

OLICANA MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS OF LOCAL HISTORICAL  
INTEREST

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G11



10-11-78. A PLATOON OF ILKLEY'S HOME GUARD IN 1943



of the fourth platoon's Home Guard (now Peter Blacke, Leeds Road) in 1943. There were three other platoons with all members serving regularly safeguarding strategic positions in the area. Pictured back row (left to right): C. L. Nicholson, V. Cleveland, J. A. Wilson, Ellander, P. Wilson, S. Harker, L. Whalley, R. Robertson, J. Ingham. Middle row: S. Skaife, —, —, H. Coates, S. Black, S. Reed, E. Ware, N. Nixon. Front row: B. Mathews, W. —, —. (Officer Commanding), K. Northrop; Keble, B. Rooka.

# MYSTERY OBJECT SIGHTED OVER GOLF CLUBHOUSE 5.1.79

An unidentified flying object was sighted over the Ilkley Golf Clubhouse on New Year's Eve by Mr. John Basnett, of Skipton Road, Ilkley.

Mr. Basnett, who just over 20 years ago was a pilot in the R.A.F. and was used to the work of graphing unusual sightings in the sky said he and his wife, Vera, were sitting in the lounge of their home in Skipton Road, the window of which faces in the direction of the Ilkley Golf Clubhouse. At about 7.5 p.m. on New Year's Eve he saw what appeared to be the lights of an aeroplane which he estimated to be about 2,000 feet up. The object was travelling in a west to east direction and would be about 150 feet long. Its lights had the appearance of the headlights of a car in fog. However the lights appeared to be at the back of the object.

## Sceptical

Mr. Basnett had always been sceptical about U.F.O.'s but he had never seen anything like this object. It was not an aeroplane because the airports were closed during that period and under normal circumstances the aeroplane which operated the flight from Edinburgh to Yeadon airport would have been passing over Ilkley at about 7.50 in the evening. "It was not a meteorite but was more like a rocket. The vision lasted between 30/40 seconds before disappearing.

Mr. Basnett was surprised that no other sightings of the object had been reported by Ilkley residents.

Sir Bernard Lovell declared that the idea of visits by denizens of other worlds belonged to science fiction. Ufologists were saying a lot of well-known astronomers were basically at the "flat

earth" stage and that was why they did not believe in U.F.O.'s some scientists were saying there were possibly hundreds of other intelligent races in the universe — some immeasurably older and wiser than ourselves. According to Einstein's theory the universe had an ultimate speed of 186,000 miles per second, the speed of light. The nearest civilisation to earth would be so far off that even a radio signal would take several hundred years to make the journey. Nobody had any idea how to design a spacecraft to travel at the speed of light. Any clever "neighbours" would take hundreds of years to reach earth.

## Other Sightings

Several people living in the Bradford and Keighley area have reported sighting a mystery object in the sky at about the same time as Mr. Basnett. They thought it looked like an aircraft on fire.

Mrs. N. R. Byrne, of Gillington Road who was formerly in the Royal Observer Corps estimated the U.F.O. was at about 21,000 feet and very large while Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Messer of Riddlesden, Keighley, saw from their bedroom window mystery objects move across the sky from Keighley toward Riddlesden. A Queenbury woman, Mrs. Rhodes saw the object flashing across the sky at exactly the same time as Mr. Basnett on New Year's Eve.

However this Bradford U.F.O. is in the record book; now as a Russian Rocket launcher breaking up in the earth's atmosphere.

## Possible explanation for UFO

Sir, You may be interested in further information about the UFO seen by Mr. John Basnett on New Year's Eve (Ilkley Gazette 5.1.79). I too saw this object. I was star gazing, using 7 x 50 binoculars when my attention was drawn to the sighting reported by Mr. Basnett. The object was comet shaped, yellow with a long glowing tail, and a point of even brighter yellow close to the head. I first sighted the object in the constellation Ursa Major. It was travelling fast, certainly quicker than an aeroplane, in an east to west direction, parallel to the ground. I reported my sighting to Mr. G. Spalding, Meteor Section Director of the Junior Astronomical Society. Part of his reply reads as follows. —

"This object was seen by many hundreds of people in E Scotland and NE England. My father and myself were among the astonished spectators, from near Kirriemuir, Angus in Scotland. The object was almost certainly either a decaying satellite launch vehicle or a bright meteor. In view of the very slow speed relative to most fireballs, I am inclined to the former possibility — the object was undoubtedly over the North Sea when it happened. Regarding UFO's, the object was certainly a UFO in the sense that it has not yet been fully identified. But it was not a UFO in the flying saucer sense! Descriptions of objects such as this one will tend to vary, since many observers are not astronomers, and most witnesses (including myself) are taken by surprise."

Out of interest, the time of object sighting was generally agreed at 1904 UT (7.04 p.m.).

Joanna M. Bytheway  
Age 14, Member of the  
Junior Astronomical  
Society, Pupil of Ilkley  
Grammar School  
24, St. Paul's Rise,  
Addingham. 19.1.79.

# ACROSS THE YEARS 5.1.79 NOTABLE CONTRIBUTORS DIE IN 11 DAYS

## 100 Years Ago

Three representatives of noted families who had contributed much to the advancement of Ilkley during 1878 died during the year, said the Ilkley Gazette. "The first thing that strikes us is the number of bereavements we have experienced during so short a period of time, several of the old inhabitants having passed away. Foremost, & most revered and deplored, is that of the late venerable and grey-haired vicar, the Rev. John Snowden, whose memory must always be held dear not only by churchmen but by all parishioners of whatever shade of religious thought, and it is not too much to say he was respected and loved as only a man of his character and standing could be loved and respected. Then we come to note the decease of two old inhabitants, namely Miss Elizabeth Beanland, who represented one of the oldest families of original Ilkley, and the late Mr. John Dobson senr., a leading helper of Robert Collyer and who took a foremost part in the first rise and progress of the village. There have been several sad calamities in our midst, three very sudden deaths, all of which transpired within eleven days, causing no small amount of consternation. A word of praise for the Local Board for having completed and opened the Cemetery which is nothing short of an ornament to the place. And also for the work of beautifying and renovating the Tarn and its approach. The Primitive Methodists opened a new chapel in Leeds Road, two months later the great work of building the new St. Margaret's Church was inaugurated with an imposing ceremony; and following this the Roman Catholics laid the foundation stone of a new church and schools. The past year has witnessed the formation of a School Board and the excitement consequent upon its introduction will not easily be forgotten.

## 75 Years Ago

During the year 1903 Ilkley in common with most health resorts and the country generally experienced anything but a prosperous time. The bad weather had most disastrous effects on the visiting

season, though compared with some similar resorts Ilkley fared exceedingly well, but the season nevertheless was uncommonly short. So said the Ilkley Gazette reviewing the year 1903. Very little was done in the building trade throughout the year, and many outdoor workers at times found employment of any kind impossible to obtain, but happily various public works to be taken in hand shortly held out the prospect of a much improved state of things in this respect during the coming year. The free library, public offices and a ssembly hall which the District Council have decided to erect in Station Road is a scheme involving an outlay of £10,000 in buildings alone, and a very large proportion of this will be paid in local labour. Then there is the Brook Street extension scheme which the coming summer is likely to see pushed forward much more expeditiously now that obstacles hitherto in the way of the project being carried out are practically removed, while the taking in hand of the improvement of Springs Lane will give the Coronation Hospital Committee an opportunity of proceeding with the erection of their buildings. A large amount of other work already ensured has been rendered possible through the District Council's action in putting into operation the provisions of the Private Street Works Act in relation to a number of streets and roads some of which are already undergoing reconstruction and repair. Work therefore promises to be fairly plentiful during the year and with the erection of the assembly hall it is hoped that are ere long visitors who favour Ilkley with their presence may through its medium be provided with something more in the nature of attractions than has hitherto been the case.

## 50 Years Ago

Over 130 people attended the Ilkley Old People's Party, the fifth annual event of its kind in the town. The Order of Crusaders provided door to door transport, together with Mrs. Foster and Mr. G. Layfield. The Winter Gardens was described as a scene of good humour, merriment and animation such as few towns could rival.

Burley British Legion held their third annual dinner at the Red Lion Hotel, Major M. McQueen was in the chair in the absence of the president, Major B. Butler. Songs and duets were given to a company of 75 by Mr. H. Weightman, and Mr. Rawson. Comedy was provided by Mr. Jack White with monologues by Dr. Melvinn. The pianist was Mr. F. Mann. The host and hostesses were Capt. and Mrs. A. Powney.

Burby's Mammoth Winter Sale offered many bargains. Pure wool jumper suits at 20/- each, plaid knickers at 2/11 (in heavy art silk with elastic legs). Fleeced lined knicks (for the cold blooded?) at 1/6, woven winter combinations at 2/11, pure silk stockings were offered at 3/11, rich brocne corsets at 2/11, evening gowns 2 guineas and felt hats from 2/6.

## 25 Years Ago

The New Year was welcomed in Ilkley with the usual "festive enthusiasm" at dances in the hotels and public halls. A total of 176 old folks, all over 70 years of age attended the Old Folks' Christmas treat in the King's Hall Annex. They were entertained by the "Optimists" concert party from Skipton. Records were provided by David Hinchcliffe. Carols were played on an amplifier loaned by Mr. P. Clegg. Transport was provided by the Ilkley Rotary Club.

Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club, faced the second half of the season in a fairly good position. They had had an unbeaten home record. The leading scorers were — P. Atkin-on, J. C. Oates, S. Atkinson, M. Dixon, A. Taylor and J. Taylor.

A local garage advertised a Daimler Conquest at £1,600 inclusive of tax. A Humber Hawk was modestly priced at £985.

Sooty and Harry Corbett invited Ilkley children to their Christmas part at the King's Hall. The price of the tickets was 1/6.

# TOWNHEAD MILL PARTLY GUTTED IN BLAZE 19.1.79

Fire in the early hours of yesterday morning (Thursday) partly gutted Townhead Mill at Addingham causing damage estimated at thousands of pounds to furnishings stored in the building.

Part of the building was used as a warehouse and workshop by Mr. A. David Faling, the Ilkley furnisher. Furniture, carpets and other items were destroyed in the fire discovered about one o'clock in the morning. Fire

brigades from Ilkley and Silsden prevented the fire from spreading to other parts of the former mill used by Sheepskin Products Ltd. and Chapel Street Antiques. Ground level accommodation used by the International Wool Secretariat as a store-room was also affected.

Picture from Main Street shows part of the burned out building which completely destroyed the roof.



# GRAZING ON ILKLEY MOOR 12.1.79

Questions on the grazing of sheep on Ilkley Moor were raised by Cr. J. L. Freeman when he said the moor had long been recognised as being over grazed with sheep compared with the rest of Rombalds Moor.

"As the Manager of Ilkley Moor when does the Metropolitan Council anticipate restricting this grazing to prevent the heather being decimated?" asked Cr. Freeman.

Replying Cr. Singleton said the part of Rombalds Moors owned by Bradford Metropolitan Council comprised 1,400 acres of which 1,150 acres were considered suitable for grazing at a level of about two sheep per acre.

Rights of grazing on Ilkley Moor land (adjoining Lurley Moor) had been provisionally registered in respect of nine separate landholdings and for a total of 2,490 sheep, under the Commons Registration Act of 1965.

In 1970 the former Ilkley Urban Council objected to all those provisional registrations on the grounds that the numbers of sheep quoted were too high.

A sheep count taken on 2 November found 1,279 sheep grazing on Ilkley Moor and 1,086 grazing on all the rest of Rombalds Moor.

This dispute could only be settled by the Commons Commissioners. It was not yet known when the matter would be heard but, hopefully, it would be this year, said Cr.

# WORST SNOW SINCE 1947 BRINGS ILKLEY AREA ALMOST TO STANDSTILL

The worst snow since the big freeze of 1947 brought the Ilkley district almost to a standstill at the weekend, with snow falling continuously for 36 hours from Friday morning covering the area to a depth of almost a foot. Strong winds drifted the snow on Friday and Saturday, in places several feet deep, and hampered snow ploughs by blowing back snow already cleared from the roads.

The weather worsened throughout Friday, and by Saturday morning a number of roads were impassable. Conditions became hazardous throughout Saturday, despite the efforts of snow ploughs and gritters which kept the main roads open. Many motorists sensibly left their cars at home and wellington boots and sledges became the order of the day.

Some milkmen in the Ilkley area made Saturday's deliveries on Friday night because of the bad conditions, and were full of praise for the way householders had helped by clearing their paths where possible.

The Addingham to Skipton road was blocked for some hours, and over thirty people had to spend the night at Skipton police station after being stranded on the Skipton to Harrogate road near Bolton Abbey.

Bus services in Ilkley suffered delays and the train service from Ilkley was curtailed at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday due to a shortage of staff, many of whom had been unable to get to work because of the snow.

Traffic built up gradually later in the day as the more adventurous dug their cars out of snow covered drives, but most motorists seemed to prefer to leave that task until Sunday.

Although there was a slight thaw on Sunday the later freezing temperatures and further light snow showers kept the situation static, and conditions were not helped by the one day strike of council workers on Monday which meant no gritting or salting was carried out.

It was also stated that the lack of heavy vehicles due to the lorry drivers' strike contributed in some way to the chaos on the roads because the heavy lorries usually tended to help disperse the snow as it settled.

Some of the outlying farms in the Ilkley area were cut off from Friday night until Monday lunchtime. Reynards, of Windover Farm on the Langbar Road at Middleton had to get a private contractor to clear the road on Monday because of the council workers strike.

They could not get their milk away on Saturday, and had to take it down to the monastery, where the road was clear, on Sunday. Drifts were over six feet deep and conditions were the worst they could remember in 32 years at the farm.

It had been a struggle to get all the stock in, but there was enough food for the animals at the moment.

A spokesman for the Milk Marketing Board said he thought milk suppliers in the Ilkley area had been coping fairly well so far.

Addingham Parish Councillor Stanley Flesher, of Ghyll House Farm on Addingham Moorside, was still

snowed in yesterday (Thursday). He told the "Gazette" he had been snowed in since Friday afternoon, and while he was prepared to wait three or four days for the road to be cleared he thought the authorities had been "a bit long-winded" this time.

Cr. Flesher said there were fifteen houses affected, with eighteen children who had to go to school. The only way out was to walk, although he had managed with some difficulty to get out by Land Rover.

He said he had raised the same matter at Parish Council meetings some years ago and had been told that as there were so few houses on that road it did not have a very high priority, but he intended bringing up the matter again.



Picture shows the Langbar road at Middleton shortly after it was re-opened after being blocked by snow for two days.

## ACROSS THE YEARS 9. 1. 79

### ILKLEY BEING IMPROVED BY "RUTHLESS HAND"

#### 100 Years Ago

"Ilkley is being improved off its original site by the ruthless hand of the innovator," said the Ilkley Free Press in January 1879. "Few are the remaining landmarks of the mediaeval period to remind us of its pastoral stage of existence and even these are getting smaller by degrees and beautifully less. The latest step in this direction appears to have been taken during the last few days — by a purely voluntary act on the part of the cottages themselves. We allude to the self-destruction of the old buildings at the end of Bridge Lane, the walls of which are presently threatening to bring down the roof on the heads of the unoffending inmates. It is all very fine to put the fault on the weather; but our belief is that the shabby old shakeries, shamed out of all self-conceit by their more spicily neighbours, are determined to put an end to the tedious comparison altogether as the Local Board won't."

One of the most sensible projects in connection with the present distress has been the establishment of a soup kitchen in the Working Men's Hall, reported the Ilkley Free Press. It reminded a writer of the state of things in Ilkley in the long winter of 1878-9. On one recent day four stones of bread and twenty gallons of soup were disposed of but unfortunately many people had to go without. This information continued the Free Press, would start an immediate improvement in the flow of subscriptions and the supply would be doubted there being only too many who would be glad to receive a hot and nourishing pint of soup and four ounces of bread. The report contained a tribute to those who were volunteering their time and the donors of food. Mr. T. H. Bentley, manager of the Middleton Hotel, in a letter to the Free Press, made suggestions for improving the supply of food to destitute Ilkley people.

Committees, formed for the alleviation of distress in the Ilkley district included the following places Brewery and Railway Roads, Wellington Road, Nelson Street and Lower Wellington Road, Ash Grove, Brick Houses and Wheatley, Leeds Road, Weston Road, Wharfe View Road, Brook Street, Castle Yard and Bridge Lane, Addingham Road and Chapel Lane.

#### 75 Years Ago

There was only a poor gathering to welcome Mr. Whitaker Thompson, prospective Unionist candidate for the Otley Division when he addressed a meeting in St. Margaret's Hall in January, 1904. Circumstances had affected the attendance and there were apologies for this. There were, it was reported, several Liberals among the audience but these gave Mr. Thompson a fair hearing.

The Ilkley Habitation of the Primrose League held their annual ball in the Winter Garden of the Wells House Hotel in January 1904. Music was provided by Mr. W. Dean's band and the M.C. was Mr. H. Moellar with Messrs R. Brogden E. Brogden, G. E. Boden, M. Halwksworth, C. Moon, J. Moon and W. Whitehead as stewards. The supper was provided by Mr. Ballardie.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. C. Stephenson the annual meeting of the Ilkley Orpheus Glee Union was held at the Wharfedale Restaurant in January, 1904. The annual report was read by Mr. T. W. Crawshaw who said a most successful year had been enjoyed. Christmas singing had again taken place and it proved to be the most successful ever held. Mr. G. W. Thompson was elected Chairman, Mr. W. Cowling treasurer and Mr. Crawshaw was re-elected.

Members of the Ilkley Council band and friends held a social at the Wharfedale Restaurant. Mr. J. W. Farratt gave several recitations, Master J. Ridealgh sang a solo and there was dancing to music provided by Mr. A. V. Rennison (piano) and Mr. W. S. Bellerby (cornet).

Under the chairmanship of the Rev. Dr. Muntz Ilkley Parish Church choir and bell-ringers met at the Royal Hotel. Supporting the Vicar were the Rev. T. E. Taylor (senior curate), Mr. W. Mitton and Mr. S. B. Wheldon (wardens) and Mr. Issac Hirst (organist).

#### 50 Years Ago

Ilkley's hillside roads echoed to the cry of "By Leave" as all manner of sledges went hurtling by down steep and slippery slopes. The revellers varied from tiny tots on their tummies to parties of four or five adults on the large bobsleighs. Skies were clear blue with winter sun, and parties of skiers on Ben Rhydding Golf course described the place as a "Little Switzerland."

A new stamp machine placed outside Ilkley Post Office was described as "a decided boon" to people wishing to catch the last post with their letters. People were earnestly advised however to go "armed with a supply of pennies, and half pennies" before attempting to use the machine.

The little chapel of Middleton Lodge was crowded to utmost capacity to see the Right Rev. Dr. Cowgill, Bishop of Leeds, raise sixteen students to the priesthood at the first Ordination to be held at the Retreat of the Passionist Fathers. At the end of the Mass the young priests gave their blessing to relatives and members of the congregation.

#### 25 Years Ago

Only four members including the chairman, Mr. J. Hadley, attended the monthly meeting of Addingham Parish Council. Mr. C. Wall proposed in view of this that their meetings should be held once every two months but the suggestion was rejected.

A successful supper dance was held by the Old Ilkleyians Association at the Royal Hotel. Prizes were won by Miss B. Crone and Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hague. Arrangements were made for a rugby match versus the school.

Weather in Ilkley was particularly bad in January, 1954, with gale force winds and heavy rain, followed by severe flooding along the banks of the River Wharfe. The Ilkley-Otley road was flooded to a depth of more than two feet, and traffic was being diverted through Menston.

### HONOUR FOR ILKLEY FIRM

The only complete edition known to exist in this country of Caxton's Fables of Aesop, dating from 1484, has travelled from the Queen's Library at Windsor Castle to the premises of Scholar Press, the Ilkley printing firm.

The fact that this priceless book was allowed to be sent to Scholar Press is an indication of the high regard that the Ilkley printing firm is held by the academic world as publishers of high quality facsimile books. The firm was established in 1956.

Microfilm or photocopy are out of the question completely for a firm like Scholar who aim to reproduce an original book in as exact a manner as possible—to the extent of using the same colour of inks, papers, binding materials, and even blemishes from the master copy.

SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTS  
FIRST PRESIDENT

## 100 Years Ago

The first meeting of the Ikley School Board appointed unanimously Mr. F. W. Fison as its president. Proposed by the Rev. W. Pope there was some time elapsing before the Rev. A. C. Downer sat waiting for someone to second him as vice-Chairman and when Mr. J. C. Naylor was put forward as a second choice it was obvious that although there were two nominations, members of the Board were still unsure of the position and as proposer and seconder voted for Mr. Naylor he was declared elected.

"It appears strange that the good folk of Ikley did not respond to the invitation given them to attend a meeting for the consideration of the future of our Horticultural Society. The Chairman on that occasion was much disappointed and not without cause," said the Gazette. "Owing to the shocking weather on the last flower show day the Society has escaped the notice of a large number whose presence and help would have been lent at the meeting. The Chairman remarked, that those who were there did the best they could without them. Officers for the year were elected or re-elected, amongst the latter being a gentleman whose work in the past appears to have been so much valued by the Society, that no one else would consent to accept the office. The secretary's efforts have certainly been arduous and by dint of much perseverance on his part a large fraction of the Society's success is attributable to his exertions. It is to be hoped that the new Committee and other office bearers together with the co-operation of Ikley in general may bring the Society into more prosperous paths."

## 75 Years Ago

A deputation from the Ikley District Council consisting of Messrs. J. W. Benn (Chairman), J. W. Dixon, E. Lord, W. H. Scott (solicitor), F. Hall (clerk) waited upon the Wharfedale Rural District Council and asked that body to contribute £38 10s. per annum towards the maintenance of the Brook Street Bridge. Mr. Benson said the scheme had been undertaken at great cost and the relative apportionments were—Wharfedale Estate Company £3,500; County Council, £6,000; Ikley Urban Council, £2,500. These figures made a total of £17,000. With the value of the land this would mean a capital expenditure of £22,000. An estimate of the annual cost of maintenance of the bridge amounted to £77 half of which they desired the Wharfedale Council to contribute. The Estate Company's private scheme meant a bridge 30ft. wide which would also be a toll bridge. If Wharfedale Rural Council joined in the objections lodged against the big scheme by Ikley Urban District Council, the minority would be removed and the bridge made 42 feet wide and free into the bargain. Chairman of the Wharfedale Rural Council proposed that they contribute £38 10s. annually and this was accepted after Mr. Dawson had seconded.

## 50 Years Ago

There were strong protests from Denton villagers following the recommendation by the Ikley Education Committee to take steps to close Denton School.

The suggestion was that the school be closed and children conveyed daily to Ben Rhydding Council school. At a meeting at Denton called by Mr. Arthur J. Hill, of Denton Park, and his agent, Mr. B. Taylor, practically 100 per cent of inhabitants from moorside and outlying farms tramped to the meeting to protest against the closure of the school, and it was agreed unanimously to send a protest to Wakefield.

The Rev. Charles L. Tweedale, Vicar of Weston, was the writer of an article on "A Voice from Beyond" in which he described receiving a message from a dead friend, a fellow astronomer, Mr. John Turney Wood, who spoke to Mrs. Tweedale with details of a new comet. Rev. Charles Tweedale was well-known at this time for his preaching of spiritualism from the pulpit of Weston Church.

"Constant Nymph" with Ivor Novello and Mabel Poulton was the chief attraction at the Ikley Picture House, followed by a hilarious comedy with Monty Banks "Good Time Charlie."

## 25 Years Ago

It was proposed by members of the governing body of Ikley Secondary School that an invitation should be sent to Alderman W. M. Hyman, Chairman of the West Riding Education Committee, to ask him to attend as a member of the school's governing board, a special meeting to discuss proposals for a new secondary school at Ikley. The land for this purpose was 17.25 acres in Victoria Avenue, allocated for future educational use.

Mr. Frank W. M. Newbould was appointed headmaster of Otley Church of England junior mixed school in succession to Mr. R. Leigh. Mr. Newbould was an old boy of Ikley Grammar School.

Mr. Charles Hobbs presided over the Ben Rhydding St. John's Choir dinner, held for adults of the choir at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Ikley. Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs received many congratulations from choir members on their diamond wedding. The toast to the health of the choir was proposed by Mr. G. Barlow and responded to by Mr. H. Dalby. The vicar, the Rev. A. Edgar thanked the choir for their valuable service to the church.

MELTING SNOW BRINGS FLOODING  
TO LOW LYING LAND 12/1/79

Following a week of frost and snow a quick thaw last Saturday brought with it flooding to low lying land and roads close to the River Wharfe.

The snow almost disappeared overnight but such quick thaws always give rise to the danger of flooding and a close watch was kept on a quickly rising river at Ikley on Sunday.

Though parts of the Nesfield and Denton Roads were covered with water at some time, together with riverside footpaths, there was no serious alarm and the river was well within its banks by Monday.

A combination of heavy rain in December and melting snow last weekend contributed to the river overflowing its banks on Sunday. Weather figures showed that the rainfall for December was double the average for that month. In addition over three inches of rain fell during the last week-

end of the year. Consequently Ikley Moor had reached saturation point and water was running off the surface at a quick rate.

The River Wharfe proved to be the highest rising river on Sunday in the Western Division of the Yorkshire Water Authority. It rose seven feet above its normal level.

At a point just below the New Bridge the river quickly burst its banks and the water channelled on to the riverside walk to form a miniature lake. Well before noon the river had gone well beyond the trees which line the banks on the north side of the river. There were also reports of land and roads being covered at points on Nesfield Road, at Ikley Golf course and the stepping stones across the river at

Denton Road.

Despite this flooding the roads continued to be accessible and there were no reports of major flooding in the locality of the Yorkshire Water Authority.

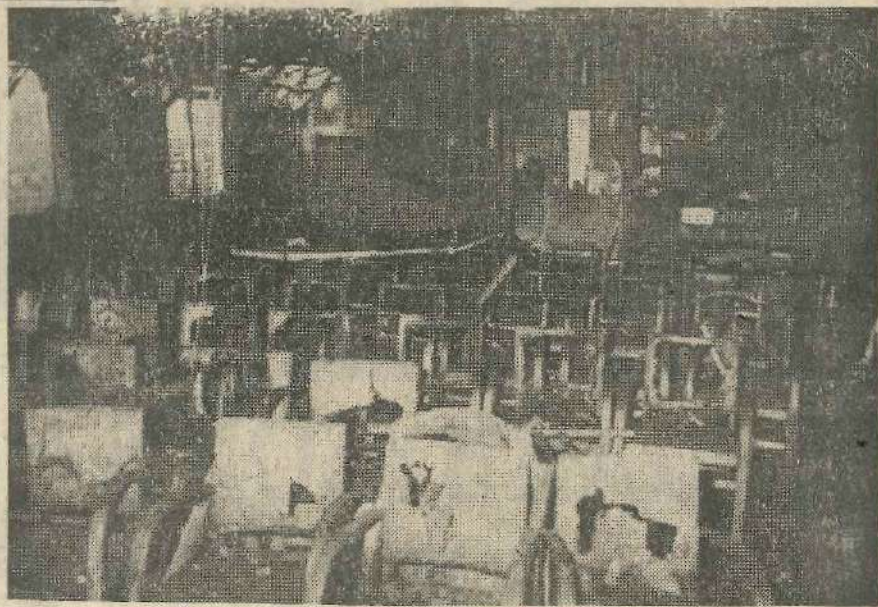
An official of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Water Authority at Bradford, Mr. J. R. Durkin, told the Gazette this week there had been a considerable number of calls throughout the area in relation to burst water pipes and workmen had been working all out to overcome these problems. Water mains and services had been affected through pipes being split when the thaw set in. Treatment plants on the moor above the Keighley Road and at Burley had also been affected though not to a serious extent.



Flooding on Nesfield Road close to Ikley Golf Club.



## Fire Destroys Kingdom Hall



Ilkley's Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall in Golden Batts Road was gutted by a fire which caused damage estimated at £20,000 in July, and had to be demolished. The Ilkley congregation was later offered a site at the bottom of Wellington Road for a replacement meeting place. Picture by Richard Beckwith, Ilkley. 1978

Telegraph & Argus, Tuesday, September 11, 1979

# Dales visitors are in danger, says report

Visitors to Gordale Scar, Malham Tarn and the Cove, in the Yorkshire Dales, are at serious risk of injury or death, according to an official conservation report.

The Malham study steering group say that the large number of visitors to Gordale Scar has worn away the footpath to such an extent that the slopes are slippery and dangerous, with an unstable scree slope spreading across a large part of the surface.

"School parties using the 'classic' route (Gordale Scar, Tarn and Cove) do so at risk of injury or death, especially in wet conditions. They are also accelerating the rate of erosion.

"The scree slopes along the valley sides are also being rapidly eroded and are becoming dangerous and unsightly."

The group recommend to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee that the only effective solution would be to improve or even engineer a path on the right hand side of the gorge.

"This will involve cutting steps or laying a carefully pegged, horizontal 'ladder' on the surface.

"The public should be

strongly discouraged from walking on, or up, the valley side scree."

### Beauty

They say the beauty and fame of Gordale have created problems. A public right of way ascends the waterfall, and pressure of numbers is causing major deterioration of an important feature of the waterfall — the soft tufa deposits consisting of layers of calcium carbonate in the centre of the stream bed.

"It is estimated that over ten feet have been eroded in the past ten years. The deposits constitute a remarkably fine and important feature, particularly the large central deposit in the lower part of the fall where the pressure of foot erosion is most severe."

They recommend that the most feasible solution would be to construct a timber staircase at the left side of the waterfall, to by-pass the most vulnerable section.

"If dark-stained timber is used, this need not be visually intrusive and indeed is likely to be much less intrusive than even more dramatic erosion scars which will inevitably develop if nothing is done."

The Park Committee will consider the comprehensive report on Thursday.

## LOCAL BOARD REDUCED BY SIX TO TWELVE

MEMBERS 12.1.79

The decision of Dr. J. F. Little to raise the matter again at the next meeting caused quite a rumpus. It was evident that Mr. Gaunt's attempt to reduce the number of Local Board members from 18 to 12 did not meet with the approval of everyone. The meetings of the Ilkley Local Board were eventually referred to that in London and a special inquiry was ordered for Ilkley. In March 1869 after a special inquiry the Local Board ordered that the membership should be reduced as Mr. Gaunt had consistently demanded to 12 and the first election was held at the end of 1869. Mr. John Hartley became the first Chairman.

(Concluded)

And so Dr. Little after a lively debate lost his proposition by a narrow vote. He criticised some members on this occasion after the compliments he had paid them at the previous meeting, and there were times when his comments brought about scenes of disorder. The chairman, Mr. John Hartley, intervened as Dr. Little was attacking three members in turn — Messrs. Hainsworth, Hartley and Gaunt — with references to various passages in their careers.

Mr. J. Wilde seconded the motion to rescind and said if the reduction, if brought about, "would be one of the greatest calamities that could happen to Ilkley." When the Local Board came into being with 18 members, Ilkley had about 2,000 inhabitants; now it had 5,000 or 6,000. If the proposition was carried it would still have to come before the rate payers. Were they prepared to put themselves in such a false position?

