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2 Oct 81

Trains From Ilkley Were Full Of Drunks

100 Years Ago

The annual festivities in connection with the Ilkley Feast were celebrated with scarcely as much zest as in previous years. Indeed the scenes witnessed at Ilkley Railway Station were said to be disgraceful as townspeople and visitors had imbibed too freely of drink and the noise in front of the Parish Church was most unseemly. When the trains left the station, not only were they full of drunks but fighting broke out in the carriages and several people had to be dragged out and left behind. The noise was said to be beyond belief. Brook Street was enlivened by stalls and there were "sundry amusements" including swing boats, shooting galleries and archery behind the Wheat Sheaf Hotel and also behind the Station Hotel. The races were held on the Tuesday with crowded streets. A marquee at the rear of the Lister's Arms Hotel was tastefully decorated for dancing and "an efficient quadrille band" was in attendance.

A runaway horse belonging to Mr. Mills, of Mount Stead, Ben Rhydding, took fright whilst being driven along Leeds Road, bolted and broke his shafts and ran on to the footpath near the cricket field, knocking a man down who was severely injured about the head, arms and legs. It also knocked a boy down in front of the Star Inn, and fell through the window of Mr. Hebblewhite's shop where it was consequently secured.

75 Years Ago

A recently formed miniature rifle club which held its meetings in a field in Easby Drive, soon had a membership of more than 50 people. Sergeant C. Baker, formerly instructor to the 2nd West Yorkshire Royal Engineer Volunteers, had been secured to instruct and competitions were to be held at regular intervals.

An animated picture display was held in the Rotunda Marquee, South Hawksworth Street, during the summer months and had proved a popular attraction, but owing to the chilly damp evenings of late September it was to close down for the winter.

There were no bids for Arundel Lodge, Crossbeck Road, or Heathmount, Crossbeck Road, at a property sale held at the Crescent Hotel by Messrs. Dacre and Sons. Six houses in Wellington Road producing an annual rent of £83 were withdrawn from sale as there was no bid over £800.

50 Years Ago

Members of the staff of Ilkley Council had been busy erecting wires and coloured lamps to illuminate the Grove as far as the War Memorial and Station Road from the Midland Bank to Chantry Drive. The War Memorial Gardens, part of Mill Ghyll and White Wells were also to be illuminated and a certain amount of Brook Street. This was part of the local celebrations for the centenary of the discovery by

Michael Faraday that the movement of a coil of wire in a magnetic field induced electricity.

The Ilkley Municipal Orchestra under the leadership of Miss Phyllis May Hollins concluded a successful seven week season with a concert in the Winter Gardens. The Chairman of Ilkley Council, Mr. C. F. Pyett, expressed the thanks of the public to Miss Hollins and her orchestra during the interval.

The Wharfedale Sanatorium, Middleton was advertising for a head gardener at a wage of £3 3s. per week and including a house for the duration of the appointment.

25 Years Ago

Governors of Ilkley Secondary School received an intimation from the West Riding County Council that the Minister of Education had not included the plans to build a new secondary school in either the main or reserve programmes for 1957/8. They agreed to send a protest to the West Riding Education Committee urging the reconsidering of this matter as the school was urgently needed in the Ilkley District.

The Australian Rugby League Tourists were due to arrive in Ilkley and make their headquarters at the Troutbeck Hotel. It was planned to give them a civic welcome to the town by Chairman of the Council, Mr. J. H. Bowes and other members of the Council and Town Hall officials.

By the end of September Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club had won their fifth match of the season by defeating Hull at home. They always appeared to be the most likely winners and were on the attack for the greater part of the game.

Middleton Hospital were advertising for nursing staff. Ward Sister (S.R.N.) were offered a salary scale of £450 per annum rising to £575, Staff Nurses £387 rising to £495 per annum, and student nurses were to start at £245. If non resident there was a deduction of £33 for meals whilst on duty, and a resident student nurse had a reduction of £113 per annum for board residence.

The estate agents offered a semi-detached house in Wheatley Road under the course of construction at £2,950 with the purchaser's choice of fittings.

2 Oct 81 IT'S PATHETIC, SAYS CR.

Whilst Bradford Metropolitan Council can not find money for public notice boards at Burley and Menston it can provide new notices for the cup and ring stones in Queens Road, Ilkley, it was reported to the General Purposes Committee of Ilkley Parish Council on Monday.

Ilkley Parish Council is endeavouring to see the provision of notice boards at Burley and Menston and will decide on Monday whether to press again for the boards.

At the Council's committee meeting on Monday Cr. C. D. Poole said the new notice boards in Queens Road stated that the boulders had been decorated in the Bronze Age and were originally located in Panorama Woods but were moved to the present site in 1892.

"They can provide notice boards of this kind but they can't provide public notice boards for notices of what is going on in the district," said Cr. Poole. "It's pathetic," he said.

Worthy Gentlemen Think About A Temperance Soc.

100 Years Ago

A number of "worthy Ilkley gentlemen" convened a meeting in a large room over Mr. Bartle Hutton's shop in Hawksworth Street with the purpose of forming a temperance society in Ilkley. Mr. E. P. Doves was unanimously called upon to preside over the meeting. Mr. Dove together with Mr. Ellis Ingham and Mr. J. T. Robinson were called upon by Dr. Johnstone to draw up a code of rules before the meeting the following week.

Low House, Bridge Lane, Ilkley together with two adjoining residences was offered for sale by auction at the Crescent Hotel by Mr. J. Buckley Sharp. The attendance was poor and business far from brisk and the property was knocked down to Mr. W. Margerison, of Ilkley, for £800.

The annual Addingham sheep fair was held in a field at the rear of the Swan Hotel. Business was rather slow and prices were.—Lank ewes 20s. to 26s., wethers 20s. to 27s., half breeds 30s. to 43s.

75 Years Ago

There was an inquiry at Otley Police Court to hear objections to the proposal by Ilkley Urban District Council to repair the road known as Parish Ghyll Drive and to take it over. Objections to this had been raised by Messrs. B. Whitaker and Sons, owners of One Oak and a portion of the wood at the other side of the road. The objections were withdrawn after hearing Council evidence put forward by Mr. Edward Fletcher, Council Solicitor, who argued that it would greatly enhance all the property adjoining, and that the existing road was in a very bad state of repair.

The Gazette criticised the keepers who went to great length to prevent women and children from gathering the great abundance of blackberries on the bushes in Middleton Woods. It said they allowed the big burly fellows loaded with fruit to get away with it, as they were scared to tackle them, but they snatched the children's meagre crops and trampled them into the ground.

50 Years Ago

Officials of the Ilkley Urban District Council voluntarily placed before the Finance Committee suggestions for reductions in their salaries in view of the current economic crisis. The reductions varied from 2½ per cent to 5 per cent. This was to operate for officials as follows.—Officials earning £300 or less would receive a cut of 2 per cent; More than £300 but not more than £400 3½ per cent; More than £400 5 per cent.

The National Chamber of Trade held its annual autumn conference in the Kings Hall, Ilkley, with over 300 delegates attending to consider the national economic crisis. Mr. Wm. Dobson, Chairman of Ilkley District Council, together with other members of Ilkley Council gave the delegates a civic welcome to the town.

The Conference was brought to

a fitting conclusion when as guests of the Ilkley Chamber a party of nearly 250 were taken on a charabanc outing down the Yorkshire Dales. They had lunch at the Spa Hotel, Ripon, and tea at the Royal Baths, Harrogate. Mr. J. C. Scott, President of the Ilkley Chamber of Trade, said the fact that the meeting had taken place in Ilkley could only do lasting good to the town and the trade of Ilkley.

25 Years Ago

The Rev. E. C. Cook, Vicar of Ilkley, received injuries after skidding and falling off his motor scooter. He was found to have four broken ribs and taken to Bradford Royal Infirmary. The accident occurred in Kings Road and Mr. Cook was trapped under his machine. Mrs. M. M. Scott, of Yewbank House, found him in great pain, and she, together with cubs from the Baptist Church stopped the first car, which was fortunately driven by Dr. A. W. Gott.

The first week in October was fine and sunny with temperatures nearing the mid 60's.

The Australian Rugby League touring team made their headquarters at the Troutbeck Hotel, Ilkley, and were given a civic welcome by Mr. J. H. Bowes, Chairman of Ilkley Council. A playing field had been put at their disposal for practice purposes and Mr. Bowes expressed the hope that it would prove adequate for their purposes.

Two Accidents In A Week Lend Weight To Addingham By-Pass Campaign

9 Oct 81



Two potentially serious accidents within a week will lend weight to Addingham's campaign for provision of a by-pass of the village, although fortunately no-one was injured.

The Leyland lorry pictured above went out of control while travelling down Silsden

Road on Wednesday afternoon, coming to rest just before crossing the busy Main Street, after ploughing through bollards at the junction.

The driver, Mr. Raymond Peter Holt, of Ribble Drive, Bingley, escaped unhurt. Last Friday night a Morris

Mini overturned after being in head on collision with a Ford Escort only yards away, outside the Sailor Hotel.

The driver of the Mini, Mr. Christopher Bolton of Claymore Rise, Silsden, and the driver of the Escort, Mr. Clifford Hoyle of Oldfield, Keighley, were both uninjured.

WHEN ILKLEY HAD TWO "DREAM PALACES"

Information about Ilkley's two former cinemas is being sought by the Mercia Cinema Society which is compiling a history of local cinemas for their Magazine Mercia Bioscope.

Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Rosemary Clegg told the "Gazette" that "the type of information we require includes opening and closing dates, together with the opening and closing programmes, the architect, the date and name of the first talkie at each cinema, plus any incidental information and anecdotes. Needless to say, any brochures or photographs loaned to us would be well looked after and returned within a few days after copying."

Threat From Video

"With the vast amount of video equipment in use, there is a distinct possibility that the cinema will cease to exist by the end of the 1980s, so this new society is busy gathering information on these fading dream palaces before it is too late."

"At the turn of the century the number of purpose built cinemas could be counted on the fingers of one hand, but during their heyday, about 1935-50, there were around 5,000 - even the smallest town had its own cinema. Since the early 1950s they have gradually disappeared, leaving only 1,075 operating, few of which are in their original condition. A great deal of literature is available about films and their stars, but little information has been recorded about the cinemas themselves, and it is to rectify this situation that the Mercia Cinema Society at 64, Somerton Drive, Erdington, Birmingham, has been formed, to encourage research into the history of the cinema and to establish a cinema museum."

"Twelve regional groups organise meetings, social events, cinema visits, lectures and research, details of which are published in the quarterly magazine, Mercia Bioscope. Copies of relevant information is given to libraries and record offices for the public benefit."

"The Society was formed in December 1980 by Chris and Rosemary Clegg of Erdington, North Birmingham, who are the Treasurer and Secretary, because it was felt that although there is a great deal of interest in the subject, it was not being channelled in any direction or to any particular purpose. Although it is not yet a 'fashionable' or 'trendy' subject, the listing of around twenty cinemas by the Department of the Environment has meant that the importance of these buildings is at last being recognised."

"Mercia Bioscope is providing an outlet for material which would not otherwise be published, which in turn should help persuade people that cinema architecture is a subject worthy of serious study. Each issue contains articles on different parts of the country and is profusely illustrated with historic photographs, most of which were taken at the time of opening," says Mrs. Clegg.

"In recognition of the value of the work being undertaken, the Society has been honoured to receive a grant from West Midlands Arts Council."

"Membership of the Society costs £4.00 for 12 months and includes four issues of Mercia Bioscope."

At Ilkley

For years Ilkley had two cinemas - The Grove (the site of which now forms part of the town's central car park) and the New Cinema, later known as The Essoldo Cinema in Railway Road (which was demolished to make way for Hillards Supermarket).

The cinema provided a valuable contribution to

Ilkley's entertainment for over fifty years and for almost thirty years was under the control of the late Mr. Arthur Croft who originally started it with his brother.

Cinema began at Ilkley with silent films being shown at the Kings Hall before the First World War. The Kings Hall as a cinema gradually gave way to "The Picture House" later to become known as The Grove Cinema.

It was at The Grove Cinema at the beginning of 1930 that permanent equipment for the showing of the first "talkies" at Ilkley was installed. At that time Mr. Croft said that prices would be 1s. 3d. and 1s. 9d. upstairs and 6d. downstairs. Before that they were 3d. to 9d. They would be able to put on a show as good as anything in the West End of London.

"We have never been able to put on a show as is given in the biggest theatres because of the difficulties in connection with the musical equipment, but talking films will prove one of the finest things that has come out for the small towns," said Mr. Croft.

By 1948 the Ilkley Young Citizens Matinee Club was formed and at the opening over 500 children attended what was to prove Saturday morning entertainment for the children of the district.

Twenty years later with the demise of the cinema in small towns The Grove Cinema closed its doors for the last time at the end of 1967.

New Cinema

Ilkley's second cinema during the era of "going to the pictures" was the New Cinema, later to become known as the Essoldo.

This purpose built cinema opened in May, 1928, to a full house which saw a film "Seventh Heaven". It was the biggest of Ilkley's two cinemas having a seating capacity of 1,076 together with a cafe and ballroom.

Five months after the opening there was another capacity audience to mark the opening performance of a fine orchestral organ played by the resident organist Mr. Harry Pickard.

The Essoldo closed down in September, 1969.

Need For Rail Link With Skipton Discussed

100 Years Ago

A crowded meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms to consider the question of the proposed new Railway line between Ilkley and Skipton. Mr. H. E. Sykes was in the chair and opened the meeting by saying he believed everyone present would agree the need for the new line. The route across the town was the only problem, he said. The proposed scheme was for either the line to cross Brook Street or be built at a lower level. After lengthy debates it was agreed that the line be carried forward at the low level despite the desirability of having a station in the town centre.

The headmaster of the Ilkley School of Art presented his report to the school committee. There were then 78 pupils at the school, two of whom intended making art their profession. A number of the students were employed in geometrical drawing with a view to pass on to Building Construction and Machine drawing. The committee expressed their profound pleasure with his report.

75 Years Ago

The Parish Church celebrated harvest festival, with a "very prettily decorated church, the appearance of the font being particularly striking". The Bishop of Knarborough was the preacher in the evening and took for his theme "Happiness".

The annual harvest tea and entertainment in conjunction with the Ilkley Parish Church Harvest Festival took place in the Infant's Schoolroom on the following Wednesday. A capital musical programme was arranged by the organist, Mr. Hirst, Miss Ethel Green and Miss Schick contributed a pianoforte duet, and the choir boys sang anthems and part-songs. Master Tom Cunningham was the soloist.

50 Years Ago

Most of the news columns of the Ilkley Gazette were taken up with the final stages of a General Election Campaign. The new voting register for the Pudsey and Otley Division revealed that the men were outnumbered by women on the electoral roll by 6,353. Meetings were being held up and down the division by the two candidates. - Mr. Gibson (National Conservative), and Mr. Pickles (Labour), and the struggle would be as to which one would manage to get the most of the Liberal vote, as they had no candidate.

Trees in the area were observed to have kept their leaves for a longer period than usual during the autumn, said to be due to a long spell of rain during the summer, and the autumn tints were said to be at their very best in the Wharfe Valley.

The boys scout movement was described as the "Free Masonry of Youth" by Mr. E. C. Woodman, President of the Wharfedale Scouting Association, when he opened a scout concert at Ben Rhydding Wesleyan schoolroom. The programme was varied and included songs by Messrs. F. R. Hartley, T. W. Sugden, W. Thornton and G. A. Collinson together with monologues by Mr. R. M. Priestman. The Parish Church scouts sang sea shanties, and Ben Rhydding Scouts and Cubs presented a selection of songs around the camp fire.

25 Years Ago

For the fourth successive year, Mrs. F. S. Hampshire was re-elected chairman of the Ilkley Secondary School Board of Governors. She expressed her thanks to Board members for the confidence they showed in her abilities.

Mr. G. A. Briggs, of Ilkley, managing director of Wharfedale Wireless Works Ltd., and the founder of the firm, demonstrated his products to a large audience in Carnegie Hall, New York. Mr. Briggs demonstrated the effectiveness of sound reproduction by means of loudspeakers which had been individually hand-made and were far superior to their American mass-produced counterparts. Over 2,000 people were present at Carnegie Hall to hear the music relayed over Wharfedale speakers and to Mrs. Briggs' Commentary.

Mr. Fred Riley, owner of the Regent Garage, Ilkley and his apprentice Paul Scaife leaving work at 6 p.m. were attracted by a dull white revolving light in the sky. The object travelled much too fast to be a plane and was not a shooting star as it travelled in two different directions. It appeared as a dark object round in shape surrounded by light. It was wondered if this could possibly be a flying saucer?

£10,614 Cheque For Priory Church Restoration Appeal



A cheque for £10,614, the proceeds of a highly successful Country Fair held at Bolton Abbey in July, has been presented

The event was generously sponsored by the Skipton Building Society and attracted about 15,000 visitors.

the Bolton Abbey Country Fair Committee, to Mr. Peter Marshall, Chairman of the Restoration Appeal Committee, at the Pheasant

Mr. Peter Marshall, Mr. Arthur James, Assistant General Manager of the Skipton Building Society, the Rev. Canon Maurice Slaughter

OVER 700 VISITORS AT ADDINGHAM "PAST AND PRESENT" EXHIBITION

Over 700 people flocked to an "Addingham Past and Present" exhibition, held in the village's Memorial Hall on Saturday by Addingham Civic Society in conjunction with villagers.

The exhibition featured objects and documents not often on view, telling the history of the village up to the present day. Local crafts and industry were invited to show examples of their work, and ladies of the Civic Society women's section provided welcome refreshments.

Two fascinating slide shows were presented by Miss Hilda Holmes, with many unique and invaluable records of bygone days in Addingham and of its inhabitants.

A great deal of work in collecting, sorting and arranging the exhibits had been done before hand by Civic Society Chairman Malcolm Birdsall, with help from members, and all were delighted to have the sound knowledge of local historian Mrs. Kate Mason behind the setting up of the exhibition.

Gunsmith Mr. Geoff Lowcock, of the Old Malt Kiln, Mr. David Harrison of the "Fleece" and Alison Birdsall assisted in the collecting of items.

Addingham Methodists had a fine display of the history of Methodism in the village, including a book on the subject by Mr. W. Lemmon, former headmaster of the local Wesleyan School, now the Methodist Centre. Wesley preached in the village in 1766.

Their display included hand-written music, fine Church plate, inscribed cups and saucers, documents and photographs including the former chapel, now chapel Court flats, and the Primitive Methodist Chapel, now the Memorial Hall. Also included was a photograph of Mr. Harry Hewardine, headmaster of the school from 1885 until 1923.

Addingham Middle School contributed a selection of work and models, including the bridges of Addingham, and Addingham draper Miss Phyllis Rowe provided old fashioned pinafores, gloves, collars, lace, a ration book and identity card.

There was a spinning demonstration by Jean Hanson, hand combs used in homes from the seventeenth century, and photographs of the mills which prospered in the village. Domestic utensils, farming equipment, a malt kiln file on which barley was spread to dry, an old sampler and wood carvings by N. Waugh all caught the eye.

Addingham Homing Society had a show of clocks, trophies and pigeons themselves.

Visitors were reminded that Addingham was active with the scouts, cubs, guides and brownies, the Friends of the Earth, Cricket Club, Gardens and Allotments Association, toddler and ballet group, Sequence Dancing Club, dramatic society, Young Farmers and Women's Institute.

Other items on show included photographs of Edward Bye's model ships, local sheepskin products, Police exhibits, tokens from the Swan and the former Co-op a Pop Harrison's lemonade bottle, the mallet used to lay the foundation stone of the Conservative Club, paintings by local artist John Knight, and a birth and death certificate belonging to James Clarke and Sarah Foley, recent benefactors to the village, who were born at Low Mill.

The Civic Society's Gala Dragon guarded the entrance, a reminder of the society's contribution to the 1961 Gala.

Mr. H. Smith had on show some fine craftsmanship in furniture restoring and cabinet making, and the Rev. J. Billington's wife had a delicate display of her hand

painted china. There were also stools and chairs produced at the saw mill.

Local finds included medieval pottery from Upper Gate Croft Farm, twelfth and thirteenth century bone and pottery refuse from Park Crescent, slag from the seventeenth century iron works at Moorside, Roman pottery from Park Crescent, iron age querns, and ice-scratched limestone boulders and marine fossils.

Overall the exhibition was an outstanding success and it was commented that the display was on a par with many a full time museum.

The Civic Society expressed thanks to the people of Addingham and to Bradford Metropolitan Council's Museums Service for loans.

OUTBREAK OF FEVER IN ILKLEY AREA

100 Years Ago

The Medical Officer of Health, Thos. Scott, in his report to the Ilkley Local Board indicated an outbreak of Scarlet Fever in the district. He said that the work of disinfection was being carried out, one death had occurred and a few fresh cases had been reported.

A lively discussion took place with regard to the erection of buildings in Back Grove Road by Mr. O. Lister, which the Board strongly condemned. It was agreed that if he did not erect these in accordance with plans passed legal proceedings would be taken against him.

Pleasure was expressed at the monthly meeting of the Ilkley National School committee of management with regard to the increase in regular attendances. The number of irregular attendances had dropped from 75 to 47, and the figures for October attendances was 276 out of 372 on the register. The improvement was said to be due chiefly to the good management of masters and mistresses at the school.

75 Years Ago

Major General Baden Powell, hero of Mafeking during the Boer War in South Africa, paid a visit to Ilkley to present prizes won in connection with the Ilkley Miniature Rifle Club. He was the overnight guest of Mr. Frank Whiteley who was the Mayor of Mafeking during the siege and who became a close friend of the General.

The presentation took place in St. Margaret's Hall and a guard of honour was formed by 20 boys from Ghyll Royd School who were members of the club. He was accorded a most enthusiastic reception by a capacity audience and he spoke of the lesson learned during the Boer War of the value of strict discipline and commented that if the Boers had had more personal discipline they would surely have proved the victors. He expressed the hope that the Ilkley club would incorporate the true spirit of discipline with their shooting instruction. The President's Challenge Cup was awarded to C. H. Mann. Handicap Competition was won by H. Loxton. The Rapid Fire Competition winner was L. D. Young. The Ladies' Competition winner was Miss Doris Tweedie. Boys' Scratch Competition V. Greenish. Boys' Handicap, E.J.C. Vint. Donegal Badge, F. Heap. Aggregate Prize, C. H. Mann. Sergeant Baker, the instructor was presented with an umbrella as a mark of esteem by the members.

When General Baden Powell left Ilkley on the Saturday morning train, accompanied by Mr. Whiteley, he had a pleasant surprise awaiting him at Ilkley railway station. A party of Boys from Miss Richards' School, the Rhyd-ding, were drawn up in line and gave him a military salute and three hearty cheers. The General seemed exceedingly pleased and spoke a few words to the boys, advising the older ones to take up rifle shooting.

50 Years Ago

An application from Leeds Corporation for sanction to extend their motor bus service as far as Ilkley instead of stopping at Burley was heard by the Traffic Commissioners of the Yorkshire Area at Leeds. The Corporation claimed that Ilkley was the natural terminus and that the extra 3½ miles extension would be logical. At the same time they expressed their willingness to co-operate with other operators in the area. Four objections had been lodged from S. Ledgard and the Cream Bus Service, the Red Bus Service, L.N.E. Railway company and Ilkley Urban District Council. Ilkley Council objected on the grounds that there was an adequate Leeds Service existing and it would only lead to more traffic congestion in the area. Despite 202 bus journeys between Burley and Ilkley and 20 L.M.S. trains each day which provided an excellent service, an official of Leeds Corporation claimed that people frequently walked from Ilkley to Burley and back to use their services. Ilkley Council had taken a census of people using the bus service and on only one occasion had there been more than 17 people on one bus, and the average number of passengers appeared to be between 8 and 11. On these grounds they claimed that an additional service would cause congestion and be superfluous. The hearing was adjourned.

