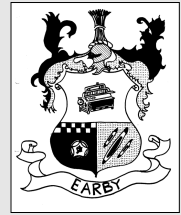


Earby Chronicles

Edition 48

SPRING 2008



SOCIETY AIMS:

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

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£2.00

Members of
Society free

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Society has had yet another satisfactory year with several projects completed, or on going.

2007 saw the successful completion of the Thornton St Mary's Well project with the publication of the Book "Henry Richardson (1710 to 1788) - Life and Legacies of a Thornton Rector". The whole project was a marathon task for a small group like ours, but with the help of the band of willing volunteers led by our vice chairman, Bev Parker, the All's Well at St Mary's project brought in £25,000 of Heritage Lottery and Nationwide Building Society funding. My thanks go particularly to Bev whose fortitude and determination kept us on course and thanks also to all those numerous volunteers who came forward to help, particularly the steering committee, chaired by Bev, of Richard Greenwood, Ron Jackson, Michael Bowley, Derek Claburn, Canon Nicholas Turner and Judith Hall.

Our archivist, Margaret Greenwood, and her band of volunteers have been busy re-cataloguing the society's archives using the new computer bought with a grant of £2255 from West Craven Together. This is an on-going project but when completed it will make searching the archives for material so much easier. The archive is growing year on year so there will be a constant need to keep the data base updated. The project is not just about cataloguing the collection but also about how it is stored and this will involve new shelving arrangements and the making up of acid free boxes to store some of the more historic original documents.

The West Craven Together grant also allowed the society to purchase a digital projector and this coincided nicely with Jennifer Spragg and Bill Lee allowing the society to transfer Arthur Lee's old cine film of Earby and District to DVD format, which can be used on the new equipment.

Stephanie Carter completed her research on the shops in Earby, culminating in the publication of "Shopping in Earby - a Backward Glance", the sales of which have passed the 180 mark. More research into

Recent talks & features

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the Earby Co-operative Society is progressing and it is hoped to publish the results in the Autumn of this year.

Judging by the meeting donations there has been an increase in attendance at the monthly meetings which reflects the quality of the programme organised by our retiring programme secretary, Sue Janion. Sue has done this job admirably for a number of years now for which we thank her.

Financially the Society is sound with the book sales this year turning a slight deficit in 2006 to a small surplus for 2007. Special thanks to Helen Horner for managing our finances in her usual attentive detail.

Our secretary, Margaret Brown, has kept the committee up to date with correspondence and minutes and on top of this she is the custodian of the Society's photograph collection, which is also being re-catalogued on to the data base for easier retrieval of pictures.

Lastly but not least I have had the encouragement and support from the other committee members as well, Bev (vice chairman), Squire Firth, Trevor Tattersall and Lucile Mitchell who is standing down this year, and the willing volunteers who look after the refreshments at meetings.

Regarding trips/out visits, some may be wondering why we have not planned any for 2008. Purely and simply there does not appear to be sufficient demand. Despite canvassing ideas for outings there was little support for those trips organised. In fact we lost money of the Nostel Priory visit. I realise that this will be a disappointment to the few so we have not ruled out organising visits altogether so if anyone has a good suggestion and if there is sufficient interest generated then we can soon get something organised.

As to the future, this is your society and the committee looks to you for guidance so please come forward with suggestions / ideas that can be put into use to improve your society. There could well be changes afoot.

Events to be planned for 2008 are an open day in Earby, involvement with the Burnley Local History Society in their 60th anniversary celebrations in November and research for several books besides the co-op history is ongoing.

A major project might be to use our archives proactively to pull together a history of Earby itself and produce not only a publication but also a digital presentation for use on the web and to take to other like-minded groups and educational establishments. To do that, we must widen the group of active researchers and would be looking to the membership in particular for that support.

And finally a plea for members and non members with skills which the society could use including information technology, finance and auditing, research skills etc. etc. to step forward - Your Society Needs You.

CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR

In a change to the usual format for the Christmas 2007 meeting we had a guest speaker before enjoying our festive refreshments. The speaker, Ron Bolton, gave a talk on Christmas past and present, explaining some of the Christmas traditions that we all

share each Christmastide.

Father Christmas, aka Santa Clause or Saint Nicholas, depending on which part of the world you come from, seems to be a universal character. He has been around for centuries but no one had a clear idea of how to describe him and he came in many guises.

In 1822, an American, Clement Clark Moore (1779-1863), gave us the basis for the Father Christmas as we know him today. He wrote the poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas" in which he describes Santa Clause as a jolly, white bearded, rotund man dressed in fur, travelling by sleigh pulled by reindeer and delivering presents down the chimney.