Mr. Gaunt began his reply by saying he would treat Dr. Little's comments with great contempt. A scene of confusion ensued as Dr. Little objected to the word "contempt" and asked for its withdrawal. After some excitement Mr. Gaunt reluctantly agreed to withdraw the word "contempt" but said he meant it all the same. An attitude hardly likely to reduce the tension, nor did it do so.

Seven voted for Dr. Little's motion to rescind and eight against it.

A meeting of the ratepayers held in December to consider the proposal was marred by the collapse and death of Mr. Joseph Lund, of Eldermere, Grove Road, shortly after he had seconded a motion proposed by Mr. J. F. Chapman expressing strong disapprobation of the action of the Local Board in taking steps to reduce the number of its members without first consulting the ratepayers.

Mr. Chapman thought the action of the Local Board was detrimental to all their interests, and Mr. Lund, seconding the resolution, thought it seemed an absurdity to reduce 18 of their best men to 12.

Dr. Little was explaining his attitude to the Local Board proposal when his attention was drawn to Mr. Lund, who appeared to have fainted. Dr. Little immediately went to Mr. Lund's assistance and was joined by Dr. Dobson, who had been amongst the audience. Their efforts were of no avail and they had to announce that Mr. Lund had died. The meeting was thereupon adjourned.

Mr. Lund was in business as a book seller and stationer until his resignation. He built Eldermere in 1874. He was 63 years of age.

### Meeting resumes

When the meeting was resumed just before Christmas the ratepayers had some harsh things to say about the Board members in favour of the reduction. The meeting began in the vestry of the Parish

The motion put to the previous meeting and seconded by Mr. Lund was put again by Mr. J. F. Chapman and seconded this time by Mr. Hood, who addressed the meeting, as did Dr. Little.

Mr. J. C. Naylor expressed astonishment that the eight members of the Board who had supported the reduction proposal were not present at that meeting and others supported that view.

Mr. E. P. Dove commented that he had been sent by the ratepayers to represent them on the Local Board and the opposition of Mr. Gaunt, or a thousand Mr. Gaunts, made no more difference to him than a thousand midges.

The resolution was carried, there was a vote of censure on the Local Board and it was decided to form a Ratepayers' Association.

In the same issue of the Gazette a letter from Mr. John Gaunt occupied a column and a half of the Free Press and at the end of December the newspaper carried a reply from opponents to the proposed reduction.

At the Local Board meeting in January, 1867, the chairman, Mr. W. Holmes, was asked to call a public meeting but he replied he had no power to do so. Nevertheless, after a lengthy discussion which, commented the Gazette, had really no material bearing on the matter whatever, a vote was taken which showed an equal vote until the chairman voted against the request for a meeting.

A special meeting of the Local Board was held in mid-January at which Mr. Dove failed with a resolution to rescind Mr. Gaunt's proposal to reduce the number of members to 12.

A suggestion of a public inquiry came from the Local Government Board in London, and the Ilkley Board agreed to reply that certain allegations in a letter sent from the ratepayers' meeting were incorrect.

A public inquiry was held in February and the inspector commented that he had heard a good many opinions advanced against the application but no substantial reasons why the proposed reduction would not be advisable.

It was announced in March that the application had been approved.

Mr. William Margerison became clerk at a salary of £20 a year, Mr. John Wild surveyor and nuisance inspector at a salary of £55 a year, Mr. Thomas J. Critchley treasurer at £5 a year. These appointments created three vacancies and the Board elected Messrs. Cockshott, Walker, John Milner and James Denby to fill them. There were strong accusations about a private meeting being held earlier in the day of the first meeting to settle matters before the annual meeting.

The first step in improving the district was to agree that the surveyor be asked to prepare specification for letting the repairing of the Cowpasture-Hangingstone Road from L. Margerison's farmyard gate to the extremity of the district.

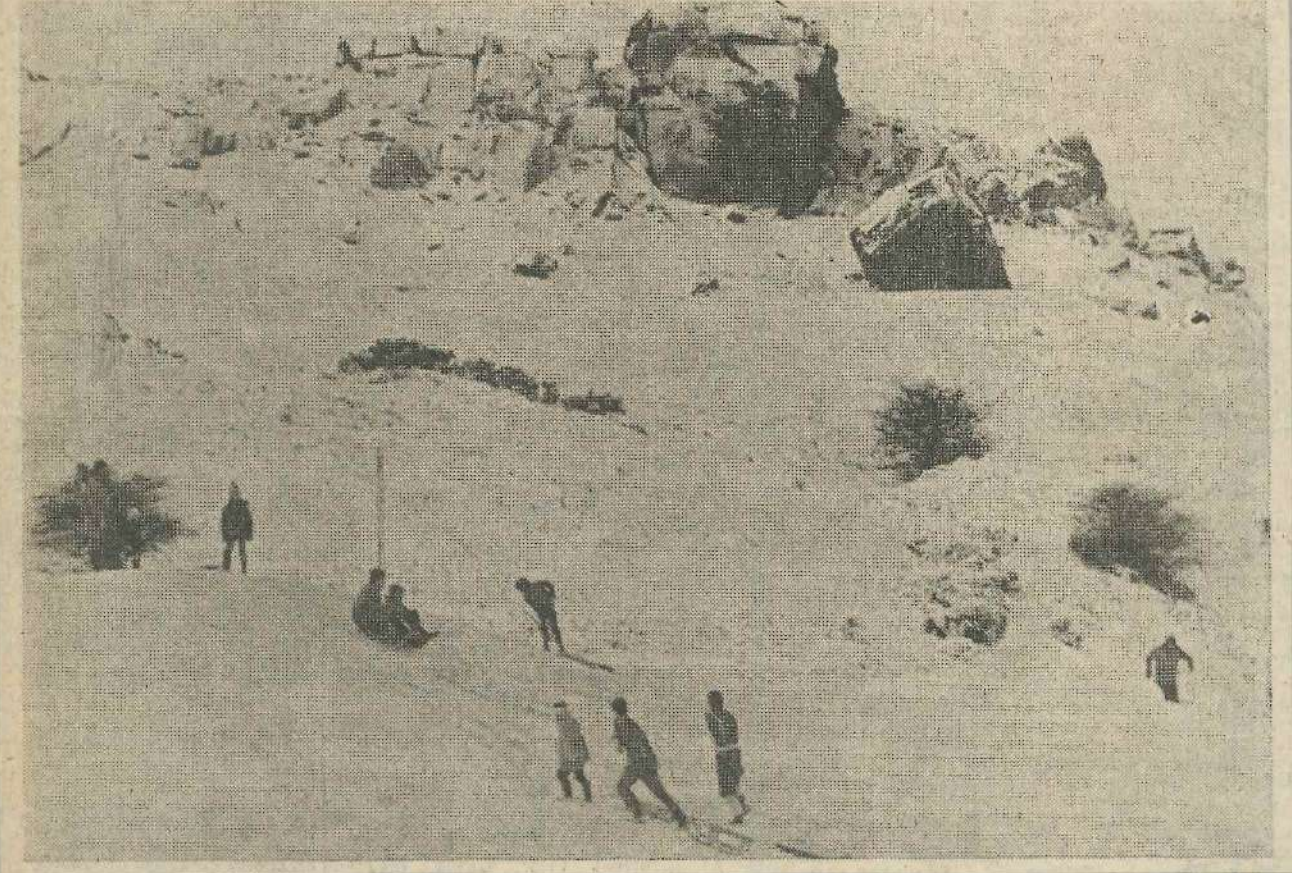
## NEW YEAR WINTER SPORTS FOR ILKLEY

While the rugby, soccer and hockey codes recorded a blank week-end, the winter sports of sledging and even skiing were in evidence on the higher slopes of Ilkley Moor during the week-end and the New Year. The snow arrived just a week too late to set the weather experts searching back in the records for the date of the last time the

locality had a white Christmas. However, there was disappointment for skating enthusiasts as thick snow covered the surface of the Tarn which in any case was not safe for skating. At least ten degrees of frost were recorded on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Although milk tanker drivers from Saturday

morning onwards experienced difficulty in reaching some of the outlying farms on both Addingham and Langbar moorsides services were almost back to normal on Wednesday morning. Mr. G. W. Main, Regional Transport Officer for the Milk Marketing Board responsible for distributing milk from the farms to Ilkley, Bradford, West

Yorkshire, and parts of Lancashire told the "Gazette" some difficulty in getting through to the outlying farms in Ilkley and district was experienced after the heavy falls of snow on Friday, Saturday and Sunday but services were almost back to normal. Picture shows children sledging, and a skier on a Ben Rhydding hillside below the Cow and Calf rocks on Tuesday.



## Couple are restoring a 19th century watermill

A Bingley businessman and his wife are busy restoring a 19th century watermill with the idea of converting it into a crafts centre.

Mr. Robert Elwood and his wife Jan bought Hall Royd Mill, Beck Road, Micklethwaite, last year and have been hard at work making it habitable. They hope to restore a giant water wheel and put the

By Malcolm Flanagan

mill back in working order. They then plan to run a residential craft centre, where people from all over the country can stay in the mill and learn country crafts. Robert and Jan have a lot of experience in country crafts. Until moving to

Micklethwaite they were running craft weekend courses at their old Bromley Road, Bingley, home for many years.

"We have a jewellery and potters workshop, and through advertising in various magazines we have found there are a growing number of people prepared to spend a holiday learning a craft," said Robert.

### Heritage

"With larger property we will be able to run weeklong residential courses. The mill was originally built in 1812 as a water-powered flour mill and we thought it would be nice to restore it to its original working order, as such buildings are part of our heritage and we are in danger of losing them forever.

"However, the former owners of the mill were scrap merchants, and a lot of the mill has been stripped for scrap, so we are having to start from the beginning again. It is going to be a long job."

## New Middle School Taking Shape at Addingham

1978



Work was well under way on construction of Addingham's new Middle School on land at the junction of Back Beck Lane and Bolton Road when the picture above was taken in April. The new, \$440,000 school will accommodate 260

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# SOME 25 ILKLEY FAMILIES IN GREAT DISTRESS

## 100 Years Ago

Some 25 families were in great distress in January, 1879, and a Committee of appeal was formed to make arrangements to help them. Said the Gazette "Although the working classes of Ilkley have had to suffer during the winter of 1878-9 from the late bitter weather, they have made no demonstrative appeal to public notice being taken for affording relief before the beginning of the present week, but once steps were taken there was no time lost in organising an efficient system and much good work has been done. In connection with this movement we cannot help noticing that Mr Lambert out of a little fund of his own raising has already been able to supply the pressing wants of a few poor families and there are several instances of neighbourly assistance on record."

A meeting was held at the Ilkley Library when amongst those present were the Revs. A. C. Downer, W. Danks, S. D. Hillman, E. J. Brailsford and E. O. Williams together with Messrs. T. P. Muir, W. Sharrow, A. Ward, E. M. Begg, J. Bartley, W. Milton, Boyd and Binner. The Rev. S. D. Hillman was in the chair. Mr. Ward was proposed by Mr. Brailsford as secretary and unanimously appointed.

Wesleyan minister, the Rev. E. J. Brailsford, said the Chairman had been told by Mr. John Lambert of Church Street of some 20 to 25 families in distress and asking if something could not be done to relieve their distress. He had visited the homes of several of the several of the parties on the parties on the and witnessed a great deal of the distress existing. Wesleyan were prepared to hand in £10 and the Congregationalists had raised £22 3s. 7d. by a collection.

Asked if there was a list of people needing help the Chairman did not think so but names had been submitted to Dr. Johnstone who felt the names they had already were those of real and deserving cases.

After some discussion it was agreed that each minister should appoint one member of his congregation and these together with the ministers should form a committee. Sixteen ladies were also named as possible members of the Committee.

Mr. Ward said he had some tickets for immediate use and the Vicar of Ilkley was told these were for food or coal and not money. Mr. Lambert cited several cases "some of which were really pitiable."

There were several meetings at the Library and the town was divided up for the visiting committee as Brewery and Railway Road, Wellington Road, Nelson Street and Lower Wellington Road and Ash Grove.

## 75 Years Ago

At the first meeting of Ilkley Urban District Council in 1904 it was decided to continue with the suggestion that the Tarn should be lighted according to the scheme put forward. This idea had been influenced by the spell of cold water which had brought skating to the Tarn for some weeks. It was decided to recommend the idea to the Finance Committee for consideration when next year's estimates were being considered. The Council recommend that the West Riding County Education Committee be informed that the Urban District Council should form a separate area for educational purposes, and that the County Authority be asked to amend their proposed scheme of area to this effect. Plans were passed as follows.—Cottage hospital, Springs Lane; five cottages, workshop and stores, Wharfe View Road for Messrs. Nelson brothers. It was recommended that the conversion of Wharfe View House into two houses and shops for Nelson Bros. be not proceeded with; that this

## 50 Years Ago

Weather conditions in the town gave rise for the second time in the New Year to keen winter sports activity in Ilkley. Skating, skiing and tobogganing were enjoyed to the full. Skiing parties at the Ben Rhydding Golf hotel were out on the golf course, skaters tread their skills on the tarn and sledges were out on all the hills.

A depreciation of Sunday trading was made by Mr. William Dobson, on his election for the fourth year as president of the Ilkley Chamber of Trade. He much regretted the growth of Sunday opening, and whilst one had to cater as much as possible for the visitors, he claimed that the opening of shop premises for general trade was to be deprecated.

Busby's fur sale had unbeatable bargains, with fur coats on sale at £3. A super quality mink marmot coat was offered at £20, and a choice of moose gazelle and ponyskins from £8 to £12. Necklets and ties in squirrel, sable, stunk and bear were priced at 20/-.

## 25 Years Ago

Ilkley Urban Council proposed to notify persons pasturing sheep on Ilkley Moor, that as they had failed to justify their claims as to pasturage on the moor, sheep must be removed within three months of the date of notice. Although notified by the Clerk requiring certain particulars of their rights of pasturage only one farmer had produced particulars of his claim of rights. Wandering sheep, destroying gardens and allotments in the town had been a source of concern to the Council for a considerable time.

A Christmas party was held for children of the village in the Addingham Church of England schoolroom. Guests included the Rev. J. F. Wrangham Hardy, Mrs. Wrangham Hardy, Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Elsworth and Mrs. Doble. The Christmas tree had been donated by Mr. A. Green, of Denton.

Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club first team lost their unbroken home record to Vale of Lune and were defeated by five points to nil. The conditions on the ground were described as "shocking" with overnight frost turning to thick greasy mud in places.

On the property market a "delightfully situated modern semi" in Middleton was offered for sale at £3,250; a brick built semi in Ilkley at £2,300; and terraced houses from £1,000.

# Tony digs in for gold



THE BIT OF OLD ENGLAND turned up by a labourer working on foundations for a new meeting place behind Skipton Parish Church may have Anglo-Saxon origins.

Tony Law, who was digging among the clay soil of an old burial ground behind the 14th century church, thought initially that the piece of metal, less than a centimetre across, attached to the soil on his boot, was a button.

His father, John, who also works for the Cross Hills building firm of John Barritt, recognised the unvarnished metal as gold.

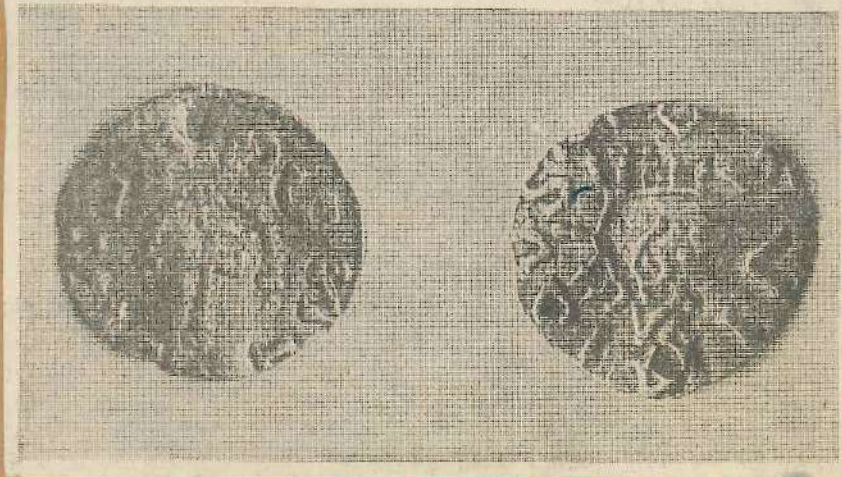
Assistant curator David Williams told the Herald that the coin was possibly Anglo-Saxon, dating from about 600 to 770 A.D. and known as a THYRMSA. He described the small coin as

having a cross on one side surrounded by a kind of wreath; some of the lettering possibly Runic as used by the Anglo-Saxons, could be made out. On the other side was the stylised head of a leader or king.

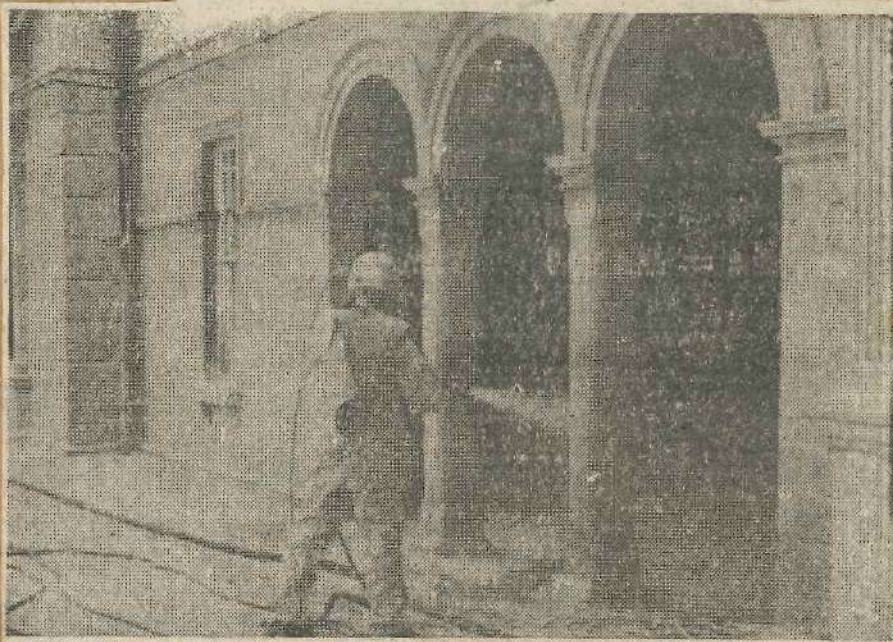
The museum have had photographs taken of the coin and these will be forwarded to the British Museum for a positive identification.

The Claro and Craven Coroner, Mr. Miles Coverdale, has been informed and a "treasure trove" inquest will be held.

Tony, who lives in Farnhill and who serves on the Craven Council, is among this group working on the foundations for the new hall. Below are both sides of the coin. Pictures: David Hyde Skipton.



## Facelift for Ilkley Station



Work started in October on a major clean-up scheme at Ilkley Railway Station, beginning with sandblasting of the building, which dates back to the 1860's. 1978



## Council Decided To Retain Trees In Addingham Road

100 Years Ago

Trees in Addingham Road should be sold and felled and with the money raised plant some ornamental trees, it was suggested at the meeting of the Ikley Local Board by the Chairman, Mr. W. Hartley. Such a course, however, was objected to by Mr. J. Kilner, who felt great reluctance in putting the axe to any tree which could be kept alive. He was supported by Mr. G. Newbould and others who voted in favour of retaining trees which could be retained.

Mr. J. Milner accused the Board of being penny wise and pound foolish because they had no means of drying out the hosepipes belonging to the Fire Brigade. They must either build a place in which to dry the hose or have a duplicate set purchased. There was a need to find somewhere to keep the hose dry and clean otherwise it would deteriorate. It was decided to hold a special meeting of the whole Board to discuss the matter.

The appointment of a Clerk to the Ikley Grammar School had been the subject of voluminous correspondence which had come from the Education Department and which would have to be carefully discussed, reported the Chairman, Mr. F. W. Fison. He read out ten applications for the vacant position as follows:—Mr. Breshon of Ikley; Mr. Charles Whitaker, solicitor, Ikley; Mr. John E. Lowery, accountant and Clerk to Otley School Board; Mr. George Brumfit, solicitor, Ikley; Mr. T. R. Vickers, post office assistant, Ikley; Mr. J. Anderson, schoolmaster, Bradford; Mr. H. B. Sewell, schoolmaster, Ikley College; Mr. Elms Ingham coal merchant, Ikley; Mr. T. J. Pape, contractor, Ikley; Mr. Bennet Lowe, photographer, Ikley. After careful consideration seven names were struck out, leaving Messrs. Whitaker, Brumfit and Sewell and eventually Mr. Whitaker was almost unanimously chosen. Mr. William Mitton, of the Ikley branch of the Bradford Old Bank offered himself as treasurer and was unanimously chosen. After some argument it was finally decided to appoint Mr. Moeller to the vacant position as a governor of Ikley Grammar School on the casting vote of the Chairman.

The fourth annual concert of the Ikley Vocal Society was given in the Working Men's Hall to a "full and fashionable audience." Mr. Alfred Broughton was the conductor and the soloists were Mr. Pollard (tenor), Miss May Tarbolton (alto), Miss Gatecliff (contralto), Mr. T. H. Scott, Mr. Tetley, Rev. E. J. Bralnsford, W. E. Press.

50 Years Ago

Ikley Grammar School Governors received a suggestion from the West Riding County Council Education Committee as to the possible use of Ikley Grammar School as a mixed school for both girls and boys. The conclusion reached by the Governors was that this proposal was entirely unacceptable and no section of the community wished for a mixed Secondary School. They expressed the view that it was their duty to safeguard the existing foundation of the school on its established lines as a boys school. Mr. W. Prest was elected Chairman of the Governors to succeed Canon C. J. Hamer.

Ikley was in the grip of one of the keenest frosts experienced for many years. The thermometers had fallen as low as 23 degrees of frost. The river was frozen over in several places, including the whole of the boating stretch at Ikley. It was intended to illuminate the tarn with electric lamps to provide facilities for evening skating. An explosion was caused as a result of the bad weather throwing the whole of a range out across the room including the oven. Three or four windows were smashed and doors blown out of their hinges as a result, the accident occurred at the home of Miss Tucker in Wyvil Crescent.

25 Years Ago

The Ikley and District Angling Club reported a good year despite the rising cost of trout, rent and rates and river maintenance. Mr. G. H. Smith was elected President with Mr. G. A. Fearnside as Chairman; Mr. W. Alison, secretary; and Mr. H. S. Ingleby, treasurer.

Mr. Robert Charles (20) of St. John's Park, Menston was awarded a £60 prize at Sandhurst, as one of the top cadets of the year. He was an old boy of Ikley Grammar School.

Ikley Grammar School Dramatic Society presented a polished performance of Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Ernest." Anthony Preston and Anthony Turnbull were in the leading male parts, with Janet Parker, Jennifer Leach and Edith Burrell as the leading ladies. The play was produced by Mr. and Mrs. T. Walker.

Mr. A. Bartle, English and Geography master at Ikley Grammar School for 33 years died suddenly at his home in Manley Road, Ben Rhydding. He was also the author of several Yorkshire dialect plays which had been regularly produced throughout the country.

75 Years Ago

St. Margaret's Hall was filled when a large number sat down to an excellent tea at the annual parochial tea and entertainment. The Rev. Irton Smith (vicar) presided and he was supported by the Rev. C. S. Thomas (curate) and Mr. J. Beanlands (vicar's warden). The Vicar of Ikley, the Rev. Dr. Muntz was there for a part of the time and then had to leave for another engagement. The Vicar made special mention of the splendid work being done with the infants in the Sunday School by Miss Douglas. He said it was hoped that by the operatic performance and what was made by the parochial tea to clear St. Margaret's Hall of debt this Easter.

Mr. C. J. Muir, president, occupied the chair at the annual meeting of the Ikley Liberal Club. The balance sheet showed the income to have amounted to £236 5s. 9d and the expenditure to £203 19s. 1d. Mr. Muir said that before he retired from office it was his intention to make out a cheque for the whole amount owing on the current account so as to put the club on a sound financial footing. Mr. H. J. C. Johnston was elected to succeed Mr. Muir; Mr. R. M. Green and Mr. G. W. Hampshire were elected Hon. Secretaries and Mr. W. Tomlinson was re-elected treasurer. Elected as Committee were Messrs. J. W. Benson, D. Robertson, G. Mennell, W. Sykes, R. Curwen, J. Hanson, H. Feather, J. Dean and E. Hornby.

## Tree Planted to Com memorate Silver Jubilee



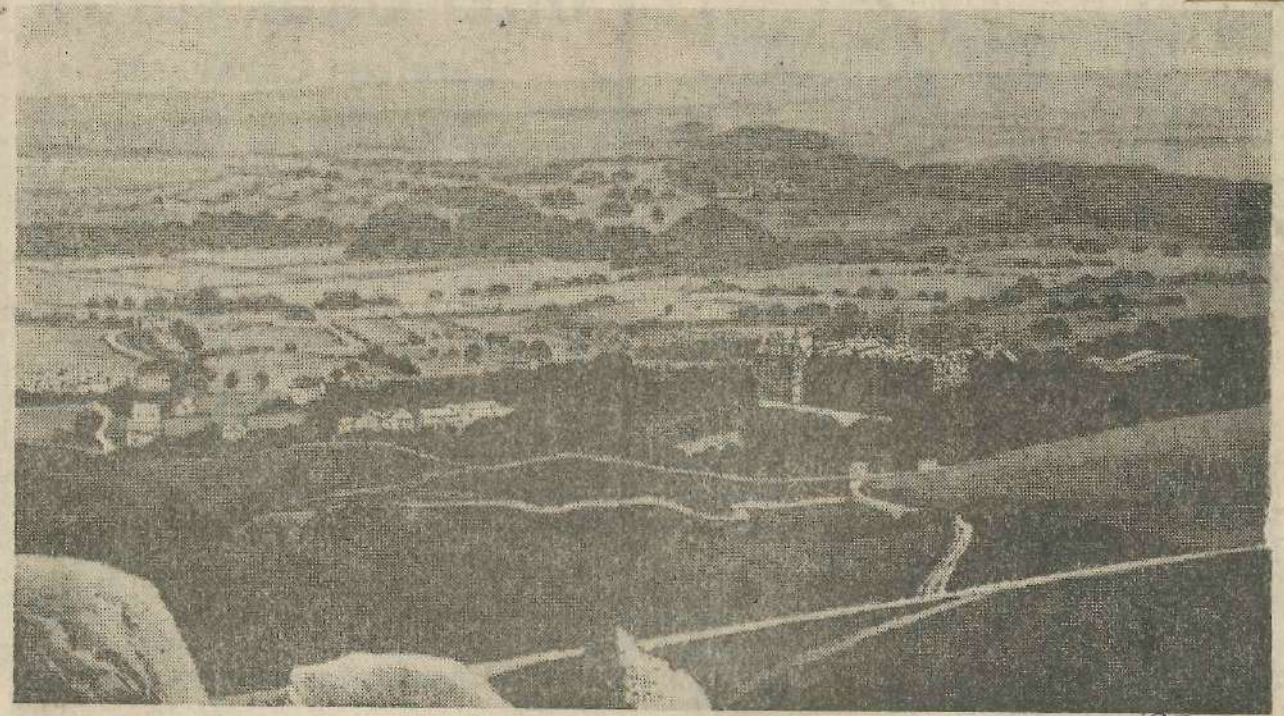
A new variety of maple tree was planted at the Memorial Gardens on The Grove Ikley, as a durable memento of Royal Silver Jubilee Year, which ended in April. The tree was planted by District Councillor Mrs. Joan Lightband of Ikley, Chairman of the Bradford North East Area Jubilee Committee. Pictured by Richard Beckwith, Ikley.

## Protests Over Tip Plan



Proposals put forward by West Yorkshire County Council for the tipping of domestic, commercial and industrial waste in the old railway cutting near Stockinger Lane sparked off a storm of protest in the village of Addingham in June. Picture by Phillip Bambridge, Addingham.

## Before Ben Rhydding Was Residentially Developed



Taken from the Cow and Calf Rocks sometime during the last century this picture illustrates how little Ben Rhydding had been developed. There were open fields and lanes lined with trees looked over by the Ben Rhydding Hydropathic Establishment which stood like a fortress on the slopes (right of picture).

the country and had a profound effect on the development of Ikley, which was then but a small country village. The hotel stood 500 feet above sea level and the water from a natural spring well was renowned throughout the country for its purity and tonic properties. In the period immediately before the Second World War

open for outside bookings than a hydropathic establishment. The hotel claimed a distinct superiority over the average hotel by virtue of its 77 acres of grounds. It could offer accommodation for over 60 patients with their friends and attendants and within its grounds had three hard tennis courts, a croquet lawn,

the site development for private dwellings.

In those days the only connection with Ikley, apart from the main road along the valley, was by a footpath which may still be followed behind the Old Hall, over the railway and into Little Lane. The fields associated with the farm at Wheatley Old

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# ARCTIC STRANGLEHOLD

**Gale-force winds, blizzards, and plummeting temperatures—that was the picture in Craven this week as the Arctic weather continued its icy grip on the area.**

Overnight conditions on Tuesday caused chaos on Wednesday, with roads turned into treacherous ice rinks.

Long tailbacks were reported by Skipton Police between Addingham and Ilkley, and between Cononley and Keighley where motorists entering the West Yorkshire metropolitan area faced ungritted roads.

Roads west to Earby and Clitheroe were passable with care as was the Skipton-Settle road which earlier had been blocked by a lorry jack-knifing on the outskirts of Gargrave.

The Skipton-Grassington road was blocked by a series of accidents between Rylstone and Cracoe, but was later opened. The Harrogate road over Blubberhouses moor was also blocked.

Despite long tailbacks both the roads from Skipton to Ilkley and Keighley were passable with care.

Many minor roads in the outlying districts of Craven were impassable.

Mr. G. Percy, county surveyor for the North Yorkshire highways area No. 3, reported on Wednesday that supplies of salt were desperately low, but it was hoped to have supplies yesterday (Thursday) which would tide them over the present.

The weather also affected electricity supplies in the district. Threshfield, Grassington and Arncliffe were cut off when a line was brought down at Threshfield, on Tuesday night, but by 4 a.m. the following morning, supplies had been restored.

A downed line at Hubberholme cut off supplies to Kettlewell, Buckden and further up the dale, but by Wednesday lunchtime, power had been restored to Kettlewell and Buckden, and by the afternoon to Hubberholme.

A YEB spokesman at Keighley said conditions were atrocious in the Buckden area with massive drifts and between Buckden and Hubberholme the electricity workmen had to dig their way through, and then walk.

Two high voltage power lines in the North Craven area were also knocked out by the weather. Electricity supplies between Settle and Ribblesdale were cut on Tuesday night. Power was restored to Helwith Bridge the same night, and to Ribblesdale on Wednesday.

Part of Malhamdale was cut off, but supplies were restored on Wednesday morning. There were also a number of low voltage faults, with blown fuses in the North Craven area. A NORWEB spokesman at Settle said the snow at Horton-in-Ribblesdale had to be seen to be believed, and the county highways department were doing a sterling job keeping the road open between Helwith Bridge and Horton.

Gale force winds at the weekend hit Ingletton and left a trail of damage. Part of the community centre's copper roof was ripped off, forcing Saturday's classical music concert by the Aulos Ensemble to be moved to another room, and much of the gable end wall of one of the old people's bungalows on Low Demesne was blown down.

