

THE PARAGON

Journal of Stocksbridge & District History Society



Issue Number 47

Spring 2007

SOCIETY NEWS

We are now involved in efforts to produce a Design Statement for Bolsterstone, Deepcar and Stocksbridge, as Joan Banks explained at the A.G.M.. This will set out our appreciation of the area's past, our assessment of its present state and our hopes and intentions for its future. The area east of Carr Road is being used as a trial run – every household will be given a questionnaire in which to identify features they think should be preserved, what should be improved or encouraged, and what still needs to be done. This is our chance to put on record whether we are content to allow our town to degenerate further – prey to property developers, asset stripping and corporate insanity. The activity at Pot House Infant School is a case in point.

We will discuss this at our next meeting on March 8th.

THE POSITION ACHIEVED BY
OUR LITTLE BAND OF
PLAYERS IS MOST
CREDITABLE TO THEM

to 1. The return match at the Oval was played by the London Association rules, which vary very slightly from those adopted by the Sheffield Association, London winning by 1 goal to 0.

A deciding match was arranged for the 2nd. March following, each code of rules to be played half time, and it also resulted in favour of Sheffield, by 2 goals to 1. Ever since the matches were established, the result in Sheffield has been the same, and also in London until January last, when the Sheffields made a tie of it, the two previous matches there both having ended in favour of the Metropolitans.

That celebrated team, the Royal Engineers, were the first to lower the Sheffield colours at Bramall Lane. And it required all their skill to hold their own against a formidable team sent over from Glasgow. The position achieved by our little band of players is most creditable to them, and the town is proud of their prowess, and never misses an opportunity of being present if possible. So great a hold has this fine old game taken on Sheffields that with fine weather they will muster in as large and larger numbers than for cricket.

The London team, with but three exceptions, did not arrive in Sheffield until Saturday afternoon, which delayed the commencement of the match a quarter of an hour after the appointed time, which was quite late enough, as it gets too dark at this season to play up to 4.45. The London captain, who was disappointed at the last moment by the non-appearance of two of his men, had to fall back on the services of Messrs. M. Ellison and J.G. Wylie, and very efficient substitutes they proved. The ground was in better

LONDON v. SHEFFIELD

FURTHER SUCCESS OF SHEFFIELD

SHEFFIELD TELEGRAPH
MONDAY 9TH. NOVEMBER 1874

This was the first great match of the season in Sheffield. The weather was summer-like and all that could be desired, consequently a very large number of spectators congregated at Bramall Lane, ready to see the kick-off. There would be few, if any, short of 6,000 persons present during the match, many of whom were ladies, who took advantage of the favourable weather and free admission.

These matches have now been played thrice a year without intermission for three years. The first contest took place at Bramall Lane on 1st. December 1871. On the first Saturday in 1872 the return match was played on the Oval, London. The first match, played by the Sheffield rules, resulted in favour of the men of Hallamshire, who scored 3

IN THIS ISSUE

SOCIETY NEWS	PAGE 1
LONDON v. SHEFFIELD	PAGE 1
MEMOIRS OF LILIAN BIRKHEAD	PAGE 2
DIARY OF WILLIS BURGIN	PAGE 2
KENWORTHY HOLDINGS	PAGE 3

order than we have seen it in any previous match. The Sheffield captain, whose men were rigged out in new, radiant attire and flaming nightcaps, lost the toss and had to kick uphill against a very slight wind. At 3.15 Mr. J.C. Clegg kicked off. It was soon evident that the nightcap men were wide awake, and the play at once became fast and furious.

[This piece was omitted from the last issue – our apologies!]

THE MEMOIRS OF LILIAN BIRKHEAD 1896 - 1987

SUNDAY

Of course, we all went to Sunday School – twice, and generally twice to Chapel. Our chapel had boxed-in pews, with doors. On Sunday afternoons the children sat in the chapel “bottom” and liked to get near the central grate that blew hot air from somewhere down below – I am not sure that there was any other heating. I believe that in earlier days there was a huge stove in the centre that burned coke.

The pews went up in steps; our pew was number 4 – and although the pews were demolished in 1921, the steps remain, with forms for seats, making a good concert hall. The choir was on a raised stage and also went up in three steps on either side of the pipe organ. The pulpit was at one side, where the crockery cupboard is situated now.

On most Sunday evenings services were followed by a prayer meeting, when members went into the chapel bottom and knelt, while we youngsters stayed in the pews, and one after the other would pray or strike up a hymn. We called these a “Sankey” – Sankey and Moody were Revivalists and *Sankey's Collection of Songs* was their hymn book. We always had a Sankey for the second hymn of the service. Sometimes one of the men would sing the verses while we all joined in the chorus.

