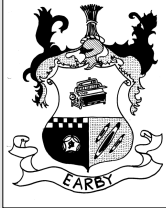


Earby chronicles

Edition 28

Spring 2003

£1.50 free to members
of the society



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

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ANNUAL DINNER

On Saturday 25th January the Society Annual Dinner took place at the Rolls Royce Social Club and was enjoyed by twenty eight members and their guests. Food and conversation were equally enjoyable and the convivial atmosphere is shown in the photograph below.



This year was the second society dinner and it is hoped that it will become an annual event in the Society calendar.

It has been suggested that next year we have an after dinner speaker to round off the event. If you have any suggestions for a venue or a speaker please let the committee know as soon as possible.

Thanks to Sue Janion for organising the event and to Heather Reynolds at Rolls Royce social club for providing an enjoyable meal.

recent talks & features

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2002

Once again, another increase in membership. The number of members has increased every year of our seven years existence, at the end of 2002 it stood at 97. So far, this year, 85 have renewed and we have some 10 new members.

The Society has a healthy financial balance, with income being greater than expenditure by £463 (*before depreciation*). All of this income over expenditure has been derived from book sales, which were at a record £515, mainly due to James Lindley's "Earby in Bygone Days", which sold over 120 copies. Had we not produced that book, expenditure would have been greatest. We hope that another publication will be launched later this year. The biggest item cost was on printer supplies, used for producing the "Earby Chronicles" and printing the books.

Every year the Society's archive collection increases, space is ever more at a premium. The photograph collection just grows and grows and in 2003 a large outlay will be on storage materials, in order to keep the collection in good condition, for future generations to enjoy. Having said all that, space was in short supply at the Community Centre; nevertheless the Society remains open to artefact donations and they will be securely accommodated, somewhere!

Again we have had a good variety of talks and visits. We saw the first of what is hoped will become at least a biennial event, the "History Seminar", organised with Barnoldswick History Society under the West Craven History Association joint venture. This event in October was very successful, with about 90 people attending. It will be a hard act to follow in the Spring of 2004, but plans are already under way.

We also had what will I hope become another regular event, the Society Dinner. A very enjoyable evening was had at Earby's 'Aunty Emily's'; any suggestions for future dinners will be most welcome.

The summer of 2002 saw the publication of the 25th edition of Chronicles and it is hoped to get at least one full set of Chronicles professionally bound. It is a little disappointing that more people don't contribute items. It is for anyone's use. It might be memories of Earby and the surrounding area, it might be a "do you remember" item. It doesn't necessarily have to be a report on a piece of local history research, but those are welcome too. Editor Bev Parker is always pleased to hear from you.

The transcription of the Thornton Parish Registers has finally been completed this year; and Squire Firth has completed his Earby evacuees project, the Parish Heritage Map project is due to be completed soon.

As I reported earlier, membership has grown year on year, obviously this cannot go on

indefinitely, but hopefully we shall reach a century of members shortly.

I would like to see more members taking an active part in organising the running of the Society, so that new ideas can be generated. We also need to appoint a Vice Chairman and encourage other members to join the committee.

The West Craven History Association joint venture with Barnoldswick History Society will feature more in co-operative events, the History Seminar day will become at least a biennial event; and we are having a joint trip on the Settle-Carlisle Railway in September.

One of our major aims for the coming year is to find a means of displaying the Society's collection of local artefacts and making the archive material generally more available for people's use.

Finally a word of thanks to all those who work to make the Society a success. Without a core of willing helpers no organisation can continue. We have such a nucleus of volunteers to build on and expand. I would like to see, in 2003, a few more members joining the committee, to share in the pleasure of running the Society, as well as spreading the load.

Bob Abel.

