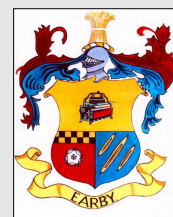


Earby Chronicles

Edition 50

AUTUMN 2008



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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CELEBRATIONS ALL AROUND

As we publish our **50th edition** of Chronicles, we can look back with pride on the quality and content of the articles sent in by our contributors and the improving quality and presentation of our news letter. Edition 1 in 1995 was an 8 page photocopied format and now we print an 18 page volume in colour. The 15th edition in 2000 was a special millennium edition in full colour magazine format. Chronicles would not be so diverse were it not for the commitment of our Chairman Bob Abel and his hard working team, supported by many members and others sending their own contributions. Keep it up and lets look forward to recording more of this areas history in the years to come.

Chairman's Note - Acknowledgement must also be given to the dedication and hard work our editor, Bev Parker, puts in to ensure that we get our regular mix of history and news.

EARBY YOUTH HOSTEL

Friends celebrate the 50th anniversary of the official opening

The celebration was timed to coincide with Earby Development Group's Open Gardens Saturday when the Hostel held an open house for visitors to view the facilities offered at the Hostel as well as the garden. Our picture shows the mayor and mayoress of Pendle, Shelagh Derwent and Ann McGeorge, with a group of members of the Friends of Earby Hostel



recent talks & features

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£2.00

Members of
Society free

This year is the fiftieth anniversary of the official opening of the Earby Youth Hostel which was donated to the YHA as a lasting memorial to Katherine Bruce Glasier described as "one of the greatest women of her age."

She was a founder member of the Independent Labour Party and devoted her adult life not only to the Socialist Cause but she also fought for many social reforms, in particular nursery education, miners working conditions, the Save the Children Fund and the Margaret McMillan fund.

Katherine came to live in Earby at Glen Cottage in 1922 after the death of her husband, John Bruce Glasier, and when she died in 1950 a fund was set up to provide the money to create a lasting memorial to her name. After much deliberation it was decided to buy her cottage and neighbouring property, convert it to a hostel and gift it to the YHA in perpetuity to her memory. As a large part of her life had been devoted to youth it was thought fitting that her memorial should also reflect this.

Although the Hostel was already open for business the official opening ceremony took place in June 1958.



Margaret McMillan Unveiling the Plaque at the Official Opening Ceremony, June 1958

Leaders of the Labour movement, including the Rt. Hon. J. Griffiths, deputy leader of the Labour Party, travelled from all parts of the country to pay a final tribute to a woman who, by her vision and campaigning zeal, helped to build the Labour movement from modest beginnings and to remember her pioneering work for many social reforms. Mr. Griffiths commented,

"Although she lived to ripe old age, Mrs. Glasier was in spirit ever young to the end. There is something appropriate that the cottage in which she spent so many years of her life, should go to the Youth Hostels Association. May her spirit inspire all who go in

there. May the fellowship that inspired her life, abide in the hostel for ever more."

Other guests included her son Malcolm, a director of the Elder Dempster Shipping Company, and Mr. Harry Wheatcroft, the internationally renowned rose grower and friend of Mrs. Glasier, who had travelled from Nottingham for the occasion, and presented her daughter-in-law with a beautiful bunch of roses. He undertook to stock the beautiful natural garden with roses in perpetuity.

Mr. Arthur H. Dower, chairman of the YHA, paid tribute to the trustees of the fund, especially to the one who first had the idea, for going ahead with the scheme. To him Mrs. Glasier had been for years only a name; now he knew she was someone they in the Association had sought for years, the genuine Youth Hosteller.

Mr. Dower concluded " We will endeavor to be worthy trustees of this hostel, and make it a true shrine from which the spirit of Katherine Bruce Glasier will shine forth for ever." Miss Miriam Lord a long time friend and associate of Katherine Bruce Glasier performed the unveiling of the plaque. Miss Lord said it was appropriate that the ceremony should be taking place on the anniversary of Mrs. Glasier's marriage.

The lady they were that day honouring would be saying "splendid" and Miss Lord continued, "the radiance of her spirit is thrilling through this building. She is here with us now. She loved beauty and colour."

Recalling one of her favourite quotations, "As we give, so we live," Miss Lord said Mrs. Glasier had given to all who asked with both hands. She had given the gathered jewels of her whole life, and she recalled how, on her eightieth birthday, Katherine had been presented with a beautiful dressing gown and pair of slippers.

The next time she saw the slippers they were on the feet of a poor refugee lady to whom Mrs. Glasier had given shelter. Miss Lord said that she pointed out that the slippers had been given to Mrs. Glasier, to which she received the reply "How better can I see them than on someone else."