Even before the snowfall on Tuesday, windblown snow blocked roads on Malham Moor, and on other high ground. The road from Settle to Airton was also impassable due to drifting.

### MAROOINED

Grassington was completely marooned yesterday (Thursday) after a night of blizzards and drifting blocked all approach roads.

A police spokesman said that all roads out of the village were completely blocked and snow was still falling. The storm started on Wednesday about tea time and got steadily worse as the night progressed.

The situation was made worse by high winds which were blowing

snow from the fields onto the roads and causing extensive drifting. Cracoe and Rylstone have been particularly badly hit and further delays were experienced yesterday morning after a lorry came to rest diagonally across the road. It took an hour to move the vehicle.

Many minor accidents have occurred and numerous vehicles have been abandoned at the roadside in the Grassington area.

The snow plough and gritting teams were working all out until midnight on Wednesday to clear the roads and started work first thing on Thursday morning. But the snow and high winds meant that roads were becoming blocked again within 20 minutes.

Conditions in North Craven deteriorated overnight on Wednesday. Although the A65 was still open to traffic in the morning, police feared that if the blizzard continued, it might eventually become impass-

able.

The Ingletton-Hawes road had been blocked since Monday, said Ingletton police. It was still snowing heavily yesterday (Thursday) lunchtime. The Ingletton-Bentham road was closed temporarily in the morning after a lorry jackknifed, though there were no injuries. An articulated lorry went through a wall in Chapel-le-Dale on Monday.

Because of the conditions, XL Granite quarries in Chapel-le-Dale were closed down on Wednesday.

Police in Skipton said yesterday (Thursday) that snow ploughs attempting to clear the A59 road over Blubberhouses moor came within 200 yards of reopening the road. A snow blower did forge its way through but snow quickly covered its tracks.

A lorry driver spent Monday night in his cab when the vehicle became stuck on the Kirkby Malham to Settle Road.

## Rescuers battle in drifts

**Rescuers battled through massive snow drifts to reach a 20-year-old Conistone youth, yesterday, who needed urgent hospital treatment.**

The call to take Charles Strutt, from his home at Town Head House, came from Bradford Hospital, and ambulancemen who are working an emergency only service responded with determination. But the ambulance was unable to get past Grassington as snow drifts blocked the narrow roads.

Local highway officials were asked for help, but although highway workmen and local contractors battled against the snow they were unable to make much impression. Even a face digger from one of the quarries was brought in, in an attempt to keep the road clear, but the ambulance could not make the journey beyond Grassington.

Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association were called in to see if they could reach the youth, and a three-man team, together with one

of the ambulance men set off in the UWFR Landrover-Ambulance. Even they found the going difficult and had to dig themselves out on a number of occasions.

"The conditions were atrocious to say the least," said Station Officer Desmond Dixon, local ambulance chief. "The highways department couldn't give much help, but the Fell Rescue Association said they would do what they could for us."

"This they did, and even they had to dig themselves out. He was transferred to an ambulance at Grassington and they even had difficulty on the road from Grassington, having to dig themselves out at Rylstone."

"Everyone concerned co-operated fully. We are totally indebted to the fell rescue for their help; without them we wouldn't have been able to get him to hospital for essential treatment."

As the day continued conditions deteriorated and it became clear that Charles would not be able to return home after treatment, and arrangements were made for him to be admitted to Airedale Hospital.

ACROSS THE YEARS 2.2.79.

## GAS BOARD CHALLENGED OVER BILL POWERS

### 100 Years Ago

A public meeting of rate-payers and inhabitants of Ilkley generally was convened in the Working Men's Hall for the purpose of discussing the new powers about to be applied for by the Ilkley Gas Company and to authorise the Gas Company to take the necessary steps towards opposing the Bill in Parliament. There was a fair attendance. Mr. W. Hartley, Chairman of the Local Board, occupied the Chair and was supported by other members of the Board including Messrs. J. Milner, H. J. Cooke, T. J. Critchley, J. Rhodes, M. Hainsworth, T. Stephenson, W. Holmes, C. Illingworth, J. Brown.

Mr. Hartley, welcoming the attendance, said it was not often that the members of the Board had been called publicly to meet their constituents during the past ten or twelve years but he maintained that if they had to render an account of their stewardship they would be able to show they had done a good service. There was a lot of tedious matter to place before them but they would endeavour to make it as short as possible so as not to prolong the meeting to an unnecessary length.

At the meeting of the Ilkley Local Board considerable time was spent in preparing for this Gas meeting. Messrs. Milner and Cooke spoke of the extraordinary powers the Gas Company sought to obtain and a resolution was passed unanimously. Attention was drawn to the danger of children being left on the frozen Tarn and it was agreed that men should be left in charge there.

Mr. H. J. Cooke was appointed president of the Ilkley Floral and Horticultural Society. Mr. Lister Robinson Hon. Secretary and Mr. J. Armitstead treasurer.

### 75 Years Ago

The annual prize distribution and ball connected with P Company of the 2nd West Yorkshire Royal Engineer Volunteers took place in the Winter Garden of the Ilkley Wells House Hydro. Col. F. R. Robinson, the Commander of the Battalion presided over the prize distribution. He commented that in many instances drill had attracted a percentage of 100 per cent.

There was a limited attendance at the annual meeting of the Ilkley Advertising Board at the District Council Offices. Mr. J. A. Middlebrook presided and it was reported that subscriptions promised in 1902 and still outstanding amounted to £5 5s. and subscriptions for 1903 had been collected

amounting to over £81. Mr. A. H. Davis became the new president and other officers elected were Dr. Bampton, Mr. J. A. Middlebrooks, Mr. John Beaulands, Mr. H. Molesley (treasurer), Mr. R. M. Green (aud.) Mr. W. H. Hutchinson (secretary).

The annual dinner of the Ilkley Fire Brigade was held in the North View Hotel. Hon. Supt. J. A. Middlebrook occupied the chair and Capt. Powell the vice-chair. A quartet party consisting of Messrs. J. W. Benson, T. W. Crawshaw, C. Stephenson and A. Powell contributed several gleees and there were contributions by the Parish Church Handbell Ringers and songs by Fireman T. Clarke, J. Lambert and A. Powell. A silver mounted walking stick was presented to ex-Fireman Norfolk Weatherhead who after over 25 years service had retired.

### 50 Years Ago

Mr. C. G. Gibson, prospective Conservative Candidate for the Pudsey and Otley Division, and Mrs. Gibson, were present at a whist drive and dance held in the Winter Gardens.

Mrs. Gibson presented the prizes and little Miss Jose Rayner presented her with a bouquet. Messrs. J. B. Cooper, R. A. Crowther, J. Hardaker and E. Wilson acted as M.C.'s for dancing and the whist was supervised by Messrs. H. Dolby, A. Thompson, E. P. Bates and H. Denby.

Ilkley Players presented "The Man From Toronto" with Miss Bessie Tankard, of Menston, and Mr. Stephen Mammatt in the leading parts.

The Ilkley Amateurs production was "Katinka," with Mr. J. Farrington, Mrs. F. E. Smith and Miss May Rainford.

A suggestion that a site in Wharfedale, near Pool should be set aside for an airport, and the scheme shared by Leeds, Bradford and Harrogate was made by Captain F. G. Wayman, Chairman of the Yorkshire Aeroplane Club. The suggested site was beyond Pool Bridge, where east and west there was sufficient territory for landing and navigation.

Despite atrocious weather conditions the Ilkley Parish Church Social gathering held in the King's Hall Annex was well attended. Mr. Isaac Hirst organised a musical entertainment and Canon Hamer reviewed the past year. Thanks were expressed to Mr. Hirst by Mr. E. Pickett, People's warden and seconded by Mr. R. Priestman, Vicar's Warden.

### 25 Years Ago

Ilkley was in the grip of a cold spell which had lasted for almost a fortnight. There had been the longest period of skating since the very cold winter of 1947. The temperature had been as low as 16 degrees of frost, but places in the north had been far more fortunate than their counterparts in southern England. However, light snow showers had made the roads extremely dangerous.

Burley St. John's Methodist Church Youth Club scored a big hit with a show called "Fun for '54" which they presented before a "large and appreciative" audience. The show was produced by Miss K. Fairburn. Taking part were—M. G. Pedley, A. Pedley, K. Bellwood, Jill Barratt, K. Tucker, Kathleen Sands, B. Pedley, B. Cawood, S. Lickley, Vivien Pedley, Sheila Northrop, Wendy England, Jean Lofthouse, Enid Gill, Doreen and Pamela Jennings, Thelma Shepherd, Joan Bell, Ann Culpin, Joan Nicol, A. Sparrow, Susan Parker, Beryl Marriott, Barbara Smith, Moira Maston.

Ilkley fire engine, in common with fire engines throughout the West Riding was fitted for the first time with a short wave radio transmitter and receiver to maintain direct communication with the West Riding County Headquarter near Huddersfield.

# Local Board Apply For Order To Close Churchyard

## 100 Years Ago

The Ilkley Local Board having applied to the Home Secretary for a final order closing the Ilkley Churchyard against all interments except in cases of bricked grave or vaults, one of her Majesty's Inspectors held an enquiry there in 1879 on the presence of the Vicar (the Rev. A. C. Downer) members of the Local Board, and several parishioners. The meeting adjourned to the Board Room where there was a lengthy enquiry and a large number of questions were answered. Mr. J. Milner said that during the previous September when the chancel of the church was being altered some men re-opening a grave had come across a number of bones. They presented a most disgusting spectacle. These were placed, he was told, in a grave but he never knew where. The Vicar agreed to a thorough investigation of the churchyard and further essayed that a schedule should be filed showing all vaults and family graves to be used for interments in the future. After a lengthy discussion a suggestion of the Inspector that the question be left as before, allowing interments in family graves as well as bricked vaults, was accepted by the meeting, the matter being left with the Vicar and the Wardens.

At the beginning of February 1879, the Rev. W. Danks, vicar-designate of St. Margaret's Church, Ilkley, left his work for the purpose of taking a few months holiday to recruit the health which had been somewhat impaired by the incessant labours in connection with his charge. Throughout the period of his absence his place was taken by the Rev. T. H. May, M.A., S.C.L. On the Sunday morning at the beginning of February basing his comments on the text, James 5, verse 16, Mr. Danks preached, "Of much power is a just man's prayer when it passeth into action."

## 75 Years Ago

Mr. William Hoffman Wood, quantity surveyor, applied to the Otley Petty Sessional Division for a full licence to a house to be constructed at Leeds Road and Cemetery Road, Ilkley. Mr. Alban Firth, beer-house keeper, Wharfedale Inn, Ilkley, applied for a full licence to a house to be constructed at Leeds Road and an intended new street named New Brook Street, Ilkley. Mr. Alban's application was accepted but that from Mr. Wood was withdrawn. Mr. Alban's application was for an hotel to take the place of the Wharfedale Inn and the Star Inn, these having to come down to admit the Brook Street extension.

The work required in the erection of a cottage hospital on land at the bottom of the Grammar School field in Springs Lane and which is to serve as a commemoration of the King's Coronation was let to the following.—Messrs. A. Waugh and Son, Ilkley, masons; T. Smith, Ilkley, joiner; F. Nelson, Ilkley, slater; — Holroyd, Otley and Bradwood, plasterer; — Rushworth, Shipley, plumber.

Plans passed by the Ilkley Urban Council were for the conversion of Wharfe View House into two houses and shops for Nelson Brothers; new "Star" Hotel, Brook Street extension for the Ilkley Brewery Company conditionally that the ground is cleared and sewers laid in New Brook Street in accordance with plans already passed by the Council; temporary wooden gangway to the rear of 30 Brook Street for Mr. J. W. Benson, conditionally that the usual undertaking is signed by the owner.

Mr. J. W. Dixon thought it would be advisable to make some request for Ben Rhydding to be included in the Ilkley postal district. At present letters to Ben Rhydding from Ilkley had to go round by Leeds.

## 50 Years Ago

Ilkley Amateur's production of "Katinka" was described as one of the finest shows they had staged. The producer was Mr. Derlok Knowles who origi-

nally produced the show at the Shaftesbury Theatre in London six years formerly. The title role was played by Miss Phyllis Bryant, of Menston Mr. George Marston, and Mr. P. W. Smith, of Ilkley.

On the occasion of the first visit of the West Yorkshire Golfing Alliance to the Ilkley Golf Course, the Ilkley team consisting of G. C. Smithson and J. D. Henderson won a decisive victory with a clear six points lead.

Burley and District Brass Band held a concert in the Burley Lecture Hall, with Robert Ware presiding. The band was conducted by Mr. W. L. Warburton.

A clever exhibition of Indian Club drill was given by Mr. N. Clayton at the Band of Hope Meeting in the Ilkley Wesleyan Schoolroom. Mr. Loveday gave a warning on the evils of cocktail drinking. Mr. Arthur Burnell presided over the meeting. The programme was given by the Boy's Brigade, under the leadership of Mr. N. Clayton.

## 25 Years Ago

The Chamber of Trade annual general meeting reported a year of prosperity. Mr. N. Tomblin, the secretary, said the year had started quietly, but that the Trades Fair had been a great success, followed by a special effort for Christmas displays. The membership had increased during the year to 113 members, with 19 new ones elected. Mr. William Hill the President handed over the office to Mr. G. C. Dean.

Ilkley was experiencing the full range of winter weather from frost to snow and slush. Local farmers removed their sheep from the moors at the start of the cold spell to fields close to the farms.

Captain L. J. Sarjeant, Dower House, Ben Rhydding, successfully won the Ilkley Council by-election to fill the vacancy on Ilkley Urban District Council caused by the death of Mr. W. Milnes.

Mr. H. Eagle was appointed Chairman of the Ilkley Grammar School Governors for 1954-55, with Cr. G. W. Clough as vice-chairman. New appointments announced to the school staff were Miss S. Graham, Miss Greta Burgess, and Miss B. M. Walker.

# IMPORTANT MOVE FOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## 100 Years Ago

The Ilkley Gazette announced that a communication of considerable importance had been received from the Charity Commissioners "conceding an important point which the governors have sought long and anxiously to obtain and thanks to their untiring efforts in that direction, their purpose has in measure been accomplished. The meeting being of a private character we are not in a position to state what is the full purport of the communication before alluded to, but as far as we can gather, it would seem that leave has been granted to the governors to dispose of Whitton Croft, the property originally given for the Grammar School by the Charity Commissioners, and the proceeds, after deducting the cost of the new site, will go towards the erection of the proposed schools.

"We understand that the site is almost positively decided upon, and instead of a school, school-house, etc., being erected in the limited area of rather better than one and a half acres, the extent of the site at first proposed, allowing very little space for a recreation ground, there will be a good site secured for the school buildings, and in addition thereto about four acres of recreation ground; besides this the school will be in every way superior to anything which could have been erected for the money and under the conditions proposed by the Commissioners in the first instance. The sum then allowed was only £1,000; afterwards, however, it rose to £3,000. If Whitton Croft is disposed of, as now proposed, even below the valuation price set upon it, it is thought not at all improbable that a suitable site can be obtained, which, when paid for, will leave a balance towards the general fund for providing a school worthy of a rising town like Ilkley. As a proof of the energy displayed by the governors in the past and their anxiety to show that the delay has not been with them, they have taken steps to dispose immediately of Whitton Croft."

Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. J. Douglas due to ill health, Mr. J. Milner was voted to the chair.

Vocalists at the Ilkley Working Men's Hall entertainments were Miss Anderson, Miss Carter and Mr. S. Macgregor; instrumentalists, Miss Staples, Miss Deans, Miss Dawson, Mr. T. Stephenson; readers, Messrs. M. Davy and J. Pape; negro burlesque, Messrs. W. Cocker and G. Farniss. Mr. W. Watson of Crossbeck Road was chairman.

Mr. David Lister, of West Wood Farm, Ilkley, died in Ilkley at the age of 69 and was buried in Ilkley Cemetery. From 1860 to 1865 he was manager of the corn mills which occupied a site nearby on which later were built the Royal Hotel. Ilkley had thus lost, commented the Gazette, another of the inhabitants whose family name had been borne a long time in Ilkley. "Being a man of genial disposition and having a natural inclination for literature he possessed a store of general information and could hold an intelligent conversation on almost any subject; as a consequence his acquaintances were numerous and many reminiscences will no doubt still linger in the minds of those visitors who used to frequent the path which passed his mill. For many years before moving to Ilkley he was landlord of the Hare and Hounds Hotel, Shipley. His brother who pre-deceased him at Ilkley a few years before was also well known."

## 75 Years Ago

Mr. W. Whitaker presided over the annual meeting of the Ilkley Constitutional Club and reported there was a loss on the year of over £25. The loss the Club had sustained by the death of Mr. J. W. Whitaker, hon. secretary for many years, had been deeply regretted. Mr. W. Whitaker was elected presi-

dent in place of Mr. W. H. Longbottom who had left the district. Mr. E. Fletcher was re-elected Chairman and Messrs. J. C. Barker and George Smith as vice-chairmen. Mr. W. A. Dawson was re-elected as treasurer. Mr. L. T. Learoyd was elected hon. secretary.

"Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "patience" was given in St. Margaret's Hall by a local group under the conductorship of Mr. A. T. Akeroyd. Soloists were Miss A. Greenwood, Miss Edleston, Miss A. Hirst, Miss B. Bruton of Eastbourne, Mr. H. Wardell of Barnsley.

A meeting to form an Ilkley Property Owners Association was held in the Wharfedale Restaurant at Ilkley. Officials were appointed as follows.—president, Mr. James Armitage; vice-presidents, Mr. John Shuttleworth and Mr. Tom Dean; secretary, Mr. H. E. Milne; treasurer, Mr. E. R. Teal (manager Craven Bank); Committee, Messrs. G. C. Gamble, J. Shuttleworth, I. Dean, T. Dean, W. Hartley, V. Dobson, W. Holmes and J. Armitage. The entrance fee was fixed at one shilling, and the annual subscription at 2s. 6d. for less than six houses and five shillings for more than six houses.

In connection with the dancing class held by Mr. J. Goodwin in the Wharfedale Restaurant, a fancy dress ball was held there. Entries included the following—Miss E. Dickinson (Nany Lee), Miss M. Dickinson (Bo Peep), Miss E. Ostle (Dancing Girl), Miss A. Rignall (Night), Miss A. Drurie (Poppie), Miss A. Priestley (Red Cross Nurse), Miss F. Spencer (Daffodil), Miss M. Pedley (Girton Girl), Miss Sykes (Norwegian), Miss L. Rickwood (Gelsna), Miss M. Benson (Daffodil).

## 50 Years Ago

The last week in February, 1929 brought the break-up of eleven days great frost. It had been a skaters' "carnival" with every available piece of ice thronged from morning until night. Ilkley town was electrically illuminated and had a hot coffee stall. There was skating on the river, on the ponds in the grounds of Wells House and Ben Rhydding Hydro, and also on the lake in Denton Park which was open to the public for a charge which was for the benefit of Ilkley Coronation Hospital.

Further attention to the importance of the provision of a Girls' Secondary School for Ilkley was called at a meeting of Ilkley Education Sub-Committee. Mr. E. Fletcher suggested that they should send a deputation to the County Council pointing out the need in the town for a separate Girls' School.

The Royal Hotel, Ilkley advertised dinner at 3/6, luncheon for 2/6 and afternoon tea 1/3. At the same time bed and breakfast could be obtained at the Mascot Hotel, Bloomsbury, London for 7/6 per night. In the small ads—a "combined room with bathroom to suit business girl" was advertised at 7/6 per week—Gas extra 1/- per week.

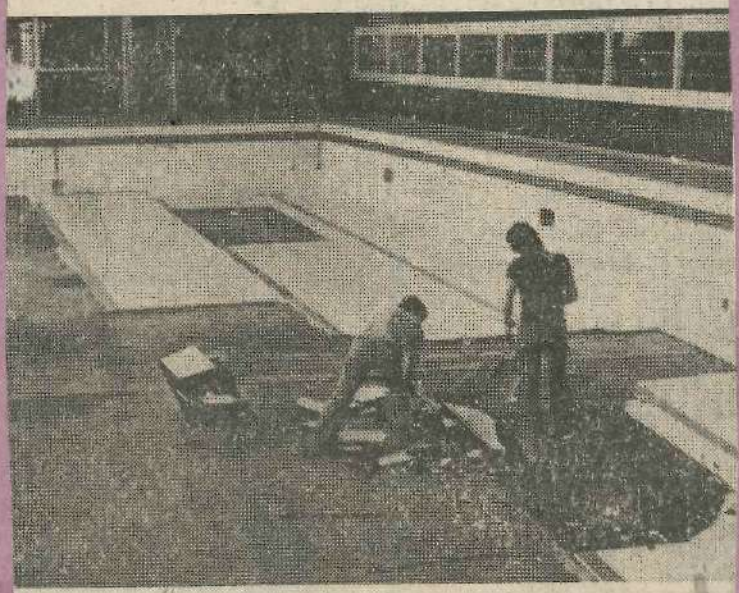
## 25 Years Ago

Ilkley Public Library broke all previous records, in 1953 by lending more than 200,000 books to subscribers. Mr. N. H. Parker, Librarian, attributed this record in some way to the influence of radio and television which stimulated public interest in a wide number of subjects.

The Bishop of Leeds conferred upon Father E. Malone, of Ilkley, the dignity of Honorary Canon. At a social evening in the Essoldo Cinema Ballroom Canon Malone received his parishioners congratulations, and was presented with a cheque from them by Mr. J. H. Cole to cover the cost of his robes.

Five Menston boys, of ages from nine to fourteen, were to be prosecuted by Ilkley Council for smashing street lamps at Menston. The boys' parents had offered to pay the cost of the damage £10 18s. but it was felt that prosecution would deter other offenders.

# Repairs to Indoor Swimming Pool



The closure of Ilkley's indoor swimming pool for repairs to its tiled surface in June was criticised by Ilkley Parish Council, who felt the pool should have been closed during its less busy periods and not in the middle of the swimming season.

1978

**NATURALIST SOCIETY REVIEWS RECORDS FOR 1978**

Wharfedale Naturalist Society members reviewed the records for 1978 at their recent meeting, when there was a request from all the society's recorders for members to hand in lists of any flora and fauna seen on their walks.

Most records for this year referred to things seen in the Ilkley and Burley area, but to get a true picture of the whole area more records from Upper Wharfedale were needed.

The ornithologists, as usual, had sent in many records to their recorder, Mr. L. Dewdney. These included a new bird for the area—a Sabine's Gull—and a second time sighting here of bearded tits.

Mr. A. Headley, recorder for vertebrates other than birds, said he had several records of frogs and newts, and that the earliest frog spawn was seen on 28 February, 1978. The latest sight of a hedgehog was on 10 December, 1978. Rabbits, foxes, water voles and badgers were all present and a slow worm had been seen at Lindley.

An interesting and detailed report on the weather for 1978 was given by Mr. A. Duncan, who said it had been a dull, cool year with below average sunshine and 911.4mm of rain. September had been the second wettest on record, beaten only by September, 1929.

Mrs. Duncan, the botany recorder, then gave her report. She recommended the record books issued by the Wild

Flower Society as a very satisfactory way of listing the plants found. Her slides included graphs representing the bluebell counts that had been made in Middleton Woods. Comparing these records with the weather records, she said there seemed to be a connection and that the weather as much as the growth of conifer trees had an influence on the intensity of bluebells in any season.

The strange shapes and colours of fungi were illustrated by Mrs. Granshaw's slides and included some recorded for the first time in Grass Wood and Middleton Woods.

Mrs. Draper, recorder for butterflies, moths and dragonflies, ended the evening with some of her excellent slides. She included several that members should try to locate, clearly indicating the types of habitat where they might be found.

**ACROSS THE YEARS Advertising For Attendance Officer — Salary £15 pa**

**100 Years Ago**

The appointment of an attendance officer by the recently formed Ilkley School Board set off some argument as to his duties. Dr. Dobson was told that the attendance officer had to ensure the attendance of all children into voluntary schools, and Dr. Dobson asked what was the position if the schools were not efficient. He was told that was the duty of Her Majesty's Inspectors. Dr. Dobson, however, contended there should be a choice of schools. He was opposed to enforcing attendance without giving a choice of schools. That was the view he had held in the first instance, and he intended to stand by that opinion to the end. Mr. J. C. Naylor said he was of the same opinion. He protested against enforcing attendance without giving a choice of schools. It was said that the attendance officer in Wharfedale was given £75 but it was a very large district. Various sums were suggested and it was finally agreed that an attendance officer be advertised for in all the local papers at a salary of £15 per annum.

Under the auspices of a few members of the Ilkley Brass Band a ball was given on Shrove Tuesday evening in the Working Men's Hall, and was exceedingly well attended. Dancing began at eight o'clock and it was not until five o'clock next morning that the programme had been gone through.

From various sources a total of £16 10s. 6d. was raised for the Ilkley Distress Relief Fund. It was announced that it was the intention of the Committee to continue the relief for the present but funds were urgently needed and there was no doubt that much relief was still needed.

Shrove Tuesday in Ilkley had for many years been closely connected with the club feast. Members of the Ilkley Romalds Moor Friendly Society of Oddfellows paraded through the principal streets and then met in the Rose and Crown. The club seemed to be in a very satisfactory position financially, the whole stock being at £757 13s. 6d.

**75 Years Ago**

The resignation of Mr. James Nicholson in March, 1904, brought to an end one of the most honourable and useful careers which it had ever been the pleasure of the Ilkley Gazette to record. He had entered the service of the railway company as a clerk in the office of the Way and Works Department on leaving the Grammar School at Grayfigg near Kendal, and began his duties at Stafford. He held this office for five years, and then spent a similar period at the same branch in another Department. He then became Stationmaster at Earlton Junction, and elsewhere. Mr. Nicholson was appointed superintendent of the Otley and Ilkley Joint Line and agent at Ilkley on the opening of this railway on 1st August, 1865, and held the position up to his retirement. He had charge of all the traffic over the line and the general oversight of the whole of the staff employed.

As such, he had charge of the first train to arrive in Ilkley, and saw to the stores, staff and tickets being allocated to the various stations. The line, which was owned jointly by the Midland and the North-Eastern Companies, at the opening consisted of only two main sets of rails and an uncovered station at Ilkley, but so largely has the traffic increased since then, consequent upon the development of the town, that today there are four main lines at Ilkley with two forward to Skipton; besides a commodious station covered in throughout. During the 38 years or more Mr. Nicholson has had charge of the railway line. He has never missed a Bank Holiday being on duty and notwithstanding the enormous amount of excursion traffic at such times, no accidents involving loss of life or injury to anyone has ever occurred to trains worked from Ilkley; a result over such a long period almost unparalleled in railway history. His well earned retirement has earned him the good wishes of many friends.

The Bishop of Ripon conducted a confirmation service at St. Margaret's Church in

females, these being drawn from the two Ilkley parishes and Burley-in-Wharfedale. The clergy present were the Rev. Dton Smith (Vicar of St. Margaret's), the Rev. Dr. Muntz (Vicar of Ilkley), the Rev. E. R. Buckley (Vicar of Burley), the Rev. W. J. Courtney (Vicar of Austwick), the Rev. Canon Eddowes (Ilkley), the Rev. C. S. Thomas (curate, St. Margaret's), the Rev. T. E. Taylor and the Rev. A. B. Ronald (curates, Ilkley Parish Church).

The Rev. F. H. Blanchford, congregational minister, presented to Mr. and Mrs. J. Nutter, a handsome case of silver fish knives and forks and three books. Since the Leeds Road Congregational Hall had been opened Mr. and Mrs. Nutter had been in charge, and although they were moving to Bradford they would still continue with the work. Mr. John Firth spoke highly of the work accomplished, and Mr. Nutter expressed his thanks for the thought behind the gift. The work was progressing, he said, and he hoped it would continue so to do.

At the Cambridge Local examinations ten pupils were entered for pupils under 14 and all passed. They were—Honours 2nd Class, K. M. Priestman, Beaconholme, Ilkley (distinguished in Latin); 3rd class, P. M. Singer, Paington, S. Devon. Passed: G. A. Lupton, Red Gables, Ilkley; J. Sharr, Carr Hall, Wyke, Bradford; Doris K. Tweedie, Port Said, Egypt. Passed (over age and not eligible for a class) A. E. Clay, the Crescent, Hipperholme; D. Bery, Fairholme, Ilkley; Barbara S. Godby, Ghyll Royd, Ilkley; W. Mines, Ilkley; D. R. Tweedie, Port Said, Egypt.

**50 Years Ago**

February 1829 was recorded as the coldest months since 1895. Temperatures fell lower and continued freezing longer than for any month in the previous 34 years. Ilkley Five Brigade were called in at one point when ice on Ilkley Tarn had become too lump for skating. They flooded the tarn, which then froze over to a good skating surface.

The King's Hall and Winter Gardens were the setting for an exhibition called "The Changing World," a remarkable missionary exhibition under the management of Mr. H. D. Cotton. Five hundred workers took part in this united Ilkley effort, and in addition to displays there were pageants, plays and tableaux each evening.

An exciting incident occurred on Weary Hill, Ilkley near the Convalescent Home, with a runaway road roller being driven backwards down the hill, getting out of gear and its driver losing control. Two men, Mr. D. Sinclair and Mr. J. H. Purliant, had to jump clear from the vehicle. Mr. Purliant was the company's driver, and Mr. Sinclair was on the back step. After it had reached a speed of almost 40 miles an hour, the roller struck a boulder and took a leap of some 18 feet into the ditch.

**25 Years Ago**

The Inner Wheel Club of Ilkley celebrated their seventh Charter day at the Blue Bird Cafe. Mrs. T. Dolphin, President, welcomed the guests of the club, who included Mr. A. G. Hardingham, President of Ilkley Rotary Club; Mrs. M. Newsome, President of the Soroptimist Club of Ilkley, and Mrs. Tidy, Chairman of the Ladies' Circle. Entertainment was provided by Miss Valerie Wood and Mr. H. Glover.

Ilkley's General Rate remained at £23s. 2d. in the twenty-five years ago. The water rate was reduced from 1s. 11d. to 1s. 9d. Provision had been made for a scheme to improve street lighting in Menston, and also to repair roads and footpaths in the Urban District.

**New Pelican Crossing at Burley**



Continuous pressure from Burley-in-Wharfedale residents brought about the provision of a pelican crossing in Main Street, near Iron Row. After long delays which led to much criticism from residents the crossing was officially switched on at the end of April by County Councillor H. V. Haddrell of Ilkley, Chairman of West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council. Picture by Richard Beckwith, Ilkley. 1978

**Start of New Era at Ilkley College**



The planting of a whitebeam tree by the Lord Mayor of Bradford District outside Ilkley College marked the beginning of a new era at the college after its merger with Ripon College. 1978

# TROTTING MATCHES IN SKIPTON ROAD

## 100 Years Ago

Two trotting matches were run in Skipton Road, Ilkley, between Mr. Margerison's little galloway and Mr. Joy's black mare in 1879. After a start of 20 yards having been allowed, the black mare was the winner by 10 lengths.

