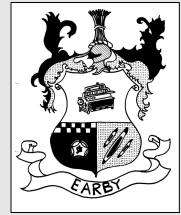


Earby Chronicles

Edition 32

Spring 2004



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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£1.50
Members of
Society free

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2003

As we enter the Society's ninth year I can once again report a successful year in both membership and events. Year on year membership continues to grow and to date we have 128 members for 2004.

Our programme of talks and our visits have been well received and attended and our joint venture with Barnoldswick History Society continues. This year there will be two joint events run under West Craven History Association, the second of our History Seminars in May and a day trip to Wales in September.

The finances of the Society are sound although we made a slight loss on the income/expenditure account for 2003 but making profits is not the main aim of the Society as long as we remain solvent.

The collection of archive material and photographs continues to grow. Two important additions in 2003 were the minutes of Earby's Victoria Institute and a letter book for Earby Operatic Society dating from the 1920s

The future of the Society looks bright with new members joining. However, the committee would like more members to be nominated for posts on the committee as new people can bring new ideas to keep the society moving forwards.

We have a full programme of events for 2004 and hope this year to set up special interest groups within the society for those with a common interest. Ideas for these need to come from the members themselves.

Last but not least I would like to give thanks to the committee members and other members who are always willing to give assistance with refreshments and fund raising. Without them the Society would not

Recent talks & features

Page 2 Coincidences, Cobble Stones and Clogs by Kathleen Morgan

Page 4 Oat Cakes and Organs (Part II) by Squire Firth

Page 7 Reminiscences of Old Earby (Part III) by Florence Wright

Page 11 Tunicliffe's Academy (Part II) by Bob Abel

COINCIDENCES, COBBLESTONES AND CLOGS
by Kathleen Morgan

“Write Your Life story” screamed the Essex University Centre for Lifelong Learning brochure. 10 weeks starting October 2002. From my life’s beginning in Coventry in 1938, through 28 years wandering around the African Continent as a radio journalist there was certainly enough material for a Life Story. I just needed to learn how to make those anecdotes interesting enough to read. The continuous engaged signal on the ‘phone didn’t bode well for booking one of the available 14 places, however. One last-ditch attempt reached a surprised and delighted secretary.

“What a coincidence! That Course was booked up a while ago but I was just on the ‘phone to a man cancelling his place on it. Apparently, after receiving all the information, he decided it wasn’t what he wanted. I’ll be happy to take down your particulars.”

On the first day, our Tutor gave us a list of 20 books recommended to illustrate how various authors had written of their lives. When pressed for what she considered essential, 4 remained. I’d read and enjoyed Frank McCourt and Laurie Lee. Lorna Sage and Blake Morrison, however, were unknown and unread.

Also on that first day, we were given a writing exercise in which we had to try and remember a noise that was associated with our childhood; something that would conjure up an image or experience strong enough to write about. Too many choices: air raid sirens - plenty of those in bomb bedevilled Coventry; “all clear” klaxons or the Westminster chimes from the ‘grandmother’ clock on the wall. Sitting amongst 13 other frantic scribblers, a long forgotten memory began to unfold. Out of some dark recess of my mind came the unmistakable sound of clattering clogs on cobbled stones. Rain-washed stones on a steep street and a kind boy leading me by the hand. An old lady dressed in black rocking, rocking, rocking all day in a squeaky chair: Mrs. Moon.

Over the years people had mocked when I recalled snap shots of my evacuation.

“Mrs. Moon!” “Trust you! Anybody else would have been with someone called Brown or Smith. Not you, though, Mrs. Moon indeed!”

Family gatherings had confirmed the evacuation and the place: Earby. My great grandmother had taken me there, by train, when and how long for remain a mystery and there’s no one left to ask.

At home, that night, my husband Chris asked to see the recommended reading list then proceeded to order the books via his favourite shopping channel, Amazon. A couple of days later when the parcel of books arrived, I think it’s fair to say he was as amazed as I when I opened Blake Morrison’s “And when did you last see your father?” and saw that the father in question had been a G.P. in Earby!