25 Years Ago

From more than 80 applications, four suitable tenants were allocated the newly completed Pawson Cottage Homes in Bridge Lane, provided for in the will of Miss Susannah Pawson. The new occupants were to be Miss Stephenson, Mrs. Oddy, Mrs. Greener and Mrs. Silverwood. The occupants of the flats were not to pay any rent but would have responsibility for the payment of rates.

The eleventh annual Bridge Congress in aid of St. Dunstan's attracted record entries at each of its six sessions. Twenty nine teams competed for the Town's Cup donated in 1946 by the directors of Craiglands Hotel which for the second year running was won by a team from Manchester. A welcome was extended to bridge players from all parts of the country by Capt. L. J. Sarjeant, Chairman of Ilkley St. Dunstan's Committee, and special mention was made of the members of the St. Dunstan's team of blind players who were competing in the tournament.



ILKLEY RATEPAYERS TOLD TO PAY THE PRICE OF DEMOCRACY AT £8,000

Ilkley rate payers will have to pay the price of local democracy, Bradford Metropolitan District Council decided on Tuesday.

It has ordered that costs of £8,000, incurred when the Parish Council successfully fought a move to build a Co-Operative Society Store in the town centre, will be paid by 0.34p in the pound supplementary rate to be levied only on Ilkley, Burley and Menston ratepayers.

The Council rejected the Parish Council's case that the sum should be attached to the general rate throughout the Bradford Metropolitan district.

Cr. Alfred Turner said it would require only a microscopic adjustment to the rates if it were levied throughout the district and he appealed to Bradford Council to do that in the interests of "Metropolitan team work".

Important Role

Ilkley, he said, had an important part to play in Bradford Council's policy of boosting tourism to the area and the stand made by the Parish Council against the proposed development had been justified by the decision reached by the public inquiry inspector.

Its action, he added, deserved the thanks of all councillors.

The Leader of the Labour-controlled Bradford Council, Cr. Derek Smith, said however, "Ilkley Parish Council and other Parish Councils sought to have this democratic right to operate in their areas and this has to be paid for. I see no reason why Bradford as a whole should pay this money".

Cr. Harry Baines said that he represented one of the most deprived areas of Bradford and he did not see why the people there should subsidise the people of Ilkley who, he said could well afford to pay their own bill.

Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, told the "Ilkley Gazette" she deplored the way this had been done and felt the decision showed discrimination against the Ilkley area.

Bradford Council could have paid the £8,000 out of their reserve fund, because it was just a drop in the ocean out of their budget of millions, or they could have put it on the general rate, where it would have been infinitesimal.

However, they were the rating authority and had power to use as they saw fit, she went on.

Cr. Mrs. Renton was concerned that Ilkley, Burley and Menston ratepayers should be excluded from paying for Bradford Council's legal expenses as they were already paying for Ilkley Parish Council's expenses.

"If they are going to discriminate against Ilkley for such a paltry sum it would be iniquitous if they charged us for their expenses as well. It would be interesting to find out their expenses and compare them with ours," she added.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said local ratepayers would have to face the fact that Burley and Menston were part of Ilkley, and Ilkley was part of Bradford, and pointed out that the extra rate would only work out at about 70p per household—less than the price of a packet of cigarettes, and a sum which would not really pay the bus fare anywhere.

The controlling Labour Group has decided to look into the funding of Parish Councils in its area with a view to considering the possibility of such Councils raising their own finance in future.

The present practice is for Bradford to reimburse Parish Councils for their administrative expenses. These include

the clerk's salary, printing, telephone and travelling costs. Ilkley's spending is estimated at about £4500 in the current year.

County Rate

Bradford Council endorsed the supplementary rate levy of 9.5p in the pound decided by the West Yorkshire County Council.

Council Leader, Cr. Smith, said he could sympathise with the County Councils, whose predicament was due to the previous controlling Conservative Group's decision to rate inadequately for its services in the hope of gaining a political advantage, but that did not work out in their favour.

The extra rates had been necessary, too, because of Government policies which had brought this country's economy to an atrocious state and put additional burdens on the County Council.

Cr. Smith commended the County Council's efforts to provide a better, cheaper and more reliable public transport service.

Cr. Kenneth Hirst, a Tory spokesman, described the Labour Party as "buck passers" and said they were unable to stick to a budget. He was concerned about the harmful effect the extra rate would have on industry.

The increased levy was an act of folly which would deter new firms coming to Bradford and could only add to unemployment.

Liberal leader, Cr. Paul Hockney, said Bradford was very much "the pig in the middle".

With the deficit of the transport undertaking running into millions of pounds he urged Bradford Council to press for a special audit of the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive.

He also called for the disbanding of County Councils.

Concluding the debate, Cr. Smith said the increase in interest rates had done more damage than any supplementary rate.

ACROSS THE YEARS 16 Oct 81

Rail Link With Skipton Under Consideration

100 Years Ago

A meeting of the Ilkley Local Board was convened to discuss the proposed railway line between Ilkley and Skipton. The deputation from Skipton led by Mr. Kendall wished to know which of two routes the townspeople of Ilkley would prefer, one across Brook Street or a lower route at the bottom end of the town. The feeling of the members was unanimously in favour of the lower route. The deputation said that the junction would be at Ben Rhydding and a station would be erected at Ilkley. Plans would be shown to the Ilkley Local Board at the end of the week, and the route would strike the low side of Addingham, pass Fairfield Hall, skirt the hillside missing the Devonshire Arms and Bolton Abbey and enter Skipton by a curve.

Amongst the "Educational Announcements" in the "Gazette" was a small notice for a "Ladies' School," Belle Vue, Ilkley.—"Mrs. D. Brear and daughters assisted by a resident governess, receive young ladies to board and educate. A separate room for little boys."

75 Years Ago

Major General Baden Powell, hero of Mafeking, was to stay at the home of Mr. Frank Whiteley of Ilkley to present competition prizes to members of the Ilkley Miniature Rifle Club. Mr. Whiteley had been Mayor of Mafeking at the time of the siege and a close friendship had been formed with General Baden Powell.

A proposal to erect an elementary school met with a great deal of opposition, but not to the proposal but to the site selected which was located on Bolling Road between semi-detached villas and a block of terraced houses, and it was argued that the value would be adversely affected. There had been a petition against the site which recommended that the Education Committee use a site below the railway bridge, at Ben Rhydding.

An exciting struggle took place in St. Margaret's Church, Ilkley between Police Constable Smith and a supposed burglar. The man was arrested and was described as a burly, desperate looking fellow, and he was found to be concealing the poor box under his jacket which contained 12s. 4½d. He was believed to be an old convict and was remanded in custody pending trial at Otley.

50 Years Ago

Ilkley having risen well to the occasion when world war broke out in 1914, once again was "doing its bit" and a voluntary committee widely representative in character were taking a street collection for national funds. It was to be an opportunity for rich and poor alike to make their contributions to the national need. Many people felt so strongly that the country's finances must be restored to a sounder basis and were willing to make voluntary contributions to these ends over and above the compulsory demands of taxation.

There was to be a reduction of 10 per cent in the salaries of schoolteachers to take effect from October.

L.N.E.R. were to run a special rail excursion in connection with Hull Fair from Ilkley and Ben Rhydding at an inclusive return fare of 4s. 6d.

There was an increase of 79 in the number of unemployed in Ilkley and Addingham, bringing the total to 185 at Ilkley and 105 at Addingham.

25 Years Ago

Otley police issued a warning that unexploded bombs identified as an old type of three inch mortar bombs had been found on land at Burley Fields, on the boundary of Burley and Ben Rhydding near Wheatley Grange Farm. It was thought possible that there might have been others in the same area. The first bomb was found by a nine-year-old Ilkley boy whose father notified the police, another similar one was discovered. Both were exploded by a military bomb squad.

Ilkley Conservatives held their annual mass meeting in the King's Hall. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, Mr. Derek Walker-Smith was the speaker, and paid tribute to the work of Col. Malcolm Stoddart-Scott for his varied and valuable work over a wide field in the House of Commons.

The Grove Cinema presented Kenneth More as Douglas Bader in "Reach for the Sky," also starring Murial Paylow.

300 ILKLEY IN BO BRITIS

The origins of Ilkley and Ben Rhydding hydrophatic spas of special local interest between Denbigh's "British Spas" Publications at 100, The Strand, London W.C.2.

News of the hydrotherapy spread from the middle of last century group of cottages at White Wells, over the years, sudden importance, says

She describes a plunge bath hot rock at White Wells, 1760 by Squibb, disciple of the "Roman times."

The baths were the gentry of the modern day and the water to be spring water of a very cold and with buoyant salts.

With the boom the developers grand hydros at Beck, Rockwood House (later to College).

The most notable Ben Rhydding, by Hamer Star, mayor of Leeds, to the Graefenberg. It was built at and its regime rising, diet, exercise of "kill or cure."

The mixture of Sparton austerities many visitors the way came to a special station in the Ben Rhydding village of Ben Rhydding.

Kathleen Denbigh chapter on Ilkley Hydro after was with its superb golfing hotel, ariat and finally

COUNCILLORS TO PRESS FOR GUIDELINES OVER FUTURE PLANNING OF ILKLEY

Concern over the lack of progress in providing guidelines for the future planning of Ilkley's town centre has been expressed by Ilkley Councillors.

They have made three requests for a Town Centre Plan and at their meeting on Monday night decided to call upon Bradford Metropolitan Council to hold an exhibition and public meeting concerning the proposed enlargement of the Conservation Area.

The implications contained in the Department of the Environment report relating to the refusal of planning permission for a Co-operative Society departmental store on land in the centre of Ilkley were to have been discussed by a committee of Bradford Metropolitan Council towards the end of last month, Councillors were told. In this report the Department called for guidelines for planning the future of Ilkley's centre.

At Monday's meeting of the Council Vice-Chairman Cr. W. R. Hill said he was concerned over the lack of progress. Sometime ago they had discussed the conservation area and meetings had been held between Ilkley Councillors and Bradford Council. Whilst there had been some disagreement on how big the area should be it had been unanimously agreed that the centre of Ilkley should form the conservation area, said Cr. Hill. However, the conservation area proposals were connected with the Town Plan which was still awaited and Cr. Hill was concerned over the lack of speed in doing something about it.

More Pressure

"A considerable number of plans in respect of the appeal site in South Hawkesworth Street have been received and we should be putting more pressure on Bradford Council to decide on the conservative area," said Cr. Hill. The Chief Planning Officer had already said they should be pulling together and "I would take up that suggestion of pulling together so there could be a precise timetable for Ilkley people to put forward their views on any major proposals," he said.

Clerk to the Council, Mrs. D. Edmondson, understood Bradford Council was looking into the legality of holding a public meeting. It had been felt an "enhancement plan or designated boundaries" should be the key words and this would be discussed before Bradford decided on whether there could be a public meeting, said Mrs. Edmondson.

"What we are really after is a Town Plan," said Cr. J. M. Shelton. "If we are asking for a conservation area then we are asking for a plan which is piece meal," he said.

"We should be asking for a Town Plan which covered car parks, shopping centres and industrial areas," said Cr. Shelton.

Chairman to the Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton said the Council had been asking for a Town Centre Plan and said the enlargement of the conservation area was bound to involve town planning. We are pushing for both," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Chairman of the Plans Committee, Cr. S. Crossley-Smith said there were two issues involved. Bradford had promised co-operation and had asked for their views by September or early October because an exhibition was to be held in Ilkley.

"We must press for this exhibition and ask on what dates it is to be held," said Cr. Crossley-Smith.

Cr. Shelton did not think the Parish Council could keep on pursuing plans for a conservation area without asking for a full Town Plan.

"We have already sent a resolution to that effect for a Town Centre Plan," said Cr. Mrs. Renton. On three separate occasions during recent months they had asked Bradford Council for a Town Centre Plan, she said.

After the Council had agreed to press again Cr. Mrs. B. J. Cussons asked about the public meeting which, she said, was of more concern to the public of Ilkley. "Passing that resolution is letting Bradford off the hook," she said.

The Clerk understood an official at Bradford was to ask for clarification on the enhancement plan or designated boundaries which did not necessarily mean they could have a public meeting.

"This is what I understand but the people of this town want a public meeting, not just an exhibition," said Cr. Mrs. Cussons.

Cr. Shelton asked if they could add a rider to the resolution stating that the Council hoped this would not preclude a public meeting.

"I understand there is a feeling that we have not a right to a public meeting," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

A resolution by Cr. Mrs. Cousins that the Parish Council should press for the date of the exhibition and to ask whether a public meeting was in the offing was accepted by the Council.

30 Oct 81 ILKLEY FEATURED IN BOOK ON BRITISH SPAS

The origins and development of Ilkley and Ben Rhydding as early hydrophatic spas form a chapter of special local interest in Kathleen Denbigh's book "A Hundred British Spas" published by Spa Publications at £6.00p.

News of the Benefits of hydrotherapy spread far and wide in the middle of last century, and a group of cottage buildings at White Wells, overlooking the town of Ilkley, suddenly acquired a new importance, says the author.

She describes the deep circular plunge bath hollowed out of the rock at White Wells as early as 1760 by Squire Middleton, a disciple of the "cold water cure," and how the water cure history might possibly go back as far as Roman times.

The baths were patronised by the gentry of Ilkley, even though modern day analysis has proved the water to be simply a clear spring water of moderate hardness icy cold and with no medicinal or buoyant salts.

With the boom of hydrotherapy the developers stepped in with grand hydros at Craighlands, Troutbeck, Rockwood House and Wells House (later to become Ilkley College).

The most notable was that at Ben Rhydding, founded in 1844 by Hamer Stansfield, a former mayor of Leeds, inspired by a visit to the Graefenburg spa in Silesia. It was built at a cost of £30,000 and its regime involved early rising, diet, exercise and an assortment of "kill or cure" treatments.

The mixture of luxury and Spartan austerity resulted in so many visitors that when the railway came to Ilkley in 1865 a special station had to be built for the Ben Rhydding Hydro, and the village of Ben Rhydding grew up around it.

Kathleen Denbigh concludes her chapter on Ilkley with a description of the decline of Ben Rhydding Hydro after the first world war with its subsequent uses as a golfing hotel, the Wool Secretariat and finally demolition.

Across The Years 6 Nov 81

Infectious Diseases Were Causing Concern

100 Years Ago

The prevention of the spread of infectious diseases was the chief topic of debate by the Ilkley Local Board at a special meeting attended by Dr. Scott. It was intended that the registration of infectious diseases should be made compulsory, and the Authority should be advised of all cases. The problem was not just the isolation of patients, but the prevention of disease spreading from members of the family in quarantine and trying to earn some money in employment whilst helping to nurse the afflicted. It was decided that work must be completed on the existing system of sewerage and arrangements should be put in hand to borrow the money for this purpose.

Three Addingham lads were seriously injured on Gunpowder plot night, when a spark from a bonfire ignited a flask of gunpowder held by John Spencer and caused a serious explosion. Spencer lost a fore-finger and thumb, James Brayshaw was badly burned on hands and face, and Fred Lowcock had his face cut by a piece of the flask which was smashed to atoms.

75 Years Ago

Mrs. Steinhil was the chairman at the annual meeting of the Ilkley and Wharfedale Orphanage and Children's home. The children, owing to an outbreak of coughs and colds, were not present, which was a great disappointment as it was customary to sing for the committee. Mrs. Steinhil stressed the excellent home provided by the institution for children over a period of twenty two years and regretted that owing to ill health, the founders Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Conyers were unable to be present.

Early November was very mild, and the gardens were still filled with dahlias, roses and many other blooms.

The November celebration of "Gunpowder Plot" was still in full swing at Ilkley, and local youngsters kept up the anniversary "in good old English fashion". Fires were lit in all parts of the town whilst fire works of one kind or another

were discharged the whole evening. No serious accidents were reported.

50 Years Ago

There was a record "Poppy Day" in the Ilkley area, with a total collection of £269. One of the collectors commented that not one single person refused to buy a poppy, and she had been on duty in the streets for four hours.

The two minutes silence at 11 a.m. on 11 November was observed in Ilkley with a simple dignity, with about thirty people assembled at the War Memorial. The sound of the siren announced the start of the silence, people stood in their tracks on the pavements traffic came to a halt, all work ceased in offices, shops, factories and schools as people stood still with bowed heads. The children of the Church of England schools marched into the large hall and the youngest Cub Scout present held up a faded and tattered Union Jack which had been in use in the war, whilst Mr. C. G. Hodges, the headmaster told the boys the meaning of Armistice Day.

25 Years Ago

Some 200 past and present members of St. Margaret's Church were present in the Ilkley Winter Gardens to bid farewell to their Vicar, Canon A. H. Wellington, on his retirement after 26 years of devoted service.

Mr. Reginald Hughes, the Peoples Warden, made the presentation to Canon Wellington of a cheque, together with a moroccan leather address book containing the names of the many who felt honoured to be remembered as friends.

Complaints were received by Addingham Parish Council regarding the possible closure or restriction of entry of Potter's Hall Road, Addingham, and were to be forwarded to the West Riding County Council. Closure of the road would necessitate the negotiation of an acute bend leading from Low Mill Lane into Church Street when travelling in the Ilkley direction.

LOCAL FARMERS FACED SEVERE LOSSES

100 Years Ago

Ilkley Police were on the alert for local dogs worrying sheep. Farmers had been experiencing severe losses through unknown dogs. Police did discover two dogs worrying sheep but owing to the darkness they made a getaway.

There was an attempt made by a passenger to commit suicide by cutting his throat by means of a razor on the Bradford to Ilkley train. The attempt was discovered in Ilkley and Sergeant Lee took charge of the razor, and Dr. Call was sent for and was quickly in attendance sending the man to Bradford Infirmary for treatment.

75 Years Ago

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. W. E. Urwick sat to hear evidence to enable them to decide whether girl's secondary education was sufficiently catered for in Wharfedale or whether there was a need for a dual school in Otley.

The first snow of the winter fell during the third weekend in November. A fairly heavy fall left the hills and fields thickly covered, and a night frost left the roads and footpaths extremely slippery.

Following the success for many years of the annual cricket match held by Ilkley's tradesmen, it was decided they should play a football match. The date was fixed at the first Wednesday in December and the two Captains chosen were Mr. John Sunley and Mr. R. Curwen. It was intended that the game, which would be on the Ilkley

Rugby Union Football ground, should be amusing and would be played, as the cricket match, with all the players wearing tall black or white hats. The game was expected to be a big "draw" to the townspeople of Ilkley.

50 Years Ago

There was a large attendance at the annual Armistice whist drive and dance in the Winter Gardens and organised by the Ilkley United ex-Servicemen's Association which comprised the Ilkley British Legion, the 9th Duke's Old Comrades' Association, and the 11th Old Ilkley Battery.

In charge of the whist drive were Messrs. W. Brown and A. Clarkson, and the M.C.'s for dancing were Messrs. A. E. Emmott and J. S. Smith. Mr. Harry Glover and his "Delaware Orchestra" provided the music.

In an "Economy week" sale at Brownhill's, the Grove, Ilkley, ladies' evening gowns were on sale from 3½ guineas. Harris tweed coats were priced at 3½ guineas and model coats at 10 guineas.

25 Years Ago

The lowest membership for years was reported by Ilkley Golf Club's secretary, Mr. J. P. Salter at the annual meeting. He said the club was in a position to accommodate about 20 new active members.

Despite a drop in attendance of 500 in the total attendance a profit of £187 was made at the Ilkley Trades' Fair. Mr. N. Tomblin, Secretary, considered the event a great success and said it had proved to be a big attraction to the members of the public.

Miss Pamela Cotton (21) of Beacon Street, Addingham, was chosen to tour with the Carl Rosa Opera Company after being auditioned at Covent Garden, London. She was placed third out of 200 applicants. Miss Cotton was the younger daughter of Mrs. M. England.

Over three tons of clothing of all descriptions in excellent condition was loaded up to be sent to the Hungarian Refugees after the uprising. The appeal fund for money donations had reached a total of £1047 and was still rising.

Choosing The Best Education For Ilkley's Children

100 Years Ago

Ilkley National schoolrooms were crowded "to excess" when a large and enthusiastic meeting was held to discuss the number of school places available in Ilkley and the cost on the rates. The main question was whether or not the townspeople were in favour of having a Board school. It was agreed to form a committee to consider the best possible education for children of the village which was to be comprised of—Messrs. Geo. Brumfit, T. Crabtree, F. W. Fison, M. Hainsworth, W. Hird, J. I. Kirkby, H. Morton C. Moeller, Mark Robinson and W. J. Thompson.

Ilkley Ladies' Educational Association held a meeting in the Assembly Rooms, Weston Road, where they had a lecture on "Infectious diseases, and how to stop them spreading."

meeting. Mr. E. Wolfe said that it was not generally known that pillion passengers were not covered by insurance and that there were constant instances of grave injuries and fatalities occurring amongst motor cycle passengers.

Ilkley Afternoon Townswomen's Guild were the winners of the Drama Festival held at the King's Hall, Ilkley, by the Yorkshire Federation of Townswomen's Guild. Their choice of play was "Bright Society" which was produced by Mr. H. Oldham.

Holidays in the spring for the elderly were advertised in the Ilkley Gazette—8 days in Bourne-mouth inclusive of coach travel was £9 9s. 6d. and 8 days in Torquay and Devon cost £9 17s. 6d.

75 Years Ago

Mr. B. M. Hood presided at the annual re-union dinner of the Old Boy's Association of Ilkley Grammar School which was held at the Royal Hotel. There were more than 80 old boys present. Dr. Scott was elected president of the association for the following year, and the headmaster, Mr. C. W. Atkinson was present to acknowledge the toast to the school, and pointed out that they now had a record 125 scholars on the school register.

A well-known Ilkley resident, Mr. William Brumfit died at the age of 88. He was the landlord of the Lister's Arms Hotel, and followed in the footsteps of both his maternal grandfather and his father. He was well-known in the town as a former master of a pack of beagles, he was connected with the Wharfedale Otter Hunt, Ilkley Homing Society, Ilkley Bowling Club and Ilkley Cricket Club.

The roofing on the new town hall buildings had been started, and the structure was nearing completion. The appearance was said to be both striking and impressive.

50 Years Ago

"The Pound Day" held in connection with Ilkley Coronation Cottage Hospital was a great success despite a day of heavy rain. As a result the Matron declared that her store cupboards were well filled. Children on their way home from school took tiny parcels and small gifts of money. ex-patients used this as a day to express their gratitude and a large number of townspeople ordered hampers from local shops to be delivered to the hospital as well as many giving pounds in the financial sense.

Ilkley Players presented "The High Road" at the Kings Hall, Ilkley, which was produced by Mr. Hubert S. Wood. Taking leading parts in this comedy were Miss Joan Suddards, Mrs. Chubb, Mrs. Charlton, Mrs. Bever, Mr. Wm. Gray, Mr. Lionel Watson, Mr. Malcolm Hill, and Mr. John Bever.

Miss W. Hardwick, of Middleton, a pupil of St. Mary's School gained first prize in a handwriting competition held by Waterman's for the West Riding and York area and held at the Bradford City School of Commerce.

