of D. Wilkinson & Co. Riley St. Garage, Earby, which was a popular "calin 'ole", has many stories to tell about Dr. Arthur Morrison, including one about Dr Morrison's driving. He seemingly set himself a fixed time to reach the surgery on Water Street, Earby, from his home in Thornton-in-Craven. One particular day while driving down the Wysick hill at high speed, he met the dustbin lorry coming out of the old tip (at the bend where the windmill stands). As he pulled out to avoid the lorry, he almost collided with an on-coming car which caused him to do a 360° turn in the middle of the road, then carry on down the road at the same speed, leaving the poor binmen hanging desperately from the back of the lorry and looking on in amazement. Do you remember back in the days before health and safety legislation when the binmen rode on the back of the lorry, rather than clamber into the cab?

Dr. Morrison had a very large garden and many antiquated pieces of garden equipment which required frequent repairs at David's garage. In particular, the good Dr. had an antiquated rotovator which was always breaking down. David was often called in to fix it and as this was becoming increasingly difficult and time consuming it was to David's great relief and pleasure and much to the Dr.'s annoyance when the cylinder exploded and this breakdown made it impossible to mend.

The photo on page 4 has been loaned by Edgar and Eunice Wormwell (*back row, left*) and shows the two Drs. at a gathering to celebrate Arthur's time as President of the Earby

branch of the British Legion. They were presented with a British Legion badge which was proudly installed on the front of Arthur's sports car.



Drs Kim & Arthur Morrison (centre) at a British Legion gathering in Earby

Jimmy Tattersall (*stood immediately behind Dr Kim Morrison*) recalls how while repairing a fault underneath a loom where he worked he pulled a muscle in his shoulder, and after a thorough examination by Dr. Arthur Morrison he came up with the final assessment "it's old age", a little perplexing for Jimmy then aged just 48. Nevertheless, following Arthur's death, Jimmy was very proud to be able to carry the RAF Standard at his funeral.

Another story (from someone wishing to remain anonymous) recalls giving Dr. Morrison's housekeeper a lift home late one night after a dance at the Albion Hall. Heavy snowfall made the journey adventurous enough but when they reached Thornton Rectory, they had trouble knowing exactly where the driveway lay and finished up bogged down on the lawn. The good Dr. Arthur came out in his pyjamas and played pop and during the process managed to get himself locked out of his house thus adding to his consternation. The poor chap, who after all was only doing someone a favour, had to visit the surgery the following day ... and yes you've got it, he had to see Dr. Arthur, who continued his tirade!

RIBBLEHEAD - A NINTH CENTURY FARMSTEAD

This was the topic for our September meeting when Alan King, a well known archaeologist, came to show his photographic slides and tell of his 30 years long study to re-discover a farmstead found in Gauber High Pasture, under the massif of Ingleborough.

Over the years various groups, including local school children, have helped with the searches and the archaeological record for Yorkshire still awaits the writing up of this remarkable find.

It seems that to-date only one coin has been found, but spear heads, querns and knife blades, probably of Anglo Saxon origin, are amongst others finds. From what, to the lay person, is an area of limestone boulders, lie the foundations of a unique building, 66 feet long internally and 85 externally, with doorways at both ends and a hearth in the middle. A building of that size and of that period has not been found before. Thankfully, the site was saved from certain destruction in the 1920s despite the major landowners, the Farrers of Clapham, fuelling the new fashion for garden rockery building by selling off train loads of limestone which were transported from Horton-in-Ribblesdale station.

If you're interested in archaeology, The Yorkshire Archaeological Society (YAS) exists to promote the study of Yorkshire's historical past, including agriculture, archaeology, architecture, industry, religion and last but not least its people. The YAS was founded in 1863 by a group of eminent citizens to study and preserve antiquities in the Huddersfield area. Within a very few years, it had expanded to include the whole of the historic county of Yorkshire and drew its membership from many other towns and cities. Today, the Society headquarters are housed in Claremont, Clarendon Road, Leeds, an eighteenth century merchant's house which has been enlarged over the years. Close to the city centre of Leeds, Claremont houses an extensive library and archive, and its own lecture room.