Lack of interest was shown in the local Board elections. For the first time ever the governing body was formed without an election, and little or no public interest was shown. It was debated if this were because members had given implicit satisfaction, or whether it was the struggle to elect School Board members which had put members of the public off another struggle for power. Seven men were nominated for the Board for six seats but Mr. Stephenson withdrew from the contest, leaving Messrs. J. Beanlands, W. Busfield, J. Moon, M. Robinson, T. E. Sykes and W. Dean to fill the six vacant seats.

A "breaking up" entertainment was held in connection with a night school held over Mr. W. Benson's shop in Brook Street under the chairmanship of Rev. A. C. Downer. The school superintendent, Miss Tolson was present, with the Misses Willman, Miss White, Mr. W. Hudson Shaw, Mr. T. Harrison and Mr. W. Vickers and forty scholars from the night school. Readings were given by four scholars, J. T. Robinson, G. Feather, W. Burnell and J. Wood. Mr. Schlesinger presided at the piano. Also included in the programme was the distribution of half a dozen valuable prizes of books, writing desks "and such-like useful articles." The proceedings terminated with singing and devotional exercise. The weather was reported as being a series of atmospheric changes, from warm weather, giving place to piercing March winds and later in the week by a downfall of snow.

## 75 Years Ago

Rejoicings at the Constitutional Club in Ilkley followed the election to the County Council of Mr. Sidney Kellett, of The Briery, Ilkley, by a majority of 299 votes. His Liberal opponent was Mr. Frederick E. Pearce, of Fairstowe, Ilkley. When the Chairman of the Constitutional Club, Mr. E. Fletcher announced Mr. Kellett as the new County Councillor for the Ilkley Division, there was a "tremendous outburst of cheering."

Nominations of school managers from Nessfield-with-Langbar and Middleton for each of the non-provided schools in Ilkley to be elected by the County Council were made at the March meeting of the District Council. Mr. F. H. Humphris was unanimously appointed one of the managers of St. Mary's School and Mr. E. M. Hood, one of the managers of the National Schools.

Afterwards the Council had a meeting with the Governors of Ilkley Grammar School to discuss a scheme to introduce a number of scholarships tenable at the Grammar School. Governors present were Messrs. F. H. Humphris, E. Fletcher, H. Fell, J. K. Empsall, Rev. Irton Smith, E. M. Hood and the Headmaster, Mr. F. Swann. The scholarships were to be in addition to those already provided from the free elementary schools, for a class of ratepayers a "grade above the National school people." For some time the meeting deliberated and then the meeting was adjourned without a decision.

Members of the Ilkley Congregational Church Young Ladies' Sewing Society held a pleasant musical fete in the Lecture Hall. Mr. A. S. Press presided over the gathering. Miss Cicely Crawshaw sang "very sweetly." Mr. Leonard Crawshaw provided a ventriloquial entertainment, with Lille and Arthur Higham acting as his "dummies." First prize in a hat trimming competition was won by Mr. Maurice Gaunt. A Washing competition was won by Mr. W. Firth, and an Orange and Spoon Race was won by Miss Snell.

## 50 Years Ago

A halfpenny per unit reduction in electricity charges and a farthing reduction in the domestic home rate was announced by Mr. W. B. Dornan, the Chairman of the Electricity Committee.

Girl Guides from the Ilkley district took part in a mass rally at the Otley Wesleyan Sunday School. Burley was led by the Misses Shepherd, Knowles and McCormack, 2nd Ilkley by the Misses Mansforth and Crowther and Addingham by Miss Acres.

Ghyll Royd School announced that the headmaster, Mr. M. N. Jukes and his wife were to leave Ilkley at Easter to take over a school at Sevenoaks. Mr. and Mrs. Jukes held an "At Home" to introduce their successors, Mr. W. A. Hammerton and Mr. G. Ryan Frost to the parents. Mr. Frost was accompanied by his fiancée, Miss Nancy Appleby.

There was a lively discussion on affairs relating to the King's Hall at the Ilkley Urban District Council Meeting. The Committee decided to give preference to the policy of providing stage plays as opposed to cinematograph exhibitions, and the Clerk was ordered to advertise for suitable plays and to make arrangements for touring companies to visit the King's Hall.

## 25 Years Ago

Mr. P. Crossley retired after 15 years service as an executive officer of the Ilkley Bowling Club when he handed over the presidency to Mr. A. Shepherd, the previous year's captain. Mr. Crossley was made a life member, having been a member of the club for over 20 years.

The greatest advance since 1938 with regard to the Ilkley Evening Institutes was described at a meeting of the Ilkley Education Committee, which was attended by the headmaster of the Institute, Mr. E. W. Parker. Mr. Parker said that there had been 548 enrolments and 25 classes in the previous year.

Future prospects for the cricket section of Ben Rhydding Sports Club were expected to be good in the 1954 season, according to the president, Mr. B. Cowling. Reports on the past season were given by Mr. F. W. Noble, First Team Captain, and Mr. D. A. Briggs, second eleven captain. The outstanding feature of the past season had been the bowling of C. E. P. Dove who took over 100 wickets.

Easter excursions were advertised by the Samuel Ledgard Bus company, the fares being 11/9 to Whitby and Scarborough; 12/3 to Blackpool; 3/9 to Wetherby. Wallace Arnold offered holidays to Lucerne at 47 guineas, and 14 days on the French Riviera for 55 guineas.

## Repairing Stepping Stones

1978



The stepping stones across the River Wharfe at Ben Rhydding were repaired in June, after having been in a state of disrepair for over ten years since about a dozen were washed away in a severe storm. Picture by Richard Beckwith, Ilkley.

## ILKLEY CAR PARK EXTENSION PROGRESSES

Work is progressing on the long awaited extension to Ilkley's central car park, which is expected to be completed by the end of April or beginning of May, depending on the weather.

The extension, which will cost about £29,000, is between Back Grove Road and Cunliffe

Road. When surfaced and marked out it will provide parking for an additional 101 cars, bringing the total capacity of the car park to about 234.

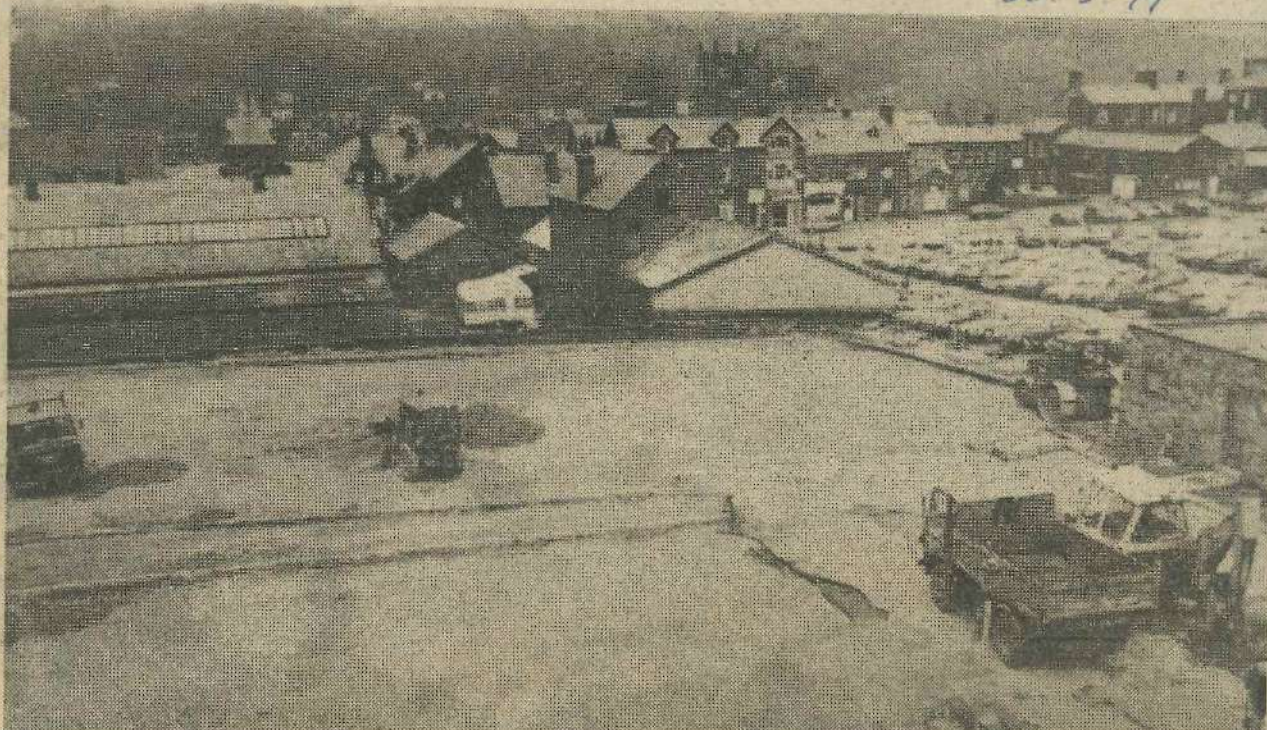
Areas around the existing toilet block and to the rear of the bus depot will be landscaped, and footpaths from The Grove and along the route of the former railway line from Cunliffe Road will be preserved.

While the work is being carried out Bradford Metropolitan Council's engineers will be in contact with the

museums division in case any Roman remains are found. Trial holes were bored before the work started, but nothing was found.

• Picture shows work on the project underway this week.

30. 3. 79



## GERMAN STUDENTS FOR ENGLAND

Last Saturday marked the end of a three week course at Ilkley College for students from the North Rhine-Westphalia area of Germany in the auspices of The Council for International Contact. Students were studying English for their 'Abitur', equivalent of our 'A' Level and were staying in Ilkley to improve their spoken English and their knowledge of English institutions.

All of them were enthusiastic about the hospitality they received from the host families they stayed with while the host families spoke warmly about their guests when they met at a German farewell party on Friday evening.

The course was the first to be mounted in Ilkley, which had been chosen as a new centre by the C.I.C., a London based organisation which seeks to promote better international relations by arranging student exchanges and courses.

The programme was a full one, with lectures and discussions each morning, followed by visits in the afternoons. As well as seeing some of the well-known beauty-spots, the students visited the International Wool Secretariat, James Drummonds Worsted Mill in Bradford, the Yorkshire Post, and Haworth and the Bronte Museum. Two theatre visits, and day trips to York and Blackpool were also undertaken. Amid all these activities the students found time to work on projects about aspects of English life which

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ILKLEY (off The Grove) 16-3-79

RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT with part possession



A particularly attractive Victorian semi detached house, stone built with a slated roof, comprising three flats (subject to tenancy) and a further garden flat, vacant and requiring conversion (grant probably available). Garden to three sides with garage. Current income £1350 p.a. with increase imminent. PRICE £14,950. Apply Ilkley.

ACROSS THE YEARS 23.3.79

## Mary Visitors At Ilkley During Easter

### 100 Years Ago

Easter-tide was observed in Ilkley much the same as in previous years with an influx of visitors to the town. At that time Easter was recognised as the start of the "season" in Ilkley, and that account created a great amount of interest. Good Friday in particular was fine and dry and a great number of day visitors crossed the moor and arrived by foot from Bradford and other places. The trains to Leeds and Bradford were crowded despite extra excursion trains in use. On Easter Monday it was estimated that 1500 people arrived in the town by rail.

Easter "attractions of an artificial character" consisted of the Skating Rink being opened for a few days, a ball was held in the Large Hall of the Working Men's Institute with an efficient "Quadrille Band" supplying the music.

A meeting was held of the Ilkley School Board with Mr. F. W. Fison in the chair, and attended by Rev. A. C. Downer, Rev. W. Pope, Dr. Dobson and Mr. J. C. Naylor. The school attendance officer, Mr. Hughes, gave some general information on the preparation of the census, and presented a draft sheet of a book to be used for entering the census.

The Medical Officer of Health, Mr. Thomas Scott, in his annual report said there had been a decrease in deaths from infectious disease in the town. Measles, however, accounted for four deaths, Scarlet fever and diphtheria each carried off a single victim and Hooping Cough caused the death of two. One death only was re-

ported from typhoid fever, well below the average for the country.

### 75 Years Ago

Delay in carrying out the Coronation Cottage Hospital scheme had caused concern amongst the ratepayers of Ilkley, but finally the foundation stone was due to be laid by the Lord Bishop of Ripon on 7th April 1904.

Three hundred and sixty four people voted in the Burley Urban District Council elections, the successful candidates being John Exley, William Jeffrey and F. D. Moore. In Ilkley there was no contest in three out of the four wards but in the remaining North Ward Mr. F. E. Pearce defeated A. Waugh by 27 votes.

Easter weekend weather was described as more appropriate to a bleak and boisterous January. Rain, hail and sun alternated fitfully while a "hurricane of wind whistled up streets and down terrace". Not only, however, did the hotels and hydros report excellent bookings over the weekend but a large number of Easter visitors booked rooms to return at Whitsuntide. The popularity of the hotels and hydros over the old fashioned home gatherings was attributed to the increasing difficulties of the servant question. It was becoming increasingly fashionable to take one's holiday's at hotels and hydros without worry rather than entertain a full household without adequate servants.

### 50 Years Ago

The annual Parochial meeting of St. Margaret's Church was well attended, and the affairs of the church were reported as being in "a very happy position". The Rev. A. B. Carter, Vicar, presided and appointed Dr. Hearder, to be Vicar's warden for the ensuing year. Plans were in hand for the celebration of the church's 50th anniversary in July, and a Jubilee fund had been started.

Menston Amateur Dramatic Society presented "Rebel Maid" at the King's Hall, Ilkley. Leading parts were taken by Mr. Briggs Emsley, Mr. W. Harold Hingworth, Miss Rene Dowson, Mr. William S. Cowbourne, Mr. W. Foster Shepherd and Miss Emily Wells. The producer and stage manager was Mr. Lyndsay Harman.

Successful candidates in an examination on First Aid of the Ilkley Women's Section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade were. — Miss A. Milnes, Miss E. Nolan, Mrs. Davy, Miss W. Boddy, Miss F. Freyer, Miss C. Haigh, Miss K. Hartley, Miss K. Scott and Miss M. Wormald. Dr. H. T. Bates was the examiner.

### 25 Years Ago

A jewel to be worn on civic occasions by the lady of the Chairman of the Ilkley Council was presented to the Council by the Chairman, Mr. John Hardy. It was officially accepted on behalf of the Council by Cr. F. Atkinson, the vice-chairman. Appreciation of the gift was expressed by the oldest serving member of the Council, Mrs. F. S. Hampshire.

Addingham Parish Church was packed to capacity for the institution and induction of the Rector of Addingham the Rev. Lionel Philip Clare. The Right Rev. A. O. H. Hardy, assistant Bishop of Bradford conducted the institution, and the induction was by the Archdeacon of Craven, Ven T. J. Williams of Otley. Mr. Clare succeeded Rev. J. F. Wrangham Hardy and was formerly curate of St. Mary's Church, Harrogate.

The winners of the Ilkley Country Secondary School cross country race were. — 1. R. Smith; 2. D. Tetley; 3. R. Pollard.

Cadet Sgt. Lancaster of the Ilkley Air Training Corps squadron was awarded a Certificate of Good Service to the A.T.C. for outstanding service to the corps. Cadet Cpl. Taylor was awarded the Squadron "Best all Round Cadet."

## Attending Ben Rhydding School Fifty Years Ago

Some of the children who attended Ben Rhydding Council School in 1928 were.

Back row: Jack Hopwood, Kenneth Duell, Stanley Myers, Gordon Lambert, Dennis Tillotson, Harold Duell, Harry Akers, George Williams, Bobby Foster, Peter Wardman.

Third row: Peggy Feat-enoy, Joan Pease, Gwyneth Hopwood, Joan Spencer, Betty Asquith, Margaret Plant, Mary Bower, Dorothy

Collyer, Winnie Dewhurst, Muriel Scott, Peggy Wilson, Margaret Bartle, Gladys Ellwood.

Second row: Nancy Davies, Gladys Copping, Alice Wood-head, Muriel Robinson, Mary Copping, Pat McCrink, Rona Bolton, Doreen Hopwood, Gladys Copping, Margaret Pearson.

Front row: Hubert Hatfield, Annakin, Dennis Holmes, Cedric

23.3.79



ACROSS THE YEARS

ILKLEY HOUSES SOLD FOR £475 AND £500

100 Years Ago

Three good dwelling houses in Richmond Place were sold by auction by Mr. Dacre of Otley at the Crescent Hotel, Ilkley. One sold for £500 and the others for £475. The auctioneer remarked that at a previous sale these same houses made bids of over £600 each which the vendors refused. A plot of building land in Bolton Bridge Road of 3,625 yards in area fetched £550. The whole of the property was purchased by Mr. Tunstall of Wharfe View House.

Major Middleton was "unanimously called to the chair" at the annual general meeting of the Ilkley Athletic Club. The treasurer Mr. Wm. Mitton reported a satisfactory balance in hand of £192, and proposed that Mr. Wm. Middleton should be president for the ensuing year with Mr. R. Barker and Mr. Tuke as secretaries.

Between forty and fifty pigeons were stolen from Holling Hall, of various breeds and of great value. Thieves broke open the door of the pigeon cote and got away with their valuable haul. Several robberies of a similar nature had previously taken place in the district.

Ilkley Hospital opened for the season after appointing Mrs. Rhodes as matron and Mr. Thos. Vickers as secretary.

75 Years Ago

The plans and estimates for a new refuse destructor in Ilkley were approved by the General Purposes Committee of the Urban District Council. Mr. Middleton's offer of about 2,600 yards of land at 2/- per yard as a site for the destructor was accepted, and the building cost would be £2,300, foundations £50 chimney £250 land £260, buildings £450, destructor plant £1,228, fencing and contingencies £82.

At this meeting a letter from Mr. Edward Fletcher (solicitor) was read complaining on behalf of his client, Mr. Stopham Dawson that the unlimited number of sheep grazing on Ilkley Moor was detrimental to his clients sporting interests, and he asked the Council to take steps to ensure that the freeholders exercise of common rights were kept within legal and reasonable bounds. The complainant was asked to give more detail of persons whom he considered were exceeding their rights.

50 Years Ago

Mr. George Mott was elected chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council for the ensuing twelve months. His father, Mr. Henry Mott had taken place in the district, been a member of Ilkley years.

St. Margaret's Church planned to celebrate its jubilee by launching an appeal for £1,500 to be used to build the caretaker's cottage on the east side of St. Margaret's Hall, to renovate the organ, and to complete the chancel screen. A number of important preachers were to take services at St. Margaret's during the jubilee celebrations.

The lambing season in Wharfedale, 1929 was described as eminently satisfactory attributed largely to the fine dry weather. There was a good percentage of twin lambs and disease was almost entirely absent. Farmers, however, were finding vegetation suffering from drought after seven rainless weeks leaving pastures as bare as after a long, dry summer.

Al Jolson in "The Jazz Singer" was showing at the King's Hall, Ilkley, and Dorothy Gish in the title role of "Madame Pompadour" at the New Cinema. The Royal Hotel offered Saturday night dancing in their new dance room for 1/- to Leslie Shotton's band.

MAKING READY FOR CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS AT ST. MARGARET'S

While Ilkley has been enjoying its usual influx of visitors and the life of the town has gone on uninterrupted, there has been mounting activity up the hill at St. Margaret's Parish Church. The Vicar and Congregation have been preparing to celebrate the centenary of their church, which falls on Monday, 10 September.

During the early part of the year they engaged in a successful Talent Tornado, each accepting £1 and using a wide variety of methods turned these odd pounds into £1,200. This money is to be used to pay for the celebrations in advance, so that all can be enjoyed without the need to beg for cash. Half of the balance will be given away to some community without a church and about to built one, and half will be used as a gift to St. Margaret's. It so happens that there are two communities in the Bradford Diocese about to embark on a building scheme.

Recently though preparations have gained momentum. The choir under the direction of Peter Jamieson have been rehearsing for the eight choral services which will be sung during the Centenary week. Two issues of the News from St. Margaret's outlining the programme have gone out or are about to be distributed some 2000 copies free to houses in the parish. A professional clean down of the magnificent reredos, the Rood and font canopy have been completed. Hilary Greaves, in charge of catering, has her plans well and truly laid, as has Dorothy Riley, who will be in charge of the floral decorations in church.

Over 80 guests have been invited and these will be headed by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Bradford and the Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council. The main preachers will be the Bishop of Bradford and the Bishop of Dunwich, who was previously Archdeacon of Bradford, at the main service on the Monday evening. These too in their turn have been briefed.

Involving the other Christian Churches of the town and area will be the Procession of Witness on the Sunday Behind the scenes the Vicar, Canon Tom H. Levesley has made a series of banners showing aspects of the tradition of St. Margaret's, he has "walked over" the procession route with the bandmaster of West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police Band. One thousand balloons have been delivered, some will be carried in the procession and others released to carry the news of the centenary as far as the wind will take them. This latter will be one of the high spots of the barbeque for the children when among other items will be an entertainment by the now quite famous dog, Pride of Norwood.

A lot of hard work is going on, and the vicar challenges his people to participate fully with a slogan inside the church door which reads "What did you do at the Centenary, Dad?"

It is his hope and that of the St. Margaret's folk that many will come and enjoy the festivities.

8.6.79  
70th ANNIVERSARY OF BEN RHYDDING METHODIST CHURCH

A Special Weekend from 7 June-10 June is being held at Ben Rhydding Methodist Church to celebrate the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the opening of the present church building.

On 10 June 1909, the present church building of the Methodist Church in Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, was opened. The cost of the church was £3,172 13s. 8d. The Methodist Society however, went back to 1852, when services started to be held in the kitchen of the Wheatley Old Hall farmhouse. With the coming of the railway and the building of the Hydro and the change of name of the community from Wheatley to Ben Rhydding, the district started to develop.

About 100 years ago the Methodists' bought the temporary church building from St. Margarets, Ilkley, when their new church was opened. This building, erected at the foot of The Drive, served as church and Sunday School for some 30 years and was still in use as part of the Sunday School premises. There was now the feeling that this had had come or was coming to the end of its days, and the possibility of replacing it was being looked into and a Building Fund started.

UNVEILING PLAQUE IN MEMORY OF ALLIED AIRMAN

A plaque in memory of no less than forty airmen who died during the last war when their aircraft crashed on the fells and around Great Whernside, Kettlewell, is to be unveiled tomorrow afternoon (Saturday).

The ceremony will take place in the Chapel of the Hag Dyke Hostel, administered by the 1st Ben Rhydding (De Mohicanen) Scout Group since 1947. For over thirty years there has been a continuing interest concerning the nine crashes by allied aircraft on the fells and in particular in the four which plunged into the hillside a few hundred yards from the hostel.

A short service will be conducted by the Rev. John Potter, Vicar of Kettlewell, and by Father Anthony Fenton, of St. Augustines Roman Catholic Church, Leeds. The plaque will be unveiled by Mr. J. Fusniak of London, the sole survivor of a Polish aircraft which crashed in a blizzard on the summit of Buckden Pike, having failed to clear the mountain by only two feet.

Mr. Fusniak has already erected at Hag Dyke a memorial to his dead comrades and tomorrow he will refer to the dreadful four hour journey with a broken leg and in a blizzard on 30 January, 1942, which he made to try and secure help for one other member of the crew who did not die immediately.

It was the track of a fox in the snow which led Mr. Fusniak to safety at the "White Lion" in Cray, an act of providence he claims. Ever since he has cared for wild foxes in his garden in the South of England. For his bravery on this occasion he was awarded the British Empire Medal.

Past and present members and their parents of the 1st Ben Rhydding (De Mohicanen) Scout Group will be attending the ceremony and others taking part will include Captain Kent Edie, of the American Air Force, who will no doubt be particularly mindful of the Flying Fortress crew who all died only a few yards away, Squadron Leader E. R. Norris, of the Royal Air Force and Mr. Eric Linsley and other members of the Air Gunners' Association of Leeds.

After the ceremony the hostel will be open for inspection by the general public and it is hoped there will be a large number of visitors climbing the one and a half steep miles up from Kettlewell. 22.6.79

ILKLEY

Carefully Restored Detached Victorian Family House within a few minutes walk from the Town Centre.

16-3-79



Completely renovated, rewired and refitted throughout to the highest standards, with new central heating system and to be entirely redecorated. This house is ideal for the purchaser seeking a spacious town residence of character in a quiet position with pleasant views. There are many attractive features carefully preserved and the accommodation comprises briefly Vestibule, Hall, Cloaks and w.c., Charming Lounge with bay window, Large Dining Room with door to South facing terrace, newly fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Utility Room, Wine and Store Cellars, Master Bedroom with partly tiled Bathroom en suite, 3 further double Bedrooms (on first floor) second Bathroom, 2 second floor Bedrooms, Gas fired central heating, New Double Garage, Small walled garden. For completion April/May. PRICE £39,500.



A handsome double fronted stone terrace house having an interesting curved frontage with tall gable. Reputed to have been The Manse at one time. Period features retained including decorated ceilings, etched glass fanlight, ornate cast iron fireplaces etc. Splendid family house of considerable character close to Riverside gardens and short walk from town centre. Arched entrance with carved stone surround. Hall, Sitting Room with bay window, Dining Room, Family Kitchen including Yorkist side-oven range (ideal for baking bread). Basement: workshop, w.c. Fuels, Integral Garage. First Floor: 3 large bedrooms, Bathroom; Second Floor: 3 further bedrooms and another bathroom. Easily managed gardens to front and rear. Region £25,000.

## ACROSS THE YEARS

Ilkley Society Introduces  
A New Feature

## 100 Years Ago

The Congregational Mutual Improvement Society introduced a new feature into their weekly meetings — in the form of a Shakespearian Reading. The first reading was from the Merchant of Venice and character parts were taken by Messrs. F. B. Muff, B. Middleton, A. S. Press, Harry Muff, J. A. Clapham, F. B. Press, W. Tomlinson, J. W. Rushworth, J. P. Bosler, and Dr. Thos. Johnston.

Messrs. R. Foster (Chairman), R. Robinson and W. Pawson were the only three members present at the last meeting of the Burley Local Board prior to a pending election. By the time of the start of the meeting, only two members had arrived and due to the fact that a new rate had to be levied that day an official had to be sent to seek another member, in order to proceed with the business of the day.

The last popular entertainment of the season to be held in the working Men's Hall, Ilkley was a programme of four selections by their celebrated Brass Band. Thus it was felt that the wind-up of the 1878-9 season would indeed be long remembered.

## 75 Years Ago

A special meeting of the District Council was called to receive the financial statement and the estimates of the Finance Committee for a general district rate and water rate for the year ending March, 1905. It was decided that there was no need for any increase in the rate in the pound.

The educational column in the Ilkley Gazette contained numerous advertisements for private schools in the town including, Ilkley Grammar School, Ilkley Ladies College, Belle Vue House, Glendair, Cossbeck House, Ghyll Road, The Rhyddings, Wharfedale School, Fern Cliffe, Albany Walk, High School for Girls, Froebelian School, Albany Walk, The Tower Studios, Ilkley School of Art, and The Pines, Ilkley.

An invitation concert, promoted by Harry Wraith to benefit the Children's Holiday Home was given in the Lecture Hall, Mr. F. B. Muff, treasurer of the Institute thanked Mr. Wraith and Miss Laura Naylor, contralto for their work and also the ladies and gentlemen who took part. The concert made a profit of £4.10s.

The Burley Minstrel Troupe gave an entertainment in St. Margaret's, Hall Ilkley, which was described as being very poorly patronised.

The Bridge Hotel and Pleasure Gardens, Ilkley offered its Easter attractions. There was to be dancing in the pavilion to Mr. Craven's String Band, a Brass Band contest on Easter Monday in addition to boating on the river and first class entertainment and attraction.

## 50 Years Ago

The closure of Denton Village school was postponed pending the outcome of a scheme for the re-organisation of the elementary schools in the Ilkley and Addingham district.

"Matrimony or (Matter-O' Money)" a farcical comedy which entertained a large audience in the King's Hall

was performed by the Ilkley Thespians and written by an Ilkley man, Mr. R. A. Crowther. Taking leading parts in the production were Miss Marjorie Crawshaw, Mrs. Shirley H. Hewitt, Miss Elsie Rennie, Miss Mary Shaw, Messrs. John P. Dornan, A. Geoffrey Gaunt, Clifford Beeyers, George Booth, Gordon Crawshaw, and Mr. R. A. Crowther. The production was led by Mr. Charles Craven.

The annual whist drive and Dance organised by the Ilkley Cricket Club was held in the Winter Gardens, Mr. H. Kitson was MC for dancing and Mr. J. Denby was in charge of the whist drive. The stewards were Messrs. W. Garside, J. Dean, H. L. Haigh, F. McCarthy, R. A. Crowther, D. Crawshaw, G. Crawshaw and A. E. Martyn. Prizes were presented by Mrs. Davidson.

The Royal Hotel announced the opening of a new dance floor, with a dinner dance at 5/6 and dancing only 2/-, with music by the Collegians Dance Orchestra.

## 25 Years Ago

Voluntary work contributed by members towards the maintenance of Ben Rhydding Sports Club was deferred to by the secretary, Mr. G. A. Collinson, at the annual general meeting. The hockey section had been responsible for painting the pavilion, and Mr. T. Dance, senior vice-president had defrayed the cost of concreting in front of the building and had been responsible for laying floor boarding and making steps to the verandah. The cricket section had made some seats with concrete ends.

Amongst those who received awards at an investiture at Buckingham Palace were County Alderman Mrs. Ryder Runtun who received the O.B.E. for public and political services in Yorkshire, Mr. Vernon Whitaker of Menston County Ambulance Officer, who received the O.B.E. The investiture was carried out by the Queen Mother who deputised for the Queen.

Ilkley Concert Club had a loss of £103 on the 1953-4 season, and in view of this it was decided that there would have to be an increase in the cost of season and ordinary tickets. Season tickets would cost 30/- and ordinary tickets 7/- and 4/3.

## ACROSS THE YEARS 4.5.79

Concert Raised £22 For  
Ilkley Charity Hospital

## 100 Years Ago

A sacred concert was held at the Grove Congregational Church to lessen the deficit in the cash account of the Ilkley Charity Hospital. Despite the fact that 550 persons attended the collection only amounted to £15.9s. The concert was a huge success regarding the enjoyment of the audience, but only raised £22 for a very worthy charity.

In the "Houses to Let" column there were many fine houses to be rented at very reasonable prices. A large family dwelling house with magnificent scenery, garden all round, un-interrupted views of the valley, dining room, drawing room and breakfast rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms and 2 water closets, was for rent at £55 per year, and a similar property near central Ilkley for £40 per annum.

## 75 Years Ago

Girls of Ilkley National School provided parents and friends with a most entertaining evening with many musical items, and a performance of Snow White with Annie Thorp in the title role and Mabel Eaton as the "wicked Queen." Prince Charming was played by Sybil Dean.

A pierrot troupe organised by Mr. C. Cooper started their daily entertainments at the Tarn, and were rewarded with a large crowd as an audience.

Lack of attractions in the town, dull weather, and interesting programmes in nearby towns made Ilkley much quieter than usual at Whitsuntide 1904. This was despite the Pierrots, a gala at the Bridge Pleasure Gardens and boating on the river.

Odley market prices including eggs at 13 or 14 for 1/-, beef 6d per lb, Pork 7d per lb, ucklings 4/6 each, and chickens 3/- each.

## 50 Years Ago

Ilkley enjoyed a record Whitsuntide fifty years ago. There was wonderful weather from the Saturday to Tuesday and an old Ilkley residents declared that never in

his life had he ever seen so many people on Ilkley Moor as he saw on Whit Monday, 1929.