25 Years Ago

A suggestion that it should be made illegal to carry pillion passengers on motor cycles was to be sent by Ilkley Road Safety Committee to the Road Safety Forum for consideration at their annual

13 Nov 81

PLANS FOR FUTURE USE OF ILKLEY ARCADE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Plans for the use of premises at the Arcade, South Hawksworth Street, Ilkley, as kitchen, studio, small retail units and a coffee house/restaurant have been approved by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Sub-Committee.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY SUBMITS AMENDED PLANS FOR STORE ON CONTROVERSIAL ILKLEY SITE

Amended plans for a department store on the controversial site at South Hawksworth Street, Ilkley, have been submitted by the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society.

Their original application caused a storm of protest in the town and was eventually turned down on appeal to the Department of the Environment, after a four day public inquiry at Ilkley.

The new application is for a scheme amended to fit in better with the centre of Ilkley, on a smaller scale than the original.

The lower ground floor, ground level to South Hawksworth Street, features a motor cycle showroom to replace the existing business, an undercover service bay for loading and unloading, and a 3,000 square foot durable goods section.

The next floor, which is on ground level to the car park, comprises an 8,200 sq. ft. food hall with a small off licence department.

The first floor, which is basically built into the roof space, has the staff rooms and a 3,900 sq. ft. service and storage area.

Different

Mr. G. W. Money, of the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society, had no comment to make on the proposal, but a spokesman for Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Division said the scheme was more domestic in scale than the previous "rather slab-like block".

He said the design was rather different, having been broken up considerably and looking to be on a much smaller scale. It had a sloping roof line, gables and more windows, and had been altered to fit in better with the centre of Ilkley.

The Co-op's application will not be considered until planning guidelines have been drawn up for future development of that part of the town centre. It will be considered along with two other planning applications relating to the adjoining bus depot.

One of the applications proposes the conversion of the depot into a 27,000 sq. ft. retail unit using the existing building, and the other is to demolish the depot and rebuild on the site.

There is a third application which relates to both the bus depot and the adjoining site, to make one 49,000 sq. ft. unit.

Can Be Inspected

Copies of the Co-operative Society's planning application will be available for inspection at the planning office of Ilkley Town Hall.

Cty. Cr. H. V. Haddrill, of Ilkley, said the new application was as he had expected, with the plans being amended in line with the Department of the Environment Inspector's comments after the public inquiry.

"We must assume that Bradford Metropolitan Council will approve the plans and that the County Council will not interfere," he said.

He still felt that if the development went ahead it would have an adverse effect on traffic at the junction of Brook Street and West Street, and in view of the strong response in the town against the original plan he would have thought the Co-op might have decided to build elsewhere.

TWO ILKLEY CHURCHES WILL MAKE HISTORY THIS WEEKEND

After many years of conversations between the Ilkley Methodist Church and Ilkley United Reformed Church, the two churches will this Sunday make history in the town by uniting into one, "Christchurch, Ilkley" will be born.

The atmosphere for their Celebration Day will be set at 9.30 a.m. with the celebration of Holy Communion. A further three services during the day have been arranged to cover all the necessary aspects of the Church for such a union.

The young people and their parents have been particularly invited to attend worship at 9.30 a.m. for the dedication of Christchurch Junior Church, other Church organisations and the uniformed groups. The Youth Choir will be taking part.

At 11.00 a.m. the Church Officers, Church Council and Pastoral Visitors will be dedicated to their tasks. The singing will be led by the Church Choir.

The signing of the Sharing Agreement and the Constitution will take place during the 3.00 p.m. service. An invitation has been extended to all friends in the town to attend to share this aspect of the celebrations. There will be many distinguished guests, including the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Bradford along with his Chief Executive and Chaplain; Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council; Chairman of the West Yorkshire Methodist District and the Moderator of the Yorkshire Province of the United Reformed Church; and the clergy from the other churches in

Ilkley—all to assist in the witness and blessing of the affirmation between the two denominations to become a more powerful force in the Christian witness, caring and concern in Ilkley.

During all the period of preparation, the Rev. John Dale and the Rev. Joseph Bolton have worked together but Christchurch will have one minister only. The afternoon service will, therefore, also include the induction of the Rev. John Dale. The Rev. Joseph Bolton, who will also be present at the service, is now United Reformed Minister at Newport Pagnell.

PLENTY OF HOUSES TO LET AT ILKLEY

100 Years Ago

There was an abundance of houses to let in the Ilkley area in 1881. Two in Tivoli Place were available at an annual rental of £18, a house in Belle Vue Terrace at £30 and there were many smaller properties in the Nelson Road, Wellington Road, and Brewery Road area. There was also a good choice of "superior apartments" with sitting rooms and bedrooms at low or moderate terms. Furnishers offered dining suites complete with sideboard, couch, table and six chairs, and dinner wagon for £28 and a seven piece mahogany bedrooms suite at £15. A complete range of kitchen furniture inclusive of table, chairs, dresser, rocking chairs, fender, fire irons and hearth rug could be delivered free at £4 9s. 6d.

Two Leeds men were each given one month's term of imprisonment for stealing an iron water plug box, the property of Marshall Hainsworth, from his yard.

At a meeting of the Ilkley School Board it was noted that the numbers returned of irregular attenders was smaller than had ever been recorded in Ilkley, 34 as compared to 93 in November 1880. There was a total of 445 children on the register, with an average attendance of 336. The number of children provided for by accommodation in local schools was 427 at the National Schools and 100 at the Catholic School, a total of 527 places.

75 Years Ago

A nightly entertainment was provided at the Assembly Rooms, under the management of Mr. Cooper. The programme was made up with a capital display of animated pictures of some of the latest films. Much merriment was caused by the screen showing of local pictures and portraits. Miss Brenda Leslie gave illustrated songs, Mr. Chas. Bradford supplied the comic element, and Mr. Edward Ross was an illusionist and ventriloquist.

A project was in hand for the erection of a new Wesleyan Church at Ben Rhydding. A start had been made on raising funds in a small way, and the structure in use at the time was only a "temporary edifice" which had done duty at one time at St. Margaret's before the new church had been built. The growth of Ben Rhydding in the early 1900's had been rapid, and the need was felt for more suitable buildings for Wesleyan worship.

Amongst the "Coming Events" was a Primrose League Ball in the Winter Gardens, a Cottage Hospital Charity Ball at Wells House, a Temperance League concert, a public meeting on Licensing Reform, a Sale of Work at the Methodist Church and the Ilkley Tradesmen's Black and White Hat Football match.

50 Years Ago

A former well-known Ilkley resident Mrs. Sarah Grove-Grady, left provision in her will for an animal hospital to be set up to be known as the Beaumont Animals Hospital, at a cost not exceeding £18,500. It was proposed that plans should be drawn up for the erection of this hospital on the site of the Royal Veterinary College. It should be equipped at a cost of £1,500 and there would be a balance in hand of £5,000 in the hands of official trustee for maintenance purposes.

Mrs. Grove-Grady had been a very charitable lady and was known well in Ilkley, one of her outstanding gifts being the presentation of Heathmount Hall, Crossbeck Road to St. Dunstons towards the end of the first world war, which was used for the treatment of injured and blinded ex-servicemen.

Members of the 2nd Ilkley Girl Guide Company were praised for the beautiful examples of their work to be purchased at a fund raising sale of Christmas novelties which took place in the New Cinema Cafe. The opening ceremony was performed by Divisional Commissioner, Miss D. G. Sutcliffe, who was thanked by Rangers Nellie Fletcher, and Julia Avery.

25 Years Ago

A deficit of £2,700 on the Bathing Pool in the financial

year was anticipated, reported Ilkley Council Treasurer, Mr. W. L. Dewhurst. This was due to extensive repairs and maintenance carried out and also to the effect of a wet summer. Mrs. Dewhurst said, however, that there should be a tightening up in expenditure and in the organisation which could in some way compensate for losses due to bad weather.

Ilkley Youth Club was closed for an indefinite period following the resignation of the leader, Mr. Jack Sutton, who was to leave the district to go abroad. It was hoped to appoint a new leader at the annual meeting.

Residents in the Lewis Terrace area of Burley were disturbed by the possibility of losing their homes as part of a re-development of the area by Ilkley Council. An application for an improvement grant for one of the houses had been turned down, adding to the concern of the residents. With the cost of the terrace could be avoided as a lot of money had been spent on renovation and repairs.

support of their Burley Councillors, the owners and tenants were hoping that the demolition

Two Ilkley Churches Make History

4 Dec 81

"Christchurch, Ilkley" was born on Sunday with the historic signing of the sharing agreement between Ilkley Methodist Church and Ilkley United Reformed Church.

The new society of "Christchurch" is using the Methodist Church premises in Wells Road; the future of the United Reformed Church building has not been decided.

The day's celebrations also included the induction of the Minister of Christchurch, the Rev. John Dale who is Superintendent Minister of the Ilkley Methodist Circuit. Former United Reformed Minister, the Rev. Joseph Bolton, who has already been inducted as United Reformed Minister of Newport Pagnell, returned to Ilkley to take part in Sunday's celebrations.

Following scenes of hectic preparations for the day's events, it was fitting that the celebrations should begin within the quieter atmosphere of the Holy Communion service at 7.30 a.m. A Church Family breakfast was served at 8.30 a.m.

The whole family of the church was fully emphasised at the 9.30 a.m. service with the dedication of all the organisations within Christchurch.

The Church Council, Officers and Pastoral Visitors were dedicated during the 11 a.m. service of worship which culminated in the sharing of Holy Communion around the central Communion Table. Worship was led by the Rev. John Dale and the Rev. Joseph Bolton. Lessons were read by Mr. George Goodall and Mr. Andrew Walbank, Church Stewards, and Prof. Jack Butterworth, Methodist Circuit Steward.

The musical content of the day's services was of a high standard. The Church Choir was led by Mrs. Jean Sutherland.

The hand of fellowship was extended to the team of pastoral visitors who offer friendship in the name of

Jesus to all associated with Christchurch. The visitors were introduced to the congregation by the Pastoral Secretary, Mrs. Mary Bell.

Mr. James Sutherland, Church Secretary, introduced the Church Council, Officers and Members for dedication as follows:-

Church Stewards, Daphne Steele, George Goodall, Andrew Walbank, Michael Dixon; Church Treasurer, Harry Pitts; Church Secretary, James Sutherland; Property Steward, Richard Kitching; Pastoral Committee representatives, Mary Bell and Alice Craggs; Finance & Property Committee representatives, Wesley Hydes and Judith Smith; World Service & Mission representatives, John Lund and Joy Hydes; Neighbourhood Committee representatives, Margaret Cook and Barbara Spivey; Family Committee representatives, Lydia Pettitt and Val Worrall; Worship Committee representatives, Kathleen Hunter and Colin Shepherd; Elected Church Meeting representatives, Phyllis Bloxham, Margaret Brayshaw, Alan Bell, Julie Jeffries, Ian Fordyce, George McArthur, Elizabeth Halsall, Jean Sutherland, Betty Mathews, Margo Atkinson, Lucy Kitching, Jack Butterworth and Judith Dixon.

The celebrations at 3.00 p.m. extended the vision of Christchurch beyond its own members. Clergy, ministers and congregations were present from other local churches alongside civic representatives from Ilkley Parish Council and Bradford Metropolitan Council.

Special guest was Miss Caroline Crawshaw, who was born and educated in Ilkley and belonged to the Wells Road Methodist Church. A former student at the Manchester College of Music, she

is now the college's Senior Tutor in Vocal Studies. Her three solos were "Et exultavit, Spiritus meus" (J. S. Bach); "I know that my Redeemer Liveth" (Handel) and "Exultate, Jubilate" (Mozart).

Following the Dedication of Christchurch, the Rev. Alasdair J. G. Walker brought the greetings of United Reformed Churches in Yorkshire. He commented that there was a growing tide of movement between United Reformed and Methodist Churches. In some 200 places in England people of the two traditions had joined together through the Holy Spirit drawing His Church to united life, work and commitment to the Lord.

In his address, the Rev. John H. Atkinson brought the greetings of the Methodist Church in the district as well as nationally. He expressed his pleasure at the presence of civic representatives and rejoiced in the company of so many friends at a service "shot through" with the happiness of all at Christchurch.

Pictured at the signing of the Sharing Agreement and Constitution are (left to right standing) - Rev. Joseph Bolton (former United Reformed Minister in Ilkley), Mr. Richard Kitching (former Secretary of Ilkley Methodist Church Council), Rev. John Dale (Minister of Christchurch, Ilkley), Mr. John Lund (former Secretary of Ilkley United Reformed Church) and the Rev. Peter T. Barker (Methodist Minister in the Ilkley Circuit). Seated (left to right) - Rev. Alasdair J. G. Walker, Moderator of the Yorkshire Province of the United Reformed Church) and the Rev. John H. Atkinson, Chairman of the West Yorkshire District of the Methodist Church.



NEED PLAN OF ILKLEY

The need of the central Chamber of Commerce on the future Street site a policy to E Sub-Comm

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NEED FOR SENSITIVELY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF ILKLEY TOWN CENTRE

The need for a sensitively planned development of the centre of Ilkley was stressed by the town's Chamber of Trade when it gave detailed observations on the future of the controversial South Hawksworth Street site and the formation of a district shopping policy to Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Sub-Committee.

The Chamber was assured that its views would receive serious consideration before any final decisions were made, and that the district shopping policy was only in draft form at this stage and would be published for public comment before being adopted.

The Chamber felt the shopping policy had an important bearing on the revised application by the Co-operative Society for a new store on the South Hawksworth Street site, and it would therefore not be sensible to make a decision on the new application before the policy was agreed.

Members of the Chamber of Trade agreed that the decision over the future of Ilkley's central development was very difficult for the District Council, but was very important to the people of the Ilkley area.

Disharmony between Bradford and Ilkley had interfered with constructive consultation too much in the past and they were pressing for better relationships so that a solution in the interests of all ratepayers could be achieved.

With regard to the district shopping policy being formulated by the district council, the Chamber of Trade felt there was a need for a better blend of shops, with the introduction of some utility outlets and small national multiples.

A true departmental store was required as well as a larger supermarket, but the latter should not be on the central car park.

In addition, more emphasis should be placed on Ilkley's designation as a 'tourist town' and car parking provided for visitors and local people.

With regard to the proposed Co-operative Society and bus depot developments, the Chamber was concerned that these sites would dominate the heart of the car park, which had become the centre of the town. Members favoured a comprehensive development embracing both sites, sensitively planned with substantial townscaping and some additional car parking in a manner which reflected the image of Ilkley.

"The combined sites, with planners' brief, should now be re-offered for tender so that market forces would determine the best deal for the ratepayers, giving the best of competitive shopping and rates income yield," said the Chamber.

All applications should be considered against a background of a Town Policy document, which should first be agreed with the public.

"The Chamber of Trade is decision that the town will be proud to look back on in the future," said a representative. "We encourage all ratepayers to press their democratically elected representatives at Bradford to look after their interests—soon it may be too late," he warned. *11 Dec 81*

ACROSS THE YEARS *11 Dec 81*

ATTRACTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS 1881

100 Years Ago

Advertisements for Christmas attractions in local shops included the "Little Folks' Parlour" or Santa Claus' store at Shuttleworths. The Messiah was to be sung at St. Margaret's Church and Thos. J. Critchley "respectfully announced that he was making a special show of Christmas Novelties" at his Brook Street dressmaking and millinery store.

A Christmas tree and sale of work was opened at the Lecture Hall, Riddings Road to reduce the debt on the new school buildings which had lately been erected in connection with the Congregational Church. The sale in the tastefully and seasonally decorated rooms was well attended and raised a total of £160. In the evenings there was a waxwork exhibition, and a musical concert.

75 Years Ago

Triplets were born in Ilkley to the wife of Joseph Crabtree, cabinet maker. All three, two boys and a girl were reported as fine, well developed children. It was expected they would be the recipients of a grant of £3 which was usual in such cases from what was known as the King's Bounty. Dr. Bates was in attendance and it was his first case of a triplet birth.

Preparations were well in hand for the forthcoming festive season with advertisements for special Glenlivet at 3/6 per bottle or 40/- per dozen. Mince-meat was 6d. per jar, Christmas Crackers in boxes at 1d. or 6d., Choice mild hams at 8d. per lb.

Forty gentlemen gathered round the "festive board" at the Star Inn to partake of an epicurean feast, and such was the standard of the food and drink that the guests only wished to sit in peace and quietness and not display their musical talents.

50 Years Ago

Despite the dark depression prevalent in the country, there was every prospect of a bright and happy Christmas for the ever-increasing number of visitors to Ilkley, who spent their Yuletide at the hotels and hydros. The family Christmas was giving way to the full programme of entertainment such establishments could offer their guests.

Amongst the variety of entertainments were children's parties, dinner-dances, fancy dress balls, carol singing, orchestral concerts, cabaret, carnivals, and sport including skiing and ice skating if the weather were to prove suit-

ACROSS THE YEARS *4 Dec 81*

PRAISE FOR CHRISTMAS DISPLAYS IN ILKLEY

100 Years Ago

The Ilkley Gazette was full of praise for the Christmas displays in the windows of W. H. Fletcher, The Grove, Ilkley, whose French and Italian warehouse was said to contain "a very choice selection of ornamental and useful articles for the Christmas season." It included Muscatels, Egyptian dates, Eleme Pullen figs, fruits in syrups, magnificent cheeses, and a selection of "Fine old Spirits." The shop was decorated with evergreens, foliage decorations, illuminations, and plants, and Chinese lanterns "the whole forming a very grand sight."

Eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang on the bells of Ilkley Parish Church a peal of 5008 changes of Bob Major in three hours and one minute. The peal was conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon.

75 Years Ago

A novel football match took place on the Ilkley Rugby Club ground amongst Ilkley's tradesmen as an offshoot of the traditional Black Hats and White Hats Cricket match.

Owing to the miserable weather the teams which had been intended to number 27 a side were depleted to 23 Black Hats and 13 White Hats, the captains being Mr. John Sunley (in pirate dress) and Mr. R. Curwen (dressed as a cross between an admiral and a Red Indian). Owing to the rain most players elected to cover their costumes with over-

coats, and leggings were much in evidence. Time was called at the end of four fifteen minute spurts of play with each team having scored nine points.

A hardy townsman praised the tonic properties of an early morning pilgrimage and bath at the White Wells, saying that he and a friend had not missed a morning in four months. He said that despite water several degrees colder than tap water, after a few minutes all his skin was aglow. The final rub down in huge towels by the waiting attendant left them in a condition to "Leap a five-barred gate."

50 Years Ago

Members of Ilkley Council discussed the danger from traffic at the top of Brook Street, and proposed traffic island. Dr. Whitfield called attention to the intended removal of the horse trough at the top of Brook Street which had been much used in former years, but by 1931 there were very few horses remaining to use it. It was suggested that it should be removed and placed in the motor park so that people who required water for their engines could make use of it.

The editor revealed that in connection with the coming Christmas season he had been chatting to an old resident who surprised him by saying that when he was a lad they used to sing "White Shepherds Watched" to the tune of "On Ilkley Moor Bah't 'At"—"We did give it some stick, he said rapturously."

25 Years Ago

The Rev. R. G. Piggott was instituted Vicar of St. Margaret's Parish Church by Dr. D. Coggan, Bishop of Bradford. He was a former naval chaplain, and was married with two small sons.

Miss Cynthia Mason (18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Mason, Thwaites Avenue, Ilkley, was chosen as a viola player to the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain.

Addingham Parish Council discussed complaints from farmers that refuse was being dumped on their land by owners of outlying cottages because it was not being collected by Skipton Rural District Council. Smallbanks and Moor-side were said to be worst areas affected. The Parish Council decided to put a complaint before Skipton R.D.C. and to enquire where refuse could be dumped if not collected.

Mistresses in need of domestic help were told of the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment which provided suitable training for girls who wished to take up resident domestic service. They were taught the rudiments of cooking, housework, and laundry work under fully qualified teachers, and simple every day sewing and mending skills. Two references were supplied to each prospective employer who was expected to pay a weekly wage of around seven shilling and six pence and provide suitable uniforms.

25 Years Ago

Evidence of an upsurge of spirit in the Ilkley British Legion Club since younger people took a more active interest was referred to by the President, Capt. L. J. Sarjeant at the annual general meeting. He said the club had needed new ideas and younger people, and this had resulted in a tangible improvement in the balance sheet.

Ilkley Post Office employed 32 auxiliary postmen, mostly students, to help with the Christmas mail. Good weather conditions were helping with deliveries, which was fortunate as the mail was far heavier than in previous years.

Ilkley and District Education Committee expressed deep concern over an incorrect electric meter reading at the Ilkley County Infants School. They had been overcharged £8 and the reading was 400 units too much. Fortunately as the Clerk to the Committee, Mr. C. Anderson commented, all meter readings were checked and reports forwarded to him.

There was a large attendance at the second Christmas card party held by the Ilkley Conservative Association. Prizes were presented by Father Christmas from his sack together with fifty gifts which included a turkey, wine, chocolates, cigarettes, biscuits and sweets. The evening was brought to a close with members singing carols until midnight.

ILKLEY "IN A MESS" SAY RESIDENTS OUTRAGED BY SNOW CLEARING PROGRAMME

ARCTIC CONDITIONS which swept the country on Sunday night left Ilkley in chaos. So severe were the conditions that people and snow clearing vehicles fought a losing battle against a blizzard which brought with it deep snow and drifts up to twenty feet deep in parts of the County.

Rail and bus services were disrupted, schools closed, motorists abandoned cars and "outraged" residents complained to local Councillors about the snow clearing operation in the Ilkley District. "The town is in a mess and I can't ever remember Ilkley being like this," said County Councillor H. V. Haddrill.

Today (Friday) some roads still remained blocked to traffic.

Some residents gave up waiting for a snowplough and decided that if they were to reach the main roads they would have to organise a gang to clear the snow themselves.

Cnty Cr. Haddrill, of Ilkley, told the "Gazette" that he had been inundated with telephone calls from residents outraged about the snow clearing operation in Ilkley.

"I am continually on to County officers and Bradford protesting that Ilkley is not getting its fair share of snow clearing.

"The town is in a mess and I can't ever remember Ilkley being like this," said Cnty Cr. Haddrill.

"Whatever happens I shall pursue this and find out why Ilkley was so badly treated," said Cnty. Cr. Haddrill.

There were complaints that whilst many minor roads were left neglected and impassable to traffic snow clearing crews were concentrating on taking away by lorry piles of snow from the gutters of Ilkley after these roads had been opened to traffic.

On Time

As predicted by the meteorologists heavy snow reached most parts of the County by late Sunday afternoon. Within hours Police were advising motorists in Skipton Road, Ilkley, not to travel further westwards. Conditions became so bad so quickly that it took one motorist twenty minutes to travel the one mile between Ben Rhydding and Ilkley.

The severity of the conditions were the worst since the last century, said one meteorologist who said there was no immediate thaw round the corner.

Ilkley awoke on Monday to a scene of winter beauty and chaos. Many failed to arrive for work and those who did get there only did so by trekking through heavy snow after digging a way clear from deep drifts around their homes.

As footpaths remained uncleared pedestrians took to the roads as the only possible means of making a journey. For most of the time during the early part of the day the roads were free of traffic which had become snowed in.

But as Ilkley began to make some kind of recovery more snow was to hit the district in the afternoon and create further chaos. By darkness with snow falling and Ilkley's main streets illuminated by decorative lighting the scene was certainly one expected to be seen on a Christmas card.

