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## ANGLIAN EOFORWIC AND MEDIAEVAL YORK

4.12.87

In inviting the Director of the York Archaeological Trust, Mr. Peter Addyman, to give this session's Elsie Fletcher Memorial Lecture, the Olicana Museum and Historical Society ensured an evening full of interest leading to a longing to know more. Mr. Addyman's title "Anglian Eoforwic and Mediaeval York" may sound dull to some people but there was nothing dull about Mr. Addyman's talk.

A difficulty—if one chooses to see it that way—with York's history is that there is such a lot of it. It was a place of great importance in Roman times, visited by at least three emperors and the base from which Constantine the Great went out to effect changes of world significance. Later the Danes had a trading centre there—Jorvik and all that; but in between there were the Anglo-Saxons who have not received so good a press as the Romans used to command and the Vikings now enjoy. However, new light is being thrown on the Dark Ages from several directions.

A man of York who has never received the public relations treatment he deserved was Alcuin. When Western Europe was in a sink of ignorance and barbarism in Alcuin's York classical learning the tender saplings of European culture and the hard pressed residuum of the Christian heritage in the West were all kept alive, nurtured and offered to all who would come. And many did come, from all over the British Isles and from the Continent to the Cathedral School—the Saxon University of York—under the headship of the celebrated scholar Alcuin. To Alcuin's credit but his kingdom's loss he was part of a long-flowing brain drain when Charlemagne, soon to be regarded as Holy Roman Emperor, persuaded him to settle at his court in 782 to help in making Aachen a similar centre of learning.

What is known about Alcuin throws some historical light on Anglo-Saxon York but until recently the archaeological evidence has been ambiguous. However, York is now passing through another period of change; it is being "modernised" and as sites are cleared for re-development the York Archaeological Trust under Mr. Addyman's direction moves in as quickly as it is able and findings relating to Eoforwic—Anglo Saxon York—are changing conceptions formerly held. It appears that York may have been one of the largest Anglo Saxon settlements in Britain and that it is engaged in international trade. Some years ago Mr. Addyman was involved in a "dig" near Southampton when an Anglo-Saxon entrepot site was unearthed and he has been fascinated by the similarity of discoveries at York and Southampton. Other sites are also known from which Saxon ships passed to and from Continental ports.

Mr. Addyman's illustrated locations and finds with high quality slides. One of two helmets shown had been restored with great skill and is regarded as one of the great achievements of Northumbrian Art, but such splendid artefacts are rare. Shreds of poor quality pottery and even less attractive residues scraped out of wells and latrines are discoveries that tell the archaeologists more of the daily life of Anglo-Saxon York.

Before getting down to Anglo-Saxon levels, archaeologists often unearth medieval remains first. Such are a Gilbertine Priory destroyed in the sixteenth century and the lime kilns constructed on its site. Another was a Jewish cemetery containing the remains of nearly 500 inhabitants of medieval York. When shops and other buildings are altered, the original timber structures behind the brick facades are often exposed and disclose examples of medieval workmanship. As for the great medieval walls of York, well, they are falling down and a great work of underpinning is being carried out.

Contributed.

## ILKLEY EXHIBITION ON CHAIR MAKING

An exhibition showing many different styles of chair-making in the North West during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries begins at Ilkley Manor House tomorrow (Saturday) and continues until 6 December. 30.10.87.

Research into furniture was well established in the USA but in England ladder back and spindle back chairs tended to be thought of as "country furniture"—attractive but not worthy of serious studying or collecting.

Recent research by Dr. Bill Cotton, Chairman of the newly-formed Regional Furniture Society, has established that the counties of Lancashire, Cheshire in particular and Cumberland and Westmorland to a lesser extent had a rich tradition of chair-making and produced a huge number of variations of chair designs. The reason why these counties produced more than others seems to be the increased demand brought about by the Industrial Revolution which had its greatest impact in the North West.

Many of these "country" chairs were made in the industrial centres of Liverpool, Manchester, Wigan and Macclesfield. Local traditions of rush bearing, clog-making and wood turning were drawn upon but many of the processes of manufacturing were mechanised.

About ninety chairs will be shown in this exhibition giving an indication of the 900 and more variations that Dr. Cotton had identified. Yorkshire types are also to be shown, including some fascinating material from the firm of Brears from Addingham. Many of them are made of alder, a native wood also used for clog soles, which turns well and can be stained to resemble mahogany. In addition to spindle backs and ladder backs, Windsors and variations on the designs of more expensive "high" furniture will be shown.

Photographs of cottage interiors and working people will show the context in which these chairs were originally used, far removed from the "Interiors" style dining rooms they are usually found in today.

Events during the exhibition include a lecture at Church House by Dr. Cotton on 31 October. In the afternoon advice will be given and people will be allowed to take along chairs for identification and information. On 1 November there will be a chair caning demonstration at the Manor House and on 15 November a rush seating demonstration at the Manor House.

## CO-AUTHOR OF BOOK ON WORD MAPS

One of the authors behind a new book entitled "Word Maps—a Dialect Atlas of England" is Dr. Clive Upton, of Margerison Crescent, Ilkley.

Published by Croom Helm the book contains 200 maps of English dialect and pronunciation. The information was collected from a survey carried out in over 300 localities between 1943 and 1961 and is now in the School of English at Leeds University.

Dr. Upton wrote the book with John Widdowson, a Professor of English at Sheffield, and Stewart Sanderson, a former Director of the Institute of Dialect and Folk Studies at Leeds University.

The book aims to make people aware of the variations in dialect and pronunciation in various parts of the country. It points out the differences in the words used, differences in grammar and also the ways in which words were organised and quite noticeably the various ways with pronunciation and accent.

## BOY FINDS ANCIENT AXE HEAD IN GARDEN

23.10.87

Six-year-old Penn Chapman, a pupil of Ghyll Royd School, made an exciting discovery while playing in his garden at Whinhill, Askwith.

He has found an axe head, believed to have been chipped from a block of flint and ground to a finished tool by neolithic man from about five thousand years ago.

Axe heads such as these were occasionally found in Britain and would have been

useful for neolithic man for such activities as making clearings in forests—which covered much of Britain at that time—in order to cultivate the land.

Mrs. Mary Bentham, Assistant Keeper of Education Services, said this had been a very important find. Any flint discovered was evidence of man's presence, and the fact that this axe head was polished was quite significant.

as it showed someone must have spent weeks grinding it down, she said.

The axe head and other recent finds—mainly prehistoric flint objects including arrowheads and scrapers—are currently on display at Ilkley Manor House.

Picture shows Penn Chapman holding the axe head, and Mrs. Bentham, Assistant Keeper of Education Services.



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## EARLY CAVE ART DISCUSSED BY MUSEUM SOCIETY

The activities of some creative people at the end of or immediately after the Ice Age formed the subject of a talk given to the Olicana Museum and Historical Society by Dr. Martin Hemingway, Lectures Secretary of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society and a member of staff at Bradford University.

In his talk, "New Interpretations of European Cave Art", he said the origin of Western art not only went back a long way, they went back far enough to produce awe and wonder in people that the first representational artist progressed from meaningless doodles or even meaningful marks to a true art form.

Dr. Hemingway's observation that Europe was a cultural backwater 35,000 years ago would have surprised few in his audience. What was surprising was there seemed to have been 20,000 years of cave art with most of that which had been discovered to date having been produced between 15,000 and 20,000 years ago in sites spread over a wide area, from Portugal to the Urals.

Most of the drawings and paintings, were of animals and most of these were well defined representations. Some were dramatic and full of energy — bulls charging, horses galloping, bison hunched in menacing pose. In most cases there was little doubt of the nature of the animals portrayed. The ability of the artist, was the beginning of problems, for these skilful artists did not seem to have any sense of order in the manner in which their representations were set out — there was no scenery, no scenes, no backgrounds, no concern for orientation or scale, often there was a mass of paintings superimposed on each other. These people who could depict animals so well rarely made a representation of a human. When they did so they were "match-stick" men with non-human heads or beings with grotesque heads featuring big noses. No ordinary men adorned the cave walls.

The paintings were not all in easily accessible places. Some were so high that scaffolding would seem to have been necessary and ropes, found in the vicinity of paintings, may be related to height problems. Some were in low locations of such difficult access that the artists would have had to work in cramped conditions, and most work had to be performed in artificial light, often in the deeper recesses of caves, he said.

One researcher who looked at 66 sites and noted 2,000 representations, analysed the subjects depicted and found horses (28 per cent) and bison (23 per cent) accounted for more than half of the portrayals. In one case at least, horse and bison dominated a central grouping surrounded by an area in which ibex and deer predominated while more sinister animals were relegated to darker recesses of the of the work area.

In spite of much speculative theory and learned analysis, there were no satisfactory explanations of early cave art and all the interpretations so far postulated exhibited fatal flaws. In short, no one could explain this art, but then, 20,000 years was a long time ago, he said.

## MUSEUM SOCIETY VISIT THE ROMAN CITIES OF GERMANY

9.10.87  
A party from the Olicana Museum and Historical Society have returned from a visit of some of the historic Roman cities of Germany.

They were led by their President, Mrs. Esme Greenwood. On the way to their base at Aachen, they visited the picturesque city of Bruges in Flanders. Aachen was known in Roman times, and later in the 18th and 19th centuries for its hot springs, effective for the cure of gout, rheumatism and sciatica; its outstanding claim to fame, however, is as the capital of Charlemagne, acclaimed Emperor on Christmas day 800 A.D., whose Empire extended over Western Europe as far south as central Italy. Alcuin of York was his friend, and counsellor on Scholarship and the Arts. The central part of the Cathedral dates from his reign, and was a domed octagonal basilica, based on a church in Ravenna. Nearby was a treasure house of sumptuous objects associated with the great Emperor. Some of the party had thought that a visit to Cologne was a needless addition to an overcrowded itinerary, but all were astounded by the vast array of Roman antiquities at the

new German-Roman Museum, and in particular by the magnificent mosaic floors. Cologne (Colonia) was an important Roman headquarters on the Rhine. Members were given to understand that most of the objects were only discovered as a consequence of the widespread destruction of the city in the Second World War. The high-point of the tour, however, was the City of Trier on the Mosel river. Trier was Germany's oldest city; legend gives a date of 2,000 BC but there was clear historical evidence for a Roman city founded in the last years of the 1st century BC, in the reign of the Emperor Augustus. Towards the end of the 3rd century AD, the Emperor Diocletian decided that four capital cities were necessary for the government of his vast dominions. The westernmost was Trier, whose responsibilities extended from Carlisle to Gibraltar. The city was especially associated with the Emperor Constantine, who also had close associations with York, under whom Christianity was first recognised as the religion of the Western World. The city had numerous Roman sites, some in good preservation, including a remarkable gateway, large enough to be converted into a church in the Middle Ages, and a Basilica (Imperial Audience Hall or Courts of Justice) of the reign of Constantine (early 4th century), now used as a church. Many early Christian churches were designed on the model of Basilicas. On the return journey, the party spent a few hours in Brussels, where most of them were more than content to while away the time drinking coffee in a beautiful and incredibly tranquil City Hall square. They were lucky enough to have a series of sunny autumn days, with not even the hint of drizzle until they were back aboard the ferry.

## BYGONE EXTRACTION OF ILKLEY'S MINERALS

The subject of geology which often appeared dull and dusky was unravelled to the Friends of Ilkley Manor House by Alison Armstrong-Birdsall, Geological Curator at the Cliffe Castle Museum.

Her talk covered the local landscape and the way in which it had changed since it stood 300 million years ago on the edge of a large tropical River Delta until the final retreat, ten thousand years ago of the glacier that shaped the valley.

It was from this time that the people of this area extracted the materials needed for so many aspects of their living.

For this acidic area, with its layers of gritty sandstone and shales covered with glacial boulder clay which in turn, on the high ground, was overlain by even more acidic peat, limestone was essential for agriculture. A told of limestone existed from Bolton Bridge down through Draughton to Skipton. Quarrying could be traced back to the fifteenth century but much was extracted from the lime rich moraines and river terraces. On the high moraine at Landshaw Delves, simple kilns of the seventeenth and eighteenth century still existed and the moraine below Ilkley Golf Course provided lime for both agriculture and building. There were old kilns on the river terrace at Addingham and field names like Limekiln Close, found on old maps, suggested the presence of extraction even when no physical evidence survived. By the nineteenth century the demand for limestone gave rise to the building of larger, more efficient permanent kilns such as the one at Draughton, she said.

### GRAVEL

Gravel was another important deposit and at Denton Bridge large scale extraction took place with a smaller working on Ilkley Moor and although no signs remained, there was a sandpit and crushing mill near the Cow and Call rocks.

The deposits of peat provided a major source of fuel and the peat pits at Hollin Hall may have dated back to Norman times. For the coal, the nearest large scale working was in Silsden where bell-pits top shafts reached down 30 to 40 feet into the seam. However, Coal lngs, in Addingham, probably had a small seam and there was even a small unworked seam on Ilkley Moor, she said.

Ironstone existed in several areas in the valley. Deposits had been found on Curly Hill although no signs of workings, but in the area thought to have been Plum Tree Farm, there was a considerable amount of the distinctive medieval slag, signs of a forge and furnace and the beck had two dams that could have given a powerful lead of water, probably used to drive a hammer called an Oliver. The Shales in the cliff at Nesfield contained ironstone and old field names such as Cinder site and Oliver were suggestive. Slag had been discovered at Low Mill too and near Throstle Nest pits showed extraction along an outcrop of ironstone with a series of bell pits in the field above marking shafts down into the deposit.

Stone walls were built from both the extensive landslips that occurred at places like White Wells and from isolated areas of small rocks, known as depth holes where wedge holes for the splitting of rock, and even a partly formed millstone, had been found. The quarrying of stone had always provided the chief material for buildings in the valley. An eighteenth century brick pit was discovered near the swimming pool and in the nineteenth century glacial lake clays were used in a brick pit at Denton Carr House.

### MOOR QUARRY

Stone came from areas such as the old Hanging Stone quarry where remains of a crane base and signs of the tramway down into Ilkley, seen in old photographs, were still apparent.

Remarkably little was recorded of the quarrying which must have been considerable during the nineteenth century expansion of Ilkley but a member of the Friends supplied a post script to the absorbing lecture. It appeared from newspapers of the period that the stone wagons descending on Cowpasture Road made a great deal of noise and Ilkley residents protested vigorously apparently to some effect as quarrying seemed to have eased at about this time.

By the end of the evening the audience had come to view geology and its local implications as anything but "dull and dusty" and with their different approach to the subject, the present and future exhibitions that Alison Armstrong-Birdsall is setting up at Cliffe Castle should have many visitors to know more about this fascinating and important aspect of our valley's history.

31.12.87  
**PLANS TO CELEBRATE  
 ILKLEY - SKIPTON  
 RAILWAY ANNIVERSARY**

The 100th anniversary of the opening of the Ilkley to Skipton railway will be celebrated in 1988.

The year 1888 is now a world away and the railway to Bolton Abbey and Craven is but a memory... but 1988 is also the 20th anniversary of a small, but stubborn resurgence, whereby the all volunteer Yorkshire Dales Railway, whose membership includes a strong contingent from the Ilkley and District, is slowly but surely relaying the railway tracks back towards Bolton Abbey.

With a 100th and a 20th anniversary in prospect the YDR, also known as the "Friendly Line" is planning a programme of events at Embay and hopefully at Ilkley.

Though Ilkley in 1888 had grown accustomed to rail travel—with season ticket holders travelling daily to Leeds and Bradford—and ladies and gentlemen of fashion journeying to the town for health and recreation, Ilkley was nevertheless a town on a branch line. The Ilkley-Skipton line put Ilkley on a through route and enabled the workers of the Lancashire mill towns to enjoy the pleasures of Wharfedale, as well as giving the townsfolk better access to Morecambe, the West Coast and Scotland.

The railway first came to Ilkley on 1 August, 1865 (from Leeds) with the direct line to Bradford opening on 4 October, 1876. The official opening day of the Ilkley-Skipton railway was 1 October, 1888.

It is still possible to travel from Ilkley to Skipton by rail by changing trains at Shipley—and the possibility exists, by means of a temporary arrangement by British Rail, that one or two one-off special trains could once again journey between Skipton and Embay.

YDR's progress back towards the Bolton Abbey area nearly came to a full stop when British Rail sought planning permission to fill in the deteriorating Hollywell Bridge which carries the busy A59 trunk road over the track bed. However, a smart rear-guard action by YDR with the help of Craven District Council and welcome co-operation from British Rail saw the bridge repaired rather than filled in, with YDR paying its share of the costs.

The Railway's next task was to lay track from the Skibeden loop, over the summit and down to Hollywell. This project was duly completed and the railway and the newly built Hollywell Halt opened to the public at the end of July, 1987.

The Devonshire Estate was closely involved with the original Ilkley-Skipton railway for it ran over their land, and then Duke imposed certain conditions on the Midland Railway. The Estate still has an interest in the area... Hartington Hollow, named after the Marquis of Hartington, is a parcel of land leased to YDR by the Estate and now converted to a pleasant picnic area and mini nature trail.

For the new season the amenities at both Hartington and Embay will be improved... at Holywell there will be a semi permanent children's treasure trail—and for the younger folk—a maze, whilst back at Embay there will be a self guide rail trail and a new locomotive display area.

What else is planned for 1988?

Of interest to the railway enthusiasts are the planned "guest" locomotives, due to roll the Embassy rails next summer.

"Bellerophon"—the 115 years old veteran, based at Worth on the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway will be the first guest, to be followed by "Jugg"—the ex-London and North Eastern Railway tank engine which at various times in her career has resided at Haworth, Embay and York before going to her present home on the North Yorkshire Railway.

The appearance of the two "guest" engines, coupled with the Embay stud of Thomas the Tank engine look-alikes will undoubtedly stimulate interest in the railway.

The Autumn Harvest of Steam has been for this year only, brought forward to 30 and 31 July and will be billed as a Summer Festival, with one of the special attractions being the heavy horses of a famous local brewery.

The highspot of the year will be the Centenary Weekend itself on Saturday and Sunday 1 and 2 October. A Victorian flavour is planned for the event—a sort of Railway "Those were the Days".

On Friday, 13 May, David Shepherd, the artist, will be entertaining at Skipton Town Hall.

It is hoped that Ilkley will too figure in the programme of commemorative events... a number of initiatives are being pursued.

