

# EARBY CHRONICLES

EDITION 29

SUMMER 2003

£1.50 *free to members  
of the society*



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

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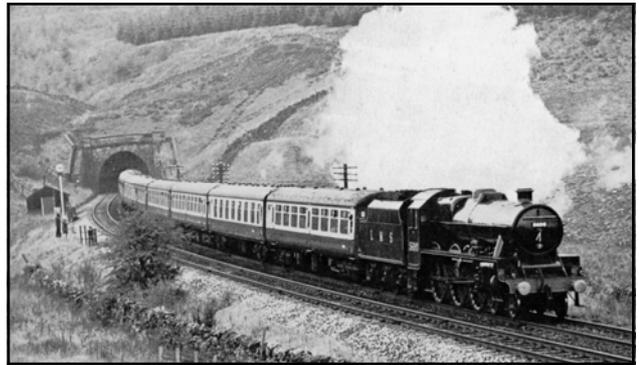
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## SETTLE CARLISLE LINE, A PICTURE TOUR

What a marvellous and well attended forerunner to the Settle Carlisle Explorer tour in September. David Allison gave a factual commentary with beautifully dramatic slides of the line and many steam trains.

We will hold back from a detailed commentary until we can report from the tour, when members and colleagues from the Barnoldswick History Society tell of their day's travel by coach along the railway corridor, visiting villages and towns on the way; then return on the railway itself.



**A Jubilee Class engine emerges from the northern end of Blea Moor Tunnel**

To find out if there are places remaining ring Sue Janion on

01282 843992

## FLANDERS FIELDS

John Hartley of Earby gave us a moving and wonderfully illustrated talk about the many important and some lesser known sites in France, commemorating the dead heroes, on both sides, of World War I. John was former head of Lower Park High School and a self confessed social not military historian. Struck by the famous poem " In Flanders Fields the

### *recent talks & features*

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Poppies Grow”, his passion for the subject also grew. John does much research on the soldiers who perished in the First World War and he has an amazing collection of ephemera and research aids.

John has done extensive research based on the 680 names displayed on the war memorial in Colne. He soon realised that the list is not that accurate, being compiled from the newspapers and other sources such as church plaques.

We were reminded that the horrors of war cannot be adequately told by the surviving photographs, it is necessary to visit the sites of the trenches, the surviving bunkers and flanders area strewn even today with rusting carcasses of military machinery. John has taken many a party of children and adults to visit the sites and memorials and knows the area intimately and shared his impressions with us.

We also learnt how the ordinary soldiers became known as Tommies. When they joined up they were given a form to fill in and the example they worked to was in the fictional name of “Tommy Atkins”. Another word that has passed into the English language was due to the words “vin blanc”, ordinary wine being misinterpreted as “plonk” with its obvious connotations.

John’s talk was very well received and he has offered his help and guidance to anyone wishing to do World War One research.

### **TUNNICLIFFE’S ACADEMY (Part I) by Bob Abel**

The seed for the research into Tunnicliffe’s academy was sown some years ago when I saw a collection of newspaper cuttings in the Earby Urban District Council archives held at the Lancashire Record Office in Preston. The newspaper cuttings referred to a school which was established at Hague House in Kelbrook in the mid to late 19th century.

A visit to Barnoldswick library to search the census returns showed that the school was in existence at least in 1861 and 1871 at Hague House.



Hague House as it stands today

In 1861 there were 24

boarding pupils together with the family a cook and a housemaid. By 1871 the number of pupils had reduced to 12.

### **Why a private school at Kelbrook?**

Education in the 19th century was very variable. It was only in the last quarter, when the 1870 Education Act was passed, that the poor educational state of the country was seriously addressed. The 1870 Act provided for the setting up of School Boards in areas where educational establishments were sadly lacking. These School Boards were charged with building and running schools so that every child could get a basic education.

In the early 1800s schools were either run by charitable organisations or were set up by private individuals, some of dubious character (as exemplified in Charles Dickens' *Nicholas Nickleby*).