Santa Clause usually wore a green coat until the 1920s when the Coca Cola Company used him in an advertising campaign and the graphic designer changed the colour to red trimmed with white fur to represent the corporate colours of the company.

If you see Santa wearing a bobble cap he is quite definitely the American cousin, if he comes as a hoodie he is British.

The Christmas tree, a German tradition, was introduced into Queen Victoria's royal palace by her husband, Prince Albert, and soon became popular in the Victorian household.

Christmas cards are another Victorian invention. Lord Henry Cole, to save having to write dozens of Christmas letters, engaged John Collet Horsley to produce a pre-printed card to send. As printing and postage became cheaper, the Christmas card became more popular.

Many traditions are based on superstition and religious symbolism, for example the Christmas pudding is steeped in religious meaning as well as brandy. Stir-up Sunday is the last Sunday before advent and the prayer for that day begins "stir up we beseech thee, o Lord, the wills of thy faithful people" and this is the day when the Christmas pudding should be made. A proper Christmas pudding is always stirred from East to West in honour of the three Wise Men. A Christmas pudding is traditionally made with 13 ingredients to represent Christ and His Disciples, the flaming brandy produces a halo. Every member of the family must give the pudding a stir and make a secret wish. A coin was traditionally added to the ingredients and cooked in the pudding, supposedly to bring wealth to whoever found it on their plate on Christmas Day. The traditional coin was an old silver sixpence or three-penny bit. Other traditional additions to the pudding included a ring which foretold of a marriage.

The Christmas traditions are legion including the Victorian Christmas cracker, the mysterious mistletoe and holly prickles to ward of evil, twelfth night, tinsel and tree lights all of which were include in Ron's seasonal talk. The evening was nicely rounded off with mince pies and sherry and wine.

**WHERE THERE'S A WILL
by Bob Abel**

I am currently in the process of updating the late Jim Walker's booklet on the history of the Earby Free Grammar School which was first published in 1971.

Very little seems to be known about the early life and immediate family of the

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founder, Robert Windle. We know he was born in Thornton Parish, he says as much in his will, but he was born before Parish registers were kept. The Windles, however, were well established in the area before Robert was born.

Another source of family connections is wills. The Borthwick Institute for Archives at York University is the repository for many of the records relating to the province of York and its diocese, including a large archive of wills which were proved in the church courts. The archive contains several wills made by local Windles from the late fifteenth century onwards, with quite a few in the 1500's when Robert Windle was living. An exercise has been started to trawl through these 16th century wills to try and find any reference to Robert Windle.

As an example of what can be found, the following is reproduced with the permission of the Borthwick Institute, together with a transcription.



When trying to follow such old documents, at first the old script can look a daunting task, but with the help of a good book on old scripts as a guide and with some patient practice it is surprising how much can be deciphered, despite the odd spellings and lack of punctuation. Below is a transcript made by myself and Beth Mead.

"In the name of God amen

the 25 Day of April the year of Our Lord God 1565, I Christopher Windle of Thornton, good of memory and whole of mind doth ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form as hereafter doth follow.

First I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God in whom I trust to be saved and redeemed and my body to the ecclesiastical burial at Thornton church.

Also I give and bequeath to the poor of the same parish 2/- .

Also I give and bequeath my lease of my farm (fermin?) of a place called the Bo..... , with the whole title interest and the occupation of the same according to the true intent and meaning as is specified in my lease, to my wife Margaret and to my three children

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Christopher, Willm and Jane so long as she is my wife and when she marrieth again my son Christopher to have the foresaid lease with all that thereto belongeth during the term of the years of the foresaid lease, and if it chance the foresaid Christopher to die before the years of the lease be expired and only then to remain to my son Willm, and if it please God to call him then to my daughter Jennet and so from one to another to the longest liver.

Also I will and I put my brother John in full authority to see and cause all things to be done according to this my last will and testament and to have thesight and ordering of my wife and children so far as he can or may.

Also my debts paid my funeral expense and costs made all the rest of my goods I give to my wife and children whom I make my Executors of this my last will and testament. These to be witness and record, John Wyndle the Elder, John Watson the Elder, Nicholas Whitwham and Willm Robt North".

I am indebted to Bob Dodgson and Beth Mead for obtaining the copy of the will and help with the transcription. Both Bob and Beth are distant cousins who are researching the Dodgson family who have a marriage connection with the Windles. They also have a Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, aka Lewis Carroll, in their family tree.