The prayers were impromptu and generally followed a similar pattern. Each Brother had a characteristic phrase. One prayed “May we all be gathered together in unbroken tribes and families” – I thought that a grand sentiment. I only remember one Sister taking part and that was Amy Rusby.

Our family acquired an American organ early in the twentieth century, which my eldest brother, Wilfrid Walton, learned to play. He became our church organist for 61 years. Wilfrid used to cycle every Saturday afternoon to Netherfield Congregational Church in Penistone, where their organist, Miss Annie Smith of Bullas Grange, Thurlstone, gave him lessons on a pedal organ. Netherfield Church was built in 1786 by Dissenters (presumably from Penistone Parish) and thrived for many years. Extensions were built onto the original building. But during the second

half of the century, the cause dwindled, and after much deliberation and conference with the Penistone Methodists, they took the brave decision to join forces with them in 1981. The new church was built on the site of the former St. Paul's Methodist Church in Penistone High Street and was named St. Andrew's.

Wilfrid went to practice on our new organ at chapel several evenings a week, and I went with him to blow the organ, for which he paid me tuppence a week, which was quite good money. I had a tall stool with a candle on it, and I could hold a book in my left hand while I worked the handle up and down with my right. Otherwise it could have been very boring in the dark chapel. We had electric lighting installed in about 1940.

After tea on Sunday we used to sing hymns – mostly Sankey's – to Wilfrid's accompaniment. We certainly devoted our Sundays to worship. But then there was no radio or television, no games, no cars and certainly no gardening. Only the minimum of farm work was done on Sundays until the early part of the twentieth century.

THE DIARY OF WILLIS BURGIN

On the Battalion notice board that weekend my name was on a list of 200 soldiers and NCOs to take a 14-day Firing course at Hawksworth Range. All the party were issued with two Army blankets and an oiled ground sheet for camping in bell tents on Hawksworth Moor.

Although it was summer, it was cold in the mornings and at night. There were six of us to a tent. Our beds were quickly made on the ground with the oilskin and two blankets, using our greatcoats as pillows. The first night I could not sleep, the ground was so hard., so before going to bed the next night I used the wooden peg hammer to make a hollow suitable for my hip to fit in. This made it much better, but unfortunately it was a one way bed – I could not turn over.

The firing range was a miniature of 30 yards and we all had four days to learn how to handle and fire a rifle. My first time on the range I failed to hit a target, and me with two stripes on my sleeve! Then I was given another rifle, and this time I was able to group my shots fairly well and passed my test.

The first week passed quite quickly and we finished at 2.00 pm. on Saturday for the weekend. That afternoon I went with a party of NCOs and walked the three miles to Ilkley. We had tea in a café and booked for the evening show at the theatre. Topping the bill was Florrie Ford – a great turn and a favourite of the public and the Forces.

The show finished at 10.30 pm. and it was a lovely moonlit night for our walk back over Ilkley Moor to camp. As we neared the top of the moor, I took off my hat and started singing that well known song *On Ilkla Moor baht 'at!*,
(Continued on page 4)

For the benefit of those members who are fairly new to the district and have never heard of Joseph Kenworthy:

KENWORTHY HOLDINGS

PUBLISHED HANDBOOKS 1914 – 1928

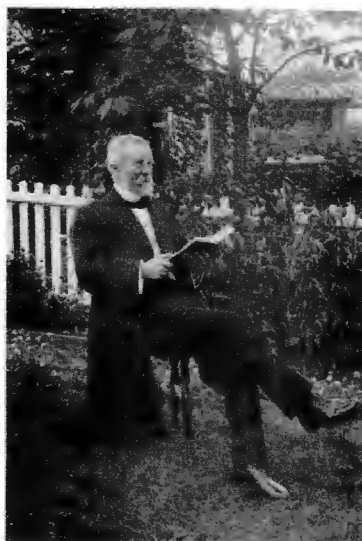
No. of copies in Library Archive

4	Clay, Firestone & Ganister in the Little Don Valley	4
5	Midhope Glasshouse & Potteries	
6	Bolsterstone Glasshouse	3
9	The Old Cotton Mill at Stocksbridge	
13	Townfields & Commons of Bolsterstone, Langsett, Hunshelf & Midhope; Inclosure Awards	2
15	Descent of the Manor of Bolsterstone	3
16	Descent of Manor of Langsett & Benefice of Penistone	3
18a	Old Registers & Old Scholars	3
19	Charter of the Workers, Doles & Charities	5
23	The Lure of Midhope-cum-Langsett	1
	Jubilee History of the Stocksbridge Band of Hope	
	Industrial Co-operative Society Limited 1860 – 1910	5