In 1833 the government made its first steps in subsidising education, when it allowed grants to religious bodies to build and run schools. There had previously been a lack of interest by government in education and to a certain extent by the people, as children were sent out to work at a very tender age, to contribute to the family income. There was obviously a 'gap in the market' for decent schools, where the prosperous Victorian businessman could have his children educated. The trade directories have numerous entries for Academies and schools where, for an annual fee, a reasonable education could be obtained.

In the second half of the century it was being realised that Britain's economic lead was slipping and social unrest was increasing, whereas in other European countries the opposite was the case. This was seen to be mostly due to the fact that other countries had a more developed technical educational system and Britain had some catching up to do. The 1870 Education Act led to the opening of local board schools, as exemplified by Kelbrook (1896) and New Road School Earby (1897) and consequently the need for the private academies was diminished.

### **Who was the Charles Tunnicliffe who ran the school and how did he come to set up his Academy in Kelbrook?**

The census returns told that he was born at Hapton near Burnley. A search of the International Genealogical Index showed that Charles Tunnicliffe was baptised at Accrington Wesleyan Chapel on 29th November 1812 and his parents were Charles and Margaret Tunnicliffe. Charles senior, was born in Sheffield in about 1782 and he married Margaret Hall at Whalley in 1809. A search of the probate index at Colne library revealed that Charles junior died in Bradford on 17th January 1872, describing him as a boarding school master formerly of Kelbrook, but late of Rushcroft Terrace, Baildon.

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A chance discovery in Baines Directory of West Yorkshire (1822) in the Ilkley entry, revealed a Charles Tunncliffe, a master at the Free Grammar School, who was also an accomptant (in modern terminology an accountant) and a taker of profiles (he drew portraits in profile). The Charles Tunncliffe of Hague House would only be ten years old in 1822, so was this Charles the father ?

Charles senior is mentioned in "Ilkley Ancient and Modern" where he is also described as a noted portrait taker in profile who travelled from town to town, presumably in school holidays, drawing profiles to order. He was also a "noted penman" (calligrapher). Pigot's directory of 1834 gives Charles senior as having an academy in Burley. In White's Directory 1854 there is an entry for Charles senior, as having an Academy in New Market, Otley.

More good look followed. A search of the Internet genealogical web sites put me in contact with one on the Tunncliffes' descendants, now living in Australia. He was able to fill in much genealogical information, which may have taken many months to find.

We don't know much about the early life of Charles junior. He married Sarah Jane Brook (who was a native of Baildon) in the early 1840s in Burley. They removed to Marton soon after their marriage where their two daughters, Anne (1843) and Lucetta (1851) were born. There is also a reference to Charles Tunncliffe (junior) being the School master in Elslack in 1844. The 1851 census for Marton includes Charles Tunncliffe, school master, of Yew Tree Cottage and his wife Sarah, described as a school mistress. The household also included three pupils, one their elder daughter Anne and two boarders, one from Bradford and one from Colne. Incidentally, Charles Tunncliffe was also the 1851 census enumerator in Marton who had the job of recording the inhabitants of "Martons Both".

It seems as though Charles moved to Marton to establish his own school and may well have taught in his father's academies previously.

**When does Charles Tunncliffe junior move to Hague House in Kelbrook? There is no school mentioned there in the 1851 census.**

Contact with the current owners of Hague House set off a new avenue of research. Hague House and estate were purchased by the Bowcock Charity for Keighley in 1844 and many archives of the charity (*which is still in existence today*) have been deposited at Keighley Library and with the West Yorkshire Archive Service's Bradford repository. Amongst the minute books at Bradford was a short history of Hague House and other details were gleaned from the minutes of the Trustees' meetings.

From the time of the purchase in 1844 until 1854 the "mansion house" (Hague House) remained empty although the farm and a cottage were let. In September 1854 the "Mansion House called Hague House, with garden in front, wash house, school room, out buildings and yard at the back ..... were leased to Charles Tunncliffe for a term of 15 years. The inclusion in the description of "schoolroom" in the minute is intriguing, it suggests that there was already a school room there when Charles Tunncliffe leased the house, which

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had been empty for the previous 10 years.

