

Earby Chronicles



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www.earbyhistory.co.uk

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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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EARBY'S BILLIARD HALL by Bob Abel



I am not going to discuss the history of the game of billiards here; suffice it to say that billiards became very popular in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

In Earby the Conservative Club was built in 1888 and included an 18ft x 30ft billiard room. They had a team in the Skipton Division Conservative Clubs League.

The Liberal Club (Coronation Hall – now the library building) opened in 1912 and had a billiard room for two tables. By 1913 their team was good enough to be accepted in to the Burnley Billiard Clubs League. (No doubt its predecessor, the Victoria Institute built in 1865 had space for a billiard table).

The Weavers Institute was built in 1908 and contained a billiard room with wooden benches for spectators.

The years prior to WWI were boom years for the game and the

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equipment manufacturers began to diversify into opening their own billiard halls. EJ Riley (Accrington) opened their first billiard hall in 1910 at Ardwick in Manchester.

Another company was Willie Holt of Burnley. Willie Holt was a well-known billiards player of the late 1800s/early 1900s who set up a billiard table manufacturing business in Rosegrove. They too were opening billiard halls around the country, at one point running 46 halls mainly in the north of England.

A planning application was put into Earby Urban District Council in 1913 for the building of a new billiard hall in New Road Earby for W.Holt Ltd. which was subsequently approved on 18th March 1913.

In 1913 a plot of land on New Road had been purchased from the Mill Company Ltd. (Victoria Mill) by Thomas Pearson Parkinson, a licenced victualler running the Leeds and Liverpool Hotel in Brierfield, for £313/19s/6d. He had the Billiard Hall built on this plot of land which previously had been the subject of a planning application to build a cinema. From his obituary, we learn that Parkinson started his working life in Colne as an apprentice iron moulder prior to taking up the licensed trade.

It seems odd that the name on the planning application to build the hall was Willie Holt Ltd. but Parkinson was at some stage a director of Willie Holt (Burnley) Ltd. The Burnley News of 27th September 1913 reported:

BILLIARDS

An audience of about five hundred assembled to see the opening of the new billiard hall in New Road, Earby on Friday night when Mr Willie Holt played J H Skeate, one of the best amateurs in North East Lancashire. Holt conceded 250 in a game of 750 up. Holt made 750 while his opponent's score was 385. Holts biggest breaks were 193,186,101,96 and 69 and Skeate's best performance was only 28. Mr A Taylor, one of the directors, afterwards gave an interesting address on the game and made suggestions as to the carrying on of the billiard hall. The audience were enthusiastic throughout the game and took great delight in Holt's trick shots.



WWI followed in 1914 and no more references to the billiard hall have been found until 1919 in the Burnley News (1st November):

Exhibition Billiards

To inaugurate the taking over of the Central Billiard Hall, New Road, Earby, by the Willie Holt Company, Rosegrove, Burnley, an exhibition game was played between J W Thomas, of Todmorden, and J Dickinson, of Earby, game 500 up. Dickinson received 150 start. Over 400 people assembled and witnessed a very interesting game. At 300 Dickinson was leading by 120. After this Thomas found his form and rattled up a splendid 76 following on with 42 and soon after ran out with a 76 break unfinished. Dickinson's best breaks were 32, 38 and 51. The game ended -Thomas 500 Dickinson 406.

This compounds the mystery. Does this mean that for the duration of the war the Billiard Hall ceased to function as most of the younger men of the town were away fighting and the hall was being re-opened in 1919? Parkinson must have still owned the building as in 1921 he sold it to Willie Holt (Burnley) Ltd. for £1200. Parkinson's signature on the document looks to have been written by a very shaky hand which could be explained by his obituary which said he had been ill for some time leading up to his death. He died two weeks after signing the conveyance.

In 1920 the Burnley News (4th November) reported that the Craven Amateur Billiards Championship Cup was played at the New Road hall. Promoted by Willie Holt (Burnley) Ltd. Between 200 and 300 spectators watched local hero J Dickinson take on and defeat E Ormerod of Barnoldswick. Ernest Kay presented the cup and medals and congratulated Mr Dickinson on being the first winner.

A further championship final took place at Earby in 1922 when G E Aldersley of Earby defeated L H Horsfield of Barnoldswick. A silver cup and gold medal were presented to the winner. The event was again promoted by Holts.

The 1920s must have seen a fall in the popularity of billiards or perhaps Holts had their eye on breaking into the London scene.