The further heavy snowfall on Monday was to be followed by days of sunshine and in the evening fog and severe frost. Ilkley had proved yet again to be an ideal setting for winter sports under the right conditions. There has been skiing, tobogganing and skating during the week.

Temperatures have dropped so low that parts of the River Wharfe have begun to freeze over.

Schools Close

Local schools were badly hit with some closing all day on Monday and those which opened having much reduced attendances.

Ilkley Grammar School was closed on Monday and Tuesday because a burst water main meant there was no heating, but on Wednesday most of the pupils were back, except for some from outlying districts.

A sixth form fancy dress party on Tuesday night and a disco were cancelled, but it was hoped to hold carol services and concerts later in the week as planned.

Ilkley Middle School and Addingham Middle School were both closed on Monday, and although Burley Middle School opened for children whose parents were out at work only about half a dozen attended. Burley Middle School was almost back to normal on Tuesday and Wednesday, although various Christmas activities were cancelled. The "carol" concert

planned for Tuesday was postponed until Thursday, and Christmas parties were cancelled and will be held in the New Year.

St. Mary's R.C. Primary School and Ilkley All Saints' School opened as usual on Monday, but had only about thirty per cent attendances. These improved during the week, and about 90 per cent were back at All Saints' by Wednesday. The problem at All Saints' was made worse by the school being on three sites, and the school caretaker had a lot of snow clearing to do.

Ashlands First School and Bolling Road School had about 50 per cent of their pupils in school on Monday but had returned practically to normal by Wednesday. The playground at Ashlands was under two feet of snow, so the children had to stay in school at playtime.

School parties went ahead as planned at Bolling Road School, and pupils enjoyed a visit by Ilkley Grammar School's fourth year drama group on Wednesday. A visit by pupils to Middleton Hospital and one to the school by the Tufty Road Safety Show were cancelled, however.

The weather did not make a great deal of difference at Addingham First School, except that a school party planned for Monday was cancelled because it would have meant children not leaving until 5.00 p.m. The children were sent home early on Monday, and the party was held later in the week. By Wednesday most of the pupils except some from Moorside were back at school.

Addingham Middle School re-opened on Tuesday with about half the pupils there, and attendances were almost back to normal on Wednesday.

Bus Drivers Praised

Although the gritters and ploughs had been operating in the very early part of Monday morning to make the main roads reasonably passable Mr. Malcolm Dean, Traffic Superintendent of the Ilkley and Otley areas for the West Yorkshire Road Car Company praised the efforts made by the bus drivers in keeping the services to the Wharfedale area running.

Mr. Dean said "under the circumstances the drivers who operated the services on the main roads through to the Wharfedale area deserve a great deal of credit for the services were only slightly delayed including the Valley Drive route, buses were stopping as near as possible to their normal stops."

Mr. Dean said the main delays had been caused at the Skipton and Keighley ends where conditions were very bad. The main problems as far as public transport was concerned were outside the Wharfedale area in the cities particularly in the Bradford and Leeds area where many private cars had been abandoned.

For a time on Monday morning, however, some of the West Yorkshire buses which normally turned into the approach to the Railway Station at Ilkley were, owing to the heavy accumulation of snow which had fallen during the weekend, turning round at the island at the top of Brook Street and stopping midway down Brook Street.

However, later in the morning the approach to the railway station had been made passable and the buses were able to stop at their normal turning points outside the railway station.

TRAINS AFFECTED

The train services between Ilkley/Bradford and Ilkley/Leeds were cut off from around 6.30 to 10.10 on Monday morning owing to the points on the two routes being blocked under three feet of snow.

Cattle Safe

Farmers usually suffer badly in heavy snow falls, and several local farmers found problems.

Mrs. J. W. Tinkler, of Lower Dene Farm, Nesheld, told the "Gazette" on Monday: "We

went out to deliver milk at about 6 o'clock last night and were out until about 11.30 p.m. We managed to deliver to most of the houses but left about 30 or 40 houses until this morning.

"We could not get the milk motor home by itself but we towed it back with our Land-Rover.

"Regarding sheep and cattle fortunately we have not had any casualties."

Mrs. G. Tinkler, of Langbar, said that they had been snowed in but had managed to get all their cattle in, and Addingham Moorside farmer D. Ellis said that they had also been snowed in.

Delivered By Tractor

Mr. David Wilkinson and his wife Anne, of Riddings Farm, Addingham, who deliver milk all around the village were faced with a predicament on Monday morning. They had placed chains on their milk delivery van, but these broke.

Mr. Wilkinson hit on another idea to deliver his milk. He brought his tractor into operation, and fitted a large box between the hydraulic arms.

Mrs. Wilkinson told the Gazette that although the box did not hold as many crates of milk as the van they were only held up by an hour. The deliveries were confined to Addingham.

Postal Services

As the train service between Ilkley and Bradford and Ilkley and Leeds was completely cut off from between 6.30 and 10.10 on Monday morning no mail was transported by train Monday morning from either the main headquarters at Bradford or Leeds. Usually the first delivery is from Bradford while the second consignment of mail at around 9.30 in the morning comes from Leeds.

The postal delivery service however was little affected for the Postal Service used their own delivery vans and the first consignment of mail had reached Ilkley by van at 6.30 on Monday morning.

Ilkley postal staff were doing "a marvellous job" in keeping up with the mail despite the bad weather, said Ilkley Postmaster Mr. E. Swann.

Deliveries and collections had been made every day since the bad weather started,

Mr. Swann said they were very busy, and although some items were not coming through as quickly as usual because of the weather he was sure that, at the end of the day, they would have handled as much Christmas mail as usual. He added that the

counter at Ilkley Post Office was very busy because they were paying out double pensions.

The latest recommended dates for Christmas post were yesterday (Thursday) for second class letters, cards and parcels, and tomorrow (Saturday) for first class mail.

There will be no deliveries or collections on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or Sunday, 27 December, or on 1 January, when post offices will be closed for Christmas and New Year holidays.

Post office counters will close at 12.30 next Thursday, re-opening as normal on Tuesday, 29 December. They will close at 4.00 p.m. on 31 December for the New Year holiday, and remain closed on 1 January.

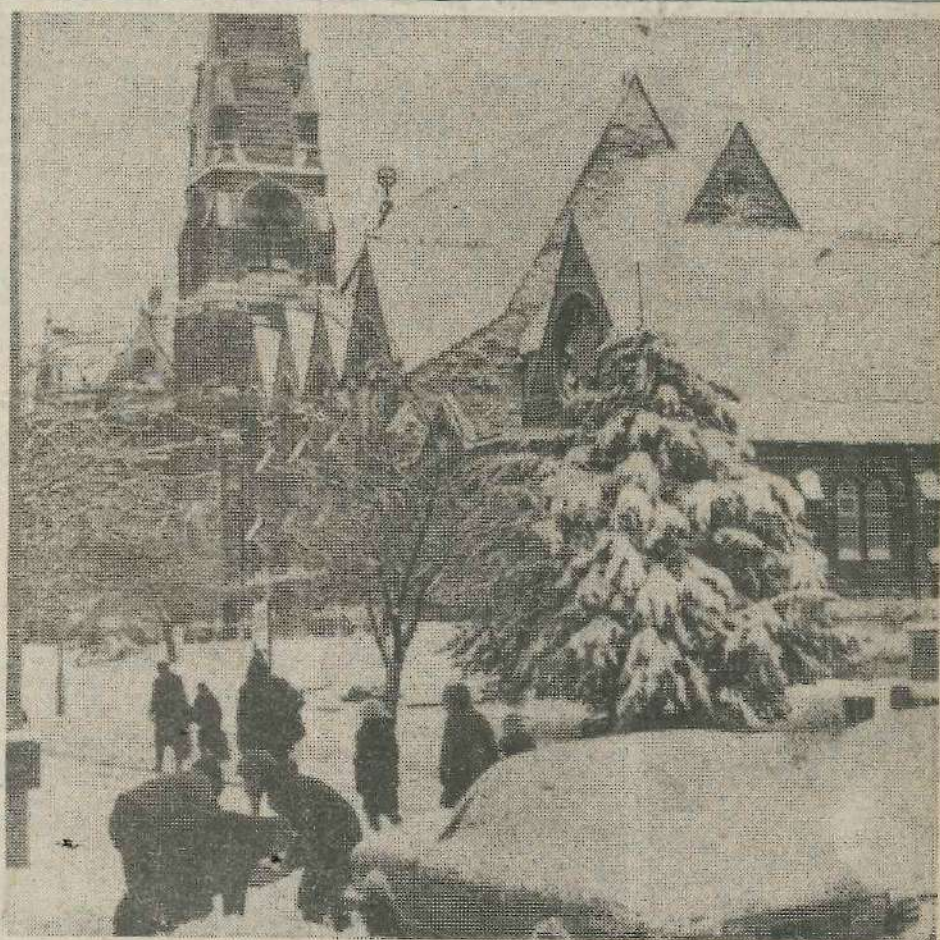
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showed the



Brook Street, Ikley, covered by deep snow and at night a winter wonderland with its decorative street lighting and Christmas trees.

COLDEST NIGHT THIS CENTURY

Ikley on Wednesday night experienced what is believed to have been its coldest night this century with thirty five degrees of frost. Recordings at Ikley Weather Station showed the amount of frost recorded at Ikley since Sunday—24.8F. 5.2F of Frost Monday—18.5F 13.5F of Frost Tues.—11.3F. 20.7F of Frost Wed.—3F. 34.6F of Frost



The arctic conditions produced Christmas card views of outstanding beauty, with buildings and trees in the town centre cloaked in snow, and this scene along The Grove was no exception.

18 Dec 81



Although covered in snow...

Across The Years 24 Dec 81

PLENTY OF AMUSEMENTS OVER CHRISTMAS

100 Years Ago

The "good people of Burley were not short of amusements" during the Christmas holiday, entertainment having been provided for all sections of the community. There was an annual entertainment and distribution of prizes at the Lecture Hall in connection with the National schools. The Wesleyan Methodists held their annual festival, with a public tea and an evening's entertainment and the Salem Sunday School held its annual tea and entertainment with 150 in attendance.

Months of "unflagging practices and rehearsals and anxious preparation" culminated in a production of "Messiah" at St. Margaret's Church on a scale seldom attempted in a place with the population of Ilkley. Mr. E. W. Crawley the lay preacher at St. Margaret's formulated the idea, and received ready and willing assistance from all the musical societies in the town. The band under the leadership of Mr. J. W. Acomb "played with spirit and tone" and Mr. W. Dean, St. Margaret's church organist, presided at the organ with Mr. Crawley conducting.

75 Years Ago

Christmas activities in the town were varied and included a fashionable gathering in the form of a Cafe Chantant at St. Margaret's Hall on Boxing day. The affair was promoted by Mrs. Furness Potter and Mrs. S. Robertshaw and there were attractions in the afternoon and the evening. The afternoon entertainment consisted of a short play entitled "Cynthia's Capture" with parts played by Miss Alice Greenwood and Mr. T. Greenwood, and the play in the evening was "Compromising Martha" with Miss Iris Arnold Forster, Miss Steinhil, and Mr. Telford Steinhil.

Ilkley Catholic Church held their annual re-union with a large gathering. There was a whist and dancing, as well as several amusing songs and character sketches by Mr. Stewart Braide. Mr. H. Craven's band provided excellent music and the M.C. for the evening was Mr. J. W. Hudson.

At the hydros a busy time was experienced with a ceaseless round of amusements. Most were tully booked several weeks before Christmas.

50 Years Ago

Ilkley Junior Conservatives made their annual Christmas party something to be remembered by the high standard of entertainment. The party was held in the New Cinema Ballroom and an excellent dance programme was provided by Hallam's Carillon Orchestra, with competitions interspersing the dances. Mr. R. A. Crowther and Mr. E. Roper were the M.C.'s for the evening. A Christmas supper was provided by members and friends.

Ilkley Fire Brigade organised a billiards handicap competition which was an annual Christmas event. The winner was Mr. J. Mennell who beat Mr. E. B. Fiddett by 100 points to 85. Prizes were presented by Mr. W. Dobson Chairman of the Council.

There were 203 unemployed workpeople on the register who were resident in Ilkley in December 1931, and a further 84 in Addingham. Many of these were either general labourers or in the building trade.

25 Years Ago

A shelter built in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of Rotary for the old people and the public of Ilkley was formally handed over by the Rotary Club Chairman, Mr. W. Gledhill to the Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council, Mr. J. H. Bowes.

Good bookings were reported for the forthcoming celebration of the New Year in the Ilkley District. Gala dances were to take place at all the leading hotels and halls.

Mr. W. Spooner announced his resignation as Managing Director of the Spooner Food Machinery Engineering Co. at the annual staff dinner at Craiglands Hotel. His successor was to be Mr. W. Broughton who had been with the firm for about six years. Unfortunately dense fog prevented about 30 of the staff and guests from attending the function.

Across The Years 18 Dec 81

Christmas In Ilkley One Hundred Years Ago

100 Years Ago

Christmas day in 1881 was a Sunday, and special services were held at the different churches to mark the occasion. Hotel-keepers in the town had catered well for their visitors and customers during the Christmas period. The Wheat-sheaf Hotel, managed by Mr. Robinson gave a grand display of food with a Boar's Head as a centre piece. Mr. Livingstone of the Listers Arms entertained about seventy of his regular customers to a grand "gratuitous supper", and the evening proved to be convivial with songs by Messrs. S. Cowling, T. Robinson, J. Cook and many others adding to the fun.

Dancing took place in the Assembly rooms two days before Christmas with a very good attendance and the dancing continued with "high glee" until the early hours of the following morning. The band consisted of J. Middlebrook on first violin; H. F. Clarkson, second violin; T. Kendall, cornet; G. Pullan, piccolo and flute; G. Clarkson, violincello; T. Stephenson, double bass; and Mr. Hall on the piano.

75 Years Ago

A more miserable outlook for Christmas than that presented by the weather conditions on Christmas Eve could scarcely be imagined. Late shoppers trudged around the town in heavy driving rain, and the tradesmen began to fear that much of their Christmas goods would have to remain in stock for another year, as they waited behind their counters in "many instances for the customers that came not." However, frost came in the evening and the rain dried up and Christmas Day was cold and icy but dry and seasonable.

It was a quiet Christmas locally, and the only places to draw the local townsfolk on Christmas Day were the churches whose collections were given to the poor of the Parish. Christmas morning was ushered in at the Parish Church with the ringing of the Virgin Chimes, a custom that had been observed for many years. There had been many private dances and parties in the town but public functions were scarce.

Christmas day was brought to a close with a very heavy fall of snow which rendered Boxing Day a perfect day for sledging.

50 Years Ago

Ilkley schoolchildren had some fine parties in the week leading up to Christmas. They had decorated their school halls with paper streamers made by "their own busy little fingers," and the schools themselves took on a festive atmosphere with their gay trimmings.

The National schoolboys indulged in a hearty tea followed by games organised by Mr. C. Hodges and Mr. R. Parker. The younger boys' activities were catered for by Miss Pattinson and Miss Harker.

Girls from the National Schools gave a concert to parents and friends and each class contributed a short play. There was some charming dancing by Shirley Chamberlain, Nancy Adams, Mary Burrigge and Sheila Anderson and pianoforte solos were played by Linda Loveday and Joyce Holmes. Doreen Drake contributed a recitation.

The Infants' department had a party with tea, games and a visit from Santa Claus who distributed sweets, mis and fruit to the children. The large Christmas tree was decorated with gaily coloured lighted candles.

25 Years Ago

Fine snow fell in the evening on Christmas day and continued on Boxing Day to give a belated Christmas card scene to the festivities.

There was a record number of letters which passed through the stamping machines at Ilkley Post office, which handled a total of 280,510 letters. There was no delay in delivery services which had continued on time throughout some pre-Christmas fogs.

Despite a prevalent shortage of petrol and the consequent rationing of fuel, the Rotarians of Ilkley generously offered to forfeit their own rations to ferry the old folk backwards and forwards to the Christmas Party in the Winter Gardens. 150 old people sat down to partake of a hearty tea, together with the Chairman of Ilkley Council Mr. J. H. Bowes and Mrs. Bowes. After tea they were entertained by the Optimists Concert Party from Silsden.

Skating On Ilkley Tarn

18 Dec 81



Freezing temperatures with as much as twenty degrees of frost on some nights made ice skating possible on Ilkley

FROZEN RIVER WHARFE AT ILKLEY

24 Dec 81

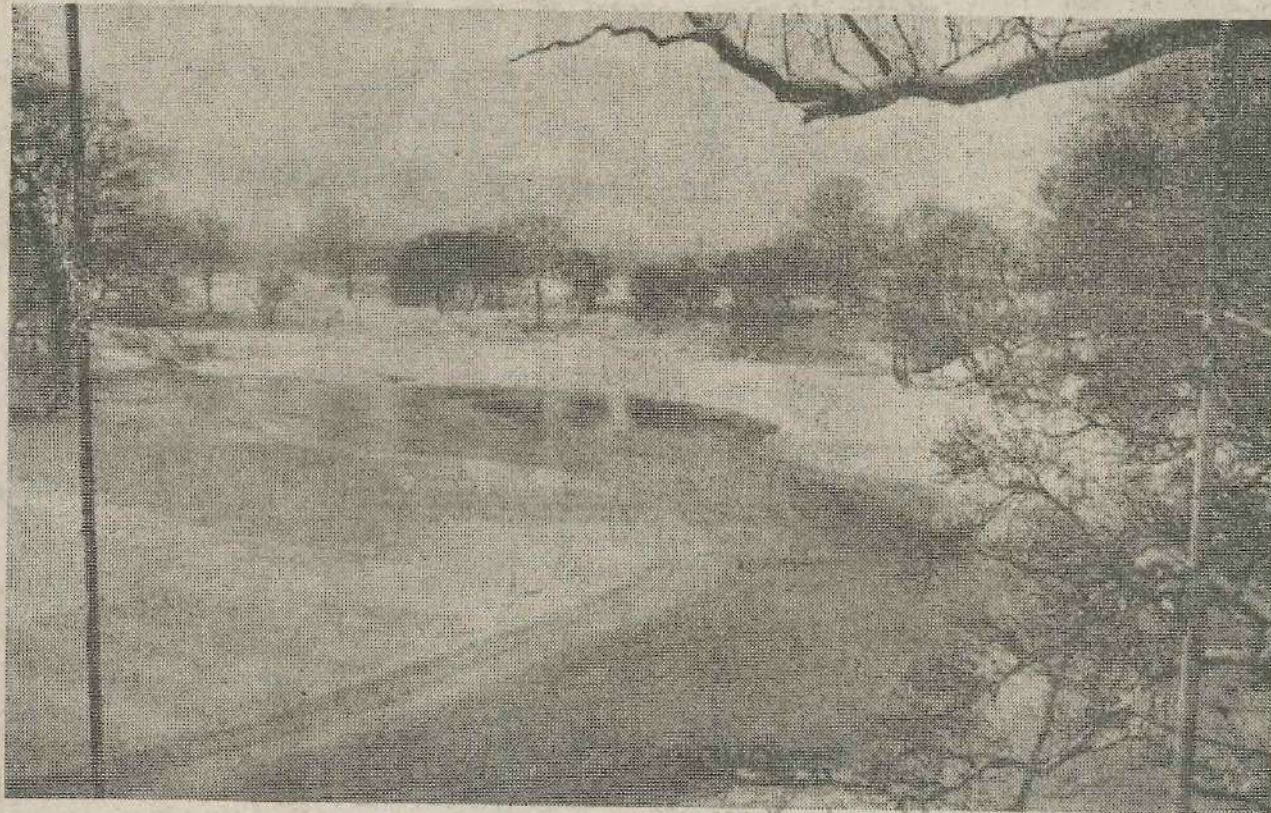
Further heavy snowfalls and the continuing freeze this week have produced many scenes of spectacular beauty in the Ilkley area, like this picture of the frozen River Wharfe near the Crum Wheel.

Although a thaw was forecast for the end of last week the temperatures rarely rose above freezing point, and the first official day of winter, Monday, brought more snow to the area. This virtually ensures Ilkley's first "official"

White Christmas, with a complete snow covering for the whole of Christmas Day, since 1935.

While last week saw the lowest temperatures at Ilkley this century, as low as -19.2 Centigrade (-3 Fahrenheit) on Wednesday,

temperatures this week have been higher. The maximum temperature recorded at Ilkley's meteorological station in Little Lane on Sunday was 1.6C (35 F), and the lowest temperature on Monday was only -3.5C (25.7F).



ACROSS THE YEARS 31 Dec 81

House To House Inspections Followed Death

100 Years Ago

The Medical Officer of Health reported to the Ilkley Local Board that there had been 14 births and six deaths recorded in the district in December. Four of the deaths were small children, one being due to diphtheria. Measles and chicken pox cases had been reported in the town, but these cases were being kept in isolation. A discussion arose amongst members of the board as to the case of diphtheria, and a house-to-house inspection of drainage systems was decided upon as well as asking the public to report any known instances where drainage systems was defective.

The Ilkley National schools were indebted to the efforts of a group of ladies who had obtained 250 in subscriptions and donations towards the upkeep of the schools. There were 373 children on the school registers, 139 boys, 126 girls and 108 infants. Thirty six of these pupils were classed as irregular attenders.

Ilkley Chess Club played an away match against Rawdon, and won by 11½ points to 4½. Eight members of each team played in the matches.

75 Years Ago

The New Year was ushered in, in accordance with long established tradition, with the ringing of the church bells. New Year's Eve was a beautiful moonlit night but a thaw which had set in made it unpleasant underfoot.

Frost and snow had provided hundreds of townspeople with skating and tobogganing during the week following Christmas. There was a sleigh run of over half a mile in Keighley Road and Wells Road. The start was near the bridge over Spicey Chyll beck, with some finishing near the Post Office in town. The Crum Wheel was spectacular as another ice wheel formed on the river which revolved slowly with the regularity of clockwork. Skating took place at the Tarn and also on the filter beds.

Complaints were made as to the slow clearance of the pavements in the town, the snow lying in some places for days. In contrast Addingham's paths were quickly cleared and walking made easy.

50 Years Ago

The larger hotels and hydros in Ilkley enjoyed a most successful Christmas with the various rounds of concerts, whist drives, dances and fancy dress balls. Local people enjoyed the privacy of their own homes, with fire-side family parties. Weather conditions were much warmer than usual and there was a good deal of sunshine with hoards of people welcoming the opportunity to enjoy long tramps over the moors.

There was a real old fashioned Christmas atmosphere at an Olde English Supper arranged by members of the Busley Wesleyan Girls' League in the Wesleyan schoolroom. There were about 140 guests who sat down to a supper of cold roast beef and pickles, cake, mince-pies and cheese at tables illuminated by hurricane lamps and scores of candles in brass pewter candle sticks. Several small Christmas trees adorned the tables. Members of the Girls' League all wore dainty costumes of old-time serving maids.

25 Years Ago

A lorry loaded with seven tons of loose cement overturned near Colbert Avenue and its spilled contents helped by a blustery wind penetrated houses and shops in the area. Traders and householders rushed out in an effort to seal off all possible openings in their premises, but the driver of a bread van delivering in the area, had its entire contents ruined and had to return to Bradford to renew his load.

The annual party of Ben Rhydding First Scout Group was held at Hag Dyke Hostel, Kettlewell, with nineteen members, attended together with Mr. Alan Butler Senior Group Scoutmaster and Mr. R. Ibbetson, Group Scoutmaster. They had a fine six course dinner prepared by Peter Flood, Michael Fawcett and Nigel Dower. A programme of games and songs was led by Stephen Best and David Priestman.