There are several newspaper references to the school. In a letter in the Colne and Nelson Times in 1923 Mr. J.W.Ashworth of Colne states :-

“My Uncle was I believe a tutor there (at Hague House Academy) and I have in my possession a desk which was given to him, very probably when he left to go to Durham University. The desk bears the following inscription ... “Presented to William Pickles by the pupils of Hague House Academy - 1859”.

Another reference is to be found in the Leeds Mercury newspaper, in the form of an advert reproduced below :-

### TRANSCRIPT OF ADVERT IN THE LEEDS MERCURY - JAN 1ST 1859

#### HAGUE HOUSE ACADEMY, near COLNE LANCASHIRE.

*Mr C.Tunncliffe, correspondent of the Phonographic Society, and contributor to the Mathematical Department of “The Education Times,” and formerly to that of “The York Courant,” respectfully announces, that in consequence of increasing patronage, he has removed from “Yew Tree Cottage,” Marton, to the above spacious and convenient house, which has been fitted up at considerable expense for the exclusive purpose of a boarding school; where in addition to the numerous advantages derived from Mr. T’s approved System of Tuition, Young Gentlemen will enjoy all the attention and comforts of home. Hague House is beautifully situated on a hill, and commands one of the finest and most extensive prospects in Craven, - being distant from Colne three miles; from Earby and Foulridge stations, on the line of railway from Colne to Skipton, one and a half miles respectively, and from Skipton about nine miles.*

*The course of education comprises the following branches :-*

*READING with strict attention to pronunciation, points, tone and emphasis. WRITING including phonography and every variety of ornamental penmanship, with the most approved commercial handwriting, taught in a very efficient and expeditious manner. English grammar and composition, book keeping, geography, ancient and modern history, the use of globes, arithmetic mensuration, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, land surveying, (in theory and practice,) with plotting planning and embellishment of maps. Vocal and instrumental music. Also, the Latin and Greek languages together with the now fashionable and elegant accomplishment, the French language. Mr T. having spent a considerable length of time in France is able to communicate the genuine French accent, and by fluent conversation in the above language to impart to the pupil a thorough knowledge of its principals.*

#### TERMS

*Per Annum*

*Pupils under 10 years of age*

*21 Guineas*

*Pupils from 10 to 12 years*

*22 Guineas*

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<i>Pupils from 12 to 14 years</i>	<i>23 Guineas</i>
<i>Pupils from 14 to 16 years</i>	<i>24 Guineas</i>

*Washing and shoe cleaning two guineas per annum extra.*

*A quarter's notice or a quarters payment previous to the removal of a pupil and each youth to be provided on entering with the following :-*

*Hair, nail, tooth and clothes brush; small tooth comb, eight fronts and collars, four towels, five shirts, two night shirts, four pairs of stockings, three pairs of shoes, one pair of slippers, and umbrella. All things to be marked in full.*

*HOLIDAYS:- four weeks at midsummer; four weeks at Christmas; and, (if required by parents) a few days at Easter.*

*No allowance for occasional absence.*

*The most respectful testimonials may be seen from parents whose children have been educated under Mr. T., who embraces the opportunity of returning his unfeigned thanks for the liberal patronage already conferred on him, and confidently assures those who may honour him with their future support that no exertion shall be wanted to retain that unlimited confidence already reposed in him. For the necessary recreation of the boarders, Mr.T. has provided a large play and cricket ground, and selected the afternoons of Wednesday and Saturday in each week as holidays; so that parties wishing to have interviews with their sons will oblige by endeavouring to be present on those days when ever they have occasion to visit the Establishment.*

*The school will reopen on Twenty fifth of January 1859.*

The Bowcock Charity minute books record that on 28th June 1859, plans were submitted for improving the water supply, which when carried out Charles Tunnicliffe agreed to pay an extra six pounds rent, making £25-10-00 per annum.

The advert of January 1859 suggests that the school was opened at about that time, but Charles Tunnicliffe took the lease in 1854. If Hague House had been empty for ten years, a lot of work would have been necessary to renovate the building and convert it for use as a school.

In the 1861 census 24 boarding pupils are listed, from many parts of both Yorkshire and Lancashire.