At Embay itself, with the emphasis being on the family market, a number of minor improvements will be noted by regular travellers on "The Friendly Line"—and as always, YDR intends to offer friendly value—on the trains. In the buffet car, the station buffet and in the unrivalled book and model railway shop

25.9.87  
**NEW PROGRAMME BEGINS  
 WITH MINING**

With the advent of the "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" the Olicana Historical Society's cycle of activities moves from visits to evening meetings and the first lecture of a new programme was given at Church House by Dr. R. T. Spence, of Leeds University, under the title "Mining in Craven and Westmorland by the Earls of Cumberland in the Seventeenth Century".

Two strands of local history were intertwined in Dr. Spence's talk: the relationship of a great land-owning family, the Cliffords, Earls of Cumberland, with their local estates in Craven which included Skipton Castle, Carlton Park, Bolton Priory, Barden Tower and the overlordship of Grassington and the Clifford exploitation of fuel and minerals from their lands.

England was still a heavily wooded country at the dissolution of the monasteries but by the time of Elizabeth I shortage of wood, perhaps because of asset stripping by the new owners of monastic properties, led to an increased use of a material not formerly consumed in any great quantity—coal. An increase in population, an expanding economy and a growing export trade in metal goods in the late 16th and 17th centuries created a greater demand for fuel. Although in possession of large reserves of wood, the Cliffords realised the potential of their lands as mineral resources and from 1600 onwards invested numerous small sums in searching for coal on their Craven lands. Satisfactory pits were developed at Giggleswick, Carlton and elsewhere, including Bradley and Holden near Silsden with the Holden pit probably being the most successful.

Iron had been extracted in Craven long before the Cliffords came along but a patent of Elizabeth I dated 1589, allegedly for the smelting of iron with coal although successful smelting with coal was not achieved until the 18th century, led to a collusion between the Queen's principal adviser and a Clifford and to plans for most extensive exploitation of iron resources. Many ironworks were developed on the Clifford estates in Westmorland but perhaps the most important local outcome was an ironworks on the Crimple Beck near Harrogate, said Dr. Spence.

Although lead was extracted in many parts of the Cliffords' Craven lands their major industrial activity was at Grassington. In 1605-6 Lord George Clifford built a lead-smelting mill on the side of the Wharfe—the Low Mill near Linton. In the 1630's High Mill was put into operation to handle ore extracted from Grassington High Moor. By 1640 England was Europe's biggest lead producer and much Wharfedale lead went abroad, especially in shipments to Holland, but the first call was for roofs and water systems of Clifford castles and houses, and for local churches.

In 1750 a Clifford heiress married a Duke of Devonshire and thereafter lead mining in Wharfedale was pursued on a grander scale; but that is another story.

19.7.87  
**100 Years Ago**

A resume of the fifty years' of the Queen's reign, and the progress of the town of Ilkley from an obscure village to a thriving health resort, was given in the Ilkley Free Press in July 1887. At the beginning of the 18th century the healing nature of Ilkley's waters and the bracing character of its air began to attract attention. In 1811 Ilkley had only 75 houses and a population of 450, but in 1829 a number of gentlemen who had become aware of the curative nature of a stay in convalescence established the Ilkley Bath Charitable Institution, which provided poor patients with baths at Old Wells and found them accommodation with the cottagers. This Institution later developed into the Ilkley Hospital and Convalescent Home, with room for 100 patients, which was opened in 1861.

Soon after the introduction of hydropathy into England, Ilkley was selected for a place to carry out the treatment, and in 1846 Ben Rhydding was opened. After the construction of the railway in 1865, in addition to people retiring from the manufacturing towns commuters began to live in the town, and provision had to be made for the different religious requirements of the townspeople and new churches were planned and built. Schools were expanded and new ones constructed, and private schools and banks opened in the town.

A new Grammar School was in abeyance, and some £15,000 had accumulated for the erection of a new school. Villas and shops were being constructed in 1887 and the new railway line to Skipton would open Ilkley out to the populous towns of Lancashire. In a period of fifty years the village of some 100 houses and 500 souls had grown to a "well laid-out township of 1,010 dwellings and an estimated population of 5,500.

16.9.88  
**Second World War  
 found**



When Ben Rhydding of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Diana Crowley bought a in Margerison Road, little they realise they would get a second World War raid shelter with it.

Mrs. Crowley told 'Gazette' this week: "Most neighbours were unaware of my presence except for some boys who played in it."

Standing about ten feet discreetly disguised by grown bushes in the back

1988

16 9 88

Large amounts of firearms and ammunition have been deposited at Ilkley Police Station during a one-month-long national firearms amnesty - launched by the West Yorkshire Police on 1 September.

The first week of the amnesty resulted in several items being surrendered including an air rifle, a single barrel shotgun, a revolver, and a quantity of ammunition.

The second week has seen more response from local people with 292 rounds of ammunition of varying calibre, a rifle, two revolvers, and a double barrel shotgun being handed in across the counter at Ilkley.

The amnesty - the first for 20 years - was launched to encourage the public to hand over firearms and ammunition without fear of prosecution for illegal purposes.

Pc. Bob Young is pictured with two of the weapons handed in at Ilkley Police Station during the firearms amnesty, which continues until the end of September. (Picture no. 2184).

8 7 88

## Second World War air raid shelter found at the bottom of garden



When Ben Rhydding couple, Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Diana Crowley bought a house in Margerison Road, little did they realise they would also get a second World War air raid shelter with it.

Mrs. Crowley told the "Gazette" this week: "Most of the neighbours were unaware of its presence except for some local boys who played in it."

Standing about ten feet high discreetly disguised by overgrown bushes in the back gar-

den the concrete shelter is believed to have been erected in 1937 when Mr. and Mrs. Summerson occupied the house. Mr. Summerson was a dentist practising from his home.

Mrs. Crowley said Mrs. Summerson had refused to go into the shelter because she thought it was claustrophobic, and instead used the bunker for storing apples from her apple tree.

Mrs. Summerson lived in the house which had become neglected until her death in 1986

aged 84 added Mrs. Crowley.

When they bought the house Mr. and Mrs. Crowley were unaware the shelter existed, and the fact it had remained in the garden so many years after the end of World War Two was a mystery to them. They now plan to dispose of the shelter in the best way they can.

Pictured outside the air raid shelter are Mrs. Diana Crowley, with her son, Nicholas (4), and daughter, Rebecca (7). (Picture No. 2031).

MUSEUM SOCIETY 16 9 88

## TANTALISING MYSTERIES ON ILKLEY MOOR

16 9 88

Were the people who lived long ago on what we now call Ilkley Moor merely summer visitors or were they permanent residents? Even after three seasons of back-aching and painstaking work with a Manpower Services Group Mr. Gavin Edwards, of Bradford Museums, can not be sure.

In giving the first of the Olicana Museum and Historical society's new programme of lectures, Mr. Edwards described some of the difficulties he and his team have faced and some of the problems they have tried to solve but which still await answers.

As is well known, it is some 1,900 years ago that the Romans established their riverside settlement of Olicana but as long ago again before the Romans encamped by the Wharfe some people were active about their own affairs above the Cow and Calf rocks. Just what they were about is far from clear. Certainly some of the people who found accommodation on the hilltop were something other than tourists. They stayed around long enough to chip quite an amount of flint and leave a lot of flint-knapping debris behind. They also discarded some broken pottery and pecked away with elementary tools at large and small stones to leave strange markings. Until someone cracks the code the messages these hilltop people left behind will remain mysteries.

Up on Green Crag Slack the hilltop people did not just chip at the rocks, they moved them around. They laid out U shaped lines of stones of about 300 yards length. Although these are usually referred to as "walls", Mr. Edwards' careful investigations led him to think that there are only enough stones in each

structure to provide a "wall" no more than two feet high. What kind of structures were they that were no more than two feet high, curved up and down a steep beck-side for 300 yards but did not form an enclosure? What purpose did they serve?

After months of patient investigation which seems to have produced more questions than answers and to have made the mysteries of the moors even more tantalising, it seems a pity that work on the site of great promise has had to be abandoned, but with the closing down of the Manpower Services Commission earlier this month Mr. Edwards' "labourers" are no longer available. Some work on the Moors will continue because the small band of volunteers that form the Ilkley Archaeology Group will continue with their own investigations.

The next meeting of the Historical Society will have a very different subject "Methodism and the English Working Class". This is part of a commemoration of the silver jubilee of one of the most widely read and one of the most controversial books on social history this century. "The Making of the English Working Class" was written by E. P. Thompson when he lived in Halifax twenty five years ago and the book is severely critical of the Methodist attitudes to industrial and social changes in the first half of the nineteenth century.

J.H.

23.9.88

# ROMAN FORT SITE UNDER REVIEW

23.9.88

Plans for creating one of Ilkley's biggest tourist attractions are under review after being shelved for two years. The star attraction could be the site of the Roman Fort which once served as a centre of activity for over three hundred years.

Cr. Peter Williams, of Menston, told a meeting of Ilkley Parish Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee on Monday that further excavations of the Fort (80 AD to 400 AD) could provide the town with a major tourist attraction.

"There were earlier excavations of the Fort, the first in 1919-21 by A. M. Woodward and the second in 1962 by Brian Hartley," said Cr. Williams.

"These excavations left a large area of the Fort still unexcavated and did not have the benefit of archaeological techniques available today," said Cr. Williams. He said there were still many questions unanswered about the history of the Fort.

"Today there is very little for the public to see of the Fort but I have been told a proposed scheme for the Fort was considered by Bradford Council's Leisure Services Committee in September, 1986," said Cr. Williams.

"So far the only work that seems to have been carried out in the area is the pedestrianisation of Castle Road," he said.

Cr. Williams who said he had discussed the matter with Ilkley Civic Society put forward the following proposals.—

● Ask Bradford Council to reconsider the scheme shelved in 1986.

● The pedestrianisation of Castle Road be extended to Bridge Lane.

● That the derelict property known as Ghyll Croft be demolished and the site landscaped.

Clerk to the Council, Mrs. D. C. Edmondson said an item on the agenda for the next meeting of the Leisure Services Committee was for the consideration of the demolition of the property known as Ghyll Croft.

A Spokeswoman for Bradford Council told the "Gazette" this week that the plans were again under review after being

shelved for two years. There was some interest at that time in carrying out further excavations but this had not been done because of the changes under the Manpower Services Commission and the lack of money.

Bradford Council was now looking at ways to fund the work required at the Fort and was to seek views on the future use of the site, she said.

"Gazette" records show that when Bradford Councillors gave the go-ahead in 1986 for an imaginative scheme to develop Ilkley's ancient site into an archaeological and tourist attraction it was said to have opened the way for "the most exciting event to happen in Ilkley since the Romans left." It was said then that it could mean Ilkley would have a resource to rival the Jorvik Centre at York as an attraction.

## DISUSED TIPS

### CHECKED FOR

### METHANE GAS

19.8.88

Checks on disused waste tips at Cockin End, Ilkley, and Sun Lane, Burley, have revealed there is no build up of methane gas.

Bradford Council's Environmental health officers have started a survey of methane generation on all former tips as well as continuing regular checks on large tips which are still in use.

The extra checks have been prompted by an explosion in Loscoe, Derbyshire, caused by methane, in which a bungalow was destroyed.

Pollution officer Mr. Derrick Hopkinson said his staff were looking at each unused tip in the Bradford district and would decide whether the levels of methane were high enough to cause a potential danger and needed to be monitored.

The two largest used sites at Odsal and Fenby Avenue produced methane and were being closely checked each month to make sure the levels were safe.

One disused site where methane above the accepted level was found has already been treated by digging a trench and installing vents to let out the gas and remove any danger, said Mr. Hopkinson. Officers will continue monitoring the levels.

"Methane above a certain concentration could ignite and explode, or it could even cause asphyxiation in an enclosed space like the sub floor of a house or a cellar."

"We have not found any levels which cause concern apart from the one we have treated, but we will continue to work through all the disused tips to make sure there is no danger," said Mr. Hopkinson.

Modern techniques of compacting rubbish on tips could mean that the gas made by the rotting process is stopped from moving up through layers of waste and into the atmosphere, said Mr. Hopkinson.

Instead it moved sideways through cracks in the earth and could get into the cellars and sub floors of buildings in this way.

## ELECTED MEMBER OF ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

29.7.88

On the recommendation and nomination of Lord Briggs, Provost of Worcester College, Oxford, and Dr. Sheridan Gilley, of Durham University, the Rev. G. H. Whittaker, of Ash Grove, Ilkley, has been elected to the membership of the Royal Historical Society.

Mr. Whittaker's research and writing covers The History of Non-conformity in N.E. Lancashire 1662-1962, The Cistercian Monasteries of Yorkshire and other writings on church history.

The Rev. G. H. Whittaker was Minister of Ilkley Baptist Church from 1947 to 1976 when he retired and went to live in Scotland. In 1982 he returned to Yorkshire when he moved to Eastby near Skipton and returned to Ilkley in 1986.

## GHYLL CROFT TO BE DEMOLISHED

38.9.85

The derelict property on Castle Road, Ilkley, known as Ghyll Croft is to be demolished it was decided at Bradford Council's Leisure Services Committee meeting last week.

The future of Ghyll Croft has been in question since 1986 when two meetings were held to discuss the retention or demolition of the property. After being shelved for the past two years the future has been discussed again and it was decided that the building should be demolished and the area it covered will be grassed over to form part of the surrounding parkland. The overall cost of the demolition is expected to cost £1,400.

Whilst the Roman Fort site was under review, the Ghyll Croft building was being vandalised and Ilkley residents complained about the eyesore it was causing to the surrounding area. It was hoped that Ghyll Croft would be retained and used as a base for the archaeologists and by the excavators who would work at the Roman Fort site for the future excavation and development of the site.

The building is to be demolished as it caused a health and safety hazard and impeded the Roman Fort site, the meeting was told.

BEN R

16.9.88



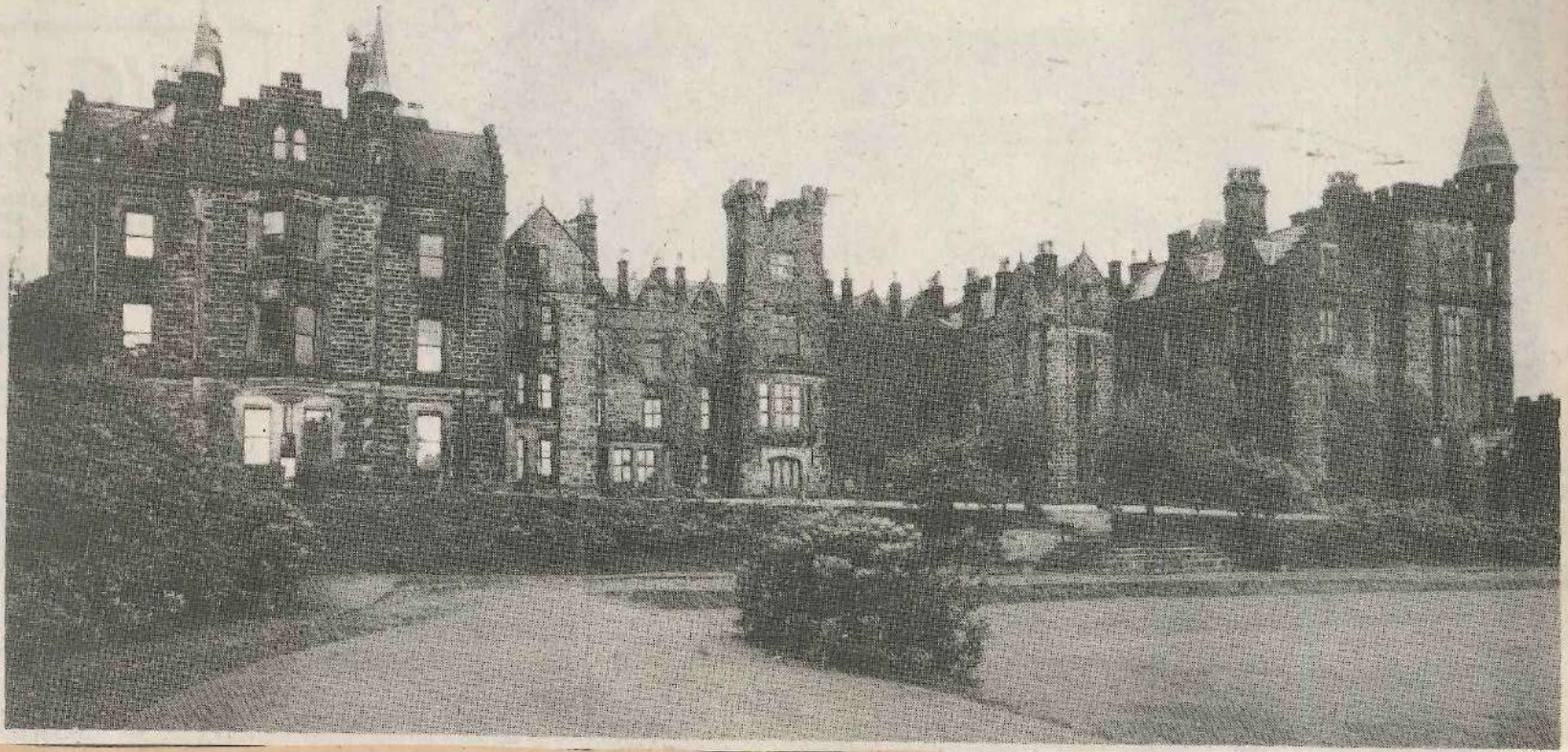
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# BEN RHYDDING HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT

16. 9. 88



**This majestic building known for many years as a centre for various treatments occupied a prime site on the slopes of Ben Rhydding until it was demolished in 1955.**

It was built as the Ben Rhydding Hydropathic establishment in 1844 and it was mainly because of this that a railway station was provided at Ben Rhydding. It was designed in the Scottish Baronial style at a cost of £30,000 including furnishings on land purchased in 1843 from the Bolling family of Wheatley Hall. The actual buildings were close to the road now known as "Hydro Close" and once the work started it continued at a fast pace. The hydro provided accommodation originally for about eighty patients, with their friends who were conveyed up the hillside in horse-drawn vehicles.

The first prospectus itemised the various treatments available as well as the curative properties of Ilkley's pure water. Rheumatism, spinal complaints, dyspepsia and hypochondriasis were amongst the complaints to be cured with cold baths, wet sheets, exercise and drinking the waters. The charges were £2 15s. 6d. per week for each patient reducing after a month to £2 10s. The charge for bath attendants was 6d. per day and for house servants 1s.

In the years to follow the 77 acres of grounds included tennis courts, croquet lawns, clock golf, a nine hole golf course and a small lake as well as magnificent gardens. Garages were supplied for 50 cars and fresh food for the guests was supplied by a home farm.