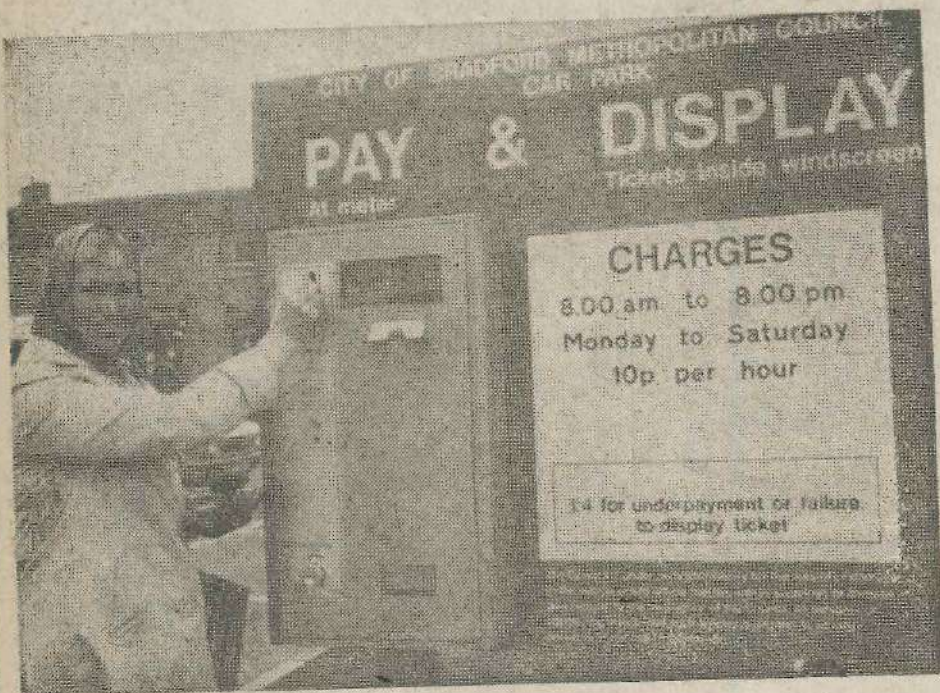
Busby's annual sale included tweed coats at £4, wool dresses 37/6, velvet hats 10/- and wool jumpers and cardigans at 12/6 and 15/-.

Long Awaited Crossing At Addingham



Addingham's long awaited pelican crossing in Main Street finally came into use in May after continuous pressure by the village's parish council.

Anger Over Car Park Charges



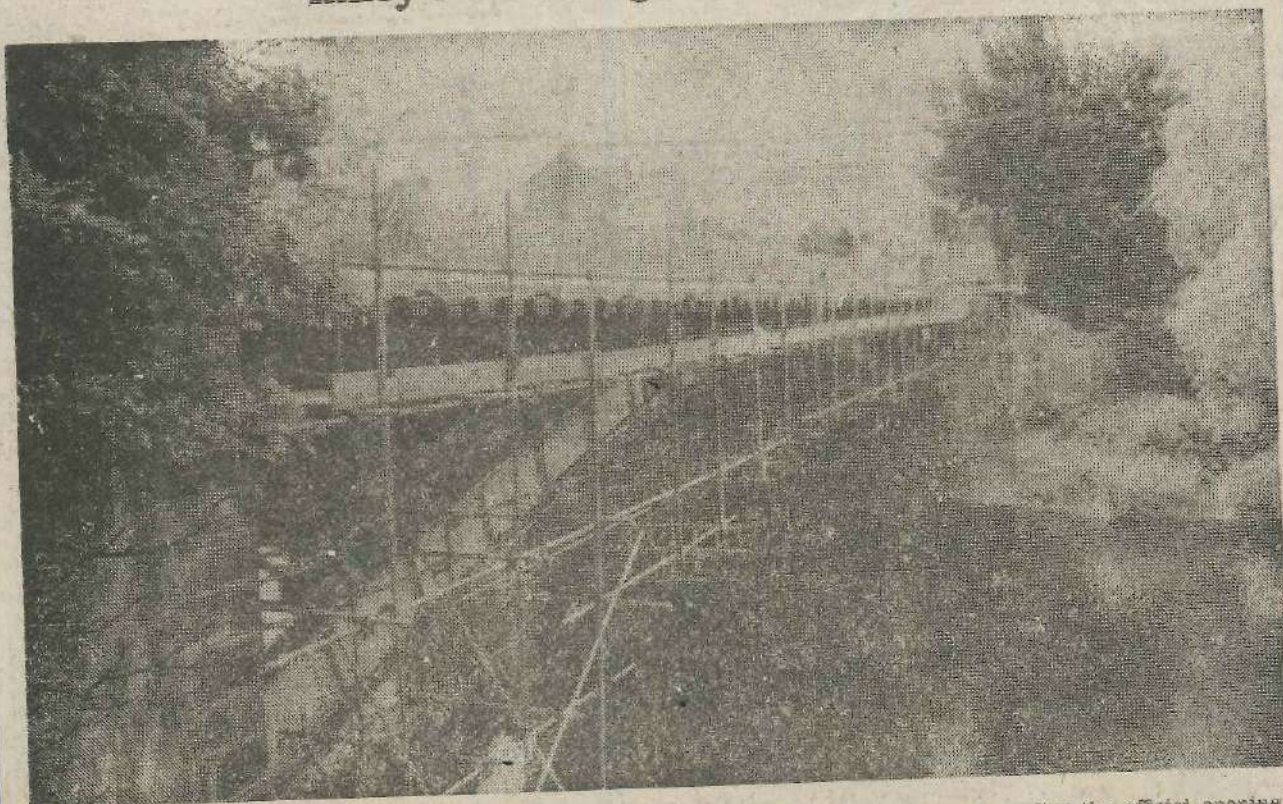
Shoppers boycotted Ilkley's central car park and traders feared loss of business when Bradford Metropolitan Council introduced car parking charges.

Selection Of Pictures From 1981

Photos By Philip Bambridge, Addingham

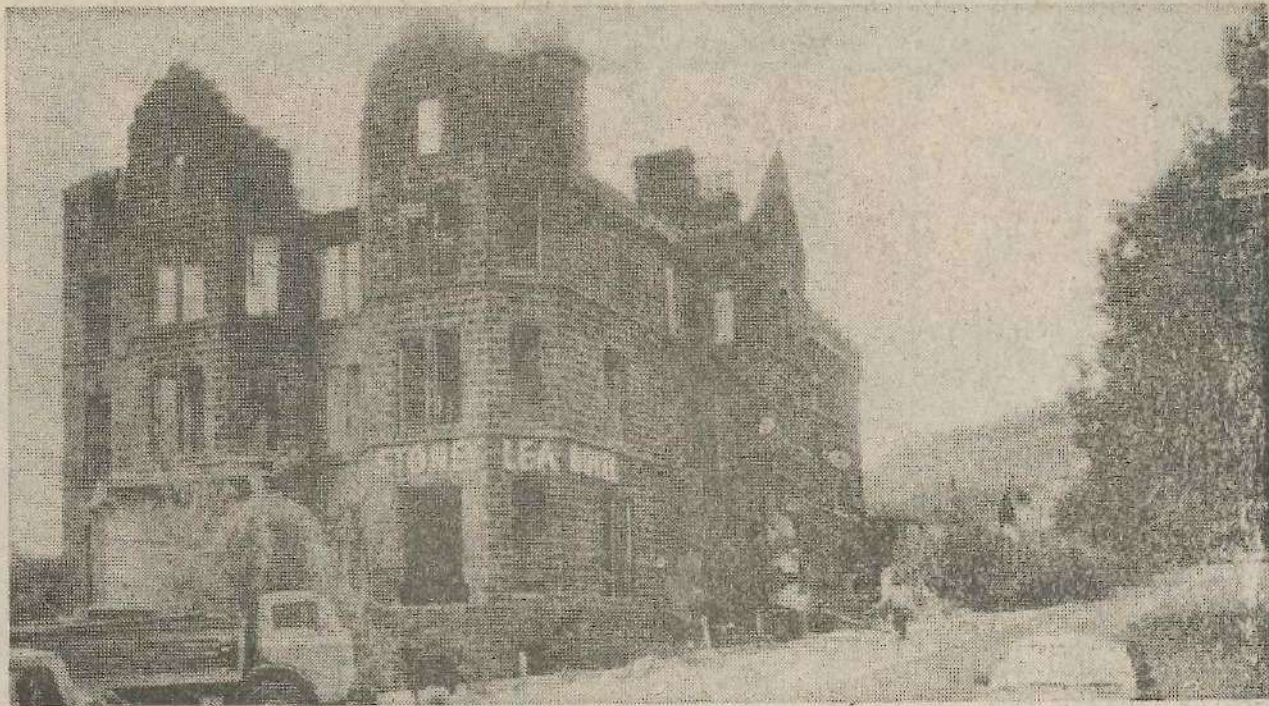
31 Dec 81

Ilkley New Bridge Overhauled



A £45,000 overhaul of the bridge over the River Wharfe at Ilkley began exactly 75 years after the official opening.

Ilkley Landmark Demolished



One of Ilkley's most famous landmarks, the 100 year old Stoney Lea Hotel, was demolished to make way for new development.

Addingham "Past And Present"



Hundreds of people flocked to see an Addingham Past and Present exhibition held at the Memorial Hall by Addingham Civic Society.

Bottle Bank Opens After Two Year Battle



A bottle bank was finally provided at Ilkley after a two year battle between Ilkley Parish Council and Bradford Metropolitan Council. It was placed on the car park opposite the Town Hall for a trial period.

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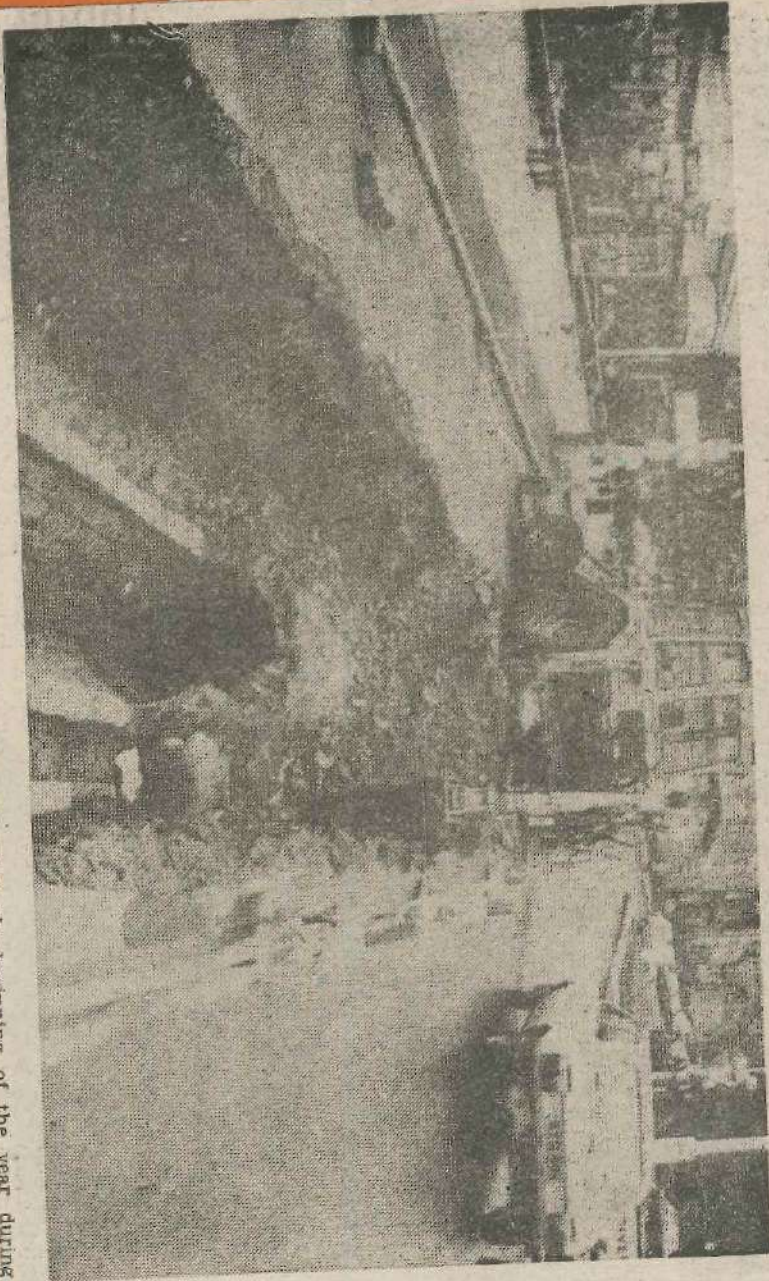
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Stream Under Brook Street Exposed

Selection of Pictures from 1981 continued



The stream which used to run down the centre of Brook Street was exposed at the beginning of the year during repair work to the hundred year old surface water culvert.

"Aladdin's Cave" Ho use At Ben Rhydding



Workers called in to clear a house at Ben Rhydding after the death of Miss Lucy Mary Booth were faced with a formidable task - every room and passageway in the house was piled high with books, newspapers, parcels and clothing.

31 Dec 1981

REVIEW OF THE YEAR FOR ILKLEY DISTRICT

31 Dec 81

GENERAL NEWS

January

A Langbar farmer, Mr. Stan Gray, received a New Year's Day surprise with the birth of a healthy lamb — three months prior to the usual lambing season.

Workers called to clear the contents of "Ryhill", in Margerison Road, Ben Rhydding, were faced with a formidable task. The house was filled with thousands of books and magazines, shoes and old tins of food. Many of the items dated back to the beginning of the century, and a 1931 Morris Isis was discovered in the garage. The house had belonged to the late Miss Mary Booth.

Fourteen yearling heifer cattle were saved by firemen when a barn at Greenholm Farm, Burley, was gutted by fire.

Roman Catholic Bishop of Leeds, the Rt. Rev. William Gordon Wheeler, officially opened the James Clarke and Sarah Foley Day Centre for the Elderly, in Culliffe Road, Ilkley. He was welcomed by the Chairman of the Trustees, Mr. F. W. Harms; the then Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Bradford Metropolitan District, Cr. and Mrs. Arnold Lightowler, and the then Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. K. G. Johnson, and Mrs. Johnson.

It was announced that following the successful annual running of Burley and District Round Table's train to London in December, over £2,000 had been raised to assist local community service projects.

Seven members of an Ilkley-based drugs ring were sentenced when they appeared at Bradford Crown Court. Two were jailed for eighteen months each and a third for nine months.

After years of argument, all major road schemes to improve the flow of traffic through Ilkley were scrapped. Plans for an inner relief road were scrapped following a decision in 1979 not to pursue the plan for a By-Pass of the town on the north side of the river.

Prayers for the welfare and safety of the people of Coutances and in memory of the dead were said in Ilkley's churches after two people died and ten were seriously injured in a gas explosion in Ilkley's Twin Town.

Households and businesses in Ilkley, along with the rest of the Bradford District, received free copies of the new Thomson Local Directory, offering a guide to the local community and a classified advertising section.

February

Objections to claims made ten years ago by local farmers for grazing rights over Ilkley Moor were heard in Bradford. A Commons Commissioner heard evidence from people claiming rights over the moor and the case by Bradford Metropolitan Council, who objected to the rights.

New parking restrictions in Ilkley's town centre and at Ben Rhydding, which brought about a loss of over 100 on street car parking spaces, came into effect.

Members of Ilkley Angling Association began work on tidying up the site once used for sand and gravel workings adjacent to Cara-Cars, in Leeds Road, Ben Rhydding, for its conversion to fishing ponds.

Ilkley artist Leslie Simpson was besieged with entries from all parts of the country for the Yorkshire Arts Exhibition, at the Winter Gardens, Ilkley. The exhibition was headed by Britain's best known modern artist, Mr. David Hockney.

Over thirty firemen from Ilkley, Otley and Silsden fought a fire which caused damage estimated at over £200,000 at Hillards Supermarket, in Railway Road, Ilkley.

Members of several local organisations and individuals interested in the history and conservation of Ilkley met to discuss the possibility of collecting information and photographs concerning the history of the town with the aim of compiling a book on the subject.

March

Long awaited improvements to the lighting through Addingham's Main Street were carried out by the county council, acting as agents for the Department of Transport.

In celebration of 125 years as an independent parish, a special cake was cut by retiring church warden Mr. H. Hornby and his wife at the annual meeting of Burley Parish Church.

Representatives of many local organisations met to consider how to support the aims of the International Year of the Disabled Person in Ilkley.

The 1931 Morris Isis Six saloon car, one of the items found at "Ryhill", Ben Rhydding, following the death of Miss Mary Booth, realised £8,000 when it was sold by auction.

Shoppers boycotted Ilkley's central car park after Bradford Metropolitan Council introduced parking charges. Motorists using the car park were faced with paying a ten pence an hour charge or were liable to a £4 fine for underpayment or failing to display a ticket.

Planning permission to build seven houses on the site in Castle Road, Ilkley, was refused by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Panel.

Plans for a supermarket development on the former railway goods yard at Ilkley were turned down by Bradford Metropolitan Council. One of the reasons given was that the site, adjacent to the railway station, was not close enough to the town centre.

Outline plans for the largest single shopping development in Ilkley this century were submitted to the Local Planning Authority. The plans included a large new store for Woolworth's and eighteen other shop units on land fronting Brook Street.

April

The ambitious £300,000 appeal to save the ancient Priory Church at Bolton Abbey reached the half-way stage. Subscriptions of £151,000 were collected in the first six months of the appeal, including donations and pledges.

Eight cars were damaged, some of them extensively, in an accident in The Grove, Ilkley, in which one car was pushed through the window of Anne's shop. Miraculously, no-one was hurt.

Addingham Friends of the Earth took part in a national campaign to send empty drinks cans through the post to Prime Minister Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. About 160 Ilkley people made a donation towards the cost of postage.

An appeal by Bradford Metropolitan Councillor Colin Hunter, of Burley, for more money to help local authorities with courses for Vietnamese refugees met with a disappointing response from the Government.

A six week visit to this country by the Rev. Joseph Mangole, Superintendent Minister of the Methodist Church in Botswana, Southern Africa, started with a lunch in his honour at Ilkley Methodist Church.

After the sunniest Good Friday for many years, an abrupt change in the weather brought the heaviest April snow this century. The snow, several inches deep on most roads and footpaths in the area, reduced traffic to very low speeds.

Young musicians from Ilkley Music Centre, with teachers and helpers, enjoyed a three day visit to Ilkley's Twin Town of Coutances in

May

Ilkley's streets came to life as shoppers and passers-by gathered to watch performances by dancers, mummies and Punch and Judy on Ilkley's Annual Folk Day.

The eighteen month argument over the siting of a proposed new Co-Operative departmental store at Ilkley reached its climax with a public inquiry at Ilkley Town Hall. An Inspector from the Department of the Environment heard evidence for and against the proposals to build a store on land adjacent to Ilkley's central car park.

The Wharfedale Music Festival, one of the biggest in Yorkshire, opened its seventy fifth event at Ilkley. Over 3,000 individual competitors competed in the seven day festival.

Firemen freed an Otley woman from the wreckage of her car after she was trapped for more than an hour following a collision with a lorry on the Ilkley to Addingham road.

Local people carrying placards gathered outside the Craiglunds Hotel, in Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, to protest against the staging of a promotional evening for holidays in South Africa by an Ilkley travel agent.

British Rail's prototype lightweight diesel train, which will eventually replace the aging Diesel Multiple Units, was demonstrated on the Ilkley Branch line.

Changeable weather over the Bank Holiday period kept the roads through Ilkley fairly quiet, as sunny periods alternated with thunderstorms.

Ilkley Round Table members were hosts to a party of Dutch counterparts from Zaanstreek, near Amsterdam, when five Tablers, three of them with their wives, visited for a weekend.

June

A convoy of historic and unusual cars, lorries and buses passed through Ilkley en route to Embay Station, near Skipton, as part of the annual White Rose Rally.

A proposal to close down the Grove Convalescent Home at Ilkley—the first of its kind in Yorkshire when it was opened 120 years ago—was approved in principle by the Leeds Area Health Authority.

A new activity centre at "Five Oaks", Ben Rhydding, a home for children disabled by spina bifida and hydrocephalus, was opened by pop star Roger Daltrey.

A record entry of 386 took part in the Ilkley Moor fell races. Two new course records were established.

A civic delegation from Coutances enjoyed a four day visit to Ilkley, led by the Deputy Mayor of Coutances, M. Rene Audouard.

Demolition work began on one of Ilkley's most famous landmarks—the 100 year old Stoney Lea Hotel in Cowpasture Road. The site was up for sale with planning permission for 23 flats, with garages, and a restaurant.

A gala held at Sclebor Park Hospital, Burley, proved an overwhelming success and raised over £640 to provide a child with a "Phonic Ear".

Residents interested in an improved Sunday rail service from Ilkley to Leeds were asked to sign a petition at Ilkley Railway Station. Many people had indicated they would have liked to have seen an earlier train from Ilkley, connecting at Leeds with services to seaside resorts and inner cities.

Thirty-eight artists gathered on the lawns of the Cow and Calf Hotel on the opening day of the fourth open air art exhibition.

Overhaul and repair work on the 75-year-old New Bridge at Ilkley began. The estimated cost of the repairs was £45,000 and work was expected to last 13 weeks.

July

Controversial plans for the tipping of domestic, commercial and industrial waste in the disused railway cutting in Stockinger Lane, Addingham, were passed by the county council despite strong opposition from the village.

About 150 people took the opportunity of a nostalgic return to the austerity of the 1940's at a "Blitz Ball" at Ilkley's Winter Gardens, held as a curtain-raiser to the Ilkley Literature Festival.

Ilkley and District Road Safety Committee was told by Bradford Metropolitan Council that it could no longer have free use of the Council Chamber of Ilkley Town Hall, where it had met for many years, but would have to pay a rental of £8 an hour.

"Les Cheveux Blanches", the Senior Citizens of Coutances, enjoyed a six-day visit to Ilkley. The party of 27 stayed at Ilkley College and enjoyed a varied programme of activities.

For the second consecutive year, the Yorkshire Electricity Board shop in Brook Street, Ilkley, was judged "Top Y.E.B. Shop" in the company's annual Good Housekeeping Competition, which covered all 63 Y.E.B. shops throughout Yorkshire and Humberside.

Ilkley finally got its long awaited bottle bank after about two years of disagreement with Bradford Metropolitan Council over its siting. The bottle bank was placed in the car park opposite Ilkley Town Hall, in Station Road.

Despite uncertain weather conditions, villagers turned out in great numbers for Addingham's traditional annual gala. The gala was this year opened by trials rider Martin Lampkin.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester was in Ilkley to officially open the Nell Bank Centre, the Bradford District Queen's Silver Jubilee project.

Numerous street parties were held in the area to celebrate the Royal Wedding, and about 300 Addingham children received Royal Wedding Crowns as souvenirs of the occasion.

The new Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Wellington Road, Ilkley, was filled to capacity for the Dedication Service.

August

Dame Ninette de Valois, Founder of the Royal Ballet Company and the Royal Ballet School, opened the four-week Yorkshire Ballet Seminars at Ilkley College. The organiser of the seminars was the Founder, Mr. David Gayle, of Ilkley.

A Royal Wedding Shop Window Display competition, organised by the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, was won by D. Greenwood's, the drapers shop in The Grove, Ilkley.

Six members of the Evergreens, the Ilkley group of walkers for the retired, tackled the 93 miles long Cleveland Way. The walk was sponsored to raise money towards Cancer Research.