A muniments room was created which still exists today "where young hostellers will be able to enjoy peace and quiet". Looking down on them, smiling always is a restored portrait of Mrs. Glasier, painted by John Mansbridge, whose father Dr. Albert Mansbridge, founded the Workers' Educational Association. Facing is a picture of her husband, John Bruce Glasier (an architect who gave up a lucrative practice to write, speak and work for social reform), while furnishings include Mrs. Glasier's bookcase, bureau and table.

The Friends of Earby Hostel's main aim is to ensure that this memorial, in the form of Earby Youth Hostel, will continue in the spirit that it was given and in perpetuity. There is no set membership fee but suggested donation of £5. If you are interested in joining the Friends of Earby Hostel, contact The Secretary, Bob Abel, on 01282 843850.

RONNIE COWGILL– from one who really knows ...

This time from daughter Pamela The most recent two editions contained items relevant to my father. So what follows is by way of throwing a little light on someone who, for the middle years of his life, was very well known in and around Earby.

Ronald, who was always known as Ronnie, was the eldest of a family of four (other siblings were Norris, killed in France in 1918 and always remembered as the really talented one, a singer and violinist, Norman who bred and showed dogs and judged championship

shows for the Kennel Club and Mabel who was for several years until her death in 1967, organist at All Saints' Parish Church.

Before the First World War, my grandmother and her sister, Sarah Brown had a bakery and confectionery business at 10 Colne Road and ran a café upstairs, which because of its position facing west over Hill Top, was called Sunset Café. The firm was called Brown and Cowgill.



**This card was posted 1923 and should show Sunset café.
From the Smith & Laycock Collection*.**

In this environment, my father learned to bake. In the early years of the business, when life was apparently a struggle, he used to come home from school and then take round a large, rectangular basket of buns and cakes to sell at the door. This suggests that the business was already running in at least 1908. Ronnie began to teach himself, from 'trade' books, the art of sugar confectionary and he became good at cake decoration with 'royal' icing.

After his War service in France, he was posted to Düren as part of the rather short-lived army occupation in the Rhineland. While there he developed a taste for opera, managing to travel in to Cologne, and he learned his confectionary craft more systematically from the family with whom he was billeted.

On his return to England, he joined his mother and Norman in the bakery but he concentrated on what was then clearly a talent for wing icing and fine tubes very much as an artist with paint and brushes. Ronnie's first recorded award for a decorated cake was at Darwen Show, in 1925. He parted company from the business at about this time, and began to work in the Post Office as the junior of three postmen serving Earby, Kelbrook and the moor side as far as Bleara. The so-called 'short straw', the moorland round, was traditionally given to the junior. It suited Ronnie ideally because he finished at 2pm and it left him time to develop his art in sugar, to build up a small business working from home, in Skipton Road, and to accept occasional invitations to lecture and demonstrate at Leeds Bakery

School.

During the 1930s, he entered cakes in a variety of classes at the annual international show of the Allied Bakers' and Confectioners' Guild held at the Old Horticultural Halls in Islington. The show moved, after 1945, to Olympia. The winners' medals were oval with a narrow raised border; on one side was the image of Ceres, the Roman goddess of the harvest and the other, the winner's name.

The medal featured in the Spring 2008 Edition was certainly one of my father's with the initial 'H' mistakenly engraved instead of 'R'. First prize winners received a gold medal and those won by my father remain among my most treasured possessions.

Ronnie received 'special' orders for wedding cakes from Busby's department store in Bradford, for Betty's in Ilkley and Harrogate and he supplied many local bakeries in Burnley, Colne, Settle and Skipton. Among novelty cakes were a model of Earby Church and, for a Mountbatten wedding, a model of Broadlands House.

He enjoyed personalising cakes with sugar plaques or emblems indicating peoples' interests in sport, clubs, hobbies and skills. The ending of the War, in 1945, is an early memory of mine when he was kept busy, firstly, with victory cakes decorated with the flags of the allies and then with 'welcome home' cakes for returning servicemen and these often had a centrepiece of their regimental insignia. My own 21st birthday cake had musical quotations round the sides and a model grand piano with its lid raised on top. All these plaques were made from softened sugar 'run out' on wax paper to dry nice and shiny and smooth. A favourite form of decoration was the sugar flower. Each bloom was produced using a spinal nail with a domed half-inch round tin top. The nail was twirled in one hand while the icing tube in the other produced a life like violet, or rose or narcissus. Lots of these were made in readiness for decorated Easter eggs.

Taste has changed. Cakes now have wraps of thick, gaudy fondant and little artistic skill is apparent. Ronnie's skills are probably now virtually unaffordable – just like hand-stitched shoes.