After the turn of the century the establishment at Ben Rhydding was used more as a first class hotel for recreation purposes and subsequent alterations and additions to the buildings were to these ends. Emphasis was placed on the sports facilities in the brochures, and there was a splendid ballroom for dancing and even a bar. Following the laying out of the nine hole golf course in 1888 the hydro was advertised as Ben Rhydding Golf Hotel.

Between the two world wars, the hotel became a very popular weekend holiday venue for visitors from Leeds and other West Yorkshire towns, who either used the excellent railway service or motored out to the country from the cities. Ben Rhydding Hydro's original "curative" image was forgotten, and the main aim was to amuse the many guests.

During the Second World War, the hydro in conjunction with Wells House was used as offices for the Wool Control with

many local people obtaining employment there. It then stood empty for a number of years after being de-requisitioned by the War Office and was finally demolished in 1955. Today little is left of the buildings apart from the lodge to the west and part of the stables which were converted to a private house. The shrine from the grounds can be seen by the Canker Well on the Grove. The land has been developed by builders but the original Golf Course is now occupied by Ben Rhydding Golf Club.

## CONCERN OVER COLOURS FOR NEW SHOPS

*25/11/88*  
A significant number of people are saying that the colour of paint being used on Ilkley's new £3.6m town centre development does not enhance what looks like a pleasant development, Ilkley Parish Councillors were told this week.

Chairman to the Council, Cr. Mrs. Iris Carney told Councillors on Monday her attention had been drawn to the development by a former Councillor who had pointed out that the woodwork at the top of the buildings had been painted in dark blue whilst below on the shop fronts there was a brilliant green with yellow and dark plum with yellow. "It does look awful", said Cr. Mrs. Carney.

Chairman of the Parish Council's Plans Committee, Cr. Mrs. V. M. Rankin said the Council had no jurisdiction whatsoever on the colour of the paint used on the development. "We must accept it as it is. They can paint it with spots on if they wish," she added.

Cr. Mrs. Barbara Cussons thought the Parish Council should draw the attention of the developers to the criticism being made and ask if better colours could be used around the stonework of the buildings.

"Individual shops are choosing their own colours and I don't think there is an overall colour scheme for the development," said Cr. Mrs. Molly Renton.

The Council's Clerk, Mrs.

Dorothy Edmondson understood the colours for the fascia for each shop was chosen by the individual shopkeeper and thought the only colour the developers were responsible for was the blue above the shops.

A proposal that the Council should ask the developers House of Orange Ltd., to use a neutral coloured paint such as black or white on the Station Development was accepted.



13 8 88

## OPPONENTS FIGHT ON TO STOP LEISURE CENTRE PLAN

Opponents of a £1m plan to build a leisure complex at Ilkley were rejoicing this week.

They had won another round in their campaign to stop the complex being built on the banks of the River Wharfe at Hollins Hall between Ilkley and Addingham. Last month a recommendation for approval of the plan was given by the Planning Committee of Bradford Council on the Chairman's casting vote. However, a successful move was made to have the plan referred to the Employment and Environment Committee where it was rejected by a one vote majority. Now the matter will be referred to the next full meeting of Bradford Council next month where a final decision would be made.

Bradford Councillor Laurie Coughlin thought the proposed chalet, caravan and leisure complex, which would also include a swimming pool, would be an admirable use for what he described as a piece of "scrubland".

His brother, Cr. Danny Coughlin said the site was ideal for the proposed development. He said it was a derelict piece of land not used for any single purpose whatsoever and with the Bradford district being a tourist centre they had a shortage of tourist amenities.

Cr. Mrs. Barbara Cussons, of Ilkley, said the site was delightful meadowland and many people saw the scheme as eventually linking Ilkley with Addingham through the Green Belt.

She did not think it was a practical proposal for it would destroy beautiful countryside and the amenity value of the area would be devastated.

Cr. Martin Smith of Ilkley, said the objectors were not happy about this plan on the grounds that the development would form a serious impingement on the area between Ilkley and Addingham and would form a small village between the two, increase traffic turning on the hazardous road to Addingham and additional trees would restrict the flow of the river at flood time.

He claimed there were other possibilities for caravanners in the area such as at Brown Bank, Addingham, Hill Mill Lane and a recent approval had been given at School Wood, Addingham. If planners considered the whole of the Ilkley area including those parts in North Yorkshire they would see there were better placed opportunities, he said.

The future of the scheme, could be decided by a public inquiry. Opponents believe the developers may now appeal to the Department of the Environment for a final decision.

Cr. Mrs. Barbara A. Cussons, who has fought the scheme from the beginning, claimed the developers, a mystery consortium operating under the name of Hollin Hall Development, may appeal to the Department of the Environment before next month's meeting if the planning applications runs out of time.

## IDENTITY SCHEME LAUNCHED

16.9.88

Young people in Ilkley, aged 18 or over, who have problems entering pubs or clubs because of their youthful appearance, can now obtain an 18-plus identity card from a publication in Keighley. The identity scheme has been launched by Mick Horton, of the "Commercial" in Keighley, and has the full backing of Keighley Police.

Anyone wanting a card must produce a birth certificate and another document verifying their age and where they live. In return they will be given a flexible identity card which will allow them in to pubs or clubs all over the country without being questioned about their age.

## LISTER'S ARMS HOTEL SOLD

On behalf of The Listers Arms (Ilkley) Ltd., Dacre, Son and Hartley, of Ilkley, have sold The Listers Arms Hotel to Clugston Construction, Ltd. of Scunthorpe at an undisclosed price.

The hotel, which is the oldest hotel in Ilkley dating from 1825,

was built as a coaching house on the site of a former Inn. The property is a Listed Building.

It is understood that the purchasers will retain the property as an hotel with possible residential development within part of the grounds.

## CRAIGLANDS HOTEL SOLD

Crown Hotels, London, are to be the new owners of the Craiglands Hotel, in Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, which has been sold by the Trust House Forte group for an undisclosed sum together with three others in the Yorkshire area.

All staff at the Craiglands and the three other hotels—The Metropole, Leeds, The Earl of Doncaster, Doncaster, and The Cairn, Harrogate—have been offered a transfer to another Trust House Forte hotel or had their contracts honoured by the new London based group.

The Craiglands, bought by Trust House Forte in 1979 from the Joe Lyons group, was said to be worth £2m of the overall asking price of the hotels, said to be £28m, when it was put on the market one month ago. However, a spokesman for Trust House Forte said they were not disclosing the price as they had been sold as a group.

The hotels were sold as part of a rationalisation plan by the hotel group.

An illustrated lecture on local archaeology has been given by Angela Cartledge, at present based at Ilkley Manor House, to members of Addingham Civic Society.

Miss Cartledge, who has responsibility for the archaeological collections of Bradford's museums, is a graduate in ancient history and archaeology. She spent a considerable amount of time in excavation and survey work on Hadrian's Wall in Middleton-in-Teesdale and on the Caithness coast. Her particular interest was in the Anglo-Saxon/Viking period.

She began her talk, entitled "Our Archaeological Heritage" by referring to local amateur groups excavating a well known site above the Cow and Calf at Ilkley. Collecting material and information was a major part of the work of an archaeologist and recent local discoveries had included a neolithic axe, the Roman tombstone of a girl and a moor flint arrowhead, details of which were checked at Wakefield and the information passed back. A Bronze Age pot was sent to the Craven Museum at Skip-ton.

### COLLECTIONS

Security of the collections was mainly the concern of the curator at Ilkley. The Yorkshire Archaeological Society took a great interest in looking after local sites but there was a need for even greater public involvement in archaeological finds such as the recorded cup and ring marked stones on Rom-balds Moor near the Cow and Calf.

## SMOKE PROBLEM

25 Years Ago

Domestic smoke in Ilkley was a serious problem in 1963, whilst there was very little air pollution owing to smoke from industrial chimneys. Mr. J. H. Wilson, Chief Public Health Inspector, deplored the fact that domestic grates were grossly inefficient for the complete combustion of solid fuel. Mr. Wilson was addressing a meeting of Ilkley Soroptimist Club on "Smoke Abatement".

For the first time in Ilkley there was a change in the procedure in the observance of Remembrance Day. The usual church service and parade were dispensed with. Instead the ceremony was confined to an assembly at the Cenotaph in the Memorial Gardens, and a short service led by the Vicar of Ilkley, the Rev. E. C. Cook. The sounding of "The Reveille" preceded the laying of wreaths by the Council, Ilkley British Legion Men's and Women's sections, the W.V.S., Scouts and Guides, and one from the Australian Rugby League Touring team.

The big attraction at the Grove Cinema was "Mutiny on the Bounty" which starred Marlon Brando, Trevor Howard and Richard Harris in the leading roles.

There was plenty of ballroom dancing available in Ilkley with the 50-50 dance club in the Kings Hall, teenage dances on Thursdays, an annual ball of the Young Farmer's Club at 5/- per head including refreshments and an all star beat show with the Merseybeats and Barry Corbett and his Mustangs.

29.7.88  
**FLOODING** in Ilkley town centre on Saturday, following torrential rain resulted in Ilkley Fire Brigade being called to the rescue at several shops. Among those badly affected by the flood was the Grove Convalescent Hospital, Studio 68 on The Grove, and Clayton's Butchers in Brook Street. The Brigade was summoned to Gildersber Farm, Addingham Moorside, at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday evening where fire caused £6,000 damage to the boiler house. It was believed to have been started by an electrical fault in the central heating boiler.

29.7.88

CRISIS FOR COUNCIL

## CRISIS FOR COUNCIL

# COST CUTTING PLAN COULD HIT ILKLEY

29.7.86

Ilkley's Manor House and White Wells could close under a package of cost-cutting proposals to pull Bradford Council out of its financial crisis.

At Addingham the branch library could become a casualty. News of the plans have been met with strong local opposition. They were announced after a meeting of Bradford Council when Tories and the SLD agreed to go ahead with cost-cutting plans to axe £3m from the Council's budget and continue a freeze on all new building projects. The action was said to be vital to pull the council out of its financial crisis, prevent a thury

per cent rate rise next year, and safeguard the future of an EEC plan to plough £100 million in the district.

The Leisure Services Committee at Bradford was asked to slash £326,000 from budgets as its share of the cuts, but officers claimed there were no more savings to be made and the Council must start cutting.

They claimed the options which must be faced included

the shutting down of the Manor House and White Wells, Ilkley, closing seven branch libraries including that at Addingham, and increasing charges at the Kings Hall and Winter Gardens, Ilkley.

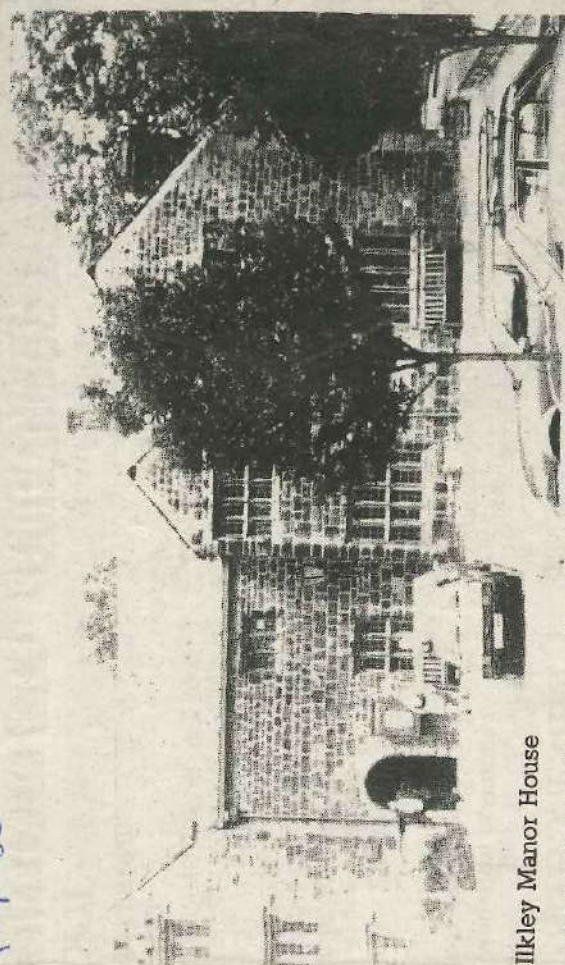
Ilkley people have been up in arms this week after hearing about the proposals.

Ilkley Parish Councilor Rowland Hill, told the "Gazette" he was confident Bradford Council knew the importance of preserv-



Fears for Addingham Library.

29.7.86



Ilkley Manor House could be hit by cuts.

Council, pointed out the proposals were only alleged recommendations by a number of Bradford Council officials.

At the Parish Council's monthly meeting, Cr. Jerome thought Bradford Council had got all their priorities wrong if they intended closing down such a valuable service in the village.

The Parish Council agreed to write to Bradford Council's Chief Executive expressing its concern over the future of the library.

Cr. F. Wynne asked how Bradford Council's present financial crisis might affect proposals for

a village car park. Cr. Wells said it would depend on how long the "freeze" lasted.

Residents in the village would have to be patient until land was made available for use as a car park, said Cr. Jerome. Until this happened all the Parish Council could do was encourage Bradford to make progress, he added.

There had been some good news at Bradford Council's meeting when a decision was taken to retain Farfield Hall, Addingham, Cr. Wells told the parish council.



**Angry Ilkley traders this week hit back at comments made by one of the town's Councillors that coach parties did not help Ilkley.**

They are at present considering a questionnaire posing a series of questions on parking problems for coaches in the town.

At last week's meeting of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. Molly Renton said "we have an enormous number of people coming into the town. I think the arrival of coaches is immaterial as many of the passengers do not get off and spend their money in the town. We are full up at the moment," she said.

"Does Ilkley really need coaches coming into the town if there is nowhere for them to park?" she asked.

Ilkley traders this week made it clear that Cr. Mrs. Renton did not regret their saying they welcomed coach parties to the town. They said Cr. Renton's comments had done a great deal of damage to the efforts of the traders who had worked hard over the past few months in trying to encourage more trade to the town. The Chamber agreed that Ilkley had parking problems but feels the problem would be overcome in the future, or were they trying to turn Ilkley into a quiet backwater for residents only? they asked.

One Ilkley trader said, "we do not mind how they come to Ilkley - they can come by canoe up the River Wharfe - just as long as they come."

**WELCOMED**

Meanwhile, the considered site for the coach park on Railway Road has been welcomed by the residents of the surrounding area, who will be affected if the site was used for the parking of coaches. Railway Road was said to be ideal for the coach park as it was wide, near the town centre and was little used.

Resident of Railway Road, Mrs. Mary Eames, said "I do not mind coaches parking here as long as the parking times have restrictions. The coaches have to park somewhere and the town needs the tourists especially with all these new shops being built."

Mr. Alan Terry, of Trafalgar Road, whose house overlooks Railway Road, said "coaches will bring trade to the town which we need with the new shops. Everybody else parks on Railway Road such as wagons and cars so why can't the coaches?"

Mr. Michael Clegg, proprietor of Clegg's Electrical Shop in Railway Road, said "coaches have to park somewhere in Ilkley and the town has to accommodate as many people as possible. As long as the road is not specifically reserved for coaches, which would be a waste of space. I do not mind." Another trader on Railway Road, Mr. Phil Sutcliffe, proprietor of Sutco walking gear, said "I'm

quite happy if coaches park here as it will provide me with more trade."

Some residents are opposed to the idea, including Mr. and Mrs. Peter Brady, of Trafalgar Road, who said, "the road is too narrow and will prove too dangerous if coaches park there. Not long ago a woman was killed on that road and with two streams of traffic together with the parked coaches it is going to be very dangerous."

**BUSY ROAD**

Another opponent to the parking scheme is Mr. Michael Cracknell, a resident of Railway Road who said, "it has been stated that Railway Road is an ideal site for the coach park. This is not true as a large amount of traffic from Spooner Industries and International Wool Secretariat travel up and down the road frequently. Double and single decker buses travel the road as well. To add to all that the fire service use Railway Road at obviously break neck speeds." Mr. Cracknell said a great increase in traffic density would be seen when the new car park opened in addition to the existing traffic occupying the road now.

"As for the road being wide, anyone who has travelled on it will know it is not wide enough. The problem will be that, when the coaches arrive, they will be on one side and my car will be on the other, and as a result a one-way street will be made", says Mr. Cracknell. "The people who make these kind of decision do not have any consideration for the people it will affect. I wonder how Cr. Hazel Davies would feel if coaches were to be accommodated on her road and she first heard the suggestion through the newspaper without any consultation with her ... much the same as I do I expect," said Mr. Cracknell.

**HOTEL TO BE SOLD**

Ilkley's Craiglands Hotel is being put up for sale by the catering giants, Trusthouse Forte, who are asking for £2 million for the three-star site. The 73-bedroomed hotel, in Cowpasture Road, has been put on the market as part of a £28 million sales package by Trusthouse who are asking for offers on another eight hotels, three of which are in Yorkshire. Trusthouse Forte bought the Craiglands in 1979 from the Joe Lyons Group. A spokesman for Trusthouse said the move was part of a rationalisation plan by the company.

**SPORTS DAY AT ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL'S FORMER PLAYING FIELD**



Scenes from the past takes a further look this week at the former Ilkley Grammar playing field in Valley Drive, Ben Rhyding, on which the International Wool Secretariat is now sited. For many years the field served as an area on which many local cricketers and rugby

footballers learned the rudiments of those games but by August, 1966, preliminary work had begun on preparing the site for the International Wool Secretariat. This picture illustrates an annual sports day of Ilkley Grammar School.

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# A VIEW OVER PENNINES FOR MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2/12/88

Manchester had a history before cotton made it a thriving and squalid city. The same is true of Salford where the squalor has been more obvious than the thriving. Neither is a happy digging ground for an archaeologists. But the diggers have to go where and when they can, so members of the Olicana Museum and Historical Society were told when Mr. P. Mayes, a friend of many senior members, spoke about the work of the Great Manchester Archaeology Unit that he now leads.

Greater Manchester comprises ten Metropolitan District Councils from Wigan to Ashton and Thameside (that is, Saddleworth and adjacent parts of the former West Riding) to the Cheshire boundary alongside the Mersey before that torpid, turgid, stream oozes into Merseyside. Other than in the uplands behind Bolton, Rochdale and Oldham, there is very little ground that has not been occupied for industrial or domestic use, or otherwise disturbed in the last two centuries. Two and a half million people live in the area now, but how did people spend their lives there two centuries and more ago and how numerous were they? Two centuries of heavy industrialisation have altered the landscape and obliterated many of the features that would have a record of past times to archaeologists.