In November 1920 Holts had put three of their billiard halls on the market (Burnley, Glossop and Worksop). By 1923, Holts had opened their flagship Holborn Billiard Hall off New Oxford Street in London, its first event being the 1923 Billiards World Championship. Perhaps Holts' focus was now on more prestigious venues for in 1924 the Earby hall was put up for sale and advertised in the February 9th edition of the Burnley News:

*For Sale – Earby Billiard Hall, 12 full size tables ...
all particulars from Willie Holt (Burnley Ltd.)*

There were no takers and in May the company were canvassing Earby UDC about the idea of converting the hall into a public market. There are references in Earby UDC minutes to inspections of "the market grounds in Earby" in the 1920s which suggests that Earby already had a market albeit on open market. Two years later the idea of a market hall was still being floated by Holts.

In September 1926 the following was recorded in the Earby UDC minutes

Public Market

Councillor Berry drew the attention of the council to the contemplated sale of the billiard hall at Earby and suggested that the council might consider the advisability of purchasing the same at a price of approx. £1500 with a view to utilising the building as a public market. After some discussion he moved that a sub-committee be appointed to make full investigation into the proposal and submit a report.

The motion was seconded and put to the vote. There were three for and three against but the chairman's casting vote was against the motion.

Probably in the light of this decision: "correspondence was received from the Burnley Billiard works suggesting that the council could buy the hall and adapt it for a fire station".

Again the council dismissed the suggestion.

The hall continued as a billiards venue. In 1928 the Burnley Express reported on a match at the New Road hall under the auspices of the Burnley Billiard Works. M A Boggin the Amateur Champion of Burnley district played Hopkins the Amateur Champion of Colne and District. There were about 250 people in the audience. Hopkins won and was presented with a silver cup.

In 1929 Holts tried once again to persuade Earby UDC to buy the building but the Council minutes report *no action to be taken*

Billiards was still being played at other venues in the town and it was reported that in 1930 the Conservative Club had bought a new billiard table the previous year and in April 1936 a team from the Billiard Hall was competing in a competition promoted by Earby Victoria Football Club.

However the Billiard Hall closed its doors just after this and finally became an indoor market.

An advert in the Burnley News 30th May 1936 states the following:

OPENING NEW MARKET HALL, NEW ROAD EARBY

On Thursday June 4th 1936

A few stalls to let – rent 6/- for two days

Apply to the caretaker, New Market Hall, New Road, Earby, Yorks.

The market hall idea was short lived as in March 1938 the Barnoldswick and Earby Times reported the reopening of the billiard hall and Peter Dawson remembers the building as both a billiard hall and as the indoor market.

During WWII, the hall was used as a shooting range for the Air Training Corps and there is a suggestion that it housed a NAAFI canteen for soldiers billeted in Earby

In January 1945, A J Carter and Sons wood yard applied for permission to use the billiard hall for the storage of plywood but this plan probably came to nothing as in December 1945, Earby UDC's planning department approved a proposal from A Dodgson and Sons for alterations to be made to the Billiard Hall for conversion into a motor showroom and garage. The following year Dodgson bought the building from Willie Holt and Co. for £2000. The planning permission stipulated that the frontage of the building was not to be altered.

However, Dodgson's project was short lived as he sold the building in 1947 to Johnsons Fabrics of Victoria Mill Earby.

Johnsons owned the building for some 40 years during which time they variously used it for storage, offices, staff canteen and at one time a sewing department was housed there.

Latterly the building has been occupied by Ace Case Ltd. After the destruction by fire of their Empire Cinema premises in 1996 they rented the building from Johnsons finally purchasing it in 1997.

FEEDBACK FROM SALLY TURNER ON THE EARBY BAND CLUB STORY IN EDITION 83

I was interested to see the picture of the Earby Band Club in 1920 in the Earby Chronicles. I have a copy of the photo found in Granville Collyer's belongings. The family story is that Henry Ormerod (Granville's grandfather) played the bass drum in the band and that it was stored in the front room of the house in Red Lion Street where Granville grew up. Henry lived there with his daughter Alice and son-in-law Arthur Collyer and their family. Both Mona Manton and Irene Turner (Granville's sisters) remember the drum being in the front room where they were not allowed to touch it as children. On the band photograph Henry

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looks younger than in a photograph of the family taken in 1916/17, although he has the same drooping moustache in both photographs. I would love to hear if anyone has any further information on Henry's role in the band. Henry is seated behind the drum and is not wearing a uniform.



Above Earby Band c1920 from Chronicles Edition 83 .Below Collyer/Ormerod Family

FURTHER INFORMATION ON EARBY BAND FROM SQUIRE FIRTH

Squire Firth has donated the following photograph of Earby Band in 1885. It was taken outside the Baptist Chapel in Earby. The gentleman in the bowler hat (back right) is Squire Firth who had just arrived in Earby from Bradford. He married Clara Wright. Fred Wright, Clara Wright's brother, is 2nd row centre with euphonium. (see over)

The Band entered many contests down the years. In 1908 and 1909 they took part in competitions at Belle Vue. The Band members were named, one of whom was Ormerod. Could he be a relative to the Henry Ormerod mentioned above? (see over)

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Earby (Yorkshire).
 Conductor—Mr. Squire Firth, Earby.