All the boys of Ilkley Grammar School gathered in the school hall to mark Empire Day. Patriotic songs were sung, including "Land of Hope and Glory" with solos by Master E. Twigg. The address was given by the Rev. S. Tonkin, pastor of the Ilkley Congregational Church.

A notice was posted at Greenholme Mills, Burley-in-Wharfedale, announcing a reduction in salaries and wages all round of 7 1/2 per cent. This reduction was to apply to everyone from the senior directors down to the most junior office boy.

Mr. Ramsey Macdonald, leader of the Labour Party, stayed at Wells House after addressing a meeting at Skipton. Members of the Ilkley branch of the Labour Party gathered together to give him a "cordial send-off" when he left the hydro.

## 25 Years Ago

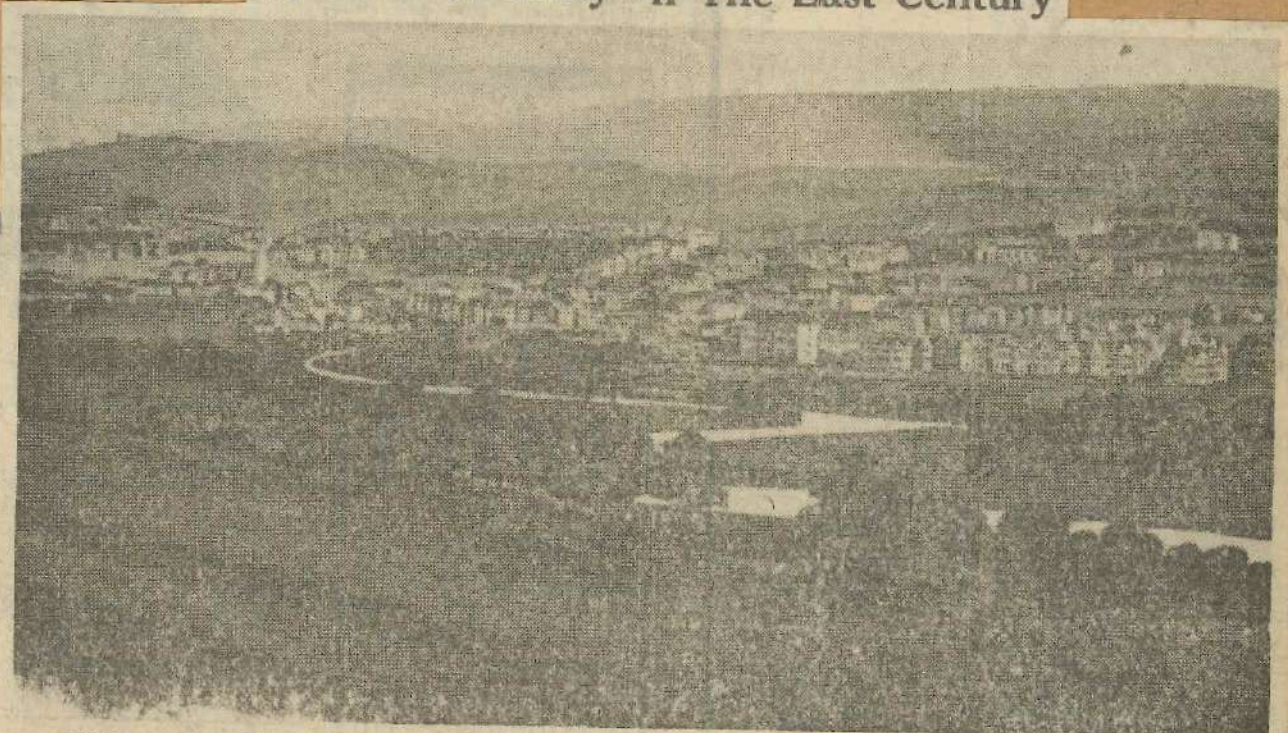
An allegation that the constitution of the Housing Committee of Ilkley Urban District Council had been "rigged" in order to exclude two newly elected representatives for the Burley and Holme wards was made by Mr. Irvin Clarke, Labour representative of the Burley Ward.

Two Ilkley drivers, Mike Garner, the Grove, Ilkley, and Roy Cunliffe, took part in the new sport of stock car racing at Odsal Stadium, Bradford.

To mark his retirement from Ilkley Post Office, Mr. J. C. Cox, Postmaster, was presented with an oil painting and fountain pen by Mr. A. A. Wardman, Miss D. Dickinson presented Mrs. Cox with a bouquet.

Mr. Fred Atkinson of the Menston Ward was elected as Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council with Mr. William Hill of Ilkley South Ward as vice-chairman. Mr. Atkinson was employed in the administrative service of the City of Bradford Education Authority.

## A View Of Ilkley In The Last Century



Taken from a point on what is now Owlter Park Road, Ilkley, this view shows the open spaces in what are now the upper and lower Riddings and the Parish Ghyll area. Wells House (now Ilkley College) and St. Margaret's Church are easily identified on the right below White Wells on Ilkley Moor. There are open spaces in the Cowpastures and where the Grammar School now stands.



# NEW CATHOLIC DAY SCHOOL OPENED

### 100 Years Ago

The new day school erected for the Catholic population of Ilkley and district was used for the first time, but there was no official opening ceremony. Prior to this the nearest Catholic school had been at Middleton and its location posed problems in getting the children, particularly the younger ones so far. The new school was adjacent to the Catholic Church and was capable of holding from 100 to 120 scholars. The attendance was encouraging with 69 students from the area being registered.

The monthly meeting of the Burley local Board was attended by a full board. A report from the Dr. Wm. Murray, the local medical officer was discussed. Dr. Murray said the death rate in the village had risen but this could be accounted for by the severity of the winter. One death had been reported from typhoid fever, and several milder cases. He commented on the fact that sewer gases were escaping into the house, and blamed the severe frost for the state of the drains. He advised the necessity of having all sinks and other drains disconnected from the main sewer or else efficiently trapped.

There were almost 200 entries for the Burley-in-Wharfedale Athletics Club annual festival of sports, at which the Ilkley Brass Band under the conductor, Mr. Paley would be in attendance.

### 75 Years Ago

It was announced that the Headmaster of Ilkley Grammar School, since its opening in 1893. Mr. Frederic Swann was to resign at the end of the summer term with a view to taking up practice at the bar, to which he had been recently called.

Not only did residents in the Ben Rhydding area receive a new evening postal delivery, to improve the "hitherto poor postal facilities" but a new Sunday morning house-to-house delivery came into service in the Ilkley district. Prior to this people could obtain their mail on a Sunday by calling at the post office between certain stated hours.

Mr. F. B. Muff was re-elected chairman at the annual meeting of Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club, with Mr. E. Sonnenthal as hon. secretary. Plans were discussed for a three day tennis tournament to take place during the August Bank Holiday.

Mr. G. K. Chesterton, the well-known writer and his wife spent a few weeks holiday in Ilkley as guests of Mr. F. F. Steinhal. He had written "The Life of Browning" whilst staying in Ilkley the previous year and in 1904 was at work on the "Life of Charles Kingsley."

Ilkley Urban District Council discussed the erection of a bandstand at their meeting, and at the insistence of Mr. H. Moisey it was to be a "proper bandstand" and not a rustic model as suggested by Mr. J. T. Jackson. They concluded that at a cost of less than £150 they could erect a bandstand worthy of the town and the Town Band.

### 50 Years Ago

The tenants of Ilkley's new council houses who kept dogs in contravention of their tenancy conditions were told by the Council that they must either get rid of their dogs or quit the premises following the increasing number of complaints as to the damage done by dogs.

The Yorkshire Archaeological Society called the attention of Ilkley Urban District Council to acts of vandalism committed upon antiquities on Ilkley Moor. The Council were requested to provide safeguards for the preservation of these antiquities, including the Grubstones Stone Circle, and Cup and Ring marked rocks and boundary stones.

Impressive ceremonies were conducted at the Catholic Church, Addingham in connection with the consecration of the newly erected altar, the gifts of Miss Gascoyne, Highgate, London. The consecration ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Cowgill, Bishop of Leeds, assisted by the Very Rev. Father Alban of Highgate Hill, London.

Burley Boy Scouts held the first of a series of weekend camps at Leathley, under the supervision of the Scoutmaster, Mr. J. Rayner.

### 25 Years Ago

County Alderman Mrs. S. Ryder Runtton proposed the loyal toast at the Ilkley Choral Society's annual dinner in the Royal Hotel. The toast to the society was proposed by Mr. George Richards, secretary of Leeds University Institute of Education, and replied to by Mr. C. W. Balnbridge. After dinner musical items were contributed by the Misses W. and E. Bosward, Miss W. Learoyd, Mr. J. Muncester and Mr. J. Featherstone.

The Governors of Ilkley Secondary School were endeavouring to persuade parents to equip their children with uniform, despite the seemingly growing opinion at the time that school uniform was a form of snobbery and made unfair demands on the purses of parents.

The extent to which the view across the river from Denton Road was being spoiled by sand and gravel workings was the subject of comment at a meeting of Ilkley Council by Mr. J. H. Mawson. He asked for action to be taken to improve the site. Mr. F. Atkinson said the only possible action was to draw the attention of the County Council Planning Committee to the site and keep pressing for something to be done to do away with that unsightly thug.

Miss Dorothy Smithson of Valley Drive, Ben Rhydding, was to be ordained as a deaconess of the Methodist Church by the Rev. Donald Soper at the Albert Hall, Methodist Mission in Nottingham. She had been a lay preacher in the Ilkley Circuit for some years and was a former member of the Leeds Road Methodist Church.

# NEW ILKLEY CATHOLIC CHURCH OPENED

### 100 Years Ago

The Catholics of Ilkley, would long remember July, 1879, according to a report in the Ilkley Gazette, a hundred years ago.

The Catholics of Ilkley had for centuries had to worship at the private chapel of Wm. Middleton Esquire, of Middleton Lodge having had no church of their own. The growth of Ilkley as a Spa town had increased the necessity of relieving the little chapel at Middleton. To this end the foundation stone of a new Catholic Church in Stockeld Road had been laid the previous August by the Bishop of Beverley.

The architecture of the building was Gothic and commodious, and there was also provided a school for 100 children at the west end of the church. High Mass was sung at the opening ceremony in the presence of the Bishop of Leeds, Right Rev Robert Cornthwaite and Canon Vavasour of Ripon was the celebrant with many other dignitaries of the Church present. The clergy and invited guests were entertained to a magnificent lunch at the Middleton Hotel at which toasts were drunk to the Queen the Pope, the Lord Bishop of Leeds and Mr. Wm. Middleton.

### 75 Years Ago

At a meeting of the Ilkley and District Education Subcommittee a series of reports were given from H.M. Inspector on the local schools.

The Ilkley National schools report stated that the boys' school was well supervised but crowded and understaffed. Three classes were taught in the main room and lighting was inadequate. The girls were well behaved and did good work desks were too old and high for the younger children. He complained that classes were too large at the Infants' School but satisfactory work was being done.

The Catholic Schools were reported as being good for order and work was careful. Cloakroom facilities were lacking and class rooms needed white washing.

Denton School had a good report, but he thought the curriculum could be a little more ambitious.

The retiring Grammar School headmaster, Mr. Frederic Swann was presented with a handsome silver rose bowl from the boys. H. T. Bates made the presentation on behalf of the pupils.

### 50 Years Ago

Acting on the recommendation of the Public Health and Housing Committee the West Riding County Council decided to erect wood and glass porches below the verandahs of some wards at Middleton Hospital to provide comfort and protection for the patients in windy weather. The work was to cost £120. Two additional poultry houses were to be purchased for the Sanatorium Poultry Farm, together with new fencing and gates.

A Leeds garage had some second hand car bargains on offer. The least expensive was a Clyno 11 H.P. (1925) with a large dickey seat at £27 10s., a two year old Daimler 20/70 H.P. at £295, and a "Chummy" model Austin 7, two years old at £65.

### 25 Years Ago

West Riding County Council workmen were carrying out repairs to the foundations of the Ilkley Old Bridge. The river was dammed so that it was diverted from the south arch in order to put in a new concrete invert on the bed of the river.

Discussion on the state of Addingham Beck ensued at a meeting of Addingham Parish Council. They had received a complaint that the beck adjacent to Low School was untidy and insanitary. People had apparently been throwing all types of rubbish into the stream. It was agreed to approach the Sanitary Inspector at Skipton.

To cope with increased numbers at Ilkley Church of England Junior Mixed School, Ilkley Education Committee decided to try to acquire a room in a nearby building to use as an extra classroom. It was also agreed to advertise for a new teacher.

FRIDAY, 29 JUNE, 1979

# NEW FACADE FOR ILKLEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Major alterations which have been taking place at the Sacred Heart Church, Stockeld Road, Ilkley, since July last year are due to be completed this September.

A new entrance has been made following the demolition of half of the old school. Steps now lead up to three stone archways and beyond there is a large foyer leading into the church. There is a

lamp at either side of the entrance and Father Roache is planning to plant a Japanese maple tree at either side also. At the top of the middle arch there is a small half moon window which is going to be a shrine. Long vertical windows are also a feature of the entrance. A ramp is to be provided for the elderly or those with wheel chairs at the entrance.

Inside the church the old main

south and north walls have been demolished and extended 24 feet on either side. The seating capacity has been increased from about 175 to about 300. The inside will look entirely different when the alterations have been completed. The altar will be re-positioned and it will all be completely modified whilst retaining some of the character.

The house next to the church

will have a connecting corridor with cloakroom etc., and the house will also be modified.

During the alteration period Mass has been held at St. Mary's School, Valley Drive, Ben Rhydding, at weekend and through the week at the Dame Convent, Kings Road, Ilkley.



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## WHEN WILL THIS WINTER END? ASK RESIDENTS

### 100 Years Ago

At the end of April the question was still being asked "When will this winter end?" An old inhabitant of the town said that he had never known a winter so "long and strong" and thought it likely there would be no summer and that the winter would just join on to the next winter. A heavy fall of snow with 12 degrees of frost in early May rather favoured his assumption.

A bazaar was held by the members of the Wesleyan Church, Ilkley, with the object of clearing off a rather heavy debt on the Minister's house. Mr. T. P. Muff was the opener and the proceedings were presided over by the Rev. E. J. Brailsford, the resident Minister. Despite a fall of snow in the morning which kept potential buyers away the scene was described as "fairly-like" with objects both useful and ornamental. The stewards were Messrs. Eagle and Vincent.

Residents of the area were invited to become members of a Clothing Association to avail themselves of silk and felt hats, linen and woollen shirts under-shirts and drawers and all sorts of stockings and socks, collars and fronts.

### 75 Years Ago

The erection of a chapel at the Menston Asylum came under discussion at a meeting of the West Riding County Council. Despite the fact that original plans had been passed to include a chapel at the asylum the committee of magistrates who had been entrusted with the actual building had left the erection of the chapel to their successors, the result being that it was never erected. The Lunacy Commissioners claimed that the building would never have been passed unless plans had included a chapel. Members of the County Council therefore might have felt duty-bound to proceed with the erection of a chapel at Menston Asylum.

Mr. Kenneth M. Priestman, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Priestman, Beaconholme, Ilkley was elected to a scholarship spread over three years to Bootham School, York.

Plans were exhibited in an Ilkley shop window for an Assembly Room to be built in Ilkley. Residents argued that a room with accommodation for only 800 people would not be sufficient.

### 50 Years Ago

The prospect of the work of the Ilkley Development Association being taken over by the Ilkley Chamber of Trade after its debts had been liquidated was discussed at a Chamber of Trade meeting. Many years before this the Chamber of Trade was known as the Ilkley Tradespeople's Association, and as a branch of this the Ilkley Advertising Board was formed which after the first world

war took upon the title of Ilkley Development Board.

Ilkley Parish Church woff Cubs held their annual concert in the Church Institute. Taking part in a programme of songs and recitations were: — R. Parsons, E. Andrews, L. Barrowby, G. Thackray, K. Proctor, J. Naylor, J. Smith, B. Smith O. Moorhouse, A. Crossfield, E. Park, S. Tennant, H. Snowdon, J. Park, G. Martin, K. Davidson, K. Elliott, and T. Titchmarsh.

Cheap holiday tickets to Belgium from Leeds were advertised by the L.N.E.R. for 68/- return fare.

A vagrant at Otley Police Court was sentenced to one month's hard labour for singing and begging in Brook Street Ilkley.

### 25 Years Ago

An application by Ben Rhydding Sports Club for the deletion of a clause in their lease prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor was approved after a long discussion by the Ilkley Urban Council.

Houses and shop properties were flooded, roads and man-holes forced up, poultry drowned and gardens damaged during the course of a two hour thunderstorm over Ilkley which brought over two and a half inches of rain. It was the worst storm of this kind since 1930 when three Ilkley houses were struck by lightning.

An enrolment ceremony of the St. John Ambulance Nursing cadets was held at Buryley Congregational church. The eight Beatitudes were read by Pauling Armitage. The enrolling officer was Corps Supt. A. Watson and Corps Supt. Mrs. E. Woods presented certificates to cadets Pauling Armitage, Sheila Mann, Irene Threlfall, Yvonne Shillito, June Hudson, Hilary James, Joan Miller, Anne Yates, Gwyneth James and Valerie Johnson. Cadet Supt. Mrs. E. Norfolk was in charge of the cadets. Divisional Supt. G. Thorne and Divisional Supt. Mrs. A. Atkinson was presented with a service medal by Mr. Horne.

## Ilkley Established As A "Superb Health Resort"

### 100 Years Ago

25.5.79.

The popularity of Ilkley as a "superb health resort" was established by a very busy Whitsuntide weekend in the town. The weather was favourable and establishments and lodging houses were "cramped out." Between 6,000 and 7,000 people were carried by Midland and North Eastern Railway Companies back to Leeds and Bradford and the streets of Ilkley were described as scenes of animation.

To enjoy the pleasures of Ilkley and the surrounding district the local hosteleries offered for hire, — open and closed carriages, large and small waggonettes, cabs, dog carts, landaus and post horses, together with tickets for fishing in the River Wharfe at 2s. 6d. each.

The weekly published list of visitors to the town was mostly composed of people from the towns of the industrial West Riding together with a small number of Londoners and a few people from Dublin. Each establishment and boarding house was listed separately, together with the name of the proprietor or landlord and the names and town of origin of each of their guests, including in some cases the family servants.

### 75 Years Ago

A walking match from Ilkley to Burnsall and back took place on the first Monday in June and hundreds of people turned out to see the start and the finish outside the Town Hall. The winner was Mr. W. Bell who completed the course in 4 hours 38 minutes. B. Thornton was second and Geo Mills took third place. Mr. Bell was a blacksmith in the employ of Messrs. Robinson and Sons, manufacturers of the famous Ilkley Invalid Cough.

The Governors of Ilkley Grammar School received 200 applications for the post of headmaster following the resignation of Mr. F. Swann.

Mr. J. Richardson, stationmaster at Ben Rhydding, fly fishing in the vicinity of Ben Rhydding Bridge at dusk, landed not a trout, but a bat which had made a grab for his artificial fly.

### 50 Years Ago

The United Council of Christian Churches in Ilkley sent a letter to Ilkley Council urging them to discontinue the allowing of Sunday

## Trotting match attracted many spectators

### 100 Years Ago

A considerable number of people turned out to watch a trotting match on the Addingham Road. The match was between a grey cob ridden by Garside and a horse belonging to Mr. Beckwith. The former had a start of 30 yards and managed to keep the lead winning by about ten yards to the sounds of great cheering.

Ilkley Hospital opened at the end of April and admitted 19 patients, with a waiting list to follow of 20 patients.

At a property auction sale at the Malt Shovel, Buryley two lots of building land in Sun Lane, Buryley in Wharfedale the property of Mr. Wm. Booth were disposed of. One lot went to Mr. William Collett at 2/6 per square yard and the other to Mr. John Town at 3/- per square yard. Owing to lack of bidders all the other lots were withdrawn.

Ilkley Cricket Club started the season with an away match against Saltaire which they won with eight wickets to spare. A Dobson and J. Dixon were the high scorers for Ilkley and were both not out at the close of play.

The Rose and Crown Inn advertised waggonettes, buses, cabs, dog carts and other conveyances for hire in addition to 2/6 tickets for fishing on the Wharfe.

### 75 Years Ago

It was reported that Spring heralded its advent at Addingham with a swarm of bees in mid-April, and it was said that although the village was a little behind the times in some things it is generally abreast in seasons.

To assist the Addingham Nurse's Association the Addingham Brass Band held a parade and concert. The band paraded the streets in the afternoon and collections were taken en route. In the evening the concert was held in the Wesleyan school room which was crowded. In addition to some first class pieces by the orchestra there were four vocalists forming a glee party and a string quartet.

At the Hare and Hounds Inn, Menston, Mr. Joseph Downs sold the freehold residence, known as Elmets Grange, Menston covering an area of two acres to Mr. Atkinson a builder from Leeds for £1,335.

Mr. J. W. Benson was unanimously elected to the position of chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council at the annual meeting. Mr. J. W. Dixon was elected vice-chairman. Mr. Hawksworth asked for the designs for the proposed Free Library to be displayed for public inspection and this was agreed upon.

An architect was appointed to adjudicate on plans submitted for this building A

resolution was passed to sign and seal the general district rate at 3s. 4d in the £ for the year ending March 1905.

### 50 Years Ago

The hon secretaries of the Ilkley Moor Golf Club Messrs. F. M. Hood and W. A. Box reported that work done on the course had to be carried out under difficult conditions with great economy being practiced. The number of summer visitors had been disappointing despite an exceptionally fine summer. It was decided to admit fifty new lady members and fifty new gentlemen members for the ensuing year without entrance fee, and the subscriptions to be £2.2s. (men) and £1 11s. 6d (women).

The continued drought meant that fishermen in the district still had "their rods in the corner of the kitchen, and their fly hooks unopened." The trout men had not been able to make a start on the season at all. The river was reported as at drought summer level and the waters as clear as gin.

Priory Cottage, Dean Head Farm, Langbar with about ten acres of land, barn mistal and well-built tomato house was sold to Mr. H. Brogan, of Middleton for £520.

### 25 Years Ago

Favourable weather welcomed visitors to Ilkley over the Easter holiday weekend in 1954. The crowds, however, were well below average in number. Accidents were absent from the roads despite through traffic on the roads being the heaviest of any Bank Holiday after the war.

The cold dry April weather posed many problems for local farmers, the hill sheep feeling the shortage of grass acutely and sowing of seed being late on many farms. Ewes suffering from lack of milk had to be fed with mangolds and hay, many being fed in this manner since the end of January. There was an acute need for a good spell of warm rain.

Elderly residents at Farfield Hall, Addingham, were entertained to a concert by members of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, who were guests of the Matron, Miss M. E. Atkinson and the Ilkley Soroptimist Club. Mrs. Marie Newsome, president of the Soroptimist Club expressed appreciation to the artistes for giving their time to entertain the elderly.

## The villagers of Kirkby Malzeard seldom use the sunken pathway that leads from their churchyard, but they resist all attempts to close it, writes TED GOWER.

Churchyards are often full of history. The tombstones make interesting reading, revealing family oddities and tragedies. One churchyard has a mystery, a lane that nobody owns but everybody wants, even if they use it rarely.

We cover some familiar picturesque ground on the way, starting from Otley, and taking the B6451 over the river. Climbing up to Weston Moor, with the Washburn valley and its reservoirs on our right, we come to the summit on Asquith Moor, and descend to Blubberhouses. At the main road, turn right, then left up Hardisty Hill, to Thruscross and on to Dacre.

Down into Nidderdale, over the river and up to Summerbridge, then turn left. At Wilsill, go up the hill to the right, over the crossroads and ascend to Pateley Moor. The heather should be starting to purple the great wild spaces that bound the road as we come to Skell Gill bridge and on to Dallow Moor.

We reach the valley of the river Laver and cross to the village of Laverton. Two roads connect with Kirkby Malzeard, whose churchyard provides the mystery. The church is just up the lane from the east end of the main street and stands overlooking a little valley, where Kex Beck (there is also a Kex Beck on Blubberhouses Moor) finds its way into a lake across

the Ripon road, in Azerley Park.

One gravestone records that George Wharton died in 1844 at the age of 112.

Linking the churchyard with Ripon road is a sunken pathway, probably unique in England. One third of its length is underground, walled on both sides, covered by what was once

the drive of the Mowbray estate. The rest of the lane is between high walls and below ground level. It is called Lover's Lane, or Love Lane, probably as it seems a likely spot for a bit of after-service cuddling in the dark and rarely-used tunnel.

A similar construction, although on a more massive scale, is next to the

churchyard at Clapham, at the foot of Ingleborough, where the Farrers took their garden over the old road from Austwick.

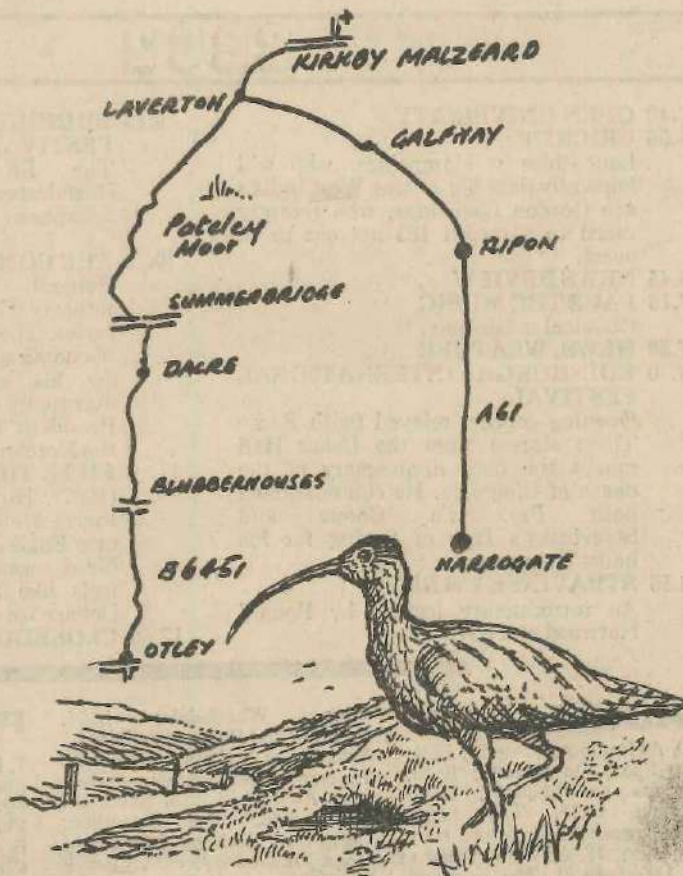
Nobody seems to know why it was built. It could have been that the owners of Mowbray House had the pathway sunk so that they could not see the village people going to church, or that they did not want people looking in their windows. There is another theory that a second sunken pathway led from Church Bank to the church, providing a short cut for Grewelthorpe folk who worshipped at Kirkby Malzeard before their own church was built.

In 1939, when the war started, the entrances were protected by sandbags and electric light put in the tunnel, so that it could be used as an air raid shelter. Nobody maintains it now, but any attempt to close it results in strong protests from the local people.

There was a castle here in Norman times, but it has vanished. The Norman doorway still leads into the church which was rebuilt after a fire in 1908. The tower is 15th century, and has some unidentifiable animals carved on the buttresses.

Our return journey takes us back to Laverton, and then to Galphay. Crossing the valley of the Laver again, we drive on to Ripon and on the A61 to Harrogate.

Distance about 60 miles.



27 APRIL, 1979—ILKLEY GAZETTE

### ACROSS THE YEARS "Wretched" State Of Some Footpaths At Ilkley

#### 100 Years Ago

An Ilkley resident in a letter to the "Ilkley Gazette" in 1879 complained of the "wretched state of footpaths" in most of Ilkley's private streets. He claimed that the streets had been formed of the worst possible materials finished off by "scamping" and that embarrassed owners were having to patch them up in strips and patches. In some cases roads had completely collapsed and in others the grates and channels remained choked. He exhorted the Local Board to adopt and maintain these streets and cited the condition of Parish Ghyll Road as a prime example of worn roadwork despite the owners repairing it themselves some three years previously.

A special meeting of the subscribers and friends of Ilkley Athletic Club was convened at the Crescent Hotel to elect a new secretary following the resignation of Mr. R. Tuke. Mr. George Brumfit was unanimously elected, and Mr. Barr and Mr. Fox were also elected to fill two vacancies on the committee.

#### 75 Years Ago

Ilkley Male and Female sections of the St. John Ambulance Brigade held a well attended social evening in St. Margaret's Hall. It was organised by Mrs. H. A. Newbound and Mrs. P. F. Steinhil presided over the evening and presented medals and certificates to members and a portable electric lamp to Mr. Wm. Smith, of Addingham, who was Dr. Bates assistant as surgeon demonstrator. The evening was enlivened with "a capital pianoforte solo" and excellent pianoforte duet, and Miss Edith Sargeant, who in "splendid voice" sang "Sing me to Sleep."

Plans were in hand for a walking match from Ilkley to Burnsall and back. Mr. W. Tasker and Mr. M. Hawksworth were to be the starters and a collection was to be made for the Coronation Cottage Hospital.

A freehold detached villa, Iddesleigh, Queen's Road, Ilkley was sold by auction for £1,700. This included 3,085 square yards of land, gardens, tennis lawn, vinery, peach house, outhouses and

conveniences. The purchaser was Mr. Jenkinson, of Ilkley.

#### 50 Years Ago

The tennis courts, bowling green and putting green adjoining the Cricket Club were formally opened by Mr. George Mott, Chairman, Ilkley Urban District Council. A stone built cottage had been turned into changing rooms and a pavilion, available for anyone using the courts or bowling green.

A demonstration in what were described as trance addresses and clairvoyance was given in connection with the Ilkley Spiritualist Mission by Mr. Bertram Scarff, of Liverpool. Mr. Scarff, said his spirit guide was the daughter of a London doctor and once in a trance spoke in the voice of a cultured lady, and also of a French lady in the times of Marie Antoinette.

A front page advertisement addressed to house hunters claimed that readers could own and occupy a house on Bradford Road, Otley by payment of £25. The total repayments thereafter would amount to 13s 3d per week. The houses were semi-detached and painted and decorated ready for occupation.

#### 25 Years Ago

The dangerous conditions of the floor of Burley Special Subjects Centre was given urgent attention at the May meeting of Ilkley Education Committee. It was decided to ask for immediate attention as there was an imminent danger of people falling through the floor boards.

Mr. John Victor Hatfield, of East Parade, Ilkley, serving in the Merchant Navy with the Ellerman Wilson Line, Hull, passed his Master's examination.

The dry cold April of 1954 created difficulties for many farmers particularly on the hill sheep farms where the shortage of grass was felt acutely and there was an urgent need for a good spell of warm rain. The drought had thrown sowing late on many farms and in some cases it had to be done on a dry seed-bed. Less than half an inch of rain had fallen during the month and this had little effect on the parched soil.

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## SUCCESSFUL START FOR BAND OF HOPE

### 100 Years Ago

Ikley Wesleyan Sunday School Band of Hope completed its first very successful session with a public tea in the schoolroom. There was a resume of the year's activities, read by the secretary, Mr. A. Hepton which pointed out there had been an average attendance of 30 who had enjoyed amongst other things magic lantern lectures by Mr. Gardiner and Mr. Smith.