Engineers began taking stability tests around the site of the proposed £14 million town centre redevelopment scheme at Ilkley.

Spooner Industries announced the completion of their Ilkley factory development and extension in Railway Road. Two manufacturing facilities of the Production Division were amalgamated and, as a result, the majority of the employees at the Guseley factory transferred to Ilkley.

Ilkley Library closed for three days while work was completed on several new schemes designed to improve the general service to the public.

Prize money was increased by fifty per cent and there were more entries than for several years at the Ilkley Flower Show. As a new venture, committee members provided a lunch for the judges and afternoon tea with home

There was angry reaction to Bradford Metropolitan Council's decision to close Ilkley Swimming Pool on Sundays during the winter months. The proposed closure was part of further cut-backs in expenditure.

The adequacy of the taxi service in Ilkley was one of the subjects discussed at a special meeting of Bradford District Council's Public Services Sub-Committee. Bradford Taxi Drivers Action Group had expressed dissatisfaction with Ilkley's service.

September

Plans to fight the proposed closure of The Grove Convalescent Home at Ilkley were drawn up at a meeting at which over one hundred people including staff, patients and representatives of local voluntary organisations attended.

Ilkley's new look Tourist Information Centre drew plenty of interest when it opened for the first time in new premises at the Town Hall.

Efforts of Ben Rhydding Methodists brought the fulfilment of their dreams when the new £40,000 Church Hall was opened and dedicated by the Rev. John Atkinson, Chairman of the West Yorkshire Methodist Circuit.

Three Addingham men and an Ilkley couple made a parachute jump for the first time in their lives to raise money for an Addingham spina bifida sufferer.

The third annual show of the Ilkley Gardeners Association, at the Parish Church Hall, Ilkley, featured 98 exhibits from nineteen members. There was also a wide range of exhibits on display when the Addingham Gardens and Allotments Association held its 9th Annual Vegetable and Flower Show in Addingham Memorial Hall.

The Co-operative Society lost its twenty one month battle to build a departmental store on land adjoining Ilkley's central car park. The Department of the Environment announced that following a four day public inquiry it could not approve the plan because the balance of public interest indicated that the proposal should not have been approved at that time.

One of Ilkley's most important and best-known houses, Hebers Mount, close to the well known beauty spot of Hebers Ghyll, was sold to W. V. Patrick Ltd., of Grassington, who proposed to build superior houses and bungalows.

Bradford Metropolitan Council announced that, six months after the introduction of weekday car parking charges at Ilkley, a charge for Sunday parking was to be implemented.

October

The threatened closure of Ilkley's swimming pool on Sundays was put off indefinitely following the enforced closure of two other swimming pools due to major structural faults.

The £25,000 organ appeal by St. Margaret's Church, Ilkley, benefited by nearly £200 from a sale of "Superseconds" fashions at the Kings Hall, Ilkley. The money raised took the appeal total to about £22,000.

A public meeting was held in the Winter Gardens, Ilkley, to discuss the formation of a League of Friends to help fight the campaign to save The Grove Convalescent Home from closure.

Thousands of people flocked to the East Holmes field at Ilkley for the fifth annual bonfire and fireworks spectacular organised by the Wharfedale Lions Club.

A celebration service to mark the thirtieth birthday of the 4th Ilkley Baptist Brownie Pack was conducted by the Rev. A. K. Cook, and a birthday cake was cut by the District Commissioner, Mrs. D. Statham.

Ilkley and District Round Table maintained their tradition of presenting top level variety at the Kings Hall with a strong bill headed by the

Ikley Conservative Association celebrated one hundred years of activity in the town by holding a dinner at the Troutbeck Hotel, Ikley, when the Rt. Hon. Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for Industry, was guest of honour.

Scolar Press, the internationally known printers and publishers of facsimiles and reprints of old books, announced that it was to cut its 50-strong workforce by almost half.

November

Despite poor weather and competition from the Ideal Homes Exhibition in Leeds, the Ikley Trades Fair which came to an end at the beginning of November attracted about 3,000 visitors.

Ikley Concert Club reported it was enjoying one of its best seasons for many years.

A decision by the County Council's Public Transport Committee not to bring rail fares more into line with local bus fares was met with disappointment in Ikley. Rail fares from Ikley to Leeds and Bradford were to remain at 84p and 80p respectively to compete with 30p maximum off peak fares on the buses.

The ambitious "Childsplay" project mounted by Ikley people to provide new play equipment in the town was beginning to take shape at the start of the month.

A special meeting of the Governing Body of Ikley College supported Bradford Metropolitan District Council's recommendation for the reorganisation of higher education which meant the staff and resources of Ikley and Bradford Colleges would be put together.

A petition with 18,298 signatures protesting against the proposed closure of the Grove Convalescent Home at Ikley was handed in at a meeting of the Leeds Area Health Authority.

Six playing members of the Station Hotel Football Club at Ikley flew out to America for the wedding of former team mate, Mr. Chris Ratcliffe.

Insufficient income to cover the cost of this year's Wharfedale Music Festival at Ikley caused concern amongst members. At the Festival's annual general meeting the treasurer, Mr. G. Greaves said "It is of paramount importance that our plans for 1982 must include realistic ideas for rectifying this."

In November the West Yorkshire Co-Operative Society submitted amended plans for a departmental store on the controversial site at South Hawksworth Street, Ikley.

As one of the events to mark the International Year of the Disabled, plans were put forward to start a sports club for disabled people.

Work on the long awaited restoration of the 16th century organ at St. Margaret's Church, Ikley, was completed.

A £4,000 loss on the past year hit the Order Club of the Royal British Legion.

December

"Christchurch, Ikley" was born with the historic signing of a sharing agreement between Ikley Methodist Church and Ikley United Reformed Church.

The special chair lift in the new Tourist Information Office at Ikley Library to take disabled people from street level to the level of the library was officially opened.

Plans to build sixteen flats and twenty-four car parking spaces on the site at the junction of Little Lane and Wellington Road, Ikley, were approved by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Sub-Committee.

Students from Ikley Grammar School planted some young Scots Pine, Mountain Ash and Larch trees on Ikley Moor as part of a tree planting and refurbishing project being carried out by the Countryside Rangers Service.

Arctic conditions which swept the country in mid December left Ikley in chaos and with heavy snowfalls which were to last until the end of the month.

The Parliamentary Whip system came under strong attack from a leading member of the Social Democratic Party at an S.D.P. open meeting at Ikley.

Review of the Year (1981)

ADDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Concern over dangers at Aynholme Bridge was expressed by Addingham Parish Councillors at their January meeting, after hearing reports of three accidents there in one day.

The poor condition of Addingham's football pitch was again discussed, and it was agreed to take expert advice on necessary remedial works.

A promise that Bradford Council's policy of positive discrimination would not lead to a withdrawal of services from Addingham was given by the Leader of Bradford Metropolitan Council at the February meeting.

The long standing problem of the untidy state of St. Paul's Rise was again brought to the Leader's attention, with the wish that he would press for something to be done.

Concern that Addingham was not receiving its fair share of resources, particularly with regard to the upkeep of public gardens, was expressed to the Leader, Cr. Derek Smith. It was felt that Ikley had first priority and it was very late in the day before the Council's staff were available to attend to Addingham.

Parish Councillors agreed that the Minister of State for Local Government be told of their concern at the way in which the water authority was organised, particularly with regard to the sending out of separate water rate bills this year.

In April the Chairman, Cr. Alan Jerome, reviewed a busy year which had seen the dashing of hopes for a village by-pass. He promised the parish council would continue to press for a by-pass.

Residents at the annual parish meeting spoke of the problem of dogs using the Memorial Close as a toilet, and of the increased number of heavy lorries passing through the village since the opening of part of the Skipton By-Pass.

Fishing Rights

The parish council agreed to look into the possibility of obtaining fishing rights in the village following a well supported suggestion that an angling club be formed.

In May the parish council had talks with a representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who agreed to determine a programme of remedial work for

A disappointing response was received from the Department of the Environment to the parish council's statement of concern about the organisation of the water authority.

The parish council agreed to continue to fight to stop fluoridation of the village water supply after receiving a dissatisfactory response from Sir George Young at the Department of Health.

A reply from the Department of the Environment to parish council suggestions for banning heavy lorries and improving safety in Main Street was dismissed as "utter nonsense."

Fears that elderly residents did not really understand how to use the new pelican crossing in Main Street were expressed at the June meeting.

A Ministry of Agriculture expert, who had investigated Addingham's problem football pitch, said "the drainage problem would not be an easy one to solve. He agreed to draw up a list of works needed."

"Yes Minister"

A reply to a query about representation on the water authority was described as "diabolical" and reminiscent of the television programme "Yes Minister" by parish councillors.

In July parish councillors who accompanied "Britain in Bloom" contest judges around the village were embarrassed and humiliated at what they saw — public gardens, open spaces and car parks choked with weeds and nettles. Especially annoying was the fact that Ikley had been swarming with gardeners the previous day — backing up councillors' views that Addingham did not get its fair share of resources. What made matters worse was that a Parks Department lorry arrived with tubs and pots of flowers as the judges were departing. The plants were dumped and the lorry drove off quickly — an incident which the judges found pathetically amusing.

Concern was expressed over danger to children caused by traffic congestion outside Addingham First School.

Royal Mementoes

Nearly 300 Addingham children received souvenir crowns as mementoes of the

Royal Wedding

The parish council in September presented a painting to P.C. Ken Pickles to mark his retirement after 17 years as community constable.

It was agreed to seek a stop to fluoridation of the water supply when an agreement between the water authority and health authority ran out in May 1982.

In October the water authority dismissed the council's appeal to stop fluoridation, because it was anxious to preserve the status quo until legal cases proceeding through the courts had resulted in a decision.

The parish council started lobbying transport and road users groups for support in its long running campaign for a village by-pass.

Residents were asked to help with a survey of street lighting in the village, pinpointing areas where the lighting was not up to standard.

By-Pass Campaign

Addingham's long running campaign for a by-pass received valuable support from road users groups and transport associations lobbied by the parish council, and as a result councillors decided in November to again demand "in the strongest possible terms" for a by-pass to be provided as a matter of urgency.

Comments from the transport groups showed that not only the village but the people who used Addingham's busy Main Street did not think it was suitable for use as a trunk road. Most strongly supported the urgent need for provision of a by-pass.

Councillors also agreed to express their concern about the prospects for winter snow clearing to Bradford Metropolitan Council. They felt little could be done with the small amount of money being made available, and pointed out that this was a false economy because people would not be able to get to work.



Dacre, Son & Hartley

Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers, Valuers and Estate Agents. Established 1820

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THE PARTNERS & STAFF OF DACRE, SON & HARTLEY

WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING THEIR MANY CLIENTS AND FRIENDS A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Our offices will close at noon on Thursday, 24th December, 1981 and re-open at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 29th December, 1981



John Dacre 1820-1869



J. W. Dacre 1859-1926

BUILDING ON TRADITION

24 Dec 81

As we draw to the close of our 161st year in practice as the oldest established firm of Chartered Surveyors and Estate Agents in Wharfedale, we thought it may interest readers and clients to know a little of the history of our firm, with which we are very proud to be associated. Some of the following extracts are taken from our 150th Anniversary booklet and grateful thanks are also extended to Mrs. C. M. Sutherland, a well-known Ilkley resident (the daughter of Mr. J. W. Dacre) for the loan of her family photographs.

FOUNDATIONS

The foundations of old established firms like family pedigrees, are often lost in obscurity and the mists of time. This is not the case, however, with Dacre, Son & Hartley, one of the oldest firms of auctioneers in the West Riding which can trace its origins to John Dacre in 1820.

John Dacre, the founder of the firm, was born in 1790 in the small village of Bramhope, some three miles South-east of and within the ancient parish and market town of Otley.

In 1813 he married Hannah (the daughter of Christopher Saxton, a carpenter of Bramhope), being then described as "Cordwainer" but shortly afterwards in 1820 he is more fully described as "John Dacre, shoemaker and collector of taxes". Part of his work involved the appraisal or valuation of stock in trade and personal belongings.

The first office of the firm was the front room of the home of John Dacre at Bramhope in 1820, from which he moved in 1847 to premises in Bondgate, Otley, at which time he was described as "Auctioneer and Appraiser, Northern Counties Association".

Otley at this time was a busy small thriving manufacturing and market town, a mixture of old and new, and possessing a tradition of antiquity. From 1850 the business was conducted in a house and shop in Northgate, or Bridge Street as it is known today. John Dacre died in 1860, being succeeded by his son, also named John, who in 1866 moved to premises in the centre of the town, situated in a yard behind shop property which has recently been demolished in Kirkgate.

The younger John was born in 1820, and married Rachael, the daughter of Samuel Bentley, "clerk and flour dealer, Bramhope", in 1845. It was the two Johns, father and son, who laid the sound foundation of the firm in the first forty years of its existence and glancing through the records of the firm during this early period, one cannot help but be amazed at the amount of variety of business they had transacted in places as far

afield as Newark, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Skipton and all the smaller towns in and around Wharfedale, Airedale and Cravenale. All this, it must be remembered when the horse and trap was the principal and in some cases in the earlier years, the only means of transport.

The following are but a few examples of the wide scope and variety of the business undertaken between 1820 and 1859: sales by auction of furniture, linen and plate, the valuation and sale of coaches, gigs and harness; the valuation of farmland of farm stock and growing crop; the valuation of shop fixtures and of personal wearing apparel and so on, all being significant of the firm's reputation at that time and perhaps the most interesting being the valuation at the stables at Goldsborough Hall for the "Dowager of Harewood," by John Dacre in 1859. The total of the valuation was £579 7s. 6d. which included 4 Hansoms £200; 1 Toby carriage £25; 1 Brake £16; 1 Dog Cart £20; 1 Bath Chair £10; State harness £15; 4 sets of Horse Harness £16.

In 1881, new premises were acquired in Station Road, situated on the opposite side of the road to the present offices, but within five years, the firm purchased a one storey block of shops at the corner of Station Road and Burras Lane, converting them into offices.

John Dacre, junior, died in 1869 and was succeeded in the business by his eldest son, Charles Bentley Dacre, who was only 21 years of age at the time. Born in 1848, the eldest of the three sons of John Dacre, he was educated at the Collegiate School, Otley. He possessed an energetic and shrewd business mind and in addition to being a successful auctioneer and valuer, was particularly interested in agricultural and live stock valuations which was of great importance in a market town and centre of a large rural area.

His interest in livestock resulted in him starting an auction mart to take over the cattle side of the business. Complete with a sale ring and commodious pens and situated on the west side of Station Road, it was known as the Otley Live Stock Auction

Mart, and opened for the first time on Monday, the 9th August, 1875, for the unreserved sale of cattle, sheep and pigs, a venture which succeeded because it supplied a long felt want in Wharfedale. It was later purchased by Mr. J. Lister and taken over by the Wharfedale Farmer's Auction Mart Company when the Dacre association ceased.

Charles Bentley Dacre was connected with the Yorkshire Branch of the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents Institute and the Yorkshire Tenant-right Valuers Association and for many years, was Vice President of the old established Wharfedale Agricultural Society being auditor and auctioneer for over twenty years and was also President of Otley Cricket Club in 1890.

John William, the youngest son of John Dacre was born in 1859 and was in business as auctioneer and valuer on his own account before 1889 with an office at 4a Albion Place, Leeds and 10 Tivoli Place, Ilkley, with a private address at Walmer House, Ilkley, where he lived most of his life. He became a partner in the firm of Dacre & Son in 1889, subsequently becoming head of the firm on the death of his eldest brother (Charles Bentley Dacre) in 1899, yet continuing the Leeds office for a short while afterwards.

One of the best known men in Wharfedale, he had a rather reticent nature and had been described as being of the 'old school'. He conducted sales, auctions and valuations of every kind and was frequently called in as arbitrator.

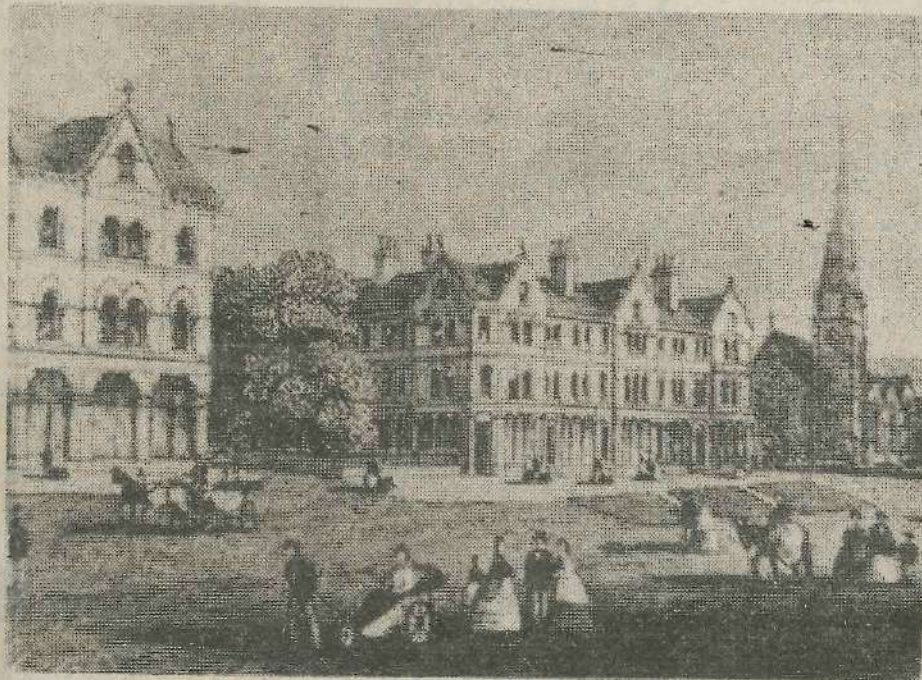
The Yorkshire Branch Committee of the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents Institute was formed in 1892 and J. W.

Dacre was elected to the Branch Committee two years later. In 1896 he was invited to read a paper entitled "Agricultural Valuations, the Customs and Laws that govern them". He was elected Chairman of the Branch in 1908, re-elected 1909, serving on the Committee up to 1924. He was also a member of the Yorkshire Land and Tenant-right Valuers Association, being vice president in 1910-1912 and President in 1912-1913.

John William Dacre died on the 11th October 1926 at the age of 67 and had taken his two sons as partners in the firm but at the outbreak of the 1914-1918 war, both young men joined the army, both were commissioned and sad to record both were killed—Brian the eldest in 1918 at the age of 28 and Maurice in 1917 when only 26.

Although the firm did not have an office in Ilkley until 1908, a great deal of work was carried out by the practice in the 19th century, evidence of which is shown by the several posters, sale particulars and inventories in our possession. In particular, the sale of the Middleton Estates around 1870 to 1900 provided many sales for the firm including the sale of plots of land in the Grove Road and Skipton Road areas, following which there was a very active period of house building in the town.

Next week we will follow the development of the Hartley connection, which commenced in Ilkley in 1908 and the growth of the firm to the present day as probably the largest firm in the North of England with ten offices, thirteen partners and a staff of 110.



The present Ilkley Office in 1872

Dacre, Son & Hartley

Auctioneers, Valuers and Estate Agents. Established 1820



STAFF OF DACRE, SON & HARTLEY

OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING THEIR MANY CLIENTS AND FRIENDS A
VERY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Thursday, 31st December, 1981 and re-open at 9 a.m. on Monday, 4th
January, 1982



BUILDING ON TRADITION

The story of Dacre, Son & Hartley, which began in Otley in 1820 continues with the Dacre family until the death of J. N. Dacre in 1926, when it was taken over by Mr. Alleyne W. S. Berry of Hull, who was sole partner of Dacre & Son until 1932, when the business was then purchased by Douglas H. Smallwood, who took as his partner, William Horne Varley, as cattle man. From this time the character of the practice began to change from the estate agency and agricultural background of the Dacre family to include the sale and letting of industrial and commercial properties, together with professional work associated with these various types of property including dealing with rating appeals, valuations of plant and machinery for insurance and other purposes.

Meanwhile, the Hartley side of the practice commenced in 1908 at Tower Buildings (on a site now occupied by Leconfield House). The Hartley family had control of the furnishing business formerly owned by Robinsons, inventors of the Ilkley Invalid Couch, and ran a saleroom in the yard at Cowpasture Road until 1929 when Douglas Hartley purchased Victoria Hall formerly the Ilkley Swimming Baths and converted it into a saleroom. The Hartley practice was in competition with Dacre & Son until 1936 when the two practices amalgamated and laid the foundations of the firm as it is today. Within 3 years additional offices were opened at

Keighley, Skipton and Pontefract, and the familiar blue and white sale boards were much in evidence in the Wharfe and Aire Valleys.

The firm was fortunate in having three leading personalities in the profession as partners, and the growth of the practice continued apace after the war, when gradually additional partners were admitted, and in recent years the firm have opened further offices in Leeds, Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon and Bingley, together with new sales offices in Leeds and Keighley, making a total of ten offices.

Amongst those who played a leading part in the development of the firm were Douglas Smallwood who took over the business from Mr. Berry, in 1932, by which time the practice operated from a very small single storey property on the site of the present office in Otley, and had only two staff. Douglas Smallwood was instrumental in building up the practice particularly in Otley where he played a prominent part in the life of the town until his premature death in 1966, at the age of 54. Douglas Hartley ran the Ilkley end of the practice having taken over his father's business in 1921 and under his guidance the office in Ilkley was moved first to 13, The Grove and later the present offices which he purchased in 1945. He also dealt with the chattels side of the business throughout the firm until his retirement in 1964. Both men

were prominent in the Yorkshire branch of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents Institute.

The last ten years have seen a greater tendency towards specialisation with the opening of the Commercial Office in Royal Exchange House, Leeds, the licensed property department, and architects department based in the Ilkley Office, and expansion of the salerooms at Victoria Hall.

At the present time extensive alterations are being carried out to the Ilkley Office to create a superbly appointed self selection showroom, and greatly extended display facilities.

Another important contribution in efficient house-marketing, which Dacre, Son and Hartley were the first in the area to introduce has been the illustrated monthly Property Guide, now in its fourth year. The Property Guide is generally recognised as the leading publication of its kind in the area and it presently contains information of over a thousand houses available for sale, as well as interesting articles on property matters, in addition to reports on the Saleroom and the commercial activities of the practice. Available free from any of our offices, the Guide now has a monthly circulation approaching twenty thousand.

It is encouraging to mention that in a year of recession the firm has sold more houses than ever before, and now look forward to further expansion and extension of our services to our many clients throughout 1982.



The Present Ilkley Offices

WIDESPREAD FLOODING AS SNOW DISAPPEARS OVERNIGHT

A sudden thaw of the deep snow which had covered Wharfedale for almost three weeks produced some of the worst flooding in the valley since 1947.

Moorland streams were soon swollen by tons of melting snow and ice as the thaw set in on Saturday night. Ilkley awoke on Sunday morning to a landscape not seen since mid-December. Snow and ice had almost disappeared overnight and the frozen River Wharfe had become a raging torrent bursting its banks and extensively flooding low lying land.

At Ilkley traffic along the A65 trunk road was diverted across the top of Ilkley Moor towards Burley while further downstream Otley was cut in two by the floodwater.

Residents Angry

Angry Ilkley residents have called for the building up and strengthening of the banks on the north side of the river after the ground floors of their homes had become lakes.

Mr. John Neal, whose house in Gilstead Way was extensively damaged by flood water, said that a bank urgently needed building by the section of river between the Old Bridge and New Brook Street.

