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# FLOODS REPORT IS BEING PREPARED

## Assurance that Otley and Ilkley will not be overlooked

An assurance that local areas which were flooded when the Wharfe burst its banks—notably Otley and Ilkley—will not be overlooked when a comprehensive report on flooding is prepared by officials of the Yorkshire Authority, has been given by the Authority's chief executive, Mr. J. Brooksbank, following an approach made to him by Dr. Keith Hampson, M.P. for the Ripon Constituency.

Following the recent flooding, which caused damage to property near the Wharfe, Dr. Hampson wrote to Mr. Brooksbank in the following terms:

"I am very grateful to you for giving me the time to discuss the flooding in the Wharfe at a time when you had far more pressing concerns elsewhere in the county."

"The people in Otley were full of praise at the efficiency of the flood warning system and, apart from a few basements, little damage seems to have been done there."

"The farmers badly affected at Castley are accustomed to the river flooding, but they do feel strongly that over the years the banks have badly eroded and so feel that some improvement is called for in this stretch of the river."

"There do, however, seem to be lessons that can be learned from the Ilkley experience. No one seems to have realised quite which streets would be affected. Unlike the Otley position, those which were flooded received no warning or any sandbags and there were some houses which suffered well over a foot of water in their ground floor rooms."

"Clearly the Authority's priorities may have to lie with Boroughbridge and York, but I would press on you the need to review the priority currently given to this stretch of the Wharfe and it would be very satisfactory if some hope could be offered to people that there would be improvements within, say, five years."

### Full report

In reply, Mr. Brooksbank has written:

"The Director of our Rivers Division has already been asked to prepare a full report on the recent flooding which is unfortunately still affecting the Selby area, when the intense pressure under which he and his officers are working at present eases a little."

"That report will review the history of the flood and will be of great interest far beyond the membership of our Land Drainage Committee. The most important part of the report will then follow in which the Director has been asked to set out the lessons which have been learned and the steps which should, in his opinion, be taken to minimise the risk of a recurrence."

"It is probably sad but true to say that the combination of melting snow and heavy rain which led to Yorkshire's floods could not be completely contained at an acceptable cost, but the technical officers must advise if there are any solutions and attempt to put a price to such works. Then the members of the Authority and the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food will have to consider that report and decide to what extent the price should be paid."

"I assure you that the area which you represent which suffered quite severely at the beginning of the flood will not be overlooked but will feature in the report, together with those places on the River Ouse which have been even more severely flooded."

5 Feb 82

## DISAPPOINTING ATTENDANCE AT EXHIBITION

The special exhibition at the Kings Hall last week at which Bradford Metropolitan Council's plan for extending Ilkley's Conservation Area was on display was not as well attended as expected, a spokesman for the Council's Planning Department said this week.

Mr. C. Hughes told the "Gazette" that, apart from the final day last Saturday, the exhibition was not attended by nearly as many people as they had hoped for. "In terms of numbers who attended it was disappointing, but we think it was successful in so far as the people who came seemed to understand the 'storyline' very well, and we were very pleased about how complimentary people were about the exhibition," he said.

Mr. Hughes said the Council was now investigating the possibility of staging the exhibition again in Ilkley in the near future. "We are looking into ways in which the exhibition could be shown again in Ilkley, but it was very costly to put on and there are few alternative suitable sites where it could be staged. However, we are hoping to make use of the exhibition again in the not too distant future," he said.

He added that some of the material used in the exhibition could be moved to Ilkley permanently and displayed at the Manor House or the library. "We are yet to discuss the possibility of permanently moving some of the material for display in Ilkley, but there is a chance it could be done," he said.

At the monthly meeting of Ilkley Parish Church Council on Monday night, Chairman of the Council's Plans Committee, Cr. S. Crossley-Smith said the exhibition had been very well staged.

"We have to get a feed back from the people who have been to the exhibition and I would like to see them passing their comments to the Council," said Cr. Crossley-Smith.

Across The Years

29 Jan 82

## A Fashionable Wedding Was A Rare Occurrence

### 100 Years Ago

### 50 Years Ago

Ilkley was yesterday morning agog with excitement and commotion, occasioned by one of those rare occurrences—a fashionable marriage. So began the report in the Gazette in January 1882, of the wedding of Miss Lucy Douglas the second daughter of William Douglas Esquire of Ikley Hall to F. C. Bradley Esquire of Ireton Wood House, Wirksworth, Derbyshire. The marriage took place at the Parish Church, followed by a breakfast at the hall and a grand ball in the evening "at which a numerous and fashionable company assembled". The wedding presents were "exquisitely beautiful and valuable" consisting of cases of silver plate, jewel case, richly bound books and needlework.

The Surveyor told members of Ilkley Local Board that there were still parties who had objected to the rates levelled in the previous March and who still refused to pay. He was instructed to threaten these defaulters with legal proceedings to be taken against them unless they paid immediately.

### 75 Years Ago

The busts ordered to be placed in the new Free Library of Rev. Dr. Collyer and Mr. Andrew Carnegie were being cast in bronze by Miss Frances Darlington.

There was a brilliant display of the Aurora Borealis witnessed in the North of England, and Ilkley residents reported having seen the beautiful spectacle. The display of colours reflected on the moors above Middleton was stated to have been a fine sight.

There was a soup kitchen in operation in Ilkley to provide soup for the unemployed workpeople of the town and their dependents. Forty gallons were provided daily, which was given out with bread, according to the needs of the families. On some occasions sausage dumplings were provided to accompany the meal. It was run by a relief committee from members of all the churches in the town and held in the P.S.A. buildings.

Pupils of St. Mary's Catholic School Ilkley gave a "pretty concert" to an audience of parents and friends.

There was a pageant of Nursery Rhyme characters following an opening speech by P. Copley. There were songs in unison, and an attractive country dance by the infants. J. Ellum danced a graceful toe dance and a Dutch dance was performed by F. Bester, H. Farmery, L. Harrison, and M. Conlon. The senior boys presented themselves as the Village Minstrels, with music on combs and paper. One accomplished dance was given by J. and B. Ellum entitled "The Gollywog's Courtship". The evening closed with a short pantomime "Dick Whittington", in which the part of Dick was played by L. Forrest and D. Smith played Alice. The cat was N. Dobson who proved to be a striking success.

There had been a generous response by Ilkley people to an appeal made by Mrs. Lane Fox for the provision of clothing to the distressed mining areas of Yorkshire.

### 25 Years Ago

A Ben Rhydding schoolboy, Michael J. Walker (15), of Wheatley Avenue, found cup and ring markings on the Hangingstone Rocks, three hundred yards to the West of the Cow and Calf. He was a pupil of Bradford Boys Grammar School and a member of their Archaeological Society. He told the "Gazette" that he believed the rocks to have been used in religious rituals of some kind and dated the markings in the Bronze Age.

The Ilkley Branch of the Royal Air Force Association held a successful party at "Annandale" to celebrate its sixth birthday. Amongst their guests were invited members of the Skipton and Bradford branches. Following dancing and party games a birthday cake was cut by Mr. E. J. White, Mrs. J. Eaton and Miss Marjorie Bennett organised the supper and the games.

# VICTORIANA

Wharfe Valley Times  
4 Feb 82



The entrance to the Arcade

The grandeur of shopping in Ilkley in Victorian days could soon be recreated if an imaginative scheme being considered at present gets the go ahead.

Plans have been submitted by Vincent Dobson Holdings of Ilkley, to restore The Arcade near the town's central car park in Victorian style.

The Arcade which extends from South Hawksworth Street to the parallel Church Street would be renovated to provide eight to ten shop units of various sizes on two floors.

The decor throughout the arcade would reflect the Victorian atmosphere with gas lantern lighting, botanical gardens, brass window sills and sign writing in Victorian style.

There is also a possibility of a fountain area, an aviary or an aquarium to provide something which would appeal to family shopping.

## Return to a gracious age

Other ideas being looking into by the developers include a barrel organ, a brass ensemble, a Victorian roast chestnut cart and a hot baked potato stall.

A main feature of the arcade would be an elaborate cast iron Victorian staircase leading up to a balcony which would link across to bring the two upper trading areas into operation.

A decision on the scheme, which has the full backing of the town's Civic Society, is due to be made shortly by Bradford Building Control. If approval is granted the developers hope to have The Arcade completed by May 1.

"We have great confidence in the scheme and feel it will blend perfectly with Ilkley's setting", said Mr Vincent Dobson.

"We are considering a variety of ideas at the moment to reflect the Victorian palm court atmosphere but hope to find a suitable name for the arcade. I would be interested to hear from any reader with suggestions".

Mr Dobson has reserved a large area within the new development to open a kitchen studio specialising in Siematic and English kitchens. Letting agents for the shop units are Andrew Sharpe and Ptnrs., of Ilkley.

ACROSS THE YEARS 5 Feb 82

## Planning The Railway From Ilkley To Skipton

100 Years Ago

A special meeting to consider the alternative railway schemes between Ilkley and Skipton was called by the Local Board. After careful examination of the plans it was decided to take no steps forward at that time, but the Clerk was instructed to write to the promoters of the intended new railway asking them to supply details of the bridge proposed to be built across Brook Street and also to clarify the mode of constructing the scheme in the Ilkley district whether by means of arches or embankments.

Upwards of 100 people sat down to tea provided by friends in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, under the direction of the ladies of the Congregation. Mr. Jas. Rhodes generously offered to give an organ to the chapel on the condition that the people collected or contributed £150 towards the debt on the building.

50 Years Ago

At a time when unemployment figures were "at their most depressing stage", news that work had been started on a new weaving shed at Addingham for a new subsidiary company formed by Lister and Co. Ltd., of Bradford, which would employ at least 200 operatives, was extremely welcome news to local people. At that time there were already over 300 people working at Low Mill, High Mill and Burnside Mill, over a hundred of them being residents of Ilkley. Low Mill was reputed to be one of the oldest if not the oldest, spinning mill in the country. The oldest portion dated from 1787.

A programme of immunisation against diphtheria had been put into operation amongst the Ilkley schoolchildren by Dr. H. T. Bates, Medical Officer of Health. It was intended to visit all the local schools to treat all children whose parents had given consent. This followed outbreaks of the disease in the district.

75 Years Ago

Mr. John Kellett, who for years had been a member of the Ilkley Brass Band, was appointed leading solo cornet player in the 20th Hussars Band. His appointment entailed a special enlistment from the War Office and in addition to his musical activities he was to undergo the usual military training, particularly the playing of his instrument whilst riding a horse.

February weather was described as very changeable, ranging from severe and rigorous cold to balmy days more typical of mid-spring. There had also been gales, and a period of snow followed by bright sunshine.

Public attention to the steep rise in the cost of living was drawn by the fact that cheese was 9d. per lb. and bacon and ham prices, the highest for many years. The buying of tinned corned beef was advised for economy which sold for only 6d. per lb.

25 Years Ago

Thirteen organ pipes were bent or wrenched from their settings at Burley Salem Congregational Church by an intruder who forced a way from the organ loft into the church.

The Congregational Sunday school had been broken into a few days earlier and a collecting box containing about 5s. all in farthings was taken from a cupboard.

Dr. A. N. Melvyn, Station Road, Burley, retired after 32 years of general practice in Burley. He was succeeded by Dr. E. W. Green, who was married and had a son and a daughter.

Mr. A. E. Simmons, Headmaster of Burley Church of England School, submitted his resignation to the Education Committee to take effect as from August, 1957. He had been at the school for 22 years.

Wallace Arnold continental coach cruises offered holidays to Switzerland, French Riviera, Italy Paris or Rome from 28½ guineas.

# FACE LIFT FOR ILKLEY MOOR AS COUNCIL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME GETS UNDER WAY

A three part plan to give Ilkley Moor a face lift is well under way. Improved grazing, drainage, new plantations, better footpaths and car parking facilities will eventually enhance the visual quality of the moorland.

A report on the progress so far made by Bradford Metropolitan Council was given by the Senior Countryside Warden, Mr. L. Morgan, to members of Ilkley Parish Council on Monday night.

Under phase one some major footpaths were to be improved and plantations created whilst under phase two and three there would be further improvements to paths, minor roads, drainage and car parks, said Mr. Morgan.

One of the major issues concerning Ilkley Moor had been the question of grazing rights but Mr. Morgan was hoping that this problem would soon be solved both for the benefit of the graziers and the people who used the moor for recreation.

Various methods were being explored to replace crowberry which had taken over from heather on the lower parts of the moor.

## Cow And Calf Area

"The obvious pressure point on the moor is the area around the Cow and Calf Rocks where we have plans for restoring the car park and footpaths," said Mr. Morgan.

Under phase one the major paths in that area would receive attention but the car park would be left to the last because it would have to serve as a place to store materials while other work was going on, he said.

This year it had been decided to deal with the first plantation and whether it was favoured or not it did form an integral part of the moor worth preserving. In order to preserve the new plantation it had been necessary to erect a protective fence to keep out sheep.

"This is the only reason we have built the fence," said Mr. Morgan who went on to assure Councillors that it never was or never would be Bradford Council's intention to restrict access to Ilkley Moor. It was their intention to preserve and improve it.

"Once the trees have got hold we will take down the fence," said Mr. Morgan.

With the help of Ilkley Grammar School six hundred Scotch pines were planted but within a week heavy snows left only the tops of the trees visible and the snow enabled the sheep to walk across and eat off the tops, said Mr. Morgan.

Footpaths behind the Cow and Calf Rocks down to Backstone Beck involved one of the biggest jobs of the moor and then there was the problem of trying to replace crowberry, said Mr. Morgan.

"One of the biggest problems about crowberry is that the sheep won't eat it. They eat instead the young heather. There are various ways we are trying to get rid of crowberry but the big push will be in stage three," said Mr. Morgan.

"Another job requiring urgent attention is the road up to White Wells and here we have a dilemma, we don't want to make the road too good so too many people will want to go up there," said Mr. Morgan.

In answer to questions from Councillors Mr. Morgan in reply to Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, Chairman said it was the

## Civic Society's Concern

A copy of a letter from Ilkley Civic Society to Ilkley Parish Council supporting the Council in its concern for the conservation of Ilkley Moor had been handed to Mr. Morgan.

This stated that the Society was particularly concerned about the situation regarding the bridle path, the misuse of footpaths and the damage being done by the riding of motor cycles.

The Civic Society says there are still no way-markers for the bridle path in many places, there had been no report on the promised monitoring of its use, and none of the proposed safeguards for walkers.

It claims riders are still using definitive footpaths and endangering unique archaeological features on the moor,

and believes that it is important for the future of the moor to get a clear policy on the use of bridle paths and footpaths before the next review of the Definitive Footpath Map.

In addition, motor cyclists were still using the moor for scrambling, and there were no notices telling them this was illegal.

Commenting on the letter Mr. Morgan said the bridleway had now been established and its use so far had not been as heavy as had been anticipated.

"Our counts of horses had not been particularly high and we are aware that horses do stray on occasions," said Mr. Morgan. On the question of marking the bridle way Mr. Morgan said ninety-two markers had been placed in position but in days all but a few had been removed.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said the Parish Council still kept receiving reports that horse riders did not keep to the bridle way and were using other paths on the moor.

Mr. Morgan said as far as the Council was aware there was no way in which they were legally entitled to stop horse riders using parts of the moor because after all it was a registered common. It was a different story for motor cyclists and during recent months Bradford Council had successfully put several cases before court involving motor cycling on Ilkley Moor.

"We have found that most horse riders have been helpful and the Council has received no complaints from walkers about horse riders creating danger or inconvenience," said Mr. Morgan.

"We do get complaint's locally from walkers about paths which are muddy and trodden down by horses hoofs," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

## Across The Years

12 Feb 82

# FATAL ACCIDENT AT ILKLEY MOOR QUARRY

## 100 Years Ago

A fatal accident occurred at Hangingstone quarry, on Ilkley Moor, which was being worked by Mr. R. Skillington of Ash Grove, Ilkley, and his son Richard, who was 18 years of age. Two unsuccessful attempts were made to light a charge when blasting, and then a third which although lighted did not go off. Contrary to the wish of his father and other experienced workmen Richard went to examine the fuse followed closely by Mr. Skillington, and whilst bending over it the charge exploded with a terrible force lifting him into the air and knocking his father to the ground. Richard Skillington received a compound fracture of the jaw and many internal injuries and died within a short time.

A meeting was called by the ratepayers of Addingham to protest against the Skipton-Ilkley Railway scheme in so far as it would interfere with highways in the township.

## 75 Years Ago

A writer in the Yorkshire Daily Observer was quoted in the Ilkley Gazette for drawing attention to the three Saxon crosses located in the Ilkley Parish Churchyard. He observed that there should be some better means of protection for these historic monuments. The dripping rain from the trees was eroding the figures and scroll work, and making them indistinct. Prior to being in the yard they had been used as gate posts. It was suggested that the crosses should be moved to the Museum.

It was estimated that during the two weeks that the soup kitchen had been open 1,800 families had been supplied, or about 100 families a day. An average of forty gallons of soup were distributed daily at a cost of approximately 6d per family per day. 2,610 loaves were distributed, the soup consisted of 213 lbs.

of beef, 16 ox heads, 831 lbs. mutton, 110 lbs. ham, 24 stones potatoes, 26 stones turnips, 36 lbs. bacon, 10 lbs. pea flour, 6 packets desiccated soup, 264 packets soup flavouring, 17 stones onions and 24 stones carrots. 7,300 people in all had been fed, by the joint churches committee.

## 50 Years Ago

Ilkley Coronation Cottage Hospital reported a loss of £137 for 1931. It was pointed out that private wards had not been fully occupied and after some discussion it was agreed to reduce the price of these from £6 6s. per week to £4 4s. per week. There had been 327 cases admitted to the hospital for treatment during the year, and the average occupation of a bed had been about ten days. There had been 30 admissions as a result of accidents.

Ilkley gliding club put forward ambitious plans for the 1932 season Mr. W. E. Dinsdale, the Club President described gliding as the "cleanest sport of all sports". Plans included a camp to be held at Malham from where flights on the Zogling would be carried out each day. An Ilkley member planned to glide over Ilkley using Beamsley as his taking off point. Mr. B. Hartley requested a larger attendance of members at "repair meetings" to share the work of the club.

## 25 Years Ago

Ilkley Rotarians were given a talk on diet and food by Miss Simpson, of Huby, and were told that after the age of 40 they were only in "the twilight of health". She advised the members to eat home baked stone ground whole meal bread and fresh food untreated by chemicals. Gradually the municipal buildings were being transformed. The decor was a pleasing light green and pink along the corridors of the King's Hall which replaced dirty cream walls and torn plush curtains.

An appeal was launched by St. Peter's Church, Addingham, to raise £1,250 for urgent repairs needed to the tower and belfry and to rehang the bells. The Rev. Clare told the Gazette that the work would have to be put in hand at once to avoid any further damage being incurred by high winds which had already loosened two of the pinnacles of the tower.

Greatly improved profits from the sale of refreshments and a larger return for the letting of billiard tables etc., enabled Ilkley Constitutional Club to turn a deficiency of £62 on the previous year into a surplus of £38. Mr. D. Hartley was re-elected president, with Mr. G. Thompson (secretary) and Mr. H. Craven (treasurer).

# FLOOD VICTIMS ASK FOR RIVER BANKS TO BE STRENGTHENED

5 Feb 82

Extensive erosion of the northern banks of the River Wharfe between the New Brook Street Bridge and the Old Bridge at Ilkley has been revealed after some of the worst flooding for many years last month.

Angry residents have called for the building up and strengthening of the banks after the ground floors of their homes in the Gilstead Way and Middleton Avenue area were extensively flooded.

Ripon MP Dr. Keith Hampson

has told the Yorkshire Water Authority that lessons could be learned from the serious flooding of low lying land and houses in the Ilkley district last month.

"No one seems to have realised quite which streets would be affected at Ilkley. Unlike the Otley position those which were flooded received no warning or any sandbags and there were some houses which suffered well over a foot of water in their ground floor rooms," said Dr.

Hampson. He went on to press the Authority to review the priority currently given to this stretch of the River Wharfe and thought it would be satisfactory if some hope could be offered that there would be improvements within the next five years.

Replying to Dr. Hampson, the Chief Executive for the Yorkshire Water Authority, Mr. J. Brooks, bank says a full report on the flooding is being prepared and

this will set out the lessons which have been learned and the steps which should be taken to minimise the risk of recurrence.

He went on to assure Dr. Hampson that the Wharfe Valley which suffered quite severely at the beginning of the flood would not be overlooked but would feature in the report together with those places on the River Ouse which had been even more severely flooded.



## 19 Feb 82 ANCIENT COIN FOUND BY ILKLEY GIRL

Eight year old Emma Vickerman could not believe it when she found an old coin lying on the drive of her home in Sedbergh Park, Ilkley.

On closer inspection, the head of Emperor Tiberius could be seen on one side, surrounded by his official title, Tiberius Caesar Divi Aug F Augustus.

Emma, a pupil at Moorfield School, took the coin to the Manor House Museum to find out more about it. They told her it was a Roman Bronze issue of the reign of Tiberius, between 14 and 37 A.D., and was a copper coin known as an 'as'.

The ancient coin could be very valuable but, for the moment at least, Emma is too pleased with her find to sell it.

The Vickerman family can not understand how the coin suddenly appeared on their drive. "The only thing we can think of," said Mrs. Vickerman, "is that the coin was washed onto the drive when all the snow we had finally melted I do not see how else it could have got on to the drive."

### Across The Years 19 Feb 82

#### Little Competition For Building Land

##### 100 Years Ago

Three lots of building land in Ilkley, two on the hillside and one in the town centre were offered for sale at the Listers Arms Hotel by Messrs. Hepper and Sons of Leeds. Despite a large attendance competition was quiet. The auctioneer obtained a bid of 2s. per yard for the land west of Wells House, but the property was withdrawn. There were no bids for the remaining lot in Skipton Road, upon which stood the old Wesleyan Chapel, which contained about 450 square yards.

There was an announcement regarding public lessons in cookery to take place in the Assembly Rooms. "Superior Cookery" on Thursday afternoons had an admission price of 1s., whereas "Plain Cookery" on Thursday evenings was only 2d., "Middle Class Cookery" followed true to form with an afternoon class on Fridays, admission 6d.

##### 75 Years Ago

The Medical Officer of the Wharfedale Isolation hospital, Dr. Hyslop, of Menston, reported there were 12 cases in the hospital at the start of February, and that three of the nurses were ill.

Plans were in hand for preparations for attractions for the Easter weekend in Ilkley. Mr. Garrett of the Bridge Pleasure Grounds was to hold the annual Brass Band contest on Easter Monday, and there was to be a pantomime produced by Messrs. Leigh and Preston's company in the pavilion. The Upper Wharfedale Music Festival was planned to take place on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday of Easter week.

The Ilkley Gazette contained a large advertisement for workers to leave for greater opportunities in Britain's nearest and greatest colony, Canada. The offer was 160 acres free.

##### 50 Years Ago

The Wharfedale Fever Hospital reported only a small number of patients in hospital. Ilkley had put in hand the immunisation programme against diphtheria, and Otley Council had authorised their Inspector to purchase the necessary serum. The Committee agreed that a charge of 10s. 6d. should be made for the disinfection of bedding and beds where

infectious diseases had been treated outside the hospital.