Earby Chronicles

By now, I was excited. This was just too much of a coincidence. Chris obviously thought so, too, for a few hours later we were looking at the Earby web site. An email to Bob Abel requested help in finding someone who might be able to help answer some questions about my time as an evacuee.

Bob's reply wisely advised me to contact Squire Firth who had been doing some articles on other evacuees for the Earby and District Local History Society's newsletter. Can you imagine my joy when I also read: "Squire will be pleased to hear from you as he remembers a family called Moon!" Doubters and mockers eat your hearts out!

In November 2002 Squire and I had a lovely chat on the 'phone and I promised one day I would return to Earby and try and recapture a little of my childhood. Over the next 9 months my mother's descent into the depths of vascular dementia demanded more and more attention. Then, in September, Chris and I needed a break. Mum was in hospital and we decided - at last - to visit Earby. Another call to Squire not only confirmed that he and his lovely wife, Julia, would be available to meet us but Squire went so far as to find us wonderful lodging at the Hare and Hounds in Foulridge.

Thus it was on a rainy Friday, September 26th, Julia and Squire took us on a tour of the breathtaking countryside around Earby and finally to the town itself. Squire is a fathomless mine of information, describing how things would have looked the last time I was there. Many gently probing questions stretched my poor memory to its limits but everything was unfamiliar. After all, given that I haven't a clue exactly WHEN I was evacuated to Earby it must have been at least 61 years ago!

Our walking tour continued. Suddenly, so suddenly, I stopped.

"What is it" Julia asked, "have you remembered something?"

"I'm not sure. Over there, that could be....."

"The Moon's fish and chip shop used to be there," Squire informed us.

The rain fell harder now as we walked on, round a corner and there it was: the steep hill! Maybe not quite the mountain it had appeared to my childish eyes but at the entrance to Alder Hill Road some of the carefully covered cobblestones are exposed. Across the road was Number 3, where Mrs. Moon used to live. I went to the front door but couldn't knock. I did peer through the letterbox, though!

I have a feeling that there was some family connection between my great grandmother, Eliza Jacques (nee Clarke) and Mrs. Moon. Having opened the Earby chapter of my life story, I am impelled to continue. Who knows what I shall find.

OAT CAKES AND ORGANS
Part II of Squire Firths article continues with Lloyd Hartley

Lloyd Hartley, a brilliant pianist, organist and composer was known in musical circles throughout the country. As a boy of seven he was a musical prodigy. Before he learned to read music he could play pieces on the piano and transpose them into different keys. This was how he developed the art of musical composition in early life.

He was of an exceptionally religious temperament and when he was 15 he met an evangelist, Henry Powers. Henry Powers was living in Earby and together they collaborated on the production of an original hymn and tune book called "Songs of Praise and Prayer", the subject of this article. Of the 60 hymn tunes in the book 55 were composed by Lloyd, the other five by his father, William.

A thousand copies were printed and sent all over the world although the majority remained in Earby, being in use in the chapels for many years.



Lloyd Hartley

Earby Chronicles

Yorkshire Post 27th April 1953 - a tribute by a former pupil :-

"Under guidance we learnt not only to understand but also to achieve some measure of musical integrity. We learnt that ability is always subordinate to the powers to make use of it, and through his single minded absorption in music, and consequent happiness, we learnt that the musician's life on the whole was good".

Yorkshire Post 30th April 1953

"Having piano lessons from Lloyd Hartley was a rare delight and with his outstanding gifts he was able to transform all but the dullest into stylish and musicianly players. His memory will long be held in affection and admiration"

Yours Faithfully

Ronald Peacock M.A. Ph.D. (Department of German studies, Manchester University).

Daily Telegraph April 1953 - Richard Capell, music critic.

"The death of the pianist Lloyd Hartley last week means a loss to music in the North. He was 70, a Yorkshireman, and for 30 years the Mattay Pianoforte School's authorised piano teacher in Leeds. Langford called him, as a recitalist, a Brahms player of the purest breed. His best known composition is his Variations and Fugue on an Original Theme which is dedicated to Dame Myra Hess who was a fellow student with him under Mattay".

