



SUMMER JOURNAL 2026



Dear Members of Clitheroe Civic Society,

I hope that you have all had a good summer, albeit one that has brought some challenging temperatures at times!

Our Secretary, Louise Davies and I recently had the opportunity to climb the scaffolding inside the 'tent' covering the Castle Keep to review the work going on inside. It was a really fantastic chance to see close up, the works ongoing to ensure that the structural issues are fixed and that the walls are properly capped and re-pointed. We were both impressed by the approach being taken and look forward to seeing the results when the keep is finally uncovered in September

Last month we met members and friends at our CCS summer outing to Browsholme Hall - we enjoyed an introduction from Robert Parker, a guided tour of the hall and a two course lunch followed by ample opportunity to wander the grounds at leisure before we let Robert have his house back to himself for the day. A very enjoyable trip was had by all.

Monday September the 7th brings our new season to a start with our AGM for approx 15 minutes then a presentation by Louise Davies. Please do join us from **7.15 for this one** and we look forward to members renewing their memberships at the same prices as last year (£18) - memberships are now due and can be paid to the society's bank account or paid at our meeting at the Assembly Hall on the 7th. Should anyone need the bank account details they are Clitheroe Civic Society, 40 17 35, 11077163.

See you all soon,

Peter Llewellyn

Chair,

Clitheroe Civic Society

Schedule of presentations for the 26/27 season

7 Sept **AGM at 7:15pm** followed by **Emily Jackson**
and **Clitheroe's New Commemorative**
Plaque Scheme – Louise Davies

5 Oct **Rails to the Dales: a journey from the**
Ribble Valley to Carlisle – Steve Williams

2 Nov **Whalley Abbey archaeology: 35 years on**
site. What have we learned? – Nigel Neil

7 Dec **The East Lancashire Loom Riots of 1826 –**
Colin Penny

4 Jan **TBC**

1 Feb **TBC**

1 March **Wainwright in the Ribble Valley and**
Bowland – Nick Burton

5 April **TBC**

10 May **Clitheroe Treasure hunt and supper**

Presentations start at 7.30pm at the Assembly Hall, Lowergate, BB7 1AG
Membership fees are £18 per season; visitors are most welcome at a cost of £4
Light refreshments included

Donations to the CCS Archive

Christine Nicholls got in touch with the Society recently and donated two booklets –

- 1) The Clitheroe Parish Church 'Bazaar Book of Quotations and Recipes' – April 1913
- 2) St Mary's Parish Church 'Quality Street' Cookery Book – November 1955

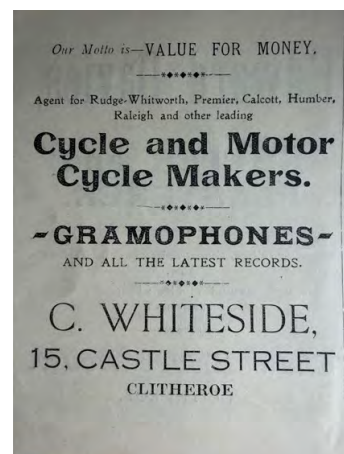
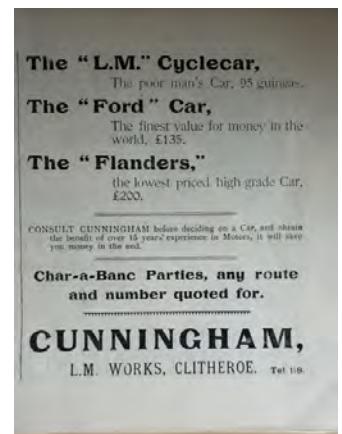
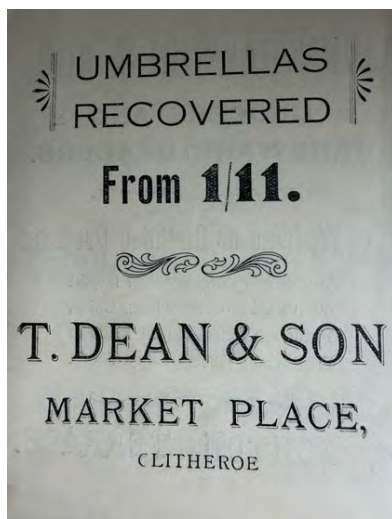
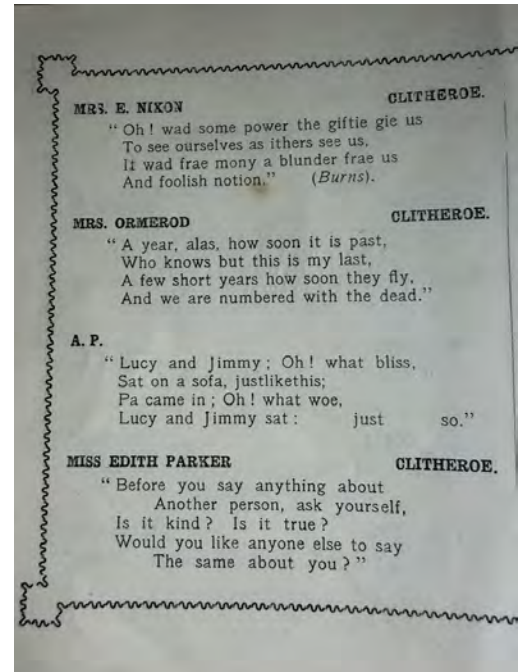
Extracts from each follows below