Major F. W. B. Maufe, the commander of the Ilkley Howitzer Battery, presided over the annual tea and dance held in the Ilkley Winter Gardens. In his report, he said that the men in the Battery were young, but they were keen, and the Junior N.C.O.'s had attended training classes out of season well. Mrs. Maufe presented the Battery Cup for the best subsection to Sergeant A. Bray of Headquarters' Section, and the Cup for the most improved N.C.O. to Sergeant J. Holmes (B section). Sergeant Major Dobson and Quarter-Master Sergeant McRink acted as M.C.'s for the dancing. Little Miss Pat McRink presented Mrs. Maufe with a bouquet from the N.C.O.'s and men.

##### 25 Years Ago

A record figure, for a scout dance, of 800 attended a dance in the Kings Hall and Annexe to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Lord Baden Powell. In the Kings Hall 450 people danced to the modern music of Ken Popplewell and his orchestra and in the Annexe 350 danced to the Old Tyme Music of the Casino Players. The profit on the event was £90.

The action of several second team players who refused to play in the first team of the Ilkley Cricket Club was the subject of criticism and discussion at the annual general meeting of the club. The President, Mr. L. S. Moss described members of the second team as a "happy lot of lads" some of whom with a little effort could find themselves in the first team. Mr. C. Aldridge said that for eight or nine years, second team players who had been picked to play with the first team had not turned up and gave no reasons for their attitude. Mr. Moss suggested that a meeting should take place between the two teams to try to settle this vexed question. Mr. Vallender said that one reason was that second team members were often asked to play owing to the absence of a regular first team member, and when that member returned he was dropped again to the second team and then became dissatisfied. Mr. J. Brumfit, first team captain, agreed with these remarks and said that many clubs had the same difficulties. He feared that many of the younger players had not got the personal ambition to do better in the game of cricket, but regarded it as a pleasant way in which to pass a Saturday afternoon.

## COUNTY COUNCIL CLEARED AFTER INVESTIGATION INTO INJUSTICE COMPLAINT

An investigation by the Local Ombudsman has cleared the county council of causing injustice by not giving evidence at a public inquiry into controversial plans for a new Co-Operative Society store at Ilkley.

Mr. F. P. Cook, Local Commissioner, said in his report he could not say categorically that there had been no maladministration, but he was satisfied beyond all doubt that the complainant had suffered no injustice from any maladministration by the county council.

The complainant told the "Ilkley Gazette" this week that he was "very satisfied" with the way the investigation had been carried out and with the findings.

The investigation followed a complaint after the county council's last minute decision not to give evidence against the Co-operative Society's plans at the inquiry last May.

The inquiry came about because the county council directed Bradford Metropolitan Council to turn down the application on the grounds of traffic problems which would be created by the proposed development on the South Haworth Street site.

### Change Of Power

However, the week before the inquiry, elections were held and the Labour group took control of the county council.

The Chief Executive told the Local Ombudsman that after the elections members asked that the decision to issue the direction should be reviewed, although there was no such written request on the county council's files, nor was there any note by an officer of any oral request. The recollection of the present Leader of the Council was that officers raised the matter with him, immediately after the election. However, he said he would have taken a dim view if they had gone ahead at the inquiry without telling him.

### No Meeting

The Ombudsman said no meeting of the new County Council was due between the date of the elections and that of the inquiry.

"However, the new Leader and the new Chairman of the Environment Committee met with officers at the site of the proposed development on the day before the inquiry. The Leader of what then had become the main minority party was invited to attend, but declined to do so on the grounds that the gathering was unconstitutional," he continued.

"Officers advised that the county council could not legally withdraw the direction previously issued. However, they advised that a possible course was not to offer further evidence at the inquiry. The Chief Executive says that in his opinion a decision not to offer evidence could be taken by an officer, as an administrative act. Nevertheless, as the officer in whose name such a decision would be taken, he says he would do so only if there was a political instruction to that effect.

"Since there was no formal machinery to furnish such an instruction in the time available, he took the view that only the new Leader of the Council could give such an instruction: that this should be done in consultation with the Chairman elect of the appropriate committee and the Leader of the main opposition party; and should be confirmed at the first subsequent meeting of the appropriate committee", the Ombudsman said.

"The Leader says that he was assured that he had the power to instruct the officers not to offer evidence. He says that he was not advised that another possible option might have been to seek a postponement of the inquiry.

"The Chief Executive says that course would have been likely to cause great inconvenience and cost to other parties involved in the inquiry, as they could not be given advance notification.

"The Leader made a thorough inspection of the site, assessing the weight of the evidence in support of the direction. Being of the same political party as that which controlled the City Council, he was anxious not to appear unreasonable toward the City Council; but he stressed that he was concerned to take the decision giving evidence at the inquiry purely on what he saw as the basis of the strength or weakness of the County Council's case. He concluded that the case was very weak and, in consultation with the now Chairman of the Environment Committee, instructed that the direction should not be supported by further evidence at the inquiry. In due course their decision was confirmed by the new Environment Committee, although after the inquiry.

### No Evidence

"When the inquiry opened the County Council's representative explained what had happened and the County Council presented no evidence. There were still objections to the proposed development, led by the Ilkley Parish Council (and I am told that their evidence included material about the adverse impact of increased traffic). The appeal was dismissed for reasons concerned with the design of the building, rather than the effect of increased traffic. A revised application is currently under consideration.

"The complainant attended the planning inquiry, but did not take part in the proceedings. He is a member of a society who were represented at the inquiry and who were not in favour of the planning application. He suggests that, had the County Council not indicated that evidence would be produced on the traffic implications of the proposal, other witnesses might have

"The Chief Executive of the Council argues that 'it would be impossible to contemplate a situation where no decisions could be taken on behalf of the county council for the period of 14 days between the election and the annual general meeting of the new council'.

"The outcome of the appeal was not to grant the planning permission. Therefore no injustice appears to have been caused by the County Council's failure to give evidence to support their expected opposition at the inquiry," the Ombudsman went on.

### In Good Faith

"Strictly speaking, the Leader of the county council was not empowered to give the instruction which he gave on the day before the inquiry (although I am in no doubt that he acted in complete good faith, giving the matter considerable personal attention at what must have been a very demanding time for him). The Chief Executive has sought to overcome that legal technicality by arguing that the decision not to offer evidence lay within his own power, although subsequently the Environment Committee confirmed the actions of the members who gave the instruction, rather than any action by the officers.

"But I accept that account has to be taken of the realities of the situation. No effective machinery existed whereby officers could obtain a formal instruction; yet they faced the possibility of criticism if they followed the last formal decision of the council. Further, the action which was taken was confirmed retrospectively.

"I recognize the point made by the complainant that injustice could be caused by an authority failing to produce evidence which they had indicated was to be brought. But there is no suggestion that this hypothetical consequence occurred in the circumstances which I have been asked to investigate.

"Whilst sympathetic towards the new County Council's approach to a controversial issue in the face of

a very tight time table, I cannot say categorically that there has been no maladministration. But I am satisfied beyond all doubt that the complainant has suffered no injustice from any maladministration by the County Council," he concluded.

Cnty Cr. H. V. Hadrill, of Ilkley, who on the first day of the inquiry challenged the County Council's attitude to withdraw evidence said this week he was satisfied with the ombudsman's report.

Cnty Cr. Hadrill argued at the public inquiry that the County Council's evidence ought to be given because since the change of power no-one had had the time to countermand the County Council's policies.

In the end the appeal was not allowed but had it been then some injustice might have been done, said Cnty Cr. Hadrill.

ILKLEY'S TOWN CENTRE FROM SEVEN HUNDRED FEET

19 Feb 82





26 Feb 82

# BROOK STREET FOUNTAIN DESTROYED AND TOILETS DAMAGED BY VANDALS

Vandals in the town centre of Ilkley have gradually destroyed the fountain at the top of Brook Street and are beginning to wreck the town's public toilets.

A suggestion that the fountain and basin which for years was a prominent feature of the town should be replaced by a bed of flowers was thrown out by Parish Councillors this week.

Cr. E. S. Gardner said the Brook Street fountain had been continually vandalised. He told members of Ilkley Parish Council's General Purposes Committee on Monday night that Bradford Metropolitan Council had now suggested that it should be replaced by a flower bed.

## "Sad Affair"

"This is a sad affair in the centre of the town for the fountain which is within a stone's throw of the Police Authority," said C. Gardner.

"Can anybody remember when the fountain last worked?" asked Cr. W. R. Hill. At the moment, the basin was empty and there were a few bricks lying in the bottom, he said.

Clerk to the Council, Mrs. D. C. Edmondson, understood the water meter for the fountain had been stolen along with the pump.

The fountain had required repair for several years, said Cr. C. H. Scaife, who suggested that parts should be obtained for putting it back in service.

"We are supposed to be promoting Ilkley as a tourist attraction. Then what better than to have a fountain at the top of Brook Street," said Cr. Scaife.

"We should insist in having

Cr. Peter Williams said everywhere in the country vandalism was taking place but more and more items were being replaced with anti-vandalise equipment.

Cr. K. G. Johnson said he was willing to donate a pump for Ilkley's fountain and Cr. Shelton thought the Parish Council at its meeting on Monday night should approve the Committee's recommendation and ask Bradford Council to reinstate the fountain.

## Toilets Damaged

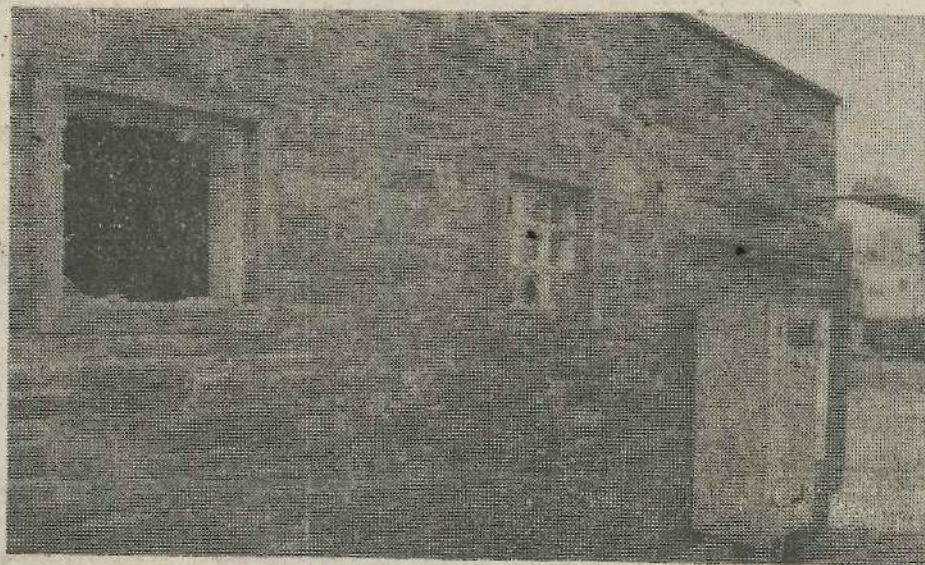
Toilets in Ilkley worst hit by vandals have been those in the central car park and those in Leeds Road, near All Saints' First School.

The block in Leeds Road, where windows and toilets have been smashed, has been closed until repairs have been carried out. A spokesman for Bradford Council's Cleansing Department said this week that it could be some time before they were open again. "The work has been ordered but I do not know when it will be done," he said. "It all depends on the availability of materials and the cost, which I can not reveal at this stage."

The toilet block in the central car park, which has facilities for the disabled, has also been badly damaged.

great deal that can be done about it. It is really a matter for the police," he said. "However, it is not the type of thing you would expect in a town like Ilkley," he added.

He commented that the toilets near the New Bridge had not been closed due to vandalism. "They were closed some time ago because of a problem connected with the height of the sewer," he said. He could not envisage those toilets being opened again.



Vandals wreck the windows of the toilet block on Ilkley's central car park.

it completed and working because in the past it had been a feature of the town," said Cr. Scaife. To have the basin filled with water would make it more difficult to vandalise, he said.

Since an off licence store in Brook Street had been opening during the evenings more empty cans, making a dreadful mess, had been found around the fountain, said the Clerk.

## Cement It In

To ensure equipment was not stolen again it should be cemented in, said Cr. Shelton.

"If they put a flower bed there instead of the fountain it would still be vandalised. Why not flag it over and have done with it," said Cr. Mrs. J. Carney.

"Very expensive glass bricks which allowed light into the toilets have been smashed, and they will take some replacing," said the spokesman. "The bricks are hollow but have very thick sides, and it would have taken a lot of force to smash them."

With toilet blocks in Wells Road and near the New Bridge also closed, there are few public conveniences still open in the town.

The spokesman for the Cleansing Department said the problem of vandalism in public toilets was not confined to Ilkley, but he was surprised it happened in the town. "You will always get vandalism in this type of property. It is a terrible state of affairs but there is not a



The neglected and disused fountain at the top of Brook Street which once provided a focal point of the town centre. Bradford Metropolitan Council says there has been so much vandalism in that corner of Ilkley that the site should become nothing more than a flower bed. Parish Councillors are calling for the fountain to be restored to working condition.

26 Feb 82

## Across The Years 26 Feb 82

### Action By Churchwardens Angers Ratepayers

#### 100 Years Ago

The vexed question of who should pay the cost of the extensive repairs to, or even the rebuilding of the Parish Churchyard walls caused a great deal of controversy in 1882. The action of the churchwardens had been severely criticised on all sides. The churchwardens made a demand upon the township for the sum of £118 7s. 3d. for expenses they had incurred repairing the walls and fences of the Parish Churchyard, requesting that this should be found amongst the ratepayers. A ratepayers meeting was called and so great was the interest that there were more than 100 people in the churchyard who could not gain admittance.

It was agreed that the churchwardens had taken a high handed action in spending the money and then trying to recoup it from the people of the town, and they agreed that the ratepayers should be asked to pay the money. It was felt the churchwarden should have appealed for private subscriptions instead.

#### 75 Years Ago

The District Council received a letter from Dr. Robert Collyer in New York trying to ascertain the opening date of the new library and Town Hall in Ilkley. It was hoped from this inquiry that "the Grand Old Man" was to make a point of being present.

There was a dispute raging at Ben Rhydding Church, with disagreement between the Vicar, Dr. Muntz and some of the parishioners. The trouble arose when the Rev. E. J. Goldsmith resigned from his appointment as curate-in-charge. He was simply a curate working from the Ilkley church sent to work in Ben Rhydding but also on call when needed elsewhere. He objected to this other work and resigned but with great support from many members of Ben Rhydding Church who determined upon this trouble to break away from Ilkley Parish Church and have some form of "Home Rule" for their church. They propounded a scheme of having a representative Church Council with control of the finances and to approve the curate's appointment. However, Dr. Muntz as the vicar, was legally entitled to manage Ben Rhydding Church as he thought fit and had been responsible for raising a good deal of the building fund money.

#### 50 Years Ago

Strong protests were made by members of Ilkley Urban District Council concerning the lopping of trees which lined Bolling Road,

The Grove and Bolton Bridge Road. Members expressed disgust with the way that the trees had been handled saying that all that was left were the bare tree trunk stumps along the roadsides. Other members described the remains of the trees as a positive eyesore.

Wharfedale had experienced one of the driest and healthiest Februaries in memory. They had dry spring like weather and the farmers were able to be well ahead with their outdoor work. Many pessimists were saying that the buds were bursting too soon "and they would be bahn to suffer for it later."

With the near advent of spring many motor cars which had been laid up for the winter were being taken to garages for overhauls and tuning. The owning of a motor car seemed to be starting to top the list in preparing for the better weather whereas at one time "the Goddess of spring was welcomed with flowers and dance and song."

#### 25 Years Ago

The Clerk and the Surveyor of Ilkley Urban District Council were requested to prepare a scheme for the maintenance and repair to "an adequate standard" for Curley Hill. Frontagers having had a high estimate for the making up of the road to a "high standard" had requested that a "lower but adequate standard" was desirable.

The award of the Bar to the Medal of Merit awarded by the Chief Scout to Mr. R. Ibbetson, Group Scoutmaster 1st Ben Rhydding Scout Group proved to be a most unusual occurrence. Only three weeks earlier Mr. F. Sweet, 1st Ben Rhydding Scoutmaster received the same award, and to have two in the same group was practically unique.

At a meeting of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution it was agreed that a Ladies' Lifeboat Guild be formed in Ilkley. Mr. W. Brooksbank was elected President; Miss M. Ayckroyd, Chairman; Mrs. J. D. Eastwood, Secretary and Mr. H. Flood, Treasurer.

# CONSERVATIVES THINK ABOUT A CLUB

## 100 Years Ago

"An influential meeting of Conservatives was convened for the purpose of establishing a Conservative Club in Ilkley." Mr. F. W. Pison was unanimously elected to the chair, and explained to those present that shortly after the previous General Election a Conservative Association was formed, and they had established a reading room. It was then considered that it would be desirable to promote a more ambitious scheme, and form a club. Premises had been suggested in buildings in the course of erection in Cowpasture Road. A subscription list was opened and £80 was immediately promised for the furnishing account and £40 in subscriptions.

Ben Bateson, a resident of Burley, stonemason by trade, was killed whilst working on a wall over the north window of the Otley Salem Chapel. He was immediately rendered insensible suffering from compression of the brain and died three hours later. He left a widowed mother, a wife and five young children.

## 75 Years Ago

The first County Football Match to be played on the Ilkley Club's ground took place between Yorkshire and Cheshire, with some 2,000 spectators attending. From a Yorkshireman's point of view the game proved disappointing and as one Ilkley enthusiast commented "If this is County football, then I want to see no more." Cheshire, however, were by far the better team.

Preparations were well in hand for the Wharfedale Music Festival which was to be held in Ilkley during Easter week, 1907. The organisers of the event were setting their aims high, with the object of encouraging "only the very best in music."

The annual concert in connection with the Grove Congregational Church took place before a large audience. The first part of the concert took the form of a cantata "The Earl King's Daughter," the principals being Miss Muriel Crawshaw, Miss Beatrice Willan, and Mr. W. J. Moore. Mr. Earnshaw was the conductor, and his son young Master Earnshaw distinguished himself as the accompanist.

Two Ilkley dog owners were fined 2s. 6d. each at Otley Police Court for allowing their dogs to roam without the regulation collar etc.

During the first week in March Ilkley experienced a violent storm with thunder and lightning being sandwiched between snow and rain, together with a strong wind.

## 50 Years Ago

The opening of the filtration plant at the Panorama Reservoir marked a definite stage in the development of

Ilkley's Waterworks Undertaking. Visitors from other local authorities from a wide surrounding area inspected the new filter house and Mr. W. Dobson, Chairman of the Ilkley Urban Council, was presented with a silver key by the Waterworks committee to open the doors. To mark the ceremony a blinding snow storm swept the moors and interfered considerably with the planned programme of outdoor events. The visitors were forced to run back to their cars at the top of Panorama Drive but were later entertained to tea in the Winter Gardens.

An amusing mock trial was held in the Ben Rhydding Parish Room by members of the Social Guild. The whole trial was written and produced by Mr. P. H. Farnell, organist and choirmaster of Ben Rhydding Church, who also took the part of "Mr. Justice Phunne." Parts of the lawyers were taken by Mr. G. D. Hobbs, Mr. Geo. Collinson, Mr. J. Thornton and Mr. H. Singleton.

Roads leading to Denton Park were thronged with private cars when about 300 guests assembled at the hall to take part in a bridge drive to raise funds for a stall to be in the charge of Mrs. Arthur Hill at a bazaar in aid of the Bradford Children's Hospital.

## 25 Years Ago

British Railways Passenger Manager, Mr. D. Hill, in an address to Ilkley Rotary Club, said it was unlikely that Ilkley would have a diesel service before the Autumn of 1958. They had hoped that the service would have been in operation but contractors had failed to meet their obligations. Mr. Hill spoke with enthusiasm about the scheme in operation for the improvement of British Railways and said that facilities would equal any produced on the continent.

Mr. James Hadley, Chairman of the Addingham Parish Council, told members there were houses in Addingham which had been condemned as uninhabitable which were better than many of the new houses on the Burns Hill Council estate. He pressed for Skipton Rural District Council to reconsider condemned houses in the village, many of which were actually in good condition. The Council decided to ask Skipton Council to put the present housing estate in completely good condition before starting on any new ventures in the village.

Continuously decreasing demand for hospital beds for tuberculosis patients caused Middleton Hospital to agree to provide beds for general hospital patients. To start with 60 beds were to be made available for this purpose.

# MERMAIDS, CUPIDS, SERPENTS AND HORSES ADORNED ILKLEY'S OLD FOUNTAIN

5 Mar 82

Ilkley has had a fountain on and off, at the top of Brook Street for over one hundred years so it is not surprising that a suggestion to get rid of it is being rejected.

Bradford Metropolitan Council believes the solution to Ilkley's much vandalised fountain is to replace it with a flower bed but Parish Councils want to see it restored to working condition.

This "Gazette" picture goes back to a period when the town had a much grander fountain, with its mermaids, cupids, serpents and horses, functioning with a main jet four to five feet high, water issuing from the nostrils of the four horses and from the twenty one jets around the bottom of the basin. It was paid for by public subscription, was erected in 1876 and occupied the site until it was

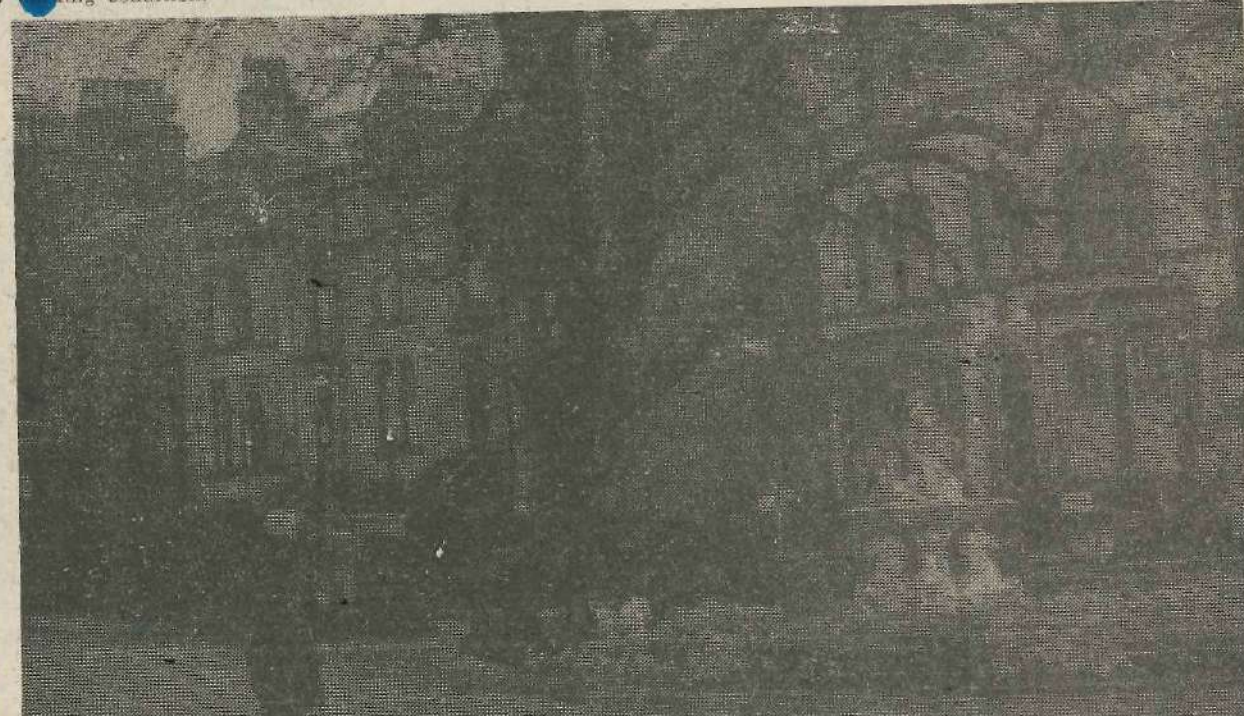
demolished in 1959 and replaced by a much simpler form of fountain.

