

# Earby Chronicles



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**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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## CARNEGIE PLAYING FIELDS – FIELDS IN TRUST

Following on from the article in the Spring 2017 edition of Chronicles, Sough Park has now been officially recognised as a Fields in Trust (FIT) Park with an official ceremony last November when plaques were unveiled.



Above - Bob Abel, Below - Mayoral Party at the Official Ceremony

### Recent features

Page 6 Miracle Cure in Earby, Bob Abel

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Fields in Trust, a UK charity which safeguards local outdoor spaces for sport, play and recreation, is trying to establish a comprehensive list of all parks which benefited at some stage from funds donated by the Carnegie Trust. In the 1930s Earby Urban District Council received monies from the Trust to go towards the cost of play equipment for Sough Park. The grant was given on the understanding that the park would be for recreational uses in perpetuity.

A comprehensive list of all such parks and recreation grounds was not kept but now Fields in Trust have confirmed that Sough Park is one of these protected public green spaces and will be saved from unwanted development into the future. Mayor of Pendle, Councillor David Whalley, unveiled the two Fields in Trust plaques and in his speech acknowledged the research done at the Society in tracing the connection of the park to the Carnegie Trust.

Thanks to Earby Town and Pendle Borough Councils for the efforts they put into this project and the History Society was pleased to have been part of the joint effort. Subsequently Keith Higson and Kieron Roberts (Green Spaces Manager) from Pendle Council attended a Fields in Trust awards evening at Lords Cricket Ground where they were presented with an award certificate for the North's Showcase Centenary Field.

### **AN OLD EARBY DANCE CLUB Members Held a Reunion in 1968**

"Do you remember the Lane Ends Dance Club or, as it was more popularly known "The Old Tab"?" asked readers in an article in the Craven Herald of 15<sup>th</sup> March 1968.

"The club operated with considerable success from 1937 to 1947, when it unaccountably 'faded out', but during those years many associated with it spent many happy hours at The Old Tab. Tonight a reunion is to be held at The Plough Inn, Wigglesworth, when about 80 of the former members and their wives or husbands will be reminiscing about 'The Good Old Days'. It will be a night of nostalgia, but alas some of the members who were prominent will not be present. Invariably the war took its toll and so have the passing years, but Mr F Duxbury, who for some years was secretary, and Mr J Whitehead, whose brain-child the reunion was, are looking forward to a happy time.

Mr Duxbury said that the Club was started about 1937 by Mr Albert Beatty, who now lives at Tyseley Grove. He and his friends used to meet regularly and at that time it was chiefly musicians who went. Mr Sam Warrington, bass player for the highly successful Armageddon Band, Mr A Duxbury and Mr Whitehead were just a few of the early regulars.

The Club really came into its own when Mr Leslie Beatty of Victoria Road took over and began teaching dancing in the then modern ballroom style of Victor Sylvester. It became very popular with a membership in the region of 150 or 160. It was the only club to have a dance on a Sunday night for miles around. It was in effect a small night club but without drink. Indeed that was one of the features of the club. Drink was absolutely barred. The police used to call in every Sunday night and had there been the slightest excuse to close the club down, they would have taken it.

Mr Duxbury became secretary towards the end of 1939 when Mr Leslie Beatty left, and continued to hold that office until he was called up in 1944. It was during this period

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that the club had its highest membership. Mr Duxbury handed over to Messrs. E Spencer and C Smith who ran the club until it 'faded away' in 1947 due to people having been called up and new found interests which followed demobilisation.

All the decorations of the club were carried out by club members and Mr Duxbury recalled that they had subdued lighting and that a centre piece of the décor had been brought back from the Gold Coast by one of the members who was in the Forces... Mr Duxbury and Mr Whitehead were confident that the 80 members would enjoy the reunion, although there was no hope of The Old Tab being revived."

**Peter Dawson recalls that there are two stone built buildings next to Earby Autos which at some stage have been linked together. Looking from the road, the building on the right was a stable, and the upstairs of the building on the left was The Tab. It was a young people's music venue run by the Beatty brothers, Albert, Leslie and Eugene. Peter remembers being taken up there when a youngster by an older cousin and there being a gramophone there.**



### **EARBY & DISTRICT 50 YEARS AGO – 1968**

Gleaned from Craven Herald by Chronicles' Editor

#### **JANUARY**

- A new initiative was instigated by Dr Arthur Morrison to revive the old community and family spirit via the village Cricket Club, in Thornton-in-Craven. Every man in the vil-

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lage was invited to supper at the Manor House Hotel. A photograph in the Craven Herald showing at least 60 of Thornton's male residents was testament to the success of the occasion.