The Windle Wills transcribed so far and in the Society archives are

Christopher Windle	1565
John Windle of Earby	1578
John Windle of Thornton	1589
William Windle of Earby	1591
Robert Windle of Chastleton	1592
William Windle of Thornton	1625
Jennet Dodgson (formery Windle)	1580/81 Mother of Robert Windle

The book on old scripts alluded to above is:-

"A Secretary Hand ABC Book" by Alf Ison 1985 reprint

Borthwick Institute postal Address is:-

Borthwick Institute, University of York, Heslington, York, YO10 5DD, UK

Telephone: +44 (0)1904 321166 (search room enquiries, appointments, phone orders for documents).

Web address: <http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/bihr/contact.htm>

Email Enquiries:- bihr500@york.ac.uk

Before you send an email please note the following:-

- If you want to make an appointment it is best to phone to arrange it.
- Enquiries about the contents of archives are dealt with under the terms of their research service and can be accessed from the website.
- If you want to order document copies follow the procedure outlined under their copying service.
- And don't forget to include your own postal address on your enquiry.

ZEPPELINS OVER EARBY!

By Squire Firth



Now here are some interesting little extracts from a child's exercise books belonging to Margaret Firth, aged 12, who attended Earby Alder Hill School during 1915/16.

Our picture shows Margaret in her early twenties and is taken from a pamphlet describing her musical repertoire.

Earby in Olden Times - November 10th 1915

"Earby in olden times was very different from what it is now. There was no drainage and so roads had to be made on the hills. Also, there were no traps to the horses to carry people in, but a thing that was called a pack-saddle, and when some corn wanted to be carried somewhere the corn would have to be put on the pack horse. Down in Earby it used to be very marshy because there was no drainage. There was an old corn mill a long time ago and a place by it called Mill Brow. The place that is now called Green End was once the village green. The boys and girls would play there on a night. Men who wanted could put their cattle on the village green for the night and the gate is now called Cat Gate. Just in front of Mr. Baileys shop there used to be the Bull Ring. There was a large stone driven into the ground and fastened to it was a strong iron ring. Then a bull was fastened to the iron ring and bull dogs would bite and snap at the bull. This was a very cruel sport but the people liked it.

A long time ago wheat used to be grown in Earby and there is a field where wheat was grown called Wheatlands. Apples were also grown and there is a house where apples were grown called Applegarth.

Thatched roofs were always put on houses and consisted of hay, straw, and heather.

Procters' Farm was called Wad Fold and there was no bridge then. The Scots used to burn the thatched Churches and houses and so the people began putting slates and lead on their roofs and Churches".

Our Village - January 3rd 1916

"Our village is called Earby and it is a small town. Round our village there are a lot of hills such as Steep Hill, Pinnaw etc. also there are a lot of trees up the lanes and in the fields. There a great many houses in Earby and also villas. On Victoria Road there is a

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Picture Palace called the 'Empire' and there is also another Picture Palace called the 'Weavers Institute'. There, many people go to see the pictures at night.

In our village there are three schools, the Alder Hill School, the New Road School and the Riley Street School.

There are a great many shops in our village such as sweet shops, grocery stores, millinery etc. Generally we go to these shops on Friday or Saturday to look round. In our village there are a lot of Chapels and Churches such as the Wesleyan Chapel, the Baptist Chapel, and the Church. There is only one main street in our village and that goes from the Station up Victoria Road and then up the Town. Of course, there are a lot of streets leading from the main street to all the other parts of Earby, one street leads up New Road, another up Cemetery Road, another one up Aspen Lane and so on. There is only one cemetery in our village and that is near our school".

A Day in my Holiday - January 10th 1916

"The best day of my holiday was Christmas Day. In the morning I went to a practice for the Christmas Concert at the Wesleyan School. It lasted about an hour so I thought there was still time to go for a walk with my friend so my friend and I went for a nice walk round Thornton. After dinner we went for another nice long walk, this time right up Stoney Bank. It was a very nice day so we enjoyed our walk very much. In our walk, we decided to go to the Wesleyan School for our tea, and so we went about four o'clock. After we had finished our tea, we went home, to get our clothes on, ready for the concert. The concert was very good and I enjoyed it very much. Three action songs were encored and one of them was called 'Jolly Cobblers' which I liked very much. The concert ended about nine o'clock and I went straight home. On Christmas day I got a very big box of chocolates given, and a nice hair ribbon from my Mother. Also I got some nice handkerchiefs from my Auntie and my Aunt Agnes sent some stamps for me. Then I got about half a crown given in six-pence's and pennies, from various other people".