At a special meeting of the Charity Trustees on the first of February 1869 it was resolved to relieve Charles Tunnicliffe (at his request) of his seven year lease of Hague House and convert to a yearly lease. Was this an indication that he was ready to leave Hauge House. This is confirmed by the announcement in the Colne and Nelson Guardian in 1870 :-

*"Hague House Academy near Colne, Mr Tunnicliffe of the above anxious to treat with a successor to take on a school of 30 boys."*

By the 1871 census the number of boarding pupils had fallen to 12. Yet also in 1869 Charles

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Tunncliffe takes on the lease of the estate farm, as well as the mansion house, at £81 per annum. By the end of 1871 the school must have closed, as Charles Tunncliffe had removed to Baildon. He died on 17th January 1872 in Bradford his occupation on his death certificate being given as "former School Master". His will gives no further information about the Academy.

After Charles' death the Hague House Estate remained in his wife's hands until 1876 when she released the lease.

In part two of this article to be published at a later date, we shall see who some of the pupils were and what became of them.

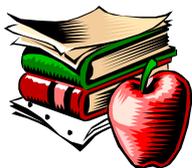
### Acknowledgements:

Much of the genealogical information on the Tunncliffe's was supplied by Trevor Williams, 3/44 Hammond Street, Thornbury 3071, Victoria, AUSTRALIA e-mail [bonniepup@austarmetro.com.au](mailto:bonniepup@austarmetro.com.au). Trevor would be pleased to hear from any one who might be related to the Tunncliffe's or who might be able to add to the story.

John and Linda Drury, the current owners of Hague House, helped with information on the Bowcock Trust from the deeds of the house. They are researching the history of the house and would be pleased to hear from anyone who can add to the story of Hague House itself.

### References used:

Census Returns - Thornton-in-Craven and the Martons (Barnoldswick Library)  
International Genealogical Index  
Baines' Directory for Yorkshire - 1822  
Pigot's Directory - 1834  
White's Directory - 1854  
Bowcock's Charity for Keighley archives at Keighley Library and West Yorkshire Archives - Bradford.  
Colne and Nelson Times December 1923 - Nelson Library  
Leeds Mercury January 1st 1859 - Leeds Central Library  
Ilkley Ancient and Modern - Collyer and Turner - 1885  
Probate Indexes - Held in Colne Library  
[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)



## EASTER RAFFLE

An Easter raffle was held by the society in which the prize was a bumper Easter egg. The raffle raised £44 to which the Society added £6 and the £50 was donated to the Community Centre Mini Bus Fund. The lucky winner of the Easter Egg was Mr Robertshaw of East Marton.

## IMPORTANT LOCAL ARCHIVE DONATED

The society is delighted to accept a significant local archive to its collection. Member Brenda Holmes has donated a collection of minute books and accounts relating to the Victoria Institute covering the dates 1884 to 1909.

The Victoria Institute was one of the important social organisations of Earby both for education and entertainment. Christopher Bracewell had the Institute building erected on the site of what is now Earby Library. The Institute had a library and Reading room as well as a large room for concerts and other entertainments. The Victoria Institute finally closed its doors in 1911 when competition from other organisations led to a fall in membership below a viable number. Does any one know where the minute books for 1910 and the final year 1911 are ?

Also included is a scrap book of newspaper articles relating to the history of Earby and the Craven area. Our grateful thanks to Brenda for saving this important archive.

## WORKING TO OPEN EARBY LEAD MINING MUSEUM

by Margaret Brown

Earby mines research group was formed in 1945, and consisted of members across the north of England. They specialised in the Wensleydale/Swaledale area, though they also covered mines in Airedale, the Northern Pennines and Wharfedale. Over the years the members built up quite a collection of artefacts rescued from mines. These were stored in spare rooms, garages and sheds of the members until in 1971 the research group was given a lease to develop a Mines Museum in the Old Grammar School, School Lane, Earby.