Soprano, F. Pawson
 Soprano, E. Whitehead
 Solo Cornet, E. Firth
 Solo Cornet, A. Simpson
 Repiano Cornet, J. H. Cowgill
 Repiano Cornet, J. Gill
 2nd Cornet, John Gill
 3rd Cornet, T. Cowgill
 3rd Cornet, J. Waddington
 1st Flugel-horn, H. Rushton
 2nd Flugel-horn, J. Cowgill
 Solo Tenor Horn, J. W. Parker
 1st Tenor Horn, R. Towson
 2nd Tenor Horn, W. Waddington
 Solo Baritone, H. Turner
 2nd Baritone, J. Brophy
 Solo Euphonium, T. Ormerod
 2nd Euphonium, J. W. Kirby
 Solo Trombone, R. Bailey
 2nd Trombone, F. Duxbury
 Bass Trombone, E. Cowgill
 Eb Bass, W. Shaw
 Eb Bass, J. Holgate
 Bb Bass, J. Howarth
 Bbb Bass, J. Cowgill

Earby.
 Conductor—Mr. Squire Firth, Victoria road, Earby.

Soprano, F. Pawson, Albion street
 Solo Cornet, A. Simpson, Smith's building, Barnoldswick
 Solo Cornet, F. Smith, gravel pit road
 Solo Cornet, J. W. Parker, Riley street
 Repiano Cornet, J. Gill, The fold, Fotherdale
 2nd Cornet, J. Gill, King's terrace
 2nd Cornet, H. Turner, Shuttlesworth street
 3rd Cornet, T. Cowgill, North east view
 Solo Flugel-horn, H. Rushton, North east view
 2nd Flugel-horn, J. Waddington, North east view
 3rd Flugel-horn, J. Cook, Red Cross street
 Solo Tenor Horn, B. Townsend, Green street
 1st Tenor Horn, J. T. Margerison, Cowgill street
 2nd Tenor Horn, J. Walsh, Hartley street
 Solo Euphonium, E. Broughton, Cemetery road
 2nd Euphonium, E. Smith, Station road
 Solo Baritone, T. Ormerod, Water street
 2nd Baritone, J. Brophy, Station road
 Solo Trombone, F. Duxbury, Stone bank
 2nd Trombone, R. Bailey, Alder hill street
 Bass Trombone, E. W. Cowgill, North east view
 Eb Bass, W. Shaw, Cowgill street
 Eb Bass, J. Holgate, White Lion street
 Bb Bass, W. Lee, Cowgill street
 Bbb Bass, J. Cowgill, Cemetery road

Above Earby Band 1885. Below left 1908, right 1909

EARBY 50 YEARS AGO – 1967

Information taken by the Editor from the Craven Herald

January

- An Earby family, English born Muriel Erliz and nine children disappeared from their home in Linden Road and are thought to be seeking relatives behind the Iron Curtain in Hungary. Muriel's husband, Hungarian born Guyia had been found dead at an Earby factory in October. His last request had been that his family should visit Budapest. The family were drawing £23 National Assistance and had had a tremendous amount of support from neighbours and friends.
- Later in the month they returned, disillusioned, from Hungary, to find the house had been burgled. Muriel said that she had felt lonely in Earby but couldn't come to terms with life behind the Iron Curtain.
- There were plans to construct a new bus shelter and conveniences near the Station Hotel at a cost of £3,000.
- A brick factory for Earby – Edenhall Concrete Products Ltd. of Penrith had acquired land south of Bristol Tractors car park at Sough. 18 workers would be required for shift work.

February

- The Civic Ball was held at the Manor and described as "the best of all". Councillor J Eastwood and his wife were excellent hosts. The floral decorations were done by the Parks Department. Dancing was to K Newton and his band.
- Earby Council were getting to grips with the old menace of floods. It would cost £13,000 without professional and legal fees for work to be done at Lane Ends with new pipe and culvert, clearing out Wentcliffe Beck near Water St. and diversion of a stream at Kelbrook. It was to be ascertained whether a grant was available and it was decided to obtain preliminary tenders for the work.
- Two new West Craven Youth Clubs – 1) a plush £2,000 conversion of a classroom at New Road Earby complete with luxury coffee bar 2) loft above former stables and accommodation for coaches at The Grange, Thornton, home of Dr & Mrs Morrison – a comfortable four roomed club with billiard table, table tennis, canteen and a minstrel's gallery where eventually a group would play – it was a do-it-yourself outfit.
- Election of Mr C Pickles as chairman of EUDC 1967-68