What I should Do if a Zeppelin Alarm Were Given - February 4th 1916

"If a Zeppelin alarm were given in the night, I should dress as quickly as possible, and waken anybody that was in the house. I should look out of the door and if any little children were getting excited in the streets because a Zeppelin alarm had been given, I should tell them to go to their homes and go into the cellar. Also I should put any lights out that were on, in the house because the men in the Zeppelin would be able to tell if there was a town or a village about. Then I should go into the cellar, because the cellar has most rooms over it. I should get something to eat before a went into the cellar".

My Aunt Margaret (Madge) Firth started school at the Old Earby Grammar School and left Alder Hill School aged 13 to work as a weaver at Spring Mill. She later trained as a nurse and worked at Hope Hospital, Salford, where she survived a bombing raid in 1941 when many staff and patients were killed. She was also well known in the Earby area as a fine contralto singer and died in 2001 aged 98.

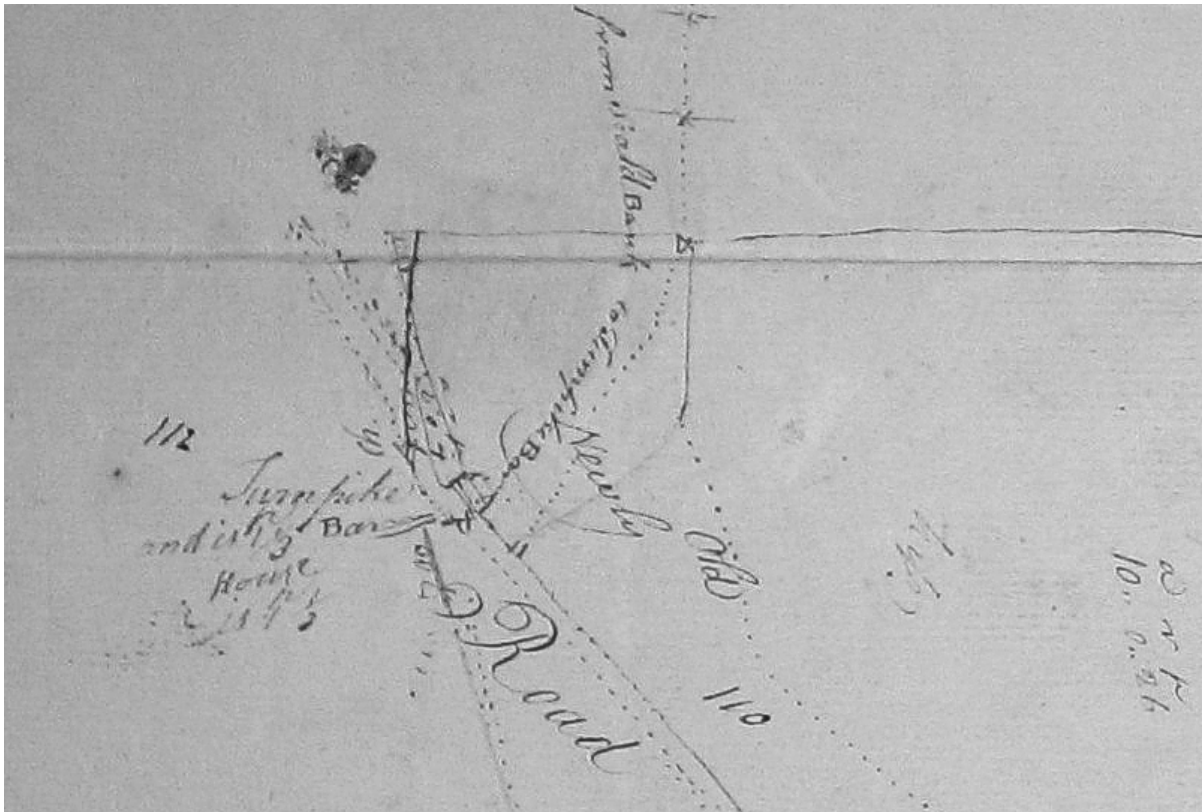
HAWSHAW TOLL BAR

During a look back into the history of her house our new programme secretary, Wendy Faulkner, has uncovered a snippet that ties up other known loose ends to help build a picture of the old road Turnpike road from Skipton to Colne, in the early 19th century.

An ancient road had connected Skipton and Colne, passing through Carleton and over Pinhaw Moor, but according to Ken Wilson "it didn't satisfy the travellers and a group of prominent citizens were successful in securing an Act through Parliament in 1755" to set up a turnpike trust. This was to be abandoned almost 100 years later in 1861.