The full account of the Lloyd Hartley Memorial Fund, along with newspaper reports and music are held in the Society archives.

Songs of Praise and Prayer is also in the society archives and can also be viewed on request. Unfortunately page 56 the hymn Kitchener is missing. I wonder why!

Contact the archivist Margaret Greenwood for details.

References :-

Craven Herald 23rd August 1929 "Our Village - part 18"

Barrett's Directories - Barnoldswick Library

Other sources of information

Mr. Richard C. Hartley - of Cheltenham

Mrs Ada Hannam - of Salterforth

Mrs Jennifer Milner - of Brighouse

Christine Brown - of Leeds

Associated Boards of the Royal Schools of Music.

Earby Chronicles

REMINISCENCES OF OLD EARBY (PART III)

By Florence Wright

General Strike of 1926.

I remember a procession coming along Skipton Road and up School Lane. This started with the miners strike, followed by weavers and other factories coming out because they could not get coal to run the mills etc. This was when Thornton Wood got chopped down to provide wood for peoples fires in their homes. As a little girl we used to go and pick loads of bluebells there, hence its name bluebell wood.

Street lights

These were gas lamps and at dusk the lamplighter went round the streets lighting the lamps

Dances

At the Albion hall - Civic ball, Mayor's Ball, - Tennis Club Dances etc. We wore evening dress- long gowns, the men wore evening suits. Alf and Clarice Sculthrope were the M. C.'s

More Shops

Taylor and Cowgill - Fruiterer and Florist Victoria Rd.
H. White - Butcher Victoria Rd.
N. Edmondson - Butcher
Pratt's - Gifts
John smith - Newsagents, Toys etc. Water St.
N. Wilson - Greengrocer - Water St.
H. Brown - Taxis - Albion St.
Coupland's - Caxton Printing Works Skipton Rd.
Maynard's - Gents Outfitters Colne Rd.
Mosley's - Ladies and Gents Outfitters Victoria Rd.
Dodgson's Garage - Skipton Rd. followed by T. Nuttall.
Pilkington's - Ironmongers Victoria Rd.
Elsie Moore - Hairdressers.

While on the subject of Earby's traders, the following was copied from the "The Marriage Market " programme 1937 showing at the Empire Theatre.

Two Great Shows - The Marriage Market and Maynard's

Who has not heard of "Marriage Market" fame,
That record breaking winner,
With the song "The one I love",
And the dazzling Gertie Millar,

Now while we're on the dazzling "Stuff",
We'd really like to say,
That MAYNARD'S winter fashions, form,

Earby Chronicles

A dazzling display.

Exclusiveness in style and cut,
You won't find every day,
Is stamped on everything you buy,
From his unique display,

"The city shop" that's known to all,
Oh yes and by the way -
You won't find city prices there,
Its less you're asked to pay,

So go to Maynard's city shop,
(And why not right away?),
Your wife, seeing what you've bought,
Will shout "Hip hip hurray"

Maynard's Fashion Centre
21, Colne Road,
Earby.

More Memories.

The first Saturday in May was "Maypole Day" when we little girls went round the streets with a maypole. We would stop at different places and sing the following:-

All around the maypole, merrily we go,
Chippy, chippy, cherry, singing as we go,
All the happy pastimes, around the village green,
Singing as we're dancing - Hurrah for the queen,

(Then the May Queen would sing)

I'm the queen, Don't you see?
Just come from the meadows green,
And if you wait a little while,
They will dance you - the maypole style etc.,

The May queen sat on a little stool in the middle and we girls danced round the pole.
Sophia Bradshaw tells me she was once the May queen.

The Railway Station.

Trains ran between Skipton and Colne, with a branch line to Barnoldswick. The Earby to Barnoldswick train was known as "The Barlick Spud".

Old Fashioned Twang.

Ah've nowt agate - I've no commitments.
Ah ta Throng? - Are you busy?

Earby Chronicles

Tha's bahn er catch thi death o' cowl - Your're going to catch cold.

Mummers.

An old custom was on New Year's Eve, boys with blackened faces, carrying a hand brush and shovel would come into your house, humming a tune to sweep your hearth. One year I remember my mother was in the shop and I was in our living room, and two such lads came in at our back door. I was scared stiff, my mother soon sent them off.