### RELICS FOUND

Much of the land around Manchester was - and some still is - designated "Moss". Preliminary work on an orbital motorway now being constructed north west of the city involves removal of thousands of tons of peat before a foundation can be laid. Now again relics of Greater Manchester's earliest inhabitants are turned up, those who fished and hunted in the wetlands of the Mersey/Irwell basin. On some of the residual river terraces Iron age settlements have been found. All over the area there are indications that Roman authority was manifest in its time, but though they are widespread, the indications are usually slight and difficult of access. Three railways, two canals, several major warehouses, a factory of two, a trunk road and streets of small dwellings have not left much undisturbed of Manchester's Roman fort; a fort which had one of the largest civilian settlements in Britain outside its walls. Wigan seems to have had a Roman settlement of some substance but little now remains, although what may have been a villa is now being excavated on what was recently an industrial slum.

### NEW EVIDENCE

In a part of the Greater Manchester uplands, that to mature minds will be for ever Yorkshire, the Roman fort at Castleshaw is being re-excavated whenever weather permits. At about

900 feet it is one of the more exposed Roman sites in England. Re-excavation is producing interesting new evidence in spite of the chaos and confusion caused by an attack on the site ninety years ago by the Yorkshire dialect poet, writer and historian, Amon Wrigley.

Amon Wrigley may not have invented aerial archaeology but he was a pioneer in this field even before the Wright brothers had taken flight. In the manner of poets he found leisure to lie on grassy hillsides enjoying sunsets; and as the sun went down one day as he lay in vacant or pensive mood, low shadows were cast by indulations of the ground below and the lines of a long lost Roman fort was delineated. Amon and friends soon went to work with gusto throwing up soil until there were heaps where ditches used to be and tearing down walls that had survived eighteen centuries in order to find trinkets that could be displayed as indubitably Roman.

### BASIC SKILLS

What was especially fresh and interesting about Mr. Mayes' evening was the information he gave on the use made of young unemployed people under the Manpower Services Programme and other training schemes for the long-term unemployed. Working in association with the University of Manchester trainees are instructed in basic skills that could aid them in the search for jobs. Among the skills taught are the understanding and preparation of scale drawings, field work surveying and recording, scientific techniques employed in modern archaeology, such as pollen sampling and the use of computers and other date processors.

Other groups design and make costumes for historical enactments, others learn drama techniques, others prepare scenery and props and others the technical problems of sound and lighting effects and the skills of preparing video programmes for use in school and other educational situations. High levels of craftsmanship are required in the Unit's workshops and sixty per cent of the Unit's trainees get jobs, which is higher than the national average on Employment Training Schemes.



Ilkley's main Post Office, in Chantry Drive, from which services will be transferred to more central facilities next year.

## WHEN HOARDINGS STOOD IN NEW BROOK STREET

28/10/88



It is now over twenty six years ago since these poster hoardings stood in New Brook Street, Ilkley. They were removed when a scheme to improve the surroundings of Ilkley Parish Church was implemented by Ilkley Urban District Council. This scene looks across to New Brook Street from land now

occupied by the Castle Gate residential development. The hoardings were demolished in 1962 and replaced with flower beds which were to create one of the future attractions of Ilkley. One of the posters was for the Grove Cinema at Ilkley which during the week screened Laurence Harvey and Heather Sears in "Room at the Top" part of

which was filmed in Bradford. The roof of the building (left) standing in front of Ilkley Parish Church is that of one of the outbuildings of the Wheatheaf Hotel which stood on the corner of New Brook Street and Church Street. It was probably used as stables for many years before being demolished under the improvement scheme.

### Ilkley Grammar School's Sixth Form Centre was officially re-opened this week, showing off the first stage of the school's plans to refurbish the entire sixth form area.

The largest room at the centre, F5, has been refurbished at a cost of £2,000 and the provision of additional study facilities have been incorporated into the room together with new carpeting. The room has also been re-decorated.

The Foundation Governors of the school have made the refurbishment possible as they have made the improvement of the sixth former's facilities their priority.

The refurbishment was made possible by the Foundation Governors who decided that improving facilities for the school's growing sixth form should be a priority.

The Sixth Form Centre contains several rooms including the sixth form's Main Hall. This and other rooms are to be refurbished.

"This is only the first stage of bringing up all our facilities to the required standard for our growing sixth form, there is more to come," said the Headmaster, Mr. Peter Wood.

Chairman of the Foundation Governors, Mr. Michael Glover who assisted Mr. Wood and head of the Sixth Form Mr. Minto in re-opening the centre, said, "The governors have an obvious responsibility to the school and we now hope that local industry and commerce will join us in providing and improving facilities. These will not only benefit the school's students but will be an investment in their future which is also the future of the country - and we all have a stake in that."

This year the school's sixth form has been larger than ever due to the range of courses on offer for the pupils.

Picture shows some of the sixth form pupils hard at work in the refurbished F5 room (Picture no. 2200).

## "Spa Buildings must be saved"

21/10/88

Sir, - My attention has been drawn to the remarks made in last week's "Gazette" by an Ilkley Councillor regarding the ill fated Spa Buildings on The Grove, Ilkley.

It must be remembered thirty years ago all Victorian buildings were generally considered to be ugly. It is only recently that Victorian architecture has become recognised as beautiful in its own right. That a building should be demolished not rest on the colour of its brickwork.

The Spa Buildings on inspection, shows itself to have been originally built to a high specification - over ornamentation is usually recognised as a favourable feature of Victorian architecture and not a fault as stated by the Councillor. With respect I suggest that he should study the facts regarding Victorian architecture before making remarks like he did, for if not he will have the whole town down based on false premises like that.

Not everyone likes the Victorian style, but if one Victorian building be ugly then so must they all and by association making Ilkley an ugly town which we know this not to be so.

It is a recognised fact among anyone involved with high specification old buildings, particularly Victorian, that pulling down a building carefully and selling the architectural furniture, stone and brickwork (old coloured bricks are fetching a premium price at the moment) gives the developers a high capital figure to start construction of modern individual units which can be let for a fat profit for many years to come.

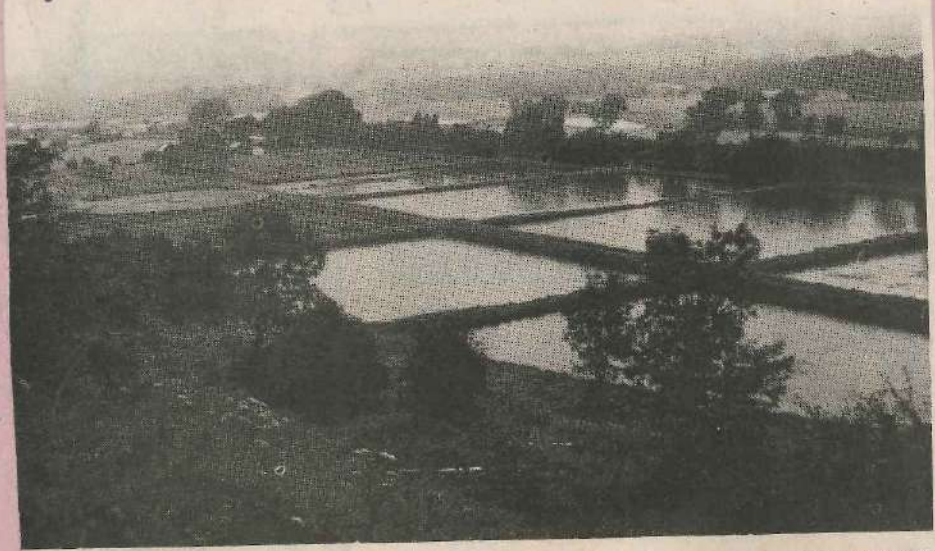
This is financially very satisfying for the developer but does tend to impoverish the heritage of the town concerned. I would like to ask the Councillor is he on the side of the town or on the the developer's side.

It must be recognised that the first stone removed from Spa Building will result in a national outcry from people who have the protection of the architectural heritage of Great Britain at the very centre of their souls.

HOWARD J. PARLEISON,  
President,  
Victorian Heritage Society  
89a Chiswick High Road,  
London.

## LAGOONS AT BEN RHYDDING

25/11/88



These lagoons, part of the Ben Rhydding Sewage Disposal Works, were removed during 1959 under a modernisation scheme.

They were situated at Escroft alongside the A65 trunk road and were a poor advertisement for Ilkley on the approach road to the town. The works were reduced to a quarter of their size and the land returned to agricultural use. This method of bacteriological treatment was replaced through a series of tanks and filters.

Picture shows the lagoons from the railway line.

7/10/88 The Road, has been Councillor had been l Cr. Council on thing in the tin cans all who use it said.

Cr. Mrs. Renton although there was provided for decor youth centre she helpers would tidy up make an improvement.

She went on to say been a similar situation building at Ilkley School, which pupils to tackle and clean up.

"It seems an ideal ity for the young people this up and make said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Councillors were youth centre did not leader at present as the in-charge, Phil Long moved on to another.

Cr. M. John McGhee youth centre had experienced many problems since ing had fallen down Youth Club had considered decorating it, but we Bradford Council not he said.

Cr. McGhee agreed on board the committee look into the centre cleared up on an evening.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said was being asked to take work required on the

### PROPE

21/10/88 75

Scatcliffe, Q for auction at Oliver, Appleton residence with occupation of 3,8 acreage of 3,8 much interest was withdrawn.

The annual connected with place in the school. There crowded audience followed. The welcomed his made a mention the course of stood at £400 commutation price of contribution. This lawyer's clerk improve this s.

Attractions included drawings by Mr. gave "The Neger", Wednesday entertainment by the week by gems as "Miss Cat" and "Ree

7/10/88 The state of Ilkley Youth Centre, in Regent Road, has been described as an "eyesore" by an Ilkley Councillor who said it was "disgraceful" the building had been left to deteriorate.

Cr. Mrs. Mollie Renton told Ilkley Parish Council on Monday "everybody who uses the hall first thing in the morning finds cigarette ends, bottles and tin cans all over the place. It would not hurt the people who use it the previous evening to leave it tidy," she said.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said although there was no money provided for decorating the youth centre she felt if six helpers would tidy up, it would make an improvement.

She went on to say there had been a similar situation over a building at Ilkley Grammar School, which pupils decided to tackle and clean up.

"It seems an ideal opportunity for the young people to take this up and make it better," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Councillors were told the youth centre did not employ a leader at present as the leader-in-charge, Phil Longworth had moved on to another job.

Cr. M. John McGhee said the youth centre had experienced many problems since the ceiling had fallen down. The Youth Club had considered re-decorating it, but were told by Bradford Council not to do so," he said.

Cr. McGhee agreed to take on board the complaints and look into the centre being cleared up on an evening.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said no-one was being asked to take on the work required on the ceilings,

but thought it would be possible for someone to paint the walls.

Cr. Howard Scaife said the young people using the centre had to be educated about keeping the place clean and tidy.

"I have in the past raised funds to re-decorate the club and I know many members of the club have raised money towards the re-decoration," he said.

"We have to understand that we are responsible for our children and the youth club must also take responsibility. We have to educate them as to how we want them to go on. We should get the message across and the senior residents in Ilkley should set an example," said Cr. Scaife.

Chairman of the Council, Cr. Mrs. Iris Carney, said "the children of today do not seem to have the pride that we were taught to have when we were young."

**PLANS** to introduce a paying system at Ilkley's public toilets are being investigated by Ilkley Parish Council.

Councillors felt both the toilets in the central car park and those near the Winter Gardens were in a bad state and considered a payment system would enable the toilets to be kept clean and tidy.

**ILKLEY'S** Grove Convalescent Hospital, which was threatened with closure, has been given a two year reprieve, Cr. Mrs. Patsy Clover told Ilkley Parish Councillors on Monday night.

## SEARCH FOR ROMAN RUINS IN ILKLEY

In an effort to re-write the local history books, schoolboy divers are taking the plunge to find evidence of a Roman bridge across the River Wharfe at Ilkley.

They have begun searching the river close to the Riverside Hotel, where they have found sixty stone blocks, some as large as four feet.

Backed by the Ordnance Survey Map, historians have until now thought the main Roman road to Aldborough in Wensleydale crossed the Wharfe by a ford at the weir near the New Bridge.

But now an ex-Bradford Grammar School teacher, Mr. Donald Haigh and members of the school's archaeology society claim the ford is medieval.

They claim that week-end boaters could be rowing over the remains of a Roman bridge—only 100 metres downstream from the seventeenth century Old Bridge.

A ten-strong group, who have spent nearly a year of their spare time on the search, have been helped by three divers from the naval section of the school's Cadet Corps led by teacher Alan Wilson. They have been plotting

and examining stones, embedded in mud and gravel on the bed of the four and a half feet deep river.

Mr. Haigh claims that both upstream and downstream the number of stones found fell off rapidly.

"They don't look as though they are the remains of medieval bridges which have collapsed," he said.

Now Mr. Haigh is hoping the group can raise some of the lighter stones to check the tell-tale slot marks which the Roman builders used to hoist up their masonry.

Other evidence is a slight embankment on the north side of the river. An electrical survey by Bradford University's School of Archaeological Science backs up the hints that a route ran down to the river at the vital point.

## PROPERTY AUCTIONED

21/10/88 75 Years Ago

Scatcliffe, Queen's Road, Ilkley, was offered for auction at the Crescent Hotel by Messrs. Oliver, Appleton and Kitchen. It was a freehold residence with stables and grounds in the occupation of Mr. Charles Hardy with an acreage of 3,875 square yards. There was not much interest or competition and the property was withdrawn at £1,700.

The annual harvest tea and entertainment connected with Ilkley Parish Church in 1913 took place in the Church Institute and the Infant's school. There was a large company for tea and a crowded audience for the entertainment which followed. The new Vicar, the Rev. W. F. James welcomed his parishioners. Mr. Humphries J.P. made a mention of the value of the living during the course of the evening, which had previously stood at £400 per annum, but owing to the commutation of the tithes and the decrease in the price of corn had dwindled to a miserable pittance. This was less than the salary of a lawyer's clerk and he asked for subscriptions to improve this state of affairs.

Attractions for the week at the Kings Hall included drama on Monday and Tuesday evenings by Mr. Esme Percy's Company which gave "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith" and "Ginger", Wednesday evening had a variety entertainment by "The March Hares" followed later in the week by picture shows which included such gems as "Misplaced Trust", "Love me Love my Cat" and "Redmond's Loyalty."

## ONLY THE STYLES HAVE CHANGED



Scenes from the Past this week looks back to 1945 when this picture of the railway bridge appeared in the "Gazette" under the heading "A Road Trap at Ben Rhydding".

The former Ilkley Urban District Council was calling the attention of the County Council

to the "dangerous point" where the bridge crossed Wheatley Lane. Councillors felt concerned about the number of roads turning off near the bridge and feared for the safety of the scores of children who passed underneath it when walking to and from school each day. They

expressed concern for the time when post-war traffic filled the road and said it would become a point of "gravest danger".

The bridge still stands today carrying the Wharfedale Railway through from Leeds and Bradford to Ilkley. Only the styles have changed since this picture was taken.

# DEMOLITION OF CINEMA

23/12/88



It is almost twenty years since Ilkley lost its last cinema when the Essoldo building made way for a new Hillards supermarket, which opened in 1970.

The cinema known for many years as "The New Cinema" was built in the 1920's and for the opening night in 1928 the "house" was full to see "7th Heaven". Popular prices of seats at that time ranged from six pence to two shillings.

The building could accommodate 1,076 in the cinema itself and included a cafe and bal-

room with magpie wood flooring suitable for dancing for more than 100 couples.

It was recalled on the opening night that the plot of land on which the cinema stood had once been a bowling green, with unsightly buildings where the main entrance to the cinema stood.

The film "7th Heaven" was shown on the first three days of the opening week followed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday by "The Battles of the Coro-

nel and Falkland Island the great British naval triumph. Each picture was supported by the Empire New Bulletin, the British news film and full supporting programme.

Five months after the opening a new organ was installed and for the first night a high quality performance was given by Mr. Harry Pickard who had been engaged as resident organist. The opening marked the completion of the new Cinema scheme.

29.4.88  
100 Years Ago

Children present at the annual meeting of the Ilkley and Wharfedale Orphanage bore witness as to its good work. An opportunity had occurred to obtain a building more fitted for their needs which would accommodate 40 children. Mr. Conyers told all present that the cost of keeping a child per year was £10. The new building was to be known as St. Margaret's Home and was to be purchased from Miss Farthing for £1,300, almost half of this having already been secured. Dr. Scott said the health of the children had been very good, and he did not know how they could have coped if infectious disease had broken out in their existing cramped surroundings.

# WHEN ILKLEY HAD A FOUNTAIN

30/12/88



This picture taken at the top of Brook Street, Ilkley, goes back to a time when the town had a fountain at the bottom of Mill Ghyll and when a Church stood in Wells Road.

For over one hundred years Ilkley had a fountain at the top of Brook Street, until vandals destroyed what was left as a fountain in the early 1960's.

The fountain, which graced the centre of Ilkley for many years until 1959 when it was demolished, was adorned with mermaids, cupids, serpents, and horses and produced a jet, four to five feet high. Water issued 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 replaced by a much simpler form of fountain.

It is over twenty years since the Wells Road Methodist Church (pictured top left) was demolished. The site is now occupied by a block of flats known as Guardian Court.

The memorial stone of the church was laid by Mr. Edward Holden, of Bradford, one of the Trustees on 29 August 1868. In addition to the Chapel, which

could seat 650, the building comprised a schoolroom and two rooms for the chapel keeper in the basement.

The Church Hall, (now converted to flats) opposite, was used as a church for a number of years until Christchurch came into being in December 1981, when history was made in that two denominations came together to form one church.

The church on The Grove, formerly the Ilkley Congregational Church, was completely refurbished at a cost of £250,000 and was re-opened towards the end of 1985 as Christchurch.

22.4.88  
100 Years Ago

At the annual meeting of the Primrose League held in the Victoria Hall, Ilkley, Mr. T. H. Bracken, ruling councillor occupied the chair. Mrs. Bracken was elected as Dame President, and a resolution was proposed by Colonel Armitage that "This meeting of the Habitation of the Primrose League desires to express its entire confidence in Her Majesty's Present Government". All members present joined in singing heartily the National Anthem at the close of the meeting.

