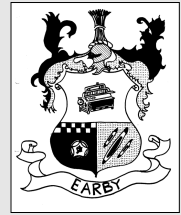


Earby Chronicles

Edition 42

AUTUMN 2006



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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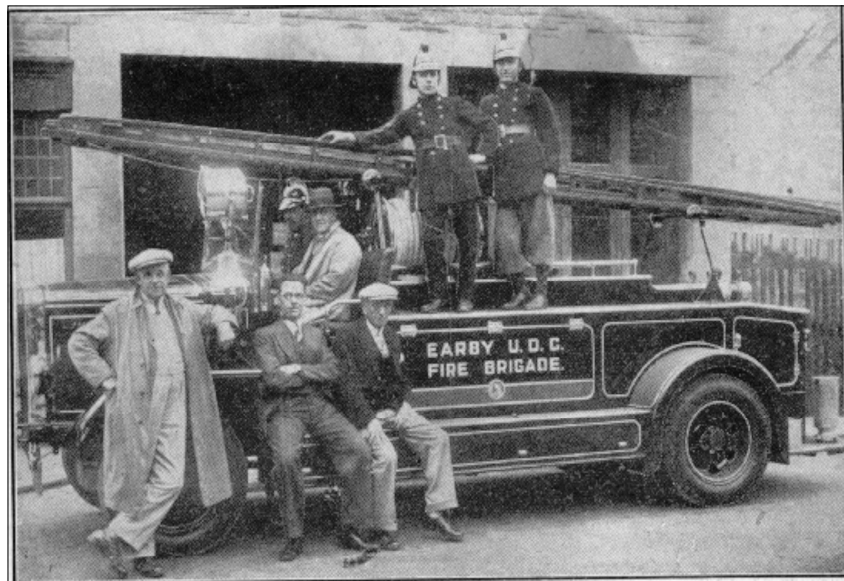
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EARBY'S NEW FIRE ENGINE!



EARBY'S NEW FIRE ENGINE.—The Urban District Council of Earby have acquired a new Fire Engine, fitted with a Turbine Pump, the capacity of which is 740 gallons per minute. The make is a Leyland "Cheetah" with a speed up to 60 miles per hour.
Left to right.—Mr. T. Payne (councillor), Mr. A. Oates (chairman of the Fire Brigade Committee), Mr. J. Sandham, Driver B. MacEachin (ex-Superintendent), Mr. W. Turner (fireman), Mr. C. Firth (fireman) and Mr. H. Taylor (fireman).

After this summers debate about the rationalisation of our local fire services it was thought timely to show this photograph (from the Peter Dawson Collection) of Earby Urban District Council's new fire engine, a Leyland "Cheetah" with a top speed of 60 miles per hour and a pumping capacity of 740 gallons per minute.

Left to right are T. Payne (councillor), A. Oates (Chairman of the Fire Brigade Committee) J Sandham, Driver B. MacEahin, Fireman W. Turner, Fireman C. Firth and W. H. Turner

Does anyone know what year this photograph was taken?

Recent talks & features

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TOM CROSS

by Bob Abel

High on Kelbrook Moor and adjacent to Kelbrook Wood lies the ancient frontier between Yorkshire and Lancashire. It is also the boundary between Kelbrook in the historic parish of Thornton-in-Craven and Colne chapelry in the parish of Whalley.



The Tom Cross at Copy House

Early ordnance survey maps show the location of two long-standing boundary markers, one close to Ainslack Farm near Black Lane Ends and another near Copy House Farm near Kelbrook Wood.

These are both referred to by the name Tom Cross which we are told was a common name for a boundary cross. It has also been speculated that in earlier times it was thought that it was unlikely that a stealthy land thief would tamper with the sign of the cross.

However the Tom Cross at Ainslack has long since disappeared but there is, just to the east of Copy House, a large boulder built into the dry stone wall into which is carved a cross. Next to it a spring wells up filling a stone trough. This is the surviving Tom Cross, whether it is the original I cannot say but it appears to be in the correct position. More usually many of the ancient parish and county boundaries were defined by natural features of the landscape, a river or a mound or outcrop of rock. For example we have locally Lancashire Gill and County Brook.