Bazaar Book – 1913

Recipe for Raisin Cake – 1lb flour,
half lb small raisins and the same of sugar,
quarter lb butter and the same of lard,
3 eggs, 1 cupful of milk,
2 and a half teaspoons of baking powder,
2 drops of lemon – bake in a moderate oven.

Miss J Bleazard, Mytton House, Clitheroe Recipe for Wafer Pudding

1 ounce melted butter,
3 tablespoons of flour,
2 tablespoons of castor sugar,
2 eggs well whisked and add gradually half a pint of milk.
Beat the whole together and bake in buttered saucers for 25 mins in a moderate oven.
Spread with raspberry jam and double over.
Sufficient for five persons. Mrs Collinge, Downham.



Quality Street cookbook - 1955

Recipe for Rockies (biscuits) – 5oz self-raising flour, 1 egg, pinch of salt, 4oz margarine, 4oz castor sugar, a few cherries, a little coconut.

Rub the fat into the flour and add the salt. Make a well in the centre and put in the sugar and chopped cherries. Drop in the well beaten egg and mix to a soft dough. Break off small pieces the size of a walnut, flatten and roll in

coconut. Place on a well greased baking sheet, not too close together as they will spread. Cook in a moderate oven for 15-20 minutes. As an alternative to cherries and coconut, use sultanas and crushed cornflakes. Mrs Kunzle.

Recipe for Halstead's Pudding – 4 oz flour, half a teaspoon Bicarbonate of Soda, 2 table-spoons syrup, 2 oz fruit, 2 oz lard or margarine.

Melt the syrup and fat together, add the other ingredients and mix soft with milk. Steam for one hour. Mrs W Whitehead.

Recipe for Sebastopol Cake – 1lb flour, half a lb butter, 4 oz mixed peel, half a lb sugar, 1 lb currants, 2 dessertspoonfuls baking powder, 1 breakfastcup boiling milk.

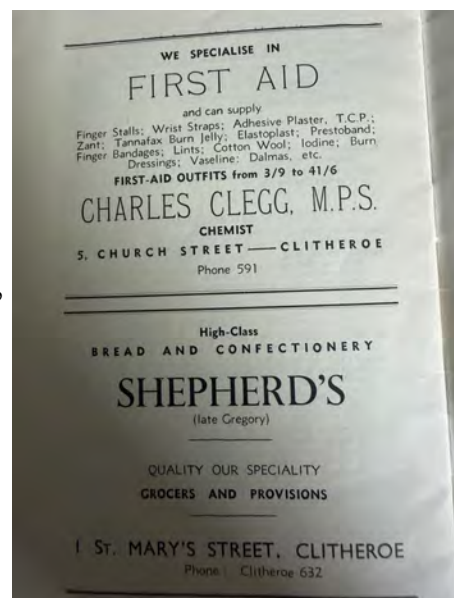
Rub butter into the flour, add sugar, currants, peel and baking powder, then the cup of milk. Stir well. Put into a well-greased loaf tins. Bake in a slow oven for two to three hours. Keep for a fortnight before using. Mrs Brown.

Recipe for Damson Pickle – 6lbs Damsons, half an ounce grated cinnamon, 1 quart best vinegar, 4lbs white sugar, quarter oz of ground cloves.