Mr. F. W. Fison who was soon to leave Ilkley handed over to Mr. Hainsworth, clerk to Ilkley Local Board his collection of Roman pottery, flint implements etc., found in and around Ilkley and plans of Saxon crosses standing in the Parish Churchyard to be held in trust for the proposed Ilkley Museum.

In digging the foundation for a villa residence on the west side and adjacent to Mr. T. Horsman's property Rose Mount Nursery, the nether stone of a crudely formed, corn grinding hand mill composed of local sandstone grit was discovered.

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## SPA BUILDINGS TO BE DEMOLISHED

8.4.88

Ilkley's historic Spa Buildings are to be demolished, but no-one yet knows what will replace them.

Councillors at Bradford have approved the demolition, but

put off a decision on a shops and flats complex on the site so that officers could have further talks with the developers.

Members of Bradford Council's planning sub-committee said the replacement scheme was too big for the Grove area of the town.

Conservationists, led by the Victorian Society, were opposed to the demolition because they claimed too many such buildings had been lost over the years.

The Spa, said the Society, was a grandly scaled and boldly detailed structure and could be restored to its former glory.

But Coun. Mrs. Barbara Cussons (Con) said the buildings were in such a state that most people agreed they should come down.

Coun. Clem Richardson (Lab) said the proposed replacement, involving shops, 18 flats and basement car parking, would be a far bulkier building than what was there already.

Coun. Colin Charlesworth (Con) said the Spa Buildings were a particularly poor example of Victorian architecture but the proposed scheme was far too big for what was an attractive street scene.

"Rather than simply refuse permission for it we should be giving guidance on what we would like to see there," he added.

3.6.88

### 100 Years Ago

The completion of a winding footpath up Heber's Ghyll gave the public access to one of the loveliest bits of scenery in Ilkley. The path crossed the Ghyll at various points over rustic bridges and was a gift to the public from the Lord of the Manor, Mr. Middleton.

The bathing Pavilion Company started operations for the season in the pavilion by the riverside which was open to bathers from 1 June. During the 1988 season the Pavilion Company was for the first time in competition with the new swimming baths in the Victoria Hall.

A complete house furnishers offered bedroom suites in satin walnut or American ash comprising wardrobe, dressing table, washstand, pedestal, towel rail and three chairs at 8 guineas. Dining room suites from 9 guineas to 18 guineas. Bedstands ranged in price from 7/11. A spring mattress was 17s. 6d.

Addingham Liberal Club proposed to take over the premises known as the Oddfellows Hall and after alterations proposed to occupy their new club rooms early in July 1888.

Mr. P. Dalton, surgeon-dentist, offered painless operations by means of Nitrous Oxide Gas, and to attend parties at their own residence if required.



## LOCAL AUTHOR AND SOCIALIST

22.1.88

An internationally respected scholar and well known author, lecturer and socialist, Mr. Fred Singleton, who lived in Ilkley for 23 years, has died at Ardenlea, Ilkley.

Born in Hull in 1926, Mr. Singleton lived all his life in Yorkshire. He was the second son of an accountant's clerk and a farmer's daughter.

During the early years of the Second World War he was evacuated to Thorne in the East Riding and then joined the Royal Navy, and served on the minesweeper HMS Aurora in the Mediterranean. On leaving the Navy he studied geography at Leeds University during which time he travelled to Finland and there developed an interest in Finnish life and people which was to continue throughout his life.

During the last weeks of his life he completed writing a history of Finland which will be published later this year. Whilst in the Navy he came to know the country and people of Yugoslavia. This became his major life's work. He established, at Bradford University, the country's only post-graduate School of Yugoslav Studies and long before his retirement as Reader, was known in his field as "Mr. Yugoslavia".

Following his retirement Mr. Singleton maintained an active involvement with Bradford University continuing to write many articles and to publish several books on the economy history and politics of Finland and Yugoslavia. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Bradford University in 1987 in recognition of his contributions to academic learning and of the encouragement he gave to students and the people of Bradford.

Another of his wide range of interests was in local history. He wrote "The Industrial Revolution in Yorkshire", "History of Yorkshire" (with W. E. Tate, revised in 1986 with Stuart Rawnsley), taught many evening classes on local history and helped to initiate the recording of oral history in Bradford. His contribution to adult education in Yorkshire began during the days when he taught at Catterick Camp for the Joint Services Committee and Leeds University Extra Mural Department and continued when he became tutor-organiser for the Workers' Educational Association in the West Riding in 1953.

More recently he ran weekend courses and evening classes in the Dales and in Ilkley and Bradford. He was also a co-opted member on the Education Committee of Bradford City Council and had been a Labour Party nominated Governor of Ilkley College, and had taught geography at Carlton Grammar School in Bradford and at Ilkley Grammar School.

Mr Singleton will also be remembered for his activity in the Labour Party and his commitment since schooldays to internationalism, peace, socialism and his opposition to racism and fascism. He stood for the Labour Party in Harrogate, as a candidate in the 1959 election and again in the first election for the European Parliament as Labour candidate for North Yorkshire. He supported the peace movement in East and West Europe, more locally in Ilkley and Grassington. His political motivation was to increase international understanding between the people of East and West Europe and to contribute to the possibility of future world peace.

Mr. Singleton may be remembered by those who knew him for his love of life and his sense of fun. He greatly enjoyed being a member of a quiz team for the Jacobs Well pub in Bradford and his appearances on "Mastermind" and on the radio programme "Brain of Britain".

He enjoyed walking in the Julian Alps in Yugoslavia, and in the Yorkshire Dales and was concerned with the protection of the natural environment for the enjoyment of all.

He leaves a widow, Elizabeth, four children and two grandchildren.

8.4.88

## PLAN FOR TWO-STOREY SHOP UNITS WINS COUNCIL'S APPROVAL

8.4.88

Plans for a two-storey shop unit in the Rose and Crown Hotel yard at Ilkley, have been approved by Bradford Council's Planning department.

The idea is for the two storey shop unit to complete a 'square of shops' around Ilkley's central car park. The plans involve the demolition of two garages in the Hotel yard and the construction of a stone shop front facing onto the central car park.

A spokesman for Dacre, Son and Hartley, Ilkley, acting as agents for the applicants, Lawgate Property Limited, said the shop unit would comprise a ground floor with storage above. He expected work to begin 'fairly quickly'.

4.3.88

## Otley gravel site discoveries



Dr. Barry Matthews examines part of a deer antler which he took from the possible site of a Neolithic settlement on a sand and gravel site near the banks of the Wharfe at Otley. Preliminary digging by Dr. Matthews has also revealed what could be the remains of a prehistoric wooden walkway.

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31-3-88

## BRADFORD WAS ONE OF THE WONDERS OF THE AGE

Nineteenth century Bradford was one of the wonders of the age, said Tony Jowitt, of Leeds University, when addressing the Olicana Museum and Historical Society on 'Religion in Victorian Bradford'.

But it was not religious zeal that made it pre-eminent but industrial growth on a scale never before seen from a place of verdant fields and limpid trout streams in 1804. Bradford became the worsted capital of the world in the astonishingly short space of about thirty years.

Bradford's growth from 1800 to 1850 was greater than that of Manchester or Oldham, the more frequently quoted examples of economic and social changes consequent on textile developments. Change from village to worsted metropolis may have been an economic miracle but for the people affected the changes were catastrophic. They involved changes from domestic craft work to machine tending in factories, from village community to factory (virtually prison) discipline among strangers, from an economy in which adult men had pride of skill to one which there was an insatiable demand for the elementary dexterity of girls aged from 7 to 17. Housing always lagged behind demand and thousands lived in cellared squalor. The air was full of sulphurous fumes and the streams carried blotches of wool fat said the multi-coloured effluents of dye-houses. Sewage arrangements were non-existent and the Bradford Beck received all; but the Beck had been dammed at the bottom of the town to provide a feeder for the canal and Bradford became a cesspit in which the average age of death was 18½. The mortality of the townsfolk has been compared with that of the wild west with only six constables to control a warren in which excesses of violence, debauchery and drunkenness rampaged. The old order changed and all things became new, and as a German visitor observed, the populace lived with the Devil Incarnate.

What place had religion among the dark Satanic mills, the open sewers, and the overcrowded cellars? In the eight century and in the beginning of the nineteenth Bradford parish extended to the Lancashire boundary. It was a huge area, over which a vicar and a few curates could not provide adequate pastoral oversight even if they were minded to. There was a wide religious void into which the Wesleyan stepped and the hills above Bradford, Halifax, and Huddersfield formed a Methodist heartland. As the factory doors opened Methodism came down from the hills into Bradford. At the beginning of the nineteenth century the leaders of the established church in Bradford were in no way hostile to the Methodists, in the manner in which John Wesley had led

his early followers, attended the parish church for Holy Communion. But economical accommodation broke down after the erection in 1811 of a Methodist Chapel in which the sacrament was administered. Methodism in its several groupings was soon the preferred choice for such of the new inhabitants of Bradford, as retained any religious affections. After Methodists, Congregations came next in strength and then Baptists, but as the century moved on many sects proliferated, some exhibiting remarkable aberrations. However, through the nineteenth century, as in the twentieth, the great mass of people did not go to church.

Bradford was the third most Non-conformist town in the country and between 1850 and 1880 there was a great expansion of church building. This activity was especially strong in inner-town areas just when people were moving out to the suburbs. The growth of the suburbs was the kiss of death to Non-conformity in the town. As others moved to the suburbs, Irish immigrants moved in to low-paid jobs and inferior accommodations and the one point of inner-town growth towards the end of the century was within the Roman Catholic Church. For more than a century each influx of immigrants - with one exception - has been predominantly Roman Catholic and Roman Catholic attendances have remained strong through a long period of 'appalling' (Tony Jowitt's term) central Bradford church attendances.

In concluding he paid tribute to the working class people who attended and sustained the little chapels. These were the real heroes, he said - and 85 per cent were women.

CONTRIBUTED

## MUSEUM SOCIETY SEE OLD PICTURES OF BRADFORD WATERWORKS

29.1.88  
The Olicana Museum and Historical Society goes from strength to strength and its most recent meeting filled Church House with an audience that showed unmistakable pleasure at a showing of slides of old (mainly) photographs of the Bradford Waterworks of Upper Nidderdale, presented by Mr Dayne Swires, of Summerbridge, with an enthusiasm that was infectious.

Mr. Swires' collection of old photographs is quite extraordinary. As a boy he was befriended by a man who worked on a construction site of the Upper Nidderdale reservoirs and who over many years collected old photographs - some were now more than 100 years old - as well as taking his own pictures. These he bequeathed to Mr. Swires who inherited enthusiasm as well as old prints. In addition to increasing the collection by his own efforts, Mr. Swires has re-photographed many to make possible the kind of slide show that delighted his likely audience.

The rapid growth of Bradford in the nineteenth century resulted in a situation where the supply of water would not keep pace with demand and when - by the 1880's - construction of local reservoirs had failed to cope with requirements, sites in the Dales were surveyed resulting in the acquisition of rights in the upper reaches of the Nidd.

Of the series of reservoirs constructed Gouthwaite, extending for two miles between Wath and Ramsgill, is probably the best known. Yet this huge lake, created by Bradford, was never intended to supply Bradford for, as Mr. Swires explained, all the way down the Nidd Valley there were water mills giving pumping engines de-watering lead mines, and the machinery of smelt mines, for corn milling, for textile production and for other purposes and before Bradford could catch water for its own uses a compensation reservoir had to be operative to ensure that a regular flow of water passed down the valley. Gouthwaite was completed in 1901. Bradford's need of water was by then desperate and the small Haydon Carr Reservoir was put into operation quickly as possible and work on the embankment for Angram began. Angram was completed about 1911 but the 1914-18 war delayed the start on Scar House and work did not begin there until 1921. When all the construction equipment had been dismantled and the village, built for the workforce - including a church, school and cinema - had been removed in 1937 or thereabouts, what is said to be the largest masonry dam in Europe was in position to hold back more than two billion gallons of water.

Angram and Scar House are in wild country close under Great Wharfedale and in the initial stages construction materials were taken by horse and cart over terrible tracks, Mr. Swires said, but a railway line was constructed: first a light railway in three foot gauge and later standard gauge track so that wagons could be hauled up the valley from the

main line at Pateley Bridge without transloading. After conversion to standard gauge fair paying passengers could use the line and the Nidd Valley Light Railway was the first municipally-owned railway passenger service in the country. In the 1920's the fare from Pateley Bridge to Wath was 2½d, the equivalent of one pence in present coinage. Many a railway enthusiast would give his best camera to have taken some of the shots Mr. Swires showed of N.Y.L.R. locomotives but the prize-winner of the set was a train of a half a dozen cement vans double-headed and double-banked with the four locomotives belching smoke and steam as they pulled up a steep incline. To see the construction methods and equipment of 50-100 years ago was to marvel. The audience marvelled too as Mr. Swires described the achievement of the tunnel-diggers for the pipe-line to Bradford who started from three positions - Nidderdale, Wharfedale and a shaft driven vertically down from the surface of Greenhow Hill - and who met up on the correct line of tunnel. A familiar castellated structure between the Strid and Bardon Bridge carried Bradford's major water supply across the Wharfe.

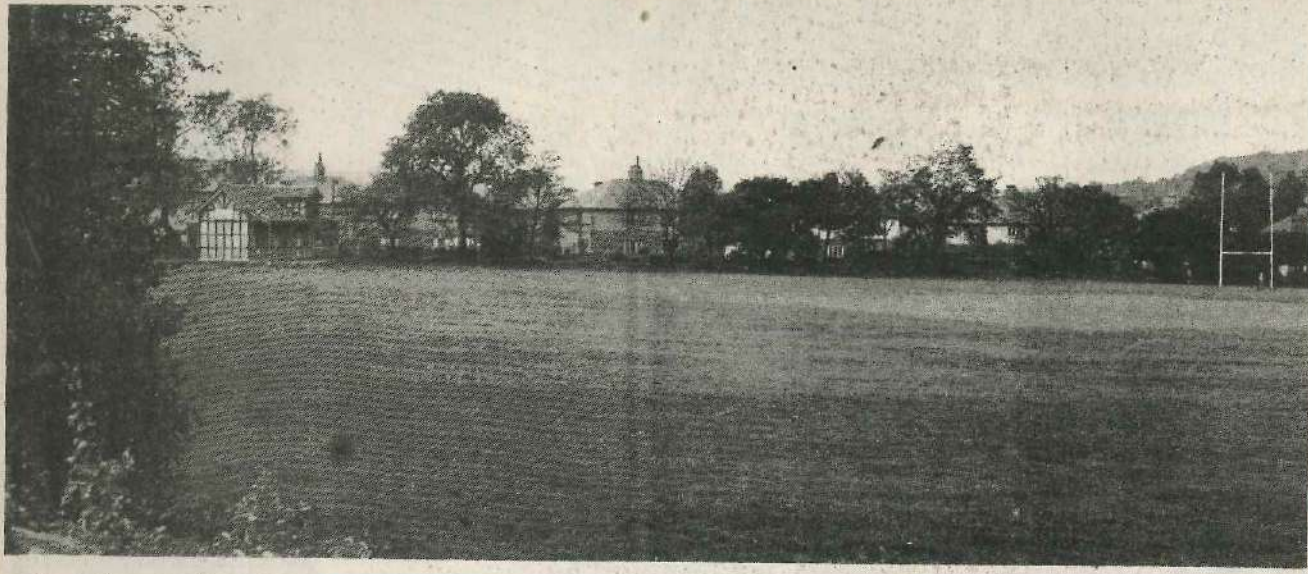
The audience showed enthusiasm also for the historical society's plans for summer visits which were announced at the meeting. They include a circuit of Pentle Witches activity sites, a canal trip and a day's outing to a fresh and exciting excavation being carried out alongside Hadrian's Wall. In addition there will be another autumn expedition to historic sites in Germany.

The Society's next lecture meeting will be held at Church House on 18 February when excavations in Greece will be described. Meanwhile, the Society's latest publication "Roman Ilkley" is selling well. This very readable and authoritative book is available from Ilkley bookshops.

Contributed.

29.4.88

# GRAMMAR SCHOOL'S FORMER SPORTS FIELD



Scenes from the Past takes a look at another view of the former sports field in Valley Drive, Ben Rhydding, which was used by Ilkley Grammar School and on which site today stands the International Wool Secretariat.

For many years the field served as an area on which many local cricketers and rugby footballers learned the rudiments of those games but by August, 1966 preliminary work had begun on preparing the site for the International Wool Secretariat.

In 1905 a pavilion was opened at the south-west corner of the field (left of picture) and this survived until November, 1963.

The International Wool Secretariat was completed and opened in 1968.

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## LOOKING AFTER ILKLEY'S 8.1.88 RAILWAY IN 1924

At a time when the Ilkley Railway Station site is undergoing extensive changes in a £3m redevelopment scheme Scenes from the Past turns to the year 1924 when a staff of forty-two was employed by the railway companies prior to nationalisation.

Of those thirty-eight are included in this picture taken one Sunday morning.

They are, back row (left to right): E. Wiseman (goods clerk), W. Clay (goods shunter), F. Roberts (porter guard), G. R. Harrison (porter), T. Thornton (passenger shunter), T. Britton (parcels porter), H. Porter (signalman), T. Harrison (signalman), J. Heavisides (porter signalman).

Back middle row: G. Cunnington (platelayer), A. Harland (porter guard), R. Aldridge (guard), A. Atkinson (North Eastern guard), C. Hobbs (guard), G. Warriner (guard), W. Denton (NE guard), A. Colbert (guard), T. Sherwood (guard), G. Matthews (shunter), A. Carr (guard), W. Thorndyke ( ganger).

Front middle row: H. Butcher (goods clerk), A. Ashby (clerk), E. Daniels (clerk), H. Dolby (chief clerk), G. Bishop (goods foreman), T. Wakefield (station master), S. Parkin (station foreman), J. Wilkinson (station foreman), W. Hall (chief goods clerk), F. Smith (clerk).

Front row: J. Hoverin (platelayer), T. Lightbody (platelayer), J. Botterill (porter), F. Bellerby (porter), W. Mortimer (parcels porter), H. Bullman (porter), J. Lightbody (platelayer).

Missing from the photograph is a guard, goods checker, goods porter and weigh boy.

In those days a fast residential train to Bradford with eight coaches, three of which were first class left Ilkley at 8.23 a.m., stopping at Menston and Guiseley. It was the custom of the day for regular first class passengers to occupy the same seat. The first class carriages which made up a five set coach unit were uncoupled from its tank engine and left in a siding for the return of its Ilkley residents at 5.24 p.m.