According to Carr in his annals of Colne, in 1592 there was a boundary dispute between the Manor of Colne and it's contiguous manors and Queen Elizabeth I, through the Court of the Dutchy of Lancaster, set up a boundary commission to "at a time convenient to themselves to repair to Her Majesties Manor of Colne, and then and there calling before them all such persons as they should think meet and convenient, thoroughly to perambulate, view and survey the meres and boundaries dividing the moors and waste grounds of the Manor of Colne from the adjoining waste grounds and manors---- and also to set out the moors in such a manner that the boundaries thereof might forever thereafter plainly appear".

Basically, at a time of land enclosures, the Manor of Colne was frightened of losing out by the encroachment of its neighbours. The moors and waste land borders were often

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quite ill defined compared with the cultivated areas of the parish or manor.

The custom of "Beating the Bounds" kept the communal memory of the boundaries alive. This normally took place in Rogation Week. The inhabitants would walk round the parish following the known boundary, often leaving markers as they went. This might have been a notch cut into a prominent tree for example or a wooden cross fixed to a tree. These were only ephemeral and it wasn't long before more permanent markers in the form of stones or stone crosses were erected.

The commissioners were commanded to report their findings *"in our duchie chamber at our Palais of Westminster on the morrowe after the feast of Sainte Martin next coming, or before yf youe so convenientlie maie or can. Nor ffallinge hereof as wee trust youe"*

On May 25th 1592 the commissioners interviewed Nicholas Robinson of Earby who was then aged about 80. He was asked if he knew and could describe the boundaries between Colne and the forest of Trawden to which he replied that he knew a ditch commonly called Trawden ditch and described its course "which he had always, during his recollection, been accounted the boundary".

An even older witness was one John Parkinson of about 93 years of age who stated that Tom Cross and the grey stone were by credible report the boundaries as well of Lancashire and Yorkshire, as of the manors of Colne and Cowling (presumably he is referring to the missing Tom Cross near Ainslack farm). He also stated that one day "having been hunting moorgame on the moor neare Lancashire, a tenant of Mr Townley named Nicholas Robinson, who resided at Monkroyd, in Lancashire, bade him the witness, keep on the east side of the boundaries or else he would have both his gun and his net taken from him.

Presumably this Nicholas Robinson is the same person as the Nicholas Robinson, the first witness who now resided in Earby.

J.T Marquis of Colne, writing in the early 1900s describes the Tom Cross as being near Ainslack Farm where there is a little corner and part of a stone that looks like half a socket stone. From here boundaries run in four directions, one dividing Carleton and Thornton-in-Craven and Whalley parish from the other two.

When church attendance was compulsory by law, dissenters would conduct their own services usually after attending the parish church. These services were often held outdoors and well away from the parish church. It is suggested that the Tom Cross at Copy House was such an isolated meeting place where dissenters children could also be baptised in the spring.

References (All available in Colne Reference Library)

Carr - Annals and Stories of Colne and Neighbourhood
Byrne - A Survey of the Ancient Crosses of North East Lancashire
Taylor - Ancient Crosses of Lancashire
J.H.Marquis - Scrap book of newspaper articles

Oldland - History of Foulridge

VISIT TO SKIPTON CASTLE

The June meeting was a visit to Skipton Castle for a guided tour round this ancient strong hold. For some it was a first visit and for others it was a return visit after many years. It was



Peter explaining another aspect of the story of Skipton Castle

a wet and windy evening giving credence to the adage about cold and draughty castles.

We had in Peter an excellent guide who not only told of the structure itself but also about castle life and conditions, interspersed with anecdotes and humorous stories.

The entrance to the castle itself is impressive and Peter explained the ingenious defensive strategies employed, from the blocked up holes in the huge wooden doors used by archers shoot

through to the massive drum towers and curtain walls.

Peter described what would have happened had the barbican gate been penetrated by the enemy. Arrow loops were strategically placed in the towers and the walls such that no one in the castle precincts would be out of the line of fire of one or more defenders and the cross fire would have been murderous.

The main part of the castle was defended by a draw bridge and massive doors. It was possible that, if the attackers managed to get onto the drawbridge, it could, by means of removing counter balancing weights, be tilted to deposit the invading soldiers into a pit where they could be picked off at will.

The only way the castle could really be taken was either by inside help or by a prolonged siege. During the English Civil War an intermittent three year siege was waged by the parliamentary forces culminating in the surrender of the Royalist garrison.