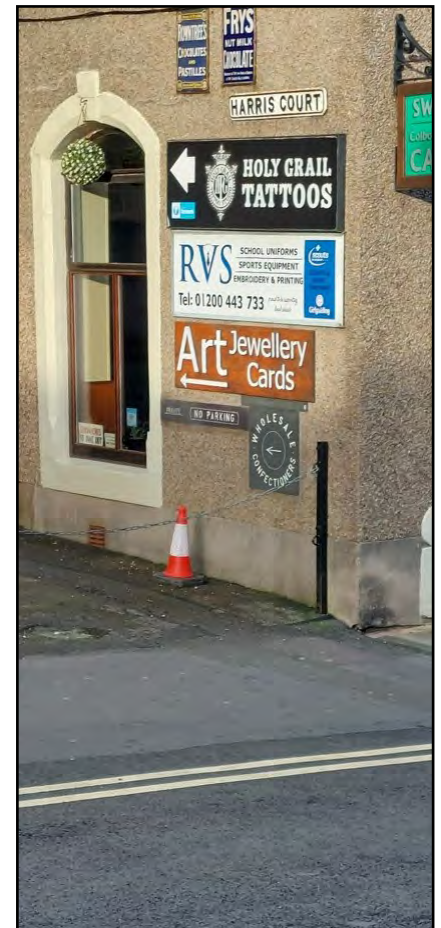
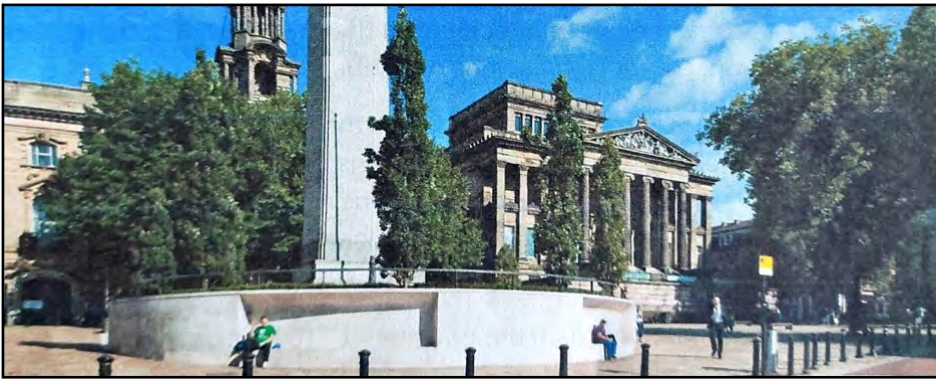
Boil sugar, spices and vinegar together for a short time (a few minutes after it has come to a boil). Pour over the damsons and let them stand until the next day. On the second day, pour the syrup from the fruit and boil it again, pouring over the fruit once more. Leave until the third day when you boil all together for five minutes, then bottle. The syrup should be rather thick. A M Lancaster

Recipe for Eggs a la Mimosa – hard boiled eggs, chopped lobster, crab, ham or pate, mayonnaise.

Cut the eggs in half, remove the yolks and force them through a strainer. Fill the whites with lobster, crab, ham or pate. Lay them on a bed of lettuce with the whites uppermost, Cover each lightly with mayonnaise and sprinkle over each with the strained egg yolk. Mrs



THE HARRIS PRESTON—THE CLITHEROE CONNECTION



Many, like myself, will have noticed Harris Court the short cul de sac between the old Natwest bank and the Colbourne Café at the top of Well-gate. I wondered why it was so called and with the help of our splendid researcher, Shirley Penman delved further.

Edmond Robert HaRRIS (1804—1877) was a successful lawyer in Preston, who had no heirs, left a bequest of £300,000 (£3.6 million in today's money) to Preston Corporation in memory of his father to establish free institutions in the town. This led to the Harris Museum, Harris Institute or Art School, Harris Technical School and the Harris Orphanage of which the famous Harris Free Library, Museum and Art Gallery remains. The Art School and Institute became the University of Central Lancashire. Among other public benefits he added infectious diseases wards to Preston Royal Infirmary.