© Pamela Maryfield May 2008

***POSTCARDS COLLECTION**

The Smith & Laycock Collection comprises upwards of 50 postcards of Earby or the surrounding area, a good many of which our Committee members have not seen before. These are yet to be catalogued and will eventually be made available to members for copies. In the meantime we will include relevant pictures in Chronicles articles where we can.

We are indebted to Dr. John Laycock for alerting us to this collection that belongs to Mr. Smith of Bath and especially to Dr. John for scanning these and sending them on at no cost to our Society

THANK YOU.

FROM THE LEEDS MERCURY

Over forthcoming editions of Chronicles we shall be providing some snippets from this newspaper that relate to our own area. We thank our Programme Secretary Wendy Faulkner for transcribing them, here is the first

SATURDAY JUNE 11TH 1814

EARBY- MILL*

To be LET, for a TERM of YEARS,

And Entered on Immediately,

All that COTTON MILL, lately burnt down, at Earby, in the Parish of Thornton, Craven, with a good new Water Wheel, Thirty Feet Diameter, and a Fall of never-failing Water, upwards of Thirty-four Feet, with a good new-built Dwelling-house, nearly adjoining, and near to the populous Town of Earby, where Hands may be had in Plenty, and at a cheap Rate.

The above is situate about a Mile from the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, which opens a ready Conveyance for Goods through Yorkshire and Lancashire.-

The Occupier may be accommodated with a reasonable Quantity of Land adjoining. The above is well adapted for either a Cotton, Worsted, or Woollen Manufactory.

For Particulars apply to Mr. John Broughton, Thornton, who will shew the Premises, and to Mr. Addinell, Tadcaster.

* The mill in question is Booth Bridge Mill at Thornton-in-Craven, originally a corn mill which became, in later years, the bobbin mill and recently converted into a house.

WARSHIP WEEKS

Peter Schofield

An exclusive for Chronicles, copyright remaining with the author

Throughout World War II the Royal Navy lost 254 major warships due to enemy action in addition to 1,035 minor war vessels and auxiliaries. However this needs to be put into perspective as from 1939 to the end of April 1942 (when Japan largely attained her planned perimeter of conquest) the Royal Navy had lost five capital ships equal to a third of its original strength; from then on to the end of the war no more were lost. For fleet aircraft carriers the figures were four lost by the end of April 1942, but only one for the rest of the war; in cruisers sixteen and twelve; destroyer's seventy-eight and fifty-five and submarines forty-four and thirty. Only in corvettes, the new type of escort vessel coming into service from mid-1940 onwards, and fleet minesweepers were the Royal Navy's losses heavier from the beginning of May 1942 until August 1945 than from the outbreak of war to the end of April 1942. In the spring of 1942 the great battles of the British Army and the Royal Air Force had still to come but the Royal Navy in contrast had been engaged at full stretch in continuous operations since day one of the war and therefore for the want of an air force properly designed, trained and equipped for maritime operations the Navy's ships were

sacrificed in unequal air battles against enemy air power in the Far East as well as the Mediterranean. The Royal Navy's War up to the spring of 1942 therefore consisted of coping valiantly and unceasingly in all weathers with every task and challenge, often more than one at a time.

From spring 1942 the storm gradually abated and with one exception the Navy's ships would not be required to engage the enemy so closely, continuously and widely against such odds. Once America had become an ally there was no longer the same urgency to hazard British forces on opportunist strikes; instead time could be taken to forge a long-term Anglo-American grand strategy and prepare in adequate strength joint offensive operations in pursuance of that strategy. Above all the American flag flying alongside the White Ensign would slowly but surely lift from the Admiralty the near breaking strain of 1939-41 when a One-Power Standard Navy had to cope alone with a triple threat. After the December 1941 Washington Conference the Royal Navy's responsibilities were limited to the eastern half of the north and south Atlantic, the Arctic convoy routes to Russia, the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean. The western half of the Atlantic and the entire Pacific and Far East became the responsibility of the United States Navy. Eventually American warships would become available to fill the Royal Navy's line of battle in European waters and participate in future Allied landings in the course of the conflict with Germany and Italy.

War is fuelled by finance and so it was not surprising that following the outbreak of war in 1939 local saving committees were established to encourage people to curb personal expenditure and invest surplus cash in the National War Savings Scheme to assist in the cost of the war. By 1941 the budgetary and inflationary gaps could not be closed by taxation alone and the Chancellor was still relying quite heavily on voluntary savings. Savings would act as a buffer between the national financial need and the infinite variety of personal commitments and circumstances. By the time of the 1941 budget new personal savings of £200 to £300 millions were required and opinions differed regarding encouraging new savings on this scale in the face of steep and increasing taxation. The National Savings Movement's powers of organization and propaganda would be severely tested.