"I had a look at the section of river on Monday morning and decided that it would be possible to build banking along the stretch, and will suggest that to the Council," he said.

A resident in Middleton Avenue, Mr. J. Stubbs, whose house and garden were also affected by flood water, said he thought it was a disgrace that the river banks had not received attention. "This latest flooding makes me wonder why successive councils have failed to do anything about it. Its about time something was done. Everybody is aware of the problem—it has been with us for years," he said.

Frightening

Mr. Stubbs told the "Gazette" this week how he awoke on Sunday morning to find a raging torrent running down either side of his house. "My wife and myself were awakened by noises at about four o'clock. We looked out of the window and were terrified to see water raging all around the house. It was very frightening.

"Fortunately, the worst of the damage has been restricted to the outside of the house. Some of the carpets will have to be replaced, but the worst of the damage is in the garden, much of which was under about three feet of water on Sunday morning.

"Our garden fence was badly damaged and will need to be replaced, and there are a number of items in the garage, such as a lawn mower, which were damaged by water," he said.

"We have now got some sand bags up against the doors, but by the time the council had brought them the worst of it was over and the damage

done. Our front door will not open now because it is warped," he added.

Mr. Neal said he was alerted at about 5.55 a.m. on Sunday when someone telephoned to tell him that water was rushing through the gardens. "I went to the back door but by that time the water was already coming into the house," he said. "The water quickly became knee deep so all we could do was move some of the downstairs furniture and other items upstairs.

"Among the things we have lost are dining room furniture and a three-piece suite. We have not started to estimate the cost of the damage. Ilkley Fire Brigade spent five or six hours pumping water out on Sunday evening but there is still a lot in the garage and garden," he said.

Warning System

Mr. Neal thought the flood warning system needed changing. "We could have saved a lot more things if we had been warned sooner," he said. "Some people from the council warned Denton Road residents first but water did not get into their homes. Something must be done," he added.

Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club has had more than its share of floods over the years, but administrator Mrs. B. Nicholson said the flood on Sunday was the worst she had seen during her thirty years at the club. "You could only just see the tops of some goal posts, adjacent to the club, above the water," she said. "We firmly believe that an old building next to the new clubhouse would have been swept away if the new building had not been in the way. Stones and dirt have been deposited on the outdoor courts and even on part of the indoor courts," she said.

Mr. L. Rukin, of the Yorkshire Water Authority's Rivers Division, told the "Gazette" that it was impossible to say how high the River Wharfe had risen above its normal level with any degree of accuracy. "The level can be very deceptive because of things such as weirs and rises in the level of the river bed.

"However, in general terms I can say that the River Wharfe was at its worst since 1965, and the levels were certainly higher than they had been for many years," he said.

He added that the Wharfe was the most severely affected river in Yorkshire.

Sea Of Water

The first impression gained by many of the residents of Wharfe View Road-Castle Road whose homes overlook the whole of the recreational area on the north side of the river was that there was still a covering of snow.

However, on closer examination the whole area was of a grey colour and it moved. It was water. The riverside Memorial Gardens on the south side of the river, the East and West Holmes fields, the two rugby grounds, the soccer pitches, the two cricket grounds, and even the open air bathing pool were all under water.

The outlook from the top of Castle Hill, Castle Road and the park fronting on to Ilkley Playhouse presented a "sea" of water which stretched across Denton Road at the junction with Middleton Avenue and towards The Crum Wheel, the Swing Bridge and Middleton Woods.

Incredibly the footpath running alongside the River Wharfe at a point between the tunnel below the New Bridge and Rivadale View was clear and many of the sightseers who had come to witness the flooding had a "front row" view of the phenomenon.

Although the whole of the riverside Memorial Gardens was submerged by about a foot of water it did not deter two children using the facilities on the recreational square.

The flood water not only covered the whole of the riverside Memorial Gardens but stretched across Bridge Lane and at one stage reached the bottom flight of steps leading to the homes of residents.

On Sunday morning a "Road Closed" sign was placed in the middle of New Brook Street and although the police were at hand giving warnings the sightseeing car drivers travelling down from Leeds Road, Brook Street and Church Street did not appear to appreciate that Denton Road at the junction with Middleton Avenue and the cricket ground was impassable.

The river subsided just as quickly as it rose and by noon the green grass of the sports fields began to make its first appearance since the heavy snows began on that Sunday evening exactly three weeks before.

The sudden rise in the temperature into the fifties on Saturday evening were in extreme contrast to the situation just over a fortnight before when temperatures plunged to below zero, this being the coldest spell for a hundred years in Ilkley.

FREEZE RETURNS AFTER THAW

Since the sudden thaw at the weekend, when temperatures reached the highest for over a month, temperatures have once again plummeted below freezing point.

On Wednesday night, 18 degrees of frost was recorded at the Meteorological Station in Little Lane, Ilkley, when the temperature failed to rise above -0.2 C. (31.5 F). The minimum temperature on Wednesday was -8.5 C. (-17 F), which was the coldest since Christmas Day.

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Five phone calls

Miss Priscilla Heaton, a teacher who lives at 21 Bridge Avenue, Otley, said that last Thursday she made several attempts to obtain sandbags as she anticipated that there might be flooding because of the rapid thaw.

ty Council Highways Department. They referred me back to the police. Then I gave up and tried to ring Coun. Barry Peters who was out.

Miss Heaton said that the sandbags finally arrived at about 11am on Sunday - too late to be of any use.

"I feel that if the sandbags had been issued earlier a good deal more of the water would have been kept at bay.

"A good many people down here are hanging onto the sandbags to avoid any future delay", she said.

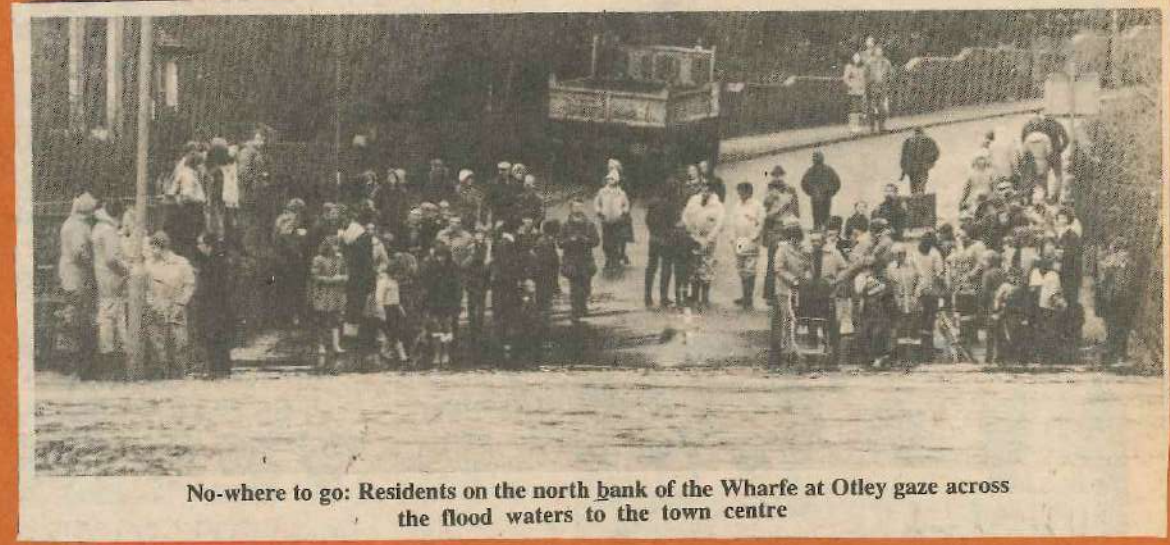
"I rang the Leeds Area Office in Otley and was told by them that the sandbags were the responsibility of the Yorkshire Water Authority.

"The Yorkshire Water Authority told me to telephone the Police who in turn referred me to the West Yorkshire Coun-

8 Jan 82



A vast lake stretched across Denton Road, covering the sports fields and swimming pool, early on Sunday morning.



No-where to go: Residents on the north bank of the Wharfe at Otley gaze across the flood waters to the town centre



The Old Bridge at Ilkley provided a good vantage point for sightseers to watch the swollen River Wharfe on Sunday.

8 Jan 82

Floodwater covering the Riverside Gardens did not deter everyone from using the playground equipment there.

The main road between Ilkley and Burley was cut off to normal traffic at Riversdale for much of the day.

ILKLEY PARISH COUNCIL AND LOCAL RESIDENTS BACK PLAN FOR NEW HILLARDS STORE

Support for an appeal against refusal of planning permission for a new Hillards supermarket at Ilkley is to be given by the Parish Council, and in a petition signed by 98 residents of the area around the firm's existing store.

In twelve days 5,280 people signed a petition at Hillards store in Railway Road supporting the firm's plan for a new store.

The appeal at Ilkley Town Hall on 19 January follows refusal of planning permission by Bradford Metropolitan Council for Hillards to build a new store on the former railway goods yard.

Bradford Metropolitan Council turned down the plans for a supermarket and light industrial units with parking for 150 cars because "it represents a substantial addition to the shopping floor space in Ilkley on a site clearly separated from the existing shopping centre. The local planning authority is concerned to ensure that the integrity of the existing shopping centre is retained in the interests of the shopping public.

"There are other current proposals for shopping developments on sites within the established shopping centre which would meet the local planning authority's objectives and it is considered this proposal is premature until these developments have taken place."

At the meeting of the Parish Council on Monday night the Chairman, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, said whilst it was thought unnecessary for anyone to appear on behalf of the Council to give evidence at the inquiry she thought a letter should be sent to the Inspector.

Cr. Mrs. B. J. Cussons said the Chairman of the Parish Council's Plans Committee, Cr. S. R. Crossley-Smith, who was unable to attend the meeting that night, would have made the following four points:-

1. Residents had complained about the affect of Hillards traffic on the adjacent residential area.
2. The siting of the existing shop would not be a major addition to the shopping floorspace of the town.
3. The grounds for refusal that the development would be too far out of the town no longer applied because of the proposed Shop and Store development to the west.
4. This action confirmed the Committee's recommendation in February, 1981 that the application be approved.

PETITION WILL SUPPORT APPEAL OVER STORE PLAN

A petition signed by 98 Ilkley residents who live near the Hillards store in Railway Road has been sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment protesting at the deterioration of their environment.

The signatories complain bitterly about inconvenience caused by people shopping at Hillards and say they feel that Hillards' plan for a new store on the former railway goods yard site at Ilkley would be a big step towards solving parking and traffic problems in the area.

Mr. Albert Berry, of Nile Road, said he was sick of the problems caused by Hillards customers, but had thought he was a "lone voice" until he talked to neighbours. As a result a petition had been organised and met with an overwhelming response, with 98 signatures from 66 houses in Nile Road, Trafalgar Road, Victory Road and Railway Road.

The petition is intended to support the appeal against refusal of planning permission for a new Hillards store at the public inquiry later this month.

It says, "We who live in the roads in the vicinity of Hillards supermarket are deeply concerned at the deterioration of our environment, caused largely by the parking and movement of Hillards customers' vehicles and delivery vehicles during shopping hours, but especially at peak periods.

"The terrace houses in this area have only very small gardens separating them from the road, and Hillards customers park practically on our doorsteps to off-load their trolleys.

"Besides the danger to the growing number of children in this area who have nowhere to play with safety, we are subject to a constant barrage of banging of car doors on arrival and on departure, the noise of starter motors and the acceleration of cars as they move off, with the resultant pollution of the atmosphere by petrol fumes.

"In addition, those of us who own cars can rarely park in front of our own doors—or even in our own street—during these busy periods," the petition continued.

NEW ORGAN FOR ILKLEY PARISH CHURCH

100 Years Ago

50 Years Ago

A subscription was opened to obtain a new organ for Ilkley Parish Church, and over £400 was contributed in response to an appeal. To lessen the deficit a Christmas tree and sale of work was held in the National School rooms. A big attraction was a Japanese stall which had the most attractive display of oriental goods, including Chinese lanterns and small toys. The large Christmas trees at the end of the room were filled with "little toys for the little folk." The sale was opened by the Vicar, Rev. A. C. Downer. In the evening there was a first class concert produced by Mr. J. Brydon, headmaster of the school.

The Bramley Concert party gave a fine concert in the Assembly Rooms to members of the Ilkley Temperance Society who enjoyed the full programme of songs, duets and recitations, which included the popular "Come into the Garden Maed."

75 Years Ago

25 Years Ago

A shocking accident at the Town Hall buildings which were in the course of erection occurred when two of the men working on the building lost their lives when part of the scaffolding collapsed. They were Frank Carter, Leamington Road, Ilkley and William Mitchell, Wilmot Road, Ilkley. Two other men had a lucky escape and only suffered a severe shaking, managing to cling to ladders. They were John Clarke, of Addingham and Joseph Spence, of Ilkley. Several people saw the men fall, and the crack was so loud as to resound throughout the railway station platforms.

Mr. Phillip H. Critchley, son of Mr. Salfitt Critchley of Ilkley was lost at sea when as an apprentice he was serving on the Liverpool ship, Pengwern which foundered on a reef at Cuxhaven. Mr. Critchley was a former pupil of Ilkley Grammar School and had been shipwrecked a year earlier some 60 miles south of the spot where he was drowned with all other hands.

Ilkley Amateurs were busy rehearsing for the biggest show they had yet staged, "Rose Marie", and were using the ballroom at the Troutbeck Hotel for this purpose. The coach was Mr. Philip F. Howley, and the title role was to be played by a promising young lady, Miss Enid Wearn.

A new organ was being installed in the Ilkley Baptist Church, and was to be officially opened by Sir William S. Jarrett, a nephew of the benefactor, Mr. Thos. Jarratt of Squirrel's Nest, Ilkley, who left the money as a memorial to his late wife.

Moisley's shoe shops, the Grove and Brook Street offered bargains in their January Sales. Black Lizard skin shoes at 16/9; real python shoes at 15/-, fine glace kid at 10/11, and children's "Killic shoes" in patent leather at 4/11 per pair. Busby's of Brook Street offered Dorma Pillow cases at 6/6d. each, and super quality bleached Turkish Bath towels at 1/-.

Great consternation was caused at an Education Committee meeting in the Town Hall, Ilkley, over a ten minute tea break taken by evening class students during their two hour periods of instruction. Members of the Committee said the students were supposed to have a full two hour period of classes and that the social side was a waste of time and money. Some other members claimed that the short break gave the students an opportunity to get to know one another and that it was a good thing, and that it also gave the teacher an opportunity to get to know individual members of his class. No agreement was reached on the principle of breaks.

Three-year-old Meg, a small wire haired terrier owned by Mr. Elias Pedley, Booth Street, Burley raised fifteen guineas for the Burley Old Folk by catching coins thrown to her in local public houses. Meg the "cadger" had become quite a celebrity in the district.

8 JAN 82

MEMORIAL EXHIBITION TO ARTHUR KITCHING

The current show at the Ilkley Manor House is a memorial exhibition to Arthur Kitching (1912-1981) who was Curator there for many years. His work is shown in the company of some of the many artists whom he encouraged and supported during his life time. As well as being Curator and Exhibitions Officer for Bradford Art Galleries and Museums, Arthur Kitching was in his own right an artist and teacher of exceptional ability and those who saw his retrospective exhibition at Cartwright Hall in 1977 or attended his lectures given to various Art Clubs over the years, were privileged indeed.

That his work is not more widely known is very sad and perhaps due to his reluctance to exhibit in London, the place where reputations are made.

The pictures on show at the Manor House are all drawing studies of the female nude and done during the last few months of his life. They fall into two categories, the earlier ones which are smaller, are

done with a scribbly agitated pen line, the artist stating and restating contour lines and the forms within searching but never succeeding in finding the ultimate solution. The second group of drawings are bigger and tend to greater simplicity, colour plays a more important part and the forms are dissolved in a thin solution of oil paint and turpentine.

Drawing to Arthur Kitching was not just his trade, he drew constantly in order to know and possess the appearance of things, he was compelled to draw, it was for him a way of life. Michael Aryton has said, "Great drawing is great intelligence at work on passion and perception. It is observation and it is logic, it is calculation and sensation. As a man thinks, so he draws." Arthur Kitching drew with great clarity as his pictures in the Manor House testify. His death was a great loss to the world of art and to all who knew him. The exhibition ends on Sunday, 24 January. M.C.

BRITISH MUSEUM STEPS IN OVER ILKLEY SAXON CROSSES

15 Jan 82

The British Museum has stepped in to the long-running argument over the Anglo-Saxon carved stone crosses outside Ilkley Parish Church.

The condition of the 1,100 year old crosses, a familiar sight in Ilkley churchyard for about one hundred years has always aroused concern.

The "Gazette" of 25 February, 1907, said "rain dripping from the trees and the action of the weather generally is causing the scroll work and figures to become more and more indistinct, until one day all trace of these will have entirely disappeared."

The scroll work and figures can still be made out, but

renewed concern has broken out. Weathering and pollution have taken their toll and representatives from the British Museum have inspected the crosses to ascertain the extent of the corrosion and decide whether they would deteriorate further if they were taken inside the church, as has been suggested. The British Museum have offered to help in the matter if they can.

One of the three crosses is already being kept inside after falling over last month. It is believed someone either leaned on it or pushed it over, but it has been removed.

Church authorities are now discussing what is to be done with the crosses, which acted

as gateposts in the area until the Rev. John Snowdon, on becoming vicar, had them removed to the south side of the Parish Church.

The West Yorkshire County Council's Archaeology Unit is working with the vicar of the Parish Church, the Rev. R. Cleland, to find a long-term solution.

Reports on the condition of the crosses, prepared by the Stone Conservation Officer of the British Museum, Mr. S. Hanna, and the Director of the Area Museum Service, Mr. M. Loynd, show that the best course of action would be for the crosses to be conserved and re-erected inside the church.



ACROSS THE YEARS 15 Jan 82

Vexed Question Over Ilkley Grammar School Scheme

100 Years Ago

50 Years Ago

Many ratepayers attended a public meeting called jointly by the chairmen of the Local and School Boards to discuss the vexed question of the Ilkley Grammar School Scheme. The Charity Commissioners had money in hand, by bequests, gifts and sale of properties for the erection of a new school to replace the old buildings in Skipton Road, and the proposal was that the school foundation should be a day and boarding school for boys, eventually, but at first only day boys should be catered for. The fees were to be reasonable, with the reach of most men with moderate means. There was the intention of providing some scholarships, and then it should be within reach of any youth in the township to gain entry to university.

The lives of different football clubs formed in Ilkley had been short and had achieved no real result. However, with more interest shown, a meeting was convened at the Crescent Hotel to form an Ilkley Football Club to which there was a large attendance. Mr. J. C. Atkinson presided, and a committee was to be formed. Red, white and blue were chosen as the club's colours and possible fixtures were to be arranged.

Mr. W. Dobson, Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council, presided over a town's meeting in the King's Hall, which urged the Government to do all in its power in connection with the forthcoming disarmament conference to reduce the strength of Britain's armed forces.

This meeting was in direct contrast to one held in Ilkley in September 1914 when 87 young men climbed on to the platform to enlist. Mr. Dobson remarked that many of these men had either lost their lives or had been badly wounded, and that he was standing up 17 years later asking for the abolition of armament for all time. His remarks were greeted with loud cheers from all present.

Never since the Ilkley Weather station was installed were such high barometric readings recorded as those during the last week of January. Accompanying this were keen frosts and unusually thick fogs. Visibility was so poor that vehicles had been proceeding at walking pace and many minor accidents occurred.

25 Years Ago

The number of dog accidents on roads in the Ilkley Urban District prompted Ilkley Road Safety Committee to include on its agenda for discussion the consideration of a new Road Traffic Act (Section 15). This act conferred on Authorities the power to certain stretches of roads on which it was a punishable offence to have dogs running free without leads.

A two-year scheme for the renovation and re-decoration of the Ilkley Town Hall was nearing completion with the provision of new doors at the entrance. The new doors which replaced the old worn and draughty ones were of plate-glass and attractively decorated with wrought ironwork.

The late January weather was reasonably good, with little frost and just a small amount of rain. The temperature in the main fluctuating between 42 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

75 Years Ago

Controversy still raged over the site of the proposed elementary school at Ben Rhydding. The West Riding Education Committee selected ground in Bolling Road opposite the church but a number of influential property owners and residents in the locality petitioned against this proposal on various grounds, and had assembled on the ground to protest and view a suggested alternative site.

The annual ball of Ben Rhydding Hockey Club in the winter gardens of Wells' House, Ilkley, was attended by about eighty people who danced to the music of Dean's Band Messrs. W. E. Firth, F. A. N. Howson, C. E. Daniel and L. Middleton were the officials in charge of the arrangements.

15 Jan 82

INQUIRY OVER STORE PLAN NEXT WEEK

Ilkley Town Hall will again be the venue for another public inquiry of major importance to the future development of the town on Tuesday.

This time the appeal is by British Railways Board, and concerns the refusal of planning permission for a new Hillards supermarket on the former railway goods yard at Springs Lane, Ilkley.

Plans for the supermarket and light industrial units, with parking for 150 cars, were turned down by Bradford Metropolitan Council because "it represents a substantial addition to the shopping floor space in Ilkley on a site clearly separated from the existing shopping centre. The local planning authority is concerned to ensure that the integrity of the existing shopping centre is retained in the interests of the shopping public."

There are other current proposals for shopping developments on sites within the established shopping centre which would meet the local planning authority's objectives and it is considered this proposal is premature until these developments have taken place.

The appeal has been supported by Ilkley Parish Council and by residents of streets around the existing Hillards store, who say their environment has suffered because of nuisance from customers parking outside their homes.

In addition, thousands of people have signed a petition at Hillards store in Railway Road supporting the firm's plan.

15 Jan 82

SHEEP SURVIVES THREE WEEK ORDEAL IN SNOW

Two sheep which lay underneath a snowdrift for three weeks were found alive.

Although one has since died of pneumonia, the other is recovering well.

The sheep went missing at Hodsons Farm, Addingham Moor-side, when blizzards struck the area last month, and were not found until the snow had finally thawed twenty-one days later.

They were then fed on a strict diet of glucose, milk and eggs.

Twelve year old Andrew Atkinson, one of three young sons of farmer and auctioneer Ben Atkinson, owned the sheep, part of a herd of about fifty. Andrew, a pupil at Addingham Middle School, explained what happened.

"When the snow came on the Sunday night we counted our sheep and discovered we had two missing. We searched several times but could not find them anywhere," he said.

"We had given up hope of seeing them alive again, but when the snow thawed we saw them lying in a field. We took them inside and put them in front of the fire to warm them up. Unfortunately, one has died, but the other is doing very well," said

SUPERMARKET PLAN TURNED DOWN TO PROTECT OTHER DEVELOPMENT, INQUIRY TOLD

A decision on an appeal for a new superstore at Ilkley is expected within the next few months. For two days this week legal advisers and planning experts presented their cases for and against a new Hillards store before an Inspector of the Department of the Environment.

During the hearing it was claimed Bradford Metropolitan Council had refused planning permission because it believed it would jeopardise plans to develop a site at South Hawksworth Street, although that site was less suited for a supermarket.

DAY ONE

The inquiry opened with evidence being given by the appellants and Mr. B. Marder Q.C. for the British Railways Board and Hillards said Hillards as an expanding and progressive retailing group had now found that their existing Ilkley store was inadequate and unsuitably located in the centre of Ilkley.

"Redevelopment on the present site is not practical and the existing supermarket on the site created inconvenience and traffic congestion," said Mr. Marder.