The replacement was part of a larger scheme to improve that corner of Ilkley when the shelter at the bottom of Mill Ghyll was presented to the town by Ilkley Rotary Club in 1956.

Though the present fountain has not spouted water in recent years and has lost most of its equipment for

doing so Parish Councillors think it is time it was brought back to life.

At this week's meeting of the Council, Chairman of the Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton said she had visited the site and had seen little evidence of vandalism. She wondered if it might be a better idea to get rid of the shelter instead.



Youths attend night school breaking up schoolroom son's shop. present and enjoyed the Rev. A. Ilkley P. together with Otley (Vic) and a number in the school for attendance to Harry W. Joseph W. son, Art. Freddy M. Mr. F. entitled "Norway" Riddings of Ilkley illustrated graphs on whilst on during the Messrs. Lund, and elected to of the contest, payers has abilities as they disclose

Despite former years and health days and would re businesses reported was still Advertisi brought attraction town to people. that the days' a diversion Military field this posed diversion Hall wa Ilkley cantata second the Leo brought Cathed conduct Top on said Courts Beat o Token The r appear

A complete Hall with petition

ACROSS THE YEARS 12 Mar 82

## Youths Receive Prizes For Good Behaviour

### 100 Years Ago

Youths attending Miss Tolson's night school had their annual breaking up entertainment in the schoolroom above Mr. W. Benson's shop. About 20 boys were present and they thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment. The Rev. A. C. Downer (Vicar of Ilkley Parish Church) attended together with Rev. H. Bickersteth Otley (Vicar of St. Margaret's) and a number of ladies interested in the school. Prizes were awarded for attendance and good behaviour to Harry Wardman, Lister Senior, Joseph Walmsley, Michael Dobson, Arthur Thompson and Freddy Myers.

Mr. F. W. Fison gave a lecture entitled "A summer's Ramble in Norway" at the Lecture Hall, Riddings Road, in aid of the funds of Ilkley Cricket Club. He illustrated his talk with photographs he had taken himself whilst on holiday in Norway during the previous summer.

Messrs. Eli Ibbetson, Joseph Lund, and Edwin Sykes were re-elected to the office of guardians of the poor in Ilkley without contest, showing that the ratepayers had full confidence in their abilities and the manner in which they discharged their duties.

### 75 Years Ago

Despite dire predictions in former years that Ilkley as a spa and health resort had seen better days and that houses in the town would remain empty, and local businesses would suffer, it was reported in the Gazette that Ilkley was still a prosperous town. An Advertising Board had been brought in being to extoll the attractions and charms of the town to a wider number of people. It was being recognised that they "lived in degenerate days" and that people needed diversion and excitement. The Military band had not fully satisfied this craving and it was proposed to have more theatrical diversions when the Assembly Hall was completed.

Ilkley Vocal Society sang the cantata "Everyman" at their second concert of the season in the Lecture Hall. Principals were brought in from Lichfield Cathedral and Yeadon, and the conductor Mr. Akeroyd "conducted with great discretion."

Top of the pops in sheet music on sale were "Farmer John's Courtship," "Honour's Call," "The Beat of the Drum" and "As a Token" at four copies for 6d. The most popular "piece" was apparently "I'll Hang My Harp."

### 50 Years Ago

A Wharfedale Dance Band competition was held in the King's Hall and Winter Gardens, Ilkley, with 13 bands attending. The competition was won by Frank

Chaney and his band from Yeadon. A fox-trot competition was won by Miss M. Session and A. Daniell.

Mr. J. Henry Brogden, of Stubham Rise, Middleton, was honoured by the King of Norway, who was pleased to approve his promotion as a Knight of the Order of St. Olav. He had been the Norwegian Vice-consul in Bradford since 1929.

Ilkley was preparing for an early Easter, and were expecting more cars on the roads than ever when the new quarters' licences came into operation. Despite the prevalent recession, trade seemed to be picking up and people were looking forward to a brighter future. It was said that a tramp over Rombalds Moor would increase these hopeful feelings and that the rambblers might take a more optimistic view of life.

### 25 Years Ago

The scheme for the fountain and the shelter at the top of Brook Street was sufficiently advanced as to give a good idea of its final appearance. It aroused much comment in the town and people were worried regarding the fate of some of the trees, and a good deal of controversy regarding the retaining of the horses which held up the cascade which did not seem to allow the waters to flow as they should.

Ilkley Ratepayers' Association held a meeting to discuss the high rates and the reasons and remedies for them. The Association generally supported the working of the Council and the County Council and considered most schemes in hand to be of advantage to the town. There had been a 50 per cent reduction in the rating of Vicar's and Minister's houses, and they lent their full support to the flood lighting of the War Memorial. The association also gave its support to the Council's opposition to the gravel workings at Escroft.

12 Mar 82

## "BYGONE ILKLEY" SHOWN TO CHURCH MEMBERS

Members and friends of Mount Hermon Church, Addingham, enjoyed an illustrated talk on "Bygone Ilkley" by Miss Hilda Holmes.

She began by showing a view of the open stream running down Brook Street in 1800, and then showed a slide of White Wells, mentioning Mrs. Williamson, who once ran the popular tea house. The slides were produced from old photographs and cards, of which Miss Holmes is a keen collector.

She showed slides of soldiers at the Grove Convalescent Home during the first world war, the Ben Rhydding Hydro (later Golf Hotel) which was demolished in 1954, the Wells House Hydro and livery stables before it became Wells House Hotel, and the College of Housecraft, now Ilkley College.

Members then saw the Ilkley Moor Golf Club, the Semon Convalescent Home, sledging on the roads in the 1920's, the Craighlands Hydro, the bus which took people up to High Field in 1932 and one of the first lady drivers in Ilkley.

Miss Holmes showed a photograph of the Pierrots in Ilkley, services at the tarn, the bandstand near Ilkley College and the topical fountain which stood by the "Monkey Rack," where soldiers sat in the first world war.

She then showed slides of the 1919 peace celebrations in Brook Street, with the carnival and procession; a horsedrawn fire engine; the tragic fire at the Ilkley Moor Hotel; Middleton Lodge; Low Hall, and its crop of walnuts; the traditional Black and White Hat cricketers and a ladies' team in 1932; the Manor House and Ilkley Parish Church.

She was thanked, for an interesting talk and slide show, by Mr. John Carroll, and refreshments were served by ladies of Mount Hermon Church.

## REMEMBERS ILKLEY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CENTURY

12 Mar 82

An 84-year-old lady with an amazing memory stretching back to when she was three years old is seeking a reassurance that something she remembers of Ilkley in 1901 was not just a figment of her imagination.

Mrs. K. Holgate, a resident at Glen Rosa Home for the Aged, Ilkley, for the past 11 years, was born at Harrogate, but remembers coming to stay with her aunt in Ilkley

in 1901 when her father was very ill.

"To make my stay in Ilkley a bit happier," said Mrs. Holgate, "my aunt bought me a tin tea set, and every afternoon she took me to a spot at the foot of what is now Wells Promenade where there was a large drinking trough for horses and a smaller one which dogs used to drink out of. The horse trough was large enough for two horses to drink from at the same time.

"On the other side of the road," she continued, "there was a tap with drinking-water, from which I used to fill my tin teapot. I remember these troughs well but I have spoken to many elderly Ilkley people about them and they do not remember them. I remember them very clearly and would like to meet any one else who can remember them."

Mrs. Holgate, who stayed with her aunt for about four weeks and had not been back to Ilkley until her move to Glen Rosa, has many other memories of Ilkley as it was then.

"I remember The Grove and Brook Street very well," she said. "On the north side of The Grove there were many old fashioned shop fronts which have now largely been replaced, and there were a lot of trees along the road side. The south side of The Grove has not really changed a great deal.

"There was, of course, the railway bridge across Brook Street, and I remember the steam trains, or 'puffa trains' as we called them, going across it," she said.

Mrs. Holgate could also recall the after-effects of the tragic floods of 1900, and one incident in particular. "I will always remember my aunt smacking me after I had walked through a huge patch of mud in Brook Street which had been left by the floods. I was wearing my best boots at the time," she said.

"In those days everybody could walk along the road in perfect safety, for there were very few vehicles around in the streets," she added.

## SILVER TROPHIES ARE CLAIMED AFTER 60 YEARS IN BANK VAULT Rifle and Pistol Club establishes ownership

Two silver trophies which have rested in the vaults of a bank for more than sixty years while efforts were made to trace their ownership have now been reclaimed by the Ilkley Rifle and Pistol Club.

They are a silver cup presented to the club in 1906 by Frank Whiteley C.M.G., and a silver rose bowl presented by William Waud Esq in 1913.

It seems that the trophies were deposited with the Midland Bank at Ilkley way back in 1920.

The whereabouts of the trophies came to light in the late 1960's when the Bank asked if the club had any connection with the items. Unfortunately, all the old club records had been lost some years previous, and National Association records were destroyed in the London Blitz. Therefore, the club was unable to prove good title and the cups remained in the Bank vaults for another 15 years until the present club secretary, John Fanthorpe, began to research the matter.

To aid this research the Midland Bank kindly brought the cups out of storage so that the names of former winners could be identified.

The ensuing research involved tracing old members of the club, the families of members long dead and newspaper files back to 1905. Slowly the history of the club was pieced together and showed how the club had gone through various phases of activity and three changes of name.

One contact made was to Sussex where now lives the daughter of the Ilkley Rifle Clubs

most illustrious past member, A. G. Banks, 'A.G.' as he was known throughout the shooting world, was an international marksman, Queens Cup winner, the first winner of the coveted 'Queen Alexandra's Cup' in 1907, and the 'Any Sights' all comers competition at Bisley in 1938. 'A.G.' was also famous as an author. His 'Book of the Rifle' was in print for over 18 years and served as the 'bible' of the small-bore rifle shooter. Through correspondence with AG's daughter the club now have a copy of the book for the club archives.

With the results of the research documented and the support of the National Smallbore Rifle Association the club wrote again to the Bank who in turn agreed to the release of the trophies so that they could once again be brought into use for the purpose to which they were originally intended. Now, after spending 62 years in a Bank vault the trophies have been lovingly restored and look as elegant as they did at the beginning of the century.

The picture shows the trophies in the plain wooden box in which they were stored in the bank vaults.



WORK STARTS ON  
NEW FLATS

# LATEST ILKLEY DEVELOPMENT ATTRACTS INTEREST 12 Mar 82 FROM FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Work has begun on a new 16-flat development, to be known as "The Courtyard", on land at the junction of Little Lane and Nelson Road, Ilkley.

The £320,000 scheme is being carried out by Melholme Developments Ltd., of Boar Lane, Leeds, who bought the land from Bradford Metropolitan Council.

Preparation work is now being carried out prior to the laying of the foundations for the two-storey blocks of flats, which will be built in a traditional design of period styling using coursed bradstone. One block of flats will face on to Little Lane and the other on to Wellington Road.

Work on building the shells of the blocks should begin this week, and this stage of the development should be complete within six weeks, the site foreman, Mr. Spencer, told the "Gazette". The whole development is expected to take about five to six months to complete.

Car parking spaces will be provided by demolishing the old garage once used by Samuel Ledgard, whose blue buses were a familiar sight in Wharfedale for many years until the business was sold to the West Yorkshire Road Car Company in October, 1967. Until recently, the garage was used as the Cleansing Transport Depot by Bradford Metropolitan Council.

### Site Cleared

For many years the east corner of the site was occupied by a house and outbuildings owned by the late Mr. Samuel Tipping, who became well known in Ilkley as an estate agent and coal merchant in Brook Street. The site and property were acquired by the former Ilkley Urban District Council in the early 1970's and soon afterwards the site was cleared.

Only a few years earlier the former Ilkley Council purchased the west corner of the site and the garage from Samuel Ledgard.

Eight of the flats have already been released for sale, and reservations have been placed on all eight, said a spokesman for Hepper Watson's Ilkley office, who are dealing with the sales.

"Eight of the flats were put on offer about two weeks ago and within the first day of sale they had all been reserved," he said. "There is, in fact, a waiting list now for the other eight flats."

### First-Time Buyers

"Most of those interested so far have been first-time buyers

and elderly people looking for a retirement home," he pointed out. "and most already live in the Ilkley area."

The properties will all be based on traditional standards in accordance with Bradford Metropolitan Council and National House Building Council requirements.

All external work will be primed, undercoated and then gloss painted to the architect's colour scheme, and internal woodwork will be undercoated and glossed.

Front and rear gardens will be provided and demarcation fences will be erected to the rear. Screen walls and fences may be constructed as extra features on the site. Paths are to be laid to the front door of each property from the public footpaths.

Vehicle parking spaces will be available for each two-bedroomed flat on the development, and additional visitor car parking spaces will also be provided.

### Carefully Planned

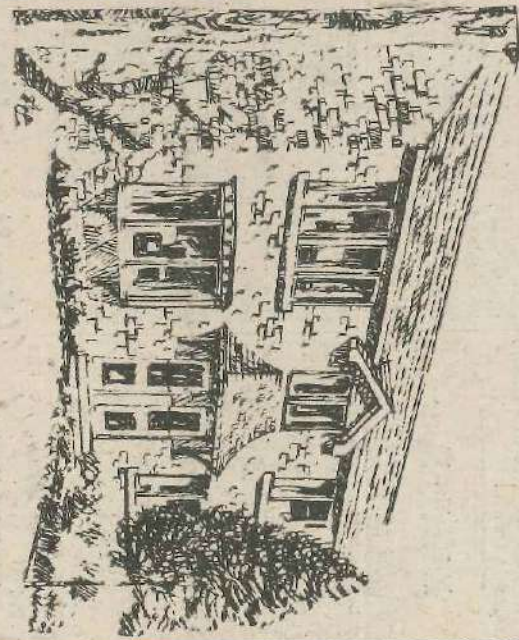
A spokesman for Melholme Developments Ltd. stressed

the new development had been carefully planned to blend with the environment. "Attention to design is extremely important to us and a great deal of time and thought goes into the planning considerations of any new housing project," he said. "An attractive external appearance incorporating appealing details such as link screens, archways and brickwork features, coupled with well thought out interiors planned for economy and convenience, are the qualities we maintain."

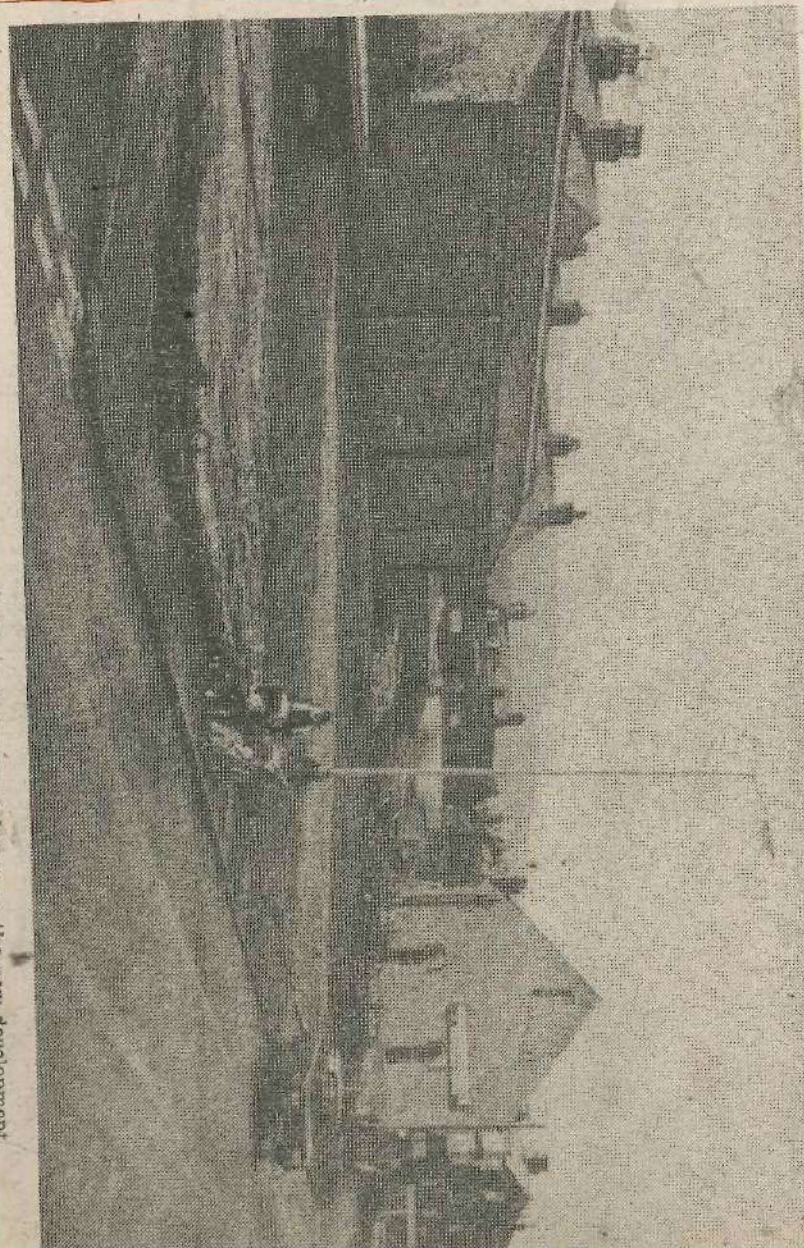
"Ilkley is considered to be a well kept, select area where property has always been in high demand. An area with a variation of modern and traditional styles, having a selective blend of old and new property," he added.

"In order to complement the traditional stone qualities of the area, care has been taken in the selection of materials and the design of the overall project. Period styling, and coursed bradstone were major considerations in this respect," he said.

An artist's impression of how each two-storey block of flats will look when they are completed.



The site in Little Lane, looking west towards Leeds Road, before work began on the new development.



19 Mar 82

# "RE-VICTORIANISED" ILKLEY ARCADE TO OPEN IN MAY

As work progresses on the "re-Victorianisation" of the South Hawke Street Arcade at Ilkley most of the shopping units have already been leased in preparation for the proposed opening at the beginning of May.

So far leases have been taken up for a sports shop, linen chest, greengrocer, fancy goods and gifts, book shop, wool shop, kitchen studio and Victorian coffee-house. Only one double unit is still available.

The ambitious refurbishment scheme aims to revive the original Victorian character and to introduce a first floor balcony, giving an opportunity to window shop in the upper floors which were previously accessible only

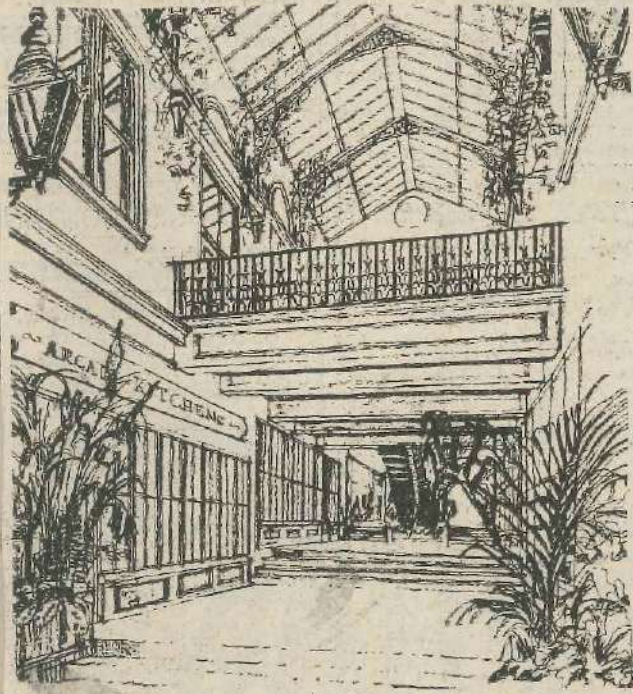
class antique and furniture shop, which will enhance this adventurous scheme, and a large part of the revitalised area has been let to British and Sematic Kitchens for a kitchen centre.

The developers aim to create a cheerful, active shopping area, attractive to family shoppers. They have therefore sought a selection of types of businesses and proprietors which will blend every-day shopping with specialist outlets.

Part of the arcade will be available to local art, craft and musical groups, and on occasion will feature brass ensembles.

A search is being made for a suitable barrel organ and Victorian chestnut roasting cart, and it is also hoped to incorporate a small aquarium or aviary.

The development, which has the blessing of Bradford Council's conservation section and Ilkley Civic Society, is being carried out by Vincent Dobson (Holdings) Ltd. of Ilkley, and the letting agents are Andrew Sharpe and Partners of Ilkley.



from the inside of the building.

The balcony will also provide under-cover dining, served from the section set aside for the Victorian coffee house.

Victoriana is very evident, with cast iron staircase and balustrading, gas lantern lighting, Victorian style shop fronts with brass sills, ornate fascias, sign writing and window blinds. The flooring is a mixture of Yorkstone flags and black and white quarry tiles.

A scheme of planting with hanging ferns, ivy, semi-tropical vegetation and aspidistras is planned to create a period conservatory or hanging botanical garden atmosphere.

One end of the arcade is already occupied by a high

## HUNDRED YEAR OLD RIVERSIDE TREE BROUGHT DOWN IN GALE FORCE WINDS

19 Mar 82

This fifty foot Sycamore tree believed to be around a hundred years old, has been torn from its roots near Ilkley Old Bridge during the recent gale force March winds. It stood by the riverside alongside the footpath on the south side of the River Wharfe.

The tree which was leaning in a northerly direction fell into the river and is lying in front and across the first two arches of the bridge.

On Tuesday morning the stone steps leading up to

the Old Bridge were roped off.

Former Ilkley nurseryman 83 year old Mr. Arthur Robinson of Chapel Nurseries in Leeds Road, Ilkley, thought the tree had grown wild from a seed. "There are similar sycamores below the New Bridge that are around the same age but these are evenly spaced out and were planted to commemorate the building of the New Bridge which was built at the turn of the century," said Mr Robinson.

The roots of the tree had taken away some of the base of the footpath which had been undermined by the water from the river.