Games we played in our Childhood.

Tiddly Winks. We had to flick a little disc into a wooden egg cup, - the winner being the first to do it.

Marbles "Taws". We drew a circle on the ground, put some marbles in and rolled our marble to hit one. You had a prize possession if you managed to hit a "glass alley".

Top and Whip. We chalked a pattern on the top which looked grand as the top went spinning. As a girl I could start in the middle of the road outside our shop and play top and whip, running in the middle of the road all the way along water street round cemetery road to the bottom of Alder Hill Street. There were no fast cars in those day's - horse and cart!

Shuttlecock and Battledore. We hit the shuttlecock in the air.

Tig. To those who had to be "it" we lined up in a row and said the following rhyme -

1 potato, 2 potatoes, 3 potatoes, four,
five potatoes, six potatoes, seven potatoes, more.

The person where "more" came to was "it". She had to find and "tig" others.

Skipping games.

Two people were chosen using the same rhyme, to turn the rope, usually a piece of clothes line. We took it in turns first of all to run through the rope without skipping, then skip once, twice, three times etc., If you tripped you were out and had to take your turn at turning or twining the rope. We finished the game by all skipping in together, to the following rhyme.

*All together,
This fine weather,
I saw on a see-saw,
Caroline, Caroline, shoot*

when we all ran out.

Hopscotch

We drew a grid pattern on the ground and numbered the squares

We threw a pebble in the No. 1, hopped into the shape, picked up the pebble and hopped, around the grid. We threw one into no. 2, hopped in and out with it around the grid, then onto all the numbers.

Ball games and rhymes.

We would bounce a ball on the ground in the back yard or back street, saying the following rhyme:-

Earby Chronicles

*One, two three a larah,
I can see my Auntie Sarah,
Playing on a bandelara,
Eating chocolate dainties.*

We finished by cocking a leg over the ball.

Another ball game was:- Throw a ball up to a wall and say:-

*Plainie - catch the ball,
Clappie clap once catch the ball,
Whirlie twirl hands - catch
One, two, three - clap hands front and back, front - catch
One - clap behind back - catch,
Whirlabout - whirl round - catch,*

Another game was "**Statues**" you hadn't to move or giggle or you were out.

Another pastime was making a scrap book, we exchanged pictures of animals, flowers, birds etc., you could buy these at John Smith's newsagents on Water Street.

London Bridge - Two children raised hands to form a bridge, whilst others ran under singing

"London Bridge in falling down, falling down, falling down My fair Lady".

If caught under the bridge you were "out"

If you have any memories you would like to share through the pages of the Chronicles please let the editor know.

WEST CRAVEN HISTORY ASSOCIATION 2nd LOCAL HISTORY SEMINAR

The 2nd Local History Seminar is being held on Saturday 8th May at Rolls Royce Sports and Social Club in Barnoldswick.

The morning session has a transport theme and will include Dr Mary Higham talking about Medieval Roads and Vaughan Jones looking at the History and Development of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

In the afternoon we switch to the English Civil Wars with Simon Wright exploring local events in the civil war and setting them into the wider context of the conflict. This will be followed by a display by the Sealed Knot Re-enactment Society including canon and musket demonstrations.

The event will last from 10-00am to 4-00pm and cost £ 14 including buffet lunch. Further details on the attached booking form or from Bob Abel, 22 Salterforth Road, Earby, BB18

6ND. Tel 01282 843850.

TUNNICLIFFE'S ACADEMY (PART II)
by **BOB ABEL**

In part one of this article (see Edition 29, Spring 2003) we read about Charles Tunnicliffe and the establishment of his school in Kelbrook.

The Census returns for 1861 and 1871 list the pupils at the school at that particular time and it is possible to trace some of these pupils in later census returns to see what career they followed in later life.

Copies of the census returns for Kelbrook are available for searching at Barnoldswick or Skipton Libraries. They list all the residents in each household giving their age, occupation, relationship to the head of the household and their place of birth.