The web site <http://www.laplata.co.uk/yas/>

OLD TITLE DEEDS AND THE STORIES THEY CAN TELL

A Donation to the Society Archives

For centuries, ownership of property and land has been substantiated by the title deeds. The Title Deeds are a collection of documents that establishes a person's legal right to sell land. These title deeds usually consist of a bundle of papers which can include mortgage documents, marriage settlements, copies of wills, records of formal conveyance of the property and, most interesting, an abstract of title. This abstract is a synopsis of the several deeds which proved ownership. If some or all of the original deeds are also found this is an added bonus.

Since the 1925 Law of Property Act, a system of land registration has been gradually introduced and the only document now required as proof of title (ownership) is a Land Certificate. If a property has been in the same ownership for many years, the property may not have been registered and a Land Certificate may not have been issued. When a property with unregistered title eventually changes ownership it is now compulsory that the title is

registered.

One of the consequences of this registration is that once the land is registered the title deeds are no longer needed to prove ownership and should be given back to the owner. Unfortunately, due to this, many ancient and not so ancient deeds have been lost or destroyed or turn up at car boot sales. However, some have been retained for their historic interest, either in record offices or in the possession of the property owner.

One such survival is for number 20 Shuttleworth Street, Earby and the Society is indebted to Philip Hodgetts for donating his bundle of "redundant" title deeds to our archives.

The earliest document mentioned is an indenture of 1872. At this time, as shown by a sale schedule donated to the Society, large expanses of Earby came under the auctioneers hammer. One of the purchasers of land was Christopher Bracewell who, with his brothers Henry and Edmund, bought Waddington Fold Farm which included a mistle, yard, 4 cottages, workshop, outbuildings and several closes of land. The Bracewells were not only mill owners and cotton manufacturers (having built Earby's Victoria Mill in 1852) but they were also building up a large portfolio of property in Earby, which eventually included Moor Hall Farm, Green End Farm, Wheatlands Farm and Stoney Bank Farm as well as Waddington Farm.

However, by 1884 the Bracewell empire was beginning to crumble. A number of serious fires including the Victoria Mill fire of that year cost the family dearly and in April 1884 Waddington Fold Farm was sold to The Midland and Liverpool Bank.

The abstract also notes the sale of several plots from this property over the succeeding 9 years, including:-

November 1884 - sale of part of the Lower Croft with the adjacent stream bed and water rights to William Gill who the following year started to build his Grove Shed weaving mill.

September 1887 - A right of way was granted to the Trustees of the Baptist Church for a road across Waddington Farm from today's Water Street to their newly acquired plot of land called Wheatlands. Wheatlands was to become the cemetery and the road, Cemetery Road.

January 1888 - sale of 1272 square yards of Lower Croft to L. B. Morris rector of Thornton-in-Craven and his churchwardens as a site for Earby's "Tin Church".

The last entry on this abstract of title relates that on the second of May 1893 the Manchester and Liverpool Bank sold what remained of Waddington farm and lands to Robert and James Shuttleworth, farmers of Thornton Hall for the sum of £2900.

In 1908 the Shuttleworth Brothers leased, for a period of 999 years, a plot of the land to William and Samuel Wormwell, builders of Kelbrook, for them to build the east side, even numbers 2 to 30, of Shuttleworth Street. (The Shuttleworths retained the right to any possible mineral workings under the site). The rent was £10-15s-3d (£10-76p) per annum.

We tend to think that planning restrictions are something new but the lease stipulates quite strict conditions. The Wormwells were to build " *with brick or stone....15 good and substantial dwelling houses and no more That no building erected on the said plot shall be used for the sale of ... any intoxicating liquor or for a social or other club or for any purpose which may produce more smoke, noxious vapours, noise, vibration or smell than an ordinary dwelling house.*"

One intriguing part of the lease states that the Wormwell's as lessees "shall forthwith

rebuild and complete dwelling houses", does this mean that someone else had already started to build on the plot?

The Wormwells took out a mortgage with the Borough Land and Building Society for £1500, presumably to pay for the building work, but by 1912 the Building Society had repossessed the houses as had been agreed if the mortgagee failed to keep up the payments which I am assuming was the case here.