- It was reported that Earby Light Engineers Ltd. was expanding.
- EUDC expressed doubts as to the safety aspect of the proposed automatic continental type barriers proposed to be installed at the two railway level crossings.
- Mr & Mrs R S Shaw of Earby celebrated their Golden Wedding. Mr Shaw was a man devoted to public life, playing an active part in the Council, Church, Conservatism, Education, Skipton Bench of Magistrates, Earby Social and Festival Committee and numerous charitable organisations.
- Earby Youth Club suffered a blow when the "economy axe" fell on classes.
- There was general uneasiness in Earby, as workers at Spring Mill had been given a week's notice.
- A former Earby man, Mr Lewis Wright, Chairman of the Trades Union Congress, was created a life Baron. His title would be Baron Wright of Ashton-under-Lyne.

### FEBRUARY

- The Civic Ball hosted by Chairman Councillor C Pickles was held at the Manor House Hotel. Dancing was to Keith Newton and his band.
- Spring Mill was to close down in the near future. All 70 workers would be made redundant. Some of these would be given employment at Booth and Speak's other mill in the town – Albion Mill.
- The British Legion members held their annual dinner at the Devonshire in Skipton.
- Earby Section of the West Riding Constabulary held their annual dinner at the Manor House Hotel. Inspector D Hardy was in charge of the Earby Section.

### MARCH

- It was announced that Earby Light Engineering Co. Ltd. was to merge with Turner Manufacturing Co. at Wolverhampton. The Company was started 14 years ago down the Old Lane in Earby and current managing director Mr K Robinson was one of the founder members. About 4 years ago the Company moved its headquarters and main works to Dotcliffe Mill in Kelbrook. There are 250 employees and Mr Robinson said that as a result of the merger the Company had a sound future and the business would develop and expand.
- An application by Alfred Carter & Sons to develop 4 acres for timber storage on land opposite their existing premises on Colne Road was deferred by the Council.
- Mr Welbury Holgate, who had spent many years creating a garden at the bottom of Stoneybank Road, making improvements to the stream, banks, area surrounding the bus station, also areas at Kelbrook and at Armoride, had received an illuminated testimonial from the Council. He returned this to EUDC as a protest against what he considered to be the Council's neglect of the gardens he had created.

## NEW ROAD SCHOOL PHOTO 1946/47

The names of the girls on the photo (over) are:

Back L-R Jean Teal, Barbara Smith, Hazel Whitehead, Jean Kendal, Katherine Cundal, Marlene Nuttall

Middle L-R Edna Wells, ? Lee, Vanessa Hodgson, Barbara Duxbury, Judith Dingley, Shirley Bethel

Front L-R Rita Holt, Maureen Winder, Joan Smith, June Stubbs, Eunice Plews



New Road School 1946/47

## EARBY CIVIC BALL 1967/68

Photo below courtesy of Barbara Peel nee Pickles. How many can be named?



## Appeal to all Members

If you have any photographs, stories, anecdotes, articles of historical interest regarding Earby, Thornton, Kelbrook or Salterforth, please contact the Editor of the Chronicles—details on front page. Do get in touch!

## MIRACLE CURE IN EARBY A RESCUE FROM DEATH – EVANGELIST TELLS ASTONISHING STORY

Bob Abel



In October 1899 a newspaper article appeared in numerous newspapers throughout the UK relating the experiences of the Rev. Henry Powers.

According to the article, Henry Powers was an evangelical preacher who was born in Hull in 1854. This is confirmed by the 1891 census for Sculcoates, Hull, in which Henry Powers is described as a Methodist Evangelical Preacher .

In the 1881 census for Hull he describes himself as a General in the Christian Mission Army. It sounds as though he might have been a member of the recently formed Salvation Army (1878). His wife was Mary who was born in Clayton le Moors, Lancashire.

The report tells that it was not until 1879 that he commenced his “special life’s work”. “Cumberland was his first sphere and there he was successful in evangelising the masses.” He often preached to audiences numbering thousands in the poorest parts of the county.

By the late 1890s Powers had moved to live in Earby, living at 17 Colne Road. The 1901 census records his family living there but Henry was away, probably on a preaching tour. The addresses of Powers were reported as “full of pathos and at times lightened by genuine humour” sometimes “rendering solos accompanying himself on the melodian” .

### A RESCUE FROM DEATH

Powers recalled “In my time I have had four severe attacks of influenza, the illness usually seizing me about the month of April. I fell victim in 1889 when preaching in Ireland and was on the very point of death.” He relates that “as the influenza wore off I was left weak and the after effects were severe. Having tried many remedies I happened on Dr Williams’ Pink Pills for Pale People and on trying it the after effects entirely left me.”

He also alleged that “My last attack was in March this year (1899) in the midst of my work in the Baptist Church at Earby. I had to be brought out of my bed each night to the pulpit and after the service go back to bed again”. Dr Williams’ Pink Pills again came to his rescue.