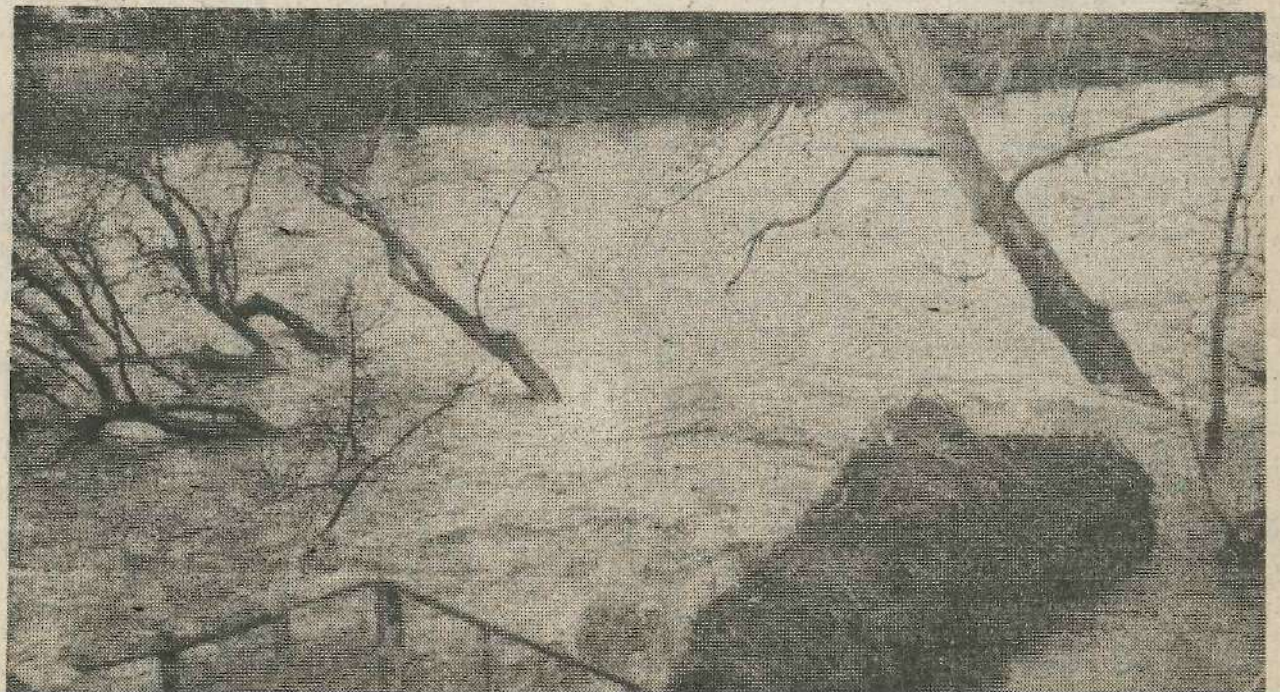
The tree will be eventually cut into sections but a crane will be needed to lift the sections from the river.

Mr. Ken Wilson, Ilkley Parks Superintendent said the River Board would be responsible for the removal of the tree. He said the main problem was from which side of the river the crane

and vehicles would operate.

"The proper side would be from where the tree fell. However, the large concrete pipes incorporating the Main West Side Sewerage Scheme runs close to the footpath near the small park and any heavy vehicles standing on the top of these could cause serious damage," said Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson said another sycamore tree in the same line of trees near the Old Bridge further towards the New Bridge was on the point of falling.



## Ilkley Was A Rewarding Place To Visit

### 100 Years Ago

Dr. Scott, medical officer of health for Ilkley, read a paper entitled "Ilkley as a Health Resort" to members of the Yorkshire Association for Medical Officers of Health. Within living memory, he told his fellow members, there had been years when not a single inhabitant of the village had died. The population had more than doubled since the advent of the railway, and big steps had been taken to deal with the question of drainage and sewage disposal. There was also a desire in the town to improve the supply and the quality of the water, and the comparative smallness of the reservoirs was compensated for by the abundance of springs and streams. He commented that owing to the porous nature of the soil rain was quickly absorbed and invalids did not have to remain house-bound for long periods. From rainfall observations taken on both sides of the Wharfe it had been observed on an average ten inches more rain per year fell on Middleton than Ilkley. The temperature was moderate, and the air vigorous and bracing. This brought about a quick return of a flagging appetite for food. He said that climatic conditions in the town were excellent for the care of consumptives. People suffering from disease would find Ilkley a rewarding place to visit.

### 75 Years Ago

The healing qualities of Ilkley spa waters were extolled in an article contributed by "Stylus Scrivener," who said that the Romans had first discovered the powers of the healing waters in the town. He likened the chalybeate springs in Ilkley to any at the great continental spas, but little was known about Ilkley in comparison. He said that Mr. Gill, the Moor Ranger, had found a spring at Spicey Ghyll with properties the same as those at the spring at Heber's Ghyll, but that this had never been applied to any public use. He advocated the building of a pump room in the town where the waters could be taken in comfort along the lines of the one already in existence in Harrogate.

Ilkley was preparing for an early Easter, and bookings at the hotels and hydros were much above the average. The river was in good condition for boating, and the brass band competition at the Bridge Pleasure Gardens promised to be a successful affair. Good artistes had been engaged to star in variety at the Pavilion with Miss Maudie Cliffe singing coon songs, Miss Gertie Douglas singing and dancing. Balley George was the comedian, Max Merlin (the human crocodile), and Pauletti (lightning artist and smoke painter).

### 50 Years Ago

Ilkley Junior Conservatives held an enjoyable Easter Party in the New Cinema Cafe. Hallam's Carlton Dance Band provided the music, and Mr. E. Roper was the M.C. There was a full programme of games, dancing and competitions.

Burley ratepayers welcomed a reduction of 1s 3d. in the rates, following a reduction of 6d. in the previous 12 months. The Chairman commented that great care had been exercised by the Committees over their expenditure and they had not over-spent in the previous year.

A patient who escaped from a local hospital provided scope for scare headlines in daily newspapers giving rise to a good deal of unnecessary alarm. He had been admitted from Armley gaol a few months earlier and managed to slip away unnoticed. He was found eventually at Padham, some 35 miles away, having walked most of the way. He was returned by the police to Menston, and appeared glad to be apprehended.

### 25 Years Ago

Ilkley Youth Club caused some disagreements in its search for new premises, and was the subject of a long

discussion at the meeting of the Ilkley Education Committee.

The Committee were reluctant to allow the Youth Club the use of the new County Infants School, and it was reported that the Managers were unwilling to allow the use of the Church of England School. There had been a meeting between Youth Club Leaders and a sub-committee of the Education Committee, at which the history of the club's search for premises was relayed. It was agreed that the only possible schools who could help would be either the Church of England Controlled School and the County Infants School. Mr. Muschamp insisted that with a membership as stated of 120 the Youth Club should be in a position to hire the New Cinema Ballroom or the Drill Hall or even the Crypt in Wells Road. Mrs. Hawkins commented that the Leaders' minds were set on getting the use of a school, and they had promised that there would be five adults in charge at each session. It was agreed to put forward the alternative suggestions for a venue to the Youth Leaders.

## ILKLEY COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS ON OMBUDSMAN'S REPORT

Comments on the Ombudsman's report which cleared the county council of maladministration allegations at the recent controversial Co-Op public inquiry have been made to the county's Policy Committee by Ilkley County Councillor H. V. Haddrill.

The Ombudsman carried out an investigation after the county council, following a change of political control, decided not to give evidence against the Co-op's plans for a new store at Ilkley.

Cty Cr. Haddrill told the Policy Committee the Ombudsman drew attention to the fact that he was satisfied beyond all doubt that the complainant suffered no injustice from any maladministration by the County Council.

"This, of course, is true but I think that it ought to be pointed out that the reason no injustice was caused was because the appeal did not succeed," said Cty. Cr. Haddrill. "But if the appeal had succeeded then injustice might very well have been caused by the county council's failure to deliver the evidence which had been prepared as a result of the county council, at its January meeting, approving the issue of the direction to Bradford Metropolitan District.

"Indeed, it may just be possible that injustice did occur because were a future application for planning permission to be allowed the highway conditions would still exist," he went on.

"I think it is right to draw the Committee's attention to the Ombudsman's statement that he was unable to categorically state that there had been no maladministration as well as drawing the attention of the Committee to his satisfaction that this maladministration had not caused injustice to the complainant.

"I accept, as the Ombudsman does that account has to be taken of the realities of the situation, but I am bound to tell the Committee that I believe that there are times when it is right to strictly stick to all the rules. What happened in this case was that two members, neither of whom at the relevant time had been appointed to the position that they were to hold, were able to give instructions setting aside a decision of the whole council, legally and properly in council assembled," said Cty. Cr. Haddrill.

"I am just as sure as the Ombudsman that the Leader of the County Council and the Chairman of the Environment Committee acted in complete good faith, but I believe they

were mistaken in so acting. I think it is probably true that it was wrong for them to give this direction and it was probably true that the officers who accepted it should not have done so.

"It appears that provision to meet such a situation at some future time is now to be made. This is right, though I am bound to say that should I ever find myself in the position that the Leader found himself, I would take the view that to put accusations of the kind that have been made completely out of court, I would allow the evidence to be given," Cty. Cr. Haddrill concluded.

Across The Years 26 Mar 82

## Home Secretary Told Of Woman's Death At Ilkley

100 Years Ago

A young woman from Oldham who was staying in Ilkley for treatment at a hydropathic institute in the town cut her throat and died. A doctor gave a medical certificate of death to the effect that the woman died from "irritation of the throat" and her body was returned to Oldham at the dead of night and buried there without an inquest. The Coroner heard about this and contacted the Home Secretary who ordered an inquest to be held. The coroner, however, by this time, was awaiting instructions as to a public prosecution against all the parties involved in the affair.

At the Spring General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the West Riding of Yorkshire, a resolution was moved as to the effect that the two mental asylums at Wakefield and Wadsley were inadequate for the needs of the Riding, and it was intended to provide an additional asylum. The surveyor had been instructed and negotiations were going on for suitable land in Menston to be purchased, this consisted of over 28 acres of land which seemed to be eminently suitable for the purpose within reasonable access of Leeds and Bradford and other West Riding towns. The price was to be £17,000, which was described as most "favourable" and no objections to the plans were expected.

75 Years Ago

A golf house was erected on the moorside by the Ilkley Moor Golf Club and was to be formally opened by one of the vice-presidents, Mr. J. Hillyard. There was to be a luncheon at Wells House and an exhibition golf match between Harry Varden and James Braid.

Glorious weather on Easter Monday was responsible for all resorts being extremely crowded. Ilkley was no exception, and in the evening there was a record number of return railway bookings of 6,500, three quarters of these being people who had walked to Ilkley over the moors from the Airedale Valley.

The spring sunshine throughout Easter week brought out the early green foliage and lush green fields, and on the moors the gorse was blooming freely. A considerable number of day visitors went boating on the river, or visited the Brass Band concert in the Pleasure Gardens which was won by the Rishworth and Ryburn Valley Band. There were one or two minor accidents with the

heavy traffic, a few cyclists damaged their machines and two traps collided in Denton Road but there were no serious injuries.

50 Years Ago

Easter weather fifty years ago was varied—bright cold north winds were fine for tramping the moors but not for picnics. Visitors made the best of conditions and despite the recession bookings at the hotels and hydros were good, and when showers fell there was plenty of indoor entertainment provided. Holiday crowds, however, were rather below the average, apart from the walkers who seemed to be able to brave all weather conditions.

The third Ilkley Scouts held a dance and whist drive at St. Margaret's Hall with music provided by the Blue Sparks orchestra, and Mr. F. Hardaker was M.C. for the whist.

Gracie Fields starred in her first talking picture at the Grove Picture House "Sally in Our Alley" which was described as being full of humour, pathos and song plus the magnetic personality of "Our Gracie."

Austin 7 saloons were available from a leading local garage at an all in price of £118.

25 Years Ago

The engine of a passenger train to Leeds from Ilkley drew up near the turntable well awaiting nearby points to be changed so that it could reverse on to the main line, moved forward instead of reversing, and dropped down into the turntable well, with the drivers cab left up in the air. Shaken but unhurt the driver, and fireman climbed out shaken but unharmed and the engine was hauled up by a more powerful engine sent from Leeds.

An increase of interest in Scouting was reported at the annual general meeting of the Wharfedale Local Association of Boy Scouts. Cr. J. Bowes, Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council, was in the chair. The census figures showed that numbers were up by 120 on the previous year, and the Badge Secretary, Mrs. Oliver, reported a total of 2085 badges being issued during the year. Lt. Col. N. Geldard was re-elected President, Mr. P. Moss Chairman, Mr. L. B. Eagle Treasurer and Mr. H. Haddrill Secretary.

Gordon MacRae and Gloria Graham starred in the film Oklahoma at the Grove Cinema with Charles Chaplin in "Gold Rush" at the Essoldo.

## EXTENDED CONSERVATION AREA WILL MAINTAIN ILKLEY'S CHARACTER

A new, extended Ilkley Conservation Area, taking in a wider cross-section of developments of interest to Ilkley than in the past, was approved on Monday

Following a public consultation exercise Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Sub-Committee agreed to extend the conservation area along Crossbeck Road and Cowpasture Road.

Ilkley Parish Council was said to be in general agreement with the new extension, but Ilkley Civic Society and the Victorian Society had been pressing for a larger area to be defined for conservation.

The sub-committee was told there had been representations to include Ilkley Old Bridge, but it had been decided to exclude it because as an ancient monument it was already protected, and a conservation order was not needed.

### Green belt review

Of a suggestion that Middleton should be included, it was stated there was concern for the open fields and woodland particularly as the development at Gill Bank Lane was proving obtrusive. The green belt in Wharfedale was to be reviewed, however, and there was the likelihood it would be extended to include the area at risk.

There was also concern about the Victorian and Edwardian houses in Kings Road and Grove Road, but it was felt there was scope to ensure the character of the area was kept in the normal way.

A report to the sub-committee said there were several planning measures to protect the town's amenities, appearance and setting, and its vulnerability had been much reduced. A more extensive conservation area was felt to be unnecessary and administratively burdensome.

### Old Bridge

Cr Eric Turner said Bradford Metropolitan Council and Ilkley Parish Council had virtually the same point of view. The parish council would have liked to have seen the Old Bridge, possibly one

of Ilkley's oldest buildings, included, but were not going to fall out with the Metropolitan Council about it.

He said the parish council agreed with the planners that to have an over-large conservation zone could put undue emphasis on materials, costs and the like.

The sub-committee decided to take care with planning applications to ensure the character of Ilkley was retained.

### Pleased at quick ACTION

Mr. Gilbert Lister, Chairman of Ilkley Civic Society, was particularly pleased that the planners had acted quickly in designating what could be one of the largest conservation areas in the Bradford Metropolitan District, and that the extensions originally suggested by Ilkley Parish Council had been included.

He paid tribute to the parish council, particularly to Cr. Hill and his team who took part in preliminary discussions, and to Cr. Peacock, Chairman of Bradford Council's Planning Panel. Mr. Lister was also grateful to Conservation Officers Mr. Hughes and Mr. Saul, and Tree Officer Mr. Wheeler.

The Civic Society was especially pleased that the Cowpasture Road and Crossbeck Road areas had been included, as they felt this would help preserve part of the splendid entry to the town from the moors.

However, the Civic Society felt the extension did not go far enough in ensuring that the character of this spa town would be different from the places of work from which visitors came.

### Further extensions

"With this in mind the society will continue to carry out a detailed survey and appraisal, and encourage local opinion to press for further extensions," said Mr. Lister.

"Most of all, we hope that following the designation of this area people will have an eye towards restoration," he went on. "The Civic Society and WEA are holding a series of classes starting in April for householders and artisans, preceded by a talk entitled 'All The Things That Matter To Those Who Build'." He added that any photographs, slides or postcards showing the landscape, buildings or character of the town, ancient or modern, would be appreciated.

Mr. Lister stressed that the success and liveliness of a conservation area depended on the conservation officers, local councillors, organisations and the public and developers who had to live with it.

There was no doubt that recent buildings in Ilkley were of a much higher standard, and the best of these had been done for local people by local architects and artisans, said Mr. Lister.



## COUNCIL TO DECIDE SOON ON FUTURE OF "TOO COSTLY" FARFIELD HALL

Uncertainty over the future of the Farfield Hall old people's home near Addingham was revealed by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Chief Executive in his annual visit to Addingham Parish Council.

Mr. Gordon Moore said the home was proving too costly to maintain and the Council was expected to decide soon whether or not to dispose of it.

Mr. Moore was being asked about a village plan to start a tree nursery and the possibility of using council owned land at Farfield Hall when he said the future of the home was in doubt.

He said it was the most costly home run by the District Council, and was not in a very convenient position so far as they were concerned.

The council was considering the possibility of disposing of the home, and he expected them to make a decision soon.

As far as the possibility of a tree nursery being created was concerned, Mr. Moore suggested the parish council apply in the usual way. If the decision was made to dispose of Farfield Hall an alternative site for a tree nursery could be suggested.

The home accommodates 35 residents, and employs 23 part-time and two full-time staff.

### Focal point

Farfield Hall, beautifully set in acres of rolling countryside and woodland has long

been a focal point for local tourists.

Set just off the main Addingham to Bolton Abbey road, the vast hall, is an eye-catching sight for passers by, but few realise the long and fascinating history attached to the building and its estates.

Many, for example, are unaware of its Quaker associations. The history of the rarely used Meeting House of the Society of Friends adjoining the hall is bound with that of the hall, and dates back to the 1680's, long before the hall was built.

The land was the gift of a Mr. Anthony Myers, of Catgill, near Bolton Abbey. A yeoman, he came under the influence of the founder of Quakerism, Mr. George Fox, about 1654.

He set apart a small piece of land for a burial place for the then "despised sect" and in 1689 he conveyed the land to the trustees. In that year, the Meeting House, a plain but charming little building, was built following the passing of the Toleration Act, which secured a measure of relief for the persecuted Quakers.

Mr. Myers had three daughters and one son, George. George was married to Mary Hardcastle, daughter of Mr. Peter Hardcastle, the steward to the Bolton Abbey estates of the Earl of Burlington,

and whose land adjoined that of the Earl.

Mr. George Myers died in 1714, leaving a son and a daughter, and it was his son, also called George, who built Farfield Hall. The exact date of the hall is not known, but there is a lead spout bearing the initials G.M. and the date 1729, and the old house bell bears the date 1729.

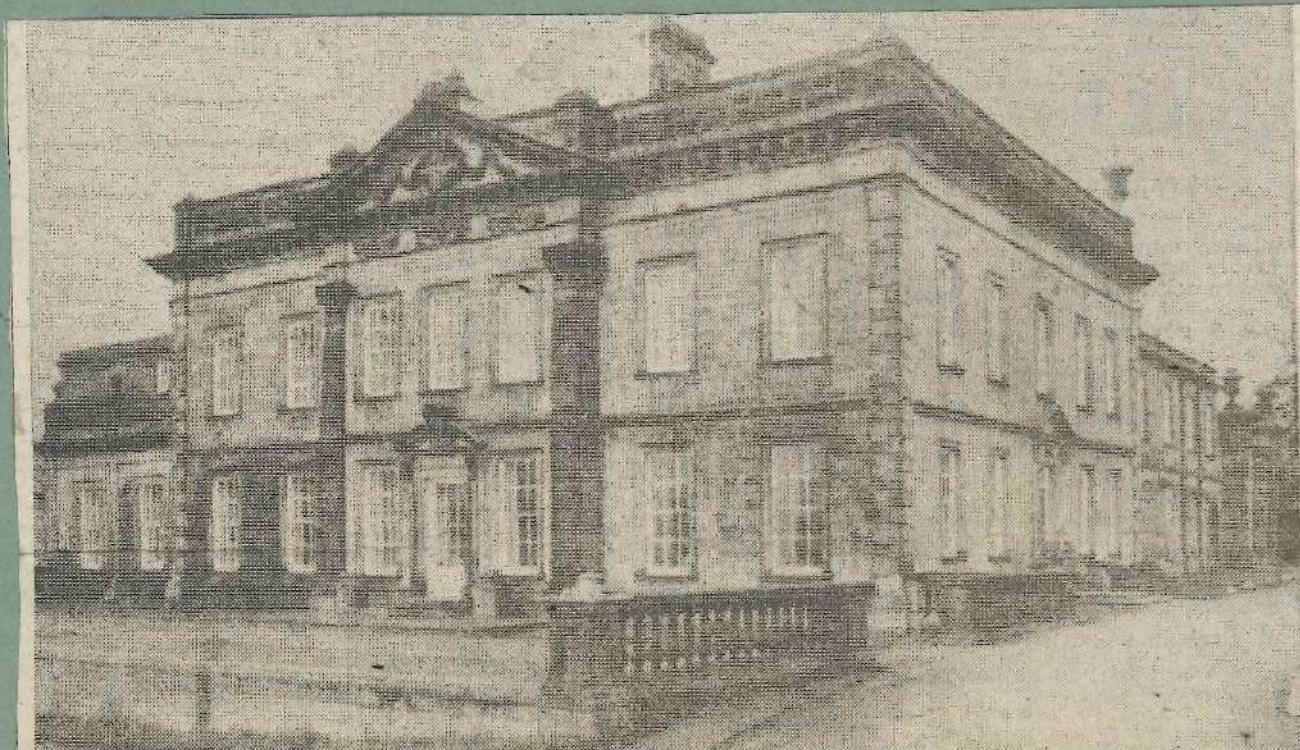
The hall is believed to have been designed by the Earl of Burlington, who had become famous as an architectural expert, and may have wanted to make some acknowledgement to the widow or son of his late steward.

### Several owners

Ownership of the hall has changed hands several times. After the death of George Myers, who was lord or owner of the manor of Addingham, in 1739, the property passed to his sister, Hannah. However, she died only three years later, and her cousin, Ebenezer Jackson, of Totties Hall, near Huddersfield, became the owner.

He owned the hall for 33 years, until his death in 1775. He was not married, so his nephew, John Marsden, became sole legatee. He married Mary Travis, of Bridlington, and when he died his sister Elizabeth, wife of John Travis, and her son John became owners, but they did not reside at the hall.

The hall changed hands once again in 1895, when they sold it to William Cunliffe, since when it has passed to Ellis Cunliffe Lister, John Cunliffe Kaye, Mr. George Douglas, who owned it for many years, and his son. Farfield Hall was sold privately to the then West Riding County Council in 1948 for use as an old people's home. Thirteen other lots which made up the estate were sold at an auction at the Ilkley Moor Hotel for £28,465.



## ENTERPRISING LOCAL YOUNGSTERS MEET PRINCE CHARLES

26 Mar 82

Four local youngsters who were granted £250 to set-up their own Co-operative went to Huddersfield on Monday to personally thank the donor—Prince Charles.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were in Huddersfield to meet about 60 youngsters who had benefited from a Trust

set-up by Prince Charles in 1977 to help socially, economically, environmentally and physically disadvantaged young people who needed money for projects that would contribute to their own or other people's welfare or development.

The four local enterprising

young people—James Breare, of Skipton Road, Ilkley; Mick Waddilove, of Crossbeck Road, Ilkley; Mark Sheehan, of Victoria Avenue, Ilkley; and Richard Powell, of Burns Hill, Addingham—all attend the Ilkley Youth Day Centre for the Unemployed, at Hawksworth House, Ilkley,

but will begin as the Wharfedale Workers' Co-operative in April, offering such services as gardening and painting.

Pictured (left to right) outside the centre are: James Breare, Mark Sheehan, Mick Waddilove and Richard Powell.



## £500 Boost For Ilkley's Talking Newspaper 2 Apr 82



The newly established Ilkley Talking newspaper, has received a £500 boost from the Wharfedale Lions Club, with the promise of more help.

The money, raised at a Gilbert and Sullivan concert at Ilkley's Kings Hall is towards much needed equipment, and the President, of Wharfedale Lions, Mr. Harry Hartley, pledged further support in the distribution and administration of the newspaper.

The chairman of the Talking Newspaper, Elizabeth Hughes received the cheque from Mr. Hartley at a special presentation ceremony at the

Troutbeck Hotel, Ilkley, and thanked the Wharfedale Lions and Mr. Tom Lawlor in particular, the principal Bass-Baritone with Opera North who played a major part in presiding the concert.