To focus public attention and engender a feeling of direct participation by local communities in the war drive, the government sponsored the War Savings Movement, identified specific areas of activity and requested local authorities to designate one particular week in each year, usually in springtime a 'War Savings Week'. Thus, throughout the duration of the war nationally led, regionally coordinated and locally organized campaigns such as 'War Weapons Week', 'Wings For Victory', 'Salute The Soldier' and 'Warship Week', enabled the public to respond to the challenge to meet financial targets set by local committees and based upon the presumed economic capability of each local community.

Countering losses and providing future vessels meant that a huge shipbuilding programme had to be organized. Ships however were expensive to build and to reduce the money borrowed from other countries the government appealed to the British people for help. The response was magnificent as £545.5 million was raised between the months of October 1941 and March 1942 (England and Wales) and April, May 1942 (Scotland): England and Wales providing £478m. In Cornwall alone £8 per adult head of population (worth approximately £200 today) was raised. There were 1,178 'Warship Weeks' during the campaign involving a total of 1,273 districts organised by the National War Savings

Committee and fully supported by the Admiralty. Each district was set its own target appropriate to the size and affluence of its population. A small village therefore needed to sponsor a motor launch, whilst many towns found sufficient money for cruisers or large destroyers, whereas a city could expect to reach the amount required for a battleship or an aircraft carrier. Where targets were exceeded, some areas were allocated additional ships. 'The Ministry of Information booklet *'What Britain has Done 1939-45'* quotes the total figures as 5 battleships, 4 carriers, 45 cruisers, 300 destroyers, 33 submarines, 160 corvettes, 267 minesweepers, 124 MTBs and 117 depot ships providing a total of 1055 vessels.

The Warship Week fund raising effort was based on the fact that different types of vessel were each allocated a value and this was set as the 'target'. The area war savings committee could then select a vessel type with a monetary figure to aim to raise, their decision could always be assisted by looking at previous years fund raising efforts so as not to be over optimistic.

If the fundraisers were exceeding their target say for the hull of a ship they could simply upgrade to the whole ship, another vessel type or a second vessel. The type of vessel was linked to the cost, for example the cost of the hull of a destroyer being £450,000, which before applying for was generally agreed with the local savings committee and savings collectors. There were only a limited number of vessels of each type available and the request would pass from the Local Area National Savings Committee to the Regional Committee and then to the Admiralty. When Barrow-in-Furness agreed on a destroyer Mr. Cecil Lewis the Regional Commissioner said that he would make application immediately for one to be allocated, adding that there were not many destroyers left to be allocated so they would have to be quick if they wanted one named for the town. The next stage was to apportion the name of the warship to be adopted by the district; the adoption being dependent on the money being raised. A date was also given for Warship Week in advance so that preparation could be made for what was hoped would be a successful week.

During Warship Week committees were set up to organise the various dances, concerts and fund-raising collections. The main town would be the central point of an area with the out-riding hamlets and villages contributing to the town's collection. A target sum would be decided on and a 'target-board' erected (normally adjusted each day) in order that the local people could monitor the amount of money they had raised. A ship of any size was a complex piece of machinery comprising many semi-independent parts, thus the target amount would be broken down. The main town would perhaps aim to raise enough for a hull, while a large village nearby would collect for the engines etc. Often a town's optimistic officials were confident that instead of just raising the cost of a hull they would raise the full cost of the vessel allocated to them by the admiralty, a daunting task for the locality but often achieved. With Dalton-in-Furness Warship Week half way through the target aimed at (£40,000 for the hull of *HMS Daneman*) was little more than half reached, but the local Savings Committee were confident that the target would be raised; the larger target to complete the ship however was beyond them. The idea in Dalton as in the majority of areas of the country was to set a mark in the hope of exceeding it, the central authorities not unnaturally trying to encourage loftier ambitions. This was probably a radical mistake as not everyone was moved by a competitive sense of local patriotism to subscribe more or at all.

In previous War Weapons Weeks large sums of money had come from commercial

houses and business firms but since that time many firms had had to pay 100 per cent excess profits tax allied to income tax and therefore had not the surplus money available for Warship Weeks. During the Barrow-in-Furnace Warship Week it was stated in 'The News' of 28 March 1942 that Vickers Armstrong had invested the sum of £100,000 but in the final contributions and gifts list this sum does not appear. In some areas there were not the wages being earned as when previous War Weeks had been held and many of the men (wage earners) in the meantime had joined the armed services. Further, in many districts the moneyed people did not exist. The aim therefore was to establish a savings group in every street and the success of these groups meant that enough money could be raised to adopt a vessel. One of the chief objectives of Warship Week was therefore to encourage the small saver (men, women and children) to get into some kind of savings group and having got a start in a special period continue for the duration of the war. This had a dual saving effect for it meant that fewer goods chiefly of the non-essential kind were bought with spare cash.