**Morris Horsfield hard at work at one of the weekend  
Trash and Treasure sales  
All proceeds go towards the funding of the  
rebuilding project**

The building is a grade 2 listed building owned by the Windle Trust, founded by Robert Windle. He was born in Earby in the mid 1500's and died in the late 1500's. He left a bequest to build a school and to provide for a teacher. His nephew carried out his instructions to build the school around the year 1600, several years after Robert Windle's death.

The building remained as a school until 1911. Since that time the building has been used as a library and then a clinic, until the 1960's when it stood empty, until the Mines research

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group took over the use of the building.

By the 1990's it was found that extensive work was required to the building which was beyond the capabilities and bank balance of both the Windle Trust and the Mines Group. Nevertheless, through the dedication of the members and with the help of English Heritage who gave a 70% grant towards the work the money was raised. The structure and outside fabric of the building have now been made safe but unfortunately they were unable to help with the inside work. A grant from the National Lottery has been now been applied for to cover 90% of the cost of the inside work, still leaving a sizeable sum to be raised. The plan is to put back the first floor, installing a lift, new toilets, a shop, a tea room, a seminar room and a workshop as well as rebuilding the museum displays. This will include a full size display of a mine workings, which will allow visitors to walk through giving a lifelike view of the workings of a mine. Until that time all the exhibits are in store, they are one of the largest collections of mining artefacts in the country. The museum should be well worth a visit when it opens, hopefully in 2004/5.

The mines museum group is currently raising funds by holding "Trash and Treasure" sales every Saturday and Sunday 10 am until 4 pm. There are many bargains to be had; there is something for every-one from collector's items in china and glassware, to cameras, jewellery, books and records; prices range from a few pence to several pounds. There is also a tea -room where you can buy tea/ coffee and cakes. Currently about £200 is raised each weekend which is going to the rebuilding fund

### TIT-BITS

A recent decision to install an alarm on the front door, to alert staff that someone was entering, caused much amusement. The electrician came on a weekend while the sale was in full swing. He popped his tool bag on the floor while sizing up the job, only to find when his back was turned, that customers had found the bag and thought the tools were for sale - all at bargain prices and quickly snapped them up, much to the dismay of the electrician who had to retrieve them from disappointed customers.

Help is always needed either in the shop, tearoom or in the garden, for weeding, grass cutting or general tidying. If you can help in any way your help and interest would be very welcome. Items are also needed to sell, if you are unable to deliver them, contact the museum by phone 01282 841422 and someone will collect and of course they need lots of buyers to spend money in the sale. The volunteers of the mines group would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped in any way.



It is also hoped that when the renovations are completed, there will be space to put together an exhibition about the Grammar school and its history. If you have any family stories or photographs of the school that could be used or have any information about the school then please contact Margaret Brown on 01282 843932.

## RESEARCH REQUESTS

John Turner's grandfather, Levi TURNER, was born in Earby in 1870; he lived at 22, School Lane Earby for much of his life, and he died there before John was born. He was a teacher and taught at the Church School in Barnoldswick from about 1905 until he retired around 1935. He coached many pupils to get their scholarships. Levi was also choirmaster at Mount Zion Baptist Church Earby for about 20 years.

John's Aunt, Millicent TURNER (Millie), was also an Earby resident for the majority of her life living at 22, School Lane Earby. Millicent taught needlework and music (singing) at Alder Hill School, Earby. She was an accomplished violin player and also sang in the Choir at Mount Zion Baptist Church Earby for many years. Millicent was Chairman of Earby Urban District Council in 1965/66 and was a local liberal councillor for many years.

John would love to hear from anyone that remembers them and has any stories, anecdotes etc. about him. If you can help please reply to:  
Mr. John Turner, 24 Vale Coppice, Ramsbottom, Bury, Lancashire. BL0 9FJ.  
E mail: John.C.Turner@tesco.net Tel: 01706 824 833 and for the record, let the Editor know as well.

## WILLIAM BARTLETT

New member Mrs Audrey Paterson is searching for information about her father William BARTLETT and his family. She writes "My father, William Bartlett, lived and worked in Earby but I cannot find any documentation as to his birth or anything about his parents."