March

- Mrs Violet Dean of 3 John St. won £2649 on the Lucky National Scoop playing bingo in Nelson.
- A dinner was given by Mr & Mrs J Eastwood at the Manor for Council members and guests.
- George Preston, head of Earby Haulage Co. Ltd., was in final negotiations for purchase of the warehouse and sidings at Earby station. There were plans to treble the size of the warehouse and make a new access to the site.
- Miss Glenys Dawes of Colne Road was chosen as Earby Social & Festival Committee's May Queen. She is employed at Kelbrook Metal Products, Sough Mill.
- Earby's Police Ball was held at the Manor and was highly enjoyable. There was tom-bola and dancing to K Newton and his band.
- Salterforth demand length men as the state of the footpath between the village and Klondyke is overgrown.
- There was great uneasiness in the textile industry. There was a meeting of the Council and a deputation was to be sent from a further meeting in Rochdale to London in a bid to arrest the deterioration. The main threat seemed to be imports from Portugal whose workers operate 3 shifts 7 days a week. Fortunately West Craven now has a diversified industrial structure.

THE WHITE LION – VIRTUAL PUB CRAWL

by Margaret Brown

This is one of the oldest buildings in Earby. While the date stone gives the names of Joshua and Jane Windle and the date of 1681 it is probably when they refurbished the building. The building has of course been altered many times during its long history. The mullioned windows in the front of the building are older than the date stone states. The building at the rear is obviously a mid- 19th century addition and the left side of the building has had some alterations, although it is not known when.



It is not known how long an Inn has stood on this site. It could have been as early as the early Middle Ages, A clue could be in the name. The White Lion is the emblem of the first Yorkist king of England Edward IV born 1442; he reigned from 1461 – 83. He inherited this emblem from his mother Anne de Mortimer. The lion encircled by a golden sun appeared on the great seal of Edward IV. Inns were often named after the current monarch to show loyalty, or otherwise. The inn may date from this time but more research is needed. The White Lion would have been a wayside inn, used by cattle drovers, packhorse, coach and other travellers, as well as a meeting place and drinking hole for local people. The green in front of the pub was used by drovers to rest their cattle overnight. Riley Street was known as “cat gate” which means cattle road. The early road probably ran from Colne across Bawhead above Moor Hall farm to Stoney bank where it dropped down the hill to what is now Water Street and School lane, then up to Thornton to the Manor House, which was built soon after the Norman Conquest, then onto Skipton. The exact route is not known for sure and is currently being researched, but for more information see the web site www.earbyhistory.co.uk for information on the “old guide stoop”.

There are many stories of the characters and goings on, here are a few of them:

The green was the site of Earby’s Feast held in the days before Wake Weeks holidays were taken. It would have been a time when all the local people would attend, there

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would have been stalls, games, and many other types of entertainment. It was held on the Sunday nearest to the 10th July.

Around 1840 there stood on the green a forge and smithy. The blacksmith was a famous wrestler known throughout the north for his displays of strength and wrestling. Coaches would pull up at the Inn disembarking their own champion, throwing out a challenge to the Earby blacksmith to wrestle with him. The bouts drew large crowds and of course money would be bet on the outcome. When as usual the stranger was beaten the locals felt very proud and talked of little else for weeks.

In the late 1800's, when Earby was growing fast with the development of the cotton mills, the green was used to build low quality houses to provide cheap accommodation for the large numbers of mill workers moving into the town. These were demolished in the 1960's and the green was returned. The "feast fair" was moved to "Doffers croft", now the site of the bus station.

The White Lion was the favoured drinking hole of Moses Cudworth, Earby's infamous murderer. He bludgeoned to death his wife Eliza. They lived at No. 5 Melrose St. one of the houses on the Green. They were a poor sickly family given much to drinking and fighting. Eliza was not a good housekeeper and often Moses would return home to find her drunk. He also had a history of heavy drinking. This all came to a head after they had taken in a lodger who Moses felt was making inappropriate advances to his wife. He was kicked out, but without his money the household budget was under much strain and when Moses could not afford more beer one day following a heavy drinking session when they had been thrown out of the White Lion for fighting, he knew that Eliza had money she had saved to buy their youngest daughter some clogs. She was making her way to Hill Top to try to get some from the clogger Thomas (Toddy) Williamson. Moses followed her to try to persuade her to let him have some of the money. Things got out of hand and he hit her over the head with a rock. (For a fuller version of this story see Jim Walker's book on the Earby Murder. A copy is available in the archive room to borrow. It also features in the Society's latest publication "Skeletons in the Cupboard".)

The field behind the pub was also under the ownership of the pub and was called the Topsy (tipping) field as Knurr and Spell was played there. After the village green was built on, the lads used to play cricket in the road near the White Lion. If their ball went in to the Topsy field then the landlord Bill Edmondson, shown on the census of 1871 & 1881, would make a run for them and carry off all their tackle. Because of this the lads called him "owd grab all".