The campaign of fund-raising ventures allowed a community to sponsor their naval vessel through individual investments in Government Bonds and National Savings Certificates and through the Post Office Savings Bank so that investments were recovered with interest. To give some idea the following figures are taken from the Penmaenmawr Warship Week of 14-21 March 1942 Souvenir Programme. They were attempting to raise a target of at least £25,000 for the hull, their objective being a Motor Torpedo Boat (MTB 223) full cost £70,000.

2½% NATIONAL WAR BONDS..... No LIMIT
3% SAVINGS BONDS..... No LIMIT
3% DEFENCE BONDSMaximum Holding, £1,000
POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS.
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES...Maximum Holding, 500 CERTIFICATES

Savings groups were formed in factories and establishments and mottos such as 'the more you lend the sooner we end' and the 'signal is save' were used to encourage savers. In recognition of the money raised and as further incentive the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty presented the main town with a shield to commemorate Warship Week and for the outlying villages there were illuminated certificates and photographs of 'their' ship. Where possible the Commanding Officer of the adopted vessel would make the presentation. A plaque was also presented to the vessel to commemorate her adoption by the district.

To maintain links with the adopted towns and villages the ships were sometimes named after the places that funded their adoption, the links however were not always obvious. The destroyer *HMS Tanatside* for example was funded by the people of Tregaron, Aberaeron, New Quay, Aberystwyth and Teifside and therefore took the initial letter of each place adding the word side. Faversham adopted the destroyer *HMS Hazard* as the original ship was built in the town to fight against the Spanish Armada. To reinforce the link forged between the ship and the town by 'Warship Week' a number of supplemental activities were undertaken. Local people seeking a forces pen pal were given the opportu-

nity to write to members of the adopted ships crew. Others, seeking to provide comforts for servicemen such as knitted scarves, socks, mittens or reading material, could send such items to the men on 'their' ship rather than to an anonymous distribution centre. In turn, the commanding officer or his delegated representative would keep the townsfolk informed of the activities of vessel and crew through communication with the Council. Whenever possible, officers and men of the ship's company would make personal appearances. Such occasions were invested with the formality of public events in order to draw public attention to the continuing connection between the vessel and the local community and thereby underline their mutual involvement.

Finally a huge expansion from almost 100 Sea Cadet Units in the United Kingdom with more than 10,000 cadets to 400 Units and 50,000 cadets coincided in many towns with Warship Weeks. The formation of the new units or Training Ships (TS) as they were known found it appropriate to name their local units after the towns adopted warship. For example Kettering adopted the Hunt Class Destroyer *HMS Pytchley* named after the local hunt and the local newspaper carried the first notice announcing the formation of the local sea cadet unit. It was thought appropriate to call the sea cadet unit 'TS *Pytchley*' and the name still survives today, as do many others. This gain in the numbers of Cadets gave the navy a larger pool of young men to draw from and the training and skills gained in the Cadets meant a considerable saving in training time for the Admiralty.

© Peter Schofield

We hope this article is of interest and outlines some of the why's and wherefore's of Warship Week. Peter is hoping to use the subject as an MA History dissertation subject and therefore would appreciate any information from written sources or peoples' recollections. Peter lived at 4 Hartley Street, Earby up to the age of 15 when he joined the Royal Navy with no qualifications and worked his way up to be a Chief Engine Room Artificer on Nuclear submarines. Since leaving the Navy he has worked with various companies and now works as a Principal Engineer with BAE Systems Submarines at Barrow. He has also achieved a BA (Hons) History degree and is now studying for his MA. He occasionally visits family both in Barnoldswick and Earby and still recalls people from school and family life.

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-

The News, Saturday 21 February 1942; 'Millom Warship Week'

R. Abel, The Colne and District Co-op, of which Earby Co-op was part, invested £1000 in war bonds as its contribution to Warship Week

Kettering Evening Telegraph 24 April 1942

EARBY'S OWN WARSHIP WEEK

Information regarding Earby's own warship week fund raising can be found in "Earby in War Time" by Peter Dawson and in contemporary articles in the local news papers.

Peter recalls the event : Warship Week was held in 1942. A target of £25,000 was set but this was exceeded in the first day and the target was raised to £50,000. A plaque was awarded by the admiralty to mark the occasion.

Two other plaques were presented to Earby, one for Wings for Victory Week and another for Salute the Soldier Week. Peter Dawson rescued these three plaques from a skip when Earby Urban District Council Offices were being cleared following the abolishment of the Earby UDC in 1974 so they are now in safe keeping. The Society has a photocopy of a certificate awarded to the Rostle Top road area of Earby.