Lady Ann Clifford is one of the people most associated with the castle. She waged a 38 year legal battle to get the castle back by contesting her father's will (he had bequeathed it to his brother to the resentment of his wife and daughter). She eventually won her case but by which time the victorious Parliamentarians had started to demolish the castle

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She managed to stop them before the castle was completely obliterated and even got permission to rebuild it. However stringent conditions were put on her; the walls were of reduced thickness and arrow loops were to be converted to windows and the roofs were to be pitched so that cannon could not be mounted on them and the overall height of the towers was reduced. The castle became more like a house with fireplaces being added for comfort.

There are many indications of the alterations that the building has undergone over the years with signs of blocked up doors and windows and added walls with many questions still to be answered

The castle has many stories to tell and mysteries to unfold too many to relate here, and a visit is to be recommended.

MUSEUM OF YORKSHIRE DALES LEAD MINING OFFICIAL OPENING

On Saturday 23rd June Earby Mines Research Group (EMRG) trust celebrated the official opening of the refurbished museum in the old Earby Grammar School building.

This was the culmination of many years hard work and fund raising and the revamped museum is a credit to their efforts.

However the trust members know they cannot sit back on their laurels just yet as the museum has to be maintained and manned for the years to come. To this end they have re-launched the Friends of the Museum and would welcome volunteers to keep the museum in tip top shape and help during opening hours and behind the scenes.



A tea room is an added attraction for visitors and the trust plans to make the museum available for school educational visits.

The official opening was performed by the Mayor of Pendle, Councillor George Adam and Ken Tennant, Chairman of the Windle Trust, which owns the building, gave a vote of thanks not only to the Mayor but also to all those who had helped in the project and not least to Peter Hart and society member Morris Horsefield.

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Our picture shows left to right, the Mayor and Mayoress, David Carlisle and Chris Tennant and Barbara Knock (Earby Parish Council chair and vice chair) during a break in David Carlisle's guided tour.

EARBY MEMORIES By Eric Ellis

Imagine, if you will, the summer of 1947. A small boy aged 3 1/2 comes out of the front door of a house in School Lane and potters down the road to Earby railway crossing. There he stands by the gates (though in time he will manage to climb onto the stone wall) to watch trains go by.

The crossing keeper spots him and asks him to come and "help". So the boy does just that : pulling signal levers, opening and closing the gates as chief assistant to the most important signalman on the LMS Railway.

Can you imagine the furore if a similar scenario happened in 2006. There would almost certainly be some busybody who would start the health and safety bandwagon rolling. However it wasn't as bad as you might think. The railway man was known to the lad's father and his grandfather and they knew he would be safe and the proof of that is that he wrote this article.

I wasn't born in Earby but moved there in 1946 when my father, Harry Ellis, was demobbed. My father grandfather and great grandfather were though and the previous generations before them hail from the area.

My grandparents originally lived in Lincoln Road and moved to School Lane when my father's sister Vera married Billy Fisher in 1947 and they took the Lincoln Road house. Both houses had outdoor toilets that dropped directly into the sewer and coal fires, the coal being stored in a small outhouse next to the loo. There was no phone, no TV, no wall to wall carpets, no house insulation, no fridge but lots of home knitting and sewing. In those days Lincoln Road was not tarmacadamed and the slope just suited a home made sledge in the bad winter of 1947.

I had no knowledge until many years later of the state of the country. Bankrupted by two world wars, almost starving in 1947/48. So many things were still rationed in the late 40s and the allotment and greenhouse behind granddad's house were essential props to living. All I knew was that gran baked Eccles cakes and potato pie and that there was no problem with my appetite. Being the only child in the family at that time I suspect that a considerable portion of my sweets came from kind relatives sugar ration.

We lived in Spring Mount Avenue, number 3 I think. My best friend was John Savage from a few doors away. His gran had a chicken run down the field from his house where I

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imagine we got up to mischief, as small boys do. Chicken was something of a treat for Sunday dinner and was not cheap to buy. Digging for worms in the run, feeding and egg collecting were great adventures at our age (and getting pecked occasionally).

School was in Springfield Avenue and I hated the afternoons; we were made to lie down on what were probably portable beds with rough blankets over us, supposedly to sleep, but the blanket tickled.

Another disappointment was not being chosen to play the big drum in the little band we had, the triangle being deemed my correct station in life.

In the summer when I wore sandals and John wore clogs we swapped footwear on the short walk home. Clog wearing was not uncommon, lying in bed in the morning after staying the night at Lincoln Road the sound of people walking to work to go on early shift, in clogs, could not be mistaken for anything else, neither could the sound of a train passing on its way to or from Earby station.