HEIRLOOMS - HIERLOOMS - HEIRLOOMS

Following the AGM the members proudly showed off their fascinating array of heirlooms. We had a grandfather's British Empire Medal, a grandmother's turquoise and pearl gold necklace given by an Army Officer as thanks to her father who saved an officer's life in th Boer War, a lovely cut glass drinking cup used by a mother at tea parties in Malham and elsewhere and a tiny china scent bottle that had always been displayed on an aunt's fireplace. We were shown exercise books of Mrs Firth, who was a scholar at the Earby Grammar School, demonstrating wonderful handwriting

Another delightful item is seen in the photograph of Eunice & Edgar Wormwell. The beautifully made wooden dolls



pushchair had been part of a set of desk and cot along with a china doll. Sadly, the latter items were given away by her mum when, later in life, Eunice was at work.

The pushchair was old when she was given it at the age of seven, can anyone tell Eunice just when it might have been made.

Contact the Editor if you can.

AN INFORMAL HISTORY OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Some 54 members and visitors were delighted to welcome back Dr Ian Dewhirst - since his last visit he has been honoured by HM the Queen with the M.B.E. for his contribution to local history and library services. Although retired, Ian still gives over 60 talks a year.

By 'informal' Ian actually means those every day local events recorded in the ephemera collected in local libraries and often ignored by main stream historians. His talk covered a broad sweep of the first half of the century. As Ian says he 'prefers to live in the past, that way everything has happened – less to worry about'.

He began with the Boer War when field telephones were first used – early mobile phones!

Ian went on to describe the enormous travelling zoos and circuses, the American 'Greatest Show on Earth' and 'Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show', which brought excitement and spectacle to town and village folk alike.

From the 1914-18 War, he used extracts from letters written by an ordinary soldier posted to the uneventful coastal defences near Bridlington in which he described his living conditions and food shortages and the 'Mr. slice of bread' campaign, warning against waste.

The ordinary Tommy had to buy his own drink, because to buy a pint for a serving soldier was prohibited. We heard how Special Constables, who had to be 'pillars of the community', for example headmasters or solicitors, who could arrest for almost every crime. They had to give 'cheerful obedience' to their work and have a note book and pencil at all times.

For the period between the Wars Ian's source was local newspapers. Keighley had 6 cinemas and with different episodes of the same film playing at each, it was important to get the sequence right. One film showing was a silent 'Wuthering Heights' (actually filmed on Haworth Moors) advertised as a "splendid drama of love and hate" with no more than a piano for added pathos! The newspapers even told what sermons were to be given at each of the many churches and chapels.

Records of the Scout & Guide movement provide a lot of material, for example Girl Guides were told that too much exercise 'could damage a woman's interior economy', it was even blamed for many girl's hair lips! In 1939-40s Scouts were to look for jobs to help the war effort. It was suggested they should knock on the door of ladies with evacuees, to see if they

needed help; the guidance admitted "she will probably say no, women are like that".

Concert parties became popular, with 'light comedians' telling the most banal jokes. From WW II Ian proudly told of his father's experiences in the R.A.F., on barrage balloons – on Orkney. The boredom factor was so bad, some even took up embroidery! When on Sentry duty, they had to wear all their clothes just to keep warm – it was a good job no alarm had to be called, for it was virtually impossible to move under all those layers of clothing.

Access to sensitive records can be a problem as Keighley librarian Ian found when he came across some classified papers of the local police, which of course he read with delight only to find later that they were to be sealed up and not allowed to be seen again until 2034!

1947 will be remembered by many for the "big snow" with many areas cut-off. The baker getting bread to isolated communities made the head lines.

This was followed by another big event, the Coronation. As a lad (a budding journalist) Ian had recorded in a diary how he spent the day. "Had mash and cornflakes for dinner". "Then went to watch the procession in Keighley - it rained". "Then on to Skipton. Past sodden empty tents, the people had gone to the cinemas". Not quite how Coronation day is re-called in the national archives today, is it – but so much more real.

After hearing about National Service escapades, we were taken briefly through the second half of the century. Ian freely admits he is not "into computers" and recounted instances when at the press of a wrong button whole family history researches had been wiped out

Most information had come from local archives with little or none from general history books – these invaluable local records have been collected over many years showing how important it is not to throw anything away as Ian reminded everyone. If you don't want to keep items of local interest "give them to your local studies collection".

