



# THE PARAGON

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50P [FREE TO MEMBERS]

## ❁ HOW THEY VOTED ❁

### Three Early West Riding Elections

In 1792 a young politician approached the Prime Minister on a matter of Parliamentary reform, but the Prime Minister, Pitt the Younger, had other things on his mind. The French Revolution of 1789 had stirred the radicals in this country and Pitt was worried that they would cause riot and disruption. Instead of reform, he made nine garrison towns, of which Sheffield was one. Part of the old barracks can still be seen at the bottom of Whitehouse Lane; which had alcoves at the rear to house artillery guns. The drill square with the C.O.'s house lay behind the Salvation Army building in Infirmary Road.

Thirty nine years later the young politician, now the second Earl Grey, was himself Prime Minister; and on 1st. March 1831 Lord John Russell introduced to the House, the first Reform Bill. On 23rd. March; Creevey wrote "majority for our Bill, one, Devilish close was it not" (the voting was 302 for, 301 against). But the bill did not survive. Its progress through the committee stage was dramatic. The second reading was carried by a single vote. Grey addressed the House in the stately periods of a bye-gone age. Brougham, Lord Chancellor, ended his speech with a peroration in which falling on his knees with outstretched hands he implored the

peers not to throw out the Bill. Unluckily, for stimulation, he had during his speech drunk a whole bottle of mulled port with the result that once on his knees he was unable to rise until assisted by his embarrassed colleagues. In spite of Brougham and Grey a disruptive amendment was carried. Grey then went to the King and asked him to dissolve Parliament, which he did. An election followed with the Whigs returned in greater strength. On the 21st. September a second Reform Bill was put before the house and was passed with a large majority. It passed the third reading with a majority of 100, but on the 8th. October the Lords divided at six in the morning and threw the Bill out by 199 votes to 158, all the Bishops voting against it. Agitation and rioting followed this rejection; in Bristol there was violence and property was set on fire. Parliament was prorogued for a month. When it reassembled, Lord John Russell presented a third Reform Bill on December 12th. and again the Bill was passed with a large majority, though the Tories, led by Peel, voted solidly against it. In the Lords, on April 14th. 1832, Grey's amended Bill was carried, at the second reading, by nine votes, but a wrecking motion was passed soon after, and Grey went to the King, asking him to make enough peers to overcome the Tory opposition. The King refused and Grey resigned. The

King invited Wellington to take over, asking him to promote a modified bill, but Wellington's colleagues would not support him and the King was forced to recall Grey. He also promised to create enough peers to overcome the opposition. Under this threat, Wellington gave an undertaking to let the Bill through, which he did on the 4th. June 1832, by abstaining, followed by all but 27 Tory peers. On 7th. June the Act received the Royal signature and became law.

Grey gave up in 1834 and Melbourne became P.M. Both dissensions in the Cabinet; and the death of Earl Spencer (meaning that Lord Althorpe must go to the Lords) gave the King an excuse to dismiss the Government in November 1834. Peel came into office and the Tories won the election by a majority not large enough to command the House. Consequently, in March 1835, Melbourne became a reluctant P.M. once more.

Who could vote? Under the Act, the rights of the 40/- freeholders were maintained, and to them was added £10 a year copyholders if of 60 years duration, and leases for 20 years of £50 and tenants of any kind who paid £50 a year in rent.

The first opportunity in the West Riding for the new voters to exercise their right came in the contested election of 1835. The nomination of candidates took place

## DEALERS AND WHEELERS

two abreast; Riding in single file near tram lines; regular riders to ride at the back; If one person dismounted to walk uphill - all got off to keep the company together. He and Pip Clapham were the front men.

Members I remember are Harry Cook from Deepcar, Tommy Denton of Garden City [Village? - ed], Leonard Foster and Chell Fieldsend of Haywoods, Pete Harvey of Hawthorn Brook and others with the surnames Robinson and Kippax. We couldn't afford to buy meals out so we used to pack our own sandwiches and snap, often just bread and butter and a tin of pilchards, then go to a pub or N.C.U. house for a cup of tea. It was often 8 or 9 o'clock when we returned home. One Sunday we were riding in formation towards Matlock when a car ran into the cyclists at the back and Tommy Denton finished up in Darley Dale Hospital.

Later some of the members bought tandems so they could take their girl friends or wives on the outings. Our John rode with his wife, Grace; Harry Cook with Enid Sanderson and on the back of my tandem was Tommy Denton, who used to take comics or books to read by propping them on my shoulders. I bought this Humber tandem from Lewis Scoley at 2/6d per week. Tandems were faster machines than singles so we made arrangements to meet other members at specified points. We used to have some good times but we were whacked when we got home.

*Maureen Newton - from an interview with Albert Cooke* [sadly Albert Cooke passed away in May of this year - our condolences to Maureen and family - ed.]

## PLUS ÇA CHANGE...

66 **T**he children now love luxury; they show disrespect for their elders and love chatter in place of exercise. Children are tyrants, not the servants of households. They no longer rise when their elders enter the room. They contradict their

**W**hen I was fifteen, I bought my first bike from Lewis Scoley who worked at the pit and used to buy secondhand bikes and do them up as a side line. We used to pay 2d or 3d a week to buy them from him. He stood outside the wages office collecting the money on pay day but he never had a book of debts. You trusted him and he trusted you.