Efforts are now being made to raise about £2,000 for a duplicator, Craven Cassette, a similar organisation for the blind at Skipton, had offered the use of their tape duplicator as a short-term measure, but the Ilkley Talking Newspaper hoped to be able to buy their own recording and duplicating equipment. Donations have already been received by the

treasurer, Mr. David Waddingham, of Olicana Park, Ilkley, and by the Ilkley branch of the Yorkshire Bank.

The Talking Newspaper was established when the Ilkley Committee for the Year of the Disabled decided that any money left after the fund closed would be devoted to establishing the newspaper which will be distributed free in the form of tapes to the blind and partially sighted or to anyone whose disability prevented them handling a newspaper. The scheme will involve a team of three or four editing and recording

on the day of publication and a co-ordinator will arrange for that edition to be recorded on a master tape. Copies will then be delivered or posted by teams of volunteers.

Pictured from left to right at the presentation ceremony are: Mr. David Waddingham, treasurer of Wharfedale Lions and the Talking Newspaper; Elizabeth Hughes, chairman of the Talking Newspaper; Mr. Harry Hartley, President of Wharfedale Lions; Mr. Della Blake, a founder member of the Talking Newspaper; and Mr. Tom Lawlor, Vice-president of Wharfedale Lions.

2 Apr 82

# OFFICIALS REACTION TO REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR ILKLEY MOOR

A Bradford Council spokesman was yesterday (Thursday) "as sick as a box of frogs" about the premature release of details of planned major developments for Ilkley Moor.

A story in the "People" column of the Yorkshire Post broke the news of the proposed development by a wealthy consortium of influential landowners. It said 78 acres of moorland, including the Cow and Calf rocks, were involved in a deal thought to be worth about £2.5 million.

## Amusement Park

The suggestion was certain to meet with fierce opposition from conservationists and country lovers as it involved the landscaping of part of the site, removal of some of the famous rocks and the possibility of a large amusement park to tie in with Bradford Council's tourist policy.

However, under a statute governing the use of former common land the authorities would have little say in the matter.

The consortium, headed by the Marquess of Eskdale, told the Yorkshire Post that this was a natural extension of their investment plans, and their parks in other parts of the country, with big dippers, steam railways, motor cycle scrambling and disco restaurants were very popular with children.

"We regret that the moor will not be the same again, but unless the countryside changes it will die," said Lord Eskdale. "This country's lifeblood is an active economy which we are helping to stimulate. There will be the inevitable calls of vandalism from cranks, but at least we are trying to make the countryside work," he added.

A spokesman for the Bradford Council department responsible for the moor was annoyed that news had escaped before a suitable press release could be formulated.

## An Improvement

However, he pointed out that the whole scheme would be an improvement. "A lot of people use the moor and

recreation patterns change," he said.

He pointed out that the Yorkshire Post story missed out plans to improve hang gliding facilities by the erection of a tower to give gliders more height, and that only silent motor cycles would be allowed.

He also said that Bradford Council had full powers to make whatever use of the moor it saw fit under an 1889 Act.

The spokesman said Bradford Council had great plans for Ilkley Moor, and as owners were anxious to make the best possible use of the consortium's money. One improvement would be the replacement of the already eroded area of the moor with an American synthetic material which looked "99 per cent" like heather, and which when treated could be used for breeding reindeer.

He promised that when the scheme went ahead Ilkley Moor would again resume its rightful place as one of the foremost tourist and recreation centres in the North of England.

The immediate reaction to the story from the chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, was that it was an April Fool joke.

"My first reaction to it was that the whole half page in the Yorkshire Post was an April Fool joke. I did make one or two phone calls just

to make sure, but I think most people would just treat it as a joke.

"If people had taken it seriously, I don't think my telephone would have stopped ringing all morning.

"I am not sure how far they are allowed to go with such a story, but I am prepared to take it in good heart," she said.

2 Apr 82

## CASUALTY OF MARCH GALES REMOVED FROM RIVER WHARFE

Workmen from the River Board at York began operations on Tuesday removing the 100 year old Sycamore tree which was blown down in the River Wharfe near the Old Bridge by the strong gale force winds last month.

The branches of the tree were to be lopped and burned

on site but the main trunk was to be removed by the use of a tractor winch.

Miss E. Hughes, Headmistress of the Bolling Road infants school said arrangements had been made to acquire one of the thickest sections of the trunk of the

tree. Miss Hughes said this would be placed in the Bolling Road schoolyard and used by the children to climb over.

Young children were always being warned of the dangers of climbing high trees. To bring a section of a large tree into the playground at

the school would help solve that problem. The section did not want to be much longer than eight feet, said Miss Hughes.

The remainder of the tree was to be removed by a local firm of timber merchants.



## PLANS FOR BRIDGE TO CARRY RAILWAY ACROSS BROOK STREET

### 100 Years Ago

The Engineer to the Ilkley-Skipton railway scheme, Mr. Barry, forwarded drawings of the proposed bridge over Brook Street. It was of very ornamental structure and would be "a very imposing structure" in the town according to the Ilkley Gazette report.

A private quadrille society formed at Addingham finished their first season with a successful and well attended ball at Addingham in a magnificently decorated hall festooned with garlands of flowers and leaves. The excellent band was presided over by Mr. W. Dean. The highspot of the evening was the dancing of "Sir Roger de Coverley" and the ball continued until 2 a.m. Mr. T. Geldert, of Ilkley, was the M.C. for the evening, and refreshments were served and provided by Mr. Bartle Hutton, of Ilkley.

### 75 Years Ago

Mr. J. C. Barker was elected chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council for the ensuing year. He had been a member of the local authority for many years, and had been chairman of the old Local Board.

In his opening speech Mr. Barker said that it was 20 years since he had been elected to the Local Board and since then his interest in local affairs had never flagged. The main event during his year of office was to be the opening of the Town Hall and the Free Library and Mr. Jackson (Chairman of the Town Hall Committee) was capably managing the arrangements for this event. There was a contemplated improvement to Brook Street pending but this was waiting the sanction of the Local Government Board.

A meeting was held in the Council Chamber to discuss what steps should be taken regarding holding a Charity Carnival in aid of the Cottage Hospital. Many members who had been involved in the organisation in previous years felt that the bulk of the work fell on too few shoulders. It was decided that the carnival must continue and a committee was elected with the power to add to their numbers and involve more people.

### 50 Years Ago

Charges for the use of the Toll Bridge at Ben Rhydding were referred to at the April meeting of Ilkley Council. It was decided to reduce the charges for motor

cars from a shilling to sixpence. It was felt that the revenue would increase if the high charges were reduced.

The Medical Officer of Health reported six deaths during the month of February and eleven births. The youngest to die was a man of 71 and the eldest a woman aged 88. Mr. Sugden thought that the average age of death—79 years was quite remarkable.

It was proposed to form an evening class for the benefit of twenty Germans who had been brought from Germany to work at the Peltzer-Lister Velvet mill in Addingham, to enable them to improve their English.

Vegetation in the Ilkley district was reported as being well advanced for the time of the year. Gorse and coltsfoot was in bloom, as well as primroses, and most of the hedges were about to burst their buds. Bleak winds had retarded early growth a little since Easter but generally growth was well ahead.

### 25 Years Ago

Over 500 people attended the 4th Annual speciality dance organised by the Ripon Division Young Conservatives under the title "Baht 'At Rock" at the Winter Gardens. The hall was appropriately decorated and Bet Bentley and his Astorians provided the music. Messrs. B. Dale and K. Ellis were the joint M.C.s.

The wolf cub pack of St. Margaret's Church, Ilkley which had been wound up in 1939 was reformed under the leadership of Mrs. G. C. Barlow.

The senior record was broken in the Cross Country races held by Ilkley Grammar School. Dibb won the event for the second year running in a new record time of 23 minutes 9 seconds. The previous record holder Brian Morrell was present to offer his congratulations. The winner of the Junior race was Salisbury.

## Many Visitors At Ilkley For Easter Holiday

### 100 Years Ago

The weather was favourable for the Easter holidays and, over 4,000 people booked rail excursions from Leeds to Ilkley on good Friday. The streets were busy both with the rail visitors and also the many who had walked over the moors from the cities. The Easter Sunday services were attended by many of the visitors from outside the town. A large number of excursions by trap set out from the station yard to Bolton or Barden for a day out on Easter Monday, and Silsden band visited Ilkley and played selections from their repertoire in the streets.

Edmundson's "Stuff Warehouse" in Leeds advertised their new spring goods. They offered jacket and mantle cloths, costumes and mantles, jackets and dolmans, umbrellas and sunshades, in addition to mourning millinery, gloves and ties and every requisite for mourning. They offered a post free pattern service to people living outside the town.

### 75 Years Ago

Ilkley Moor Golf Club held its annual general meeting in a newly opened Golf Club House, at which Mr. F. Pinder, the treasurer, presented a satisfactory balance sheet. The Secretary also presented a good report and declared the number of members to be 160. Mr. A. Hitt, the secretary, retired on account of ill health and his duties were undertaken temporarily by Mr. A. C. Roberts and Mr. H. Sutcliffe. Mr. J. T. Jackson was re-elected President of the Club. The annual subscription was increased to £1 11s 6d., and the entrance fee to £2. 2s. from £1. 1s.

The Wesley Guild of Play trained by Miss Hoskins gave an entertainment for their parents and friends. Even the youngest members were taking part and Cecil Larder aged 3, gave a recitation entitled "Baby's Stocking" and another little mite Irene Burnell cleverly recited "Long Time Ago." Margaret Brown played the piano "very nicely" and Cissie Steel, Beryl Burdock, Amy Butler and Olga Saynor sang a pianoforte song.

### 50 Years Ago

A circular distributed in France by railway companies in France, Belgium and Switzerland contained two photographs of Ilkley together with an interesting description of the town. It described routes by which Ilkley could be reached

don, only 12 k.m. from the town. It extolled the virtues of Ben Rhydding Hydro with its nine hole golf course, and the fish in the river Wharfe for anglers. It described the Beacon at Beamsley as a high prominence which dominated the forest of Bolton, and Denton Park as the ancient residence of Lord Fairfax, the great leader of Cromwell's army.

The work of the Matron and staff of the Children's Holiday Home at Highfield was praised greatly by members of the committee. The 105 children from Leeds who had visited during the previous year had gained a total of 252 lbs. in weight and the 92 children from Bradford had gained 237 lbs. In addition to outdoor activities in singing and dancing and their had been instruction games arranged by Miss Robinson, a permanent hon. lady helper at the home. In some cases the affect of the holiday could be described as "Magical" and one small boy kissed his pillow before he left.

### 25 Years Ago

Bus excursions planned for Easter included fares to Blackpool at 10/9 return, Bridlington 11/9, Scarborough 10/9 and Grassington 5/8. The Five Lakes trip cost 13/ and a day visit to Wetherby Race Course 4/3s. Rail excursions were even cheaper.—Blackpool 9/9, Morecambe 7/9, Bolton Abbey 1/4, Grassington 4/6 and Harrogate 2/9.

Ilkley Education Committee was prepared to offer temporary accommodation to Ilkley Youth Club to hold meetings at the County Infants School (Leeds Road). The list of possible accommodation they had suggested to the club had been looked into and found to be useless, and in view of the 120 members on the books the Infants school would be offered.

Ilkley Grammar School presented a concert before a large audience, and opened with a Haydn Trio with music master Victor Pollard, Anne Bilsby and Romaine Bottomley. Michael Pratt and K. V. Rhodes played piano duets. After the Interval Hiawatha's Wedding Feast was given by the school choir, augmented by parents and a few old boys. Joseph Roberts was the tenor/solist, and the two pianos were played by Robert Crinall and T. E. Walker. The performance was described as being "very impressive."

## QUESTIONS ASKED ABOUT FUTURE OF COLLEGE STAFF AFTER MERGER

Further details of what a merger could mean between Colleges at Ilkley and Bradford have been given by the Leader of Bradford Metropolitan Council, Councillor D. Smith.

He was speaking to Ilkley Parish Council on Monday on his annual visit to one of its meetings when he assured members there would be no compulsory retirements at Ilkley College.

But he warned that after the first year they could be talking to people who might wish to retire voluntarily.

"We will be in a better position to discuss the future of the staff when we have appointed a Principal at Ilkley," said Cr. Smith.

When he was questioned further by Cr. Mrs. B. Cussons on just what a merger really meant Cr. Smith said "the intention of the merger is to retain both colleges."

"We can't say what will happen in five years time but at the moment it is our intention to retain both colleges," said Cr. Smith.

Cr. Mrs. Cussons asked what the estimated spending on education was likely to be for the current financial year? What percentage was that of the total rateable income? What percentage of the education was spent in the inner

city areas and what percentage elsewhere in the district?

The Leader Cr. Smith said during 1982-83 expenditure on education would be £106.26m. Income from rates during the year would be £59.3m and therefore education spending was 179 per cent of rate income. The difference was made up from the rate support grant. Education was 67 per cent of the budget. The Council's expenditure was not allocated on an area basis and so the percentage spent in the Inner City area relative to the rest of the district was not available. Overall the Council had three hundred schools and when it was considered four-fifths of the population lived in one fifth of the Bradford Metropolitan area the percentage spent in Bradford would no doubt be the highest, said Cr. Smith.

## 700 PARKING OFFENCES BUT NO PROSECUTIONS

Although 700 standard charge notices for parking offences were issued in the first five months of pay car parking at Ilkley no prosecutions had yet taken place, the Leader of Bradford Council said in reply to a question by Cr. Peter A. Williams.

Cr. Williams said he had been told 400 of the motorists had paid the standard charge of £4, but asked how many of the other 300 had been prosecuted.

Cr. Smith said seventy of the offences had been waived for mitigating reasons, and 230 had been waived by the Technical Services Sub Committee on 2 December 1981 due to the Council's inability to trace offenders as a result of the effect of the Civil Service

strike on the operation of the Swansea computer.

"It is not the best way to recover money by taking people to court and I would like to see a different system," said Cr. Smith.

"Taking people to court is very costly and there is no guarantee the costs of the case will be recovered by the authority," he said.

Cr. Williams thought the situation was deplorable. Four hundred motorists had had to pay a fine but over two hundred had got away with it.

"It is about time Bradford Council found some answers to these problems and they could start by withdrawing the parking charges," said Cr. Williams.

## DISC PARKING FAVOURED

The leader of Bradford Council told Ilkley Parish Councillors that he was not opposed to disc parking schemes, and thought they should be encouraged in street parking zones.

He had been asked by Cr. J. L. Freeman why Bradford Council was opposed to disc parking, which was by far the most sensible way of controlled parking. It worked well in Harrogate and other towns throughout the country.

The Leader said it was used throughout the country as a device to control on-street parking as opposed to off-

street parking, and its use was not suited to the latter.

"I am not aware that Bradford Council has expressed opposition to the use of discs, but such use within the West Yorkshire county has been considered by the County Council purely with a view to controlling on-street parking, a function outside Bradford's control, he said.

"Can we then count on your support if we approach the County Council?" asked the Chairman to the Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. Renton.

"It seems a very sensible system," replied Cr. Smith.

## INCREASING RATE BURDEN

"Why does Bradford Metropolitan Council continue to increase its rates by a figure greatly in excess of the rate of inflation?" was a question put by Cr. F. H. Lambert.

"This places greater burdens on local businesses to the detriment of local industry and leads to further business failures and consequent job losses," it was stated in the question by Cr. Lambert.

Replying Cr. Smith said there were many reasons, one being that central government rate support grants were decreasing and this meant local authority had to increase local rates accordingly. The rate support grant of 66 per cent last year had now decreased to fifty six per cent. There were other reasons such as wage increases over which the Authority had little or no control. They were having to find more and more revenue from the rates because the Government was contributing less and less, said Cr. Smith.

"Many job losses are due to the fact that British industry is not competitive with other similar industries in other parts of the EEC. The greatest influence on business failures and job losses in the textile industry is not the level of the rate but the Multi-Fibre Arrangement which in effect controls the import of textile goods into the EEC from Third World countries. The recent re-negotiated MFA will on the EEC's own admission lead to at least a forty five per cent decline in wool textile employment over the next few years. In other industries major job losses are due to investment policies by multi-national companies," said Cr. Smith.

He went on "from 1976-77 to 1980-81 the Bradford Council rate levy had risen from 60.5p to 87.4p, an increase of forty four per cent. During the same period the Retail Price Index rose from 163.5 to 271.9, an increase of sixty six per cent. The increase for 1981-82 can not be accurately assessed due to the transfer of block grants between district and county. However, it has been estimated that the block grant transfer was the equivalent of a 13p rate. This would give the six year increase (60.5p to 105.5p) as seventy four per cent with the RPI increase for the same period being eighty five

per cent. During the same period the Government's Rate Support Grant has decreased from 65.5 per cent to 59.1 per cent in 1981-82. The percentage support for 1982-83 has decreased to fifty six per cent and this policy of transferring a larger proportion each year of local government expenditure from national taxation to local taxation is one of the reasons why the rating system is being discredited.

"The cash increase in Rate Support Grant in 1982-83 is only five per cent compared with ten per cent admitted Rate of Inflation by the Chancellor of the Exchequer," said Cr. Smith.

"The figures to compare are those of expenditure necessary to contain existing services at their same level, i.e. without any cuts or growth between the years. This is known as the base budget and in 1981-82 it was £148.428 million. To do exactly the same in 1982-83 would cost £162.177 million, an increase of 9.25 per cent—below even the current rate of inflation of eleven per cent but which at the time of the preparation of the budget was twelve per cent. Since we prepared the base budget and as late as 11 January we were informed that the Teacher Training grant was to be reduced by a net £754,000 which has increased the base budget to a straight ten per cent over last year. Perhaps the question should have been directed to the Secretary of State rather than to me," continued Cr. Smith.

"The Government's figure for inflation allowed in the Rate Support Grant settlement is only seven per cent. In view of the manual workers' pay claim being settled nationally at seven per cent, teachers' pay going to arbitration to be settled at somewhere between 3.4 per cent offered and 12 per cent claimed do you think the Government's figures are realistic? The Council is keen to create jobs, not to lose them. Perhaps if I tell you that in 1980-81 the Council's Rate Support Grant was 73.9 per cent of net expenditure, in 1981-82 67.8 per cent and in 1982-83 61.3 per cent you will see why the rates are not in line with inflation," said Cr. Smith.

16 Apr 82

# CLEAN UP ILKLEY IN TIME FOR BRITAIN IN BLOOM COMPETITION, SAY RESIDENTS

A campaign to clean up Ilkley before the judging of the "Britain in Bloom" contest later this year was called for at the annual Parish Meeting.

A suggestion for a "Clean up Ilkley Day" met with a favourable response and it was suggested that Burley and Menston could take part in a similar scheme.

The suggestions were made after a letter from residents in Valley Drive had described the area around Valley Drive and Wheatley Lane as an "eyesore".

Residents complained there was only one small litter bin in the area of the railway bridge and Bolling Road corner, which they said was inadequate, and said there were other spots in Ilkley just as neglected.

## Full Of Rubbish

They suggested a clean-up of the town, and both the chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, and Cr. H. V. Haddrill agreed it was a good idea. Cr. Haddrill drew attention to the coal drops in Railway Road, which he said were full of rubbish.

Cr. Mrs. Renton felt it was important to get more litter bins, and mentioned the poor state of the area around the bottle bank, where she said people had left bottle tops and cardboard boxes. "It would be useful if people took off the bottle tops before they go to the bottle bank," she added.

Cr. C. H. Scaife suggested a sponsored clean-up involving Burley and Menston as well as Ilkley. He said they could each choose a project and then have a sponsored clean-up one weekend, whereby they would not only raise money towards the project but also clean up the area at the same time.

A representative of Burley Community Council referred to its clean up campaign for the "Best Kept Village" competition, which it won in 1979. "We received some help from Bradford Metropolitan Council," she said, "but most of the work was done by local organisations. We gave them a list of the things which needed doing and they chose what they wanted to do."

Another suggestion was that headmasters of local schools should make their pupils aware of the problem of litter and ask them not to drop litter.

## Brook Street Fountain

There was a suggestion for a slightly different scheme in Ilkley - to clean up and restore the fountain at the top of Brook Street. Cr. Scaife said the scheme could involve young people with the backing of the local community, and Ilkley Civic Society member Mr. Jim Gaunt felt such a scheme would receive support from local organisations.

However, it was pointed out that a similar scheme to restore a fountain at St. Albans had to be abandoned because of a problem of litter being dumped in it. Cr. W. R. Hill, chairman elect of Ilkley Parish Council, thought efforts to renovate the fountain would be in vain because of the number of youngsters who frequented that area.

Cr. Scaife suggested giving Bradford Council a proposition: "If you restore the water supply, we will raise the necessary finances to beautify it," and this was agreed unanimously.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said Ilkley Parish Council was investigat-

## Tourist Centre

Chairman of Ilkley Civic Society, Mr. Gilbert Lister, said the society wanted to get Ilkley into the National Tourist Board's list and brochures of Spa towns, but Cr. Haddrill asked if they wanted to promote the town as an enterprise because he said not everyone in Ilkley would agree with the idea.

Cr. Hill was asked how the Parish Council saw Ilkley's image as a tourist centre, and he replied: "We would like to see more people coming to Ilkley, which would obviously strengthen its financial viability. However, we have to balance that with the people who come to Ilkley for the peace and quiet and must be careful to attract the right sort of people."

"We have got to be very careful that we do not get too many people here and destroy what many people have come here for," he added.

## Unfair Rates

Almost inevitably, the question of rates was raised. Former chairman of Ilkley Ratepayers Action Group, Mr. W. D. Fisher, accused the Parish Council of not giving the views of the people of Ilkley on the rates forcefully enough, and said no approach had been made by the Parish Council about the unfairness of the rating system. "The rating system is a poor one and grossly unfair," said Mr. Fisher. "The only really fair

system when you look at it is income tax, whereby you are assessed on what you earn. I am not advocating it as a solution, but it is a possible solution," he said.

Mr. M. Hudson, of Menston, said: "We have heard many views about protecting Ilkley ratepayers and I support that but the ethic of local government is to improve those areas of inner cities so they reach something like the level that Ilkley has."

"Rates are about obtaining money from individuals in a fair way but it is also about spending money fairly. We must improve the inner cities," he said.

## Highlights

Reviewing the past year, Cr. Mrs. Renton highlighted some of the events which had taken place since the last annual meeting.

"There was the appeal against the Co-operative Society development on the car park," she said. "The result, I believe, fully justified the stand the Parish Council took. The implementation of the County's traffic scheme coupled with the changes now in operation on the car park have had a chaotic effect on car parking in the town. A review of the situation, taken by some of our councillors, will be put to a meeting with the County, which we believe will be arranged in the near future. We hope serious consideration will be given to our suggestions," she said.

"The result of Hillards appeal was still awaited," she continued. "I think there is no doubt that, if successful, this would to some extent relieve the pressure of certain on-street parking and, indeed, go some way to ease the whole situation."

Cr. Mrs. Renton said the extension of the Conservation area had been decided and accepted and mentioned that the Tourist Information Centre had officially opened.

Finally, she reflected on the opening of Hawksworth House for helping the young unemployed in Ilkley. "It was instigated at a meeting set up by the Parish Council with members of Ilkley College staff and the youth employment officer from Bradford," she said. "One of our councillors was responsible for getting the services laid on and the use of the house free of rent. We hope to help further these young people in any way we can," she concluded.