When the Society visited Craven Museum in Skipton a few years ago it was interesting to see a ticket that had been issued at Hawshaw Bar.

The area of Hawshaw lies high above Lothersdale village, on the Cowling side, and was enclosed in 1861 thirty odd years after the Thornton moors and waste lands were enclosed in 1826.



The map dated 1801 that Wendy discovered is held by the Cononley Local History Association and gives the precise location of one of the Turnpike Bars. This is at the Cowling/Colne boundary, at what is now Hainslack Farm, close by the boundary marker named 'Tom Cross', the subject of an article in Edition 42 (Autumn 2006) of Chronicles.

When travelling north from the southern (Colne side) on a bright sunny day, when the fields on both sides have recently been ploughed, the changes in colour of the earth

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make it possible, even today, to see the old road line as it wove its way up the steep hillside towards Bleara road. This is where the users of the old road would have zig-zagged their way along, more than likely looking for the best grip for their horses hooves, in what would often be difficult ground; don't forget that the surfacing then would be far less robust than it is today.

How often have you driven along the road from Colne to the top end of Bleara road and thought of anything other than the speed of the other traffic! Well, next time, if the traffic allows, try to take a quick look at the wide strip of waste land on the south side of the dip and you are probably looking at the result of the Hawshaw Moor enclosure of 1861 exactly as then laid out, at least very little has changed since then. On the old map this strip of land that is walled off from the fields, is shown as "Newly Enclosed Ground" alongside the "Road to Skipton", and amounts to 8 acres 3 roods and 18 perches.

If you want to know more about the old road there is a detailed account of the turnpike roads, this, and the lower road via Kelbrook and Earby, in the Lancashire Red Rose Magazine. It was written by local historian Victor Laycock and he mentions in particular the difficulties that would be encountered by horse drawn wagons on steep sided hills.

(note : Hawshaw and Howshaw spelling variants may be encountered)

References:-

Carlton Common and Hawshaw Inclosure Map 1861

Wilson, K. History of Lothersdale, Lothersdale PC, 1972.

Laycock, V. The Colne-Broughton Turnpike Road. Red Rose Magazine. Vol 1 No 5. 2/1990.

WHAT'S IN A PLACE AND A NAME LAYCOCK

If you're name is Laycock, or you have connections with Laycock village near Keighley, you might be interested in a recent donation to the Society of a CD copy of records of the Laycock families of Sabden, Clitheroe and Kildwick and elsewhere compiled by Dr. John Laycock in 1906.

This is an archive of parish records, wills and many other sources and covers Laycocks from 'our neck of the woods' as well. It contains some 300 pages in copperplate manuscript handwriting, and is a mine of information. The original is held by Burnley Reference Library, but this CD copy has come to the Society from another John Laycock, who's ancestors had owned properties in this area including the home of our Editor! John is a keen local historian, and although living down south, he manages the website of Laycock village <http://village.laycock.com>.

This is where you can view over 2,500



Dr John Laycock who says "not all historians are anoraks"

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images of Laycock village and the surrounding hamlets (buildings, maps, documents and people). This is the village in Yorkshire in the UK which has existed for a minimum of 1,000 years and gives its name to the Laycock family.

John also has hundreds of old photographs on computer for the villages where he spent his childhood, including Lothersdale, Cowling, Glusburn, Cross Hills Junction, Sutton , Cononley, Kildwick, Farnhill, Eastburn, Steeton, Braithwaite, Goose Eye and Newsholme.

In addition, John is working with a postcard collector who has amassed some 200 postcards of Earby, and has agreed to provide copies for the Society's own archives-more on that in the next edition of Chronicles.

SMITHS OF EARBY

More family history - this time from Kathy Bluhm in Australia

My first known family connection with Earby is James SMITH who was born around 1760. James married Alice BROWN at St Mary's Church in Thornton in Craven on the 18th April 1786. They went on to produce 11 children, although not all of them grew up to have their own families. Their first child was Ellen, (1786) but she died aged a few months, so they also named their second child Ellen (1788 -). They then had Robert (1790 - ?1862), Mary (1791 - 1848), John (1794-), our Richard, Ann (1800 -?1820), William (1802 -), James (1805 - 1805), Riley (1807 - 1807), and another James (1809 -).