From the information given by Mrs Paterson we have been able to find the family on the 1901 census when they were living in Nelson just before their move to the Earby area. The 1901 census entry is as follows:-

			Place of Birth
William Bartlett	Head	42	Cotton Weaver Welsbourne -Warwickshire
Mary E Bartlett	Wife	36	Cotton Weaver Clitheroe
James Bartlett	Son	14	Cotton Weaver Clitheroe
William Bartlett*	Son	13	Cotton Weaver Clitheroe
Emily Bartlett	Dau	11	Clitheroe
Arthur Bartlett	Son	2	Nelson

\* Mrs Paterson's father who married Mary Chew in 1917.

William senior and Arthur are buried in Kelbrook church yard and also possibly Mary. The search will now have to be carried on in Warwickshire but if any one knows of the Bartlett family living locally Mrs Paterson will be pleased to hear from you

Mrs Audrey Paterson, 32 Erskine Road, Gullane, E. Lothian EH31 2DQ

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## HOW TO BE A HOUSE DETECTIVE

Have you ever wondered about the history of your house? When was it built, who lived there and what did they do for a living? How has it changed over the years? Every building has a story to tell but how do you go about reading it?

To try and help answer these questions and many more the society is holding a "House History" event. This is to take place at New Road Community Centre on Saturday October 25th. See the leaflet with this edition or contact Bob Abel on 01282 843840 or by e-mail at bobabel@talk21.com

## AUTUMN FAIR

The annual New Road Community Centre Autumn Fair will take place at the community centre on the 4th of October. This years theme will be "That's Entertainment". This popular event raises much needed funds for both the Community Centre and the participating Societies. This year we will mount a display on "Entertainment in Earby thorough the years, using the the Society's growing collection of photographs and artifacts. If you have anything you can contribute contact the two Margarets Greenwood & Brown. We shall also have a cake stall and offers to contribute and help will be most welcome. Please contact Betty Smith or Doreen Turner .

## ANOTHER MILESTONE PASSED - QUITE LITERALLY.

In 1998 the Society helped to rescue Earby's local historic milestone from a potentially inappropriate location. Late in the proceedings the Society was alerted by Alan Heaton to an application for listed building consent to relocate the 'Porridge Stoop', that well known ancient milestone at the cross roads on Elslack & Carleton moor. Alan has a web site about local milestones, have a look at [www.alanheaton.co.uk](http://www.alanheaton.co.uk) .

Years ago Yorkshire Archaeological Society published a paper entitled 'Some Old West Riding Milestones' by John J Briggs MA .

In it Briggs says "It is well known that there was in use in this country down to modern times a customary mile which was longer than the statute mile by an amount varying from one third to one-half. There are milestones still standing that beguile the traveller into the belief that he has only perhaps six miles to go when he really has to go nine".



**PORRIDGE STOOP**

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The earliest known reference according to Quarter sessions Order Books was erection of a mile stone at Rotherham in 1700 following and Act of Parliament that required:

“Stoops to be sett up in crosse highways for the better convenience of travelling in such parts of this Ryding where two or more crosse highways meet do forthwith cause to be erected or fixed in the most convenient place where such highways joine a stone or post, with the next Market Town to which each of the said joining highways leede, upon paine to forfeit ... the summe of ten shillings to be emplyed for the purpose ... to be sent by the clerk of the peace to the chief constables, and by them to the surveyor of the highways within the respective division”.

By 1733 an Act required that “ upon Moors and Commons and other places where intellegance is difficult to be had, to the peril and great inconvenience and delay of travellers stones and guideposts had to have Indexes and directions ingraved or written upon them in the plainest and most intellegable manner” . By 1749, “for reasonse of snow” was added.

Porridge stoop, by its own admission [Noted by Brigg’s] it being engraved into the top, was erected 1730, therefore very early and even though pre-dating the 1733 Act, has indexes [hands pointing the direction] and statute miles.

A proposal had been put to North Yorkshire County Council to move it back a few feet to the forest wall, for its own safety. The Society felt in would be detrimental to the historic setting, would obliterate one side and furthermore, if it had not been a problem in road safety terms, after all it had been there for nearly 300 years , it ought to be protected by other means, perhaps fencing it off from the highway. Glad to say, common sense prevailed and the application was refused.