Across The Years 16 Apr 82

### Families Of Distinction At Fancy Dress Ball

100 Years Ago

A fancy dress ball was held at Weston Hall to commemorate the coming of age of Miss L. Dawson, and the Gazette reported, this event was attended by representatives of "every family of distinction" in Wharfedale and proved to be a glittering social occasion. Mr. Fred Bell's Quadrille band were responsible for the music and "the home of the Vavasours" was transformed from a stately hall to a palace of wonderland. The sparkling guest list included the Middleton family, the Fawkes family, the Snowdens, the Fisons, Arnold-Forsters, the Blackwoods and Mrs. Titus Salt, with many more well-known local names. The dancing continued until 4 a.m.

Several houses were to let in Tivoli Place, Ilkley, at £18 per annum, and an organ harmonium could be obtained at £8 10s, and a Singer sewing machine at £2 10s.

A Royal Wedding at Windsor took place between Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, and Princess Helen of Waldeck. It was attended by Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal family. The bride was given away by her father and also the King of the Netherlands. The couple returned to the palace in a procession of nine carriages with a field officer's escort of the 2nd Life Guards.

75 Years Ago

Railway Road was scheduled for a change in appearance as Messrs. Dean and Mennell were engaged in the erection of five houses on the former cricket field and they had a proposal for eight others. Messrs. A. Waugh and Son were to put up 13 houses and Mr. J. Fry was to move his whitesmith's business to the bottom of Nelson Road. There were similar development in other parts of the town, five houses to be erected in Castle Road and Wharfe View Road for Mr. Geo. Fox, and four houses and other buildings in Yew Croft for Mr. Lister Ellis, whilst Messrs. Eagle and Mawson had in hand the erection of several semi-detached villas in the Ben Rhydding District.

A regular contributor to the Ilkley Gazette "Stylus Scrivener" deplored the indescribable horror of the quarry working on the moor. He was enraged to see how close the quarrying was being conducted to the Cow rock and said that its surroundings had been completely spoiled by such sacrilege. He deplored the insensitivity of member of the District Council who were supposed to look after the interests of the town and its people.

A hen belonging to Mr. John Sunley, of Church Street, laid an egg weighing 7 ounces, 3/4 inches long and at its widest circumference it was eight inches. The egg was put on display in Mr. Sunley's shop window for all to see.

50 Years Ago

The Governors of Ilkley Grammar School decided to cease taking boarders at the school after the end of the summer term. Modern transport systems had made it easier for boys to attend daily, and in some cases boys were attending other day schools in the area with no different facilities for day boys and boarders. There had been boarders at the school for almost forty years since the new school opened but they had been dwindling in numbers over the years.

The Matron of the Wharfedale Isolation hospital, Miss M. L. Booth announced her resignation owing to poor health. She had

held the post for almost nineteen years, and was known as a thorough disciplinarian. She had been extremely popular with her patients and her wards were described as being "as near perfect as could be."

25 Years Ago

An Addingham man, local cricketer and rugby player, Lt. Ernest Edward Taylor of Main Street, was one of three survivors when a Viking troop plane crashed at Blackbushe, Hants, causing the death of 32 men. The plane had been on a charter flight to Tripoli, Libya, and after take off the pilot reported engine trouble and then the plane crashed into pine trees and exploded. Lt. Taylor was an old boy of Ilkley Grammar school and in civilian life a member of the staff of the Leeds City Engineers department.

A special sub-committee was formed in Ilkley Council to consider the possibility of the installation of a communal radio and T.V. aerial relay service in Ilkley. Two applications had been received. The Chairman of the Council Mr. J. H. Bowes, and Crs. Binns, Clough, Hampshire and Hardy were instructed to study the schemes and consider their merits and report back to the Council on their findings.

Ilkley had experienced the driest April on record, and it was because of this that the townspeople were asked to save water wherever possible to avoid a shortage if the dry spell continued.

Across The Years 23 Apr 82

### BAND OF HOPE HOLDS FLOWER FESTIVAL

100 Years Ago

In connection with the Congregational Band of Hope a Flower Festival was held in the Lecture Hall, Riddings Road. The platform was beautifully decorated with plants, and members all held bouquets of flowers. The Rev. S. D. Hillman was in the chair, and he gave a fine address supplemented by a "short speech of an encouraging nature" from Mr. E. P. Dove. Mr. A. S. Press was presented with a silver mounted baton, suitably inscribed, by the Sunday School members and the Band of Hope, as he had played a prominent part in the formation of the groups. The presentation was made to him by Jenny Stewart. After a programme of music and songs, flowers were packed to be given to the Ilkley Hospital, the Seaton Convalescent Home, and the Bradford Infirmary and Fever Hospital.

Mr. J. S. Tolson opened the meeting of the Ilkley Local Board by expressing his gratitude to members for the confidence they had shown in electing him as Chairman of the Board. It was regretted that more expenses had been incurred in the elections being £3 up on the previous year making a total for all members of £16 9s. 10d.

75 Years Ago

Miss Frances Darlington, of Ilkley, a well known local sculptor had a decorated mantel panel accepted for exhibition at the Royal Academy. It was entitled "Sir Perceval and the Holy Grail" and was six feet by three feet.

Ilkley swimming club presented a satisfactory balance sheet at their annual meeting, despite the fact that the Victoria baths were closed in the height of the 1906 season owing to the scarcity of water. Thanks were expressed to the District Council who had laid pipes from Ilkley Brewery to the baths so that the club could utilise the waste warm water, and this obviated warming the baths water by steam, which resulted in a considerable saving on expenses.

50 Years Ago

A suggestion that the West Riding County Council should provide traffic robots at the junction of Wheatley Lane, Ben Rhydding with Leeds Road was discussed by Ilkley Urban District Council. There was great divergence of opinion as to the wisdom of this, as the traffic was not considered to be so heavy and they understood that the corner house had been purchased for demolition to give a better view of the roads. They also considered the economy question, and pointed out that if there were to be traffic lights at every similar junction, the expenditure would be enormous. On the other hand it was pointed out that there had been many accidents or near accidents at this point and they did not think they could provide a policeman on point duty as cheaply as a set of robots.

Four representatives of the Scandinavian Travel Bureaux were to visit Ilkley and see some of the attractions Wharfedale had to offer. Mr. C. F. Pyett, Chairman of Ilkley Council, welcomed them and the event went very "cordially" with one visitor saying that he would do everything in his power to ensure that Ilkley had its share of Scandinavian visitors. The representatives were given dinner at Wells House Hotel where they stayed the night. The following morning they toured Wharfedale by motor, returning to take lunch at Ben Rhydding Hydro.

25 Years Ago

Ministerial approval was received in principle to the Ilkley Grammar School playing fields in Valley Drive being sold to Ilkley Council. Approval was also given to the County Council leasing approximately nine acres of land at Wheatley Holms to provide playing fields for the Grammar School at Ben Rhydding on a 99 year lease at a rent fixed by the District Valuer.

The occupier of a house in Heber's Ghyll Drive requested that in future the refuse collecting vehicle should not be allowed to use his drive, but that the bins must be carried by the dustbin men to his gate. There were three bins, situated 140 yards from the roadway and the Health Inspector said he considered it reasonable that the householder should provide reasonable access to these. It was agreed to ask the occupier to place the refuse bins nearer to the road if he still refused access to the vehicles.

Chipperfield's Circus was to pay a visit to the show ground at Ben Rhydding for three days. Two shows daily were advertised at prices from 1/9 to 10/6.

### BUSY EASTER FOR ILKLEY DESPITE DULL, COOL WEATHER

16 Apr 82

Although cool north westerly winds kept temperatures down at Ilkley over the Easter holiday period the town still attracted many visitors.

The riverside gardens were busy as usual, with people making the most of the first weekend that the rowing boats were in use on the river this year.

Mrs. Kristine Dobson, of the Riverside Hotel, said twenty new boats had been ordered but unfortunately only four had arrived in time for the opening at Easter. However, the total of 23 boats available had been in constant use over the holiday with people having to wait at times.

She said the hotel now had

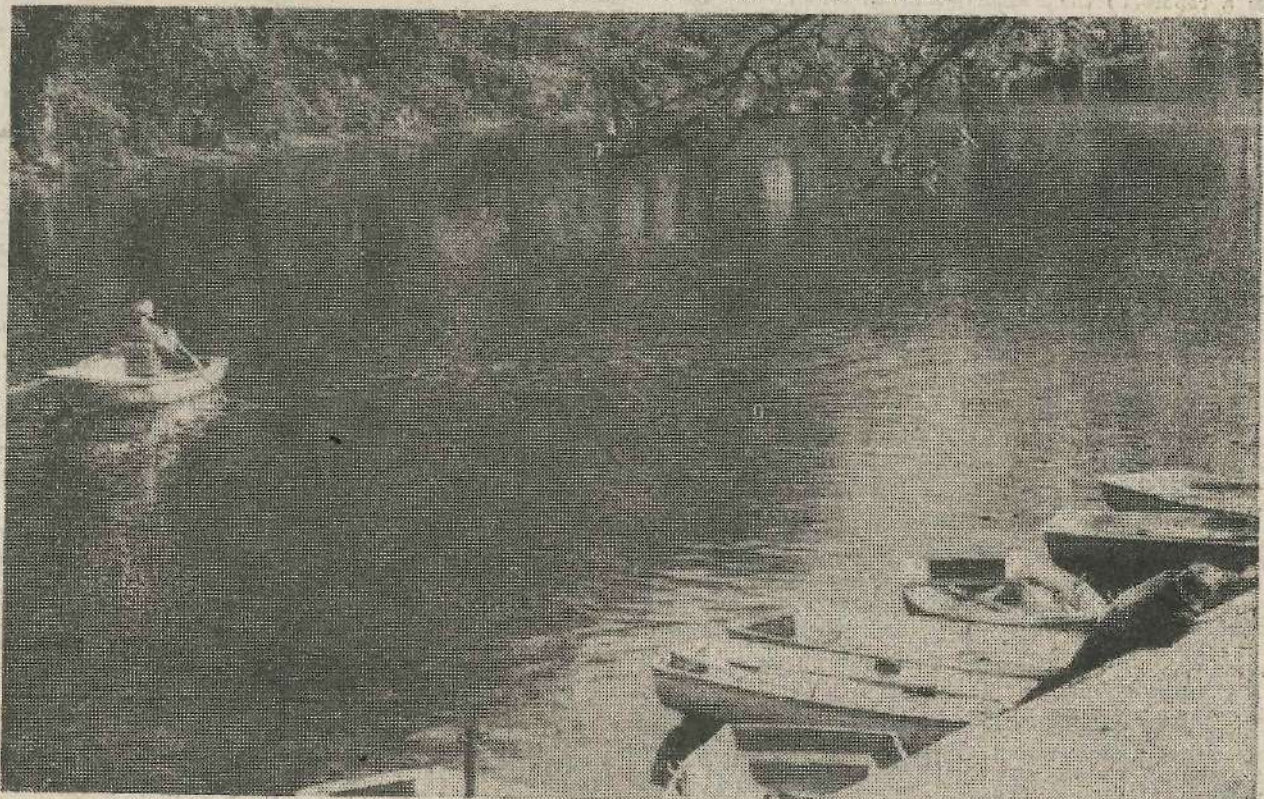
a full drinks licence and new rides for children, which had proved a great attraction.

The cool north westerly winds meant that temperatures reached a maximum of only 11.2 Centigrade (52.2 Fahrenheit) on Sunday, falling below freezing at night.

Last Easter, which was a week later, a maximum of 14.6 C (59 F) was recorded

at Ilkley's meteorological station in Little Lane.

Easter this year was also duller, with only 16.5 hours of bright sunshine over the four days, compared with 28.8 hours over the same period last year. It was again dry, however, with no rain-fall recorded.



23 Apr 82

# LOG BOOK OF WARTIME BOMBER'S RAIDS OVER GERMANY FOUND AT ILKLEY

A Log Book recording the operational activities of a Halifax bomber during the Second World War has been discovered in Ilkley Town Hall during a Spring Clean.

The book was presented to the town in 1943 as a tribute to the success achieved by the Ilkley Savings Committee in the national "Wings for Victory" campaign. Ilkley was set a target of £500,000 but raised a staggering £702,093 enough to build ten bombers or sixty fighters.

Halifax HR 719, a four engine bomber of 158 Squadron had a short life. In five weeks during May and June, 1943 it flew on bombing missions over Germany and it was on its tenth mission, this time to bomb Dusseldorf, when it failed to return.

### Seven Man Crew

The last entry lists the seven crew members and records "this aircraft took off at 23.10 hours since when nothing was heard from it".

The crew, all Sergeants, were listed as R. G. Pope (Captain), T. F. Potter (Navigator), R. A. C. Showler (Air Bomber), F. Lee (Wireless Operator), C. A. F. Green (Mid Upper Gunner), F. G. Lay-Flurrie (Rear Gunner) and A. Glen (Flight Engineer).

The bomber had an armament of a bomb load of 13,000lb and its original crew members were again all Sergeants with R. G. Appleby as (Captain), N. Emery (Navigator), A. E. Nixon (Air Bomber), A. Redfearn (Wireless Operator), C. Bromham (Mid Upper Air Gunner), S. James (Rear Gunner) and D. L. Robinson (Flight Engineer).

### Bombing Missions

The first bombing mission flown by Halifax HR 719 was on 4 May, 1943 when the aircraft left at 22.29 hours with its target as Dortmund. It carried a load of two 1,000lb bombs, 600 4lb bombs and 96 30lb bombs with similar bomb loads on subsequent missions.

The Log Book records "target attacked at 01.29 hours from 19,000 feet heading 169 degrees mag. Visibility cloudless—fairly clear. Yellow ground markers seen on track then reds on target. Bombed on concentration of reds. Saw very big explosion at target followed by another three minutes later. Fires going well on target. Mandrel (Electronic counter measures to jam enemy Radar) carried and used. Time Down 03.16 hours."

The next mission on 12 May, 1943 took Halifax HR 719 to Duisberg where it attacked its target at 02.19 hours from 19,500 feet. There was no cloud

but some ground haze. Yellow markers on tracking position and reds with greens on target were identified. Red markers were bombed but own results not seen. At 02.18 hours they saw a big explosion on target and some good fires burning. Mandrel was carried and used. The Captain stated "raid seemed good but quite a lot was short of target to east." Time up 23.34 hours Time Down 04.45 hours.

Subsequent bombing raids took the Halifax to Bochum, Dortmund, Dusseldorf, Essen and Wuppertal.

On a bombing raid to Dortmund on 23 May the Halifax approached its target from 20,000 feet and after a good concentration of bombs on its target returned using Mandrel fifty miles from the Dutch coast.

Two days later on a raid on Dusseldorf the rear gunner reported on the return to base at 02.12 hours, that a red explosion took place sixty miles away from target.

On its bombing raid on Essen on 27 May the Captain reported that there was "every indication of a good attack. Saw many fires through one gap in clouds."

### Damaged

In a "very good effort with a concentration of bombs over the target" Halifax HR 719 was damaged on a raid on Wuppertal on 29 May. The aircraft sustained two flak holes to the mainplane. The crew reported seeing several bomb bursts and a number of big fires. Smoke was seen from twenty miles on approach.

The next mission for Halifax HR 719 on 11 June was to be its last as it departed on a bombing raid on Dusseldorf at 23.10 hours. Nothing was heard from it again.

Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton said the book was a most interesting find and it was hoped to display it in the Manor House Museum.

Over the years it had been forgotten and it only came to light whilst a cupboard was being cleaned out during a Spring Clean exercise, she said.

30 Apr 82  
**MORE MONEY  
NEEDED FOR  
RESTORATION**

Although donations, pledges, grants and other forms of income have so far reached £216,000 towards the £300,000 target for restoration of Bolton Abbey Priory Church more is still needed.

This was the warning given by Appeal Director Mr. Michael Roberts.

"While we have been greatly encouraged to receive support from all over the country since the appeal was launched, and it is heartening to know that so many wish to share in the work of preserving the Priory Church, we still require a considerable sum if we are to complete the requisite work," said Mr. Roberts.

"We hope that those who have as yet not supported the appeal will spare whatever they can afford, however small a donation, so that between us we can preserve this much needed place."

Latest work on the project included straightening and strengthening of the south wall, which was in danger of collapse. The hundred year old lead covering the roof of the nave has been replaced with similar material after the timber beneath were inspected, treated and renewed where necessary.

Three of the six stained glass windows on the south side have been cleaned and restored, while new mullion stones and transoms were fitted prior to the windows being replaced.

Work has now started on removing the other three stained glass windows on the south side for restoration and cleaning at the York Glaziers Trust. During the four months they will be away new mullion stones and transoms will be fitted and the surrounding fabric repointed.

The north aisle roof will be reslated and new lead flashings, gutters, eaves and fall pipes fitted, as well as repairs to woodwork.

An improved system of lighting is to be installed as well as a new heating system.

The south, north and east walls are also to be pointed.

### HOME GUARD'S

PRESENTATION: 23 Apr 82

## SALVER MAY BE RETURNED

A solid silver salver presented to Major H. J. White, by the officers of 'B' Company, 29th Battalion West Riding Home Guard, Ilkley, on 3 December, 1944, may be coming back to Ilkley for display in the town's museum.

Mrs. E. Grinyer has written from Germany to Ilkley Parish Council asking whether Ilkley Museum would be interested in the salver after her death.

Major White was her father and she says in her letter that the salver was inscribed with the following names in their

ton—Burt, W. F. C. Kitson, H. H. Featherstone, C. H. S. Armitage, G. R. Moore, E. W. Chary. — Routledge, Keith Ranton, Norman P. Nixon, Alan Sowden, Ronald Tolson, R. Northrop, K. Fine (?), W. F. Lowe, Harold Bell, Arthur Kitson, C. H. Weeks, T. R. Plummer, Bernard Marsh, G. R. Frost, Alec W. Whodes, G. Collins, John Green.

Chairman to the Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton was sure Ilkley would be pleased to receive the salver for display in the museum.



# BARMAID ATTACKED AND ROBBED

## 100 Years Ago

A barmaid from the Crescent Hotel, Ilkley, Miss Elizabeth Palmer, was walking over the moor near the Keighley Road when after passing through Keighley Gate, she was seized by a man who struck her a violent blow on the face, which knocked her down. She tried to cry for help but her assailant held a hand over her mouth and kicked her forcibly. After a severe struggle she handed him her purse from which he took a florin and made off in the direction of Bingley.

The concluding concert of the seventh season of Ilkley Vocal Society was held in the Lecture Hall, Riddings Road. The audience was dressed to the height of fashion and the gallery was crowded. Mr. James Broughton officiated as conductor and accompanist. The soloists Miss Gatecliff, Mr. Peake and Mr. A. S. Press gave fine performances as did Miss Brear, Miss Miller, Miss Barker and Mr. Broughton.

Much of the "Gazette" was taken up with the sad news of the murder in Phoenix Park, Dublin, of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke by "ruthless assassins". There was a large reward offered by the Government for information but it was taken for granted that the crime was committed by members of an established assassination society. A special service held at Bolton Abbey was attended by estate workers and friends of the Duke of Devonshire and the Cavendish family.

## 75 Years Ago

The extension of the Coronation Cottage Hospital erected to serve the purposes of a public memorial to King Edward VII's Coronation was considered imperative. The existing building had only accommodation for seven beds, and such was the demand that urgent cases often could not be catered for. The existing building had been intended as the administration department of a larger hospital but it was considered better to erect a portion only rather than to incur a large debt. The portion erected cost £1,500, the money raised by public subscription prior to the start of the building work. The original design provided for wards on each side of this block, one for males and the other for females and it was intended to carry through this scheme.

The Highfield Boarding House and Hotel for use as a children's holiday home was described as a "Children's Paradise". The object was to give poor and sick children from Leeds and Bradford a three week holiday. The home was open for six months of the year and about three hundred children enjoyed its hospitality. They were taken alternately from Leeds and Bradford and the first batch in 1907 were from Bradford—25 in all—14 girls and 11 boys. Thanks to Ilkley ladies a parcel of clothes awaited each arrival. The children were medically examined and bathed on arrival and most put on weight during their holiday of between 3lb. and 8lb. They were mostly described as being like "wild beasts" on arrival but before the end of their stay had become polite and kind thanks to the matron and her two resident lady helpers.

## 50 Years Ago

The staffing of the Burley Church of England School was the main subject under discussion at a meeting of the Ilkley and District Education Sub-committee. The County authorities had drawn their attention to the size of staff in relation to the average attendance at the school and it was decided that the staff should be reduced by one. It was said that Burley children were sent to school at a very early age, and four of the children were under four years of age. It was pointed out that the tiny ones needed more care and attention than older children.

Mr. C. F. Pyett was elected as Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council. He had lived in Ben Rhydding for nine years and was associated with Ilkley Amateur Operatic Society, Ilkley Coronation Hospital, Ilkley Grammar School and Ben Rhydding Sports Club. His appointment as council chairman was "received with warm approval throughout the town."

Ilkley Urban Council's electricity department offered Electric cookers and water heaters for hire at 5/- per quarter and in addition the fixing was free of charge.

Mr. Arthur Newsome, of Burley, presented a silver cup for the best performance at the West Riding Brass Band Contest at Carlton Barracks. Mr. Newsome had always been interested in brass bands, and was president of the Burley combination which was named after the firm of which he was the head.

## 25 Years Ago

The conductor of the Ilkley Choral Society, Mr. C. W. Bainbridge, told members of the society at the annual general meeting that they had maintained excellent and very high standards throughout the year. They had managed to give their Christmas Oratorio through the generosity of one of the Society's patrons who preferred to remain anonymous. Mr. E. Learouyd, the society's treasurer, however, pointed out the rather dismal financial picture the Society presented. On the three concerts during the year there had been a loss of £147, and there was an overall loss on the balance sheet of £22.

Four Ilkley people were travelling on a plane which was forced down after being badly damaged in a severe hailstorm over the Pyrenees. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Boardman, of Ben Rhydding, and Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill, of Ilkley, were returning home after a holiday in Spain on a B.E.A. Elizabethan aircraft. Apparently the hailstones were as big as golf balls and they smashed the plane's windscreen and navigation lights and dented the leading edges of the wings. The plane was forced to land at Toulouse and another plane took the holiday-makers back to London.

Takings at the Skipton Rural Council's car park at Bolton Abbey were down in 1956 by almost £350 and only a third of the number of vehicles used the park. It was thought that the poor weather during the summer was the reason for this.

# REPRIEVE FOR ILKLEY'S THREATENED GROVE CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL

30 Apr 82

News that the Grove Convalescent Hospital at Ilkley had been reprieved by the newly formed Leeds Western Health Authority has delighted those who fought against its threatened closure under health service economies.

Original plans to close the Grove and re-provide facilities for Leeds patients at Middleton Hospital, thus saving £100,000, were based on the assumption that the £250,000 funding for the Grove would remain in Leeds after closure, even though two-thirds of the patients came from outside Leeds.

## Insufficient Money

It now appears, however, that this money would be re-distributed to the other authorities involved on a pro-rata basis, leaving the Leeds authority with insufficient money to provide the facilities at Middleton.

As a way of saving money, therefore, the closure of the Grove Convalescent Hospital would only be worthwhile if the service was not re-provided for Leeds patients at Middleton Hospital.

Mr. R. A. Oswald, District Administrator of the Leeds Western Health Authority, said the Grove had been reprieved in that sense, but emphasised that the authority was in a very severe financial predicament which would mean some very difficult decisions would have to be made.

He said the financial position of the authority was now worse than it had been last year, so the services provided in the Leeds Authority would have to be carefully looked at with a view to rationalisation to save

nearly £1.5 million.