By the way - If you have any items that you are unsure what to do with, contact our Chairman Bob Abel or archivist Margaret Greenwood for advice. Or, donate it to the Society's growing collection, which is for the use of all – especially school children and students making studies of their local environment (but of course by appointment).

JAMES LINDLEY'S TESTIMONIAL

When James Lindley retired from the post of Headmaster at Alder Hill School many former pupils and friends donated towards an illuminated testimonial to be presented to him; we were shown copies of it by Squire Firth at the heirlooms evening. The wording reads as follows :-

EARBY CHRONICLES

"Dear Sir,

We, representing the former scholars of the above named schools (the Wesleyan Day School, Riley Street and Alder Hill Council School), having learnt of your approaching departure from our midst, take this opportunity of placing on record our feeling of gratitude and indebtedness to you for the valuable services you have rendered during the long period of 35 years as headmaster of the above schools.

We desire to record our appreciation of your devoted labours for the welfare of the children, and for the highest interests of the community.

We deeply regret that circumstances have caused your removal from us and we hope the rest you have so well earned will be accompanied with heaven's richest blessing".

The testimonial is incorporated in an album bound in morocco leather and there are over 500 names of friends and former pupils included in the document.

Following the highly successful launch of James Lindley's "Earby in bygone days" published by the Society, James Lindley's great grand children have had this testimonial copied in colour and donated it to the Society.

The presentation to James Lindley took place in 1920 on the occasion of a scholars reunion at Alder Hill School. The event is recorded in the West Yorkshire Pioneer newspaper. "There was a crowded attendance of old scholars, many having come from a distance for the occasion. During the evening a capital concert programme was rendered by old scholars."

As well as other gifts a "handsome gold mounted wallet was presented containing over £300" (over £7000 at today's purchasing power)".

SPRING MILL, EARBY, YORKSHIRE

THE BEGINNING - A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BUILDING OF THE MILL

BY R.W.(BOB) KING C.TEXT. F.T.I.

I have in my possession the original minute book of the company. This was found in 1960 in the room where the reeds and some of the healds were kept. I have kept this hoping one day to write a story round the town, the mill and the families who worked there.

I have had to try to condense seven years into just a few pages and I hope this is of interest to people who are interested in the history of Earby.

Many local people were involved in the building of the new shed. I was unable to ascertain

who built the mill chimney and what the cost was, but I was told that the two steeplejacks from a firm called O'Mara from Burnley, spent as much time in the White Lion as they did erecting the chimney and that it had a definite lean on at the top which had to be rectified.

THE BUILDING OF THE MILL FOR BAILEY, WATSON & BERRY LTD.

It was a cold November evening, the year was 1889, the house was that of Thomas Bailey of Earby. The fire was lit, the wicks were trimmed and the lamps shone on the polished mahogany table. Those present were :-

Thomas Bailey, James Smith Watson, Charles Watson, Nathan Watson, Charles Watson Bailey, Wm. Nehemiah Berry.

Thomas Bailey addressed the meeting, "Gentlemen, we are met tonight to discuss the forming of a company to weave cotton piece goods. There is an opportunity to buy some looms and beaming machines from William Gill of the Grove Mill, Earby, and to buy 30 new plain looms from Cooper Bros. Ltd. and 36 revolving shuttle box looms from Geo Hattersley and Sons. This equipment to be located at Grove Mill



**The front of Spring Mill with the lodge for storage of water for the boiler
Photo by the late Dave Sedman**

under room and power ⁽¹⁾ at an average cost of 37/- (£1-85p) per 40" (approx. 1 Mt.) reed space loom per annum."

The resolution was passed and also Thomas Bailey was elected chairman and W. N. Berry was appointed as secretary. The share capital was to be 240 shares at a price of £25 per share, a total of £6000.

February 3rd 1890 - Messrs Thomas Bailey, J. S. Watson and W. N. Berry were appointed to manage the general business of the company.

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December 5th 1892 - A request was put to the landlord, William Gill, for more space to accommodate 80 more looms.