In 1921 the Building Society bought the plot of land from the executors of the Shuttleworths and the Building Society subsequently started to sell the houses. Number 20 was bought in 1923 by Charles Naylor, farm foreman of Manor Hill, Thornton-in-Craven and his wife Martha at a cost of £200, plus £35 for the freehold. In 1929 the property was sold on to James and Mary Rawlinson of 11 Waddington Street for £330.

In 1949 James and Mary Rawlinson had taken Haine Slack Farm on the border of Colne and Kelbrook and sold number 20 Shuttleworth Street to William and Ann Sherwood. By 1983 both Sherwoods had died and the executors of William Sherwood, Norman and Kathleen Sherwood, sold the property to Harry Woodhouse from Skelmersdale for £6250.

Other sources of information on local property deeds can be found in Barnoldswick or Colne Libraries in "Pendle Property - North", which is a collection of notes taken by the late Doreen Crowther from deeds held by Pendle Council. I have never been able to find out what has happened to the original deeds and assume that they have been destroyed.

The West Riding of Yorkshire is also one of the few counties to have set up a public registry of deeds and this register covers the years 1704 to 1970. Whenever land or property was sold or leased, a record of the transaction was registered with notes on and abstracts from the deeds involved. This register is located at the West Yorkshire Archives in Wakefield.

I hope this article demonstrates the importance of title deeds to local historians as they contain a vast repository of information on land use, old field names, roads, house history and family history and the general development of our community. If we are lucky these deeds can take us back many centuries, in this case we have been transported through 135 years of Earby's history.

Bob Abel



If you are in possession of title deeds for the Society's geographic area, or come across any by chance, the Society would be pleased to assess them for their wider historical interest, so do please contact our Archivist, Margaret Greenwood or Chairman, Bob Abel

Thank you.

HISTORY OF COWLING

Cowling's Mark Barnes, David Hoyle and other members of a group of enthusiasts who call themselves the Cowling Moonrakers came along to tell us not only about the village's history but also how and why they set up the group and how they promote themselves, especially on the web.

Founded in 2003, where else but in the 'local', the Bay Horse public house in Cowling, their first meeting was so well attended that they have met monthly ever since - to have fun it is stressed. Their aim is to better understand the Cowling village of the past, its people, places, villages and events - not too dissimilar from our own aims. Their website is just one way of recording it all. They are also wanting more people to join in and are especially interested to hear from people from our side of "the hill" as many, apparently, travelled over to work in the five mills in Cowling in the 19th and 20th centuries.

We were shown old photographs of these mills and heard how the village had moved as a result of the building of the new Turnpike Road (1810) 'ower't moss', after which the present village heart developed. We also heard of Cowling's best known 'son' Philip Snowden the great orator, who "spent his life in the interests of the common people" and at the height of his career became Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the Labour Government. A memorial cairn to him was erected on the moors in 1938.

Photographs of note were, firstly, a motorised bus, claimed to be the first ever in Yorkshire, brought up from London by Cowling's Ezra Laycock in 1905. He founded the Pennine Motor Co., the orange busses we see locally. Secondly, we saw a formal group of people with two Japanese men brought over in about 1935 especially to teach the locals how to sex day old chicks! Apparently the area had a thriving chicken producing industry at that time.

Artist and historian David Hoyle then gave a recital of a poem by Cowling's Alfred Teal, poet and playwright, and in full dialect which was fascinating. The group has also produced audio CDs of David and others telling their stories and these can be purchased.

Like our own collection, which currently stands at approximately 3000 photographs, the "Moonrakers" have collected many depicting the industry and shops, now closed or gone, providing a vital resource for future generations of schoolchildren and historians alike.

You can find out much much more for yourself by taking a look at Cowling's interactive website <http://www.moon-rakers.co.uk>

THE GOLD CUP WINNER 1938

New member, Susan Watson, has recently come across some cuttings and photographs which belong to her Auntie, Jean Watson, of Barnoldswick, copies of which she has passed onto the Society. The cuttings are from a specialist magazine "the Poultry Industry" and the "Farmers Weekly" and will be included in the Society's archives.

The articles relate to Edgar Watson, Susan's Grandfather and Jean's father. As many will remember, the Watson's were joiners and undertakers in Skipton Road, Earby and

Edgar's father was Charles Watson. Edgar and his family lived at Gate House Farm before moving to 32 Skipton Road. He had four children, Leslie, Alec (Susan's father), Betty and Jean.