The Grove Convalescent Hospital was now in no different a position to the rest of the services in the district, he stressed.

Mr. Edgar Fowler, a member of the steering committee formed to fight the proposed closure, was "highly delighted" at the news that the hospital was to stay open.

"At least we are now level pegging with other hospitals when new cut-backs are considered," he said.

Mr. Fowler paid tribute to the work of the unions and staff particularly in the fight to save the hospital, and was sure their hard work had had much to do with the decision to keep it open.

## Public Effort

There had also been a great effort by the public, with nearly 20,000 signing a petition, and he was sure that the hospital would have been closed by now if there had not been such an outcry.

Mr. Fowler said the Grove Convalescent Hospital provided a service which, as much needed locally. It provided facilities for people who were not ready to go home after hospital treatment, as well as relieving pressure on other hospitals' beds.

Mrs. Dilcas Baxter, Matron at the hospital, was also "absolutely delighted" at the news. She said the staff and

everyone involved with the hospital were very grateful for all that had been done.

Mr. James Harding, Chairman of the hospital's League of Friends, was very pleased that the decision had been made to keep the Grove open, and that some recognition had been given to its valuable function.

It must be of great benefit to future patients to know they would be able to convalesce at such a pleasant place, he added.

Mr. Harding said he had been gratified by the incredible amount of support from the man in the street, local MP's and councillors as well as the unions. The amount of support came as a surprise to a lot of people on the Leeds Management Committee.

The decision meant that the Friends could now increase their efforts to help provide extra facilities at the hospital, he said.

# ACROSS THE YEARS 7 May 82 Ilkley Becomes Famous As A Health Resort

## 100 Years Ago

The Ilkley Free Press extolled the virtues of Ilkley as a health resort. The facilities afforded by railway travelling and the prosperity of the country had greatly increased the growth of the health resorts.

In a work entitled "Health Resorts" Dr. Spencer Thompson said that the three essentials were "Scenery, Air and Exercise" and Ilkley was considered to be able to offer all of this to its visitors. The pure air of the hilly country was considered to be highly desirable, and particularly the abundance of pure exhilarating fresh, good water. For its hydro-pathic establishments Ilkley had in the preceding years become justly famous. It was said too, that its numerous lodging houses would compare favourably with any in the country.

## 75 Years Ago

A well known Ilkley resident arrived home to find the doors locked and his wife away. He decided to gain an entrance like a burglar by means of the coal shoot, but he found this to be more difficult than imagined and half way down he stuck fast. Fortunately his shouts were heard and soon assistance was to hand but his condition was deplorable. He was black in the face with his frantic efforts to free himself and half his clothes were torn off his back by his efforts.

Progress on the new Town Hall buildings was described as being miserably slow, but as completion was nearing the District Council had been considering the furnishings. They were contemplating an expenditure of about £4,000 but it was hoped to try to keep the actual spending to below this limit. The Council also proposed to place a clock in the turret of the new Town Hall buildings and £75 was put aside for this purpose. It was hoped, however, that perhaps some benevolent townsman may be prepared to donate the money for a public clock, as had

## 50 Years Ago

The 1932 Wharfedale Musical Festival enjoyed a high standard of performances by all the competitors. There were many local successes gained. The pianoforte duet class was won by Miss Marjorie Chester and Miss Ida Wilson, of Ilkley, with Miss Constance Cockroft and Miss Margaret Hood, of Ilkley, gaining second place. Mrs. J. White, of Ilkley,

gained top marks in the soprano solo "Oh, tell me Nightingale," an Ilkley Trio were awarded honours marks for chamber music and Roy Richardson from Addingham was awarded first class honours for his wood wind solo.

Ross Bros advertised the new Austin 10 for sale at a price of £168.00 plus £10 tax.

Messrs. W. H. Smith and Sons were transferring their business from 12 Wells Road, Ilkley, to the new bookshop at Edinburgh House, The Grove, Ilkley.

The programme of excursions arranged by the L.N.E.R. for Whitsuntide included bookings to several seaside places as well as to racing venues. Ledgards Bus Company also had a full programme of tours to offer for the holiday, the cheapest being 1/- return to Bolton Abbey and then an expensive 10/- return to Buxton in Derbyshire.

## 25 Years Ago

Hundreds of visitors accepted an invitation to an open day at Middleton Hospital. Brilliant sunshine enabled them to enjoy the picturesque grounds and landscape in between their visits to the wards and various hospital departments. Nearly 200 staff and their relatives acted as guides and stallholders for the Spring Fayre. The Fayre was opened by Mr. Barney Colchan, the B.B.C. producer. The Guiseley Band played on the lawn, whilst Mr. Ken Popplewell's dance orchestra played inside the cinema.

Miss Elsie Fletcher, Curator of the Ilkley Museum, gave a talk to the Ilkley Townswomen's Guild on the 350th anniversary of the founding of the State of Virginia, and showed pictures of the graceful Georgian buildings and furniture. She explained to members how she had traced many links with the Fairfax family, once of Denton Hall. She expressed regret that so many of England's priceless treasures were finding their way overseas.

Mr. K. G. Bywater gave an interesting talk on "Norway" to members of the Ilkley branch of Toc H. He spoke of the countryside and the clear air, and the cheap hydro powered electricity and praised the free education system in the country whilst remarking that high standards made it difficult to get into university.

7 May 82

# ILKLEY RETURNS TO VICTORIAN TIMES AS NEW ARCADE OPENS

Ilkley turned its clocks back to Victorian times on Saturday for the official opening of the newly revitalised Arcade in South Hawksworth Street, part of a week-end of events centring around a Victorian theme.

Stepping into the Arcade on Saturday was like stepping back in time, with the traders dressed in strikingly authentic period costume and with hot potatoes rolling off the production line.

People began to assemble near the Arcade at about ten o'clock, half an hour before the scheduled opening time, and by 10.30 the streets were crowded with people awaiting the arrival of a horse-drawn landau carrying the Lord Mayor of Bradford, Cr. Danny Coughlin; the chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton; Mr. Barney Colehan, of "Good Old Days" and "It's a Knockout" fame, and the President of Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, Mr. Vincent Dobson.

It arrived only ten minutes behind schedule to the sound of Earby Brass Band, who had been specially engaged for the opening ceremony. They played the National Anthem as the Lord Mayor raised the Union Jack on a new flag pole, and then the dignitaries moved inside the Arcade, followed by crowds of curious and excited shoppers eager to see the finished development, which has the blessing of Bradford Council's conservation section and Ilkley Civic Society.

Probably the most outstanding feature of the development, which was carried out by Vincent Dobson (Holdings) Ltd., of Ilkley, is the new central fountain, which sprang into life on Saturday when it was officially started by Barney Colehan. Supported on a sculptured shaft of three putti, standing on a pedestal enriched with fluting and ovolo ornamentation, it sprays its jet through to balcony level before cascading down to a small, attractive water garden.

Many favourable comments could be heard as people browsed around the thriving centre of nine shops, five of which are accessible from a new balcony and four with entrances from the lower level. Renovation work has included alterations to main walls, the removal of chimney breasts, formation of doorways and the provision of toilets for each unit.

An additional attraction for the shopper, and a necessity for the sub-tropical plants which adorn the Arcade, will be the constant temperature maintained by two gas energised overhead radiant

heaters. The heat is retained by two screens—one spanning the entrance and the other at the point where the new development meets the adjoining property.

Specially cast ornate iron balusters rise from the staircase to the upper area which now gives access to the hitherto little used first floor shops and also forms an external

dining area served from a Victorian Tea Shoppe and coffee house. Copper gas lamp-style lights are fixed on the walls and a copper lantern hangs over the main stairs. Ramps for the disabled link the lower split levels of timber flooring. All the shops will open six days a week, with the Victorian Tea Shoppe and coffee house also opening on Sundays, and depending on the response of the public there may be a late night shopping evening. Ilkley's "Victorian weekend" continued with the "Black Hats" and "White Hats" cricket match on Monday followed by a Traders Victorian Dinner at the Troutbeck Hotel, Ilkley.



Pictured after the official opening ceremony are, from left to right: Lord Mayor of Bradford Cr. Danny Coughlin,

14 May 82

## MISSING WARSHIP WEEK PLAQUE TURNS UP FORTY YEARS LATER

A plaque marking Ilkley's efforts in a Warship Week during the Second World War has just been received by the Parish Council - forty years after it was commissioned by the Admiralty.

The plaque showing the badge HMS Osiris, a submarine adopted by the town, was last reported by the Admiralty in 1943 as "missing" and apparently has been missing until it turned up at an auction the other month.

Investigations by the Council as to where the plaque had been during those last forty years have so far failed to solve the mystery. Former officials and Councillors of the old urban district council can not remember Ilkley ever having received the plaque which was to have been presented to the town.

### First Commissioned

Ilkley Parish Council in its efforts to uncover the mystery has reminded the Naval Secretary of the Ministry of Defence that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty commissioned the plaque for presentation to the Urban District Council. In July, 1942 the Council received a letter from the Admiralty confirming that instructions had been issued for the making of the plaque.

During June-July, 1943 the Council reported to the Admiralty that although a year had elapsed from the date that the plaque was commissioned it had not been received by the Council. The Admiralty replied stating that the plaque was missing and that an investigation was being carried out to locate it.

The Council has asked the Admiralty to check its records and confirm whether or not the plaque was delivered to the Council.

### At An Auction

The plaque was discovered at an auto jumble sale at Bolton by former policeman John Voce, of Cunliffe Road, Ilkley.

"When I first saw it on the stall of a dealer in military paraphernalia I thought the price was too high, but the price later dropped so I bought it," Mr. Voce told the 'Gazette'.

"My main concern is to return it to the town of Ilkley, where it belongs, so I have now given it to the Parish Council," he said.

The mystery of the missing plaque first arose at a meeting of the Ilkley War Savings Committee Executive in July 1943, when it was mentioned that the plaque to commemorate Warships Week and the town's adoption of H.M.S. Osiris had not been received.

The Assistant Regional Commissioner, who was present, expressed astonishment, and there were even people who felt sure they had seen the plaque in position in the Town Hall.

Others could recall no presentation ceremony, and it was agreed that enquiries should be made.

In July 1942 the former Ilkley Urban Council received a letter from the Admiralty which said the captain and crew of H.M.S. Osiris were being informed of the ship's adoption by Ilkley, and that instructions had been given for a replica of the ship's badge to be prepared for presentation to the Ilkley district.

In return, the town prepared a plaque with the town's coat of arms for presentation to the ship.

### Some Delay

In August 1942 the Admiralty told the council that as manufacture of weapons had priority over the manufacture of replicas, there could be some delay.

However, the following day a letter arrived from the Constructive Drawing Office of the Admiralty, asking approval for wording on the plaque.

Reports in 1943 said "since then there has been silence. The Ilkley plaque to be presented to H.M.S. Osiris is still in the hands of the treasurer; the Admiralty plaque to be

presented to the Ilkley Urban District is where?"

To complete the puzzle came a letter from the commanding officer of the Osiris, a year after the Admiralty told Ilkley Council they were informing the captain and crew of the ship's adoption.

Ilkley Parcel Committee sent Christmas parcels to the Osiris, and the town was surprised to hear from the commanding officer that "before your parcels arrived we had no idea we had been adopted by the old and famous town of Ilkley".

Reports of the time ended with the footnote "Otley's plaque was presented to them months ago."

Ilkley's links with the present submarine H.M.S. 'Osiris' continue today.

### Wartime Items

When the Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, told Councillors on Monday that the plaque had been found she said this was the third item relating to the Second World War with local connections.

Only the other week a log book recording the operational activities of a Halifax bomber during the war had been found in Ilkley Town Hall and news was received that a solid silver salver presented to Major H. J. White by the officer of 'B' Company, 29th Battalion, West Riding Home Guard, Ilkley, in December, 1944, may be coming back to Ilkley for display in the town's museum.



Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, is pictured looking at the Osiris plaque this week.

## LORD CAVENDISH ASSASSINATED

### 100 Years Ago

At a meeting held at the Boyle Room, Bolton Abbey the tenants of the Cavendish Estate resolved to send addresses of sympathy to the Duke of Devonshire and Lady Frederick Cavendish following the murder by assassins of Lord Cavendish in Phoenix Park, Dublin. At the same meeting it was agreed to erect a memorial near the Abbey with as little delay as possible. The estate workers had been stunned by the tragedy and the swift audacious way in which had been effected.

The Railway companies offered varied holidays and excursions to all parts of the British Isles. The Ilkley Free Press commented that their forefathers had got on well enough without all "this change and pleasure seeking." They were not constantly running away from work but stayed at home and passed the time in their own houses with their neighbours and families and it was doubted if the broadening of the horizons and the intellectual stimulus gained from travel really improved the quality of life.

### 75 Years Ago

Ilkley Angling Club was commended for its thoroughness in rearing fish in hatcheries. The club had, in May 1907, some 14,000 ova, the products of which they were to turn into the river. They had, over the preceding years spent hundreds of pounds in rearing fish for stocking purposes, and the result had been some excellent sport for the anglers.

The Northern section of the Professional Golfers' Association held their annual tournament on the Ilkley club's course, and some 50 professionals competed for the Leeds Trophy. The Ilkley Professional Walter Toogood had been showing brilliant form and he was the favourite to win but he was beaten by one stroke in the second round by E. Ray.

Teachers and scholars of the Ilkley National School Boys' Department made a presentation to the headmaster, Mr. R. P. Craggs, in commemoration of his 25 years of service as a teacher at the school. The presentation was made by Dr. Muntz, the Vicar of Ilkley, who presented him with a handsome drawing room cabinet and praised Mr. Craggs' years of long and faithful service.

New season's char-a-banc drives were offered by Mason and Spencer of Tower Buildings—To Denton Park and Otley 1/6; to Bolton Abbey 2/-; to Harrogate 4/6; to Haworth 4/6. They also offered the hire of landaus and other conveyances on the shortest notice.

### 50 Years Ago

"Jolly crowds on Ilkley Moors" were reported during the Whitsuntide holidays. Large crowds were attracted to Ilkley and its environs to enjoy the delights of both

town and district. Thousands from the manufacturing towns of Aire-dale took advantage of seeing Wharfedale in all its new green glory. The highspot of the weekend was the Bradford Whitsuntide walk, of which Ilkley was the turning point. This event attracted a large crowd of spectators to the bottom of Brook Street and Church Street.

The poor box in Ilkley Parish Church was broken open during the afternoon of Whit Monday. The box was wrenched from its position on a pew near the entrance to the church but it was hard to ascertain if any money had been taken or whether the thief had been startled by some of the many visitors to the church that afternoon.

In the Yorkshire Cricket Council Ilkley had a narrow victory of nine runs over Addingham. G. Holmes was the top scorer for Addingham with 27 and E. Lister with 22. G. Crawshaw for Ilkley was not out for 19, and H. Brown scored 18.

### 25 Years Ago

Mrs. Hylda Hawkins was elected Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council. She was the second woman to hold this position, the first being Mrs. Florence Hampshire in 1946. The vice-chairman was to be Mr. Ronald Thackrah.

For outstanding service to the Girl Guide movement, Miss Phillis Holmes of Addingham, was presented with the Beaver award by the Chief Commissioner, Miss Anstie Gibbs, at a May Fair at the Royal Hall, Harrogate. The fair had been opened by Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal. Miss Holmes represented the Wharfedale Division Girl Guides at the Baden Powell memorial service at Westminster Abbey in February, 1957.

High Austby Farm, Middleton, Ilkley, was sold by auction for £8,350 by Dacre Sons and Hartley. The farm had been completely modernised during the preceding ten years and there was a total acreage of 81.913. It was a dairy and stock rearing farm and included a modern cottage and farm buildings fitted with electricity. The owner of the farm, Mr. John Briers was retiring from farming.

## Levelling Of Churchyard Causes Dispute

### 100 Years Ago

A vestry meeting was called by the Overseers of Ilkley in the vestry of the Parish Church to consider the claims made by Churchwardens upon the Overseers for expenses incurred in rebuilding the boundary wall and levelling the grounds of the Parish Churchyard. After a great deal of heated discussion it was agreed to appoint Messrs. Tolson, Newbould and Ibberson to meet Messrs. Armitage and Stansfield, the late church wardens and offer them £50 in settlement of their claim for the necessary repairs. The money was to be paid out of the Poor Rates. The Rev. S. D. Hillman said he was pleased to hear of the question being settled by the Local Board but at the same time the meeting agreed to appoint Mr. Margerison to accept service of writ and defend any law proceedings taken against the Overseers in connection with the foregoing claim.

The Solicitor to the Overseers was served with a copy of a Writ on behalf of the Churchwardens.

At Otley Police Church there were seven cases of drunk and riotous behaviour brought before the magistrates. Fine ranged from 2s. to 10s. in most cases with costs.

### 75 Years Ago

Ilkley experienced bad weather over Whitsuntide. On the Monday the temperature never rose above 50 degrees and there were frequent showers including hailstorms. Despite this visitors to the town were fairly numerous, and the Bradford Whit walk took place as usual with many spectators. There were crowded audiences at the pavilion to see the Royal Mascots entertain, and a fair number of people patronised the military band performances at the Band Kiosk in West View Park and also the Cosy Corner in New Brook Street.

A twelve year old girl was rescued from drowning at the Strid at Bolton Abbey, when she ventured to make the jump and fell. Happily there were rescuers on hand, and with great difficulty she was rescued from the swirling current.

Although there had been a great deal of controversy about the continuation of the Ilkley Charity Carnival in aid of the Coronation Cottage Hospital it was decided that the event should take place as usual on August Bank Holiday Monday, and preparations had begun quite smoothly. It had been decided that apart from the sale of tickets that the committee would not seek any funds prior to the event.

### 50 Years Ago

A sports club was formed at Denton, with Mr. Arthur Hill, of Denton Park, as President. He placed at a nominal rent a field behind the church at the club's disposal, and members were soon hard at work preparing the ground

for a cricket pitch and two tennis courts.

Ilkley and District Education Committee debated the question of secondary school fees. It was decided that any child under ten years of age admitted to a secondary school should be required to pay fees of £15 per annum, but that for children of ten years and older the fees should remain at 9 guineas per year. They also decided that scholarships known as County Minor should not be awarded to any candidate where the parental income exceeded £300 per annum. The Committee also expressed their disappointment with average school attendances in a residential area such as Ilkley and district, but were told that "Ilkley parents are on a higher level and they don't push their children out to school when they have had colds, they take care of them."

Central Garage Ltd., Bradford, advertised 1932 model cars for sale. A Chrysler Model 70 two seater coupe cost £285, a 2 Litre Lagonda Open sports 4 seater £625 and a 12 h.p. Siddeley 4 seater coupe at £235. £15 was the asking price for a second hand Citroen 12/24 h.p. tourer, and £30 for a used Rover 16/50 h.p.

### 25 Years Ago

Pupils of Oaklands school were "At Home" to parents and friends when they staged a performance of Hansel and Gretel. The leading roles were acted and sung by Sylvia Butterfield and Angela Brooks who won the hearts of the audience and the parents were played by Gillian Wood and Jill Preston. Diana Robertson was outstanding as the Chief Witch and Susan Wormald and Jean Beaumont were the two fairies. Dance sequences were directed and arranged by Miss D. Braybrooks, the sets and scenery were made by the girls under the direction of Miss E. F. Sheridan, and the production was by Miss M. Hancock and Miss R. M. Thomas.

A four cwt. safe stolen from Tunnicliffe's garage, Ilkley was found abandoned four miles south of Towcester, Northants. The safe had been blown open and although it still contained charred income tax papers, ledgers and savings certificates there was almost £100 cash missing and a new cheque book containing 240 cheques. It had been found burning in a ditch by children of a local farmer.

F. W. Woolworth and Co., Ilkley advertised for assistants. The starting salary was £3 per week rising to £5 10s.

21 May 82  
**ILKLEY WOMAN  
 BECOMES  
 LORD MAYOR**

Bradford's new Lord Mayor, Cr. Mrs. Joan Lightband of Ilkley, pledged to try to cultivate relationships between the former city of Bradford and the outer districts.



After her installation she told members of the Council she believed the metropolitan district of Bradford had entered an exciting era. It had been greatly helped by the enthusiastic work done by the Economic Development Unit to put Bradford well and truly on the map.

She said she intended to play her part in attracting industry and commerce to the district which had become a far better, more exciting and good place for people to visit. She hoped tourists would come in their thousands.

Cr. Mrs. Lightband, a Conservative member of the Council, is also well known as a tennis umpire. In proposing her election, Coun. Ronald Farley, commented: "If she can umpire John McEnroe at Wimbledon, she can equally cope with some of our bizarre activities."

Referring to the rare situation produced by the recent elections which resulted in Labour and the Conservatives having 42 seats each and the Liberal-SDP Alliance 6, Coun. Farley said: "Never before will she have had to umpire a match with three players all demanding the right to serve."

Cr. Mrs. Lightband announced that her appeal during her year of office would be for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Her Lady Mayoress will be Mrs. Joan Beevers, of Menston. The Deputy Lord Mayor will be Cr. Mrs. Joanna Evans whose consort will be her husband, Fred.

It is the first time Bradford has had two women as Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor.

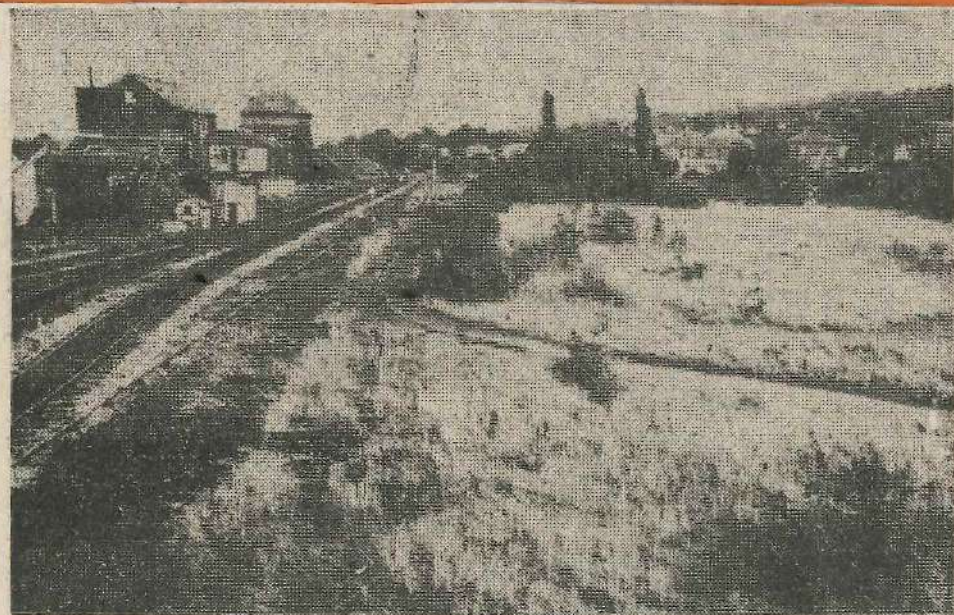
Almost immediately after her election Mrs. Lightband was involved in a political row.

It arose when the first meetings of committees considered the election of chairmen.

Cr. Mrs. Lightband exercised her voting right to support the proposals of the Conservatives and Liberals and the solitary SDP member, Cr. Iftikhar Qureshi, abstained. The effect was that all the Labour proposals were defeated and the Council became controlled by the Conservatives with the support of the Liberals.