There once was an illegal boxing match in the 1930's, held in the top room. The boxers were Jacky Waterworth and Sammy Cragg. Seemingly the photo of one of the boxers was displayed for many years. The full version of this tale can be found www.oneguyfrombarlick.co.uk web site written by Stanley Graham.

You may have noticed a brass plaque on the wall to the right of the bar area. The Licensed Victualler's Defence League (LVDL) were a lobby group formed in 1872 who campaigned on behalf of provincial (outside London) publican's interests. They were also known as the Licensed Victualler's National Defence League, LVNDL.

The LVDL came together as a reaction against the 1872 Licensing Act by the

amalgamation of two groups, the United Towns Association (Manchester) and the Provincial Licensed Victualler's Defence League (Birmingham). Membership mainly comprised of licensed publicans. By the later 1870's the LVDL had more than 7,000 subscribing members and over 200 local affiliated societies.



They campaigned and lobbied against legislation that was perceived to be restrictive against their trade and also against temperance movements. As a group, they achieved their peak of success during the 1880's but thereafter their influence waned because of the small membership and perpetual lack of long-term funding. They also faced competition from other similar groups, notably the Licensed Victualler's Protection Society of London, later known as the London Central Board. The influence of the LVDL continued to wane but fared better when they had a revival during the 1930's through to the 1950's. During this period membership increased dramatically and from 1942 the LVDL also succeeded in gaining financial support from the alcohol wholesale trade. In 1976 the LVDL merged with the London Central Board to form the National Union of Licensed Victuallers.

While its early history is lost, what is certain is that the Inn has stood next to the green for many centuries, standing witness to the growth of Earby from a small farming community to a busy mill town and now back to a quiet residential town.

CARNEGIE PLAYING FIELDS

Bob Abel

The name Andrew Carnegie is synonymous with charitable foundations. Carnegie Hall in New York is probably the most famous institution associated with the philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, the building being funded by him. Nearer home, the building of Skipton library benefited from funding from the Carnegie Foundation. Andrew Carnegie was an American industrialist of Scottish decent and in the late 19th century he had the soubriquet "King of Steel". Carnegie was a ruthless and skilful businessman and by 1899 his companies controlled 25 per of American steel production. The subsequent amalgamation in 1901

of the four big American steel companies made Carnegie the richest man in the world. He is said to have had a motto - "the man who dies rich dies disgraced". He further enlarged on this by saying that individuals should spend the first third of their life getting all the education they could, then spend the next third making all the money they could and finally spend the last third giving it all away for worthwhile causes. He consequently gave away more than \$350 million dollars.

In 1927 the Carnegie UK Trust allocated £200,000 (equivalent to about £10 million today) "To support the creation, protection, and improvement of playing fields across the UK... Through an initiative partnership with the National Playing Fields Association, local authorities and local community groups, these grants enabled the development of more than 900 playing field sites between 1927 and 1935... One of the conditions of the Trust's grant was that the funded sites were to be retained as playing fields in perpetuity." (1).

There is however no comprehensive record of the precise locations of these Carnegie Playing Field sites and in 2015 the Carnegie Trust and the Fields in Trust (formerly the National Playing Fields Association) set up a Field Finders project to locate all the sites, bring the records up to date and make sure they were protected "in perpetuity" as per the original grant conditions.

Sough Park is one of these Carnegie Playing Fields.

In 1935, a new playground was opened in the memorial grounds. The equipment, costing £150, was funded in equal share between the Earby Children's Recreation Fund Committee and Earby UDC. Nine year old Brenda Morphett formally handed over the equipment to the UDC at the opening ceremony on the 16th April of that year.

In 1936 the grounds were extended by the purchase from the Moor Hall Estate, (at a cost of £528-10-00 (£528.50p)) of a parcel of land across the New Cut. Permission had to be sought from the Yorkshire Ouse Catchment Board and the Earby and Salterforth Internal Drainage Board to build an access bridge across the stream. Further playground improvements were made the following year with grants from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust and the West Riding Playing Fields Association. (2)

Although one of the conditions of the grant was that the playing field should remain for public recreation in perpetuity, there was often no mention of that in land conveyances. To protect such land on a legal basis in perpetuity for public use Fields in Trust has drawn up a Deed of Dedication which is entered into with the land owner. The deed is then registered with the Land Registry. The Society was able to provide corroboratory evidence (from previous research done about the War Memorial and the Memorial Grounds) to prove that Sough Park was one of these Carnegie Playing Fields.

Earby Town Council have been pushing for the Park to be registered by Deed of Dedication and at a meeting of Pendle Borough's West Craven Committee in September it was recommended to Pendle Council's executive that Sough Park be put forward for Fields in Trust status.