1861 Census

Hague House Kelbrook

				Occupation	Place of Birth
Charles Tunnicliffe	Head	Mar	48	School Master	Lancs, Hapton
Sarah "	Wife	Mar	39		Yorks, Baildon
Anne "	Dau	unm	18	Teacher of Music	Yorks, Baildon
Lucetta "	Dau		10	Scholar	Yorks, Marton
Elizabeth Watson	Serv.	unm	15	Cook	Yorks, Cowling
Mary J. Briden	Serv.	unm	14	Housemaid	Yorks, Earby
Mary Brook	M in L	Wid	69	Income from cottages	Yorks, Baildon
Alfred Hawksworth	Pupil		15	Scholar	Yorks, Bradford
Mark Hall	Pupil		14	"	Yorks, Leeds
William Jamieson	Pupil		13	"	Lancs, Hapton
John T. Jackson	Pupil		11	"	Yorks, Leeds
John J. Lord	Pupil		15	"	Lancs, Wilstonholme
Samuel Lord	Pupil		13	"	Lancs, Wilstonholme
Henry Pilling	Pupil		12	"	Lancs, Trawden
Richard Schofield	Pupil		16	"	Lancs, Colne
John Smallpage	Pupil		11	"	Lancs, Burnley
Samuel Waller	Pupil		18	"	Lancs, Colne
John W. Waddington	Pupil		12	"	Lancs, Burnley
William Sagar	Pupil		12	"	Lancs, Marsden
William H. Thackery	Pupil		11	"	Yorks, Clifford
Joseph Brown	Pupil		14	"	Lancs, Burnley
Joseph Brundrit	Pupil		10	"	Lancs, Shetford
John Gragson	Pupil		13	"	Yorks, Leeds
Solomon Patchett	Pupil		14	"	Yorks, Manningham
Samuel Murgatroyd	Pupil		15	"	Yorks, Manningham
William Phillips	Pupil		13	"	Lancs, Colne
Thomas M. Smith	Pupil		12	"	Lancs, Colne
John Thorpe	Pupil		9	"	Lancs, Burnley
James N. Leedham	Pupil		11	"	Lancs, Habergam Eaves
James Hayworth	Pupil		15	"	Lancs, Marsden
John E. Mancknols	Pupil		14	"	Lancs, Colne

Earby Chronicles

1871 CENSUS

Hague House, Kelbrook

Charles Tunicliffe	Head	Mar	58	School Master	Lancs,Hapton
Sarah "	Wife	Mar	49		Yorks,Baildon
Lucetta "	dau	Unm	20		Yorks, Marton
Elizabeth Barton	Serv	Unm	19	Housemaid	Cumberland Halhwaite
Thomas Craven	Visitor	4			Yorks, Shipley
William R. Broat	Pupil		15	Scholar	Yorks, Baildon
James Beckwith	Pupil		14	Scholar	Yorks, Rylstone
Thomas J.Wignall	Pupil		13	Scholar	Yorks, Skipton
John W.Whittaker	Pupil		12	Scholar	Lancs, Manchester
George W.Craven	Pupil		12	Scholar	Yorks, Bradford
Walter Wignall	Pupil		11	Scholar	Yorks, Skipton
John Edmondson	Pupil		10	Scholar	Yorks, Keighley
James E.Gallwine	Pupil		10	Scholar	Yorks, Bradford
William Whittaker	Pupil		9	Scholar	Lancs Manchester
Dennis Brundrit	Pupil		9	Scholar	Lancs. Liverpool
Frank W.Wignall	Pupil		9	Scholar	Yorks, Skipton

Two subsequent censuses are available on the Internet 1881⁽¹⁾ and 1901⁽²⁾ and using the information shown in the earlier census returns it is possible to trace some of the pupils with a degree of certainty. Some seem to have disappeared presumably due to an early death or in some cases it may be that the original 1861 and 1871 census enumerator has got the name wrong.

The pupils will most likely have been the sons of prosperous Victorian tradespeople or manufacturers, a few following father into the family business.

The following 1861 pupils can be traced:-

William Jameison became a cotton mill manager in Blackburn by 1881 and by 1901 he had moved to Bury.