Edgar was a keen poultry keeper specialising in the White Wyandotte breed and used a 6.5 acre plot of land around the parish church to rear his prized birds. Edgar regularly entered birds in laying tests and was a frequent winner, including the Harper Adams Championship 5 times. (Harper Adams College was an establishment in Shropshire training young people for the agriculture and food industry and had a department dealing specially with poultry farming. In 1920 it established the National Poultry Council).

However, not for lack of effort, the main National prize, the Daily Mail Gold Cup (right), had always eluded him'. In 1938 his confidence was high enough to enter his birds in the championship and not the breed section. This self assurance was justified as he carried off the trophy which was accompanied by a cheque for £500, a remarkably large amount for the time. As Susan says it would probably have bought a couple of houses in Earby at that time. (Based



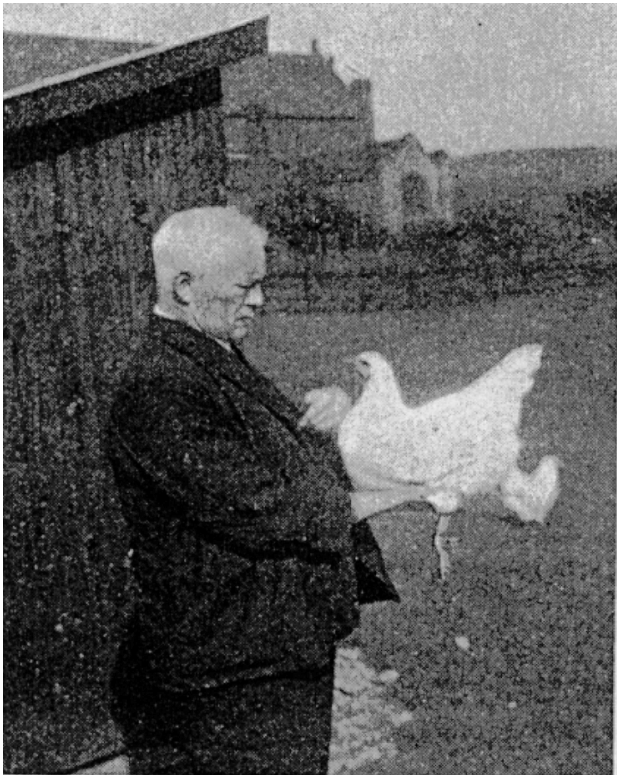
on the retail price index £500 in 1938 would be worth some £22,000 today).

The prize was presented at the Combined Poultry Dinner (I wonder if chicken was on the menu) in London during Dairy Show week.

As Susan comments "It can't be every day that Earby folk win national events".

Susan is interested to hear from anyone with information about the Watson family and can be contacted through the Editor.

Left - Edgar Watson with one of his prize birds



Do you have old newspaper articles the Society might be interested to report on in Chronicles ?

If so contact the Editor on 01282 843226 or

ALL SAINTS EARBY?



A correspondent from Australia has sent a copy of the photograph above of an 'All Saints' football team of the 1912-13 season. It is unnamed and one of the lads also appears in another unnamed family photograph in her possession.

Her family is originally from the Burnley/Barnoldswick area. Someone suggested that it sounds like the football team took its name from a church and the only one they could think of in the area is "All Saints" at Earby.

Does anyone recognise the team, is it All Saints Earby, and if so can anyone put names to the faces? Please contact Chairman Bob Abel on 01282 843850 if you can help.

WINDLE FOUNDATION RENT CHARGE

After Robert Windle died in 1591, Henry Mitchell carried out his wishes to provide money for building a school in Earby, and also set up a deed of settlement for a rent charge of £20 to be paid, yearly towards the salary of the schoolmaster.

A rent charge is a regular payment, in this case the yearly amount of £20, which the owner of a particular piece of land is obliged to make to another person or organisation.

The original rent charge was set up by a Deed of Settlement, drawn up in 1599 on the Arthington Nunnery Estate (near Harewood House), which had been in the joint ownership of Robert Windle and his nephew Henry Mitchell. Sometime later, Henry Mitchell, wishing to be relieved of this charge, bought an annual rent charge on land belonging to Henry Banke of Bank Newton, and this was conveyed to the Trustees in 1612.