Edmond's father was the Reverend Robert Harris (1764-1862) vicar of St George's Parish Church for 64 years and headmaster of Preston Grammar School (1788-1835). He was also the librarian of the Dr Richard Shepherd Library and was involved in a long running campaign to create a free public library and museum in the town. Robert was born in Clitheroe on 20th February 1764 the son of Robert Harris, described at his death in 1793 as a Clitheroe grocer.

Robert was educated at the Grammar School by Thomas Wilson, one of the greatest headmasters, through whose good offices he went first to Emmanuel and then Sidney Sussex Colleges Cambridge, graduating B.A.1787, M.A.1790 and B.D.1797 during which year he was licensed to St. George's Preston. Wilson clearly kept in touch with his pupils who went to university and there is an interesting reference to Robert in a letter dated 28th April 1784 from Rev Richard Ormerod to Wilson: 'Harris, whom you were so good as to enquire after, is very well; he makes very good use of his time and opportunities, and I have no doubt will do extremely well. He has done himself much credit in a classical and mathematical examination which he has lately undergone, and the Society has promised him a handsome reward. He is remarkably steady and industrious. I often see him and take pleasure in encouraging and assisting him.'

When Robert came to Preston the town population was around 6,000 with only 1 small mill and at the time of his death it was 82,000 with over 50 mills. As well as supporting the poor during the 1860's cotton famine he was pivotal in the founding of a National School for children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Attendance reached 380 boys and 160 girls by the late 1810's (the Grammar School was private with a few free places.)

Robert Harris' Cambridge degrees, made possible by Clitheroe Grammar School and Thomas Wilson qualified him for his clerical and teaching careers and he was clearly a very important person in Preston's social development, particularly for the poor in a time of massive industrial expansion.

David McKinlay, April 2026

Cultivating Clitheroe

Five years of the Castle Gate Planters 2021-2026 Planters 2021-2026



Sorry no photographs available for 2023! How did that happen?



Shirley's Snippets

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DISPLAYING to his class a map of this district, Mr. Smithies, geography master at St. Leonard's School, Padiham, asked the meaning of the figures, 1,831 referring to Pendle Hill. He was totally unprepared for the astounding answer from one of the scholars: "The year in which it was built."



To a meeting of the Parks and Playgrounds Committee, the Surveyor reported that he had only received one application for catering at the Castle. It was unanimously resolved that the application be not entertained. It was unanimously resolved that the Castle house be not let for catering but that the rooms which had originally been set apart for a maternity and child welfare centre and school clinic be again set apart for such purpose. It was unanimously resolved, "that taking into consideration the very poor response to the advertisements for letting the Castle for catering, this committee adhere to their original scheme of erecting a pavilion near the bowling greens and tennis courts, but that the Surveyor be instructed to prepare plans for the enlargement of such pavilion in order to provide accommodation for catering for the public, and also that the Surveyor be instructed to prepare plans for the erection of a smaller pavilion on the playing field in order to cater for the children using such field."

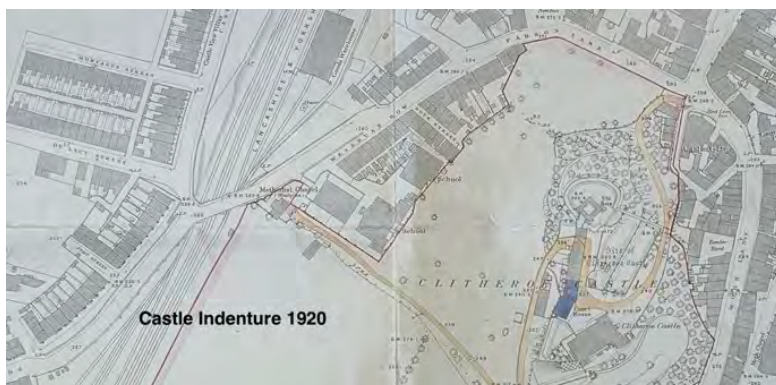
CAT 19.5.1922

The old stable and coach house near the Wesleyan School is to be pulled down and the material used in erecting a tennis and bowling pavilion at the Castle.

18.1.24

The players will have the use of the upper storey of the pavilion, with lavatory and store for the woods, whilst a larger room, overlooking the tennis courts, may be used for refreshments should a demand for them be evident. A stairway from the bowling section leads to the rooms provided for tennis players. Separate accommodation for ladies and gentlemen is provided and the pavilion is excellent in every way. The stone-work formerly composed the barn and stables which stood near the Wesleyan Church. The material has been well used.