The article gives instances where Powers’ recommendations to other people had led to miraculous cures, including a woman suffering pains in her leg which “made her think that she would have to undergo an operation if not complete amputation”. After many failed attempts at a cure, “before she had got through three boxes (of pink pills) all pain in her limb was gone”.



Today we often scoff at the claims of advertisers but in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century producers of quack, cure-all, medicines got away with murder, probably quite literally. There was no Advertising Standards Commission in those days and as in the case of the Henry Powers' article, adverts were dressed up as news items where fact and fiction intermingled.

Originally produced by a Canadian physician, Dr William Jackson, in 1866, the patent for the pink pills was bought by George Taylor Fulford just after the influenza epidemic of 1891/2. His marketing skills led to the pills being sold all over the world.

Quackery was suspected at the time and one analysis showed that the pill was merely Barbados aloe coated with sugar and coloured with carmine. Dr Williams' Pink Pills were marketed in the UK, albeit with altered ingredients, until the 1970s.

## **ALLOTMENTS**

### **World War One's Gardening Legacy**

Bob Abel

One hundred years ago the world was in turmoil in the Great War. As the war dragged on Great Britain was almost on its knees and the danger of starvation was becoming apparent. Germany also suffered the same privations perhaps even worse. In the early 20th century Great Britain was dependent for a good proportion of its food from overseas, particularly Canada and the USA.

The First World War (1914-18) gave the allotment movement a great boost as the country needed to become more productive in home grown food. There was little or no provision in Earby for allotments. As early as August 1914 the Earby Cottage Gardeners Association was pressing the Council to provide land for allotments and the Surveyor was charged with the task of identifying suitable land.

The Defence of the Realm Act (DORA) was passed in the United Kingdom on 8th August 1914, four days after we entered World War I. It gave the government wide-ranging powers during the war period such as the power to requisition buildings or land needed for the war effort. In the early months of the war there was panic buying and hoarding of food leading to food shortages and escalating prices. However, after the initial scare things settled back to normal and the crisis abated.

The search for suitable land in Earby for food production was accelerated. By mid January 1916 negotiations with Mrs Mary Hartley and others for land called Rostle Pasture were nearing completion and in early February land at School Lane had been leased. There was less success at Sough and Kelbrook, where the owner of a plot of land was willing to cooperate but the tenant declined.

By 1917 a change in tactics by the Germans introduced unrestricted submarine warfare and merchant ships crossing the Atlantic from the USA and Canada were sunk with sufficient frequency to result in food stocks falling.

Restrictions under the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA) and a voluntary code of rationing failed and eventually official food rationing had to be introduced in 1918. Under the Food Control Committee (Local Distribution) Order (1917) the Ministry of Food asked local authorities to appoint Food Control Committees. These committees had wide discretion as to the type of rationing scheme to be adopted and the foods to be controlled included milk,

bread, flour, butter, cheese, fish, potatoes and rabbits. Under DORA, suitable land that was not being used for food production could be taken over to grow crops on.

Home grown food was high on the agenda late 1916 and the Earby UDC surveyor attended a conference on this subject. The main outcome from this conference was that each district council should, wherever practicable, provide sufficient allotments and bring them into cultivation immediately. Also the West Riding County Council (WRCC) agreed to supply seed potatoes for the benefit of allotment holders.

Much of the organisation was delegated to local authorities such as Earby Urban District Council (EUDC). Even as early as November 1916 the EUDC were discussing the conversion of spare land at their sewage works in Earby for allotments and drawing up regulations for its use. By March 1917 there still hadn't been any applications for the allotments so Earby UDC decided to go ahead and cultivate the land itself. That season the sewage works land produced a modest crop of 57cwt of potatoes. It was decided for the following year to set aside 1¼ acres for potatoes and to use a small filtration bed to grow cabbages, turnips and the usual rhubarb.

In December 1916 a Ministry of Food was created to regulate the supply and consumption of food and to encourage food production. Under its remit local councils were asked to provide land for allotments and on the 19<sup>th</sup> December Earby UDC resolved to "... advertise inviting applications for land to be cultivated ... and to make the necessary arrangements to secure the land required..." By January 1917 there had been 80 applicants and the trustees of the late S Dugdale had been approached relative to the utilisation of a portion of the recreation ground for cultivation. Rostle Pasture allotments were to be rented at a third of an old penny a square yard per annum, School Lane ½ d per square yard, and Red Lion allotments ½ d a square yard.

The Council was doing its best to help would-be gardeners as much as possible. Arrangements were made with Leeds University for them to provide a lecturer to give a talk on allotment gardening and they purchased a potato spraying apparatus to be let out to growers. They also agreed to let out the council's own plough at 1/- per day to local farmers who wanted to try and grow vegetables. In March 1917 it was agreed to seek consent to plough up the whole of the recreation ground and if they couldn't let it for allotments they would cultivate the ground themselves.