The benefits of protected status were put to the committee as follows in brief:

Benefits of Sough Park being recognised as a Carnegie Field and protected as a Fields in Trust site are:

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- Making an express and recognisable commitment to local people to safeguard land, facilities and opportunities for sport, play and recreation both now and forever
- Protecting public access to outdoor space
- Providing reassurance to potential investors regarding viability and sustainability
- Ensuring that in the case of sale proceeds are reapplied to replacement facilities, with a priority on new outdoor facilities
- Raising awareness of the importance of such facilities in the context of quality of life, health, the environment and amenity
- Greater opportunity to access Fields in Trust related grant funding and other external funding streams.

The process has now been completed and Sough Park has been protected for use by the local community for recreation purposes.

PF/1,224. EARBY, Yorkshire, W.R.

Applicant - Earby U.D.C.
 Correspondent - The Clerk, Council Offices, Earby.
 Population - 5,522.
 Rates - 11/6d. (incl. 1^{sd} for Parks etc.).
 Product of 1d rate - £98. 10s.
 Dimensions of Ground - 3 acres (Approx.)
 Acquisition - Nil.
 Lay-Out & Equipment - £164.
 Land vested in - Earby U.D.C.
 Maintenance - 25. From the rates.

A children's playground scheme in an existing recreation ground of about 3 acres that was acquired by the U.D.C. as a War Memorial. The equipment is already installed.

The West Riding Branch reports :-

"The ground is well laid out and the equipment was undoubtedly appreciated by the children. The site is near the Colne - Skipton road and is urgently needed to provide a safe playground. The U.D.C. are negotiating for the purchase of an adjoining 5 acres of land for team games. I suggested that the present application should be considered immediately and that a further application in respect of the larger field should be forwarded later."

The County Branch recommends a grant of £12 to be supplemented by a County Grant of £2.

£82. 9s. has been raised by voluntary effort.

ESTIMATES.

5 pieces of play equipment and tar-mac surfacing	£153. 9s. 0d.
Sundry Expenses	10. 0 0
	£163. 9. 0.

THEY ALL KNOW 'THE SINGING DUSTMAN'

by Pat Wilkinson

This was a cutting from a 'Barnoldswick and Earby Times' probably the early 1960's.

Not all Earby people know his name; but they can identify him. They call him "The Singing Dustman". For even the hard, monotonous, grimy job of emptying the township's dustbins, cannot suppress the natural cheeriness of 32-year-old Jackie Waterworth who lives with his widowed mother at 49 Green End Avenue Earby.

Earby residents can always tell when the refuse wagon is about, because more often than not, Jackie's pleasant tenor voice can be heard loud and clear, tunefully singing popular songs of the day.

Jackie likes to whistle too, and often, as he and his colleagues hang on to the side of the wagon, he takes out his harmonica and plays a tune.

He also entertains the rest of the town as they sit after lunch in the cabin in the Council depot.

Says Jackie: Being a dustman is nothing to be ashamed about but the work is hard and a bit monotonous so I sing to keep myself happy.

So a public vote of thanks then to Jackie Waterworth "The Singing Dustman" with a permanent smile on his face, who spreads happiness wherever he goes. The world could do with more people like him. And, a vote of thanks to the rest of the refuse team; they have a hard and unpleasant job, but they do it well. Whatever the weather, they are on the job; the important job of keeping the town and surrounding district tidy.

Says Mr M.H. Beckwith, Earby's Sanitary Inspector: "Our team is one of the most efficient you could hope to find anywhere. The dustmen are a credit to themselves. I couldn't find better and I would like to thank them for the good work they do. Often they are occupied seven days a week and sometimes when there is snow about, they are called out in the middle of the night, but they never complain."

Other members of the refuse collection team are John Swan (foreman), Billy Lea (tip man), Milton Oldfield, Harry Grime and Ted Peasey (loaders). Harry Stevenson is the man who bales the waste paper.

The area covered by these men, extends from Hague Cottages to the top of Mill Brow. Incidentally, in the last Council year, the team collected 98 tons of waste paper but already in the nine months of the current Council year, 120 tons have been collected.

VERSATILE CRAFTSMAN AT FIDDLING CLOUGH

Snippet from the Craven Herald 28th June 1946

An exceedingly versatile man is Mr F Templeton, formerly of Barnoldswick, and now

resident at Fiddling Clough near Earby. Mr Templeton recently retired from the shoe-making trade after carrying on business for a lengthy period. He taught himself the craft of boot repairing. Largely through his own efforts he mastered another trade – that of toy making – while he has also tried his hand at “brokering” and as a general salesman.

This resourceful personage served his time to a highly skilled trade which is now rapidly dying out. His apprenticeship made him an expert silver-mounter in the umbrella and walking stick line. The change-over to toy making is easily understood when one knows that many of the tools used to make umbrella shafts are also employed in the toy trade.

Mr Templeton is a brass bandsman of wide experience. Up to recently he regularly played with the Barnoldswick combination.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Further snippets re Fiddling Clough after the 1901 census.