At that time, Springfield Avenue was being built and dad was wiring them. I climbed up the shelves of a tall cupboard in my bedroom and promptly split my head open on the corner of the bed as the cupboard fell backwards. There was blood everywhere and mother came running then started yelling for father out of the window. There was a right to do and eventually granddad was summoned to deal with my wound. He'd been a sick berth PO in the navy and he got me stitched up and bandaged. No doctor was called or surgery visited, this was pre NHS and that cost money. The next crisis was also caused by me. In bed with measles and having been given a pop-gun I stuck my finger in the end of the barrel (instead of the cork), pulled the trigger and we don't need to go into what happened next.

The difference between then and now is truly staggering in so many ways and not just healthwise. For most people the order of the day was no car, no holidays abroad, no company pension etc. etc.

My parents must have suffered some worry, indeed anxiety, because like most boys I was a wanderer illustrated by two incidents. I somehow got myself into the beck along Water Street and was only saved from drowning by a nearby shopkeeper hearing my yelling, my father subsequently turned up but there is no recollection on my part of getting my backside paddled. On another occasion I disappeared from a cricket match I had gone to at a ground along Colne Road with my dad, granddad and uncle. I ended up at Billy's sister Rose's house having visited the railway sidings north of the station. Being Sunday no one was on duty in the yard so I tried to uncouple a wagon from its mate. They were joined by heavy three link couplers in those days; of course the attempt failed. My mouth has been tightly shut for 58 years about this little episode. I seemed attracted to railways, a disease that never entirely went away.

My gran worked in one of the cotton mills, perhaps in Victoria Road. A visit there is still

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remembered for the sheer din, with gran talking to the lady on the neighbouring machine by lip reading. Dad earned his living as an electrician at Windles who had a shop in Water Street (in his RAF days he had to service equipment on the top of early radar masts at Bawdsey in Suffolk, 300 feet up). Two of his great aunts had married Windle brothers. Granddad did work as a cloth looker at one time but had served in the Royal Navy in both World Wars and helped in a greengrocer's on Victoria Road in later life. Uncle Billy and Aunt Vera married in 1947 after he returned from RAF service in India. I was a page boy in a satin suit and we went to Colne to have the photos done. Billy eventually became clerk to Earby Urban District Council.

There were May Day celebrations at the time. I'm sure we had to go to a field to the west of the railway and the girls dancing round the maypole intrigued me. I couldn't understand why they didn't get all tangled up and what were they doing anyway. Choosing a May Queen was obviously an important occasion but it all went over my head, as opposed to the candy floss and toffee apples which went into it. We also went to Blackpool on a day outing in a chara (coach). It grunted heavily in places and finally expired with an engine fire on some long hill.

There was a family connection with Fiddling Clough. Great granddad John William married Mary Lowcock, daughter of Sylvester Lowcock. He was from Broughton and was a labourer at Fiddling Clough for Mary Crowther in 1871 (She had 70 acres there in 1871 which reduced to 40 acres by 1881). Sylvester married the boss's daughter Alice who worked as a cotton weaver in 1871 and was living at Fiddling Clough. Mary had two brothers, John and William. My dad told me that many years before the family had pack horses which carried wool to a mill in Halifax (which name escapes me now). The route was across the moors though exactly which way I do not know. It must have been a very hard life, particularly if they travelled in winter and the coming of the railway would have made it even harder. Mind you there was not a direct route by rail. I don't know where the wool came from or in what quantity it was.

Sylvester, incidentally, was chosen to be a member of the coroner's jury for the Earby murder of 1892. John Willie had a fresh fish and fish and chip shop in Water Street at one time but he went bust in the 1930s. He died in Dale Street in 1942.

We used to go to chapel and I think I went to Sunday School there. Whether the Ellis's were Baptists or the influence came from my Eaton forebears, who migrated from Derbyshire to Earby around 1900, I do not know. It is possible that both families were of that faith. Great Uncle Philip Eaton came first to a job in the cotton industry; he remained a bachelor all his life and died in 1949 having lived with gran and granddad in School Lane in his latter years. He had a rack of the most evil smelling pipes on the side of the chimney breast, Goodness knows what he smoked in them but it was decidedly thick and pungent when he lit up. He wasn't allowed to smoke in the front room, indeed it was rarely used for anything but the furniture was well polished and the place dusted. It seems a very odd thing to me now not to use a room one paid rent on.