In May the EUDC was discussing the government's Local Authorities (Food Control) Order which imposed upon local councils the powers of enforcing any orders issued by the Food Controller. Mr JE Aldersley and Winifred Hartley were appointed officers with the UDC to prosecute any offence and Councillors Wilkinson, Driver and Matthews were appointed as a committee to deal with any matters relating to the order. Many of the regulations were concerned with regulating prices.

Much thought was going into what to do with all this extra fruit and vegetables produced on the new allotments, particularly the preserving of food for future use. The new growers would in the main have no knowledge or experience in food preserving. A meeting of 16 local authorities was called in Keighley to discuss the supply of sugar for making jam and bottles for preserving fruit and vegetables. The government had a scheme for controlling supplies of preserving sugar and had extended the time for applications for sugar. The local authorities were advised to get their applications in as soon as possible to be able to supply bona fide growers in their area. The supply of sufficient preserving bottles was also



high on the agenda. It was decided that it would be cost effective to purchase the bottles by the truck load of 400 x 2lb size bottles and that smaller authorities might consider joining forces to bulk buy.

The government Food Production Department had a travelling demonstration of fruit and vegetable bottling and it was decided to invite them to visit the neighbourhood and that by attending these demonstrations cookery teachers and other interested persons would be able to give tutorials in each of the smaller places. Earby UDC resolved to purchase a supply of kilner jars for sale to the local allotment holders and put an advert in the Earby Herald explaining this. They also resolved to invite the cookery teacher at Alder Hill School to attend the area demonstration and then teach the local growers. By July 1917 the council was able to report that 100 doz kilner jars had been purchased and that a date for Mrs Laird to give a fruit bottling demonstration at the New Road School had been fixed.

The Food Order committee were kept busy and they reported on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1917 that they had made 63 inspections and found 16 cases of infringement, warnings being given. The Council resolved that future cases of profiteering would be dealt with by prosecution. In August they reported that "There seems to be a general observance of the orders but that prices are no doubt exceeded in some cases owing to the changes made from time to time and shop keepers not making themselves acquainted therewith".

By August 1917 the leases for the School Lane allotment land from Vernon Bailey And Richard Wilkinson were sealed. The council itself was still contributing to the local food production. They were selling the potato crop grown at the sewage works and a tender from Thomas Taylor was accepted for the purchase of swede turnips grown there for 25/- per ton.

Even the school children were doing their bit. It was reported that the plot of land on the recreation ground let to New Road School for cultivation had realised a profit of £3-10s -4d. As the year changed more land for cultivation was being sought. It was decided to use the recreation ground again and the lease for land at Rostle Top was agreed with Mrs Hartley and others and it was reported that tenants were about to take possession of their allotments. In March 1918 it was reported that there were several applicants for allotments but no land available. Consequently Messrs CW Bailey at Spring Mill were approached to see if they would let land to these applicants.

In February 1917 a voluntary scheme of rationing was being encouraged but by 1918 the country's diminishing supply of food was causing the Government concern and compulsory food rationing had to be introduced. As a means of combating hunger the Government set up the scheme of National Kitchens where local volunteers could provide substantial subsidised meals partly funded by central Government. The first one opened in London on 21st May 1917.

As a testimony to the local success in food production, when the council was asked by the Government to determine whether a National Food Kitchen was required in the area the local food control committee reported that "we do not think that this is required at the present owing to the amount of foodstuff in the district and the prospects do not appear to become worse". The search for more land for cultivation continued throughout 1918. Negotiation for more ground at School Lane allotments failed initially, but by the end of the year a deal was completed and allotment tenants were already waiting. In October the glebe lands belonging to Thornton Church were offered for the Council to purchase but they were thought to be unsuitable. In mid-October 1918 School Farm in Earby was to be sold by auc-

tion but the council was outbid on the plots it wanted.

In mid 1918 there were four applications for permission to keep pigs. At the end of the year the crop yield from the sewage works land was reported which included Turnips 1t 8cwt, Potatoes 8t 2cwt and rhubarb to the value of £15. It was noted that the rhubarb, potatoes and hay had been successful but the oat crop which appeared full of promise was utterly ruined with the wet Autumn. It was recommended that for 1919 a larger area of potatoes be set down and the area for oats be set with turnips and mangolds. It was also recommended that a rhubarb forcing shed be built to enable them to get to market early. The recreation ground crop was not so successful due to a dry summer and very wet autumn. In fact much of the crop (potatoes) had disappeared due to water logging. In fact it was decided not to grow potatoes again but to bring the ground back in to recreational use.

In the immediate aftermath of the war, it would have taken a while for food supply to return to normal and some foodstuffs remained rationed until 1920.

History repeats itself and many lessons were learned during World War I. We tend to remember the food restrictions of World War II, rationing, the Dig for Victory campaign and government drives to conserve food stocks, much of this brought on, as in the first war by German submarine action.