Ikley Primitives held their first anniversary services. A public tea was followed by a meeting in the evening. Services were conducted by the Rev. Thos. Cross.

Member of Ikley Congregational Mutual Improvement Society had a walking trip to Haworth. They went by the high road to Keighley and "traversed the beautiful and expansive moorland." Four hours later the party took lunch at the Black Bull Hotel, Haworth, and then looked around the church made famous by the celebrated Bronde family. They returned as far as Keighley by the Midland Railway Company and then had a two hour walk over the moors home.

School who were to join them on some planned activities. The children were accommodated at Hollybrook Holiday Home, Queen's Road.

1st Ikley Company of the Girl's Life Brigade held their first open night in the Leeds Road Methodist Schoolroom. There were demonstrations of drill and handiwork under the leadership of Mrs. H. Lewis (Lieutenant) and Mrs. B. Tompkins (Captain). The Rev. T. S. Clayton (Chaplain) gave a devotion talk.

Samuel Ledgard offered Whitsuntide bus excursions to Blackpool for 10/9 return, Bridlington 10/9 return and Doncaster Races 7/3.

## "IRON HORSE" RIDERS FORM ILKLEY CLUB

### 75 Years Ago

The new hospital erected by the Wharfedale Union Isolation Committee was formally opened at an "At Home" held in one of the scarlet fever wards. Council Chairmen present included Mr. E. Greaves (Otley), Mr. J. H. Foulds (Burley), Mr. J. W. Benson (Ikley), Mr. Hornsby Jackson (Wharfedale Rural Council), and Mr. B. Shaw (Menston Parish Council). The guests were formally received by the openers Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Arthur Duncan.

The hospital had two scarlet fever wards, a typhoid pavilion, an isolation block, an administrative block, the porter's lodge, the discharge and mortuary block, and the laundry and engineering block.

Mr. Thomson on behalf of the architects, Messrs. Blackwell and Thomson presented Mr. Duncan with a small silver key as a souvenir of the occasion, with an enamelled representation of Noah's Ark upon it which formed the seal of the committee.

Ikley Fire Brigade agreed to serve the village of Addingham in return for an annual payment of £4, for which sum a detachment of the brigade would be sent for practice and hydrant testing not less than three times a year. In addition the firemen were to be paid by Addingham Council at the usual rate when on duty at fires.

### 50 Years Ago

A General Election campaign was in full swing in May 1929. The candidates for Pudsey and Otley division were - C. G. Gibson (Conservative); Capt. A. W. Brown (Labour) and Dr. H. S. Houldsworth (Liberal). The Conservative party declined an invitation to take part in an all party meeting as they claimed their time to be "fully booked." All candidates, however, expressed their views on two of the topics of the time, that of liquor control and their personal views on peace and the League Nations Union.

A deputation of the Wharfedale Guardians visiting Menston Mental Hospital claimed to have seen large quantities of bread in the bakehouse unfit for human consumption and only half baked. The baker claimed this was owing to the fact that his assistants were all patients and were not responsible. It was agreed to recommend the hiring of a professional assistant for the baker.

### 25 Years Ago

A party of forty school children from a primary school in Hendon London accompanied by four of their teachers arrived in Ikley to spend a holiday sightseeing in Yorkshire. The children

### 100 Years Ago

A meeting was held in the Working Men's Club at Ikley for the purpose of establishing a bicycle club in the town. The attendance by the keen "Iron Horse" riders was moderate and Mr C. Greaves was elected secretary. It was hoped the new club would be the start of a flourishing organisation.

Mr. R. Foster presided at the monthly meeting of the Burley Local Board of Health when the provision of a new high store reservoir with a capacity of three to four million gallons was discussed. An animated discussion ensued between Messrs. Robinson and Harrison as to the relative merits of Colstone Beck and Rough Hole Spring. Mr. Robinson denounced the previous water scheme as worthless and it had cost the Board £12,000 when £1,000 would have done.

### 75 Years Ago

The question of whether or not Ikley should be popularised as a tourist centre was re-opened. It was pointed out that people erected their villas at Ikley with considerable expense involved and that they did not want to see, there was a move in the town to try and turn Ikley into an inland Blackpool. This type of resident despised the band, the pierrots at the tern preferring the wildness of the moorland and the "call of the curlew", whilst the District Council made every effort to promote Ikley. They claimed to have improved the moor with the provision of paths, drainage, and the short road from the Keighley Road to the Old White Wells to enable invalids in bathchairs to be wheeled for their morning dip. Thus the fight for the beautiful in the eyes of the residents was in direct opposition to the struggle for survival as termed by the natives of the town.

The Ikley Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association took over premises in Tower Buildings (now demolished and the site redeveloped for Leonfield flats) as a rest home for other branch members and also for social and recreational use. There was accommodation for eight boarders and an excellent library was provided.

## BEN RHYDDING, ILKLEY



A charming period property disposed on one floor only, having been lavishly converted internally to provide rooms of exceptional quality, whilst retaining all the character of this ornately half timbered Victorian Coach House. The property is totally secluded in a tranquil situation and is within an easy walk of Ben Rhydding shops and station with its regular commuter services to Leeds and Bradford. The fully centrally heated accommodation provides spacious Hall and Cloakroom, magnificent Drawing Room with stone arched fireplace, Sitting Room, Dining Room, well-fitted Kitchen, Master Bedroom with en-suite Bathroom/Dressing Room, two further well-proportioned Bedrooms and excellent Second Bathroom, Double Garage. The gardens whilst being extensive are easily maintained, sheltered by mature trees and shrubs and containing lawns, water garden, rose beds and a secluded paved patio. For Sale by Private Treaty. Price on Application. Details available from all our Offices. For further information contact Andrew Sharpe, F.R.I.C.S. or Ghita Denby at Ikley Office.

### 50 Years Ago

The new member of parliament for the Pudsey and Otley Division in the 1929 Parliamentary election was Mr. Charles G. Gibson (Conservative). Speaking to the crowd Mr. Gibson urged the necessity for peace in industry, national peace, peace throughout the world, and the binding together of kinship and friendship between Britain and her Empire.

There was a large congregation at Ikley Parish Church when Dr. Perowne (Bishop of Bradford) dedicated the new vestry and extension of the church, which were erected as part of the scheme to commemorate the 13th centenary of the foundation of the Church. The 1st and 2nd Troops of the Ikley Parish Church Boy Scouts together with the Wolf Cubs under the leadership of Group Scoutmasters Hinchcliffe and Drury, formed a Guard of Honour after parading at the church.

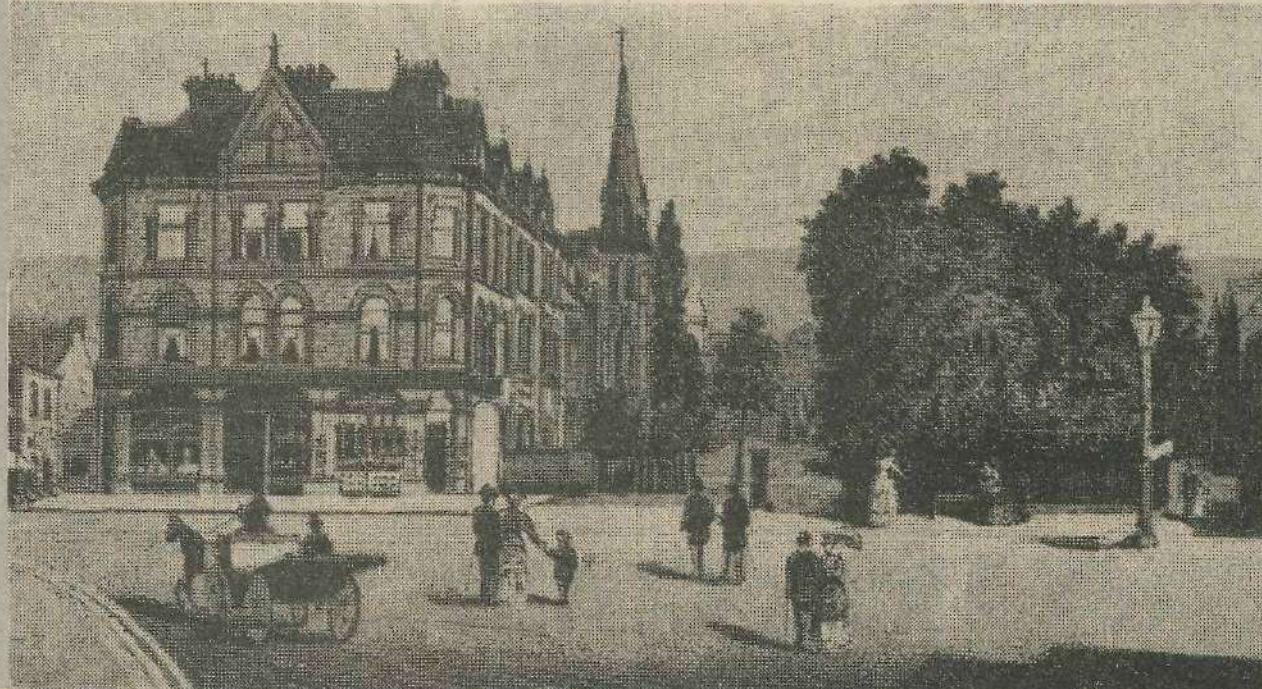
Members of the Sick and Social Club at Ikley Gasworks enjoyed a happy outing by charabanc to Blackpool. They had dinner at Collinson's Cafe, and the pleasures of the South Shore Pleasure Beach were enjoyed by the party of 25.

### 25 Years Ago

About £2,000 worth of damage was caused to the large wooden headquarters of the Ben Rhydding Scout Hut when it was almost completely destroyed by fire. The fire was caused by a highly inflammable tin of bituminous enamel, bursting into flames whilst being heated on a gas ring by a workman preparing to paint the newly felted roof of the hut. A nearby five gallon drum of paint was ignited and the whole hut was set ablaze. Almost all the building was destroyed together with contents including camping equipment. Ben Rhydding Working Men's Club adjoining was slightly burned.

Menston British Legion women's section was awarded first place in a standard bearer's competition at Calverley Carnival. There were seven branches competing. The Menston bearer was Mrs. P. Jackson, and escorts were Mrs. N. Witty and Mrs. A. Jefferson.

## Ikley In Horse Cab Days 9.2.79.



This tranquil scene at the top of Brook Street depicts a much slower pace of life in Ikley at the turn of the century.

The biggest change to have

placement of the building occupied by the Wells Road Methodist Church by a block of flats. After the demolition of the church, with its spire which became a local land-

adjacent church hall into a Church.

There were gate-posts at the bottom of Wells Promenade and the absence of an island at the top of Brook

Two local traders then accommodated in the quidning today occupied by Dacre, Son and Hartley were Horsman, the florist, and Wilde the photographer.

# Addingham Carnival Was A Popular Event

## 100 Years Ago

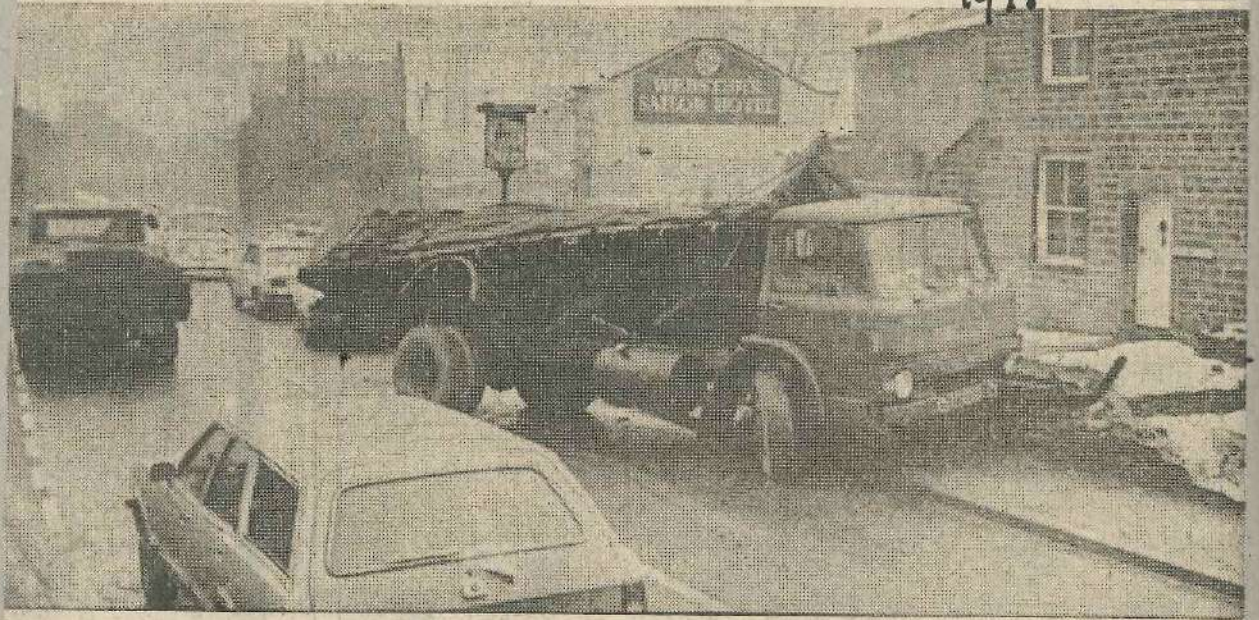
The roll of time has undoubtedly very much lessened if not altogether obliterated the interest manifested in the annual feasts or "wakes" at many country hamlets and villages, stated the "Gazette" in 1879.

However, this was far from being the case at Addingham for as the annual carnival came round there was a stronger desire on the part of the inhabitants to supersede the attractions and festivities of former years. A cricket match between Addingham and Ilkley and trotting matches were a feature of the activities.

The General Purposes committee of the Ilkley Local Board put forward a recommendation to move the Ilkley pin-fold as soon as possible as it had become a public nuisance. A water pipe and hose was to be supplied in the meantime to clear out the place twice a day when necessary. The pin-fold was used to house run-away sheep until their owners claimed them, and for 4d the sheep were given a good meal. A man was employed as a "pinder" to take care of these sheep at the ratepayers' expense.

# Pedestrian Jumps Clear in Addingham Crash

1979



A pedestrian had to jump for his life and cars mounted the pavement to avoid a lorry which ran out of control down the hill into Addingham. Scenes like this pictured above led to renewed pressure for a by-pass to take heavy vehicles away from the narrow Main Street, and later in the year proposals for five alternative by-pass routes were put forward for consideration in a public participation exercise. Picture by Phillip Bambridge, Addingham.

## 75 Years Ago

Lodging house keepers and hydro proprietors embarked upon the "season" to reap their harvest from the visitors.

However, bad trade throughout the country was against health resorts having a really prosperous season. Considerable bargaining resulted in the deals between the landlord and the visitor.

The Ilkley Orpheus Glee Union held a concert at the Tarn to swell the funds of Leeds Infirmary. The concert was part of a service conducted by Dr. Maggs, Vicar of Ilkley. The collection amounted to over £19. The townspeople were urged to do more to raise money for Leeds Infirmary as a large number of cases from the area used its facilities.

A complaint was made in the correspondence column regarding the high fees chargeable at Ilkley Grammar School £14 per annum. This was compared to 30s per year at the Higher Grade School in Leeds with a railway pass at 90s per year so many scholars made the journey to town each day for purely financial reasons.

## 50 Years Ago

Wharfedale Boy Scouts held a successful rally on the Ilkley Rugby Football Field. Upwards of 300 cubs and scouts took part and were inspected by District Commissioner, Mr. Gordon M. May.

The gardens of Wharfedale Lodge, home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Waddilove made an ideal setting for a garden party in aid of Ben Rhydding Parish Church. Gramophone selections were rendered on the lawns and there were numerous games and side-shows. Tea was served in the ballroom by Mrs. Waddilove and her staff.

A large crowd of spectators were attracted to a service at Bolton Abbey to witness the third anniversary service of the Yorkshire Chapter of Crusaders. The procession moved through the ruin of the old Abbey from the robing room, with scores of cameras recording the colourful scene. The Freeman had brown habits, The Yeomen, green habits; black for the original members; the Esquires wore silver grey. Over these habits they wore white surcoats emblazoned with a red cross. Knight Crusaders followed with crimson robes and the Swordbearer bore aloft the sword of the chapter.

## 25 Years Ago

Burley Parent - Teachers' Association held a garden party and open day at the Burley National school. It was the first event of its kind to be held in connection with the school. Mr. H. Weightmann, a school manager, and Mrs. Weightmann were the openers and the headmaster, Mr. A. E. Simmons expressed thanks to them and to the organisers and supporters.

Ilkley recorded their second century stand of the season when they beat Rawdon Cricket Club at Rawdon. Jack and Peter Brumfit were the players concerned and they scored 103 runs for the second wicket.

Nine years of peace finally brought about the end of food rationing. For the first time since the start of the second world war shoppers were able to buy their meat and bacon when and where they liked, and housewives were able to select the cuts of meat they wished to purchase. Coal was the only commodity to still be rationed.

## 25 Years Ago

(from our files of 1954)

Mr. Alan Buckley, a former pupil of Aireborough Grammar School, was invited to play with the Cricket Society team against the Standard Athletic Club, Paris. A cricket all-rounder, Mr. Buckley played for Burley in the Airedale and Wharfedale Senior League and for Halifax in the Yorkshire Council. He also had trials with Hampshire County Club.

A new organ was installed in the Otley Salvation Army Citadel. It had been bought from weekly subscriptions of the Band and Songsters and their collections at open-air meetings. A new clock was erected in Otley Bus Station, to replace one which had not functioned for some time.

About 200 children, parents and teachers went on Burley National School's outing to Southport. The party travelled in six coaches, leaving the village in bright sunshine. On arrival members of the party were able to explore the resort individually, but all met again for High Tea, provided by the Parent Teacher Association. The outing was voted to have been one of the best held.

Menston Parish Church Choir gave a recital of English Church music at Bolton Priory, in connection with the octo-centenarian celebrations. The recital covered a period from the 16th century to the present time. The choir was under the direction of Mr. H. F. Gadsby, and he organist was Mr. George Hankin, Bradford City organist, who also played a number of solos.



Chairman to Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, meeting some of the younger Vietnamese refugees with Mrs. Rani Werner (left), Save the Children Fund Liaison-Officer, at Hill Top.

90/7/79

# Recalling Ilkley's Imperial Cafe During The 1920's



Gone are the days when you could get seven scones for 3d, two pounds of sugar for 2½d, and a quarter of a pound of either coffee or tea for 7½d. But those times are well remembered by Mrs. Hilda Stead (82) (nee Thresh) who was employed at the Imperial Cafe on The Grove, Ilkley, for about 10 years prior to 1927.

Mrs. Stead, who now lives in Skipton, was born in Ilkley and lived there until 1936. She started at the Imperial Cafe as a shop assistant and became Manageress in 1924. She recalled her first wage of one half crown for a full weeks work. When she became Manageress she was paid 31s. 6d. per week and often had to work from eight in the morning until seven at night.

In the shop part of the Imperial Cafe they sold cakes and sweets and home made chocolates amongst other things—toffee, she said, was 4d for a quarter of a pound. The Cafe used to supply other establishments in the area with their home-made products. These were delivered by horse and cart.

Nearby to the Cafe was the Kiosk where coffee was roasted and hot luncheons were served. Mrs. Stead well remembers the Bank Holiday periods—"We were so packed out with customers that there were queues right along The Grove."

In the early 20's there were three millionaire families living in Ilkley, said Mrs. Stead, and two were regular customers at the Imperial.

Customers were often entertained by two violinists from Harrogate who used to play in the forecourt.

Pictured are the staff at the Imperial Cafe in about 1920. Their black overalls were made by a firm in Skipton and had to be sent back straight away to have frills added on to the bottom as the cafe's owner, C. E. Taylor, considered them too short.

Pictured from left to right, are—Standing: Emma Rishworth, Alice Lupton, Mabel Gale and Hilda Thresh. Seated: Grace Williams and Emmie Sykes.

## 75 Years Ago

(From our files of 1904)

Over 200 members of Otley Wesleyan Band of Hope joined in their annual outing, travelling by special train to Harrogate. They formed in procession in Boroughgate and, headed by the Volunteers' Band, marched to the station. Tea was served in the Wesleyan Schoolrooms at Harrogate.

Otley Tradesmen Gala, held on the cricket field, was favoured with fine weather. Proceedings opened with a cricket match between the Tradesmen and Mr. Pickles' team, which the Tradesmen won by 56 runs. Teams: Tradesmen—W. Rider, J. A. Edson, J. Holmes, A. Benn, W. Winn, J. Mason, R. Armitstead, F. Pickles, J. King, S. Mason, C. Batty, Mr. Pickles' team—J. Greenby, Birckett, Tarbottom, W. H. Pickles, W. Weightman, O. Thornton, McLaughlin, J. Hardsaker, Varley

Richardson, Chippendale.

W. Robinson Supply Stores, Boroughgate, Otley, opened a new branch in the Market Place known as the Central Tea, Butter and Provision Stores, the first shop of its kind in Otley, worked entirely separately from the Supply Stores. In advertisements announcing the opening, an offer of a prime ham was made to the first customer who spent £1 on the opening day. Other free gifts were also offered.

Members of Burley Wesleyan Band of Hope held their annual outing to Almscliffe Crag. Members and friends, numbering about 160, made the journey by wagonette, which took about two hours. Tea was served at the Crag.

A beautifully converted period farmhouse with stabling, outbuildings and almost 10½ acres

## HILL TOP FARM, STAINBURN, NR. OTLEY



Otley 4 miles, Harrogate 6 miles  
—Leeds and Bradford both within easy commuting distance

This detached property fulfills an enormous requirement in the present market, in that not only does it provide a magnificently situated country home with outbuildings and paddocks but it retains all the traditional character and features of its age combined with every modern labour-saving device. Enjoying extensive views to all sides and with full central heating the accommodation comprises: Porch, Hall and Cloaks; Three beamed Reception Rooms, rully fitted "Ideal Homes" kitchen; Four excellent Bedrooms and luxury Bathroom.

The Outbuildings provide 3 Loose Boxes and Garaging for 3 Cars. The land adjoins a metalled road, is contained entirely within a ring fence and extends to 10.713 acres or thereabout.

To be Offered for Sale by Auction at the Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley on Thursday 19th July 1979 at 7.30 p.m.

## ACROSS THE YEARS 29.8.79 HORSE RACING AT ADDINGHAM

### 100 Years Ago

More horse racing took place at Addingham with a galloping match between Mr. J. Smith's chestnut mare and Mr. Thornton's "Jerry" in a field belonging to Mr. J. A. Pickles, Highfield Hall. A large crowd of spectators watched. Mr. Smith's horse take the lead to win the £50 prize by a neck and a half.

A number of defaulters were summoned at Otley Petty sessions for refusing to pay overdue rates to Ilkley Council. Reasons for non-payment were mostly people out of work, impecunious widows and people generally in dire straits. Orders for payment and fines were imposed in most cases.

The Ilkley Gazette commented that the weather of 1879 had surpassed that of 1860 in "atmospheric and cosmic horrors." They had continued rain and low temperatures together with darkness, fog, rain and storm.

### 75 Years Ago

The opening performance on the bandstand erected by the District Council in West View Park took place with a crowd of several thousands attending. The eight large incandescent lamps containing four lights each illuminated the entire park. Music was provided by the District Council's Military Band and the Ilkley Orpheus Glee Union.

Mr. W. S. Bellerby conducted the band, and Mr. J. A. Eafshaw conducted the Glee Union. A three hour programme of music came to a close at 10.15 p.m. There would be twice daily programmes of band music throughout the summer season at this bandstand and at Belle Vue Bandstand.

The town was in full holiday mood for the many visitors at the hotels, hydros and lodging houses, with three performances daily of the Tarn Pierrots. The entertainment included a Yorkshire Humourist reciter an Etonian Ventriloquist, as well as the usual vocal soloists.

Also for the visitors the latest maps and plans of the town and its surroundings were on sale, together with photographs and postcards. Informa-

### 50 Years Ago

What was probably the first ordination service held at the Ilkley Parish Church took place on the first Sunday in July, 1929 when the Bishop of Bradford ordained as Deacons, Mr. Philip Lea and Mr. R. H. Pease. Mr. Lea was licensed to the Ilkley Parish Church.

The hopes for a separate secondary school for girls in Ilkley seemed to be steadily diminishing although officially still "on the boards." Mr. J. H. Armitstead said that the great objection of the County Council was that there was no possibility of sufficient number of girls in Ilkley wishing to take advantage of this type of education.

Ilkley ratepayers voted on the question of Sunday games on land under control of the Council, and the result was a majority in favour of over 200. The Bishop of Bradford, Dr. Berowne preached at the jubilee celebration service at St. Margaret's Church, and reviewed the 50 years since its consecration.

### 25 Years Ago

A proposal that the drinking fountain which had stood at the bottom of Station Road, Burley since 1886 should be removed in the interest of safety and hygiene was challenged at the monthly meeting of Ilkley Council, and the

matter was referred back for consideration.

Apparently the fountain was in need of repair and the use of cup and tap for drinking purposes was far from satisfactory. Mr. Irvin Clarke claimed that the people of Burley looked upon this fountain as an heirloom left to them by previous generations, and also was very useful in providing water for passers-by, particularly thousands of cyclists.

Mr. Edward G. Hinchcliffe was installed as president of Ilkley Rotary Club. He had close connections with Ilkley Parish Church, the Scout Group and worked hard for the Old People of the Town.

Despite over 420 runs being scored in a cricket match between Ilkley and Menston, the result was a draw. Peter Brumfit scored his second century of the season.

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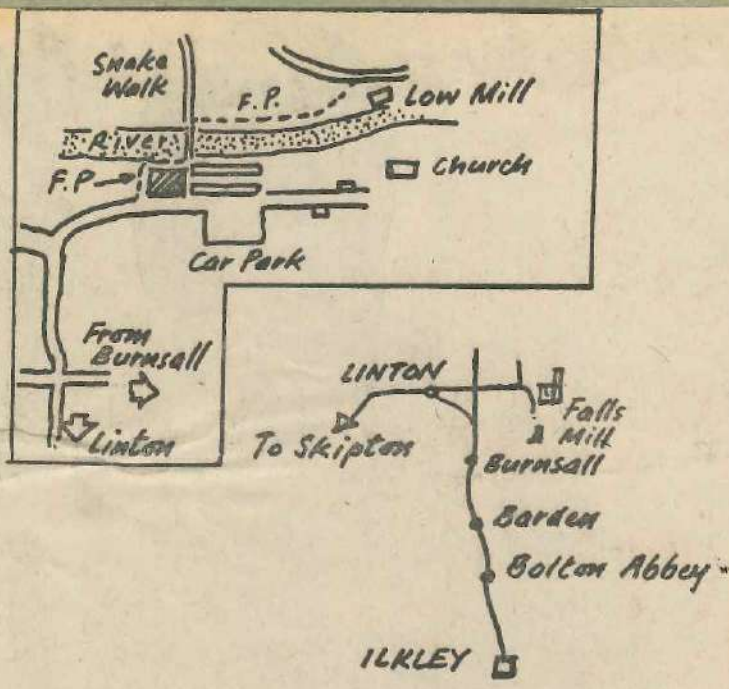
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# The mill with many memories

By TED GOWER

Sept 8. 1929.



A few weeks ago, in my Telegraph & Argus article, I mentioned the mill chimney peeping over the fellside at Linton - in Craven. This brought an interesting letter from a reader, Mrs. Agnes Smith, of Heaton, whose husband, Reg, was one of the steeplejacks who built the chimney, around 1926.

The Lowcock brothers, who owned the mill, were changing from water power to steam. The architect (so Mrs. Smith tells me), were Hartleys of Skipton, and the contract for the work went to Mr. C. V. Barber, a Bradford builder and steeplejack.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith lodged in one of the cottages next to the mill, most of which are now empty. The millowners disagreed about the materials to be used. One wanted brick,

as the chimney at Grassington Sanatorium, a mile away. The other preferred stone, to match the older buildings in the dale. Fortunately, stone was used.

Mrs. Smith recalls gathering mushrooms in the fields across the river, and walking up the flagged pathway, called the Snake Walk, to Grassington for an evening out.

A hand-powered hoist was used to winch the materials to the top as the chimney grew, and sometimes the Smiths' landlady, bringing a welcome jug of cocoa and some home-made cake, would ride up in the hoist.

There has been a mill on the site by the falls since the Lord of the Manor ground corn here. Then came a worsted mill, and a change to cotton in the 1840's when the two dams were built above

the falls. It eventually became a creamery, and was finally closed in 1959.

The houses and the bridge over the river date from around 1848, although both dwellings and bridge have been rebuilt since.

With the recent death of Mr. Lowcock there may be more changes at the mill, but the Wharfe will still thunder under the bridge at flood time, as it has done when the Smiths felt the vibrations on their regular return visits.

A pleasant walk on the river bank gives a good view of the mill and the falls. Drive to Ilkley, then towards Addingham, turning off right, to Bolton Abbey. Pass through the old aqueduct archway and on to Barden.

Descending to Burnsall, there is a magnificent view of the dale, with the bridge and

the churchtower rising from the huddle of houses.

Left at the Red Lion, and up dale for 2½ miles to the crossroads at Great Bank Top. Turn sharp right down the hill and the mill is at the bottom, with a car park a little further on. The two rows of cottages, known as Botany, face the car park, with the old well at the roadside.

Walk back a little, and follow the footpath under the mill house wall, past the old packhorse bridge and its attendant ducks, to the "Tin Bridge" over the falls.

Go across and through the stile on the right, following the footpath which gives views of the engine house and its round topped window, with shattered glass, and the shafting, rusty and with grass growing above it. There are often pigeons perched on the disintegrating timbers.



A little way downstream the path climbs a short bank, and opposite, across the river, now quiet and smooth, is the grave yard and the ancient parish church. Behind it is the smooth bulk of Elbolton, and the ridge of Thorpe Fell, with a pattern of walls that catch the evening light to look as if they were painted white.

Through the stile in the wall, the lane goes on to

another mill, Grassington Low Mill, now a dwelling, and by the stream which tumbles into the river, the ruins of the smelt mill that once worked for the lead miners.

If you return up the steep lane into Hebden road, and turn left, you pass the two big houses built by the Batley millowners, Theodore Taylor, and come to Sedber Lane,

to the left and down this lane which narrows into the mill footpath, the Flags or the Snake Walk, and you are soon back at the river.

Driving back to the crossroads, go straight across and into Linton village, with the houses round a green, and three bridges across the beck. You can buy an ice cream at the little Post Office near the

listen to the rooks in the trees around the Old Hall.

Follow the Skipton road past the monstrous lime works to Cracoe and Rylstone and you are soon on the way home.

About 60 miles.

Since writing this article, I am sorry to have learned of the death of Reg. Smith

## Addingham land to become public garden

An area of land near Addingham's Old School, on Main Street, is to become an attractively landscaped public garden later this year.

Addingham Parish Council has obtained a 99 year lease of the walled-in land from its owner, Major Ashby, at a peppercorn rent, on the

undertaking that the wall next to Main Street would be lowered and the land made into an attractive garden.