10.4.1925



18.8.1922

THE CASTLE MEADOW.

Sir,- I would like, if you will permit me, to supplement the remarks of your correspondent, "A Daily Victim," with regard to the cut across the Castle Meadow from Eshton Terrace. My suggestion is that an entry should be made approximately at Messrs. Grime's stables and that a proper

ash footpath should run alongside the railway to the Castle stables. This would involve a minimum of interference with the occupants of what is now neither more nor less than a public recreation ground, with which I have no quarrel. Ultimately there should be a road across this length to obviate the necessity of reaching the station or Parson-lane by way of the level crossings and Bawdlands. I speak with no disrespect of Bawdlands as a community, but as a highway link with the Eshton-terrace and Woone-lane district it has long been at a discount. The eternal delays at the level crossing are a serious menace to the trade, the business and the private interests of people making out of one district into the other, whichever way you may be going, and this menace has continued for more than a generation. Why it should be bolstered up now that the Castle grounds belong to the ratepayers passes comprehension. Personally I regard it as the most urgent of all the Castle problems demanding immediate solution. The value of the time wasted at the level crossings in times past must amount to many thousands of pounds, and in the interests of economy this wastage should be stopped immediately. I myself have within a comparatively short time either missed my train owing to delay at the level crossings, or have cut across the mud patch and gone to Manchester splashed up to the neck.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM THE SOUDAN

TO A CLITHEROE MAN

We think the following letter will be of particular interest to all Clitheroe people, and therefore we gave very great pleasure in publishing it, at the same time tendering our thanks to the Clitheroe gentleman who has allowed us to make use of it, and whose name we are not permitted to disclose:-

Soudan Field Force, Khartoum, Egypt.

September 6, 1898.

Dear Dick, - We started from Atbara, the scene of the last fight, about three days after I wrote to you from there, to advance on Khartoum, and I can safely say it was one of the worst experiences I ever had in my life, and I hope to God it is the last. We sailed for a certain distance up the Nile in river boats, and for five days and nights we had to stand up neatly all the time, so tightly were we packed on them. We lived on corned beef and biscuits nearly all the time, and many a time we did not get that. Then we got off the boats and had to march across the desert, as we could not get any further on account of the rapids. Then was the time I wished myself dead. On average we marched ten miles a day under a scorching sun, and over a barren desert, with a few biscuits and a bottle of dirty water. And glad of it we were. The water would not last us more than a few miles, and then you would see men walking along with everything they had on wet through with sweating and gasping for a drink. Scores of them fell down in a dead faint, and we could not stop for them, and whenever we came to a place where the sand looked damp we dug it up and drained the water from it, and when you got it it was the colour of water in a clay pit and full of sand; but we drank it as if it was brandy. A good many of us would have given five pounds for a drink of water if we had the money and the water could have been bought. At the end of every day's march we managed to get near the Nile, as we had to follow the river all the way up country, and then we could drink as much as we liked out of the river. Then the next morning we would strike across the desert with our bottles filled and a few biscuits and very likely some corned beef. That was the way we did our travelling, and all the time we slept under the stars, with the sand and a blanket for a bed. Each time we halted for the night the whole division of troops formed a square, and in that formation we slept, and so many were told off from each regiment to guard the square from the enemy. There were all the camels, horses, guns, wagons, and ammunition in the middle of the square.

Then one morning the gun boats brought us news that they had seen the enemy advancing, and that they had fired on them! Then there was a bit of confusion – we were off to meet the Khalifa and his army. We started about four o'clock the same morning and did a forced march of twelve miles, and took up position the same night and waited for him; but he did not come. All that night we were under arms waiting for him. Then about six o'clock the next morning we sighted him coming across the desert with an army of between thirty and forty thousand. That was just what we wanted; we wanted to get him out on the open desert, as he would never come out in the open before, and I am sure he never dreamt there were half as many of us as there were; but when he once started he came bravely on to meet us.