The legacy of World War I allotment gardening is still with us today as evidenced by the allotments we still have at Rostle Top Road, School Lane and Bailey Street and In recent times the Earby Town Council has established allotments on Cemetery Road - the Sam Lawson Allotments.

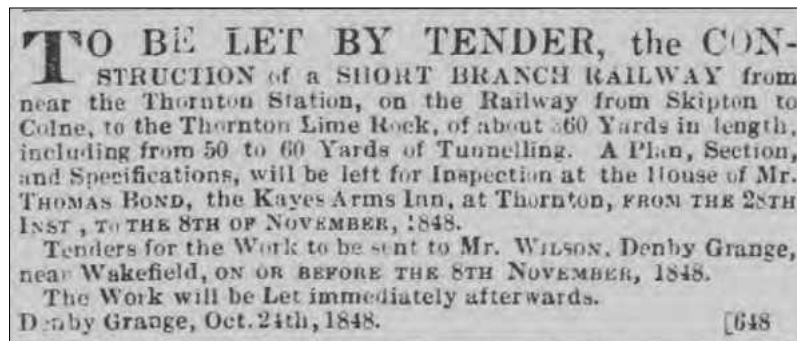
**Note – much of the information for this article was gleaned from Earby Urban District Council Minute books in the possession of the Earby and District Local History Society**

## THORNTON ROCK QUARRY

Stephanie Carter

The article by Bob Abel and Peter Dawson on “Drought in Earby” (Chronicles Winter 2017) in which pumping water from Thornton Rock Quarry was described, has led me to look further into the history of the quarry. It is not as yet known exactly when the quarry either opened or closed. Snippets of information found to date can be seen below:

Narrow gauge tracks carried stone within the quarry but a siding from the Colne to Skipton branch railway entered the south end of the workings via a tunnel. There was a bridge on the Old Skipton Road over which the siding passed. The following advert is from the Leeds Intelligencer 1848:



**T**O BE LET BY TENDER, the CONSTRUCTION of a SHORT BRANCH RAILWAY from near the Thornton Station, on the Railway from Skipton to Colne, to the Thornton Lime Rock, of about 360 Yards in length, including from 50 to 60 Yards of Tunnelling. A Plan, Section, and Specifications, will be left for Inspection at the House of Mr. THOMAS BOND, the Kayes Arms Inn, at Thornton, FROM THE 28TH INST, TO THE 8TH OF NOVEMBER, 1848.  
Tenders for the Work to be sent to Mr. WILSON, Denby Grange, near Wakefield, ON OR BEFORE THE 8TH NOVEMBER, 1848.  
The Work will be Let immediately afterwards.  
Denby Grange, Oct. 24th, 1848. [648

The limestone was quarried and used for road building, with the quarry owned in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the Bond family of Thornton-in-Craven. Robert Bond, limestone merchant, died in January 1884. Below see Bradford newspaper reports from 1866 and the Burley Local Board and 1875 and the Eccleshill (Bradford) Local Board:

as a loan from Dr. P. Smith. A letter was next read from Mr. Allport, manager of the Midland Railway, offering to carry 500 tons of limestone from Thornton in Craven to Burley, free of charge, to be used on Moor Lane leading to the Burley Station.

**ECCLESHILL LOCAL BOARD.**—On Tuesday, at a meeting of Eccleshill Local Board, Mr. Denison, being one of the sub-committee which had been appointed to visit the limehouse quarries in the Skipton district, gave a report of their visit, and said that the sub-committee recommended the Board to accept the tender of Mr. Robert Bond, of Thornton Quarry, near Skipton, for the supply of 1,000 tons of limestone. The board instructed the clerk to inform Mr. Bond that the Board had accepted his tender.—The tender sent in by Mr. Thomas Crowther, general carrier, of Greengates, for the leading of the above limestone from Bradford and Apperley Bridge was accepted.—

In 1881 the cost of supplying the limestone from Thornton to Burley- in -Wharfedale is reported in this snippet:

**TENDERS FOR SUPPLYING LIMESTONE.**—Tenders for supplying the Board with 700 tons of limestone were laid before the meeting, and after examination the Chairman proposed that the tender of the executors of the late Robert Bond, Thornton Limestone Works, Thornton-in-Craven, Skipton, be accepted, it being at the rate of 4s. 10d. per ton of 22 cwt.—Mr. Willis seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.—The Surveyor intimated that he had forwarded copies of the conditions under which the contract must be filled to all the contractors. By those conditions it was stipulated that in default of the contract terms not being complied with, a sum of money, to be named on the signing of the contract, would be forfeited by the contractor.—After some desultory conversation, the Board decided that the sum should be £10.