John T.Jackson was a pawn broker in Headingley in 1881 but no trace of him is found in 1901.

Henry Pilling at the age of 32 is recorded (1881 census) in Brixham, Devon, as a retired machine maker. Henry was the youngest son of John Pilling the founder of John Pilling and Sons loom makers of Primet Bridge, Colne. An article in the Colne and Nelson Times ⁽³⁾ tells us why Henry was in Brixton. On the death of his father Henry and his brother John ran the business. Henry suffered from ill health, his family attributing this to his many business trips to Germany. Despite this he had time besides the running of the business to be active in other spheres. He was a member of the Temperance movement, he was a supporter of Albert Road Wesleyan Church and secretary of the building fund committee for George Street School in Colne. His health deteriorated and he began to spend the winter months in

the South of England. In 1883 his health was so bad he had to retire from the business and took up permanent residence in Brixton. He died the following year, 1884, at the age of 35.

The Lord brothers, John J. and Samuel, were coal merchants in the Rochdale area.

John Smallpage was a member of the cotton manufacturing family of Smallpages of Burnley. In 1881 he is living in Langroyd Road Park House in Colne with his brothers James and Richard and sister Jane together with their aunt Jane Shaw. The three brothers are described as Cotton Manufacturers.

During the second half of the 1800s the Smallpages were operating Dotcliffe Mill in Kelbrook under the style of Nathan Smallpage and Sons. The 1881 census also gives a Nathan Smallpage living at Bramhall Cheshire also a cotton manufacturer and of an age to suggest he is brother to John and the Colne Smallpages.

By 1901 all the brothers except Richard have retired from business, John the former pupil having retired to Hoylake on the Wirral.

William H.Thakery is back in York in 1881 as a master Maltster but by 1901 he has improved himself to become a Wine and Spirit Merchant.

John W.Waddington appears to have taken a downward step. In 1881 he describes himself as a Printer Compositor in Burnley but by 1901 he is a Street Sweeper of Accrington.

Joseph Brundrit's family were, and had for several generations been, Pork Butchers in Toxteth Park, Liverpool and in 1881 Joseph is a Master Pork Butcher. The year before (1880) he married Mary Elleanor Laycock daughter of William Laycock, Grocer, in Skipton. Joseph's mother, Elizabeth Brundrit, was born in Carleton near Skipton so there were family connections with this area.

⁽⁴⁾Joseph and Mary had a son Reginald Grange Brundrit who was born on 13th May 1883. In 1886 Joseph died and Mary moved back to Skipton with her son Reginald to live with her father. Reginald attended Ermysted's and Bradford Grammar Schools and having shown an interest in painting he enrolled at Bradford School of Art in 1900 followed by a year (1903-4) at the Slade School of Art in London. At the Slade Reginald won several prizes for his work before continuing his art education at a private art school in Kensington. On obtaining a travelling scholarship he travelled to France, Holland and Italy.

In 1906 he left London to return to Yorkshire where he took a flat in Skipton and a studio in Grassington.

Brundrit became quite a well known though uncontroversial painter of his time, delighting in painting landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales. He was also a portrait painter and in 1947 he painted a portrait of Sir Amos Nelson of Gledstone Hall.

Brundrit was elected to full membership of the Royal Academy in 1938⁽⁵⁾.

He exhibited frequently in London and at several international exhibitions. He was a founder member of the Wharfedale group and lived at Linton for some years before moving to Masham ⁽⁶⁾. He died in Masham in 1960.

Solomon Patchett was living in Idle in 1881 and was a waterworks Manager

John Thorpe had established himself in a bakery business employing 9 people in Harpurhey, Manchester, by 1881.

James N. Leedham was recorded as a tailor in the 1881 Census for Burnley.

It has not as yet been possible to trace the other 1861 pupils.

Some of the 1871 pupils can also be traced in census records :-

Thomas Craven was described as a stuff finisher of Eccleshill in 1881

James Beckwith was living in Rylstone in 1881 and was by trade a woollen and linen draper. By 1901 he had moved to Leeds describing himself as a draper.