The Countryside Commission has promised a grant of between thirty and fifty per cent of the cost, and the Parish Council has approached Bradford Metropolitan

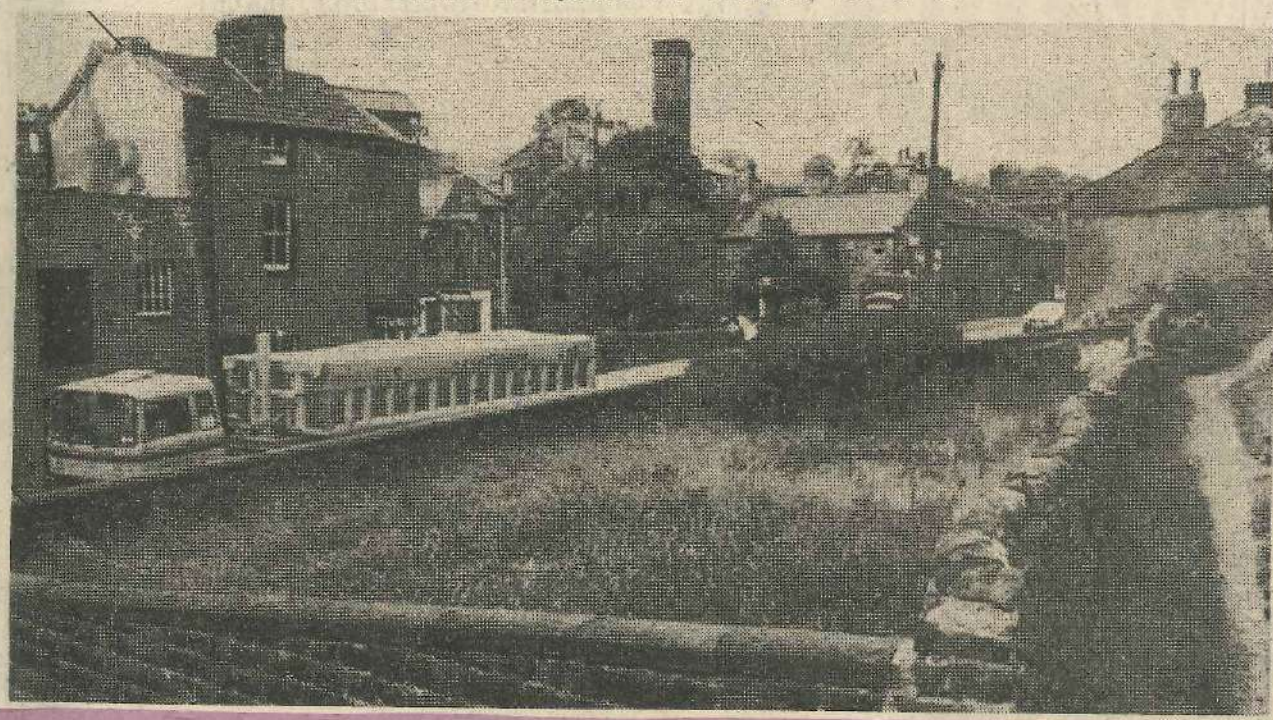
Council for the remainder.

However, Bradford's Chief Engineer has said no money would be available due to the "critical" financial situation at the moment. He has, however, promised to help with provision of plants and trees.

Addingham Parish Council's Chairman, Cr. A. H.

Jerome, said a footpath would be provided with a gate at both ends of the garden so that people could walk straight through.

Picture shows the land, on Post Office corner, with the Old School on the right.



## 100 Years Ago

New regulations for the straying of animals were discussed at length at the monthly meeting of the Ilkley Local Board. Notices had been put into circulation regarding the impounding of cattle, and there had not been as many animals in the pinfold since they had been issued.

Mr. H. J. Cooke thought that police should have their attention drawn to the driving of donkeys along the footpaths and to cattle straying on to the public highways.

The cab-inspector was asked to keep a sharp look out for "faulty cabbies" following complaints received by the Local Board. In one instance despite the fact that he was offered double fare, an Ilkley cab driver refused to convey two ladies home after 10 p.m., and another refused to convey an invalid gentleman to Crossbeck Road causing great distress.

## 75 Years Ago

The Tarn Pierrots gave their Manager, Mr. Cooper Junior, a benefit show at the Lecture Hall, which proved to be an excellent concert. The Pierrots in two seasons provided entertainment for thousands of people at the Tarn.

Satisfaction was expressed in the district at the appointment of the new Vicar of Denton, the Rev. S. G. Ross, a well known figure in Wharfedale. He had been a curate at Burley for eight years, and had held a curacy at Ilkley.

The tenth annual gala of the Ilkley Swimming Club was held in the Leeds Road baths. The competitions included a six lengths' race for the Championship of Wharfedale presented by the President, Dr. Johnstone. This was won by C. Pelt, of Ilkley, who received a great ovation. In the water polo match between Ilkley and Otley, Ilkley were easy victors winning by fifteen goals to one.

## 50 Years Ago

Mr. F. H. Humphris, described as "Ilkley's Grand Old Man" celebrated his 93rd birthday and dined at the home of his grand-daughter, Mrs. Phillip Maufe. He was quoted as saying that if only he could be given a new pair of legs he would be a young man again. Mr. Humphris had a record of service at Ilkley Parish Church, the Grammar School, Ilkley Hospital and Convalescent Home and Nesfield Church.

Poor street lighting was reported as being the cause of Ilkley women not liking to venture far at night. The street lighting committee was asked to look into the matter, repair faulty lights and place new ones where necessary.

## 25 Years Ago

Representatives from all the churches in the Ilkley Methodist Circuit gathered together in the Addingham High County School to welcome their circuit minister at Addingham, the Rev. Harold Evans. Mr. Evans succeeded the Rev. T. S. Clayton.

The engineer in charge at Middleton Hospital, Mr. F. W. Frost, was presented with a gift from members of staff by Dr. H. E. Raeburn, Medical Superintendent. He had held his appointment since 1929.

J. C. Oates made an excellent start to the Rugby Union season by scoring 14 points in the opening match against the R.A.F. (Dishforth).

Houses for sale included a semi-detached house at Manor Park at £3,450; a "superior semi-detached residence near Ilkley Grammar School" at £3,800. In the small advertisements was an advertisement for an assistant in a newsagents' shop in Ilkley at £4.10s.

## ACROSS THE YEARS 17.8.79.

### Brass Bands at Addingham's Annual Festival

#### 100 Years Ago

The annual festival of the several Friendly Societies in Addingham was held at the end of August, when the weather was summery, and the villagers were astir early decked in their holiday attire. Several brass bands had been engaged to enliven the proceedings.

Shortly before 10 a.m. the members of the various lodges started in procession at the top of the village led by the Order of Golden Fleece with the Calverley Brass Band, they were joined by the Odd Fellows, the Foresters, the Alredale Brass Band, the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, the Silsden Brass Band, Order of Ancient Shepherds, and the Ilkley Prize Brass Band. A service was held at the Primitive Methodist Chapel. The parade then walked the streets again to a lively set of musical accompaniments, and then dispersed to partake of their annual dinners at different hosteleries in the village. A gala was held in the evening in the field adjoining the Junction Inn when the Ilkley Brass Band played for dancing.

#### 75 Years Ago

The Council, by signed agreement with Mr. Henry Ellis, secured for the first time a through road along Springs Lane and Bolling Road to Ben Rhydding. This had long been felt desirable particularly for the owners of horse drawn vehicles and members of the public who always had to use the round about route. The work of metalling and rolling the road was to be started from the Springs Lane end, and the obstructing barriers were then to be removed.

Ilkley people were indeed thankful for a change in the weather, particularly the large section of the population who had to rely for a great extent from visitors to the town during the summer months. The holiday period was drawing to a close with far fewer visitors to the town than usual owing to particularly bad weather conditions.

#### 50 Years Ago

Miss Mary Learoyd, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Learoyd, Sedbergh Park, Ilkley, was found brutally murdered on a vacant building plot within 75 yards of her home. Intensive searches throughout a wide area failed to reveal the murderer, although bloodhounds found a trail which led from Sedbergh Park, through the grounds of Ilkley Hall and into Wells Road.

The murdered woman was thirty five years of age and was described as a charming and delightful person whose simplicity won the hearts of everyone who came into contact with her. The enquiries were led by West Riding Chief Constable, Col. J. Coke together with the Assistant Chief Constable, Mr. H. Barracough and Detective Inspector Shaw of Leeds. They cast a wide net and many men all over the country were drawn into it, detained, questioned and then released.

#### 25 Years Ago

Heavy rain caused extensive flooding in the Wharfe valley, with traffic being held up at a number of points along the main road. All down the dale large areas of water logged hand formed a series of great lakes. Cricket came to a complete full-stop on the Saturday.

Work on levelling the extensive East Holmes field was slowed down by heavy rain at the start of August which caused the heavy machinery to sink into the mud.

The appointment was announced of Canon H. Hunter of Bingley to succeed the Rev. C. F. Tomlinson as Rector of Bolton Abbey.

Twenty one young people from Burley in Wharfedale and Horsforth arrived home following a Youth Fellowship visit to Soest in Westphalia, West Germany, where most of them stayed at the home of German families although three brave young men of the party tried to camp but were washed out by similar downpours or torrential rain to those experienced in England.

## A WALK THROUGH PART OF ADDINGHAM'S HISTORY

Informally and with pleasurable anticipation, some fifty members of the Olicana Museum and Historical Society gathered at St. Peter's Church, Addingham to join Mrs. Kate Mason for a walk through part of Addingham's history, preserved as much in stone as in archive.

At the church the Saxon cross, Medieval roof, Tudor north aisle, the Victorian and contemporary woodwork and interior decoration spoke eloquently of antiquity and continuity, a fitting prelude to the evening that was to be spent ambling through, and peering and gazing at, the heart of the old village.

Mrs. Mason skilfully and knowledgeably unclashed the skeleton of the industrial village of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, separating it from the embellishments and buildings of later decades in which it was wrapped.

Members saw ample evidence of the importance of the eighteenth century cottage textile industry in the sixteen back-to-back cottages and loom shed in Bolton Road, and the 1870 building in Chapel Street which housed 60 handlooms belonging to the Cockshott family.

It was easy to see the reason for their subsequent displacement by large power mills

occupying sites by Town Beck, and to appreciate the trauma of change. Those mills still dominated the village and one of them, Penteman's cotton mill, built in 1802 and now partly incorporated into a sawmill, was visited. The adjacent Low House (1675) was discussed by Mrs. Mason as a possible candidate for the Medieval manor house. Addingham had over fifty such dated buildings, and others of obvious antiquity, she said.

The tallow chandler's—now a shop—and the adjoining stables, the seventeenth century schoolroom, the malt kiln, the three-storied cottages of the handloom weavers the butcher's shop presumed to have been the piece hall, the inns along the turnpike—now Addingham's Main Street and an extremely busy trunk road—and early chapels linked with the rise of Nonconformity were included in Mrs. Mason's interesting itinerary. She also pointed out examples of the individual stone mason's craft and the marks of Bernard Hartley, the Yorkshire bridge builder.

Dusk was falling as members reached the home of Ann Willson, where they were able to look down upon the rooftops of the old village and enjoy a strawberry and ice cream supper.

## TIMBLE, NR. OTLEY



Dating from the late 17th Century and now sympathetically extended and modernised to provide a home of enormous charm and character.

Occupying an unrivalled situation in this unspoilt rural village and with magnificent views over the Washburn Valley and the moors beyond, this delightful country property is substantially constructed in the traditional Dales style and provides expensively appointed and spacious family accommodation within easy reach of Otley, Ilkley, Harrogate and all West Yorkshire centres.

Reception Hall, Elegant Drawing Room, Sitting Room, Beamed Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen with Aga, Large Utility Room, Principal Suite of Master Bedroom with ensuite Bathroom, four further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom—all with Central Heating, Large Garden/Workshop, well tended Flower and Kitchen Gardens.

TOGETHER WITH A PADDOCK OF APPROXIMATELY 2 ACRES. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.



## ROOF OF RAILWAY STATION TO BE REGLAZED

Ilkley Railway Station, listed as a building of historical and architectural interest, is to be further improved and restored.

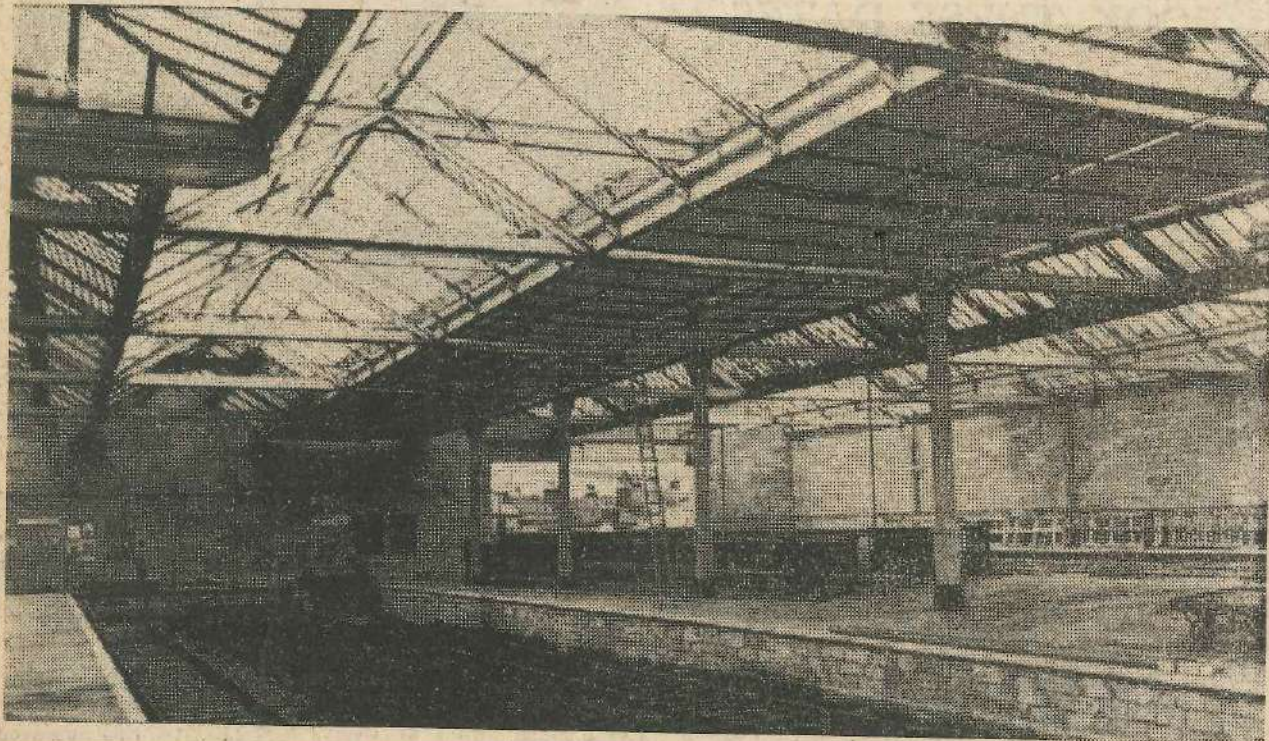
Preparation work is at present taking place for the reglazing of the whole roof and this picture shows scaffolding in place this week. A British Rail spokesman said

there were some defective parts of the roof in need of replacement and these would be renewed keeping as far as possible to the original design of the structure. Work is to be carried out intermittently over a period of 12 to 18 months.

The scheme is part of a major "clean up" and restora-

tion plan. Already the entire stonework of the building has been cleaned, new seats placed at the entrance, new signs erected and interior and exterior painting has taken place. Alterations are to be made to the staff room and part of the building is to be leased as a restaurant. The station dates back to

the 1860's when local contractor Mr. Israel Thornton successfully tendered an estimate of £2,770 for its construction. It was later extended by the Midland Railway Company when the line was built through to Skipton in the 1880's.



1 JUNE, 1979

ACROSS THE YEARS 15. 6. 79

### Six Men Seen "Gambling On The Highway"

#### 100 Years Ago

Six Burley Woodhead men were charged at Otley Petty Sessions with "gambling on the highway" as they had been seen by a local police constable playing pitch and toss outside the blacksmith's shop and he had heard them placing bets. Defendants flatly denied his charges and the case was dismissed.

The secretary of the Ilkley Athletic Club, Mr. George Brumfit, announced that their annual festival, owing to its popularity would be spread over two days in 1879. This was considered to be a "step in the right direction."

A sumptuous banquet was provided at the Middleton Hotel for members of Bradford Bicycle Club, who took approximately 70 minutes to make the run to Ilkley. Toasts and music followed the food and drink and the party set off back to Bradford at 9 p.m.

Messrs. John Green and Son, of How House Farm, received the first prize for the best pen of Leicester ewe lambs bred in 1879, at the Royal Agricultural Society's show at Kilburn.

#### 75 Years Ago

Wharfedale Otter Hounds held their meet at Ben Rhydding Bridge and worked the river upstream. The hounds sprung upon a dog otter near Farfield Hall, Addingham, which weighed 25½ pounds.

A garden sale in aid of the

Ilkley Young Helper's League of Dr. Barnardo's Homes was held at the Briery by permission of Mr. and Mrs. Kelllett. The sale realised £25 towards the cost of a cot at the Barnardo's Home for incurables. Music was provided by the Misses Crawshaw, Miss P. Whiting, Miss V. Hornstedt, Miss K. Park and Miss D. Roberts.

The newly formed military band, organised by the District Council under the direction of Mr. W. S. Bellerby, conductor of the late town band, gave their first public performance in Spence's Gardens and despite a cold evening townspeople and visitors turned out in very large numbers.

#### 50 Years Ago

Considerable interest was aroused in the Wharfedale District by the proposal to erect an aero drome on Yeaton Moor to serve Leeds and Bradford. The site in question was considered to be admirably suitable for this purpose.

June was a month of 182 hours sunshine, and very little rain according to figures recorded in Spence's gardens. On some days there was over 13 hours of uninterrupted sunshine.

Local students included in the pass list of Leeds University included Miss Mary Appleton, Crossbeck Road, Ilkley; Miss Dorothy Watson of Craigie Lea, Ben Rhydding; Mr. Harry Flood, Nelson Road, Ilkley; and Mr. S. D. Stirk of Addingham.

Among the Yorkshire people presented at Court at Buckingham Palace were the Misses Betty and Noeline Hill, youngest daughters of Mrs. Arthur Hill, of Denton Park.

#### 25 Years Ago

The Ilkley Gazette moved into new offices in Wells Road, and returned to a part of the town where the Ilkley Free Press Offices had previously been from the end of the first world war until June 1943 when it moved on to The Grove. By this time the newspaper had dropped the title "Free Press" and had returned to the old title of "Gazette".

Three Ilkley drivers took part in a stock car race meeting at Odsal Stadium. They were Jack Tipping, Mike Garner and Roy Cunliffe.

A loss of £55 was reported by the treasurer, Mr. W. Handbridge at the annual meeting of the Ilkley Players. The reason for this was an increase in expenditure on repairs and renewals and a drop in receipts from productions. Seven successful plays had been produced, however, during the season. Casting was discussed at some length and the Casting Committee was accused of having pre-set ideas and also of type-casting. Mrs. Geoffrey Brook was elected president to succeed Mr. J. W. Sutcliffe.

### Disrepair Of Stepping Stones Caused Inconvenience

#### 100 Years Ago

The lack of action by the Local Board with regard to the repair of the Ilkley Stepping Stones was criticised severely 100 years ago. It caused great inconvenience to people wishing to reach villages on the other side of the river who had to walk a long distance to reach the bridge.

People who allowed their chimneys to get into such a foul state that they either fired themselves or were set fire to also came under criticism. A heavy fine was suggested as a penalty for polluting the bracing moorland air of Ilkley.

Mr. Andy Merrilees' original troop of female Christys gave an enjoyable Negro Minstrel's entertainment at the Ilkley Working Men's Hall.

#### 75 Years Ago

The "Evil weather prophecies for 1904" were being fulfilled. Gloom, high and shifting winds, and showers were prevalent. The weather was not encouraging tourist trade, but the moors and flower gardens were most luxurious.

After an inspection of the quarries on Ilkley Moor, Ilkley Council unanimously decided that the quarry worked by Mr. Learoyd should be taken over and worked out by the council and the plant, be purchased at valuation. The Council agreed that other quarries be advertised to let by tender.

The village of Burley was fast becoming a popular resort for excursions during the summer months. The Malt Shovel Hotel catered for around 200 people in an afternoon. The members of the Manchester and District Licensed Victuallers Association used it as a venue for their annual outing.

Meet prices at Otley market included bacon at 7d. per pound, mutton at 5d., beef at 8½d. and pork at 7d. per pound. Spring chickens sold at 2s. 6d. each.

#### 50 Years Ago

"Delightful weather conditions" favoured the annual sports of all the Ilkley district elementary schools held at Ben Rhydding Sports Club. The sports were arranged by Mr. C. G. Hodges, headmaster of Ilkley Church of England Boy's School and Mr. P. Crossley, headmaster of Ben Rhydding Council School. Miss Holroyd, headmistress of the girls' Church of England School presented

a programme of country dancing with 150 pupils taking part.

Sacred concerts given by the Burley and District Band in the grounds of the Grange were extremely well attended.

A fine of 10s was imposed on William E. Ellis an Ilkley farmer, who was summonsed for allowing five sheep from the moor to stray into Panorama Drive and cause great damage to gardens in the vicinity.

#### 25 Years Ago

Bolton Abbey was to celebrate its Octocentenary, starting with a thanksgiving service at which the preacher was to be the Archbishop of York. Mr. J. Spittles gave a talk on the history of the Abbey, and choirs from Skipton Parish Church, Bradford Cathedral, Ripon Cathedral, Leeds Parish Church and Wakefield Cathedral and Wakefield Cathedral Choir. There was a historical exhibition open in Bolton Hall daily and Holy Communion was to be celebrated each day in the Abbey during the week 21-27 June.

Ilkley Players Whitsuntide production was "Intent to Murder" by Leslie Sands. The leading parts were taken by Sheila Holdom, Charles Rushforth, Edgar Paley, Allen Hamshire, Betty Sykes and Sybil Beacham. The play was produced by Dorothy Fenwick.

Miss Dora G. Jennings, Curly Hill Ilkley was awarded the British Empire Medal for work with her sister as Joint Hon. Lady superintendents of the Glasgow and Barry Soldiers Homes, a position they had held for 34 years. Miss Edith Jennings had been awarded the O.B.E.

# Extolling beauty of Ilkley as a holiday town

10.9.29.  
100 Years Ago

The beauties of Ilkley as a holiday town were extolled at great length by the Editor of the Ilkley Gazette.

He did however advocate the provision of more amenities for the visitors to be provided such as winter gardens, covered arcades, aquarium, swimming baths, good assembly rooms and electric lights.

A trout weighing 4lb 2oz was caught from the River Wharfe by Mr. G. H. Helliwell and Mr. E. F. Atkinson of the Rockingham Angling Club. This was believed to be the largest trout ever caught from the river.

Ilkley Cricket club had a disastrous weekend losing to Otley and Scarborough, in both matches one of the opposition batsmen more than covering the Ilkley total by himself. Against Otley, Ilkley were dismissed for only 38 runs, before which Otley's E. Wilkinson had made 43 from a total of 74. In reply to Scarborough's 299, in which H. Taylor scored 108 Ilkley were dismissed for 69.

## 75 Years Ago

General Booth, on a motor campaign on behalf of the Salvation Army, was involved in a motor accident at Colne. His car consequently broke down at Beamsley and it had to be left behind at Bolton Abbey Station, where he continued on his travels in a car owned by a member of his staff.

The Ilkley Gazette not only printed weekly a list of the visitors to the town, but gave a great deal of space to information for the visitors, listing postal information, places of worship with times of services and detailed instructions for pleasant walks, with a note that "no place can surpass Ilkley for the number and variety of its roads and paths which conduct to retreats of the most perfect solitude and beauty or to commanding altitudes, where the most expansive area of charming scenery is rendered visible for the mind to contemplate."

## 50 Years Ago

A party of sixty crippled and infirm people were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Ewart Carter at Uplands, Ben Rhydding, to a garden party in the grounds. The party was given by members of the Motorists League of Brotherhood, and each visitor was given as a parting gift a bunch of flowers from the gardens.

Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club started their practices with Mr. E. G. Rycroft to captain the club again. He was enthusiastically re-elected and said that the prospects for the club's success in the ensuing season looked excellent.

Wolf Cubs from Ilkley Parish Church held a weekend camp at Nesfield, during which they built "cubby" dens among the bracken. The pack was in the charge of Miss A. Milnes (submaster) and the Misses G. Martin, J. Smith, D. Hampshire, K. Davison.

Successful candidates in the Higher School Certificate examinations from Ilkley Grammar School were J. V. Crowther, J. H. Pell, H. M. Skinner, and A. Taylor.

## 25 Years Ago

August proved to be a very wet month in 1964, causing cricket matches to be washed out and some flooding over the road at Escroft. Road and footpath surfaces were damaged by heavy rain and foot-bridges made unsafe, crops flattened and flowerbeds destroyed. Even the train service was disrupted at Menston as hay was washed on to the line from neighbouring fields.

Council business took four minutes at what must have been the shortest monthly meeting on record. The only business was the question of keeping the bathing pool open for a further week if the weather was suitable. Mr. J. Hardy said that the pool would remain open as long as there was any hope of anyone wishing to use it.

# Along The Grove About Fifty Years Ago 13.8.79.



Though there have been few changes along The Grove, Ilkley, over the past fifty years this view shows some interesting examples of transportation at the time and illustrates how much easier it was to park. The horse drawn cart on the left was owned by the Otley and Ilkley Joint Railway Company and was making deliveries to local traders. The motor van parked behind this was owned by Arthur Rhodes, of The Grove who offered a prompt delivery service from his grocery business. The wall on the right of picture was demolished in later years to make way for public gardens.



Ilkley Parish Council in its revised list for Ilkley's Parish Plan is asking Bradford Metropolitan Council to improve waste land and derelict areas off New Brook Street, Ilkley, particularly near Castle Road, pictured above. The Council is also seeking improvements to Castle Hill and the Manor House Court yard. 31.8.79

Improvements To Waste Land Sought By Council

## £39,000 EXTENSION TO ILKLEY CAR PARK 9.3.1979.

Work has started on the long awaited extension to Ilkley's Brook Street car park, and is expected to be completed by the end of April or beginning of May unless bad weather or the finding of any Roman remains delays proceedings.

The £39,000 extension

between Back Grove Road and Cunliffe Road, will be surfaced and marked out, with provision for the parking of an extra 101 cars, bringing the total capacity of the whole car park up to about 234.

In addition the areas around the existing toilet block and at the rear of the

bus depot are to be landscaped, with existing foot-paths from The Grove and along the route of the former railway line from Cunliffe Road being preserved.

Mr. Jim Hayton, Bradford Metropolitan Council's Chief Engineer, said the council's engineers carrying out the

work were linked to the museums division in case any Roman finds were made, and trial holes were being made but nothing had so far been discovered.

Picture shows the first stages of the project, under way this week.



## Iron Horse Riders Compete For Prizes Worth £250

### 100 Years Ago

Many well known riders of the "iron horse" were to take part in a scratch bicycle race at the Ilkley Athletic Festival. This festival was held on Friday and Saturday and there were to be prizes to the value of £250. Admission to the grandstand for the two days was 5s. and there were 300 entries including "the best Athletes from all parts of the country."

The August bank holiday was observed by the banks only being closed in Ilkley but not other place of business was closed. Only a few extra visitors came into the town, and not to the extent expected, as the weather was far from promising in the early part of the day. There were no special excursion trains, and traffic flow was scarcely more than normal for a Monday.

### 75 Years Ago

Brilliant weather favoured the Bank Holiday to, moment at the Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club and also kept the number of visitors and day trippers to the town over the holiday weekend well above average.

Ilkley Charity Carnival held on Monday was a huge success, with a procession through the streets, a variety of entertainments, and various competitions and fireworks in the field adjoining the Bridge Hotel Pleasure Gardens. The crowd which gathered to watch the procession and join in the merriment was of gigantic proportions, and thousands paid for admission to the field. Street collections were taken by members of the ladies' section of the local Ambulance Corps. Mr. W. Dickenson rode at the head of the procession as marshal, and there was a fine turn out of the Church Lads' Brigade, hospital workers, tradesmen, Fire Brigade, comedians, two comic bands, Ilkley Brass Band and Bramley Brass Band and local people in character costumes. Mr. J. E. Rinks and Mr. J. Longfellow were the carnival secretaries, and Mr. J. Houldsworth was the show treasurer.

### 50 Years Ago

A long continued drought seriously affected water supplies and in every part of the Wharfe valley inhabitants were warned against any form of wasting water.

Ilkley was at last waking up to the fact that the prospect of a separate Grammar School for girls was quickly diminishing and that the Higher Education Committee of the County Council were seeking to turn the Ilkley Grammar School into a dual school. The Grammar School Governors were urged by a petition from parents not to consent to turning the school into a dual school, and this was to be followed up by a request to the Education Authority to provide a girls' school at an early date.

The subject of bathing in the river Wharfe was discussed at length by Ilkley Council together with the need for swimming facilities at Ilkley. The outcome was a decision to appoint attendants on the length of river to the West of the Old Bridge where swimming was so popular in the hot weather. Dressing tents were already provided.

### 25 Years Ago

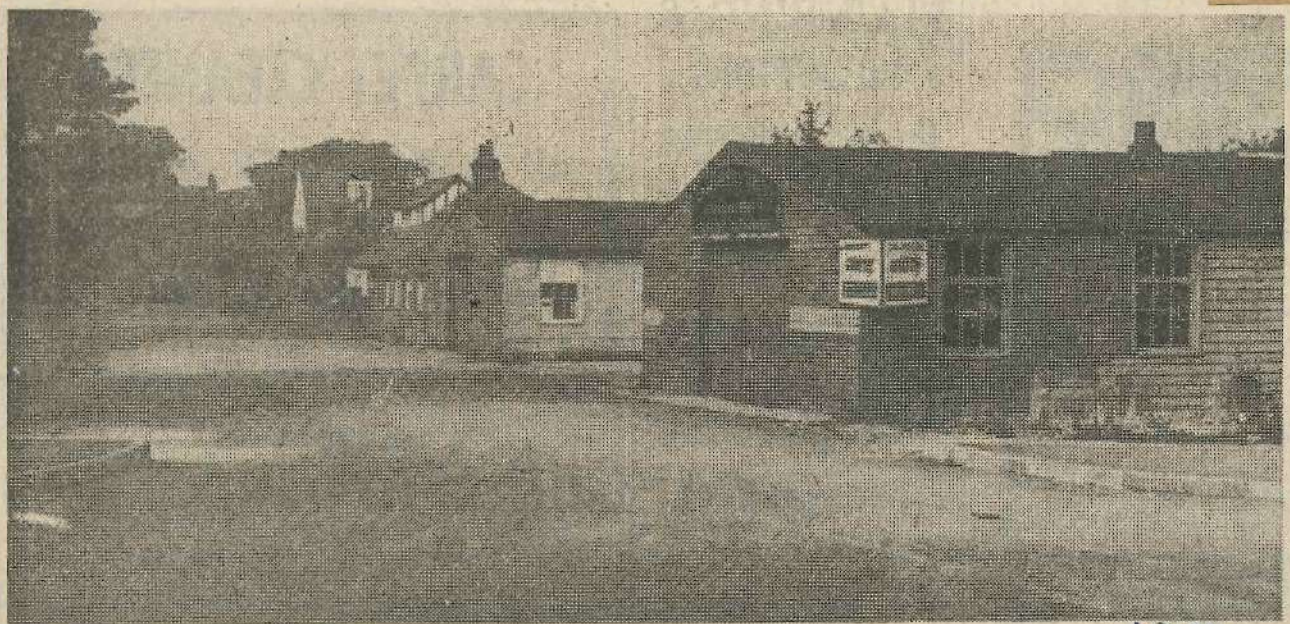
The headmaster of Ghyll Royd School, Mr. G. R. Frost, celebrated his 25th anniversary at the annual Sports Day.