In the 1871 census Robert Bond, limestone merchant, was living at Thornton House. At nearby Rock Cottage lived Joseph Nightingale who was a clerk at the limestone works. The 1881 and 1891 census returns show Joseph Nightingale living at Elm Tree House and his occupation was limestone agent, and in 1881 also farmer of 600 acres. He is still listed in 1901 as a limestone agent.

Later owners of Thornton Rock were P W Spencer of Lothersdale, who also operated numerous local quarries including Giggleswick, Swindon, Halton East etc. Peter William Spencer had opened the Giggleswick quarries in the 1850s and it was his son William Spencer who was responsible for the firm acquiring quarries at Swindon on the opening of the Skipton to Grassington railway in 1904 and at Thornton-in-Craven, in the latter case from Messrs. Tenant & Nightingale. The Thornton quarry was worked from 1897 to 1940 (approx.). It had then become exhausted and was relinquished when the Thornton estate changed hands.

In 1940 the following incident took place in the disused quarry, the bottom of which had been flooded:

### **Thornton Rock Mishap – Fall from Quarry Face**

Three secondary school girls had an alarming adventure in a disused quarry at Thornton Rock, Thornton-in-Craven on Friday afternoon, which might have ended tragically but for the presence of mind and heroism displayed. The girls were cycling from Sutton-in-Craven to Barnoldswick and halted at Thornton Rock for a picnic lunch. After the meal they decided to attempt to climb the face of the quarry, and set off, led by Miss Barbara Simpson, aged 14, of Gisburn Rd. Barnoldswick. Followed by the other two girls Miss Simpson climbed about sixty feet. At this stage of the climb she missed her footing and fell. As she fell she struck a piece of rock projecting from the face of the quarry and this flung her on to a hawthorn bush growing from the quarry face. From the bush she fell unconscious into a deep pool of water which covers the greater part of the quarry bed. Miss Simpson was in grave danger of being drowned and her friends Miss Bessie Lister aged 13 and Miss Peggy Addy aged 13 hurriedly climbed down in order to get to the rescue. Miss Lister showed great courage and stripping off her dress and diving into the water. In spite of the fact that she possessed only an elementary knowledge of life saving, she succeeded in finding the unconscious girl and brought her to the bank where she and Miss Addy immediately applied artificial respiration.

The injured girl's father, a well-known Barnoldswick tradesman, had meanwhile been informed of the accident by telephone and arrived by car to convey his daughter home. She was later treated for severe bruises to the head and arms and shock by Dr Glen and the other girls were treated for shock.

Later in the year Bessie Lister Foster of Hillcrest Sutton was presented with the Royal Humane Life Saving Certificate by the Chairman of Skipton Police Court. In the next issue I will re-produce accounts of various accidents in the quarry as reported in newspapers from 1866 to 1918. I would also like to hear from anyone who has any further information on the limestone quarry at Thornton-in-Craven.

**Some further accidents which happened at Thornton Rock will be described in the next issue.**

**For postscript see over**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THORNTON ROCK QUARRY SUPPLIED BY KEN RANSON USING MATERIAL FROM DAVID JOHNSON'S BOOK "LIMESTONE INDUSTRIES OF THE YORKSHIRE DALES"**

Started as a series of small independent quarries, each with a lime kiln, the largest being Fence Delf Quarry which grew to industrial proportions with the coming of the Midland railway from Skipton to Burnley in 1848.

Soon after, a 140 metre railway tunnel was driven through the southern edge of Fence Hill directly into the quarry.

Over time, the entire core of the hill was quarried away.

In 1881 it was operated by Robert Bond until 1896 when it was in the hands of Tenant & Nightingale, employing 33 men.

In 1897 it was taken over by P W Spencer. After which the number employed fluctuated markedly.



Engine used in Thornton quarry

Spencers closed the quarry down in 1916 because the high quality 'blue' limestone had given way to shales.

The quarry was then run by W Pollard of Nelson until it finally closed in 1922, by which time the labour force had reduced from 24 down to just 4.

**SALTERFORTH – SMALL VILLAGE BIG PROBLEMS IN THE 1950s**

**VARIOUS CORRESPONDENCE FROM S CARRADICE OF SALTERFORTH PARISH COUNCIL, Courtesy of Ken Ranson**

To: The Inspector of Police, Police station, EARBY. Oct 4<sup>th</sup> 52

The Council are very anxious that some actions should be taken next time the Gypsies or horse traders decide to camp in Salterforth. They have already had their horses grazing on the Kelbrook New Road, the village playing fields and numerous other footpaths. On

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dark nights where the road is unlighted(sic) anyone could walk into a horse or trip over a rope by which it is tethered. They have camped in the quarry up Moor Lane, and on the canal bank, by Redman's bakehouse, and apart from the danger of the horses, particularly to the children, the villagers do not like the Gypsies to be in the vicinity.

The Council would be very appreciative if some police action could be taken up immediately the Gypsies return.