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Sundays were also days for walks, mostly up Stoney Bank, maybe we went to Fiddling Clough but I don't remember for sure. We did once go along the railway line to Thornton-in-Craven and ventured along the short embankment to the quarry. It had been closed for years and all the railway track lifted. I was told that a relative of the family has been badly hurt in an accident there. The place was flooded and probably dangerous so why we went there I do not know.

1949 saw the end of my short stay in Earby. My maternal grandmother was dying of cancer and mother was needed back in Gloucestershire so we upped sticks and moved back to the house where I was born. Of course we returned from time to time for holidays, eventually with my sister along. For a time there was that wonderful journey via Cheltenham, Birmingham, Leeds and Skipton which was an education in itself on the history, topography and industry of the parts of England we travelled through. Inevitably my grandparents died and no more of this particular branch of the Ellis tree lived in the town though there may be descendants of side shoots from years past still around.

Memory can sometimes be faulty and I apologise for any factual mistakes contained in mine. They are more likely to be in locations and place names than anything else.

Editors Note - Thank you to Eric for sharing his memories of his time in Earby, if anyone else would like to share their reminiscences contact Bev Parker.

THE OLD FARMING AT NORTH HOLME

The second of Stephanie Carter's Articles about life on North Holme Farm



Hay rake and pitch fork used at North Holme farm now in the Society artifacts collection

Change in farming came with a rush following the 2nd World War, when the horse, already well on its way to complete replacement by the motor car on the roads, was superseded by tractors on the farm. But I well remember our horses – we had 2 or 3 always and I recall one black one who was slightly wild and always used to be knocking down fences; and I recall hay-time machinery drawn by horses, and the old fashioned way of making hay. Hay-time was a lengthy business and we spent many a glorious long summer evening in the hayfield. Farmers often “played” with the hay from 1st July to the end of September.

The grass was cut by horse machine and the sides with scythes, very early in the morning. It was turned over, strewn with forks, then put into ricklings (small heaps) at night; then thrown out the next morning. Then it might be

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put into hubs, which were a bit bigger; then into pikes, which were small hay-stacks, pointed like a witches' hat, and which, when carefully built, withstood rain water. Then it was led in by horse and cart, and it had to be dry. How we used to enjoy those rides in the cart as youngsters.

The sequence of turning, strewing, and making foot-cocks was always followed. Rakes, pitchforks and scythes were common equipment, and all machines, mowing machine, swathe turner, strewing machine and raking machine were horse drawn. There were no such things as balers or elevators. Men worked like machines and it was hard leading hay and forking it up through the forking hole. The forker-up had to toss the hay with a pitchfork through the hole and on to the balks (the loft above the cows where some of the hay was stored), or on to the hay mow in the barn, where a perspiring man had to spread it evenly and tread it down. Haymaking gave everyone a thirst.

All the meadows at North Holme and Kayfield had to be got, with the help of casual labour. Half a dozen men with rakes turning a field was a common sight. Willie Barritt did most of the mowing and we were helped during and after the war by German and Italian prisoners of war from the camp in Skipton, Gottfried and Ruddiger; by Irishmen, who left their small farms in the west of Ireland and used to congregate in large numbers in Skipton High Street for hire; by hard-working Poles like Frank Tomasheski and Michael Byrski; and by others who came to help at nights after work. There was always a house and kitchen full for dinner, and we had to serve the men with huge portions of potato pie.

We also took picnics into the hayfields and there were the everlasting drinks in large jugs. Making hay was thirsty work and what a relief to hear that we'd "mown off". In 1954 we were still hay-timing on 12th September with 6 acres still to mow. The weather all spring and summer had been very wet, and our grass was taken to the grass-drier at Gargrave. But to us as children in summer the sun always seemed to shine, and hay-making proceeded slowly as it had always done, with horses.

All the cows were fastened by their necks in single or double stalls, and each cow knew its own stall. The gangway in front of the cows was the fothergang or foddergang, up which we used to carry the hay and give it to the cows over the front of their stalls. There was of course no silage. We sometimes had a hay-stack outside and when it was opened up in winter, it contained the very essence of high summer.