The **Wignall** brothers (I am assuming they are three brothers) originally from Skipton followed very different careers.

Thomas J. Wignall was living on the family farm in Skipton described as Farmer's son. In 1901 he is in Swadford Street, Skipton described as Inn Keeper and carter.

Walter Wignall was living in Cheetham, Manchester at the home of Dr Joseph Westmoreland, a G.P., in 1881 where Walter is described as a medical student. Unfortunately it has not been possible to find him in the 1901 census to find out how his medical career had progressed.

Frank Wignall moved to Pendleton by 1881 and was employed as a Railway Carrier's Clerk. By 1901 he had moved to Stretford and his occupation given as canvasser for a carrying company (is this an early name for a sales rep?)

John Edmondson had returned to Keighley by 1881 and had gone to work in a textile mill as an over looker. In 1901 he was living and working with his father-in-law as a domestic machinery maker.

William Whitaker was born in Manchester and in 1881 had returned to join the family Dairy business. He has a local connection in that his father, William Whittaker, was born in

Earby Chronicles

Thornton-in-Craven in 1829.

Dennis Brundrit was the brother of Joseph (one of the 1861 pupils) and he had returned to the family pork butchers business where he was an apprentice pork butcher in 1881. In 1901 he is running the family business still in Toxteth Park, Liverpool.

It has been shown that most of the pupils came from the urban industrial areas of Yorkshire and Lancashire where the Victorian entrepreneurs were making their money. Most of those pupils who could be traced seem to have prospered in one way or another and were probably thankful for their education under the guidance of Charles Tunncliffe at his school at Hague House in Kelbrook.

References

- (1) www.familysearch.org - 1881 census
- (2) www.census.pro.gov.uk - 1901 census
- (3) Colne and Nelson Times 1902 17th Jan page 6 column 1
- (4) Reginald Brundrit, R.A. 1883-1960 Bradford Art Galleries and Museums exhibition catalogue 1980
- (5) Yorkshire Artists by Harry Turnbull
- (6) Painters of the Northern Counties by Dennis Child

RECENT MEETINGS

Christmas Meeting - December 2003 Quiz Night

A "What is it ?" quiz was held with members bringing nearly 30 mystery items to be identified. Trevor Tastersall won by recognising the most objects.

Christmas refreshments were served while a "menu quiz" was attempted.

Finally the raffle draw for the Christmas Hamper was made; the winner was Richard Greenwood.

"The Plague in England" by Fred Holcroft

In January we had a large attendance to hear Fred Holcroft, a retired teacher from Wigan, talk about the Plagues which ravaged England particularly in the 17th century. The Plague of 1665 is probably the best known but there were frequent outbreaks which often followed mild winters.

Fred explained the different types of plague bubonic, septicaemic and pneumonic and their gruesome symptoms. The people of the time had many wild theories as to what caused the disease and had as many improbable cures. They had no means of knowing about the bacillus that caused it and it was not until 1894, during an outbreak in Hong Kong, that the bacillus was isolated.

With the aid of maps and plague records from the time the spread of the disease in London

was traced. We also heard about the brave villagers of Eyam in Derbyshire who deliberately isolated themselves when the plague reached them in September 1665. Three quarters of the villagers died.

Thanks to Fred for a fascinating if gruesome glimpse at life and death with the plague.

AGM and Photograph Evening.

The February meeting started with the AGM (see page 1 for the Chairman's report).

Officers elected for 2004 are

Chairman	Bob Abel	Archivist	Margaret Greenwood
Secretary	Margaret Brown	NRCC Rep	Lucille Mitchell
Treasurer	Helen Horner	Committee	Trevor Tattersall
Program Organiser	Ann Cornwell		Squire Firth
Editor	Bev Parker		Sue Janion.

The rest of the evening was an opportunity for members to look at the Society's large and ever growing collection of photographs.

We were also visited by Linda Cliff from Skipton Road who brought along part of a collection of glass photographic plates which had been discovered in the eaves of her loft. The house once belonged to a professional photographer and these glass plates must have been forgotten about until plumbers had to do some work in the loft about ten years ago. The plates seem to date from the early 20th century and are mostly of family groups. Unfortunately there are no names of the subjects. One photograph shows Earby Parish Church under construction which dates it to about 1908/9.