During the day and each day it was dusted and cleaned. Other fast trains of the day from Ilkley included the 8.55 a.m. to Leeds which only stopped at Ben Rhydding. This station was again the only stop for the 9.09 a.m. fast train to Bradford.

North Eastern coaches had to be lighted from the roof whilst the Midland coaches could be switched on from the end as each had a pilot light.

Sunny Bank Holidays brought thousands of visitors to Ilkley and these mainly came by rail. On one occasion so busy was Ilkley Railway Station that No. 4 Platform and subway was packed with passengers. Mr. T. Wakefield, station master at that time, asked the driver of one train, Mr. H. Oliver, of Ilkley, if he would take twelve coaches to Bradford instead of eight.

Mr. Oliver said he would do so but with only a No. 1 tank engine to haul the train and he would have to have an uninterrupted run from Burley to Guiseley. If the train was stopped it would be unable to re-start on the incline. An assurance was given of an uninterrupted run and it left with over 1,000 passengers leaving as many waiting for the next train. So busy was Ilkley that eight extra goods guards were sent to Ilkley at holiday times to assist the local staff.

The fare to Bradford in those days was a 1s. single and to the coast it cost 2s. 6d. return to Morecambe.

Ilkley had its own locomotive shed with a turntable and a total of eleven engines.

Another significant date in the history of Ilkley Railway Station was the closure of the booking office in 1968 when pay trains were introduced.

## ALL CHANGE AT ILKLEY 8-4-88 RAILWAY STATION

Not since Ilkley Railway Station opened in 1865 has there been so much building activity in that area as there is today as a £3.6m redevelopment scheme begins to take shape.

With it has come many changes particularly on Platforms 3 and 4 which served trains to and from Skipton and beyond before being axed by the Beeching plans of the 1960s. Whilst the rails were removed sometime ago the track bed (right of picture) has remained until recently when under the new development plans it was levelled with the platforms to provide a car parking area.

One of the features of the development will be a new bus terminus which will operate on a one-way system with buses entering from the east side in Station Road and leaving from the west.

British Rail staff are to be accommodated in a new building on Platform 1 which is expected to be completed soon. The redevelopment of the station area has meant the demolition of part

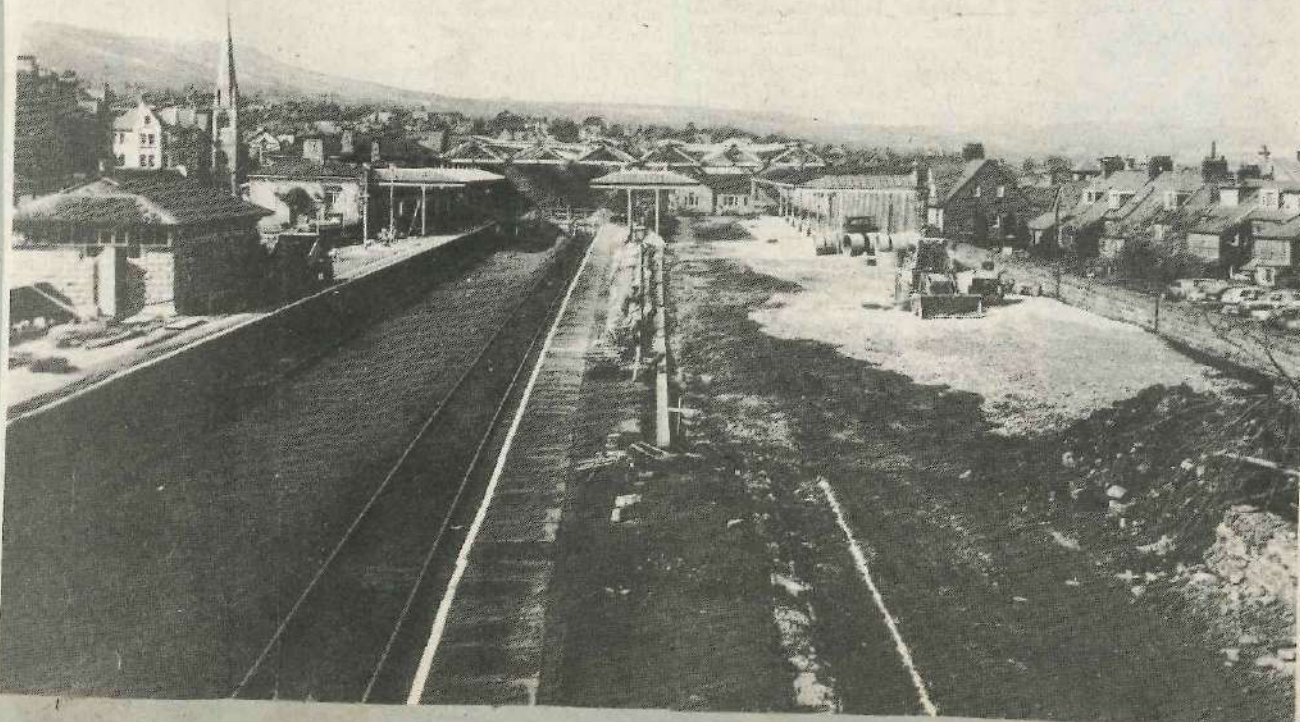
of the railway bridge abutment in Brook Street and later premises occupied by Greenwoods, the Upper Crust Sandwich shop, Ellis Hair Design, the Flower Box and the Wool Box. The premises occupied by Pickfords Travel—who will move into one of the new shop units—is to be demolished but Woolworth's existing premises will be retained.

The new development—prepared by the House of Orange Developments Ltd. of Harrogate—will include eight new shop units fronting onto Brook Street and Station Road. The station building will be refurbished to provide three additional shops and the glazed train shed area will be refurbished to provide a retail store. There will also be a new retail unit between the station and Tesco's Supermarket in Springs Lane. First floor offices and new car parking

facilities are to be provided.

Car parking will be a priority with 100 new spaces for shoppers

and separately 50 spaces for passengers using the improved rail travel and bus interchange.



# ARCHAEOLOGIST IN GREECE VISITS MUSEUM SOCIETY

Some experts are as dull as ditch water when called upon to talk about their subject while others are so clear and lively as to leave an audience with the Oliver Twist syndrome — ready for more.

The Okeana Museum and Historical Society was quite fortunate to have one of the latter kind to speak at its last meeting when Dr J L Bintliff of the Department of Archaeological Sciences of Bradford University described some of the work he has been involved with over the last ten years as leader of joint Bradford and Cambridge investigating teams in Greece.

Dr Bintliff made a cryptic allusion to his advertised title changing 'Excavating in Greece to 'Figures in a Classical Landscape'. The significance of the change became apparent as Dr Bintliff explained the methods of teams have been using excavating in the well-known manner has not been central to his work but evidence to be obtained from observing material on the ground and aspects of landscape is utilised in a highly scientific way. Where the methods that Dr Bintliff had been using can be employed they are cheaper than conventional excavation they create little site disturbance damage to crops or buildings is minimal and if prime features are discovered meriting excavation in depth these features do not suffer interference prior to investigation by adequately equipped teams.

## DECIMATED

There are parts of Greece and the Middle East where over the centuries climatic changes over cropping famine or plague have decimated populations, or armies have ravaged destroying farms and homesteads, palaces and temples, towns and cities, to leave areas devastated for periods. Some areas have remained desolate others have been partially built upon others have by now been under the plough or the cultivators of vines or olives for decades. Yet so abundant in the debris of former times that much remains on or near the surface and may be examined without digging.

The method employed by Dr Bintliff and his colleagues is, in essence, similar to that of police searching a patch of open ground for clues to some incident under investigation in which people walking in line abreast scan a predetermined area in Greece, field surveys of this nature can be made available for recording and tabulation fragments of artefacts representative of many cultures with a spread of thousands of years. By noting proportions of dateable finds per unit of area, a model can be constructed indicative of former land occupation and utilisation. Back up this statistical material with the results of scientific instrumentation techniques, such as core sampling, soil trace ele-

ments and was regarded jealously by Athens. I hesitated was a powerful city state of centuries before a thousand of its citizens stood beside the Spartans at Thermopylae but in recent years no-one has known where it was until Dr Bintliff's methodical survey of the Boeotian landscape indicated its most likely location.

## IMPRESSIVE

Although others have cited the thriving and declining of many cultures over a wider spectrum, Dr Bintliff's telling of repeated periods of flourishing cities and sluggish landscapes within the narrow borders of his area of work was impressive. Leaving behind the early Bronze and Geometric Ages and the Dark Ages that followed the Archaic phase and Persian wars in which Boeotia was a battleground and the Classical era with Boeotia being fought over again during the Peloponnesian War, Dr Bintliff said that much of Greece was in a sorry state during the following period of Roman domination. Towns and villages were in decay and there seems to have been massive erosion of landscape about this time with a lot of soil washed away perhaps because of over-use of land. Then in the late Roman period Boeotia began to flourish again only to descend from the mid-seventh century into another Dark Age from which it rose once more to prosperity in the Byzantine times from the ninth century to the disaster of the Crusades.

Whatever stories apologetics may produce to give the Crusades a favourable gloss there is little question that for Greece they were a disaster. Bribed by the Venetians in 1204 or thereabouts to take over Greece from the Christian Byzantines the Crusaders ruled Boeotia with the same measure of self-centred ineptitude that governed much of their activities. Frankish towers and castles with subordinate villages beneath them provided a new landscape and a fresh depressed era. Relief came with the Turkish overthrow of Frankish domination and under the Ottomans Greece flourished again. So greatly had the Franks neglected Boeotia that it had to be re-populated and people were brought in from Albania. Later Turkish rule was less commendable and provided yet another trough in Dr Bintliff's pattern of repetitive rise and fall of societies.

## FLASHBACK TO 1868

15.4.88

# ILKLEY CHANGES FROM A VILLAGE TO A 'WATERING PLACE'

One hundred and twenty years ago this month newspapers of the day were reporting that more building was going on in Ilkley than had taken place there for years.

Ilkley was changing rapidly from being a 'village' into an 'attractive watering place' and a rival to Harrogate.

The reason for this rapid expansion had been the death of the head of the Middleton family which had owned much of the land on which Ilkley stood. In Middleton's time no great expansion of the township was possible as the land had been entailed and had to pass to his heir intact. His heir had managed to get the entail broken which enabled a large amount of land to come on to the market.

It was claimed by builders that within a few years Ilkley would have doubled in size.

The rapid expansion of Ilkley led to the building of new places of worship. In 1868 there were the same number of places of worship as there had been in 1828 the Parish Church and a small Wesleyan Church. Quakers met at Addingham where there was an old meeting house.

Because a number of influential Congregationalists had settled in Ilkley the West Riding Congregational Union had decided to get a Congregational Church established there. Their first attempt to obtain a suitable site failed.

With Middleton's death a new and better site was found only two minutes walk from the station. The Congregationalists, then launching a building fund to build a chapel and schools costing between £4,000 and £5,000, had gone to the firm of James Piggott Pritchett, of Darlington, for plans for a Gothic style structure.

James Piggott, Pritchett born two hundred years ago this year, had been a highly successful northern architect, based on York. His son, born in 1830 had made a name for himself by building St. James' Church at Meltham Mills, St. Nicholas Church at Durham and Huddersfield station, one of the most ostentatious stations in West Yorkshire. Pritchett always tried in his buildings to produce functionally useful structures which retained some of the best features of medieval architecture.

By April, 1848 plans were well advanced for the laying of the foundation stone. To complete the building a special building fund was created so that money could be collected from Congregationalists all over West Yorkshire.

The Wesleyan similarly had decided to build a new chapel. They had managed to obtain a site in Wells Road, and again a Gothic style was used. A contemporary verdict was that these new buildings would be 'great improvements to the village'.

Undoubtedly these changes helped to transform Ilkley from being a small rural community to an important township in its own right.



Formerly the Hotel, Rombald 1835

When Ian bought the hotel in 1981 they Regency structure and elegance. This rejuvenation going process by current dev

## BUS TO ON

Ilkley's new forms part exchange tion, will be The new the one in and has be the new en It complete major £3.6 the site as A memb shire -Pa Authority, officially op Cr. Ryalls, Bradford d was forme Ilkley depo shire Road fifteen year

17.6.88



Formerly the Crescent House Hotel, Rombalds was built about 1835

When Ian and Jill Guthrie bought the hotel and restaurant in 1981 they restored the fine Regency structure to the style and elegance of its earlier days. This rejuvenating work is an on going process as demonstrated by current developments there.

## SHOPPERS CAR PARK FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT

17.6.88



6.5.88

## BUS STATION TO OPEN ON MONDAY

Ilkley's new bus station, which forms part of a new transport exchange at Ilkley Railway Station, will be opened on Monday.

The new bus terminal replaces the one in front of the station, and has been built adjacent to the new entrance to the station. It completes the first phase of a major £3.6m re-development of the site as a shopping complex.

A member of the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority, Cr. Ken Ryalls will officially open the bus terminal. Cr. Ryalls, who represents the Bradford district on the PTA, was formerly in charge of the Ilkley depot of the West Yorkshire Road Car Company for fifteen years.

A shoppers' car park for over one hundred vehicles included in a £3.6m redevelopment of the Ilkley Railway Station area is expected to be opened in October or November.

Picture shows the formation of the entrance from the east end of Railway Road where once trains travelling west ran into Platforms Three and Four which is forming the new shopping area and car park.

The former railway coal drops now reduced in size and number on the western side of the entrance, will form flower beds and canopies within the station are to be refurbished.

The development at the western end of Railway Road at the junction with Brook Street is expected to begin in August.

The contractors, John Laing Ltd., are well on schedule with this town centre development.

The re-development scheme which started in October last year has meant the demolition of part of the railway bridge abutment in Brook Street and later premises occupied by Greenwoods, the Upper Crust Sandwich Shop, Ellis Hair Design, the Flower Box and Wool Box. The premises occupied by Pickfords Travel—who will move into one of the new shop units—is due to be demolished but Woolworths existing premises is to be retained.

The new development—prepared by the House of Orange Developments Ltd., of Harrogate—will include eight new shops fronting on to Brook Street and Station Road. The station building will be refurbished and will provide three additional shops and the glazed train shed area will be refurbished to provide a retail store. Picture No. 1191.

1989

# MUSEUM CENTENARY GROUP CONSIDER CELEBRATIONS

When the Ilkley Museum Centenary Group met for a preliminary meeting Mr. James Harrison referred to events leading to the opening of Ilkley's first public museum collection in 1892.

He pointed out that the museum was not established by a local council or any statutory body but by a group of residents — a couple of doctors, a solicitor, an auctioneer, an insurance agent, a gas works manager and others of equally varied occupations — who formed a committee, raised funds, bought a property and engaged a curator. It was a townspeople's event and any observations of the anniversary of that event was something that all present townspeople should feel they could join in.

The museum collection had a chequered existence and after a period of closure was re-opened in 1949. The re-opening was due largely to the activities of a Miss

Elsie Fletcher who acted as a voluntary curator and gathered a small group of volunteers around her. The items preserved and accumulated by Miss Fletcher were moved into the Manor House in 1961 following its restoration. After having been partitioned to form five cottages many years ago the manor house had become very dilapidated until a local butcher, Mr. Percy Dalton, bought it and handed it over to the local authority. Under Miss Fletcher's care the Manor House Museum continued to be developed and a "Museum Club" for children used to meet there on Saturday mornings and during school holidays. But the Manor House is also used for art

exhibitions and as well as putting limits on museum space the art side of The Manor House usage has tended to dominate.

Some criticism of the present museum was voiced within the meeting and comparison was made with some volunteer-run museums where the enthusiasm is great and people taking objects for assessment feel that someone is taking an interest in "finds". Mr. Paul Lawson, Bradford Arts and Museums Officer, pointed to some of the problems running a museum on a voluntary basis. Buying and maintaining a building is expensive and arranging for security can be costly. With regard to arranging some sort of centenary display, Mr. Lawson was willing to receive opinions from people and he hoped his department would be able to put something on, but it was necessary that those who wanted to observe this centenary should sort out their aims and objects.

Following the proposal of Mr. Godfrey, of the Ilkley Archaeology Group, it was agreed to set up a small steering committee to look at possibilities and invite the participation of other groups and societies.

## BOX TREE RESTAURANT WINS TOP AWARD



The Box Tree Restaurant in Church Street, Ilkley, has been awarded the accolade of the 'Egon Ronay's Noilly Prat North of England's Cellar of the Year.'

Restaurant Manager of the Box Tree, Mr. Chris Swinn (right) is pictured being presented with the award, a Noilly Prat frame certificate, from Noilly Prat representative Mr. Terry Clamp.

The Box Tree Restaurant wine list is described as "outstanding" by the 1980 Egon Ronay's Hotels and Restaurants Guide. The guide adds "there are some real stars in a well balanced cellar, Mas de Daumas Gassac 1985, opus 1 1982, Taylors 1963."

A total of seventy eight restaurants are listed in the guide as having outstanding wine lists.

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# ILKLEY'S FIRST CARNIVAL QUEEN



Ilkley's first Carnival Queen is fourteen year old Katy Gill, of Denton Road, Ilkley, who will lead the Carnival parade on 1 May.

SCENES FROM THE PAST (91) 17/3/89

## THE BAY HORSE AT ILKLEY



One of Ilkley's popular public houses during the first half of the century was the Bay Horse in Leeds Road (pictured left).

By the 1960s times were changing and the Bay Horse Hotel closed its doors for the last time in 1963 after serving the town for perhaps over one hundred years. The site of the Bay Horse Hotel has not been built upon since the demolition of the building. The hotel was taken over by Hammonds Brewery from the Ilkley Brewery in 1923. The Bay Horse's records as a "beer house" went back to 1875 but it was some years older than that and to older generations was known as the "Knagg's

Head". Its demolition meant the Bay Horse Hotel joined the Wheatshaf Hotel which stood at the top of Church Street and the Royal Hotel in Wells Road which had then just passed into Ilkley's history.

Mrs. Gertrude Finlayson was the landlady when the hotel closed. Her predecessor was Mr. Ernest Wardman 1931-48 and the landlord before that was Mr. Charles William Moorhouse 1924-31. When Hammonds took over the Ilkley Brewery Company, Mrs. Eleanor Hollings was the landlady.

This picture looking up Leeds Road towards where Ilkley's

traffic lights are now sited shows a more tranquil scene compared with that of today. From the appearance of the road surface and kerb stones Leeds Road catered for little traffic and the wall near the street lamp still remains today. It served as a boundary wall to cottages fronting on to Leeds Road which were demolished to make way for an extension to the Crescent Hotel. The original gateways to this proposal were subsequently filled with stones and can still be seen today.