This rent charge was then superseded in 1632 by one purchased from James Littlewood on land situated in Brandon in the parish of Harewood. To this date the £20 has been paid to the Trustees of the Robert Windle Foundation by the Harewood Estate.

Under the Rent Charges Act of 1977 nearly all rent charges will be extinguished without compensation in the year 2037. The Charity Commission recommends that charity trustees who receive rent charge payments consider releasing them by voluntary agreement with the landowner, for a single lump sum.

The present Trustees of Robert Windle Foundation have, reluctantly, agreed to this recommendation, and with the help of Mrs Donna Carney of 'Community Futures' the release has been finalised and the Trust will receive a one off payment. Mrs. Carney is providing professional help and advice on a number of matters concerning the foundation, for which the Trustees wish to record their appreciation.

Other income to the trust has been from the grammar school, initially from the weekly penny paid by its pupils and after the grammar school ceased to function, from rents. From 1904 to 1911 the West Riding County Council (W.R.C.C.) leased the building and the school was run by them but the building of Alder Hill School brought this tenancy to an end.

In 1911 the school was rented to the "Craven Club", which was a gentlemen's' club with local manufacturers among the membership, and in 1925 the Junior Conservative Club leased the building until 1929. In 1931 the W.R.C.C. agreed to do repairs to the building and rent it again. It was used for Earby's lending library until that moved to its current location in the Coronation Hall, off Water Street in 1952, and then as a children's clinic. The W.R.C.C. finally vacated the building in 1970 and since then it has been leased by Earby Mine Research Group and their museum was opened there in May 1971.

In order to continue the educational nature of the Trust, the income generated from the rent charge and the rentals was used to fund two scholarships, one at Ermysted's Grammar School for boys, the other Skipton Girls High School or Colne Secondary School.

The only income left to the Trust will be the rental on the building which at the moment is a peppercorn rent paid by the Earby Mines Research Group and this has been agreed for a 25 year term.

The income for the Robert Windle Trust amounts to £600.00 from the rent closure, and a small amount from local fund raising e.g. the sale of refreshments and coffee mornings and a few small bequests and the Trust is hopeful that it will get more from the rent for the Grammar school in the future.

For now the main aim is to put its administration into good order and bring the Trust up-to-date. Trustee Squire Firth says "We have a duty of care to the Grammar School building and want it to be kept in good order for future generations to use. We also hope to be able to give small grants to local schools, to enable them to buy books or equipment of their choice, though the amount we will be able to give at present will be quite small".

In the meantime, if anyone has photographs or documents concerning Earby's Old Grammar School, or the Robert Windle Foundation, please contact Margaret Brown on 01282 843932.

EARBY'S CHAINS OF OFFICE

by Margaret Greenwood

Some time ago I was asked why the chain of office worn by the Chairman of the Parish Council, and formerly worn by the Chairman of Earby Urban District Council, depicted the Old Grammar School rather than a coat of arms as was usually the case. This led me to do a little research about the two chains of office once held by Earby U.D.C.

In the "Craven Herald & Pioneer" dated 20 April 1951 a report appears that "Earby U.D.C. is the only Council in the area which does not have a chain of office" followed by the comment that "During the coming year, Festival year, it is likely that the Chairman will be called upon to attend more official functions ... Could not some public spirited person, or a body of people, provide a chain of office for the Chairman as their contribution to the Festival in the town." It seems this appeal did not go unnoticed as in August 1952 the then Chairman of the Council, Councillor Percy Higson, was invested with the new civic chain by the "father" of the Council, Councillor Wright Firth. The report about this occasion describes the pendant as silver-gilt with an enamel centrepiece depicting the Old Grammar School and is worn on a blue ribbon collarette. Funding for this new chain of office came from two sources: surplus money remaining in an "Evacuation Committee account." and part of the prize money obtained by Earby U.D.C. the previous year as a result of their efforts in the waste paper recovery contest!