August 9th 1894 -Request to be made to William Gill for enough space to accommodate 352 looms of the same reed width as the present looms.

January 22nd 1895 - It was proposed by Charles Watson and seconded by James Watson that a new shed be built for the company and that an offer to James Shuttleworth be made for a acre of land in Ireland Meadow for the new shed.

February 19th 1895 - An offer of land by John Bailey at 1/6 d per square yard was finally accepted to build a shed to accommodate 432 looms.

THE NEW SHED

The Architect and Clerk of Works was Mr Atkinson of Colne, at a cost of £120-10s (£120-50p) and the conveyancing of the land was to be dealt with by Wright, Charlesworth and Wilson of Skipton.

The following contractors were used for the building and equipment :-

Masons Work	Cowgill and Wilkinson	£1560
Joinery	Charles Watson	£555
Engine	Burnley Iron Co.	£775
Boiler	Adamson and Co	£260
Slating	Wm Stanworth	£395
Plumbing	Wm Varley and Sons	£150
Plastering	Heap and Thornton	£148
Millwright and iron	Ellison and Co.	£1088
Driving Ropes	Harts (also supply labour to install)	£20-13-00
Electric Lighting	Keighley Electrical Eng. Co	£230
Lamps to be high efficiency and the dynamo to have a slide rail for tightening the strap at an extra cost of		£3-10-00
TOTAL COST		£ 5 1 8 5 - 0 3 - 0 0

The masons contract does not include the flagging. Flagging - Siddall of Stacksteads 32" machine face flags each of six super feet upwards. Concreting of warehouse-Nuttalls (Barnoldswick) at a cost of 2/10d per yard.

An agreement was made between the company and John Edmondson to supply water to the shed by a stream on the land called Nicky Laithe.

J. S. Watson was to investigate the best stoker for the boiler and also whether to install Green's Economisers. The architect to investigate the best means of fencing off the new

shed.

September 11th 1895 - It was decided to call the new shed "Park Shed". However, this was rescinded on November 18th 1895 and resolved that the new shed be named "Spring Mill".

November 25th 1895 - Cowgill and Wilkinson were requested, by the architect, to excavate the lodge for the water supply and for the new road to the warehouse, at the same rate as other excavation work already done.

November 25th 1895 - At an Extraordinary General Meeting of the shareholders, the following resolution was confirmed "That the nominal share capital of the company be increased from £6000 to £15,000 by the creation of 360 shares at £25 each".

April 13th 1896 - It was confirmed that the new shed at Spring Mill would be opened on Saturday 25th April 1896. There was to be a knife and fork tea.

The engine was to be christened "Alice Ann" and the starting of the new engine was to be performed by the chairman of the company Mr. Thomas Bailey, in the presence of the members of the company and their families, with the architect and the engineers.

W. N. Berry and C. W. Bailey were to arrange a programme of entertainment and the wives of the directors were to "get up a tea committee". The engine was to start at 3-30 PM and the tea to start at 4-30 PM, with the entertainment to start at 6-30 PM if possible, but no later than 7-00 PM.

There is no doubt that our forebears had a lot of guts and grit to invest what was probably a fortune in those days but King Cotton had arrived and they took their chances as well as the other manufacturers in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Bailey, Watson and Berry Limited looked well into the future ⁽²⁾, they not only wove plain grey fabric, but also had a coloured section (which eventually became W. N. Berry of Foulridge). This meant they employed weavers, tacklers, beamers and winders all with different skills.

There is no mention of a tape sizing machine in the early days, so I can only assume that they had their grey warps sized at a commission sizer and that they bought their coloured yarn as ball warps and scotch dressed them on site.

If any readers have any questions, I would be happy to answer them, as I was the last General Manager of Spring Mill before it closed down for good.

Editors notes

(1) Room and power was a rental scheme whereby a manufacturer rented space for his machinery and also paid for the supply of power to drive the machines.

(2) The rear wall of the mill was constructed in such a way that it could easily be demolished to allow for extension of the mill.