HISTORY ALIVE 2004

2004 sees the revival of the popular History Alive Fair organised by the Friends of Helmshore Textile Museum. Due to extensive re-furbishment of the main exhibition gallery it has not been possible to hold the fair for some time.

The fair will be held at Helmshore Textile Museum on Sunday 28th March and the Society will be one of many history societies represented there.

During the event there will also be demonstrations of the working water wheel and historic textile machinery. "Bringing History Alive" will also be staged in which a group of actors will re-create snapshots of life in the mills in the 1800s and the 1960s.

Refreshments will be available during the day and the whole event promises to be one not to be missed.

THORNTON CHURCH WELL PROJECT

In 1764 the then Rector of Thornton Church, Henry Richardson, had the well in the churchyard covered by a protective building. This took the form of a stone built octagonal structure which is now in need of restoration to prevent it from collapsing.

The Society is heading a project which is being led by our Vice Chairman Beverley Parker, to raise funding for the cost of the restoration. It is also intended that at the same time access to the well will be provided.

The whole project will be planned to involve as many local people and organisation as possible.

A group will be set up to carry out research into the well and its first restorer, the Reverend Henry Richardson, and its findings will be published. The results will also be passed on to Thornton Junior School for the pupils to use for their project to produce a web site about the well. Not only will local historians and the local schools be involved but many other local groups will be invited to participate for example the parish council and village and church groups. If you or an organisation you belong to would like to be involved please contact Bev Parker.

The project will involve some rearrangement in the church yard. To be able to provide disabled access to the ancient well in the church yard it will be necessary to move some of the old gravestones. They will not be removed but replaced elsewhere in the churchyard.

If anyone has any interest or family connection with any of the nineteenth century graves in the south-west corner of St. Mary's churchyard please make contact with either the Church Wardens or the Rector, Canon Nicholas Turner, on 01282 842332.

HOUSE HISTORY

There has been sufficient interest shown for the proposed "House History Group" within the Society. The purpose of the group will be to help and encourage its members to research the history of their own houses and will essentially be a self help group with

KENNETH DAVID LEE (1939 -2003)

David as he was known died in Burnley General Hospital on December 23rd after a short illness.

David was well known in Earby and surrounding districts and was often to be seen striding out on his walks.

Although not an active member of the Society he looked forward to receiving his regular copy of the Earby Chronicles.

David started his education at New Road School and later was able to attend Camphill School in Aberdeen. This school was run on the principals of the Austrian Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925) who inspired a new approach for the education of children with special needs.

At 16 David began working for his parents Arthur and Bertha Lee delivering groceries from their Victoria Road shop.

He had many other interests including Burnley Football club, music and Mount Zion Baptist Church.

MARY WRIGLEY BETTERTON (NEE SMITH) (1937-2003)

Mary came to join the Society as an out of town member (she and Trevor her husband lived in Doncaster) through her family history research, her great great grandfather being John Smith who was a shoemaker living at Close House, Kelbrook in the early 19th century.

Mary was born in Oldham the only child of Frank Smith and Alice (nee Wrigley) and married Trevor Betterton in 1960.

Mary was diagnosed with cancer in August 2003 but maintained a positive attitude to life throughout her illness. Medication and chemotherapy did little to check the illness and Mary was admitted to St John's Hospice, Doncaster, on December the 5th. Her condition deteriorated rapidly on the 28th and she died with her family around her.

Trevor has asked to be kept in touch with the Society and has in fact taken over Mary's membership.

assistance from other members of the Society or outside specialists

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Tuesday 20th April - Margaret Curry - "In the Steps of the Brontes"

Saturday 8th May - 2nd West Craven History Association Local History Seminar
(See Article for details)

Tuesday 18th May - Andrew Bonehill - "The Woodland Trust"

Tuesday 15th June - NO MEETING

Sunday 20th June - Visit to Newby Hall and Gardens
(See attached booking form for details)

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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).

**ANNUAL
SUBSCRIPTION
£5.00
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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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