In 1955 the existing blue ribbon was replaced by the present silver-gilt chain with its 24 links, this being donated by Johnsons Fabrics in recognition of the fact that one of their employees, Councillor Jo Boydell, had become Chairman of the Council. About this time Councillor John O'Toole, a past Chairman of the Council, suggested "someone might think the time opportune ... to give a chain of office for the chairman's lady".

Whether or not it was a result of this hint is not clear, but in August 1957 the firm of A. Watson & Co. Ltd. presented a pendant, necklet and ribbon to be worn by the lady of the Chairman. Chairman of the Council at this time was Councillor Jack Eastwood, who was employed by this local company, and his wife Joan was the first lady to wear this gift. The pendant, described as "delicate in design" is similar to the badge of office worn by the Chairman and had been designed and executed by the Crown Jewellers.

Local government reorganisation in 1974 saw the demise of the Earby Urban District

Council and both chains of office passed into the keeping of Pendle Borough Council, but are still worn on formal occasions. The chairman's chain is worn by the Chairman of Earby Parish Council, whilst the lady's chain can be worn by either the Chairman of the Kelbrook & Sough Parish Council or the Vice-Chairman of Earby Parish Council.

As to the question of an Earby coat of arms, there appear to be at least two versions, both probably unofficial, in existence. One of these is used by the Earby & District Local History Society and depicts a white rose, a loom and three shuttles; an alternative one, decorating the piece of crested china as on the previous page, consists of a loom, a woolsack and a rose (yellow!). It would be interesting to know if there are any other versions in existence.

AUDIO TAPES

Following the success of the new book 'Henry Richardson - the Life and Legacy of a Thornton Rector' and the project that closed in August, the income generated by the book will be put into other local heritage projects. If you know of a small project that might benefit please get in touch with Bob Abel.

In the meantime we have produced audio tapes of the main body of the book; a most enlightening and informative look at Henry Richardson growing up in an influential gentry family, quality of his education and in detail how important items came to be left for us to value today. For example, in 1748 the entrance forecourt of Thornton's Rectory was enhanced by the erection of a pedestal four-faced sundial. Richardson's account book records payment to one 'John Dixon for calculating and cutting a declining dial on four sides 15/-'. The whereabouts or even the survival of this garden ornament, with its utilitarian purpose of setting the Parsonage clocks, was unknown until 2005 when, by chance, it was discovered less than four miles from Thornton.

The dial is graduated for a latitude of approximately 54 degrees North and represented an application of new scientific thinking as the measurement of latitude was not more than 80 years old. For the Richardson's, a sun dial represented a combination of scientific awareness and theological reflection - for them the Christian faith opened their eyes to God's creation around them whilst their knowledge of the world around them - as they described it, 'natural philosophy', led them to a deeper appreciation of the ways of God. The texts inscribed on the pedestal, in English, are powerful allusions to the Authorised Version of the Bible and to the Prayer Book both of which were highly regarded for their beautiful English.

Its south face is a full vertical dial and carries the legend - 'The Sun to rule the Day'; the west face reads, ' Watch and Pray', the east face, 'We go hence like a Shaddow' and on the north face, 'H.R. Rect.1748' The dial is crowned with a stone sphere resting on a square ovolo cushion pediment of classical proportions. Dixon, the mason, had a problem siting the gnomon on the west face and the base of the gnomon has been re-sited. If you would like to see a photo, do buy the book.

The audio cassette tapes are available free on request to the Editor, and the Society is indebted to 'Craven Cassettes' a Skipton based Charity that provides audio tapes both of

the Craven Herald Newspaper (weekly) and the Dalesman (monthly) for local people who find reading difficult.



MORE TEA VICAR?

The above photograph has been donated by member Pamela Maryfield who says "I have no idea as to who the people are, or what the occasion was, maybe Chronicles readers will be able to tell us?" Contact Margaret Brown if you can.

LOST CONTACT

Allaine Beels from Canada has contacted the Society asking if we can help in a case of lost contact. Allaine tells of a visit to a great aunt, Ethel Mills, and her family in the 1970s and has, in the intervening years, lost contact with them. Can anyone help trace the family. Allaine has sent a photograph taken during that visit. The group includes Ethel and John Mills and their daughters Eva and Phyllis and their families. If you have any information regarding the whereabouts of any of the family please contact the editor.