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To: James Slater Ltd. April 4<sup>th</sup> 52

The Council have received complaints from pedestrians unable to get down the footpath by Jinny Well due to the tipping of cinders across the track, and would be obliged if you would take steps to rectify the matter.

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To: The General Secretary  
The National Playing Fields Association, 71 Eccleston Square, London SW1. September 7<sup>th</sup> 52

During the dinner hour of the cotton mill in this village many of the work people are in the habit of going each day onto the playing fields and having a game of football. Complaints have been received from parishioners that particularly during school holidays the weavers have sent the children off the field in order to play themselves.

The Council have a board up over the swings on the playing fields requesting that they should be used by children under 14 only but in spite of this they have been damaged by adults using them.

The Council would be grateful for your advice on how to deal with the problem or for more information about any ruling there might be on this matter.

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To: T.Yeadon, Engineer and Surveyor, Granville Street, Skipton. October 4<sup>th</sup> 52.

A shop has re-opened in the village belonging to Jim Bellamy, Main Street. The shop is set at right angles to Salterforth-Earby road at a blind corner which is extremely dangerous. The Council would like the Skipton Rural District to consider erecting a barrier across the end of the causeway outside the shop. This would prevent children from running straight out of the shop, which sells ice cream and fruit lollies, onto the road without thinking

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To: T.Yeadon, Engineer and Surveyor, Granville Street, Skipton. October 25<sup>th</sup> 52

Thank you for your letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant in which you wanted the Council's observations on the desirability of closing the Well. The Council wish me to inform you that on no account do they want the Jinny Well closing. It is the property of the village and as such they feel it is their duty to see that it is cleaned out and tidied up generally.

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**Further correspondence in the next issue of the Chronicles.**

## TWO WONDERFUL PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE PAST



A Holiday in Venice in the 1920s with Mr & Mrs Bracewell Hartley of Earby 2nd row from front left (Mr Hartley in plus fours and with pipe)



An unknown Earby wedding group—part of the Cook Collection—see below

### COOK PHOTOGRAPHS

Some years ago the Society purchased a collection of 91 glass negatives which had been found in the loft of a house in Earby. It is thought that they were taken by a professional photographer named Cook who lived in Earby and may have had a studio in Barnoldswick

Thanks to Albert Wood and his high tech scanning equipment the negatives have been digitally enhanced and printed on high quality photographic paper. Albert volunteered

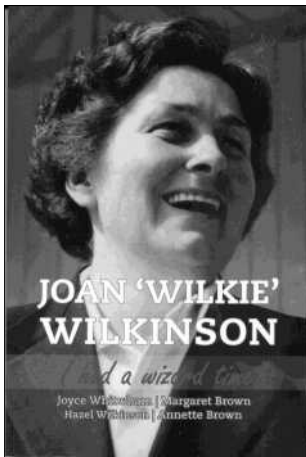
his time, the society paying for toner and printing paper. The images have been indexed and stored in archival quality pouches.

The photographs, which were taken at the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, are mainly of people either individuals or groups e.g. wedding photos and we hope that someone will be able to put names to faces and identify places.

Come and take a look at the pictures on Friday mornings at the archive room in the New Road Community Centre, 10-00am to noon. You never know you might discover a family photograph you haven't seen before.

## **NEW BOOK HONOURS LIFE OF A SPORTING LEGEND** **From Lancashire Mill Worker to pioneer of England Women's International Cricket and WRAF Officer**

Joan 'Wilkie' Wilkinson was a formidable woman. From humble beginnings in the small mill town of Foulridge, she went on to serve her country in the WRAF/WAAF and on the cricket field as part of the England Women's Cricket World Touring Team in 1948/49 and 1957/58. Her amazing life has long been discussed within her family but following a meeting of Joan's sister - Hazel and second cousins – Joyce Whitwham and Margaret Brown, it was decided that it was about time Joan's story was documented and re-told. Not just within the family, but made available to others; to inspire a new generation of sports-women. So after piecing together the family archives with Hazel, and enlisting the help of Margaret's daughter, Annette Brown, Joan's story is finally ready to be shared in a new book.



Having started a budding cricketing career playing on the back streets of Foulridge with her cousins, Joan later joined Burnley Women's Cricket team. Joan quickly developed her skills but once war broke out, all sport was abandoned and she was resigned to working in the mills, a job she particularly hated. She enlisted in the WRAF only to be rejected due to her height, she was devastated but this soon turned to joy when she was called up after her sporting ability was recognised. This was the start of an amazing career in the WRAF rising to the rank of Warrant Officer, and which also gave her the opportunities to play for England Women's Cricket Team in both domestic and international tours. This took place in a time when sporting opportunities of this kind were reserved for the upper classes and male players – a testament to her skill and ability. The world tours were unfunded and so all players were expected to pay their own fares, a difficult feat on Joan's WRAF wage of £3 per week.