I remember Father getting a lot of new cows from Scotland when we went attested (free from TB), and how when the cows were let out after the long winter months they used to run, skip and jump in the pasture. Of course all cows had horns in those days, and we had a mixture of Fresians and Ayrshires. As children we used to write milk tickets by the box to put into the milk churns, and our writing was all but illegible.

Other jobs on the farm I remember were fencing – we used to hold the posts- it all used to be hedging at one time; chain harrowing, and muck spreading. There were no manure spreaders – it was led out in a horse and cart. Every seven yards a man held the horse's head and pulled a heap of manure out of the cart. The fields looked like draught boards

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until they were spread. And there was lambing time in spring. Willie Barritt had most of the lambs at Kayfield. Corn used to be grown in the field next to the Ranch during and just after the war. This was government policy, but it was never successful as the grain never ripened. Sometimes kale was grown to supplement the hay for winter fodder.

The annual pig killing was also quite an event. I remember the squeals of the animal dying a slow death. They used to be kept next to the old garage in the yard. From the slit in its throat steaming blood ran into a bucket below. A use was found for every part of the pig. The bacon and hams were salted to preserve them, and put on the stone slab in the cellar. Delicious spare ribs were prepared for family and friends; brawn, black puddings and sausages were also made, and I recall the tasty "scraps" we used to have. These were lumps of dried fat eaten with salt, and they were delicious. Later when the sides of bacon were cured they were brought out of the cellar and hung from meat hooks in the passage between the house and kitchen. Eggs were also preserved at the time of plenty, and stored in the cellar for when the hens gave up laying.

We knew the routine of the farming year amongst the pastures and meadows. The appearance, sounds and smells of the countryside have all changed. I remember the creaking shafts, the snorting and pungent smelling horses, and the sweetly scented hay and how we used to suck the honey out of the clover flowers.

VISIT TO GAWTHORPE HALL

The July outing was to the National Trust's Gawthorpe Hall, the Elizabethan home of the Shuttleworth Family. It was built between 1600 and 1605 for the Rev Lawrence Shuttleworth from the money left by his late brother Sir Richard Shuttleworth. However none of the Shuttleworths lived at Gawthorpe between 1669 and the early 19th century.



Between 1816 and 1818 Robert Shuttleworth occupied the house and some restoration was undertaken but it wasn't until the 1850s that a comprehensive restoration was carried out for Robert's daughter Jane and her husband Sir James Kay Shuttleworth.

In 1953 the 4th Lord Shuttleworth moved out of Gawthorpe leaving his aunt the Hon Rachel Kay Shuttleworth to live there. She founded the Gawthorpe Craft House for the study of textile crafts in 1960 and one legacy is her extensive

collection of needlework, lace and costume which forms the basis for a display at the hall.

Guides were on hand in each room to explain the features and contents.

Equally impressive but in a different sense is the aisled barn also built at the beginning of the 17th century, the roof of which covers an area as big as the hall itself .

During the visit which was in the middle of the heat wave members refreshed themselves at the tea rooms situated in the Victorian gothic coach house.

Our picture, taken by Bev Parker, shows some of the group on the approach to the hall.

TEXTILE MILLS OF PENDLE AND THEIR STEAM ENGINES

A new book "The Textile Mills of Pendle and their Steam Engines" written by Geoff Shackleton and published by Landmark Publishing was launched in May this year. It will be of interest to those interested in the textile industry of Pendle and in particular the mill engines that provided the power to drive the looms and spindles. There were over 150 textile mills in the Pendle area and all get a mention.

The book is divided into four sections with several appendices and a glossary of technical terms.

Section one familiarises us with the development of the cotton mill in Pendle with section two describing the various forms of power generation.

Section three concerns the four steam engine building companies, William Roberts of Nelson, Joseph Thompson of Colne, Henry Brown Sons and Pickles of Barnoldswick and the Burnley Iron Works.

Section four, the bulk of the book, is a gazetteer of all the mills in the Pendle area grouped into the main towns and villages. A brief over view of the history of each mill is given with the various owners and tenants followed by an in depth description of the engines which powered the each mill.

Earby and district is well represented with Albion Shed, Brook Shed, Dotcliffe Mill, Green End Shed, Grove Shed, Sough Bridge Mill, Spring Mill and Victoria Mill all included.

The book is in hard back with 432 pages and is lavishly illustrated with many historic photographs from many sources. It is priced at £24-99 and will make an excellent reference book on local historians' book shelves.