DONATION TO ARCHIVES

"Silva Gars" (Grass Woods) and Guide to Grassington and Upper Wharfedale" by John Crowther has recently been donated to the Society by John Bailey. Published in 1930 this book covers the history, antiquities, ancient footpaths, wild flowers and wild life of the area, "together with a guide to twenty-seven interesting walks in the district, with map and illustrations".

TERRY FENTON (1933-2007)

It is with deep regret that we have to report the sudden death of Terry Fenton on 27th November. Terry had been a member of the Society for 8 years and was a regular attender at meetings

Terry was born in Earby in 1933, living first at Aspen Lane then at Cowgill Street and was educated locally at New Road and Alder Hill schools before going on to further education at Nelson and Colne College.

Terry went into the Textile business, learning the trade with his father at Watsons in Earby before doing his national service. He later took employment at Bannisters in Trawden.

Terry continued his textile profession as a consultant until the downturn in the textile industry forced a career change. Terry was appointed as a bailiff for Skipton County Court a job which he held until retirement.

Terry will be missed for his friendly and amiable disposition He always liked to stay on after meetings reminiscing with friends.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family, particularly his wife Shirley and children

FAMILY HISTORY

Turner is a name commonly found locally and is being researched by Alison Bird of Loughborough who's family lived in Earby. Alison has provided a file of entries for the Society archive dating back to one John Turner, who died May 1754 in Thornton-in-Craven.

More family historians could take a leaf out of Alison's book and donate copies of their local research to the Society archive for future researchers. You never know, a long lost cousin might discover it. It is surprising how many contacts can be made.

If you are interested in this ongoing work, or want to contact Alison Bird, please contact our Archivist Margaret Greenwood.

HISTORIC HOSTEL OPEN DAY

Following the reprieve from closure of Earby's Katherine Bruce Glasier Memorial Youth Hostel, a "Friends" group has been set up. Two meetings have been held so far and Chris Tennant has taken on the role of Chairman.

The first event that the "Friends of the Katherine Bruce Glasier Memorial Hostel" will be hosting is an open day at the Hostel, on Sunday 6th January 2008 from 12-00 noon until 4 -00 PM. This will be an opportunity for the public to see what facilities the Youth Hostel can

offer, and to enjoy light refreshments and talk to others about both its history and future plans. Perhaps you might find that you would like to join the Friends' Group and, as the group is still in its formation stage, help to formulate its objectives. It is also hoped to have an exhibition on the life of Katherine Bruce Glasier.

So, in appropriate time for that New Years resolution, mark this as your first entry in your new 2008 diary and lend your support to the Friends as they enhance this important local tourist facility, saved at the last minute from closure by Pendle Borough Council, the Society will be doing its bit for our Youth Hostel too.

EARBY CO-OP

Following the great success of her book on shops in Earby, Stephanie Carter has begun her next project. This will be a detailed look at the history of the co-operative movement in Earby and Stephanie is appealing for memories, memorabilia and in particular, photographs relating to the Earby Co-op to provide extra material for her book. If you have anything that could be made available to be included or if you have any anecdotes and memories of the local co-op to contribute please contact Stephanie or Bob Abel .

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 15th January 2008

Barry Atkinson "Local Railways in the 1950s and 60s"

Tuesday 19th February 2008

AGM and Earby Film Night

Tuesday 18th March 2008

Mike Clarke "People of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal"



Happy Christmas to all our Readers

**PRODUCED
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Earby & District
Local History
Society.**

DATA PROTECTION ACT

Members details are held on computer for mailing and compilation of a membership list. The details will not be used for any other purpose without the express permission of the member. If you do not wish your details to be held on computer please inform the Treasurer immediately.

THE SOCIETY

Meets at the Community Centre, New Road, EARBY on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. (except for outside visits).

**ANNUAL
SUBSCRIPTION
£5.00
UK £7.00
Overseas £11.00**

Contents:

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy of information in this edition, this cannot be guaranteed.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Don't forget this is your newsletter. We're always keen to hear from members, if only to put them in touch with relatives and friends from the past. Do send in articles, photos and any other anecdotes, so that we get as wide a flavour of Earby & District, yes that means Thornton in Craven, Kelbrook, Sough, Harden and Salterforth as well.

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