Our artillery opened fire on them first at a distance of seventeen hundred yards. It was the 32nd Field Battery, and our regiment were alongside of them, on the left of the line. They fired solid shot at them at first to find the range, and then the battle commenced. The artillery poured shrapnell shell into them as they advanced, and as soon as they got within range of the infantry the big guns stopped, and then came our turn to have a cut at them, and you must bear in mind they were advancing on us all the time. When the big guns were playing on them we could see hundreds of them blown to atoms, but still they kept on. As they got within range of us their bullets began to whistle round our heads like hailstones; then was the time your chums were falling down alongside of you, some killed and some wounded. When I saw them getting shot on either side of me I felt excited and sickly; I could not tell where I was properly, but after we had been fighting for about twenty minutes the feeling went away, and I was as cool and collected as ever I was, but I was expecting every minute all the same, as the bullets were whistling round my head like peas, so I firmly believe man will never die till his time comes. There was one chap next to me, named Smith, who was shot through the ribs and died the next day.

Well, when the Dervishes got within 500 yards of us they could get no further, as our line was just nothing else but a living fire; it was impossible for anything to get near us, and the enemy were dropping just like ninepins. After one hour and 58 minutes' hard fighting they scattered and fled, and then the whole lot of us, together with the cavalry, went after them like mad, hitting them as we went along. This lasted five hours and forty minutes. We killed about 20,000 of them, and the rest escaped across the desert. About three thousand escaped with the Khalifa. Slatin Pasha, who was captured with General Gordon and kept a prisoner in Khartoum for two years, went after him and chased him for thirty miles, but his horses were done up and he could not follow him any further. Slatin Pasha said he would have followed the Khalifa a hundred miles if his horses could have stuck to it. So the Khalifa escaped. A lot of his men have been captured since. It was a sickly sight marching across the battlefield, walking over hundreds of killed and wounded, legs, arms, and heads lying all over the shop.

Eventually we reached Omdurman, which is seven miles from Khartoum. We captured that place; it is the principal city, and consists of miles of mud buildings and mud fortifications. Khartoum was shelled from the boats and left in ruins. At Omdurman we halted and took possession. There are hundreds of women and children there. We have got all our prisoners there, waiting to be shot. On the Sunday after the fight fifty officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of every regiment went up to Khartoum to pay their last respects to General Gordon – that is, we held a religious ceremony over the place where he was killed. General Kitchener, generals, and staff were present, also General Gordon's nephew, who was in charge of one of the gun-boats, also Lord Salisbury's son. I am pleased to say that I was one of those who were picked to go to Khartoum, and be present at the hoisting of the Union Jack on the Palace of Khartoum. The Palace is by the side of the Nile, only about twenty yards off. The Rifle Brigade representative stood opposite the Palace; you will see us in the "Graphic" if you look. I have the honour of saying I was present at Khartoum, which thousands of the other soldiers can't say. I have got a bit of the Palace, also a bit of the steps on which General Gordon was killed when giving his last orders. I also got some figs and pomegranates out of the Palace, and I have got a rifle, sword, ammunition belt, and spear which we captured, and I am going to try and get them home if I can.

I have often wondered how I was able to stick through it all; it was enough to kill any man, and many a one it did kill. I say there is no man who knows what he can do till he is put to the test. We are still at Omdurman, and we hope to get down to Cairo in another month's time, all being well. I must say I have had pretty good health up to the present.

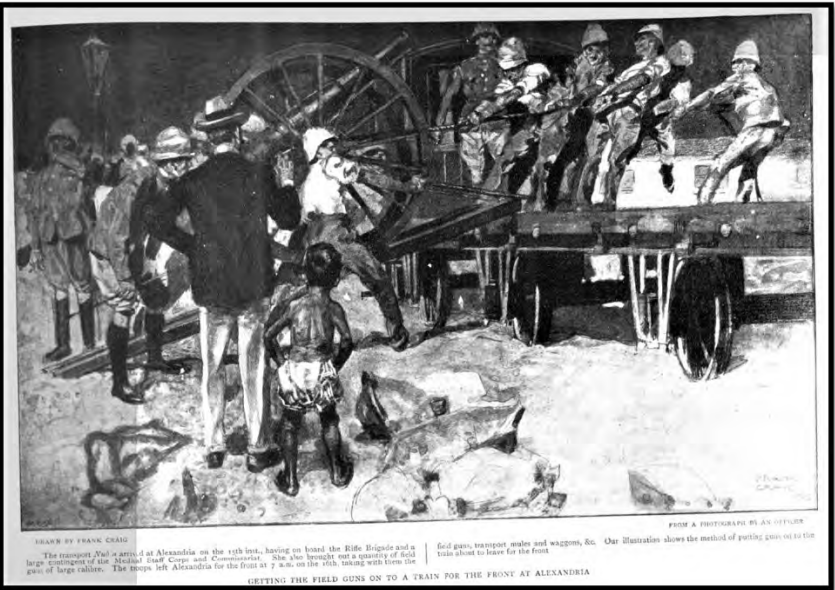
Bugler ARTHUR CHARNLEY,

2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade,

Soudan Field Force, Egypt.