About the Author

I am sure many Earby folk will remember Bob King. He served a five year apprenticeship at Kelbrook Weaving Company at Dotcliffe Mill, Kelbrook, as a textile designer. After he got his final City and Guilds and a scholarship to Manchester University, he took up a position as weaving manager at Ashton Brothers of Hyde, while he did two years study to become an associate of the Textile Institute.

He met a man in Manchester called Frank Speak, who had bought a mill in Earby, Charles Shuttleworth and Co. Ltd. of Victoria Mill. He asked him if he would be interested in rebuilding the business which hadn't worked fully since before 1939. He met him in Earby in 1954 and liked the challenge.

Within a year 396 looms were weaving twills, sateens and plains, fully staffed and contributing to the economy of Earby. Victoria Mill was under "room and power" and in 1958 it was decided that their own building was needed. They did have some fabric being woven by C. W. Bailey Ltd. at Spring Mill, which hadn't worked successfully since the Second World War. An offer was made to the board of C. W. Bailey, which was accepted and Bob set about redesigning the weaving shed to take looms from Victoria Mill, under the more looms per weaver system. For a while the business prospered, but in 1961, the Cotton Board offered to pay out mill owners weaving cotton goods at £100 per loom and Frank Speak sold. Frank Speak's son and Job Booth took over the building and more, older, looms were installed with Bob as General Manager. Things did not work out well for various reasons and when, in 1965, Bob was offered a job in New Zealand, he resigned and emigrated.

As Bob says " this was almost the end of the cotton era in Earby. Generations of Earbiers had trained as tacklers, weavers, winders, beamers, loomers, twisters and tape sizers and at most of the mills, son had followed father into many of the trades. Cheap cotton imports were the death knell throughout the Lancashire and Yorkshire borders".

The experience Bob gained in his employment in the Earby area proved invaluable in his career in New Zealand, Thailand, Australia, Mexico and Japan as a Textile Consultant.

COWCAKE IS AN ACQUIRED TASTE

A Holiday on a Yorkshire Farm in the 1930's by C.P.FAWCETT

(The farm referred to is Northholme Farm, Earby.)

I once nibbled a piece while sitting on a sackful of it in the barn of my uncle's farm in Yorkshire. I can still remember that over sweet, malty, highly individual flavour. With the "satiating curiosity" of Kipling's 'Elephants Child', I found I absorbed innumerable scents with an impact that makes them seem even more memorable now.

The old barn was my favourite haven. Its atmosphere of warm cows, of dusty grain, of old milk and stored apples drew me like a magnet. Even the cobwebs in the dim corners were exciting. The light and shade on the churns and cowstalls of the adjoining shippon, must have looked like a Rembrandt etching.

I would sit on a sack and watch my uncle mix what he called 'the beasts' provender', preparatory to the milking time feed. His bent figure would sort out and drag more sacks to a big stone trough on the floor. His misshapen, but dextrous fingers, would loosen their necks and out would pour a Niagara of cow cake and other exotic mixtures. While churning these over with a huge metal scoop, he would mutter to himself, cough at the rising dust and grumble at the high prices, drought and the ruin that stalked him. He was a strange, dour man, kindly and with a canny eye and generations of farming in his blood. To me he was 'Half as old as Time'.



Northholme farm

I can almost hear those sounds now, the grating of his heavy, metal rimmed clogs and the continuous rustling of the half-wild cats in their eternal search for rats. At last heavy pails would be found and filled. I would be allowed to take them one by one to the hungry cows lined up in their stalls.

I would rest each pail on a wooden partition dividing the barn from the shippon. The sight of the frightening horns, wet-leather noses and strangely pupiled eyes was not one to linger on. When each animal was masticating with the utmost deliberation, hand milking would begin.

The shippon was long and low. The rows of cows looked like painted wooden toys. My uncle and cousin would hunch on their stools, heads pressed to the warm sides. They always wore white skull-caps to protect their hair. I think of it all now as a tone-poem with the flickering tails, the rattling chains, the harsh rasp of a cow's tongue on a sore leg. There was always the rhythmic music as the strings of milk played into the pails. Occasionally a stool would be knocked over and there would be grating, stamping and irritable cries of 'Coo-up, coo-up, lass' as order was restored.