### NEWSFLASH

We have recently heard that the County Council has been asked to appeal. The Society will work with all sides to reach the best possible solution for this important local feature.

### VICTORIAN LIFE

Eunice Wormwell has given a number of old books to the Society collection. These date back to the late Victorian era and are concerned with domestic life and contain many recipes and household hints of the time.

**The Well in Thornton  
St. Mary’s Churchyard**

Thanks to Eunice for this donation.

## WELL- WELL

In a collaborative project, the society is to bid for funding from the Countryside Agency's Local Heritage Initiative sponsored by the Countryside Agency, Heritage Lottery Fund & Nationwide Building Society, to restore and provide access for all to this ancient covered well which nestles in the churchyard of St Mary's, Thornton in Craven. More on this in a future edition.

## SALTERFORTH PLAYING FIELD

by Nick Livsey

The field from which the playing field was created was part of the Lane Ends Estate, this also included the 'New House' and the 'Parson House' and Lane Ends Farm.

In the Spring of 1924 the Barnoldswick Urban District Council acquired land from two sisters, Elanor Eames Ayre and Georgina Birdsworth Ayre, at the agreed sum of £200 for 4,330 square yards for the continuing construction of the New Road by the West Riding County Council. The line of the New Road cut this field into two, thus separating part of the estate from the main land holding. The field was at that time known as 'the Meadow Under the Canal' but prior to the construction of the canal in 1794 there is evidence that it may have been called the 'Horse Carr'.

The remaining meadow was now inconvenient for the working farm tenanted by the King family and it seems that during the period from September 1923 to September 1933 the parish council of Salterforth had gained an agreement to tenant the use of the meadow from the Ayre sisters and on the 20th September 1933 a conveyance was made between them and the parish council

*"for all that plot of meadow land containing two acres and thirty-eight perches or thereabouts situate in Salterforth and bounded on or towards the Northeast by the said New Road , on or toward the Southeast partly by Moor Lane and partly by the property belonging to James Slater Ltd. (this was Sinking Peter), on or towards the Southwest by property belonging to the Leeds and Liverpool Canal Company and on or towards the Northwest by property belonging to the Barnoldswick Urban District Council, in fee simple in possession free from encumbrances at a price of £160.*

It was signed by the Ayre sisters, Chairman, Peel Whittaker, Councillor Richard Riddihough and clerk Percy Carradice and witnessed by W.A.Pilgrim Solicitor of Colne and H.A.Foxcroft of Salterforth, Clerk to the Railway Company. The deed was registered on

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29th September 1933.

The cost of buying the meadow is explained as follows. On the 13th April 1932 the parish council agreed to the borrowing of £250 towards the purchase of the land for a recreation ground and on the 19th May 1933 the West Riding Finance Committee advanced the parish council the sum of £160. On the 1st July 1936 the parish council applied to the secretary of the Public Works Loan Commission for a mortgage for securing the sum of £90 for works needed to be done to the playing field.

It took the parish council until 6th January 1947 to pay off the mortgage. During this time, to help finance the cost of establishing the playing field, a deed of covenant was drawn up on 22nd February 1940 between the parish council and the National Playing Fields Association for the consideration of the sum of £45 towards the acquisition and establishment of a children's playground. It was on condition that the parish council will not appropriate or use the same for any other purpose whatever without the consent previously obtained from the Minister of Health and the National Playing Fields Association.

The piece of land has had various names during the past and are as follows. Pre 1794 it was known as the 'Horse Carr'. After 1794 until September 1923 it was know as the 'Meadow under the Canal' and from then until February 1940 it was known as 'Salterforth Park'. After the involvement of the National Playing Fields Association in February 1940 it has since been called 'Salterforth Playing Field'.

On the 4th February 1977 a conveyance was made between the parish council and the owners of 'Gwendene' for the sum of £250 for 290 square yards to form a garden surrounded by a stone wall. Previously for a twenty year period the land had been rented to the owners of the house for a sum of £2 per year.