Clitheroe Times 7th October 1898

Some pictures from the `Graphic`



**The Rev. Thomas Wilson, headmaster of the Clitheroe Grammar School,
in 1775 said of Clitheroe:**

A town of no commerce yet well represented.
A place of much bustle but little frequented.
A place of no riches, but very much pride.
A place of ill fame, by no means belied.
A place full of tailors, without e'er a coat,
And burgesses many without e'er a vote.
A pretty large town without a good street.
A pretty good shambles but very poor meat.
A poor looking church with musical steeple.
Very poor looking house but very fat people.
All saints upon Sundays, but all the week sinners.
Exercise keen stomachs but very poor dinners.
The aldermen boast of their judgement in jellies
And al are very great in their heads and their bellies.
A quick-sighted people yet dull in discerning
A very good school with a small share of learning.
A nest of attorneys without any law
And parsons which practice much more than they know.
A place where the number of doctors increases
Which seems the most dreadful of all their diseases.

—oooOOOooo—

Extract from The History of Shaw Cottage Clitheroe (built 1681)

The house was owned by Clitheroe Royal Grammar School from 1847 to 1955

HENRY ROBINSON , local entrepreneur, was resident 1874-1902

In June 1874 Henry Robinson signed a fourteen year lease with the school at £70 per year, in which he agreed to take:

*“All that Messuage, dwelling house **and tenement** formerly called Shay Brook House, but now known by the name of Shaw Cottage, with barn, coach house, stabling and other conveniences thereto belonging, and the meadow adjoining thereto formerly called The Croft and now occupied therewith, containing in the whole 3a2r28p in statute measure, or thereabouts. And also all those four several fields of meadow and pasture land situate in Clitheroe aforesaid and lately occupied by Mrs. Mary Baxter, Innkeeper, and containing in the whole 13a1r14p in statute measure or thereabouts”.*

The reference to the dwelling house **and tenement** is worth noting. Could this be an alternative explanation for the Shaw Cottage or Shaw Cottage Rear mentioned in earlier censuses? The tenement must have been some kind of accommodation separate from the house itself and clearly much more humble.

Henry's father, James Robinson, was a calico printer, originally from the Bradford area. He married and was living in Church near Airedale when Henry was born in 1827. There were two younger siblings, John and Bridget.

In 1851, the family home was on Parson Lane Clitheroe and Henry and his father were block printers, his sister Bridget a weaver. At that time John was lodging with relatives.

In 1856 Henry married Margaret Walker, from Sawley, the step-daughter of James Dixon, a grocer, originally from the Rossendale area. For the early years of their marriage they lived with James Dixon. Indeed this was definitely the case on the 1861 census. Henry worked as a coal merchant in those early years.

He was obviously ambitious.

In the early 1860's Henry and his brother John, with the help of various loans, built Shawbridge Mill and became cotton manufacturers in spinning and weaving.

By 1871 Henry and Margaret were living at Shaw Cottage with their two children, James and Hannah, aged 13 and 5, (*named after Henry and Margaret*), and a servant, Margery Kenyon, from Sawley. Another son, Richard, did not survive.

It appears that a private arrangement had been made with Robert Dewhurst for the outstanding lease on Shaw Cottage, 1871 to 1874. The practice seems to have been that lease terms were for a seven year period, or multiples of it)

Henry's brother John, at this time aged 42, was a visitor at the Burscough farm of Mrs. Ann Smith, a widow, and was described as an agricultural labourer.