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I was once allowed to try my hand at milking, but my cow was old and tired. Squeeze as I might at her soft rubber teats, not one drop trickled into the pail. I feel she must have sensed my youth and inexperience.

I can claim with some pride that I have sheared three sheep by hand. The unwary creatures were surprisingly passive and resigned once they were down with their horns touching the ground, (surely their equivalent of Tower Hill). Once the rhythm was established, all went well. One pushed back the grey greasy fleece, cut along the 'stitches', then pushed hard again as though it were a carpet. The half-kneeling position was a strain, the shears heavy, but I do not remember nicking the pink fragile skin as I worked on each inert body. When finished, my aunt would not allow me to enter the kitchen until I had thoroughly washed my arms under the outside pump.

I watched some sheep dipping one day when a high, rain washed sky was reflected in the sheep-wash. I remember the excitement of it. The black untidy crows hopping crazily sideways like comedians in their prime. After an initial inspection for foot rot, each sheep would be pushed into the deep trough of dip with a sort of long two pronged fork. I would hold my breath, as the woolly heads vanished under the yellow liquid. When pulled out however, they seemed quite unmoved and would join the group of the other damp spectators.

I learnt a miscellany of facts from my cousin on bird ringing, the farm calendar and the rotation of crops. During one holiday there I was taken to a cattle auction in his old upright car. Many a calf or side of bacon had been transported on its back seat and at least one sack would lean against my knees, seed potatoes, perhaps or bulbs for my aunty's garden. The car pockets were stuffed with auction lists and seed catalogues. The floor was gritty under my sandals. My cousin knew everyone on the drive there. 'Yon's Whitehouse - farms, Stone Farm, or Baxter's lad - o'er Cleckheaton way'.

My first impression of an auction was of an impenetrable wall of mackintoshes, a sea of bobbing caps, the smell of wet straw, sweat and manure. There was a rumble of Yorkshire voices, pipe smoke blown into my eyes and heavy boots treading my feet into puddles. I discovered while watching, that a brief gesture with a pipe or stick could crystallise the quality of failings of a 'beast'; that one glance from a shrewd eye, was worth a thousand words and that a quiet shake of the head was final. I also learnt that a well bred cow had a straight back as though drawn with a ruler and that I had no eye for a bargain, as soft brown eyes weighed more with me than a fine udder.

A hot meal that day was a serving of food enough for three hungry farmers. My appetite seemed to fail me as I had 'fowl pest' and sheep tick with my meat pie and 'foot rot' and artificial insemination, with my ginger pudding.

On our drive home we often stopped at an outlying farm, where my cousin had some business. Once I think the car must have startled a gaggle of geese on the way in, as they

started to move towards me in a most alarming way, bodies swayed, tread purposeful. I wound up the car window as a forest of necks rose up, thin tongues fluttering like leaves as they hissed.

My cousin thoroughly enjoyed teasing me as I had a nervous disposition. One night he told me of a certain murderer who was coming for me, along the stone walls and across the beck at the bottom of the field. I laughed at the time, when sitting by the great fire in the range, but when I went up the shallow stairs to bed, closing the sneck of my door I felt differently about it. I lay awake all night. I watched the candle make 'winding sheets'; I made shapes on my palm with the soft candle grease, I listened to the restless rattle of the bull's chain in his stall and the patter of pigeons on the roof. It was a long night.

However it was insignificant compared to the joys of shepherding twelve cows down from 'the tops' at milking time (with the help of the knowledgeable farm dog), or dodging a steely-eyed hen in the coop, as I tried to collect her warm brown eggs.

SETTLE CARLISLE RAILWAY TOUR

The Settle - Carlisle Explorer tour is on Saturday 13th September 2003. An executive coach takes us to places of historic interest relating to the Settle- Carlisle line with a stop at Hawes for shopping and lunch. Included is the return journey by rail from Appleby to Settle. To be sure not to miss this journey through railway history contact Sue Janion with your deposit of £10.00.