From Peter's book he says there were concerts by military bands, dances, a demonstration by the Earby Home Guard and all manner of entertainments to raise money. From other research going on at present the Colne and District Co-op, of which Earby Co-op was part, invested £1000 in war bonds as its contribution to Warship Week.

The Craven Herald recalls the events:

6th February 1942

EARBY HEADING FOR £50,000 £6033 NEEDED YESTERDAY

At noon yesterday (Thursday) the Earby Warship week indicator was raised to £43,697, the total up to Wednesday evening...3 full days remaining...confident that the target will be exceeded.

Rev W.R.Trevitt, vicar of Kelbrook marked the indicator. Ceremonies today and tomorrow by Miss Birley and Mrs. H.W. Kay.

Included in the weeks investment

Skipton Building Society	£10,000
Martins Bank Ltd	£2,500
Midland Bank Ltd	£2,500
Keighley and Craven Building Society	£1,000
Municipal and Mutual Insurance	£1,000
Colne and District Co-operative Society	£1,000
Earby Conservative Club	£500

Fund raising events included

Whist Drive at Coronation Hall

Baby show at the old grammar school – all competitors (45) received a 6d savings stamp

Coronation Hall was filled to capacity at a “Go as you please” evening with competitions, and entertainment including a conjurer, comedian, ventriloquist pianist and the Asthma Quartet

EARBY DOUBLES WARSHIP WEEK OBJECTIVE ON 1st DAY

Opened at Albion Hall by Commander R.T.Bower, MP for Clevedon Division of Yorkshire.....

Following the amount of £17,000 already in hand with a further £14,000 promised ... Commander Bower set the indicator on Albion Shed at £17,000.

13th February 1942

EARBY’S GRAND TOTAL £71,288

Represents more than £15 per head of the population

Entertainments committee raised £575

The target of £25,000 was doubled on the first day

The money raised funded to building of a Motor Torpedo Boat

Bob Abel

VICTORIA ROAD



**Victoria Road, Earby—what year?
From the Smith Laycock Collection**

FROM THE "LEEDS MERCURY"
JUNE 1817

Thornton in Craven.
TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
BY MR PHILIPPS,

At the House of Mr. Michael Ward, the Black Horse Inn, In Skipton, in the County of York, between the hours of Six and Eight o'clock in the Evening of Thursday, the 3rd Day of July, 1817, either altogether or in the following or such other Lots as may be agreed on at the Time of Sale, and subject to such Conditions as will be then and there produced;

ALL that Valuable and Improvable FREEHOLD ESTATE, situate in the Parish of Thornton, in the County of York, commonly called and known by the Name of Fiddling Clough, and comprising Two excellent Farm Houses, with Fold and Two Barns, with Three Mistals and One Stable therein, now in the Occupation of John Wilkinson, and John Slater; and the following CLOSES, called by the Names, and in the Occupation of the several Persons, and containing the Quantities, be the same more or less, hereinafter mentioned, that is to say,

Names of Fields	Occupiers	Quantity		
		A	R	P
Lowfield Meadow	John Wilkinson	8	0	4
Lowfield Pasture	John Slater	5	1	13
Lower Pasture	Ditto	7	3	4
High Meadow	Ditto	8	2	18
Barnfield Pasture	John Wilkinson	4	3	25
Barnfield Pasture	Ditto	7	3	30
Copy Pasture	Mr. Joseph Cowgill	8	2	34
Ling Close Pasture	Ditto	8	0	39
Kiln Field Pasture	Ditto	5	1	38
Lamb Pasture	John Wilkinson	2	0	24
Bank Pasture	Mr. Joseph Cowgill	4	3	21
		72	0	10

Also, all that other valuable and improvable Freehold Estate, situate in the Parish of Thornton aforesaid, commonly called and known by the Name of Windle Field East, comprising the Messuage or Dwelling- House, Barns, and the several Closes of Land, commonly called by the Names, and in the Occupation of the several Persons, and containing the Quantities, be the same more or less, hereinafter mentioned, that is to say,

Lot 2. The MESSUAGE or Dwelling-House, Garden, Three Barns, with Mistal and Stables therein, now in the Occupation of Mr. Wm. Sunderland, and the following Closes of Land:-

		A	R	P
Large Meadow	Wm. Sunderland	0	38	
Lane Field Pasture	Tillotson	2	1	35
High Meadow	Wm. Sunderland	3	0	
Higher Bank Pasture	Ditto	6	0	0
Lower Bank Pasture	Ditto	7	2	8
Little Sinder Hill Pasture	Ditto	1	1	16
Great Sinder Hill Pasture	Ditto	4	1	36
Langber Bottom Field	Ditto	0	2	31
Wood Head Field	Ditto	2	1	6
Wood	Ditto	1	1	28
Three Acre Field	Ditto	2	0	35
Limed Field Pasture	Ditto	5	1	35
The Two Rough Pastures adjoining the Common, formerly in One	{Ditto } {Mr. Joseph Cowgill}	19	0	29
Bank Flat Pasture	Wm. Sunderland	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>
		64	1	24
Lot 3 comprised:-				
Far Hall Close Pasture	Mr. Joseph Cowgill	7	3	26
Near Hall Close Pasture	Ditto	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>15</u>
		12	3	1