The Victor Ludorum was won by P. J. Beresford and the Junior Victor Ludorum winner was D. Cooke. Mr. R. C. Crabtree, an old boy of the school expressed the thanks of the school and the old boys for Mr. and Mrs. Frost's 25 happy years. A silver tray, suitably inscribed was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Frost on behalf of the school and the old boys by Peter Midgeley.

Tributes were paid to Alderman J. H. Armistead who announced his resignation from the County Authority. He had been a member since 1925 and was resigning owing to ill-health.

At an auction sale held at the Crown Hotel, Addingham, Dacre Sob and Hartley sold 2 Church Street, Addingham for £825, the Joiner's Shop and barn, Church Street for £560 and the freehold plot of land adjoining Close Pasture for £240. "Hazel Crook," Curly Hill, Middleton was withdrawn at £10,000.

## Council Orders Action Over Derelict Ilkley Buildings



In January Bradford Metropolitan Council served orders requiring either the repair or demolition of the familiar wooden buildings in Castle Road, Ilkley, under the Public Health Acts. The buildings, formerly owned by Chambers motor body builders, were demolished in September. Picture by Richard Beckwith, Ilkley.

## Caught up in wheel of cab

### 100 Years Ago

A five year old child, Frank Goodchild of Wheatsheaf Yard, had a narrow escape from serious accident, when he got behind a cab and was caught up in one of the wheels, with his legs between the spokes and his body fast in the spring. He had probably been riding with his feet on the axle-tree and slipped. Fortunately the horse was only travelling at walking pace, and the cabbie's attention was drawn to his dilemma by two lady passers-by. The child suffered a broken thigh and was admitted to Leeds Infirmary.

An Addingham man received a one month prison sentence for stealing 14lb of hay from the field of Mr. Robert Duckworth. The prisoner pleaded guilty and expressed his sorrow at the offence and was therefore treated with some lenience.

A surgeon dentist visited Ilkley for a half day each Friday and offered treatment in all branches of dentistry, including "best artificial teeth at competitive prices."

### 75 Years Ago

The Prince of Wales paid a private visit to Bolton Abbey as a guest of the Duke of Devonshire for the grouse shooting season. He attended morning service at Bolton Abbey but the weather was unfavourable for the usual sightseers, although there was a large crowd of spectators outside the church. He did however, drive through the woods with the Duke of Devonshire and the Duchess later in the day, and had tea on the lawn in front of the Hall.

The Prince of Wales left the Hall and was taken by car to Studley Royal, near Ripon, to join the Marquis of Ripon's shooting party for three days, and then was to travel to Scotland to join a party as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sasoon.

It was pointed out for the benefit of visitors to the town wishing to partake of the Spa waters, that water could be obtained from:- White Wells, Crawley's Fountain leading to White Wells, The Tarn, Keighley Road, Top of Heber's Ghyll, half way down the Ghyll, The Canker Well, and near the Brewery, Railway Road.

### 50 Years Ago

The opening of the grouse shooting season on the moor was spoiled by a strong westerly wind, making the birds unwilling to rise and also difficult to shoot.

Ilkley had a large number of holidaymakers in the town throughout the period of Bradford's Bowling Tide week. Each day full buses and trains poured into the town, and local caterers had the best season for many years.

Members of Ilkley Parish Church of Boy Scouts returned from a great Scout Jamboree at Birkenhead with "vivid memories of a wonderful ten days full of events." The boys were under the command of Scoutmasters J. Drury, A. E. Pickett and R. Townson.

### 25 Years Ago

A landmark in Wharfedale for over 100 years, the Ben Rhydding Hydro, reputed to be the first of its kind in England, was to be demolished. The stones were to be used to build an estate of good class houses in the extensive grounds. During the war the hydro was used as Headquarters of the Wool Control.

The official opening of the Pawson Cottage Homes in Bridge Lane, Ilkley, was performed by Mrs. Gordon Rycroft of Middleton, Ilkley, who donated the site. The homes were erected from the residue of the estate of the late Miss Susannah Pawson of Bridge Lane, who with her sister Agnes had run a small cafe mainly for cyclists. The homes consisted of two blocks of eight flats, and the occupants would be neppy and deserving people over 65 years of age who would only be required to pay rates.

The pollution of Addingham beck and the untidy state of Addingham tip were discussed at length at a meeting of Addingham Parish Council. It was decided to ask Skipton Rural District Council's Sanitary Inspector if legal notice could be taken against offenders and also to discuss a new site for a tip.

The Exors. of Samuel Ledgard offered excursions for August to Penrith for 14/3d, Scarborough 11/9d, Grassington 5/3d, Blackpool 10/9d and Chatsworth House 10/3d.

## MEMORIES OF THE OLD MOORFIELD AND B.B. BUSES

By Stephen J. Beecroft (Canada)

After the notes in a previous article about my family name—and I really am most grateful to the people who have bothered to write to me 3,000 miles away—there have been queries about "bees" and "crofts". Did we used to keep bees in crofts?

Beecroft is a corruption of Bycroft, meaning "barley-field". Beecroft Hall, where the family originated long before my time, is in Horton-in-Ribblesdale. It was spelt Bycroft in 1615, which, doubtless, was in its turn a corruption of the name Bycroft. William de Bycroft actually, was taxed at the Hall in 1379.

My comments about bus tickets inspired one reader to remind me of B & B Tours Ltd, which connected Otley and Leathley and Burley Woodhead. She also mentioned G. F. Tate's doubledeckers in Ilkley and the Moorfield (or Morefield) buses that went over the Chevin to Otley. All these were later taken over by Sammy Ledgard," she added.

The B & B buses were red, yellow and blue, I think, and I remember insisting that a bike I had in my very young days should be painted the B & B colours. I had always imagined that it must be very glamorous to be a bus driver.

We used to travel on the old B & B's when I went to Norway Lodge School in Menston Village. Sometimes they used doubledeckers on hire from Ledgard's, but usually they used the comfortable coaches with the high seats. We used to scramble for the back seat, which was the most comfortable of all.

### 50 Years Ago

(From our files of 1929)

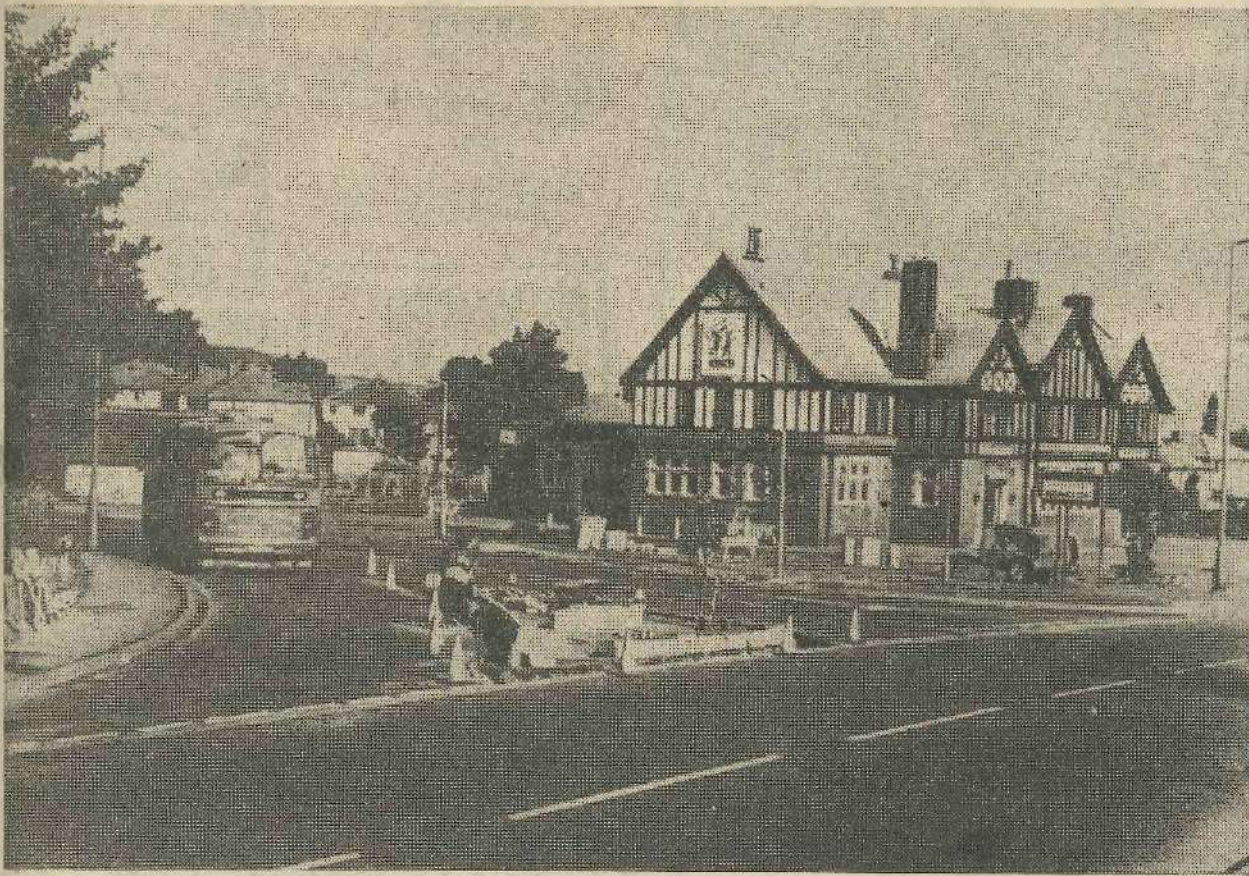
A children's field day was held at Burey Woodhead and tea was served in the Wesleyan Sunday School. There were 35 entries for the fancy dress competition and they marched in procession, headed by Burley and District Band, from the Sunday School to the cricket field, where sports were held.

In a ladies' cricket match Askwith beat Sinclairs (Otley) by 31 runs. Teams: Askwith—Ethel Crawford, R. Harrison, Ellen Crawford, A. Pickering, M. Crawford, B. Jackson, A. Braithwaite, D. Pickering, N. Shapcotte, D. Crabtree, E. Adams. Sinclairs—W. Stables, A. Freeman, A. Yates, D. Crossfield, P. Taylor, S. Lowe, E. Johnson, N. Harrison, E. Brown, E. Kirk, M. Stables.

Employees at Pool Paper Mills had an outing to the Newcastle Exhibition. The party numbering 150, were accompanied by Messrs. H. Whiteley and W. Whiteley (directors). It was the first time that a special train has been commissioned to take a party from Pool Station.

The Otley and District Angling Club held their annual fishing match at Topcliffe, on the bank of the River Swale. The largest catch was by P. Phillips, which weighed 1lb. 10s. He was awarded the Otley Cup and miniature. Other prize winners were: A. W. Brown, E. Richardson, E. Lotthouse, S.

# Traffic lights for Menston junction 17.8.79.



Work has started on improvements to the junction of Bradford Road at Menston and the minor road leading to the village centre. It is planned to instal a system of traffic lights.

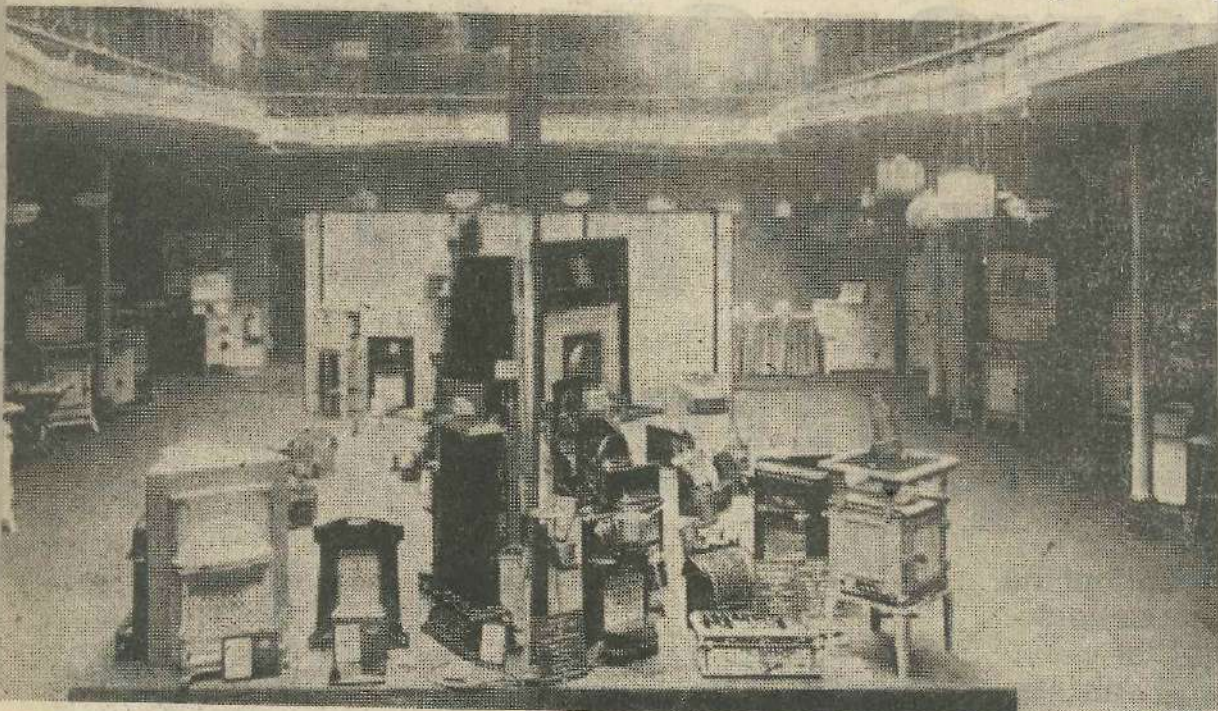
## £20,000 Blaze Destroys Ilkley Workshops



An Ilkley building worker was charged with arson after a blaze destroyed workshops and stores at Vince Dobson (Builders) Ltd., Regent Road, Ilkley. Damage to the premises was estimated at over £20,000. Picture by Richard Beckwith, Ilkley.

Thursday, July 12, 1979





Picture shows an exhibition of the latest gas appliances on display at the Winter Gardens, Ilkley, about fifty years ago. On the right of the stand in the foreground is a gas cooker priced at £7 18s. 6d., and next to it a hotplate at £2 5s. 6d.

Gas fires on the stand range in price from about £2 to £3, with one in the centre priced at £2 12s. 3d., available on three years hire purchase for a deposit of 5s. 2d. and eleven quarterly payments of 5s. 2d.

24/8/79

ACROSS THE YEARS

Working Men's Hall Company  
Discuss Use Of Building

100 Years Ago

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Ilkley Working Men's Hall Company (Ltd.) was held in the registered office in Weston Road. The question of the usage of the hall was discussed and it was decided to rename the upper portion of the building "The Assembly Rooms, Weston Road, Ilkley". Mr. H. Legge presided.

The monthly meeting of Burley Local Board was largely taken up with the matter of nuisance from drainage from cottages at Moorville. Sink water from the two cottages entered the beck. Surveyors called in were instructed to put work in hand to pipe the water away at a cost of around £8 for 24 yards of piping and labour, which was considered to be high, but, because the beck was drawn on for drinking water it was deemed a necessity.

75 Years Ago

Three horses attached to a brewery dray bolted down Wellington Road, but were stopped by Wm. Lister, postman, near the Gas Works before any damage occurred. The Gazette described the affair as "productive of considerable excitement and alarm".

The tendency to crush out the small shopkeepers and individual tradesmen in favour of larger establishments caused concern at the meeting of the Ilkley Tradespeople's Association. At that time Ilkley was a town with less than 8,000 inhabitants and there were 100 shops with something like £100,000 invested in them, and Mr. Moisey, a local tradesman, spoke against the new practice of ordering goods from outside the town and paying the postmen cash on delivery. It was agreed to protest to the Member of Parliament for the Otley division regarding this new danger to local trade.

50 Years Ago

Mr. George Mott, Chairman of Ilkley Council, welcomed the Australian Rugby League

their training headquarters at the Marlborough Hotel for eight months.

The 26th annual show of Addingham Agricultural Society attracted an entry of over 700. The weather was poor, with rain falling during the morning but clearing later in the day. Burley and District Band played selections of music during the day. The garden section cup was won for the third time in succession by Mr. A. Robinson and became his own property accordingly.

The Ilkley Group of the Boys' Brigade opened their winter session with a PT display and a lantern talk. The brigade was recruiting boys in the 12-14 age group.

25 Years Ago

The opening of the winter term at Ilkley Grammar School was marked by the maximum number of pupils successful in selection examinations being admitted to the school. The premises were described as far from adequate to house over 90 pupils. Three new members of staff were welcomed, Mr. M. C. Cresswell (Senior Mathematics Master); Miss Wilde (Religious Instruction) and Miss Bridgens (Assistant Teacher of French).

The Pawson Cottage Homes in Bridge Lane, Ilkley, built for needy and deserving widows and spinsters from a legacy left by Miss Susannah Pawson, of Ilkley, were officially opened by Mrs. Gordon Rycroft, who donated the site.

A substantial stone built semi-detached house in Ilkley was offered for sale at £3,800.

Improvements To Waste Land  
Sought By Council



Ilkley Parish Council in its revised list for Ilkley's Parish Plan is asking Bradford Metropolitan Council to improve waste land and derelict areas off New Brook Street, Ilkley, particularly near Castle Road, pictured above. The Council is also seeking improvements to Castle Hill and the Manor House Court yard.

31 AUG 79

## CHILDREN ENJOY ROMAN ACTIVITY WEEK

Over thirty local children last week enjoyed a holiday activities course at Ilkley Manor House Museum. The theme for the week was "Romans", to mark the 1900th anniversary of the founding of a Roman fort at Ilkley.

During the week children were able to read about the Romans and learn about their influence on the local Brigantes. Wharfedale Children's Librarian Mrs. Marjorie

Ellis read a serial each afternoon, and the children made Roman and Brigante armour and weapons.

The activities ended on Friday afternoon with performances of various items, including "Romans" selling togas to "Britons" and a battle between the Romans and Britons. Neither side emerged victorious as the battle was stopped eventually by the appearance of the Goddess of

the River Wharfe as after whom was found at Ilkley.

The activity week, the fourth or fifth to be held at Ilkley, was organised by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Museums Education Service in conjunction for the first time with the Libraries Service.

Mrs. Mary Chittenden, Keeper of Educational Services, and archaeologist Mr. Stephen Kerry helped organise the course. Mrs.

Chittenden said the activity week had been one of the best held at Ilkley with about thirty children attending regularly and another ten for part of the time. All had enjoyed their activities and the children had been very enthusiastic, she added.

Picture shows some of the children in Roman and Briton dress before joining battle on Friday afternoon.



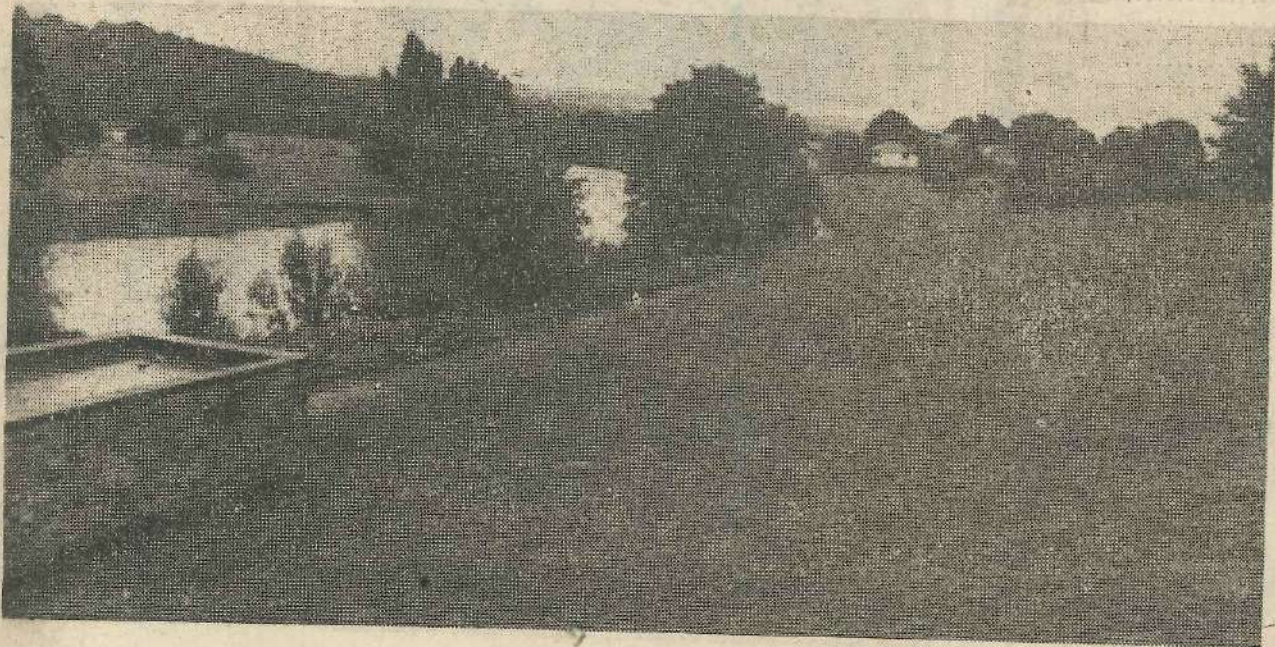
## Riverside Land Improvements

Land near the riverside footpath between New Brook Street and Ash Grove has been improved under a reinstatement scheme following the laying of part of the main drainage scheme for the western part of Ilkley.

Hedges, fences, shrubbery, allotments and overgrown areas of land including an old tip were swept away

during the laying of the sewer and this picture of the area looking towards Ash Grove presents a new view after the land has been landscaped and reseeded.

Work is at present taking place on the preparation of a scheme for the resurfacing of the popular riverside footpath in this area.



24 Aug 79

## DISCUSSION OF COUNTY STRUCTURE PLAN

A final list of matters to be discussed at the examination in public of the West Yorkshire Structure Plan is on display at Ilkley Town Hall, and Ilkley, Addingham, Burley-in-Wharfedale and Menston public libraries.

Copies are available free of charge from the Chief Executive of the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council, County Hall, Wakefield.

The examination in public will start on Thursday 18 October at the revised venue of Ossett Town Hall. It was to have been held at Morley Town Hall, parts of which have had to be closed to the public.

The final list of matters to be discussed was drawn up by the Secretary of State for the Environment after discussions with Mr. B. A. Marder QC, who will chair the panel at the examination in public.

The Secretary of State has decided that persons additional to those on the previously published provisional list should be invited to take part, and that the matters to be examined should be amended. 31.8.79

*A peaceful city on the threshold of war*



KIRKGATE & COMMERCIAL. ST, LEEDS.

## Brook Street Over Fifty Years Ago



Changes in Brook Street during the past fifty years can be noted in this photograph taken in the 1920s when there appeared to be no need for a traffic island. The water trough for horses in the middle of

Brook Street was a reminder that horse cab days had not long been overtaken by the age of the motor vehicle. The bridge which carried the railway to Skipton was to last until July, 1966, when it was finally removed after

the closure of the railway west of Ilkley. Two motor buses, one owned by Keighley Bros of Chapel Lane, Keighley, await passengers whilst other vehicles, including a Lyons tea van, make deliv-

eries to local traders. At the bottom of Brook Street and across the road to Church Street the Wheat-shaf Hotel, closed at the end of 1959, occupied the site which has now become public gardens.

24 AUG 79

## Along The Grove About Fifty Years Ago



Though there have been few changes along The Grove, Ilkley, over the past fifty years this view shows some interesting examples of transportation at the time

and illustrates how much easier it was to park. The horse drawn cart on the left was owned by the Otley and Ilkley Joint Railway Company and was

making deliveries to local traders. The motor van parked behind this was owned by Arthur Rhodes, of The Grove who offered a prompt delivery service

from his grocery business. The wall on the right of picture was demolished in later years to make way for public gardens.

31 AUG 79



# SEEKING EXAMINATION OF ILKLEY'S FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

21 Sep 79

A proposal that a Sub-Committee be re-appointed to examine Ilkley Parish Council's future relationships with Bradford Metropolitan Council will be discussed by the Parish Council at its next full meeting on 1 October.

At its meeting on Monday the parish council's General Purposes Committee agreed the matter should be put before the full council, and that the sub-committee should meet at the earliest possible opportunity in October.

Cr. E. S. Gardner said that before he was elected to the parish council he was in no doubt that Ilkley people were not satisfied with the services they were getting from Bradford. They were paying more than ever before and receiving less in return.

Decisions vital to people were being taken by people living in Bradford and elsewhere, he added.

"We want some changes," said Cr. Gardner. "We should not act in haste but we should weigh up all the possibilities and stick to our guns until we get changes."

Cr. Gardner also suggested the formation of a Wharfedale District Council should be considered.

The Chairman, Cr. C. D. Poole, said he took it the new parish councillors were unaware of what the previous council had already done with regard to getting more authority for the parish council.

Cr. J. M. Shelton explained that a sub committee had been formed by the last council to look at the powers of the parish council. It needed to be reconstituted. He thought there was no way a Wharfedale authority could be considered because it had been investigated previously and would cover parts of three different districts.

Cr. Gardner said he did not mind if a new sub committee was formed or the old one reconstituted as long as something was done.

## Rat Infested

Cr. W. Forrest commented on the "terrible, shocking" condition of part of New Brook Street, at the junction with Castle Road, where old wooden buildings had been demolished. He said the remains of the buildings were now rat infested and should be burned and cleared away. The house next door had also been badly damaged by fire and was now in a dangerous condition.

Many visitors to Ilkley passed the site on their way to the riverside, and it could easily be made into a nice, tidy corner.

The Clerk, Mrs. P. M. Fisher, said she had enquired about the matter. An order for the demolition of the buildings had been made and carried out but there seemed to be some query concerning the clearing up of the site, which was now in the hands of Bradford Metropolitan Council's legal department.

Bradford had also been told that the road improvement line for Castle Road must be maintained for the time being so the site could not be re-developed at the moment.

Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, thought the legal department should be told to get a move on. The matter should be raised at the next full parish council meeting and they could see whether anything had happened by then. Cr. Forrest was also concerned about building delays near the Playhouse and South Parade. The buildings were only half finished and very unsightly.

Mrs. Fisher explained that building work had started, so the contractors had actually complied with the required planning approval.

It was agreed the Parish Council be requested to ask the builders to take some constructive action.

## Runway Extension

The General Purposes Committee approved a motion that the full Parish Council be asked to write to Bradford Metropolitan Council and the county council requesting them to reconsider the position regarding their support for the proposed runway extension at the Leeds/Bradford airport.

Cr. C. H. Scaife, who proposed the motion, said he felt the matter should be reconsidered in the light of changed economic circumstances due to the fuel crisis. If the approach was made to the District and County councils a copy of the letter should also be sent to Leeds Council, he added.

Cr. Scaife gave his own views on the proposed runway extension, which he said would be of very little benefit either locally or to the national economy, and for which ratepayers and taxpayers would have to pay for the rest of their lives.

Cr. Poole said the public inquiry into the proposals was under way at the moment and he thought it was too late for anyone to make further approaches.

Cr. Scaife said he thought new parish councillors should be given the opportunity of discussing this important matter, even though the previous parish council had already considered it in depth.

## ROMAN ROAD RACE IN AID OF FIVE OAKS

A Roman Road Race, organised to coincide with the 1,900th anniversary of the founding of the Roman Fort at Ilkley, is to be held in Ilkley tomorrow (Saturday).

Starting from the Old Bridge Ilkley, at 3.30 p.m. the race will be over three miles. Entrants will be dressed with the Roman theme in mind and will have to push a chariot which can be pushed by up to three people with a fourth riding in the chariot.

There will be a prize for the fastest chariot, the best dressed Roman and the best prepared chariot.

Organised by the Ilkley Junior Chamber the event is in aid of Five Oaks, Ben Rhydding, the short-term home for children suffering with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. 21 SEP 79

## ACROSS THE YEARS

21 Sep 79

### Strangers' Guide For Visitors To Ilkley Area

#### 100 Years Ago

French confectionery could be enjoyed at Paris House, Middleton Road, Ilkley - a new business opened by Charles Constant Wampach from Paris.

A special "Strangers' Guide" listed places of worship; information about the opening and closing times of the Post Office in Wells Road, Ilkley; similar information about local Banks; a list of pleasant walks in the area.

Many of the local educational establishments were advertising in September, 1879. They included the Ladies' College, Wells Road, Ilkley, principal Miss Milne assisted by English and Foreign resident governesses and visiting masters; Moorside Cottage, Ilkley - select boarding and day school for young ladies; and West Royd, Easby Drive, Ilkley - preparatory school for young gentlemen.

#### 75 Years Ago

During the week Ilkley feast was celebrated when excellent weather was enjoyed. As well as the annual Tradesmen's cricket match there were a good number of attractions located behind the Wheatsheaf Hotel such as Waddington's Gondolas. It was stated it was likely to be the last feast located there, as the excavations necessary for the extension of Brook Street would leave very little of the ground intact.

The Ilkley Brass Band played during the cricket match when there was a large gathering of spectators. As was customary, all the players wore tall hats (White and Black), the Black Hats being captained by Mr. Frank Moisley and the White Hats by Mr. G. H. Charlesworth.

The new Wesleyan Sunday Schools at Ilkley were opened by the President of the Wesleyan Conference.

#### 50 Years Ago

Ilkley Cricket Club won the cup for the Wharfedale and Airedale Section of the Yorkshire Council. Ilkley finished fourth in the full Council league table.

Fred Elizalde and his Savoy Hotel Music were performing at the Kings Hall, Ilkley. The music, it was stated, had been made famous over the wireless for so long that it had won its way into the hearts of thousands of listeners.

Members of the Primitive Methodist Church, Addingham, held their harvest festival service. The usual decorations of fruit and flowers were tastefully arranged in various parts of the church.

#### 25 Years Ago

Local traders were preparing for the second annual Trades Fair. They were endeavouring to prove to Ilkley shoppers that they could provide a service and merchandise equal to anything to be found in the cities.

Building on the experience gained from the initial venture they hoped to present an even better exhibition than the first one which earned considerable praise.

Ilkley's Concert Club was faced with an alarming problem, when, almost at the last moment the artist for the season's opening and one whose name had resulted almost in a "sell-out" was unable to appear. Eileen Joyce was unable to appear due to illness. It started hectic negotiations for someone to take her place. However few people took advantage of the offer of their money back, and the returned seats were quickly snapped up by others.