FAMILY RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

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The Society has had several family research enquiries since the last edition of Chronicles, they are listed below. As before, if you have any information which may be of help please contact Bob Abel on 01282 843850.

KIRK

Help required to find information about the Kirk family in Earby. Robert Kirk was born in 1844 and his parents were probably John and Ellen (nee Singleton?), both born in Earby. Robert's grandparents were Stephen and Margaret who were married at Thornton church in 1814 but this needs to be confirmed.

WILLIAMSON

Robert Williamson is thought to have been born about 1791 in Marton. He was a farmer in East Marton. Searching for a record of his marriage and death.

WATSON

Looking for the birth record of George Watson in 1811 and his brothers and sisters. A George Watson married Ann Cowgill at Thornton Church in 1832. The couple raised a family in Earby and moved to Skipton some time between 1851 and 1861

TILLOTSON

John Tillotson married Lucy Hargreaves at Thornton in 1747 they had two children before Lucy died in 1751. Trying to trace the ancestry of Lucy Hargreaves.

HOGGART

Jean Hoggart's last known address is given as Beech Cliff, School Lane, Earby. She was born in 1929. Enquirer is wanting to know details of her baptism and which church it took place in.

TURNER

Trying to trace Joseph Turner's wife. Joseph was baptised at Thornton in 1714 his parents were Joseph and Mary who married in 1700.

WHITESIDE

The enquirer's grandparents lived and worked in the mills in Earby. Grandmother was Winifred Susannah (nee Hesketh) and she married Edward Whiteside probably in Earby. Trying to trace Edward Whiteside's parents and family.

MARSHALL

Seeking Norman Marshall last known address 70 Salterforth Road.

SHORTER

Trying to find information about Arnold and Geraldine Shorter, last known address 10 Alder Hill Street.

CROWTHER / COWGILL

Mary Crowther was living in the almshouses in Thornton in 1881 and as we know not one bit of it survived.

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that the Society has to inform you of the deaths this year of two of our members.

MARY PARKER

Mary Parker, mother of Graham and mother-in-law to our vice chairman, Beverley Parker, was born into a farming family in Ilkley and married Fred Parker in 1947 . They farmed at Highgate Farm Thornton and retired to Salterforth in 1988 leaving sons Graham and Trevor to run the farm.

Mary had not been a member for very long and kept in touch with the society through the Earby Chronicles.

Our sympathies go out to her family.

CHRISTINE HEAP

Christine was one of the very first members of the society and has always been involved in the local community, in very practical ways, since she moved to Earby. She was involved with the Mines Museum, Linden Road and New Road Community Centres, Earby Development Group, she was a church warden at All Saints and an active member of the British Legion.

She will be sadly missed throughout our local community and not least by her family to

References

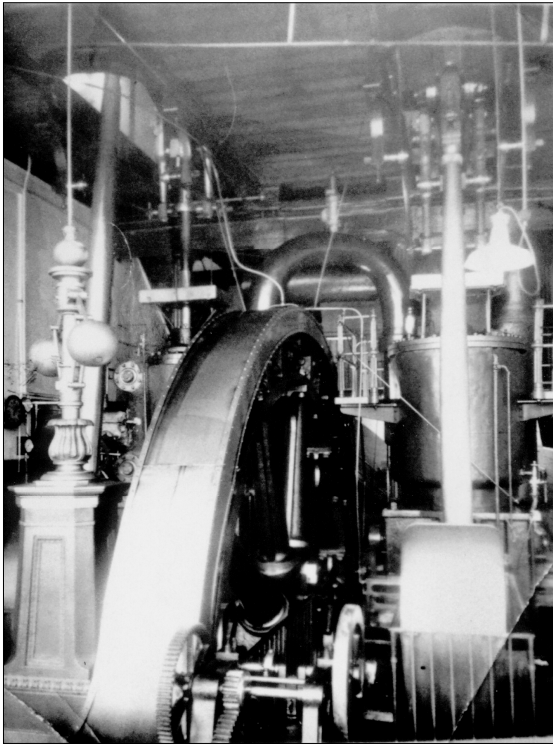
Craven Herald and Pioneer 1st March 1963

Unlabelled newspaper article of 1963

The Textile Mills of Pendle and Their Steam Engines by Geoff Shackleton

(see review on page 12)

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The Sans Pareil

ACCESS PATH TO WELL OPENED



The procession to the well

Friday July 14th was a warm and sunny day for the official opening of the access path to the Holy Well in Thornton church yard. The Society's grant aided project has been regularly reported in the Chronicles and is now nearing completion. It was unfortunate that the carved coping stone for the wall had not quite been completed due to difficulties obtaining the right quality stone.