UNPUBLISHED Manuscripts

1	Some Geological Features of the Little Don Valley
2	Wiredrawing at Thurgoland
3	Early Coalmining & Deepcar Coke
3b	Coal Mining
7	The Cornmills of Hunshelf & Waldershelf
8	Sheepfolds, Sheepwalks & Clothmaking
10	Family Names, Home-made Furniture, Farming Hustlement in Hunshelf & Waldershelf in the Reign of Richard II
11a b	Old Houses & Barns in Little Don Valley
11c d	Old Houses & Barns in Little Don Valley
12	The Town Box of Hunshelf
14	Old Roads & New in Little Don & Ewden Valleys
17	Midhope Manor House & Church
20	Educational Endowments: Midhope School
21	“ “ Bolsterstone School
22	History from Names of Fields & Homes of Hunshelf, Langsett & Waldershelf
22a b	Four Homes of Hunshelf, Waldershelf & Langsett
23	A Parish Council in 1608 – Civil Records for Westnall, Waldershelf & Bradfield
24	Local Government in Hunshelf & Waldershelf

[Photograph of Joseph Kenworthy, at Stretton Villa, Haywoods Lane]



STOCKSBRIDGE & DISTRICT
HISTORY SOCIETY

COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

ROY MALLINSON TEL. 288 8362

SECRETARY

BASIL SPOONER—TEL 288 4456

TREASURER

BETTY MCKAY—TEL 288 2269

ARCHIVE LIAISON

BRENDA DUFFIELD—TEL 288 2349

MEETINGS ARE NORMALLY HELD ON THE SECOND
THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, AT THE UNITED REFORM
CHURCH HALL, MANCHESTER ROAD, STOCKSBRIDGE AT
7.00 PM.

THE PARAGON

NEXT EDITION—JUNE 2007

PUBLICATION DEADLINE—10TH MAY

MEETINGS

❖ PROGRAMME 2007 ❖

MARCH 8TH

THE HISTORY OF SHEFFIELD MANOR LODGE DAVID
TEMPLEMAN

APRIL 12TH

THE SHEFFIELD FLOOD MARTIN OLIVE

MAY 10TH

ASPECTS OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR MICK KERRIGAN

JUNE 14TH

VISIT TO NEWSTEAD ABBEY

JULY 12TH

THE MEDIEVAL LORDS OF SHEFFIELD LLOYD POWELL

AUGUST

SUMMER RECESS

SEPTEMBER 13TH

THE ANGLO SAXONS BASIL SPOONER

OCTOBER 11TH

A LOOK AT OLD NORTH SHEFFIELD MALCOLM NUNN

OCTOBER 21ST

BRADFIELD FAMILY & LOCAL HISTORY FAIR

NOVEMBER 8TH

CHURCHES IN THE SOUTH YORKS. LANDSCAPE RAY
BATTYE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 15TH

CHRISTMAS CAROL SUPPER

Designed & printed by Mike's DTP 014 246 4200 mike@spick.co.uk

(Continued from page 2)

shouting to the other lads to help me out. They all took off their hats and joined in – it sounded like a good old Yorkshire choir – all from a Yorkshire Regiment and baht 'at!

On the Monday morning at Hawksworth Camp I was detailed for Orderly Corporal duties for the week. I heard that the Corporal the previous week had difficulty getting the men up in the morning, so I thought of a way to do something about this. So I got up an hour earlier at 5.30 am when all was quiet on the moor but for the birds and only the whistling of the wind in the silver grass. Quietly I went round the tents, loosening the bottom flaps. Then I sat down and waited for the bugler to blow *Reveille* at 6.30 am. As the last notes of the bugle sounded I rolled up the flaps of each tent, letting in the cold moorland air. I heard plenty of swear-words, but it worked.

When the Firing course was finished we returned to Killinghall Camp at Harrogate. At the entrance to the camp and near the Police Tent stood a sentry on guard duty with bayonet fixed. My Provost Sergeant welcomed me back and told me about the prisoner under guard, who had been charged and convicted of threatening an officer. This was a very serious offence in the Army, especially in wartime. The C.O. had sentenced the soldier to a Field Punishment, and it was the duty of the Provost Sergeant to see this carried out. The next morning at 10.00 am. I saw the prisoner marched out between two Provost policemen, with the Provost Sergeant bringing up the rear, all looking so serious. They marched him to a gun carriage about 100 yards from the camp gates. The sun was shining as the prisoner, dressed only in shirt, trousers, boots and socks, offered no resistance as he was secured with arms and legs spread 18 inches apart, to the spokes of one of the gun-carriage wheels. He was left there until 12.30 pm. when he was taken away for his dinner, then returned to his position until 4.30 pm. I saw the prisoner's face and he looked rather grim and a little ashamed.