The book "Joan 'Wilkie' Wilkinson – I had a Wizard Time" is available now on Amazon.com. EDLHS Secretary Margaret Brown gave a presentation on the life of Joan 'Wilkie' Wilkinson after the Society's AGM. Her contact details are on the front page of the Chronicles.

## **SOCIETY REPORT 2017/18**

It has been a reasonably quiet year for Society activities principally due to lack of man power for the organisation of events.

The Society is still involved with WWI centenary commemorations.in particular with the cen-



tenary of the Battle of Passchendaele. Stephanie Carter, together with Colin Dalby, liaised with Vera Cocker to compile a definitive list with information on the local men who were killed at Passchendaele. Information was published in the Chronicles and they were specially remembered at the Cenotaph in November. Bob Abel was one of those who read out their names at the Remembrance Day service and Steve Marshall laid the Society's wreath. Member, Jean Eccles, and her sister Dorothy MacInnes, whose grandfather Bertie Cowgill was one of the men killed during the battle, were actually present in July at the ceremonies in Ypres, the Menin Gate and Tyne Cot and later wrote a fascinating account of their visit which was also published in the Chronicles.

We were represented at the NRCC Spring Fair where we had a stall selling Society publications. One of the main attractions was the model railway depicting Earby in the early 1950s and it was through contact with the Society that the Pendle Forest Model Railway Society agreed to display their layout. The Society had provided archive pictures of Earby to the modellers to help with their planning.

The Book launch in September was the main event. Stephanie Carter had worked diligently compiling information for her latest book about how Earbyer's spent their holiday and leisure time. We were grateful for support and sponsorship from Cottages.com (formerly Country Holidays) who donated £500 toward the book printing costs. A lot of hard work went into the seaside themed launch of "Wish You Were Here – Earby Holidays of Yesteryear" and thanks again to cottages.com for help with the marketing of the event, for help with the video and for providing a speaker at the launch. A huge thank you to Stephanie in particular for her well researched and written book and to the committee for organising the successful launch event.

The Autumn Fair in October was another opportunity to sell the Society's publications and a successful stall was manned.

There has been plenty of activity in the archives this year. A huge amount of documentation from Salterforth Parish Council came into the archive via Ken Ranson and this has had a preliminary sort through and we are still to start proper cataloguing.

A few years ago a collection of glass negative slides produced by a local photographer in the first couple of decades of the twentieth century was purchased by the Society. Last year Albert Wood offered to scan and print positives of the images which are now in the collection.

A collection of maps from Broughton Estate also came into the archive via Ken Ranson. Trevor Tattersall sorted out what maps were relevant to us and the rest were passed on to an interested party.

The Archive Room continues to be manned on a Friday mornings and we have had several visitors coming to see what we have and get advice. Everyone is very welcome to join us to either look in the archives or to help with cataloguing the new acquisitions, or just join us for a coffee and a chat.

Meetings have been reasonably well attended and I hope everyone has been happy with the selection of talks provided. An effort is being made to try and get more local themes for talks.

## Earby Chronicles

We have recently re-started serving tea and biscuits at the meetings. After we had a lack of volunteers to brew up we have started a self-service method with pre prepared flasks. We could still do with volunteers to help with the washing up.

Thanks are due to Carol and Terry Banks and Mick Jackson for helping with the pre-meeting preparations.

We are just to start on the 2019 programme so if you have any suggestions for topics or speakers please let me know.

Stephanie Carter has continued to edit the Earby Chronicles and we hope you find the articles of interest. But don't forget Chronicles is for members to contribute, be it articles, letters, photographs or snippets of information. Please get in touch with us if you can contribute in any small way.

What of the future? The Society has now been in existence for 23 years and we hope it will continue for many years to come. This will depend on a succession of committee members and helpers. Too many Societies like ours start off full of enthusiasm but as the founders become older we have to start thinking about what happens should those few find themselves not able to continue. We need to plan ahead for these inevitable eventualities and have people prepared and ready for a seamless hand over.

We realise that as a Society we are not the youngest age group so at least if you are willing to volunteer some time to help spread the load you might at some stage decide you might want to take on some of the committee jobs.

Finally we would like to thank those who have helped over the year in whatever capacity and look forward to another successful year.

### PROGRAMME

April 17th Medieval Marriage, Lynda Telford

May 15th Rome in Ripon: What stood above the surviving 7th century crypt? Joyce Hill

June, July, August No meeting

September 18th A History of the Empire Cinema, Bob Abel

**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 3rd  
Tuesday of the  
month at  
7.30 p.m.**

**ANNUAL  
SUBSCRIPTION  
£7.00  
UK £9.00  
Overseas £13.00  
If you receive  
Chronicles by e-  
mail £7 fee appli-  
cable worldwide**

### 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.

**EDITOR**  
Stephanie Carter  
01756 794099