Eventually he graduated to selling new bikes in a shop near Deepcar Church, across from the police station. If you wanted a new bicycle, he gave you a ticket or note as an introduction to the warehouse in Sheffield and if you paid in three months no hire purchase was paid. When Scoley decided to stop selling bikes - Eric Reece, manager of a Co-op department sold them at 1/3d a week and if he didn't have the model

in stock, he sent you to the Raleigh shop on the Moor in Sheffield to choose one yourself. The Miners Welfare on the low side of the Picture Palace was run by Jim Price. One day quite a few of us congregated at the Welfare and he asked if we would like to go bike riding on a Sunday morning. Later he brought people from Fox's works into this cycling meeting the club becoming Fox's Wheelers and joining the National Cycling Union (N.C.U.)

Twenty or thirty of us used to set off on a Sunday, riding into Derbyshire, Edwinstowe, Worksop and other places within so many miles distance.

Jim Price was very keen and made rules for members to follow such as: -

No taking feet off the pedals when freewheeling; Riding no more than

at Wakefield in the Courthouse Yard, where hustings had been erected on the south side on Wednesday 6th. May. Monday 11th. May was appointed as polling day. The Hon. J.S. Wortley and his supporters adopted blue for colours and Lord Morpeth had orange favours. Polling commenced a nine o'clock and Barnsley was one of the polling stations. On Thursday 14th May the polling closed.

The result was declared as follows: -

For Lord Morpeth           9066 votes  
For Hon. J.S. Wortley   6259 votes

In the Barnsley Polling district were 434 registered voters of which Hunshelf had 12 in booth 1. In

	In Booth 1	In Booth 2
Lord Morpeth	188	303
J.S. Wortley	180	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>404</b>

booth 2 Barnsley had 455 voters, a total of 889 voters in all.

Joseph Coldwell	Hunshelf Hall
Jonathan Crawshaw	Old Park
Benj. Garside	Hunshelf Corn Mill
Joseph Grayson	Helder Cliffe
Joseph Parkin Hague	Blackmoor
Joseph Helliwell	Unsliven Bridge
Thos. Mitchell	Dean Head
Wm. Newton	Hunshelf Bank
Rev. Samuel Revell	DuckmantonDerbys
Robt. Raworth	Holly Hall
Wm. Stones	Midhopestones, Waldershelf
Joseph Wood	Hunshelf Bank

The twelve Hunshelf voters all voted, and all cast their votes for Mr. Wortley.

*To be continued.*  
*W.E. Spencer*

parents, chatter before company, gobble up dainties at the table, cross their legs and tyrannise their teachers."

Could this berating of young people refer to the youngsters who congregate at the Stubbin roundabout or outside 'Late Shopper' in the evenings? Or even their grandparents before the war? No, these were the remarks of Socrates in 399 BC some things don't change, as is confirmed by the following quotation from Hesiod in 800 BC

"I see no hope for the future of our people if they are dependent on the frivolous youth of today, for certainly all youth is reckless beyond words...When I was young we were taught to be discrete and respectful of elders, but the present youth is exceedingly wise and impatient of restraint."

*Joan Banks*

## STOCKSBRIDGE SURNAMES AN OCCASIONAL SERIES NUMBER 8

### FOX

Two hundred years before the arrival of Samuel Fox in Stocks Bridge, **GEORGE FOX** of Fulwood Hall was the owner of Bolsterstone Glasshouse. His son **JOHN** was also a glass maker, and it was his daughter **MARY** who married William Finney and caused the closure of the Bolsterstone glassworks by setting up as rivals at Catcliffe. The family's interest in glassmaking seems to have ended with the death of John's son **MICHAEL** in 1758.

Although no connection has yet been found between the **FOXES** of Fulwood Hall, Smallfield and Bradfield, and the **FOXES** of Hathersage, we wonder why Samuel chose this valley in which to set up his wire-drawing business in 1842, unless he had heard of it through family connections.

**Samuel Fox** was synonymous with Stocksbridge for 150 years, but is

now a fading memory.  
*Brenda Duffield.*

## TEACHERS & PUPILS

I went to the British School in Stocksbridge when the head teachers were Mr. & Mrs Jones. The music teacher Mr. Elliott played the organ at the Primitive Methodist Chapel and when I was a little older I was detailed to pump the organ for him. Well - if he had been on to me during the week I used to let the air out and it made an awful noise. He said he had been shot in the First World War and the bullet was still in his neck, you could see it sticking out at the side. Mr. Elliott married Miss Briggs and it was her father who gave me the 5/- a year for pumping the organ at the Chapel. One teacher who I remember as being very good and fair called Mr. Kenworthy lived at Penistone and walked to Stocksbridge every day. The woodwork teacher had a jockey whip in case you did anything wrong.

Older boys used to take us younger ones to school and it was a long way to walk from our house on Hawthorn Brook to the British School in Stocksbridge. It was much too far for little ones to walk home at dinner time so we took a packed meal of bread and dripping or jam wrapped in newspaper and had a drink of water from the tap.

Boys I remember from school are Frank Sanderson; Joe Broomhead and Frank Charlesworth of Bessemer Terrace, Horner House; Les Sheldon of Hole House Lane whose father was known as Fotter and Ralph Braddock who lived next but one to Bosworths shop opposite the pit offices. To go to school I wore clogs with long stockings and short trousers, a woollen jersey and a peaked cap. No coat, scarf or gloves even in the winter so hands were kept warm in trouser pockets. I passed the exam for Penistone Grammar School but because mother couldn't afford the uniform for me I didn't go but my friend Ralph Braddock did.

*From an interview with  
ALBERT COOKE August  
1996 by his daughter.  
MAUREEN NEWTON, 64,  
Bestwood Rd., Hucknall,  
Nottingham, NG15 7PQ.*

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