The above Estates are situate in the Centre of a populous Trading District, about 6 Miles from Skipton and the same Distance from Colne. A great Quantity of young Wood in a very thriving Condition is now growing thereon; the whole are well watered and fenced, and the Buildings are in complete Repair; the Estates are intituled to a very valuable and unlimited Right of Common on Thornton Moor, which from their contiguity to the best part of it they enjoy to great advantage. And would be rendered of still greater value should an Inclosure of the Common take place, by the addition of considerable Allotments, which, in all probability, would be of the best part of the Common adjoining the old inclosed Land. There are in the Estates excellent Quarries of Grit Stone for Buildings and Fences, and good Lime may be had at Lothersdale, within about Two Miles, on reasonable Terms. The Land Tax is redeemed.

The respective Occupiers, or Mr. Joseph Cowgill, of Thornton, the Owner, will shew the Premises, and further Particulars may be had of him, or at the Office of Alcock & Hall, Solicitors, Skipton.

AUTUMN FAIR
Saturday October 4th

Don't forget the New Road Community Centre Autumn Fair on Saturday October 4th
(10-00am to 1-00pm).

The Society will be having a stall selling Society publications

A QUESTION ABOUT STOOPS HILL

Despite many people apparently having travelled along the narrow little thoroughfare called Stoops Hill in Earby, it seems the authorities, Pendle Borough Council and Lancashire County Council, don't recognise its existence. Also known locally as Jim Lane, it is now the focus of attention of Earby Parish Council, which is collecting peoples' memories of using this lane, in an attempt to have it formally recorded as a public right of way.

The "Definitive Map" with its accompanying "Definitive Statement" is the legal record of all public rights of way, and the parish council wants the lane entered on these documents.



Evidence to prove that a public right of way exists can come from many sources, from old documents or from long use by the public. Evidence might, for example, be in deeds, or old maps, old photographs and other records. If people have walked along the lane, ridden horses, or even driven a car along the lane, then the parish council would like to hear from them.

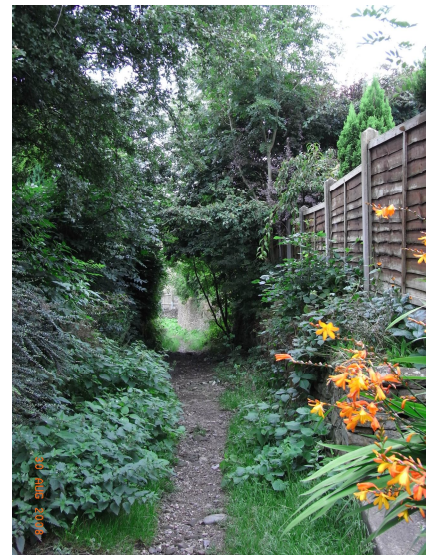
As shown on the plaque on the gable end of the cottage (left) John and Nancy Turner built their cottage in 1831 facing not onto Stoneybank Road, but onto the Stoops Hill. This may suggest it has existed since

then, or earlier. A close look at the Thornton Enclosure Map of 1826, for example, supports that theory, for it shows the field behind the cottages that is now Welbury Close as belonging to a Richard Sagar and the lane is clearly defined. It is possible that Sagar farmed Cowgill Farm (now a private cottage at Water Street) at the northern end of the lane. It is equally possible that the lane was that farm's private exit onto Stoneybank Road, but has become used by the public over the years for sufficient time for it now to be considered a public right of way.

If you have information that might be of use please contact Chris Tennant, Chairman of Earby Parish Council, Victoria Road, Earby, Barnoldswick, BB18 6US 01282 844965.

STOP PRESS

Chris Tennant, chairman of Earby Parish Council, has been researching the background to Stoops Hill and placed his research papers in the Society's archive.