Funding was supplied by the Local Heritage Initiative and the Nationwide Building Society with donations in kind from Swinden Quarry - Linton, Wolesley Build Centre - Earby, Raygill Fisheries - Lothersdale, Hargreaves/ Bannister - Laneshawbridge and Whitakers Chocolatiers



Alice Ormrod cutting the ribbon

The 14th of July was chosen to celebrate the well project as this was the last day of the school year for Thornton school and the pupils were very much involved in the day's proceedings.

Mothers and teachers, with advice from member Annwynn Dean, dressed the children in 18th century style to echo the 18th century well building.

Children and guests were welcomed in the church by Project chairman Bev Parker before the children paraded down to the well, using the newly installed pathway, for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The opening ceremony was carried out by Mrs Alice Ormrod who has lived in the village for sixty years. Alice has been involved in village events for many years and it was only fitting that she should be invited to cut the tape.



The Musical entertainment

After the opening formalities the gathering made their way to Morrison's Playing Field where the children entertained parents and guests with country dancing and music before refreshments were served in the marquee.

Father Nicholas Turner closed the proceedings with a vote of thanks to all those who had worked so hard to make the day successful. Thanks are due to Judith Hall and her team and the school staff and all those who helped on the day and the Thornton Hill Residential

ome for supplying a selection of cakes.

TRANSPORT TO MEETINGS

Do you need transport to the Society's meetings or do you know someone who would come to meetings if they had transport provided?

Particularly now that the winter evenings are approaching the committee would be willing, where possible, to arrange lifts to and from the Tuesday meetings. Please feel free to discuss your requirements with any member of the committee.

NEW PUBLICATION

A new publication is to be launched at this years New Road Community Centre's Autumn Fair on Saturday October 7th.

"Thornton-in-Craven - Bygone Days in an Ancient Parish" is based on articles written by A.H.Clegg in the 1920's and published in the Craven Herald. The ancient parish of Thornton-in-Craven originally covered a greater area than it does today including Kelbrook, Earby and Harden and A.H.Clegg was probably the first to publish research based on the original parish records.

The main body of the book deals with the way the parish was governed and with the 19th century enclosure act. It also includes analysis of local surnames and occupations and recalls the Lister family. A chapter recounts the effects of the English Civil War on the parish.

The price of the book is £4-50 and will also be available by post from the treasurer at £5-25 UK or £6-25 overseas. Cheques payable to Earby and District Local History Society

DERBYSHIRE WELL DRESSING

Margaret Curry from Rochdale made a welcome return as our guest speaker in August when she gave her talk on Derbyshire Well Dressing.

Margaret described how the tradition of well dressing came about. Geologically a large part of the Derbyshire peak district is porous limestone and there is little surface water. Springs and wells were from prehistoric times essential for the survival of the people of that area. Consequently offerings were made to the well spirits to ensure a constant supply of water. Some of these offerings would have been in the forms of flowers or greenery.

About AD 500 Christian missionaries began to convert the population and used the springs and wells for baptism.

Earby Chronicles

Gradually the simple offerings became more elaborate and the people were encouraged to use Christian themes in their decorations. Well dressing died out but was revived in the mid 19th century.

Margaret described how the modern well dressings were made on a wooden frame through which nails were driven which supported a layer of wet clay. The outline of the design would be made of black wool or honesty seed heads. The colourful designs were formed by pressing flower petals or berries into the clay, hydrangeas being a popular flower to use. Everything in the well dressing is made from natural materials.

Margaret concluded her talk with slides showing a selection of displays in the Derbyshire villages. Most of them had a topical as well as a religious theme often celebrating anniversaries or notable events of that year.

Maybe we will have well dressings at Thornton one day.

BOOTH BRIDGE BOBBIN MILL

The two buildings known as Booth Bridge Bobbin Mill have been sold for conversion into detached houses. One of the conditions of obtaining planning permission was that an archaeological survey be carried out before any work began.

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 17th October	"North Country Folklore" Peter Watson
Tuesday 21st November	"English History in Nursery Rhymes" Alan Harmsworth
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas Social

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& printed
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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).

**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. 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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