Retiring Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Crs. Mrs. M. Renton (right) congratulating the Council's new Chairman, Cr. W. R. Hill, who was elected to office at the Council's annual meeting on Monday. Mrs. Hill is pictured (left).



The former railway goods yards in Springs Lane where Hillards will build their new superstore.

28 May 82

# HILLARDS TO MAKE START ON NEW SUPERSTORE AT ILKLEY LATER THIS YEAR

Hillards will begin to build a new superstore at Ilkley later this year. The new store, due to open next year, will provide all its shopping facilities on one level and create an extra fifty jobs.

News that Hillards had been given Government permission to build the store on derelict railway land in Springs Lane was announced at the weekend and comes just four months after the planning appeal was held at Ilkley.

The site will provide parking for 150 cars and Hillards will be asking their customers at a special exhibition next month what they would like to see in the new store. The firm is to stage this exhibition in the Winter Gardens when it is hoped plans and sketches for the new store will be on display. "We hope to include all the modern amenities in our new store including toilets," a spokesman for the firm told the "Gazette" this week. "We already employ over one hundred staff at our present store and this will be increased by another fifty when the new store opens," he said.

## "Delighted"

The decision has been welcomed by residents and the Chairman to Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. W. R. Hill, who said he was "delighted". President of the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, Mr. V. Dobson, said the

decision was good for the public in the short term, but there was possibly a high price to pay in the long term. It was questionable for shopkeepers in and around Ilkley.

The two day public inquiry in January followed refusal by Bradford Metropolitan Council to permit a new store on that site 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 brought by the owners of the land, the British Railways Board was supported by Ilkley Parish Council and by residents of streets around the existing Hillards store, who said their environment had suffered because of nuisance from customers parking outside their homes. In addition thousands of people signed a petition supporting the firm's plans for a new store.

## Inspector's Report

The Inspector who attended the inquiry stated in his report to the Secretary of State for the Environment that:

"There can be no doubt that the proposed development would be much welcomed by the public for a variety of reasons, not least of which is the unsatisfactory location of Hillards' existing supermarket which lacks suitable parking and servicing facilities and thus causes traffic problems in the town which are also disturbing many residents."

"My views in this respect gain support from the fact that Ilkley Parish Council, which might rightly be thought of as being closely in touch with local feeling and with the needs of the town, are fully in favour of the proposed development."

If permission was granted he felt Hillards should not continue to operate their existing store as well. As to the practicability of restricting future use of the existing supermarket to a "non-food retailing activity" that raised legal issues for consideration by the Secretary of State bearing in mind the existing retail use of those premises and the fact that although Hillards lease did not expire until 1998 the premises were owned neither by Hillard nor the appellant company. "I would not regard the appeal site as so far removed from what the approved Town Map indicates as the town centre as to amount to a serious conflict with the provisions of the Structure Plan."

"I can appreciate Bradford Council's wish to maintain the vitality of the town shopping centre and also their concern lest the development proposed should result in something of a schism insofar as shopping facilities are concerned. But I would regard supermarket shopping as something distinct from other shopping and the appeal site is readily accessible to people travelling on foot, by public transport, or by private car."

## Not On Sundays

In the interests of those whose houses overlooked the appeal site he did not think the supermarket should operate on Sundays. He also thought it would be to the advantage of people living north of the railway line that the footbridge over the railway should remain available for public use.

The Secretary of State accepting the Inspector's findings agreed that it would be desirable for the existing premises to be used for non-food retailing purposes. He considered, however, that the propriety of a planning condition which sought to control any intensification of food retailing activities would be open to question, particularly as to its relevance to the development proposed and having regard to the fact that the British Railways Board, the applicants, had no control over Hillards existing premises.

He had noted Hillards expressed intention to re-let the existing supermarket for non-food retailing purposes and had no reasons to doubt that they would implement that intention as far as they were able under the terms of the existing lease.

"He has carefully considered the Council's arguments against the provision of additional shopping facilities in locations other than the defined central shopping area. With the exception of the bus depot site, however, it appears to him that there is little scope within the central shopping area for development of the type proposed."

In his conditions of approval the Secretary of State included that the supermarket should not operate on Sundays and that the existing footbridge over the railway between Springs Lane and Railway Road should remain available to the public.

## Firm Stand

Chairman to Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. W. R. Hill said he was "delighted" over the decision and that the words of the Inspector confirmed, once again, the firm stand taken by Ilkley Parish Council on important planning matters.

"The earlier refusal by Bradford to give planning consent has delayed Ilkley and District shoppers enjoying the benefit of an enlarged store, prolonged the severe parking problems effecting particularly residents in the Railway Road area and delayed the creation of new jobs in Ilkley."

"As the proposed new store will have extensive free parking I am sure more shoppers will travel to Ilkley, with a spin-off for existing shops."

"I am glad that the Inspector has given special consideration to people living near to the site and stated that the proposed supermarket should not operate on Sundays. Additionally Ilkley Parish Council will look for sympathetic landscaping of the site, with, if possible a screening of trees to protect the houses on the north side of Springs Lane. They will also look for a design of buildings which will be in keeping with the traditional features of Ilkley shops," said Cr. Hill.

## Traders Views

President of Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, M. V. Dobson, said "it is right that shoppers should have a choice between supermarket and traditional shopping but there is concern for smaller shopkeepers who are already overburdened with heavy rates and suffering from a recessive market and finding it hard to compete with the large stores."

"No doubt the new store will attract people to the

town and regain those who have been going elsewhere to shop. However, it is questionable whether these same people will bother to visit the traditional shops once they had loaded a week's shopping into their cars, particularly as a visit into the central area of Ilkley will cost them a parking fee," said Mr. Dobson.

"It remains to be seen whether the personal service, quality of merchandise and general appeal of the town shops and centre will attract more or less people than hitherto," he said.

"This is the serious aspect of the planning and environmental problem which we think Bradford Metropolitan Council was right to consider when objecting to the application and whilst I can see the benefits to the public I am concerned with what is to follow."

"If the present Hillards building is to be used as a discount shopping centre and if the Woolworths Station

development proceeds there would be a major shift of shopping and the town would be stretched east to west and without a recognisable centre.

"If the Co-op-bus depot development also proceeds we must ask where all the custom will come from to support what amounts to about an eighty per cent increase in the present shopping area. Ilkley could become either a shoppers paradise or a ghost town of empty shops," said Mr. Dobson.

"It has always been our opinion that all the developments should have been viewed against the background of a carefully balanced town plan. This has not happened and the piecemeal decisions will probably result in an unacceptable change of Ilkley as we know it, leaving a town without a heart," said Mr. Dobson.

28 May 82

## VIVID RECOLLECTIONS OF ILKLEY IN THE 1840s

Vivid recollections of Ilkley in the mid 1840s were given by a Leeds man when he was interviewed by a "Gazette" reporter 100 years ago.

The account which appears in our file for 1882 says a Mr. James Armitage, of Leeds, used to stay with his aunt, Mr. Wilkinson, of St. James' Road. He travelled to Ilkley by a coach service run by Mr. Frank Dobson, of Ilkley.

The report read as follows.—  
The brook down the central thoroughfare was still an open stream with ducks and geese sporting themselves in its pools, and children playing in the muddy water. There were only a few houses and these were roofed with thatch, and apart from Brook Street and Church Street they were few and scattered. Holly Bank Cottage in Leeds Road was a very new and pretentious structure and the first house reached on the approach into Ilkley from Leeds. There were one or two houses in Wheatley including the cottage at the bottom of Wheatley Lane known as Ben Rhydding Lodge.

There were several quaint old fashioned farm homesteads between Ilkley and Ben Rhydding, but by 1907 these were long gone. The only change in the appearance of the town prior to the railway opening was the erection of Wells House and a few lodging houses, but the advent of the steam train soon had the effect of increasing the number of houses considerably. Mr. Armitage claimed to be the first resident to ride into Ilkley on an engine, and he had been very proud of the experience at the time. He commented that the fireman had in those days to jump off the engine and throw sand under the wheels to assist it up the incline from Calverley to Guiseley.

The only places of worship for many years were the Parish Church and the old Wesleyan Chapel on Skipton Road. Residents of Wheatley used to attend services held in the laundry of the Ben Rhydding Hydro.

The two main events of the year according to Mr. Armitage, were the feasts of Ilkley and Addingham, and as there were no police to supervise "there were gay dings indeed."

A few herd of deer roamed the Denton estate, and sometimes wandered much further afield and local antlers were still treasured in Ilkley.

Two of the principal residents were John and William Bolling of Sedbergh House, on the Town Hall site. They farmed their land and were looked up to as gentlemen of position and influence. Mr. Thomas Robinson, the founder of Robinson and Sons, coach makers was a man of skill and ingenuity, an organ made by him gave his friends hours of amusement. John Dobson was a local worthy, and Michael Dobson who built Craiglunds (father of Dr. Dobson and Mr. Jabez Dobson). Parson Snowdon was a bit of a character "and not so strait-laced as parsons are bound to be now-a-days." George Sekringill was the choirmaster and his son, Charles, played the organ. The Grammar School was a flourishing institution, and the formation of the Ilkley Local Board in 1869 was a great event with Dr. Scott one of the founder members and Mr. John Wilde "continually mixed up in public affairs."

28 May 82

## Across The Years Clerk's Stipend Increased To £20 Per Year

### 100 Years Ago

At the monthly meeting of the Ilkley School Board the attendance figures were found to be satisfactory with an average attendance of 447. The committee agreed to raise the stipend of the Clerk to £20 per year in view of the extra work entailed in the taking of the census and extra work in connection with special meetings of the Board. With regard to the salary of the Attendance Officer, they agreed that although his work was indeed well done they could not see their way to grant an increase.

The Burley Corps of the 9th West Yorks. Rifle Volunteers returned from their week's camp at Morecambe in good spirits and having enjoyed their week's "outing." They held a church parade when the men marched to the church from the armoury headed by the Drum and Fife band.

Troutbeck Hydropathic Establishment and Sanatorium, Ilkley, was advertised as being "an establishment of handsome erection in the Elizabethan style, capable of accommodating 70 persons, built expressly with the purpose of carrying out the hydropathic system to its fullest extent, a most attractive establishment for residents seeking health." Craiglunds Hydropathic Establishment offered weekly terms in their outpatients department including all baths and daily consultation at 17/6 per week.

### 75 Years Ago

Much amusement was caused in Ilkley with the novel sight of a pig hunt taking place on the roof of the stables and outbuildings behind the Crescent Hotel. Mounting the stone steps in the south-east of the yard, the pig got on the roof without difficulty and for a long time evaded its pursuers, who were afraid that the animal might lose its footing and come to grief. It was secured after much hilarity without mishap.

A number of fine Loch Leven trout were found dead in one of the streams feeding the Marsh Ghyll Reservoir, and under circumstances that suggested poisoning by chloride of lime. The conclusion could only be that this was a deliberate act as it could not possibly have been caused owing to pollution.

The river bailiff at Otley observed a curious effect of the abnormal fresh on the Wharfe, when he saw two large salmon, one weighing about 20 pounds and the other about half that size. It had been at least twenty years since a salmon had been so far up the Wharfe and it was supposed that their presence was due to the quantity of water which had been in the river over a long period. It was feared by local anglers who had no licence to fish for larger game that they would destroy many of the trout in the water.

### 50 Years Ago

Dr. H. T. Bates, the Ilkley Medical Officer of Health, put forward some valuable suggestions to improve the health of Ilkley's population. He advocated the abolition of the Sewage Farm on the Middleton side of the river and urged the pumping of the sewage to the Ilkley Sewage Works. He urged the provision of more floor space in the elementary schools and the provision of open air schools. Dr. Bates emphasised the value of graded milk and had a great deal to say on the pollution of the atmosphere by domestic chimneys.

A crowded congregation witnessed the marriage of Capt. T. Harold B. Maufe V.C., of Ilkley and Miss Gwen Carr of Ben Rhydding. The ceremony took place exactly fifteen years after the occasion when he won his treasured decoration.

Mr. George Eaton retired as secretary of the Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club after 11 years of office and Mr. C. P. Lovelock resigned as general secretary. Mr. A. Durrance was to become general secretary and Mr. J. H. Pell was to again captain the first team with Mr. John Knox as vice-captain.

### 25 Years Ago

Terms of an agreement between Ilkley Council and frontagers in Curly Hill for the improvement and maintenance of Curly Hill to a reasonable standard were approved by the Council and were to be submitted to the frontagers for consideration. It was proposed to improve and maintain the stretch of road from Middleton Avenue to the unmade stretch at the top to a reasonable standard and the cost to be shared amongst the residence according to the length of their frontage. Annual subscriptions should be paid to the Council's Treasurer and the Surveyor would decide upon what work was necessary.

Residents of Ben Rhydding Drive were relieved by the change of heart of members of Ilkley Council had regarding a resolution which would have excluded an area around Ben Rhydding Drive from the green belt. The reversal of this decision meant that there would be no future development of the area. This was referred to during the debate which ensued as a "hands of Ilkley" attitude and an attempt to prevent more people from enjoying the beauty of the district.

## ILKLEY LIBRARY FINDS ITSELF IN DEBT

### 100 Years Ago

A meeting was held in the Reading Room of the Ilkley Library, in Wells Road, by the subscribers and friends of this institution to consider the advisability of establishing a permanent public library in the town. Mr. E. P. Dove was in the chair. The Rev. S. D. Hillman gave a full account of the starting of the library eleven years earlier and said that with a little more support from the residents to the extent of £40 or £50 they would be able to carry it on. The Rev. Tapley Short read a financial report which indicated they were getting deeper into debt every year. They had an annual deficit of £20. A resolution was passed that the meeting hearing of the Ilkley library committee's proposal to sell the books and furniture thought an arrangement might be made to continue on a new basis. The general opinion of those present was that the library was a good medium and ought to be kept on.

The death was announced of "Old deaf Jackson" at the age of 86 years. The venerable old man, John Jackson, was described as a noted character always skilful at his trade, a sawyer, and a worthy antagonist in any rural sport including leaping, running, and fistcuffs. He had an extremely strong constitution and often boasted that he had never had any trouble with illness in all his life.

### 75 Years Ago

An open meeting of railwaymen was held at the F.S.A. hall with Mr. J. W. Dixon presiding.

Mr. A. Whitehead of Ben Rhydding moved the resolution "That this meeting of railwaymen of Ilkley and District is of the opinion that the time is ripe for obtaining better conditions of service owing to the altered methods of working now in existence." The resolution was carried and several new union members enrolled.

A movement had been initiated a year or two previously to erect a Catholic Church in Addingham, and land had been purchased for the purpose but the migration of most "of the best Catholics in the village" to other parts of the country postponed indefinitely the erection of the proposed building. It was hoped that the erection of a proposed new mill in the village would bring Catholic workers into the village and the building could proceed.

### 50 Years Ago

The usually "merry month of May" turned out to be the dreariest and gloomiest month of the year. There was scarcely a day

on which rain had not fallen, floods had devastated parts of the countryside and May had achieved an unenviable record as the "worst ever."

Despite the unsettled weather Ilkley Gliding Club had a useful days flying on Baildon Moor. The machine they used was the Hois der Teufel Sailplane and members, not frightened by the rain, obtained valuable experience in flying the machine. Mr. B. Hartley flew for a mile in a straight line and then obtained his "B" certificate making graceful turns. Ilkley members were the guests of the Bradford Club who entertained the Ilkley Club at Baildon.

A garden party in aid of the Bradford Children's Hospital was held in the grounds of Glen Rosa, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Heap. Owing to morning rain most of the outdoor entertainment had to be transferred to a large marquee which had been erected in the garden. Music was provided by Clarkson's Band from Otley. The event was organised by Mrs. Heap, Mrs. E. C. Crebbin, Mrs. C. M. Ackernley and Mrs. Lockwood.

### 25 Years Ago

The first of two parties of children from the Deansbrook Junior Mixed School, Mill Hill, London, and pen friends of the children of Ilkley Church of England Junior Mixed School spent a week in Ilkley. School holidays were adjusted to enable the Ilkley children to share the holiday and go sight-seeing with their London friends. They visited the Cow and Calf rocks, Hebers Ghyll and the Swastika Stone, Mackintosh's sweet factory at Halifax, Bolton Abbey, the Strid, Barden Towers, Skipton Castle, Beamsley and Brimham Rocks, Ripon and Fountains Abbey, Kirkstall Abbey museum and a blanket manufacturing mill in Dewsbury, York with the Minster Castle museum and the railway museum. A party was held in the Infants School arranged by Mr. H. Rhodes and Mr. P. L. Chadwick with supper provided by the parents of the Ilkley children.

Ilkley Players presented a north country comedy "Cooped Up" with Bill Womersley, Mabel Harrison, Pamela Heap, Janet Parker and Peter Rhodes playing the leading roles. The play was produced by Edgar Paley.

Dr. A. T. Burn was appointed Medical Officer of Health for County Division No. 5, comprising Otley, Ilkley Wharfedale Rural, Aireborough, Horsforth and Pudsey. He was to take up his duties in September 1957.

## C.P.R.E. CONCERNED OVER COUNCIL'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS ILKLEY MOOR

Concern over Bradford Metropolitan Council's attitude towards Ilkley Moor has been expressed this week by the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

The CPRE's West Riding Branch has told Ilkley representatives on Bradford Council that it was concerned over the lack of information and of consultation with the public about Bradford Council's proposals for the moor, the object of which was said to "improve" it.

The Branch's Secretary, Mr. J. D. Pike said "ever since a C.P.R.E. branch was formed for this area in the early 1930s we had a close and valuable relationship with the Ilkley Urban District Council and with the County Council as planning authority, often supporting the authorities at planning and other inquiries and being informed by them of matters of interest to us. In particular they interested and involved us in proposals affecting the moor. But since reorganisation information and consultation have been almost non-existent. We see that at a recent Parish Council meeting there was a request for greater consultation to ensure that the opinions of local people received full consideration and to disperse the increasing distrust and hostility generated by some of the actions of the District Council.

### Fencing

"At the end of last year fencing appeared on the moor. Many local people expressed surprise and concern. The Parish Council appeared to know nothing about it. We wrote a carefully considered letter to the Senior Countryside Warden of the District in December 1981 pointing out that fencing on the moor was illegal without the consent of the Minister and quoting the statutory provisions, and also generally as to the question of tree planting on the moor, as it was said that the Council intended to create new plantations. We also set out what we have found to be the views of the public on keeping moorland spaces open. We have never received any reply to that letter.

"We then learned from the press that the Council had a three-phase plan to give Ilkley a 'face-lift' and that this plan was well under way. We had not previously heard of any such plan and it appeared that neither the Parish Council nor the local people know of its existence. It is said to include provision for new plantations, better footpaths, car parks and improved minor roads," said Mr. Pike.

### Local opinion

The CPRE asked Ilkley's representatives to urge Bradford Council to arrange that before any scheme is adopted for any material work to be done on the moor particulars of the scheme should be made available for comment and suggestions by local people and interested Societies. When some years ago Brian Clouston and Partners were asked to make a report on the moor they went to a good deal of trouble to consult local opinion. The same could be done now through the Parish Council and the first step would be to set out exactly what is proposed under the three phases.

"Any such scheme should in our view be based on two main considerations:

1. The fact that the moor is a common within the area of a former Urban District Council. This means that the general public has a special right by Act of Parliament to wander freely over the whole of the moor, regardless of who owns it.
2. The great value of the moor being an open space in as near a natural state as possible. In our view only such work as is essential to maintain that natural state should be done. We are clear from local discussion that this is what the general public wants.

### No plantations

"We do not think there should be any new plantations on the moor. As we explained in our letter in December to the Senior Countryside Warden, the existing plantations were made to cover up quarry waste many years ago. Since that time the provisions for general public access and against fencing have come into force and there has also been a considerable change in public attitudes to the moor and similar open spaces. Our experience indicates that there is a strong feeling that the open aspect of a wide sweep of moorland is something that must be retained and not broken up by plantations."

"If the Council plans to provide for new plantations we think the reasons for this should be explained to the public and an estimate given of the cost of creating and maintaining them. They would be purely ornamental and we think that if there is money available it could be better spent on planting in other places where screening or covering up derelict sites is needed," said Mr. Pike.



4 Jun 82

# COUNCIL WANTS IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR DILAPIDATED FORMER MILL COTTAGES

An investigation into dilapidated former mill cottages at Addingham is being carried out by Bradford Metropolitan Council after concern was expressed by the village's parish council.

The council feels the houses could be made habitable again rather than falling into an even worse state of dilapidation.

Only three of the cottages are now occupied, and the rest, some of which have been empty for some time, are boarded up and becoming derelict.

The parish council put their views to Bradford's Director of Housing and Environmental Health Services, who promised to arrange an investigation and to put the matter before the Housing Services Special Sub-Committee next month. He said he would then advise the parish council what action was being taken.

### Sent to owners

The parish council's views were also sent to the owners of derelict properties at Low Mill and Burnside, Lister and Co. of Bradford.

Listers told the council that as a substantial land and property owner in the Addingham area they had always been concerned about the continued deterioration of these properties.

"So far as Low Mills is concerned we have, over the years, with the assistance of numerous property developers builders, endeavoured to produce modernisation and refurbishment schemes which would be commercially viable they said.

"Substantial discussions and correspondence have taken place between ourselves, the interested parties and the planning authority, but our activities have been severely hampered by conditions outside our control, namely the economic recession which has put severe financial restraints on this company, the virtual collapse of the residential property market, the difficulties encountered in regard to possible flooding of the site and, I regret to say, the reluctance on the part of the parish council in one particular instance to support a scheme that was presented some twelve months ago. I refer to the meeting at which Kase Homes Ltd. attended, when we were subsequently informed that the parish council had decided against recommending the development.

"I think it is only right and proper to say that the general consensus of opinion of all the interested parties is that any modernisation and improvement scheme can not be commercially viable unless it includes the construction of compatible properties on the site of the old multi-storey mill which was demolished some years ago," Listers continued.

"Nevertheless, we are still most anxious that further deterioration at Low Mills should be avoided, and in this regard we would be grateful for any advice and assistance that the parish council is prepared to give. I would be pleased to attend a meeting to discuss the overall inherent problems.

"The situation regarding cottages at Burnside is that we believe we may be able to implement a refurbishing scheme, and have instructed architects to submit draft proposals," Listers concluded.

Addingham Parish Council Chairman Cr. Alan Jerome felt that if Listers were so concerned about the welfare of the village, the best thing they could do would be to put the cottages on the market so that they could be put in order by a developer.

### Surprised

"People are surprised that a firm with the repute of Listers could let them fall into such a state of dilapidation," he added.

Cr. John Wells was opposed to the impression of moral blackmail in the letter from Listers, which suggested the parish council had prevented them from improving the cottages at Low Mills. Listers had a duty to keep their property in a reasonable condition.

Cr. Dr. Frank Wynn pointed out that the parish council had not opposed the development plan, but had been against the proposed use of Low Mill Lane for access when there was already a good access onto the old Addingham to Ilkley road.

Coun. Jerome said the cottages were lovely, and people were amazed that they had been allowed to go to ruin. The former mill manager's house, which stood by itself, was now "a disaster of a house".

It was agreed to tell Listers that the parish council was most upset at the suggestion that they had opposed improvement plans, and that if they were concerned they should offer the cottages for development.

The parish council also decided to ask Bradford Metropolitan Council to look at the situation as a matter of urgency and to let the parish council see copies of reports.

Bradford Council was also to be asked if they had any powers to buy and refurbish the derelict cottages.