This is a joint venture with Barnoldswick History Society under the umbrella of West Craven History Association, organisers of the 2nd Seminar in May 2004 - but more about that in a later edition of Chronicles.

MORE ADDITIONS TO THE SOCIETY COLLECTION

Mrs Pat Wilkinson has donated a money box inscribed with "Earby Urban District Council" and a calendar from Arthur Lee, Greengrocer, 7, Victoria Road, Earby.

Mr Lewis Wilkinson has contributed some old farming implements to the Society collection. These date from the times before hay making was mechanised and are a wooden hay rake and a pitch fork which Lewis used when working at Northholme Farm for Billy Shuttleworth

Our thanks to Mr and Mrs Wilkinson.

RESEARCH REQUESTS

HARRY BROWN OF EARBY

New member Margaret Milree (nee Brown) has discovered that she has ancestors from Earby. Her grandfather, Harry Brown, never spoke about his family and Margaret's late

father never knew he had aunts, uncles and cousins in Earby.

The family is traceable through the census records of Earby, the first clue coming from the 1881 census, when the family was living at Green End Cottages in Earby. At the time of the census the family consisted of William Brown, head of the household and five children, Mary A., Ada V., Benjamin J., Algernon and Harry (Margaret's grandfather). William's wife must have died before 1881.



**Harry Brown
Coming home from the river**

Earlier censuses (1871 & 1861) show the family still living at Green End Cottages, but with Betty the wife of William. In 1861 William is described as a "Domestic Coachman", presumably working for Christopher Bracewell who lived at Green End House.

The next generation back are found in the 1851 and 1841 census records. William's father was John Brown who was a blacksmith living at Battey House in 1841, with his wife Rachel and their children.

Coming forward to the 1901 census, both William and Harry are living at 24 Green End Cottages. William is now 69 and working as a farm hand - handling cows, Harry who is now 24, is still living with his father.

During the First World War Harry joined the merchant navy. He was married in London to Caroline Fairchild from Essex. Caroline was in service at the home of Sir Charles Mappin (of Mappin and Web - Jewellers). Margaret is not sure how they met, but it may be to do with Harry's service in the merchant navy.

Margaret's father and uncle were born in Attercliffe, Sheffield, but later the family moved to Derby. Margaret would dearly like to know if there are any descendants of her grandfather Harry's siblings still living in the Earby area. If you can help in anyway with Margaret's research, or think you know of a possible family connection, please contact :

Mrs.Margaret Milree,16 Gundry Road, Bothenhampton, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 4SF

Margaret has sent a copy of the only photo she has of Harry (reproduced here) . It is of a boy of about 10 years and it is labelled on the back "Coming Home from the River".

AND ANOTHER

This time from Lynne Sylvester:

My grandfather's brother, John WILKINSON, lived in Barnoldswick with his family. I am trying to come down that line to find a living relative. I thought by putting this together, someone might recognize this family and contact me.

John WILKINSON, b. 1866, Musbury, Lancashire to John and Mary Ann (JOHNSON) WILKINSON. He married Martha HARRISON. Martha was b. 1871.

I do not know when either of them died or where. Their children were:

1. Annie WILKINSON, b. 1893, married Harry WILLS. They had one son: Harry WILLS.
2. James WILKINSON, b. 1895, d. 1964, married Edith (?), b. 1899, d. 1984. They had two children: Jack WILKINSON, b. 1921, and Edna WILKINSON, b. 1923. Jack WILKINSON, married Jackie (?). I believe Jack had a stroke and was in a nursing home in 1985. They resided in Barnoldswick. I don't know if they had children.
3. Albert WILKINSON, b. 1897. I don't know if he married and had children.
4. Robert WILKINSON, b. 1899, married Minnie (?). They had one daughter, Mary WILKINSON who married William DAVIES.
5. Harry WILKINSON, b. 1901, married Elsie (?). They had one daughter, Edna WILKINSON.
6. Mary WILKINSON, b. 1903, married John (?). They had one son, John (?).