Stoops Hill Today

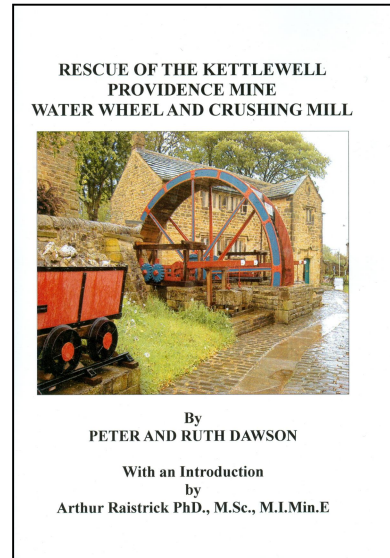
NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Society continues with its policy of presenting research on local history in book form

“Rescue of the Providence Mine Water Wheel and Ore Crusher”

Bob Abel has recently revised and the Society re-published Peter and Ruth Dawson’s original story of the rescue and rebuilding of the waterwheel and ore crushing mill which once served the Providence Lead Mine at Kettlewell. The wheel and crushing mill now stand in the grounds of the Museum of Yorkshire Dales Mining in Earby. The late Dr. Arthur Raistrick, the well known Dales historian, wrote the introduction .

The book is available at the museum or from the Earby and District Local History Society at £3-50 or can be ordered for delivery by post from the Society, 22 Salterforth Road , Earby, Barnoldswick, BB18 6ND, at a cost of £4-00. Proceeds from the sales will be divided between the Museum and the Society



COMING SOON

“The Peoples Shop—Earby Co-op 1875 –2008”

A new book based on the researches of Stephanie Carter and Bob Abel on the Co-operative movement in Earby from its small beginnings, through its Halcyon days to its decline and amalgamation with the Colne Co-operative to its present state as part on the modern Co-operative Society. It is hoped that this publication will be launched at the New Road Community Centre Autumn Fair on Saturday October 4th.

“Remember Them”

Based on the research done for the Society’s contribution to the VE/VJ commemoration event held in 2005, this publication seeks to record the men of the Second World War who gave their lives and are honoured on or local war memorials and in our local cemeteries. Based on contemporary newspaper reports and on interviews with some surviving relatives and friends, a picture of these individuals and how they met there fate has been put together.

CATALOGUING THE HOLGATE COLLECTION

Following the Holgate Exhibition staged by Craven Museum in Skipton in the Summer of 2007 the important task of cataloguing the collection began in earnest. Earby's Welbury Holgate bequeathed all manner of objects and documents to the museum which, in view of its diversity of content, is regarded as one of the most important collections locally. Over 500 posters and notices have been painstakingly recorded, they relate not only to local events and businesses, but also wartime regulations and much more. Some of the items will be on display at the family history event mentioned below. Anna Bowman the Museum's Curator is keen to get the work completed before the scheduled temporary move of artefacts when the Skipton Town Hall and Museum premises are closed for refurbishment. Anna has asked that a request for volunteers to help with the cataloguing is circulated via Chronicles as the deadline for completion gets closer and the work remains somewhat behind schedule.

If you can give a hour or two per week, indeed any hours to suit, do please contact Anna on 01756 706407, or if you want to know more about what's required, then contact the Editor.

And last but not least

EARBY - Who Do You Think You Are?

Family History Searching & Earby's Industrial Past

**Saturday 25th October 2008 at Earby Library from 10.00am to 4.30pm
and its FREE!!**

Find out how to search the internet for family history sources including the invaluable Ancestry.com website, and much more....

The Society is using a theme of the Textile Industry in Earby and we ask that you or a relative or family friend bring your textile memories and memorabilia

A must for all amateur Family & Local Historians

Refreshments available at nearby Earby Museum of Yorkshire Dales Mining

A collaboration between

Lancashire Libraries in Association & Earby & District Local History Society

OBITUARY

Gwen Fisher (1925—2008)



Gwen—centre - with Betty Smith and Doreen Turner in charge of refreshments at a Society Open Day

It is with sadness that we have to report the death of Gwen Fisher on July 15th this year. A member from the earliest days of the Society, she will always be remembered for her enthusiastic contribution to the Society. She was always ready to lend a hand, especially at monthly meetings providing refreshments and supporting our cake and other stalls at many events. A local girl, Gwen was born at Toll Bar Cottage, was baptized at St Mary's Church Thornton in Craven and attended the village school there. After her marriage to Walter, she moved to School Lane, Earby, where she spent the rest of her life. Her funeral took place at All Saints and Skipton crematorium on 21st July. Our thoughts are with her family.

FORTHCOMING PROGRAMME

Tuesday 16th September 2008 Dr. Gerry Fitzpatrick on "History of Rolls Royce"

Tuesday 21st October 2008 Dr Ian Dewhirst MBE on "History from messages on Postcards"

Tuesday 18th November 2008 Dr Alan Crosby on "Family Life in the Industrial Revolution"

Tuesday 16th December 2008—will be our Christmas meeting when we shall be showing more of the film archive of Earby that has recently been turned into DVD format, along with the usual festive refreshments.

**PRODUCED
& printed**

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

DATA PROTECTION ACT

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

THE SOCIETY

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

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

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

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

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

EDITOR

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