Thanks to the vicar of the day, who included the mother's maiden name, I was able to put the family together. The family grew up in Earby. I believe that James was a weaver, and the sons also became weavers or farmers. I wonder what Earby would have been like in those faraway days. Did James have any brothers or sisters? I expect they walked to the church in Thornton in Craven, across the fields or along the road. I finally tracked James in the 1841 census, living with his son Richard and family at Aspen Lane. He died in 1844 and is buried at St Mary's along with his wife, Alice, who died in 1829. No headstone has been found.

I believe their daughter Ellen, may have married a John BASTO(W) at St Mary's church in 1814, I have two possible marriages for their son Robert, Mary married William BULCOCK, John married Alice WHITAKER, then Sarah BRACEWELL (Widow), William married Hannah, nothing as yet on the youngest child, James.



Richard Smith (1796-1874)

Richard SMITH was born in 1796 and baptised in 1802 with other members of the family. He married Susannah ALDERSLEY on the 11th July 1825 at St Mary's church in Thornton in Craven. They lived at Lane End, Aspen Lane, Scale Croft in Earby. Their children were all baptised at St Mary's church. They had 10 altogether, Dawson (1827-1915), Alice (1829-), Mary (1831 -1876), Sarah (1833 - 1856), James Riley (1837 - 1900), John (1840 - 1890), Ann (1843 - 1910), our William (1843 - 1910), Ellen (1845 - 1914), Elizabeth (1849-1851). I have traced the family through each census from 1841.

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In the 1851 census Richard had gone to Bradford and was staying with his son Dawson and new wife. Susannah and the other children were at home in Earby. Richard & Susannah finally left Earby just after the 1871 census to go to Bradford where most of their children had settled. They are both buried at Undercliffe cemetery in Bradford.

These two families lived in Earby for a century. The village must have grown during this time, new houses, churches, mills, and probably schools. Is there a chronological list of buildings and events in Earby? I would love a copy.

Susannah ALDERSLEY was born at Tempest Arms at Pickhill in 1806, her father John was the Innkeeper and a farmer. Her brother John was also the publican and carried on the business after his father. I have eight siblings but information on them is sketchy.

YESTERDAY - NOW TODAY by Sophia Bradshaw of Earby

Somebody gave me sixpence,
And I felt like a millionaire
Pressing my face to the window
Admiring the goodies there.
Should I buy black and white bulls' eyes
Pear drops or coconut ice
Bootlaces made out of liquorice
Or maybe pink sugar mice
Sweet cigarettes sold in packets
Sherbet that fizzed and was gone
Honeycomb toffee in pieces, and
Love hearts with messages on.
Chocolate buttons that soon melted
Bubble gum was never approved
Toffee well that lasted longest
Especially if sucked and not chewed
Such were the pleasures of childhood
but now its the inevitable truth
Casting a glance in the mirror
It's best to avoid the sweet tooth
That's what I thought at that moment
When I noticed a change in my size
I must do a lot more walking
And definitely increase exercise
Yesterday has gone ; today is now here
Dear friends, I hope I've made myself clear,
What I bought then for sixpence was wonderful
Now it wouldn't come anywhere near
So I 'll stick to my everyday walking
Stretching and touching my toes
Will I succeed in losing the weight?
Dear friends, God only knows.

A SNAPSHOT OF EARBY'S TEXTILE TRADE IN 1923

by Bob Abel

Earby developed from a sleepy rural backwater into a thriving industrial town due to the arrival of the emergent textile industry of the 19th century. For generations many local people eked out a living through a combination of marginal farming and hand loom weaving, initially wool but later cotton.

The first textile mill in Earby was at Booth Bridge. Evidence suggests that this was originally a corn mill and for a while before it became the bobbin mill it was used for a cotton spinning mill at the beginning of the 19th century.

In 1840 the Bracewells built the New Shed on what is now New Road, opposite today's Brook Shed, and Victoria Mill in 1850 and by the end of the 19th century into the 20th there was a surge in the textile trade and Earby expanded rapidly.

In Earby the erection of Grove Shed, Albion Mill, Spring Mill and lastly Brook Shed in 1907 reflected this Indian Summer in the cotton trade.

Just before the recession of the late 1920s and 1930's we can get a snap shot of the importance of the textile trade to Earby.

The information given in the table below has been extracted from Skinners Cotton Trades Directory for the year 1923.