If you can help please reply to: Mrs. Lynn Wilkinson Sylvester, 447 Southern Trace Drive Rockmart, GA 30153-6460, USA. email: Lwsylvstr@aol.com telephone: 770-505-6549

WEB SITE NEWS

The Society is thrilled to announce the launch of its new web-site (the address remains the same)

www.earbylocalhistorysociety.co.uk

Designed by Jay Bourike of 'Intriguing by Design', the interactive site provides details, photos and other contacts, not previously available.

THE SOCIETY

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

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
£3.00
UK £5.00
Overseas £9.00

Contents:

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

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.

to Eden Camp to

Produced & printed
 by
 Earby & District
 Local History
 Society.

We hope it will bring even more Earbyites together, no matter how far and wide they may now be scattered across the world. If you have a research request, or have a story to tell in 'Earby Chronicles', or simply want to make contact, then we are eagerly awaiting your message.

Jay and husband Stephen Bourike have been working hard in the background for the society over recent months and all that along with moving house and setting up business locally as well as the birth of their baby son Samuel Joseph Templeton Bourike. We really cannot thank them enough.

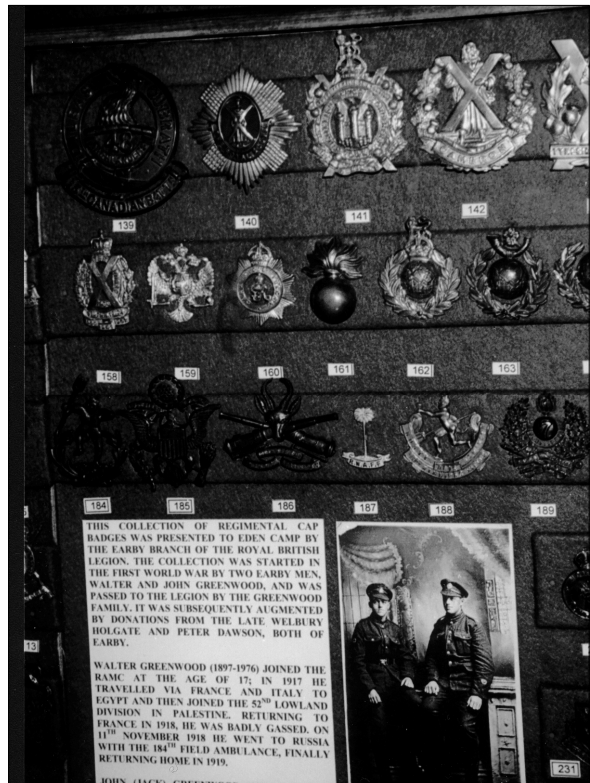
If you like Jay's work (which in our opinion you cannot fail to do), she can be contacted at webmaster@intriguing.net

A POSTSCRIPT

Regular readers may recall

AND FINALLY A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

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



THIS COLLECTION OF REGIMENTAL CAP BADGES WAS PRESENTED TO EDEN CAMP BY THE EARBY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION. THE COLLECTION WAS STARTED IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR BY TWO EARBY MEN, WALTER AND JOHN GREENWOOD, AND WAS PASSED TO THE LEGION BY THE GREENWOOD FAMILY. IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY AUGMENTED BY DONATIONS FROM THE LATE WELBURY HOLGATE AND PETER DAWSON, BOTH OF EARBY.

WALTER GREENWOOD (1897-1976) JOINED THE RAMC AT THE AGE OF 17; IN 1917 HE TRAVELLED VIA FRANCE AND ITALY TO EGYPT AND THEN JOINED THE 52ND LOWLAND DIVISION IN PALESTINE. RETURNING TO FRANCE IN 1918, HE WAS BADLY GASSED. ON 11TH NOVEMBER 1918 HE WENT TO RUSSIA WITH THE 184TH FIELD AMBULANCE, FINALLY RETURNING HOME IN 1919.

Editor
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