This year, 2003, local children under the banner of K.P.I. (Kids for Park Improvements) with the consent and support of the parish council have been successful in raising the sum of £30,000 from various sources of funding. Works to replace old play equipment with new to lay new safety surfaces and to install new fencing to enclose the childrens' play area is now nearing completion. This is a huge achievement and should be something the local children can be proud of. It is after all their playing field and will be their responsibility in the future.

Long may this asset to the village be preserved and improved for the good of the residents.

### **MORE DATA FOR THE SOCIETY ARCHIVE**

With permission of Ken Ranson of Rolls Royce Family History Society a vast amount of data has been added to the Earby and District Local History Sociey's archive.

The typescript books were computer scanned by David Hustler of the Pendle and Burnley Branch of the Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society and reproduced in Microsoft

## EARBY CHRONICLES

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excel format and our society now has a copy disc.

The data consists of the following

1803 Craven Muster Rolls

1841/51/91 Barnoldswick Census Surname indexes

Barnoldswick Births, marriages and deaths at Gisburn Church 1574 - 1812

Barnoldswick Bridge Baptist Chapel 1785-1837 (birth and burials)

Barnoldswick Deaths and Memorium (extracts from more recent local newspapers)

Barnoldswick Early Inhabitants (extracted from "Early Tudor Craven" - Yorkshire Archaeological Society and "History of Barnoldswick" by Warner)

Barnoldswick Inventories Index

St Mary-le-Gill Baptisms / Marriages / Burials 1587-1799

Briggs Duxbury Funeral Ledgers 1909-1958

Horton-in-Craven Methodist Chapel - Monumental Inscriptions

Salterforth Inghamite Chapel 1753 -1976 with gaps

Salterforth Society of Friends Monumental Inscriptions

### **CASTLE LIFE IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

At the May meeting Sir Thomas Ingleby of Ripley Castle contrasted the popular myth that living in a castle was all pomp and glittering ceremony with the reality of trying to keep "the castle roof over his head".

Without a note, slide or an form of visual support, Sir Thomas held his audience spell bound with his humorous insight into life running Ripley Castle in the 21st century.

Hi father had had to ask for a grant to make urgent repairs to the fabric of the building. The money he received was conditional on the Castle being open to the public. Sir Thomas inherited this commitment and what he thought would be an onerous task proved to be a source of much enjoyment.

Building such as these are a memorial to the skilled craftspeople of the past, stone masons, cabinet makers, carpenters and blacksmiths and today their modern day successors love to visit to study that remarkable workmanship.

"Size is the problem", he says, "because you can no longer afford to employ the number of staff required as in the past and you simply can't downsize - knock down a wing or two - you have to find the money. " This has led to the numerous ways of "making the Castle pay". Guided tours, weddings, corporate events, hiring the castle to film crews and the grounds for entertainments and countryside events. There have been 'murder mystery' weekends, Civil War re-enactments (Sealed Knott Society) and Gothic Punk weddings

## EARBY CHRONICLES

### THE SOCIETY

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

**ANNUAL  
SUBSCRIPTION  
£3.00  
UK £5.00  
Overseas £9.00**

### Contents:

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

### DATA PROTECTION ACT

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

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Earby & District  
Local History  
Society.

even the TV programme 'Changing Rooms' where two estate cottages were revamped - all great fun he adds. School tours are a particular source of enjoyment, with questions like "is it true you live in a castle cos you can't find an ordinary house to live in?".

They have no idea what the next day will bring. At present a £2.5 million restoration project is underway.

To conclude, Sir Thomas left us with 3 wishes:

- 1 that we keep societies like ours going; they are so important to the nations heritage
- 2 that we record the local history for future generations to enjoy; and
- 3 that your 2nd cousin Earnest doesn't die and leave you a castle to upkeep!

### FUTURE PROGRAMME

July 2003 - No meeting

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2003 Dr Mary Higham- Furness Abbey Estate.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2003 "The Settle-Carlisle Explorer" A days coach and rail trip along the Settle- Carlisle line, **pre booking essential - contact Sue Janion**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2003 Kath Fishwick - A history of local churches.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2003 Pamela Maryfield - Yorkshire Cistercians.

### AND FINALLY A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

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

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