- Thornton Church owned Fiddling Clough
- 1919 Amos Nelson, Gledstone Estate bought it
Mr Jaques rented it from Nelson .Amos Holden, my grandfather, managed the farm for Mr Jaques who lived at Thornton.
- 1949 FC sold by Amos Nelson to Tom Lumb – paper mill owner Skipton – he bought it and a lot of other farms.

Tenants

- Mrs Bailey once had it and held prayer meetings there
- 1920-1939- Holden family
- Fred Waddington – Templeton Family lived in cottage at the end, mended boots and clogs
- Fred's Waddington's sons Arthur and Frank who went to Israel – was a preacher of sorts but was said to be “a rum ‘un”
- Then old Mr Shuttleworth there for a time
- Last tenant Group Captain Hartley , bombastic, from Liverpool. Had been in air force in the War. He had a French wife, Georgette
The farm house is now empty and David Wood farms the land.

NOSTALGIC LOOK BACK AT OPENING OF EARBY LIBERAL CLUB , LATTERLY PUBLIC LIBRARY—NOW UP FOR SALE

The Editor

Liberalism at Earby : New Club and Institute Craven Herald 4 October 1912

The new Liberal Club at Earby which for some months has been in course of erection was formerly opened on Saturday afternoon last by Mrs Wm Clough.

Description of building

The ground floor contains a large public hall to be called the Coronation Hall, size 53ft by 45ft by 15ft high which is well lighted and ventilated and approached through good massive doorways from Cemetery Rd. In connection with the public hall and leading from the platform there are men's and ladies anterooms and lavatories provided. The entrance to the Liberal Club is also from Cemetery Rd through a good entrance hall, from which a staircase rises to the first floor.

The club contains: one billiard room for two tables size 30ft by 25ft 6ins by 18ft; also a reading room size 19ft 6ins by 17ft 6ins; secretary's office size 14ft 6ins by 6ft 6ins; room for Young Liberals etc. 23ft 6ins by 14ft 6ins; recreation room 23ft by 12ft; also kitchen and dining room, lavatories and two bath rooms. These rooms are lofty and well lighted and ventilated throughout. The heating is on the low pressure hot water principle, with a separate system of heating for domestic purposes.

The floor of the public hall is of hard rock maple, suitable for dancing. The floors of the club are constructed of steel beams and joists and cement concrete covered with boards throughout. The woodwork finishings are of oak in the principal entrances and of pitch pine to the public hall and first floor rooms. The design of the building is a fine classic style, bold and massive, and suitable for such an institution. Alongside the entrance to the public hall is a carved panel in stone, also one alongside the club entrance, with the names of the building and date. There is a large circular projecting window at the corner of the building, in the reading room, overlooking Water St and Cemetery Rd. The windows are of fine wrought iron, finished in art black with iron casements and hoppers to open for ventilation.

The various contractors have been:

Mason	Mr William Wilkinson, Earby
Joiner	Mr Charles Watson, Earby
Plumber	Mr E Smith, Earby
Painter	Mr H Speak, Earby
Plasterer	Messrs T Bailey & Sons, Skipton
Slater	Mr William Thornton, Bingley
Iron & steel	Mr John Varley, Skipton
Heating	Messrs Clapham Bros, Keighley
Architect	Mr James Hartley, Skipton

Earby Liberal Club Rules and Bye-Laws 1912 (excerpts)

Objects – the promotion of Liberal principles, the political education of the electorate, the social enjoyment of its members, combined and prompt action in national and local affairs, and the provision of a place of resort for Liberal politicians in Earby and District.

5/- annual subscription, must be over 16, proposed and seconded by members
5 trustees

Committee of management – president, vice presidents, trustees, treasurer, 2 secretaries and 12 other members – to manage all the affairs and property of the Club

Visits of non members – no person resident or having a place of business within the township of Earby shall be introduced more than 6 times a year

No intoxicating liquors shall be sold or consumed in any rooms of the Club

Earby Chronicles

Gambling is strictly prohibited

The Club shall be open for the use of members from 9 o'clock am to 11.0pm every day except Sunday when it will be open 10.0am to 9.0pm.

Members paying 10/6 and upwards have the exclusive use of No1 billiard room

Committee shall arrange lectures, discussions, entertainments, excursions and other means of political instruction and social enjoyment at frequent intervals.

Betting, gambling, profane, obscene and offensive language and drunkenness are prohibited within the Club

Reading Room and Library

Committee shall obtain books, pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers for the use of members...sold by auction to members quarterly

No smoking or conversation shall be allowed

Bath rooms

Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 12 noon to 10.0pm

On Wednesday 10-12 the Bath Rooms shall be reserved for women only

Hot or cold water bath 2d

Non members extra per bath 2d

Towels each 1d

Billiards

No 2 Billiard Room 2d for 20 minutes, 4d for 40 minutes

No 1 Billiard Room 3d for 20 minutes, 6d for 40 minutes

(Rules printed by C Garrett Hartley, Caxton Printing Works, Earby)

Information taken from 1914 Craven Household Almanack:

Liberal Club

A new and imposing building situate on the site of the old Victoria Institute. The building cost over £4000 and was opened 25 September 1912. It is owned by William Clough MP and let to Earby Liberal Association.