Company	Mill	Founded	Looms	Auhtorised Capital	Subscribed Capital
Bailey C.W.	Spring Mill	1895*	384	15000	15000
Berry W.N. & Sons	Spring Mill	1889	?	-	-
Birley A.J.	Victoria Mills	1906**	1426	£24,000	£22,900
Earby Manufacturing Co	Victoria Mills	1895	684	10,000	9576
East End Manufacturing Co	Sough Bridge Mill	1905	268	£4,000	4000
Hartley B & W	Brook Shed	1896***	408	5000	3430
Hartley T.H & Sons Ltd	Brook Shed	1909	408	6000	5540
Kelbrook Bridge Manufacturing Co	Sough Bridge Mill ?	1898	504	4000	4000
New Road Manufacturing Co	Brook Shed	1907	408	8000	6733
Nutter R. & Co Ltd.	Grove Mill	1908	1384	11000	11000
Seal Manufacturing Co	Victoria Mills	1917	432	20000	10000
Shuttleworth Charles	Victoria Mills	1902	588	-	-
Watson J.S & Sons	Albion Shed	1922	396	10000	10000
			7290	117000	102179
*Originally Bailey Watson and Berry - Name changed 1907					
**Originally the Lodge Manufacturing Co Ltd - Name changed September 1906					
*** Originally Grove Manufacturing Co - Name changed 1909					
Mitchell Wm	County Brook Mill	1907	50		

In 1923 there were over 7000 looms in the Earby vicinity and it has been estimated that the subscribed capital in the mills would be in excess of 30 million pounds at today's values.

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The majority (if not all) of the textile businesses mentioned worked on the "room and power" basis. That is to say the owner of the mill rented out space and provided the power from the mill engine to the individual companies. These companies then set up their looms and ancillary equipment in their area. Hence the multi-occupied factories.

What a difference today with the mills demolished or empty or converted to other uses and the industry which gave new impetus to the town gone.

The latest casualty is likely to be Brook Shed for which planning permission is again being sought for a housing development. It has not been used as a textile mill since Johnson and Johnson vacated the premises and it will be deteriorating due to neglect. There is also a piece of war time history within the mill yard in the form of World War II air raid shelters erected to protect the workers if the Luftwaffe paid them a visit.

MORE TEA VICAR

We are pleased to report that we have had a letter from member Carol Moss regarding the photograph in the last edition of Chronicles, as follows:-

"Having just received Earby Chronicles I had to write about the 'More Tea Vicar' picture. The young lads at the back are Peter and Alan Hill, Jack Simpson, Malcolm and David Pickles. I am not sure about the second and third in. Also it is Kitty Turner at the front with the two tots? Also her sister Mary Simpson centre back. I am sure you will get a lot more answers! Look forward to hearing who they are in the next Chronicles"

FURTHER ADDITIONS TO THE ARCHIVES

Recently donated by member Nick Livsey is "Valley of the Drawn Sword - the Early History of Burnley, Pendle and West Craven" by John A, Clayton; and donated by Bob Abel his latest publication "Glen Mills - a Century of Change - the History of a Colne Textile Mill"

Recent purchases for the archives are:-

"The Hatters" by J.H. Smith - a history of the industry of hat making.

"A History of the Lancashire Cotton Industry and the Amalgamated Weavers Association" by Edwin Hopwood

We are also delighted to receive from Mr. Joe Gorse a collection of historic newspapers of general interest, included are :-

- Leeds Mercury Saturday 20th November 1838
- Leeds Intelligencer Saturday 9th June 1858
- Craven Pioneer 16th September 1871
- Yorkshire Post Special Publication "Yorkshire's War" - undated

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- Craven Herald Supplement - "Rolling Back the Years - the 1940s" March 22nd 1996
- Daily Telegraph reprints
- Coronation Edition Wednesday 3rd June 1953
- Kennedy Assassination Saturday November 23rd 1963
- Nixon Resignation Friday August 9th 1974

The Leeds Mercury (1838) includes an item local to Earby. It is an announcement of sale of land "An important sale of a valuable estate in Gisburn by private contract. The manor and estate of Midhope" also "in Thornton, Marton and Earby - **Lina Laithe Farm and Punch Bowl Public House** - with about 70 acres of meadow, pasture and arable land, in the occupation of John Shuttleworth. **Oak Slacks Farm** - with 64 acres of meadow, pasture and arable land, in the occupation of John Shuttleworth. **Booth Bridge Mill and Farm** - with 47 acres of meadow, pasture and arable land, in the occupation of Henry Wilkinson. **Thornton Hall** - with about 130 acres of meadow, pasture and arable land, in the occupation of Thomas Shuttleworth. **Thornton Hall Farm** - with about 148 acres of meadow and pasture land, in the occupation of John Shuttleworth. **Moor Hall Farm** - with about 209 acres of meadow, pasture and arable land in the occupation of Thomas Shuttleworth.