The other sign fixed to property in Leeds Road was for Mr. S. J. Spencer who could provide refreshments and "good beds".

## ILKLEY REMAINS AN ALL-FUEL ZONE

Efforts by Ilkley Parish Council to declare Ilkley an "Unleaded Petrol Zone" have been in vain, Councillors were told on Monday night.

But the Parish Council was pleased to hear that Bradford Council was co-ordinating a "Steer Clear of Lead" Campaign during April and May, which was hoped would raise environmental awareness among the public.

Councillors were told making Ilkley an unleaded petrol zone was not legally possible, but the Parish Council was invited to take an active part in the Bradford Council Campaign - which started on Monday with the Lord Mayor receiving the first free tank of unleaded petrol for the civic car.

Various events are to be staged in addition to the distribution of leaflets, car stickers and other publicity material. Environmental health staff have collected an up to date list of stations supplying lead free petrol with about thirty already in the pipeline.

They have also asked car dealers to support the campaign by offering bargain conversion deals. Five dealers in the Bradford area will be waiving their charges for converting cars to run on lead-free fuel until the end of the campaign on 13 May. And some garages including the West Yorkshire Motor Group, in Skipton Road, Ilkley, will be continuing to convert any make of

car is possible, charging only for parts.

Other ideas being considered by Bradford Council include the running of all Council lawnmowers on unleaded fuel.

Cr. Richard Cope, chairman of the Environmental Health Sub-committee said, "we aim to encourage as many drivers as we can to convert to lead free petrol during this campaign and we are pleased about the recent incentive of a price cut, making it about ten pence cheaper per gallon than four star.

"We have also persuaded a number of large companies to convert their fleet cars and we want to see many more follow their example.

"But perhaps the best reason to change to unleaded is for the sake of the children of Bradford, who in the past have suffered more ill health than in many other British cities because of lead in the environment."

Other efforts during the campaign will include converting Bradford City FC's lawn mower and Bradford Ice Rink's ice clearing machine, and a Green Cavalcade of vehicles running on unleaded petrol.

A survey of drivers' attitude to lead free petrol has been carried out at petrol stations the week before the campaign and another survey will be done afterwards.



## SPA BUILDINGS SOLD FOR OVER £700,000



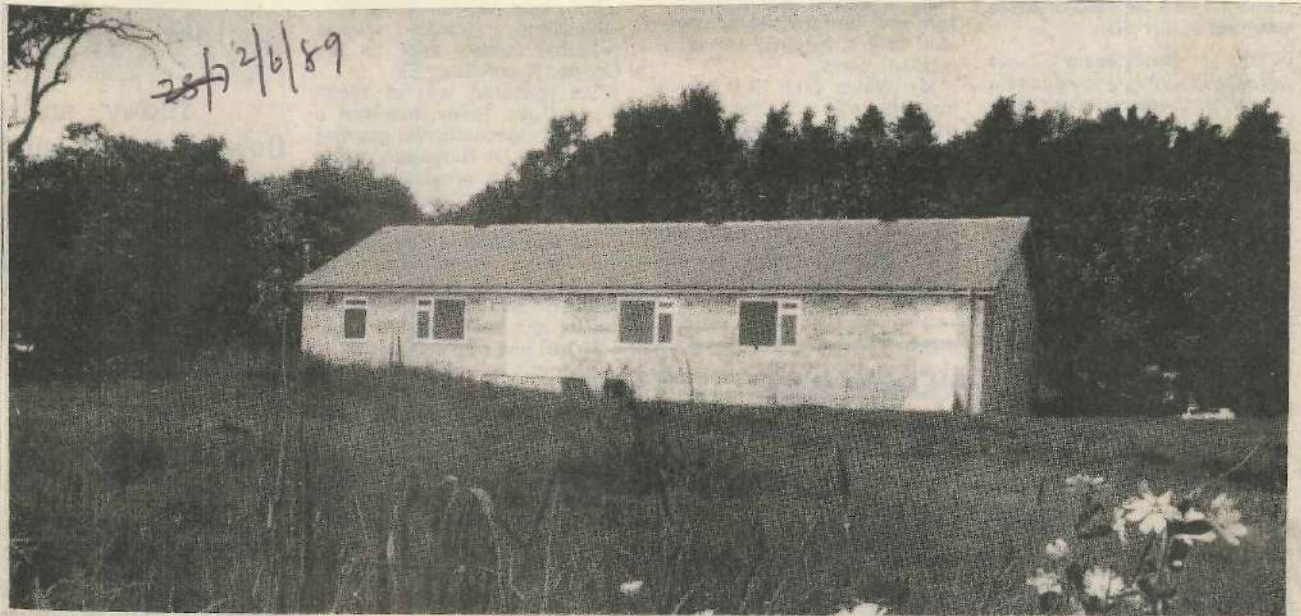
A well known Ilkley town centre landmark - Spa Buildings, on The Grove - has been sold for over £700,000 to a Rawdon development company, who intend to demolish the property and re-develop the site into eighteen luxury flats and three retail shops.

The property was sold by tender for re-development by Dacre, Son and Hartley, estate agents, Ilkley, on behalf of Bayford Developments Ltd., of Bramham. The new owners are Vignor Ltd., based in Rawdon, who are due to start construction work in the early Autumn.

The site has the benefit of detailed planning permission for eighteen luxury flats and three retail shops. Reservations have already been accepted on shop units with a frontage onto The Grove. And the flat prices will be sold for over £100,000. Dacre, Son and Hartley, have been retained by the purchasers for the sales and lettings.

Spa Buildings opened as a Hydropathic Establishment and Boarding House in 1884 and was originally called "The Grove". Like other hydros in the town it was highly recommended by Christopher Crayon, who stayed there in 1885 for its "excellent accommodation and low charges" - four shillings to nine shillings and six pence per day.

The building was converted to flats and a cafe in 1910. It was sold several times over the years by Dacre, Son and Hartley, of Ilkley, the last time being in 1984 since when the new shop units adjoining Spa Buildings, known as "The Spa" have been built on land at the side of the cafe (Pic. ref. no. G2841).



Wharfedale District Scout Council's new Activity Centre at Curly Hill, Ilkley, is ready to accommodate the scouts of Wharfedale and provide many indoor activities and training programmes.

Four years after initial plans were put forward with £200 in the bank and eighteen months after work started on the building, valued at £70,000, the Wharfedale District Scout Council can now boast of a centre with an emphasis on play.

Covering an area of 30,000 square feet and with a main hall of 1,800 square feet which will be the main nucleus of indoor activity, the centre is twice as big as the old hut which once stood in Curly Hill.

An "enormous amount of effort" has been put in to ensure its completion this year. "We have endured the cynics, the

doubters, the 'what ifs' and 'if I were you' people said the Chairman of the Development Committee for the Curly Hill Activity Centre, Mr. Mel Dyson.

Ilkley was the favourite site to locate the new centre because of its close proximity to the famous moors. "It was an ideal site what with the moors nearby for walking, the swimming baths, Cow and Calf rocks and good transport links," said Mr. Dyson. Already bookings for the centre are running into October.

However, there remains the problem of clearing the debts that mounted with the project to build the new centre. "We have spent about £31,000 and have raised £20,500 to date which means we are in the red by £10,500," explained Mr. Dyson, who said the project, now in its fifth year, would not be considered complete until that money

## DEATH RATE FALLS

7/4/89 75 Years Ago

It was reported in 1914 that the death rate had fallen in the Wharfedale Rural Area over the previous year. In northern Wharfedale there had been twenty-six deaths in the population of 3,609. This was the third lowest rate yet recorded (7.75 per thousand), and fourteen of the twenty five deaths recorded were beyond sixty-five years. Dr. Williamson, Medical Officer for the area, reported that the major health problem was the difficulty of carrying out house inspections in a district so scattered. The officer also commented that better built and healthier cottages were being sought after by residents of the surrounding towns and the migration from urban to rural areas was becoming increasingly prevalent.

The Kings Hall, Ilkley, was opened for the first time following its refurbishments and upholstering. The occasion was marked with a visit by Mr. H. B. Irving and company, who were just back from performing at the Harrogate Kursaal Theatre. "The Glad Idlers", a small variety entertainment group, also appeared.

Easter weather over the holidays was breezy and varied with showers and sunshine. Easter Saturday was busy in the town, and many people arrived by train to shop and sight-see. A good number of O.T.C. cadets, together with three football teams and four lacrosse teams visited the town and amused people by dressing in grotesque costumes and roaming the shopping areas.

A visit by an excellent theatre company to perform the play "Sherlock Holmes", was announced for the next week at the Kings Hall, Ilkley. The production was written by Mr. Hamilton Stewart, who played the title role himself, and the cast included eminent names from the London theatres, such as Miss A. Bruce-Joy who played the part of Miss Faulkner.

Ilkley Athletic football team drew with Guiseley St. Oswalds 2-2. Other games played by Ilkley during the week were against Harrogate West Park, and Rawdon.

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Press Officer for the Scout Council, Mr. David Burland, has suggested a way to pay off the money. "If any company or business would like a room in the Centre named after it we would

name it for them for a price. We would welcome any contributions towards the Centre's future," he said.

"I am sure when people see this new Centre they will be impressed," he said.

## MEDIEVAL UPLAND SETTLEMENT IN YORKSHIRE

Large monastic structures and some castles are readily to be seen in parts of Yorkshire but it takes a practiced eye to spot the signs of how humble folk lived and worked away from those great buildings in their heyday.

Mr. Stephen Moorhouse, of the West Yorkshire Archeology Unit has such an eye and described some of the signs when he spoke to the Olicana Museum and Historical Society on medieval Upland settlement in the Yorkshire Pennines.

Among the slides Mr. Moorhouse showed were many of heather and bracken cove areas that had been gainfully used five hundred and more years ago. The uplands were then an essential part of any estate because they provided facilities not available in the lowlands. While the lowlands could provide corn and richer grazing, the uplands provided sheep runs and ranches for horse rearing. Many upland areas were set aside as parks, not in the modern recreational sense but as places for serious hunting for food, and also as areas for maintaining horses and the dogs essential for hunting. The parks could in addition, have parts set aside for rabbit warrens.

### BIG BUSINESS

Warrens were big business in the later middle ages not only as providers of food but because rabbit fur was important. Warrens were frequently man made long mounds, sometimes with defensive towers as protection against poaching. The parks also provided timber for manorial buildings. Many of our present upland paths have medieval origins and some upland sites with barely a stone standing of the early settlements are distinguishable by the numerous routes that converged upon them. There was a certain amount of seasonal movement of humans from lowlands to uplands and back and the temporary upland accommodation sometimes was known as a "booth". The location of such seasonal dwellings are occasionally preserved in place names incorporating the term "booth".

The uplands were also important for quarrying. There were medieval quarrying sites at Nesfield and millstones were quarried on the other side of the valley. Backstone quarries towards the Cow and Calf area provided backstones on which oatcakes were baked, as did the Backstone Delves of Addingham. The Elland area was important for stone slates and wetstone

were obtained from the Wetstone Dene above Marsden, now known as Wessenden. There was also iron working in our locality. Nesfield had a water powered iron working site and Smithy Hill at Addingham had iron works.

J. H.

## HOUSING PROBLEM SOLVED



These bungalows — which were built to the west of Victoria Avenue, Ilkley, during the Second World War for workers who came to the area — were used as a temporary solution to Ilkley's housing problem after the war.

Development of the land was approved in June 1966 after which houses in Woodlands Close, Woodlands Grove, Woodlands Rise and Dale View were built.



A second demonstration by Ilkley Youth Club members, staged outside their headquarters in Regent Road last Thursday evening was stopped by Police.

The Regent Road Youth Centre was in use as a polling station for the European Parliamentary elections. Inspector David Walls, of Keighley Police, said the demonstrators were "impeding the voters" and so they moved them on after a call from officials at the polling station were "not happy" about it being held whilst voting was taking place. Inspector Walls added that the handful of demonstrators caused no problems and when asked to stop they did.

The small, peaceful protest was part of the club members' campaign to secure the long term future of their centre. The main aim was to obtain more signatures for their petition which they are to present to the Bishop of Bradford. Nearly all the voters signed the petition prior to the arrival of the police.

### DISTURBANCE

Deputy Acting Returning Officer at the Election Unit at

Bradford, Mr. Philip Thompson, told the "Gazette" his prime objective on polling day was to keep the station functioning with a free flow of voters.

"We can not allow any kind of disturbance on such a day. I understood some demonstrators were blocking certain parts of the area around the building, some would-be voters could have been put off by the presence of a demonstration and so we did not want it to be staged near the premises," he said. The organisers of the demonstration said there was no hard feelings and in the half hour in which it was staged they had "made their point".

Despite the news that the immediate future of the Club looks secure due to legal technicalities, the campaign to save the Youth Club is to be stepped up. One of the co-ordinators of the demonstration, Mr. James Ramsden said, "we heard last week about our imminent future

possibly being secure but this does not mean it is all over". Bradford Council has applied to the Parochial Church Council for the renewal of the lease and Cr. Martin Smith, Chairman of Youth and Community Department, has said if they refuse and officially terminate the lease the issue will go to the courts. It is then "more than likely" the tenancy will continue for the immediate future. He hoped this would mean for the next five years. However, Mr. Ramsden says that is not enough. "What's the point of having a lease agreed through the courts, for just five years — we will be doing all this over again at the end of that period. We want a longer, definite future. People probably think the fight is all over — it's not", he said.

### NEXT STEP

The next step in the campaign is to gather more names for the petition. Protesters will be out and about in Ilkley this weekend. Then, they will present it to the Bishop of Bradford — the man "who should be making the final decision", said Cr. John McGhee.

The plan is to take the campaign further afield. Cr. McGhee

said he wanted everyone in Wharfedale to be aware of the situation. He said they were strongly considering the idea of asking for the support of a well known personality but he would not say who. "All I will say is that the person is bigger than any television or radio personality and is known throughout the country. If we get the support from this particular person it should prove influential. I think you will be impressed", he said. ● Pictured at the demonstration outside the Youth Club are, from left to right, Nick Babbs, Matthew King, Dominic Hambridge and Frances McGhee. (Picture ref. no. G-4005).

## ROAD RACE TO AID CHARITIES

Ilkley Harrier, Mr. Chris Booth, of Embsay, near Skipton, competed in Harry Ramsden's annual charity road race on Sunday — and managed to complete the ten-mile circuit in spite of the sizzling hot weather.



**Complaints from residents of Wilmot Road, Ilkley, about a neighbouring household waste site have been brought to the attention of Ilkley Parish Council.**

Council Chairman, Cr. Mrs. Anne Hawkesworth said an elderly resident of Wilmot Road had claimed she was no longer able to sit outside her house - where she had lived for fifty years. She said the problem had arisen following the erection of ramps at the side of the skips in Golden Butts Road to enable people to deposit their household rubbish.

"The resident feels strongly opposed to the situation because of the noise and dust and the intrusion on her privacy," said Cr. Mrs. Hawkesworth.

Councillors discussed the idea of moving the skips to another area of the yard in Golden Butts Road, although concern was expressed that if they were moved there might not be enough room to accommodate the ramps.

Cr. Mrs. Barbara Cussons had received complaints about trade waste being left at the site and said this was the 'biggest offence'. She proposed signs indicating no trade waste should be erected.

Cr. Mrs. Cussons suggested a screen could be put around the skips, but fellow Councillors felt this might prove too expensive.

The Parish Council agreed to ask Bradford Council to either re-site the skips or provide some type of screening in an effort to improve life for the adjacent residents. It was also agreed to make provision for trade waste.

Over last weekend it became apparent that three skips were not sufficient, said Cr. Rowland Hill. He thought another three

should be provided away from the others near the wall adjacent to Golden Butts Road. At the end of last Sunday there was rubbish blowing about everywhere he said, and the Parish Council agreed that in view of the increasing amount of rubbish left another three skips should be

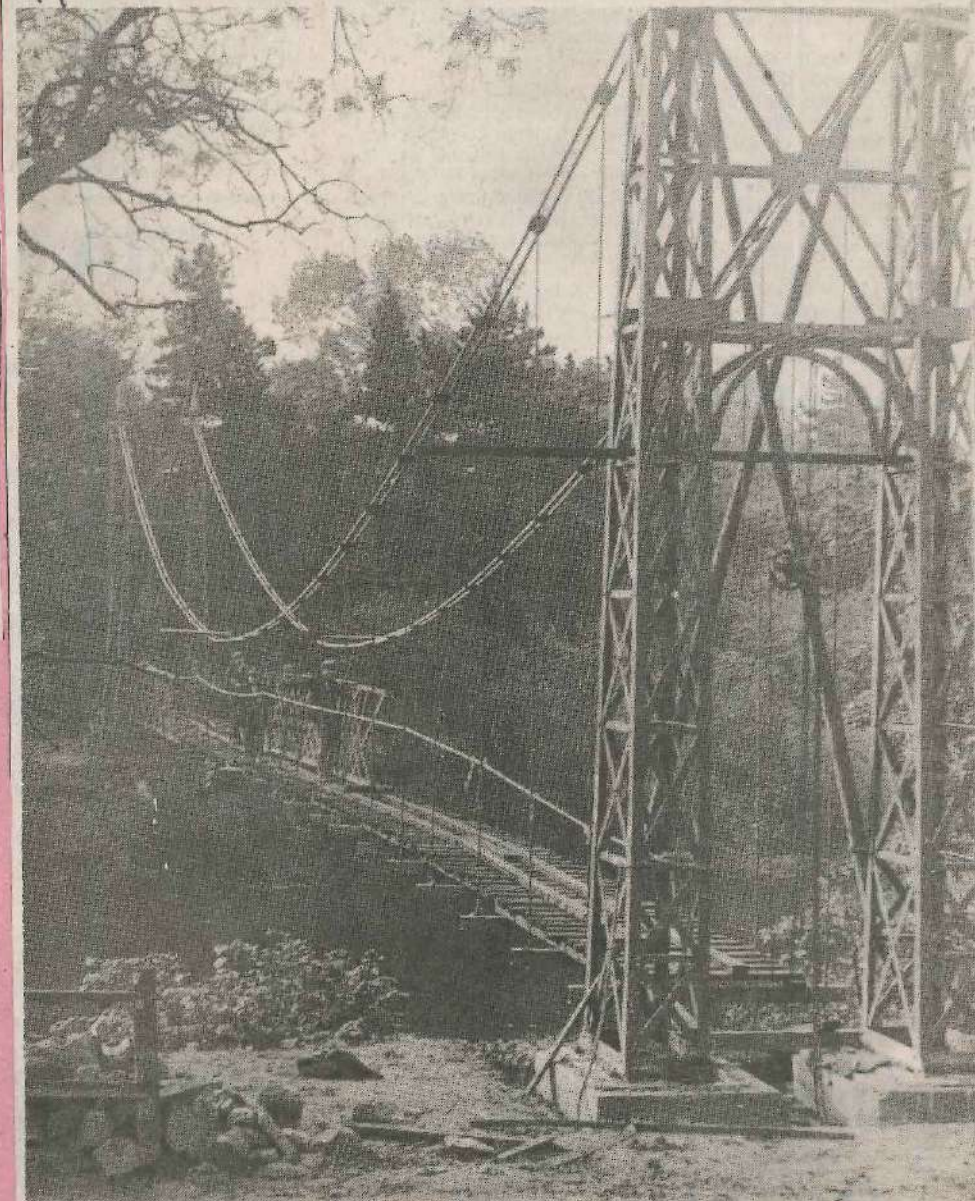
provided.