It possesses all the usual advantages of a really modern club. There is the grand Coronation Hall which is very suitable for lectures, public meetings etc and capable of accommodating 800 people. There is a library, reading room, recreation room, bath rooms etc. and 2 billiard rooms with 3 tables.

The club is a great success and a grand acquisition to the town

Additional information

Downstairs was the Cosy cinema. The pianist there for a long time was "Solomon" Herbert Coupland; also Mabel Tansy (Alfred Carter had piano lessons from her). It was a concert

hall converted into a cinema. The local reviews and Wesleyan parties and At Homes (quite big affairs) were held in the Coronation Hall.



A LOOK AT KELBROOK IN 1914 from the Craven Household Almanack

Kelbrook, like Earby, as the prefix “Kel” implies is of Danish extract and the names of Sir Mathew de Kelbroke and a Sir John de Kelbroke are frequently met with in ancient local records. The majority of the population find employment at the mill and sheds of the Kelbrook Mill Company Limited and run by the Kelbrook Bridge Company, Messrs. Nutter and Turner Ltd., and East End Company Ltd. The Dotcliffe Mills are occupied by the Great Holme Mill Co. Ltd. The church stands at the entrance to the village coming from the direction of Skipton, and is a very neat structure.

St Mary’s Church – Rev. A E Chance vicar; Services on Sunday at 10.30am and 6.30pm. Children’s services in the church last Sunday of the month at 2.30. Holy Communion first Sunday in the month at mid-day and third Sunday at 8.0am there is also a Sunday School in connection with the church at 9.30am and 2.0pm (superintendent Rev. A E Chance), and a library with 320 volumes.

United Methodist Free Church – Services on Sunday at 10.30am and 6.0pm conducted by the local preachers. Secretary E Bateson, steward T Pullen, Trust secretary F A Pickles. Sunday School at 9.30am and 1.30pm – number of scholars about 140; superintendents J Bateson and C Bailey, secretary H Widdup. There is a library with about 320 volumes.

Yorkshire Penny Bank – Held in the National School on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 2.0pm to 3.0pm. Actuary J H Bentley, Keighley

Kelbrook Water Co. – Created for the purpose of supplying the village of Kelbrook with water. Office – National School Secretary H Horbury

Kelbrook Ward Earby UDC – Representatives F Pickles, H Horbury and F Millward

Council School – A handsome and commodious new school erected in 1895, comprising mixed and infants departments. Master – H Horbury; assistant mistresses Misses Culley and Spencer; Infants – Mistresses Misses Hodgson and Crabtree. Number of scholars on books 190 with average attendance 150.

Liberal Club –situate in Waterloo Road, comprises reading room, smoke room, billiard room etc. President Coun. F A Pickles, secretary J Bateson, treasurer A Dewhurst. Number of members about 60. Subscription 1/6 a quarter or annual subscription 5/-

Conservative Club – situate in Colne Road and comprises reading room, smoke and billiard room. President A J Birley, secretary J Lund, treasurer H Horbury. Annual subscription 5/-

Colne & District Co-operative Society (Kelbrook Branch) - situate in Main Street. Number of members about 120. Annual turn-over about £3,900. Branch manager F Crawford

Athletic and Football Club – Secretary T Nutter

Half day closing – Tuesday

Post Office – Deliveries 7.00am and 6.0pm; despatches 9.55am, 7.10 and 7.55pm. No delivery or despatch on Sunday. Post Office Savings Bank, Money Order Office and Inland Revenue Licences. Open for business from 8.00am to 8.0pm. Postal business suspended on Tuesdays at 1.0pm. Postmistress Miss M M Berry

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 21st March – A Few of My Favourite Things – a personal selection of treasures from Lancashire Archives – Dr Alan Crosby

Tuesday 18th April- Liverpool Cowkeepers – a family history – How Dales’ farmers became city cowkeepers and suburban milkmen – David Joy

Tuesday 16th May – The Vale of York Hoard – Joyce Hill

THE SOCIETY

Meets at the Community Centre, New Road, EARBY on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. (except for outside visits).

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
£7.00
UK £9.00
Overseas £13.00

Contents:

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

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Don't forget this is your newsletter. Send in articles, photos and any other anecdotes, so that we get as wide a flavour of Earby & District, yes that means Thornton in Craven, Kelbrook, Sough, Harden and Salterforth as well.

EDITOR

Stephanie Carter
01756 794099

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DATA PROTECTION ACT

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