"Hillards have been interested for sometime in securing this appeal site to erect a supermarket which would be somewhat larger than the existing building. It would be a single storey building and would have ample parking spaces. It would have a gross floor space of 30,000 square feet with 17,000 square feet as a selling area and the remainder for storage and administration," said Mr. Marder.

What Residents Want

Hillards had been encouraged to pursue its appeal because this was the plan which the residents and shopping public of Ilkley wanted. A petition signed by 98 local residents and another petition which had been available at the present Hillards store at Ilkley and signed by just under 7,000 in support of a new store had been received, said Mr. Marder.

The differences between the appellants and the authority were very narrow and had been narrowed further by a degree of co-operation by the experts on each side, said Mr. Marder.

One of the principal witnesses for the appellant, Mr. M. E. T. Thorncroft, a surveyor, said whilst Ilkley had one of the highest levels of car ownership in the country it lacked modern supermarkets. The absence of those facilities caused a particularly striking loss of trade to the town, he said.

Mr. Thorncroft thought the proposal would make a substantial contribution to the planned provision of shopping in the town and would open up the possibility of industrial development on land further to the east.

"The application has been made by British Railways Board, the site owners, but terms have been agreed for the long term leasing of the site to Hillards Ltd a rapidly expanding and highly competitive supermarket group.

"Hillards Ltd. now operate thirty supermarkets mainly in the North of England with a further two in the planning or construction stage. The annual turn over of the group has increased from £11.17 million to £162.87 million over the past ten years mainly as a result of new openings and the

expansion of trade in existing stores by offering the shopping public value for money," said Mr. Thorncroft.

The present Ilkley supermarket was highly successful but suffered from a number of disadvantages including restricted floor space, car parking facilities and there were difficulties in servicing the supermarket.

More Jobs

"The proposed store will have a gross floor area of 30,000 square feet of which 17,000 square feet will be sales space all at ground level. It will be possible to provide 170 car parking spaces immediately adjacent together with proper facilities for servicing vehicles. The new store will provide 150 jobs an increase of 64 over the present number at the existing supermarket," said Mr. Thorncroft.

"It is proposed that the existing Hillards supermarket shall be re-let to a non-food trader. Having regard to its size and location it is probable that the premises will attract a non-food trader needing a large area for storage and display such as for the sale of furniture, DIY and other bulky items. At the present time, Ilkley town centre is deficient in such an outlet," said Mr. Thorncroft.

"The present planning policy guidelines for shopping in the Ilkley town centre are vague. The appeal site lies outside the boundary of the shopping centre as defined in the Draft Ilkley Town Map although officers of the Council have been prepared to consider some form of retail development in earlier discussions. The Council's main concern at present is that the appeal proposals would constitute a separate and competing centre with the existing town centre and could provide together with other committed and proposed retail developments, over-shopping in this small district centre. In the absence of a clear policy, it is open for the appellants to show that their proposals will serve a local need and enhance Ilkley town centre as a whole without detriment to realistic new shopping proposals," said Mr. Thorncroft.

Loss Of Trade

Whilst Ilkley has one of the highest levels of car ownership in the country it lacks modern supermarkets, went on Mr. Thorncroft. The absence of these facilities caused a particularly striking loss of trade to the town. The present supermarket facilities in the town offered poor facilities for car shoppers burdened with weekly groceries, he said.

"It is estimated that about three-quarters of all households will have the use of a car in the Ilkley hinterland. The local planning authority accept that proper provision must be made for such shop-

pers in Ilkley and one of the main benefits of the appeal proposals is that this need can be met without substantial change or damage to the existing centre," said Mr. Thorncroft.

The scheme would not affect the integrity of Ilkley town centre by separating to some extent the two main functions. Firstly as a shopping centre serving the immediate hinterland and, secondly, as a quality centre supported not only by a local affluent population but also by holiday visitors.

"In environmental terms, the second function is more sensitive and requires that some of the hurly burly of ordinary shopping should be removed from the immediate vicinity of the central area," said Mr. Thorncroft.

"The scheme largely replaces an existing supermarket which is congested and can not be expanded in its present locality. The new store will meet satisfactory standards in terms of ground floor sales area, car parking and servicing," said Mr. Thorncroft.

"In all the circumstances, there is an advantage in locating a large good store on the periphery of a small town centre such as Ilkley. It will remove the pressures which even the present level of trade causes difficulty around the existing Hillards supermarket.

In his conclusions, Mr. Thorncroft said "the appeal proposals do not prejudice committed shopping within the town centre nor do they pre-empt major shopping proposals adjoining the central car park which will meet the needs of this sensitive area," said Mr. Thorncroft.

"In addition to these benefits, the appeal proposals offer substantial planning gains with regard to employment, car parking adjacent to the town centre, potential industrial development, and environmental improvements both to the appeal site and to the town centre generally by syphoning off car shopper traffic which could congest car parks and adjacent roads," he said.

Mr. Tom Parr, Development Director of Hillards presented a petition with 6,983 signatures supporting Hillards plan for a new store.

The signatures had been collected from customers at the existing store in a period of less than one month.

He said he would look at a central site in Ilkley if one could meet the necessary requirements. The South Hawksworth Street site had too many constraints for this type of development, said Mr. Parr.

Not Room For Two

The case against the proposals began with evidence being given by Mr. M. Day, a senior planning officer with Bradford Metropolitan Council.

"My analysis indicates that there is room for one large supermarket in Ilkley of the size proposed by the appellants, but there is not room for two. I accept that there is perhaps room for an enlarged Woolworth's and a number of specialist shops in Brook Street, which is a prime shopping location. I consider, however, the prospects are not good for a large retail development on the combined site, the subject of the development brief, if both the Brook Street development and appeal proposal took place. I acknowledge that the West Yorkshire Co-op might still wish to take the risk to develop, subject to obtaining planning approval, irrespective of the two other development schemes, but I am firmly of the opinion that the redevelopment of the bus garage for retail purposes would never take place, if the other two development schemes went forward," said Mr. Day.

He said there was a substantial leakage of expenditure out of the Ilkley area, the majority of which was likely to continue even with all the development currently proposed.

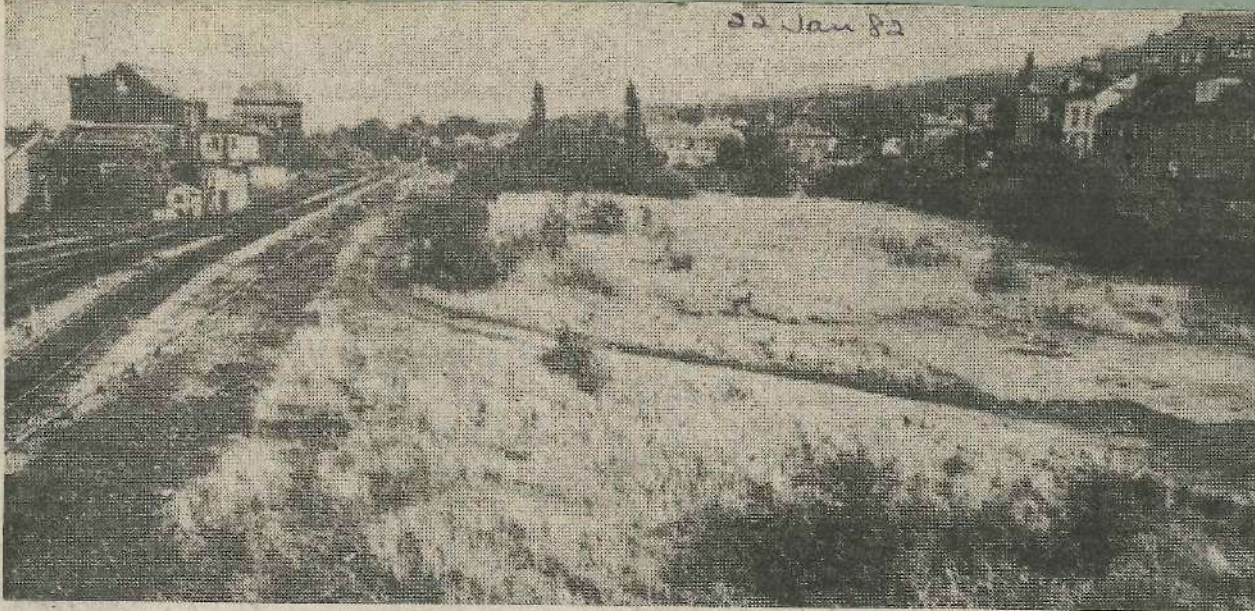
"If all the retail development schemes in the pipeline went ahead, and there is no reason to doubt individually that they would not, then expenditure in the catchment area would equate with theoretical turnover. Such an event would not happen in practice.

"It is unlikely because of this that all the schemes at present envisaged would take place or if they did that they would be successful in being let. If they were successful they would need to capture about fifty per cent of the existing retailers trade in the main shopping centre. This would have considerable repercussions on the viability of existing retail outlets in the central shopping area," said Mr. Day.

"I consider that after studying the patterns of turnover and expenditure in the Ilkley area, there is room for only one large supermarket of the type now proposed. There are only two available sites to accommodate such development, one is the appeal site and the other is the land at South Hawksworth Street.

"The Council's objective in Ilkley, as stated in the reason for refusal, is to maintain a compact and convenient shopping centre, retaining its integrity, in addition to its declared intention of conserving the centre of Ilkley.

"In order to realise this proper planning objective I consider that the two other development proposals in the central shopping area should go ahead before one considers developing the appeal site for retail purposes," said Mr. Day.



The former railway goods yard in Springs Lane, Ilkley, where Hillards want to build a new supermarket.

DAY TWO

When the inquiry resumed on Wednesday morning Area Planning Officer with Bradford Metropolitan Council, Mr. E. D. Scott said the Town planning in Ilkley had a chequered history.

"In view of the greatly increased activity in this field in the last eighteen months I believe that we, at this inquiry, are in a position to ensure that future development in the town follows a logical and ordered pattern, which its people are looking for and deserve," said Mr. Scott.

"The proposed development is very significant in terms of the impact it will

have on the existing shopping centre, and would result in two shopping areas being separated by a quarter of a mile of dead frontage.

"The proposal would create shopping floorspace of a scale similar to that which can be accommodated on the South Hawksworth Street combined site, and the two are therefore in competition", said Mr. Scott.

"In locational terms the South Hawksworth Street site offers positive benefits to all shoppers, since it is in the heart of the existing shopping centre, and it is adjacent to a shoppers car park which the Secretary of State does not feel is unduly congested.

Unique Benefits

"The redevelopment of the South Hawksworth Street site is vital to the aims of the extended Conservation Area, and also to weld together the revitalisation of the car park area in shopping terms. Thus it would result in several unique planning benefits, to all the community, at once," said Mr. Scott.

"The subject proposal, however, offers only limited planning gains in terms of the possible improvement of traffic problems on Railway Road, and an efficient shopping operation for car-borne shoppers. The creation of new jobs would also result from the use of the site for industrial or residential purposes, for which it offers considerable potential.

"Thus the District Council is advocating that an ordered and logical approach be taken to town planning in Ilkley. It has a bustling town centre whose character springs from imposing architecture based on a tightly knit pattern of streets. Thus the optimum location for shopping development to benefit all sections of the community, is within the existing centre. The District Council requests, therefore, that the prime sites at Brook Street and South Hawksworth Street be allowed to be developed first, and their effects on the shopping centre assessed through experience, before new lands—such as the subject proposal—are considered for release," said Mr. Scott.

(Continued on page eight)

SUPERMARKET APPEAL

The inquiry, which was held in Ilkley Town Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday, was called after Bradford Metropolitan Council turned down a plan to build a new Hillards supermarket on derelict land formerly used as a railway goods yard.

Bradford Metropolitan Council turned down the plan mainly on the grounds that the development represented a substantial addition to the shopping floor space of the town on a site separated from the shopping centre, and that other current proposals for shopping developments on sites within the established shopping centre would meet the local planning authority's objectives.

For the West Yorkshire Road Car Company Director and General Manager, Mr. E. M. K. Corner said the Company had no private objection to Hillards seeking planning consent for a supermarket. However, the Company had suggested at the public inquiry last year over the Co-operative Society's plans for South Hawksworth Street, that all similar applications should be called in and this had not come to fruition.

He said the Company felt that off-centres may be considered premature until potential central area sites had been developed. The Co-operative appeal site and bus depot site were central and right for development.

BOTH SIDES AGREED

Mr. Anthony McGrath, summing up for Bradford Metropolitan Council, said both sides agreed that the proposed development would account for over half the convenience goods sales which could be expected in the centre of town. However, the Hillards site would be well away from the centre.

This must have a substantial impact on the existing town centre trade.

Both agreed there was scope in Ilkley for only one large supermarket and the Council contended that if the new Hillards store went ahead it would prejudice the development of the South Hawksworth Street site.

The Council was concerned that the integrity of the shopping centre be maintained. It was essential that development went ahead on the central sites before sites outside the centre were considered. This was the logical sequence of events.

Mr. Bernard Marder Q.C., for the appellant, said all agreed that the building of a supermarket on the appeal site was a suitable land use. It would be in accordance with the wishes of the public.

Even Bradford Council was not against development of the site. They wanted it postponed until the S. Hawksworth Street development had gone ahead.

Both sides agreed that Ilkley lost a high proportion of retail trade to other towns and that some could be recovered by improved shopping facilities.

The building of a large food supermarket at Ilkley would strengthen it as a shopping town, protecting its integrity and vitality, said

Mr. Marder.

The development of the South Hawksworth Street site was not threatened by this appeal and although there were constraints there was no reason why it should not be developed, he said.

Mr. Marder stressed that there was a shopping deficiency in Ilkley, mainly the absence of a large food supermarket. The appeal site was more appropriate than the South Hawksworth Street site for a large single storey development, he said.

Meeting To Form A Women's Temperance Society

100 Years Ago

For the purpose of forming in Ilkley an auxiliary branch of the Women's Temperance Society, a meeting was held in the room above Mr. Benson's shop in Brook Street, where there was a very large attendance. The Chair was taken by the Vicar of Ilkley, Rev. A. C. Downer. Miss Haslam, the speaker, expressed her pleasure at the earnestness with which these ladies had taken up the work. She gave instances of drunkenness in the country, and deplored the affect it had on children as well as their parents. She exhorted masters and mistresses of servants to provide non-alcoholic beverages instead of the customary beer and ale.

A large number of Ilkley cabmen, together with their wives and the cab proprietors, were invited to a supper in the National schools by Miss Esteridge to inaugurate the opening of a Cabmen's shelter which was to be placed in the Station yard. Mr. T. Sargeant expressed the appreciation of local cabmen as to the generous gift of the shelter and presented Miss Esteridge with a suit-

able illuminated address in an elaborate gilt frame which was covered with a bouquet of flowers.

75 Years Ago

Severe frost had the effect of covering six of the filter beds with ice, and not withstanding "the anything but salubrious atmosphere" many people were skating on them at the weekend.

Mr. G. K. Chesterton, distinguished journalist and critic, who visited Ilkley frequently, addressed a crowded gathering in the Wesleyan Assembly Hall in connection with the Bronte Society. He took as his subject "Charlotte Bronte and the Realists". Mr. Chesterton said that the novel "Jane Eyre" had been described as the "finest 'Shocker' ever written. He deplored the fact that later novels of Charlotte Bronte's did not produce one story half so good as that of Jane Eyre.

The Northern Cinematograph Co., advertised a "Grand Exhibition" where the audiences were invited to see the Great Bull Fight and the San Francisco Earthquake and a large number of "miscellaneous and comical pictures."

50 Years Ago

A macabre incident occurred in the cemetery at God's Acre, Burley-in-Wharfedale, when a builder and contractor, Mr. Harry Maude, engaged on the construction of a vault in the cemetery suddenly collapsed and died, whilst inside the grave.

A varied and entertaining programme was presented by scholars and friends at the annual prizegiving in connection with the Ilkley Parish Church Sunday School, which was held in the Church Institute. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Stavert. Songs were rendered by the choir boys, Mr. H. G. Crawshaw and Miss E. Polden. Piano solos were played by Miss C. Binks, Master W. Rayner, Mary Poole and Kathleen Naylor. Sketches were presented by the girls trained by Miss Holroyd and Miss Neal and also by members of the Girl's Club.

25 Years Ago

Rate relief to the Ilkley Rugby Club, the Ilkley Golf Club and to premises actually occupied by the Minister of a church or chapel were agreed by Ilkley Urban Council at their monthly meeting.

An offer by the Yeadon Waterworks Company to purchase the Ilkley Urban Council Water Undertakings was declined by Ilkley Council, on the grounds that it was Ilkley Waterwork's primary duty to secure a pure and abundant supply of water at a reasonable cost for their own consumers.

Mr. Harry Eagle, Chairman of Ilkley Grammar School Governors, denied an allegation that the governors had rejected an idea that the Ilkley area was ideal for amalgamation with the Ilkley Secondary School to form a comprehensive school. Mr. Eagle told the Ilkley Gazette that no communication had been received by the Governors suggesting such a merger or asking for their views on Comprehensive schools.

BLUEPRINT FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTROVERSIAL SITE

A blueprint for the development of a valuable site in the centre of Ilkley was accepted by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Sub-committee on Monday.

It could mean the provision of a departmental store or shops and possibly a cinema on the site off South Hawksworth Street, most of which is at present a car park. A bus garage is part of the site, and the Planning Sub-committee is in favour of the site as a whole being developed possibly in phases.

An application to develop part of the site by West Yorkshire Co-op was turned down by the Department of the Environment last year but the Co-op and West Yorkshire Road Car Company, owners of the garage, have made applications to re-develop the site for retailing outlets and car parking—a possibility of a cinema is included in one—and the Council has already given planning permission for part of the site to be developed. That latter scheme, if pursued, might have to be adapted or re-appraised in the light of the decision to develop the whole site.

The brief prepared by the Council planners will be used as a guide by the Planning sub-committee in considering schemes for the site and copies of it will be sent to the Co-op and the bus company, who will be asked to submit new schemes to meet its guidelines.

Excellent Brief

Cr. Harry Peacock, the chairman, said it was an excellent brief and was sure it was in the best interests of Ilkley.

Cr. A. E. Turner, Ilkley, asked that the brief should not be accepted until Ilkley Parish Council had considered it. He wanted the Parish Council to co-ordinate the opinion of other interested bodies. He felt they were being denied a fair say.

Cr. Peacock did not agree, and said that to defer the matter now would only prolong it. Any of the applicants who had put in schemes could complain to the Department of the Environment if they felt there was any undue delay but he was willing for the Parish Council to have a copy of the brief to comment if it wanted. This was agreed

by the Sub-committee.

Cr. Mrs. Winifred Clavering of Menston, supported Cr. Turner. She said that generally she thought the Parish Council would not object to the brief but would support the development of the whole site.

The sub-committee had before it letters from the Parish Council and the Civic Society about commercial development in general.

In turning down the previous application for store development on the site an Inspector of the Department suggested a re-assessment of the scale of development in the light of the current situation.

He said the production of some form of policy document or guidelines would be of assistance.

Main Aims

The brief sets out its main aims as suggesting a form of development for the site in keeping with and enhancing a crucial part of the town centre. It suggests the form buildings should take with the overall height not to exceed three storeys to the north elevation and not to exceed two storeys to the south. Single storey development or ancillary storage areas should have the appearance of a two storey development. With the amount of retail development being limited by car parking, the maximum amount of super-market type floor space was likely to be 16,000 sq. feet.

A separate report to the Sub-committee said that after little or no activity by way of the provision of new retail floor space at Ilkley it was not surprising that proposals for such development had aroused considerable public interest.

Bradford's principal planner Mr. John Steel said he hoped the brief would provide a way ahead. It was a basis against which existing and future applications could be tested. In approving the brief the Council was not approving any of the applications.

29 Jan 82

PLANS FOR THE EXTENSION OF ILKLEY CONSERVATION AREA ON DISPLAY AT EXHIBITION

Bradford Metropolitan Council's plan for extending the Conservation Area in Ilkley has been on display this week at a special exhibition in the Kings Hall.

The exhibition, which ends tomorrow (Saturday) has been staged by the Council to gauge public opinion on their proposed boundary, which covers an area from the River Wharfe to Ilkley College in the south, and from Wellington Road in the east to Westville Road, which will form the approximate line of the western boundary.

The present Conservation Area, designated by the former West Riding County Council, is based on the approximate boundaries of the Roman Fort, and only covers a small area around Church Street.

A spokesman for the Council's Planning Division said their aim was to make sure each part of Ilkley's development was represented by the new Conservation Area—the Roman and Dark Age, the Hydropathic period, the town's growth as a residential community from the coming of the railway, as a resort town and as a self-supporting individual community.

Out On A Limb

"Our proposed Conservation Area would mean that some locations important to Ilkley's history would be 'out on a limb', such as White Wells, Ilkley Bridge and Hebers Ghyll, but as they are not under threat, we do not think it matters," he said.

and smaller houses built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

The spokesman for the Planning Division said that when the Conservation Area was extended it would not automatically mean there would be no further building in that area. "All it would legally mean is that permission would be needed to demolish any buildings or prune or fell any trees," he said.

Own Suggestions

Ilkley Parish Council, Ilkley Civic Society and the Victorian Society have made their own suggestions for where they think the boundary of the Conservation Area should be extended to, and their proposed boundaries are also on display at the exhibition.

Bradford Council does not entirely agree with the proposed boundaries and so has drawn up what it believes is a good compromise.

Ilkley Parish Council's pro-

The Victorian Society have said: "We accept that a degree of new development is inevitable in Ilkley as in any other town. Ilkley can not be embalmed, yet some recent developments have detracted seriously from the character and amenity of the town and there is a real need to monitor the design of future proposals and to encourage building commensurate with the quality of the old. This could best be done within the context of a much extended Conservation Area; the Conservation Area as proposed would be of incalculable value in controlling redevelopment."

The Chairman of Ilkley Civic Society, Mr. Gilbert Lister, this week paid tribute to the way in which Bradford Metropolitan Council presented the exhibition. "Bradford Council have done Ilkley proud in the professional way they have staged the exhibition," he said. "The Civic Society has also had a small exhibition themselves at Ilkley Library and we would like to thank the staff for their co-operation," he added.

A spokesman for Bradford's Planning Division said that any suggestions or comments from the exhibition would be considered, and it was not likely that the Planning Subcommittee would make any final decision about the Conservation Area boundary before March.



Inspecting the displays at the exhibition for extending the Ilkley Conservation Area which ends tomorrow (Saturday) in the Kings Hall.

Bradford Council has listed several areas of Ilkley which they see as important to be included in the Conservation Area. It considers Skipton Road to be an important area, where it says there were many examples of terraces, semi-detached villas and large houses of Victorian and Edwardian times. It also considers The Grove and Brook Street to be important and also mentions Leeds Road for its terraces of shops

posed boundary would basically cover a central band of the town, from the River Wharfe to Ilkley College. It claims this would cover the central shopping areas of Ilkley, the older part of the town and the area just south of the river, and would protect important buildings and their setting, preserve the facades of houses and shops, encourage appropriate new development and protect open sites and the riverside.

The Parish Council feel that a Conservation Area covering the whole town, as was originally suggested by the Civic Society, would place too great a burden on the town. The Parish Council's proposal includes two options—one including the undeveloped land adjacent to the railway station and the other excluding it.

The Civic Society have a proposal on their minutes for the whole of Ilkley to be covered by the Conservation Area, but for now they have adopted a mutual boundary proposal with the Victorian Society. They feel the whole