Three other properties are mentioned, presumably situated in Marton. The respective occupiers will show the property - for further particulars apply to William Henry Fryer Esq., solicitor, Wimbourne Minster, Dorset.

A Schedule giving further details of these sales is also in the archives, contact archivist Margaret Greenwood.

LOCAL RAILWAYS

This was the subject of the 15th of January 2008 meeting when Barry Atkinson came with a whole range of old photographs including some of the Earby and Barnoldswick branch lines. The audience were invited to "sit back and wallow in the pure delight of the 1950s!" Many of the photographs were by local lad Michael Feather produced from his huge collection of negatives.

After seeing shots from Welshpool's narrow gauge railway, Llandudno and Colwyn Bay's electric railway, London's 1955 horse and cart milk floats and drays we moved onto Elslack in 1956 and the Skipton to Colne railway line, including Thornton-in-Craven Station. We also saw the 'push and pull' train and the only remaining railway building in Barnoldswick today, the toilet block in the Co-op car park, and much much more. We saw the last freight train on this line in 1960, with the last passenger train on the line that ran on 27th September 1965.

Many faces on the old photographs were identified by members of the large audience during the evening and the one on the following page was one of particular interest to many.



**Earby Station Staff (left to right
Vincent Cook, Cyril Stephenson (Skipton Guard), Duncan Bland, Norman Tasker,
George Tait, Bobby Lemon (Earby Station Master)**

OBITUARY

The society is sad to hear of the death of Jimmy Guy who died at the end of February, aged 91. Jimmy and his late wife Olga regularly attended society meetings in the late 1990s and Jimmy wrote on his life in farming locally for Chronicles. During a busy farming career Jimmy had owned and tenanted several local farms including Old House and Copy House at Harden, Tunstead Farm at Kelbrook and will be remembered mostly at Moor Hall Farm, in Earby in which he was particularly interested in the history of the old farmstead. In retirement, having lived at no less than three different houses on Cam Lane in Thornton-in-Craven, he had enjoyed gardening, meeting friends and it would appear was a prolific poet, writing for his friends and family.

St Mary's Church at Thornton was filled with many friends and colleagues at his funeral on 1st of March.

Earby Chronicles

WHO ARE THEY?

Photographs are regularly donated to the society archive and we have just received an envelope of pictures donated by member Jean Willshaw of Leeds. They were originally in the possession of Clara Flesher.

Two of the photographs are reproduced here; can anyone tell us who the people are and where and when the pictures were taken?



COWGILL MEDAL

The medal pictured below has recently been purchased by the Society.



It was awarded to H. Cowgill at the Confectioners, Bakers and Allied Trades Exhibition in London in 1930. This bronze medal comes complete with Mappin and Web case.

Does anyone know who H. Cowgill was and anything about him or her? The only possible clue we have at present is a brief entry in the Earby section of the Bradford and District Trade Directory for 1932/33, under confectioners -

"Brown and Cowgill - Colne Road"

FAMILY HISTORY QUERY

David Holdsworth is trying to find where an ancestor, one Samuel Procter, was buried. Samuel was born in 1781, twice married and died on 26th September 1838, his abode being given as Burned Hill, Thornton. Samuel's wife, Mary, was buried in Winewall Inghamite burial ground in Trawden but not Samuel. She was recorded in the 1841 census still living at Burned Hill.

If you can help with this query please contact Bob Abel

INSTITUTE OF LOCAL AND FAMILY HISTORY
Study Days at the University of Central Lancashire, Preston

March 29th	"On the parish - The Poor Law and its Records pre - 1834."
April 19th	"Please Sir, I Want Some More: The Poor Law and its Records 1834-1948"
May 10th	Using Field Work: Interpreting Buildings and Landscape in Local History"
June 21st	Using Newspapers to Research Local and Family History
July 12th	Oral History for Local and Family History

Details from Bob Abel

STOP PRESS

Following on from the theme in this edition of Chronicles on family history, we have been given a copy of a family tree of the Cowgill family. This has been a labour of love to Harry and Catherine Cowgill of Waddington in conjunction with an American branch of the family for many years and has culminated in a tree dating back to Bartholomew Cowgill baptised May 1570. A copy will go into the archives and an electronic version will be put together when time allows. If anyone is able to input the data, please do contact the Editor.

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 15th April
"Stick Around - Walking Sticks and Stories" Brian White

Tuesday 20th May
"Medieval Medicine" Dr Roger Pyrah

NOTE
June, July and August No Meetings

**PRODUCED
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Local History
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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 3rd Tuesday
of the month at
7.30 p.m. (except
for outside visits).

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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. 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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