"The skip provision is totally inadequate," commented Cr. Mrs. Patsy Glover.

●Picture shows the household waste site with the houses in Wilmot Road in the background (Pic. ref. no. G4023/29a).

7/7/89

**BRIDGE ACROSS THE WHARFE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**



Fifty-five years ago work was in progress on the erection of yet another bridge across the River Wharfe at Ilkley.

The Suspension Bridge - which was opened to the public in January 1935 - was built of steel by Messrs. David Rowell and Co. Ltd., of West Westminster. It was constructed primarily to carry a new sewage pipeline from the Middleton district but also provided easy access to the "beauties" of Middleton Woods.

After the construction work was completed the bridge was tested to bear a load of 84 pounds to

the square foot. In 1977 major repair work was carried out on the Suspension Bridge which was felt necessary because of its "neglect" since Local Government re-organisation in 1974. The condition of the bridge was said to have deteriorated so badly that it was closed off to pedestrians for some time while parts were replaced and the metal structure repainted.

The year 1934 also saw a start made on the provision of an outdoor swimming pool and towards the end of that year much progress had been made.

**WATSON'S TO CLOSE NEXT MONTH**

The Ilkley branch of Watson's bakers and confectioners, in Brook Street, is to close its doors for the last time next month.

The shop - which opened in August 1986 and employs five staff - is to close on 2 September along with eleven other branches of Watson's in the Leeds area.

Managing Director of the Halifax-based company, Mr. Stuart Harrison told the "Gazette" this week he regretted the closure, but explained the company wanted to re-focus its efforts on their newly opened one hundred and fifty seater coffee shop in Skipton and to their expanding wholesale business.

He said: "We feel this is the way forward for the company. The Ilkley shop was very successful but we could not retain it because it would not have fit in with the other van deliveries at the shops in Skipton and Keighley."

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Work on demolishing one of Ilkley's historic town centre landmarks got underway this way this week.

11/1/89 Ilkley's War Memorial Trust which was formed in 1947 to raise a fund to provide a memorial to those who had served and those who had fallen in the Second World War has been disbanded.

At the Committee's final meeting last Friday the Chairman, Ilkley Parish Councillor Mrs. Molly Renton, marked the occasion by handing over the remaining funds to Bradford Metropolitan Council. She presented a cheque for the remaining funds to Mr. D. Talbot, Bradford's Outdoor Recreation Manager.

Cr. Mrs. Renton told the "Gazette" the original aims of the Memorial Trust Committee — set up in 1947 had been fulfilled with money raised to provide a suitable memorial to those who had served in the Second World War.

#### WAR COLONNADE

The Trust set out to extend the 1914-18 War Memorial in The Grove Memorial Gardens by the erection of a colonnade upon which was inscribed the names of those who had fallen in the Second war. It also aimed to

purchase land on the Ilkley side of the River Wharfe between the Old Bridge and New Bridge and the laying out of a site for Memorial Gardens, now known as Riverside Gardens. The Fund also enabled the rents of disabled ex-servicemen to be subsidised.

In recent years, it became evident that as no expenditure had been made from the Fund for some decades and the objectives of the original scheme had been fulfilled it seemed sensible to terminate the Trust and disburse the remaining funds. A scheme was drawn up by the Parish Clerk Mrs. Dorothy Edmondson and approved by the Memorial Committee and the Charities Committee.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said subsequently over the past three years this aim had been achieved and the residue of the fund was used to improve the facilities of the Riverside Gardens by means of fencing, hedging, re-paving the walk, safety surfacing the children's play area and the provision of additional bench seating with a suitable memorial inscription. "We intended to have brass plaques fixed to the benches, but realised they might be vandalised and felt a wooden

inscription would be better," she said.

#### BENEFIT ILKLEY

She went on to say the Committee had aimed to ensure the Fund reflected the spirit of what it had been left for.

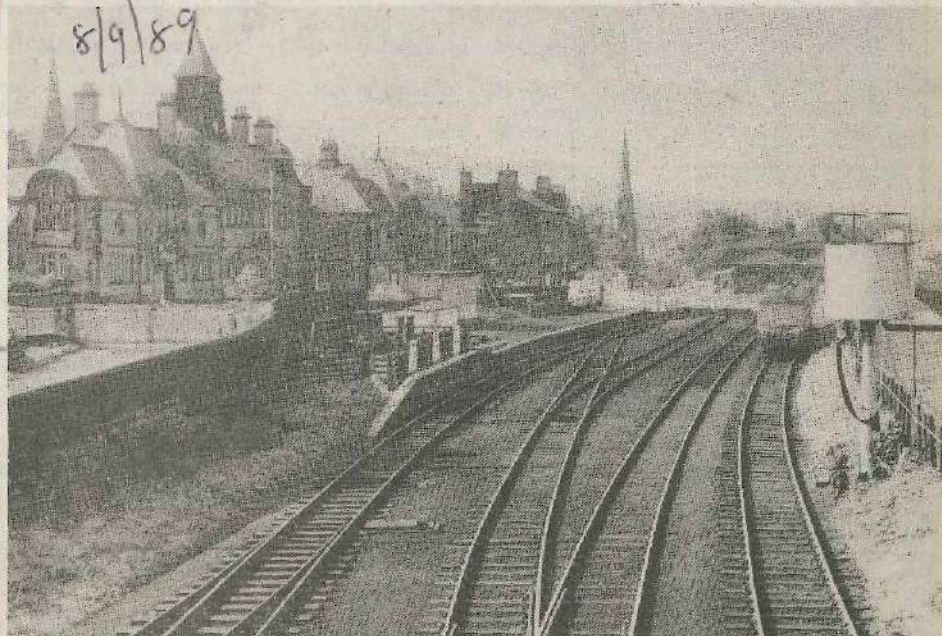
"We have now wound up the committee and have ensured the money from the Fund was put to the best possible use to benefit Ilkley. Now the Fund has been signed, sealed and delivered and the Committee — including herself, Walter Forrest, Dr. Armstrong and Dr. Frost and Mr. Bob Ellwood and the clerk, Mrs. Dorothy Edmondson, had disbanded," she said.

The winding up of the Trust almost coincided this week with the fiftieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War.

Spa Buildings, on The Grove, are being knocked down to enable a Rawdon development company to develop the site. Vignor Ltd., who bought the property in May for over £700,000, are to re-develop the site into eighteen luxury flats and three retail shops. Detail planning permission has been granted by Bradford Planners and reservations have already been accepted on shop units with a frontage onto The Grove. And the flats are to be sold for over £100,000.

Following the news of the fate of the Spa Buildings the property received a prestigious award from the Victorian Heritage Society of London.

## SITE OF TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE



This scene outside Ilkley Town Hall has changed dramatically since 1962 when this picture was taken.

Then it served as carriage sidings for Ilkley Railway Station and prior to 1982 accommodated the town's first locomotive shed. The platform (left) served as a loading dock for cattle arriving

and departing from Ilkley.

When the sidings were removed the land provided a valuable car parking area for the town until the site was developed with other parts of Ilkley's railway complex to provide a new transport interchange.

**Ilkley Manor House has invited Residents to become detectives for their Young Historians Project, under the theme of "What we used to eat".** 28/7/89

The project will be presented in August, and Manor-House staff are keen to find historical and archaeological evidence in con-

nection with eating habits over the years and centuries.

Local historians, Gavin Edwards and Mary Bentham, who will be organising the project are hoping that local people will bring in items of interest such as cooking and washing-up equipment, food packaging, old photographs, menus, grocers' bills and recipes.

Invitations will also be made for residents to attend and talk

about food and cookery in the past.

**EXPERIMENTS**

During the programme there will be practical experiments in re-constructing aspects of cooking and eating, and participants will be shown how to find evidence of recent history up to the present time. They will look at studying sources such as people's memories, attics and cupboards, newspapers and charity shops, and learn how to record their finds on audiotape, and photographs and as museum objects.

The programme for the week will include prehistoric food and cooking, on 7 August, led by Gavin Edwards, Archaeologist, and Roman food and cooking, led by Mary Bentham, Assistant Keeper, Education.

**17th CENTURY**

On 9 August, there will be seventeenth century food and cooking, led by Eileen White, Historian, and nineteenth century food and cooking.

On 11 August, there will be evidence in local archives — printed and handwritten records, led by David James, Archivist; Recording reminiscences on tape and photographing the present, led by Janet Davidson, Assistant Keeper, Education and Practical projects — recording reminiscences on tape photography and cookery.

13/10/89  
**Residents of Glen Rosa, Ilkley's residential home for the aged, have been celebrating the completion of a major £200,000 improvements programme.**

Home to thirty one pensioners, Glen Rosa now has a new, improved look. Alterations include: improvements to bathroom, toilet facilities, to offices and bed-sitting rooms; the front of the house has been remodelled with new windows; the hall, staircase and lounges re-decorated and re-carpeted plus many modifications to ensure a high standard of safety. The major alterations were funded by the Methodist Home for the Aged's capital fund. The home committee's special appeal to the West Yorkshire Methodist District has already raised £1,000 and coincided with the scheme.

Over two hundred of Glen Rosa's friends and supporters attended a special Open Day where the new alterations and facilities were viewed.

A thanksgiving service concluded the celebrations when the Rev. John Gilyead and the Chairman of the West Yorkshire Methodist District, the Rev. Kathleen Richardson, led the service.

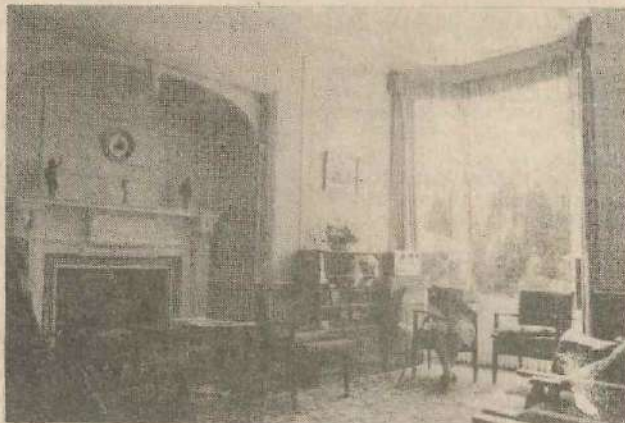
Matron at Glen Rosa, Mrs. Hazel Ambler, described the afternoon of celebration, which also included a party, as one of the "happiest and most memorable days she had known in the life of the home".



The new look Glen Rosa Methodist Home for the Aged where residents have been celebrating the completion of the major improvements programme. (Picture ref. no N/A).



Relaxing on the new patio are five Glen Rosa residents. From left to right — Mrs. Ada Driver, Mrs. May Sayles, Mrs. Edith Howe, Miss Edith Colbeck and Mr. John Kirkham. (Picture ref. no N/A).



One of the newly redecorated and refurbished rooms at Glen Rosa. (Picture ref. no N/A).

**ELEPH**



Hundreds of people gathered to see eight elephants in May, 1957.

They had arrived with camels to take now used as the field at Ben Rhydderch.

Chipperfields C



It was celebrations all round for members of Ilkley's Britain in Bloom Committee when it was announced Ilkley had come top in the larger small towns section of the Britain in Bloom contest

Pictured (left to right), in a celebratory mood are committee members, Mrs. R. Williams, Miss E. Holt, Cr. Mrs. I. Carney, Cr. Mrs. I. Burnett, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton (Chairman), Mrs. D. C. Edmondson and Mrs. M. Hudson. Also serving on the committee but not pictured is Mrs. M. Bailey. (Picture ref. no. G4048/12)

**Ilkley's Grove Convalescent Hospital — which has been threatened with possible closure for almost a decade — has become the first hospital in the country to effectively "opt-out" of normal NHS management arrangements.** 14/4/89

The Grove Hospital is the only one of its type in the North of England specialising solely in offering patients an active two or three week period of convalescence and rehabilitation, often after major surgery or medical procedures. Patients are sent there from hospitals all over the north and even further afield. However the 52-bed hospital, a large Victorian building in beautifully landscaped gardens in the centre of Ilkley has twice been the subject of closure procedures, which were keenly contested.

Last year the Yorkshire Regional Health Authority agreed to The Grove being given a new status for a trial period, as a way of keeping the hospital open. This means, in effect, that it will "opt-out" of normal NHS financial and management procedures.

In future the hospital will be managed by the Airedale Health Authority but the costs of the

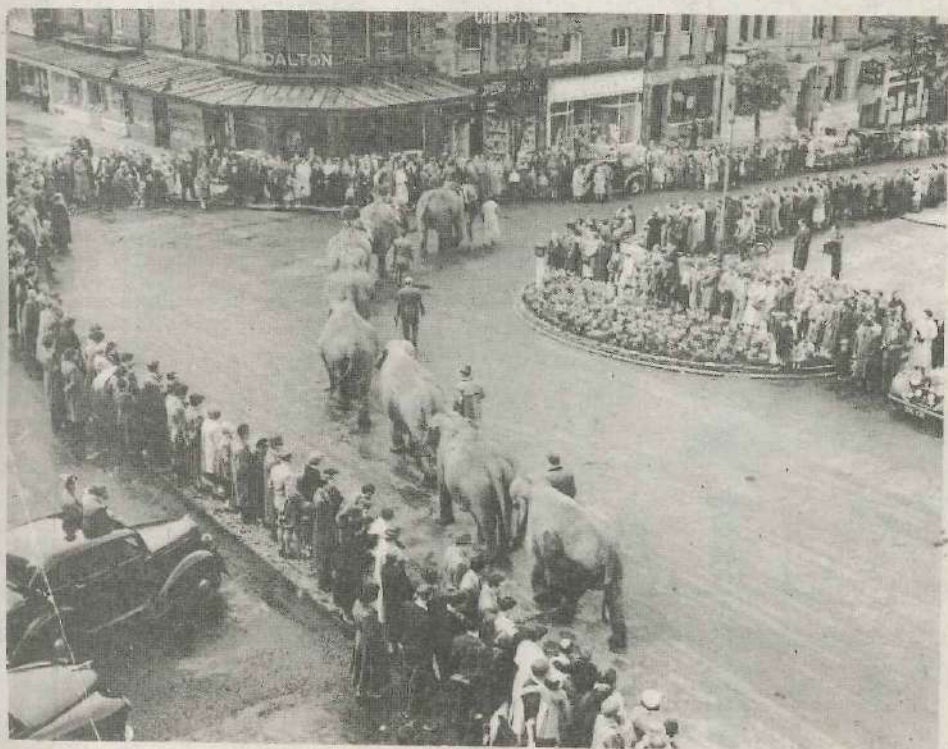
cases referred there will be charged directly to the hospital or health authorities referring patients to Ilkley for treatment.

"We are excited at the new role", said Unit Manager Mr. Ted Bishop. "We believe the hospital fulfills a tremendous need — figures of patients coming to Ilkley from all over the North prove this, as do the great numbers of letters of thanks we receive from them.

"But we also believe that it is right that those authorities using our services should in fact pay for them. The system we have set up could well be a blueprint for the future pattern of arrangements in the NHS.

"We are confident that the new arrangements will work and that the hospital will be able to prove its worth by remaining well used and being able to pay our own way," said Mr. Bishop.

**ELEPHANTS IN BROOK STREET**



Hundreds of people turned out to see these eight elephants parade down Brook Street, Ilkley, in May, 1967.

They had arrived at Ilkley Railway Station along with camels to take part in a circus staged on land now used as the Ilkley Grammar School playing field at Ben Rhydding.

Chipperfields Circus regretted they were un-

able to hold a full parade through the town because of petrol rationing at the time. It was their first visit to Ilkley when they came complete with the European spectacle, over 140 vehicles and one train. They brought to Ilkley, besides elephants and camels, llamas, cheeky chimps, horses, a giraffe named "George", a mixed lion group, peerless poodles, Chako the human ape together with sixty international artistes.

**ILKLEY MANOR HOUSE STILL HAS MUCH TO BE DISCOVERED**

Ilkley Manor House is well known as the home of many antiquities from Ilkley's long history and at a special meeting of the Friends of the Manor House it was itself the main exhibit.

Mr. Gavin Edwards led distinguished guests and members of the Friends round the building both inside and outside, drawing attention to many fascinating points of interest. Mr. Edwards, an archaeologist, was skilled in drawing conclusions from the structure itself rather than from what others had written about it. This approach proved invaluable and refreshing, because there was a surprising dearth of documentary history about the building.

The Manor House stands on the site of an old Roman fort. Mr. Edwards envisaged the possibility of a continuous history of occupation, with building, rebuilding, alterations, extensions, adaptations and changes of use taking place down the centuries. The evidence for some of this was now buried beneath the building; but much was still detectable in the present structure. What was not entirely clear was whether it was ever technically a Manor House, in the form of a

residence of the Lord of the Manor, with Manorial administration and courts. It clearly has been a building of great importance, however on which money, skill and effort had been devoted in past centuries; but it could have been the home of a prosperous yeoman, or even a vicarage. Much remains to be discovered about what was certainly a fascinating and perhaps a unique building.

After Mr. Edward's talk, the Manor House was the setting for a get-together between the Friends and their guests, who included Cr. Mrs. Anne Hawksworth, Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. Barbara Cousins, Mr. Paul Lawson, members of the Bradford Metropolitan Museum service, Friends, and representatives of local churches. Mr. Leonard Kearney who presided, said it was hoped that this would be the first of many similar happy occasions at the Manor House.

J.A.