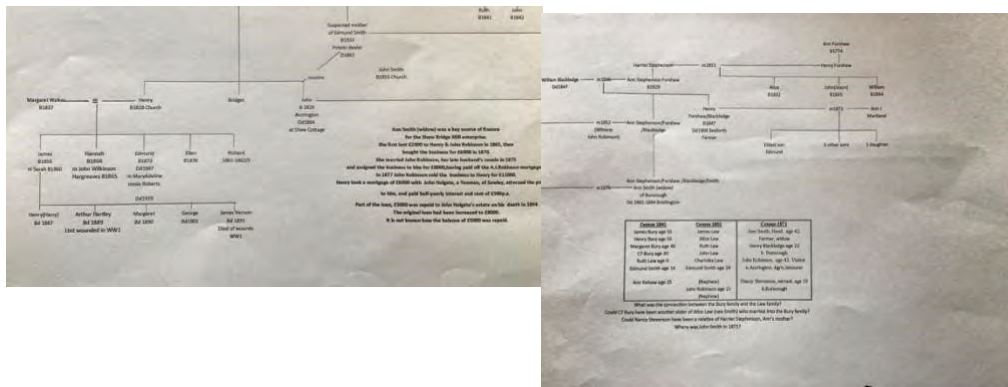
Research has revealed that Ann was the widow of Edmund Smith.

Edmund Smith and John Robinson, Henry's brother, had lodged together twenty years earlier at the home of their uncle and aunt, James and Alice Law, and John was a witness at Edmund's marriage to Ann in 1852. It is believed that Edmund's mother, also named Anne, was Alice Law (nee Smith) and Hannah Robinson (nee Smith), and the two men were therefore cousins.

This family connection was instrumental in the setting up and running of Shaw Bridge Mill.

After Edmund's death in 1862, Ann Smith provided much of the finance in the 'various loans' mentioned earlier. Although Henry and John Robinson were, at first, in partnership, in 1870 Ann Smith became the owner of the business, and it seems that Henry Robinson was managing while John was working at Ann's farm at Burscough.

In 1875 she and John Robinson married and by means of several transactions between Ann and the brothers, Henry became the sole owner of Shawbridge Mill, buying out his brother's share with the help of a mortgage from John Holgate, a Yeoman, of Sawley.



Henry Robinson Extended Family Tree

John and Ann retired to Southport, but that was not their final home.

The obituary for John's death in 1884 tells us that John Robinson, aged 55, of Bridlington Quays, (Yorkshire), died at Shaw Cottage, the home of his brother, Henry Robinson. It is presumed that Ann had pre-deceased him, as she is not mentioned.

Shawbridge Mill thrived, and at its peak employed around 120 workers. It is said that the mill manager lived in the end house, next to Shaw Cottage garden, now 65/67 Shawbridge Street. There's no evidence in the census to support this suggestion, although it was originally separated from the rest of the row by a workshop (a house now fills the gap) and has a higher roof line, giving it more status. On the gable end you can see where the original building height has been elevated.

John Lambert (local historian) has found that no's 59 to 67 were bought by a Henry Robinson around 1875 so there may be some truth in the mill manager story, although John also tells us that another Henry Robinson was landlord of the Bridge Inn nearby from 1873 to 1897. Consequently we cannot be absolutely certain which Henry bought the cottages.

According to the census records the occupants of 65/67 were tenants with a variety of different occupations.

Two more children, Edmund and Ellen, were born to Henry and Margaret, and the eldest son James was, by 1881, a book-keeper and Mill manager, presumably working for his father. Henry is described as a cotton manufacturer and farmer of 15 acres.

Curiously, the census of 1871 has John Shaw, a plasterer and farmer of 20 acres, living with his family at Shaw Cottage Back. Did he continue to farm the 15 or so acres leased by Henry? He also leased about four and a half acres at Goose-butts from the Grammar School. *(Where houses have recently been constructed)*

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However, by 1891, the census shows James and his wife Sarah A., with their three young children and a 14 yr old servant, Jinnie Hammond, were also living at Shaw Cottage, but the entry is separate from the one for his father, suggesting that there were two separate households.

How it was made possible, I can only speculate.

The arrangement came to an end in 1893, when a new house, Brooklands, was built for James and his family on land adjoining his father's, just at the foot of Pendle Road.

James set up Shaw Bridge Poultry farm, with pens behind Brooklands, and also at Shaw Bridge. In

1900, according to a snippet in the Clitheroe Advertiser & Times (CAT), members of Clitheroe and Blackburn Poultry Societies were invited to a tour of the farm, which had been chosen by the National Utility Poultry Society to host an egg-laying competition.

The farm was also the home of the Honeycomb Egg Box Company.

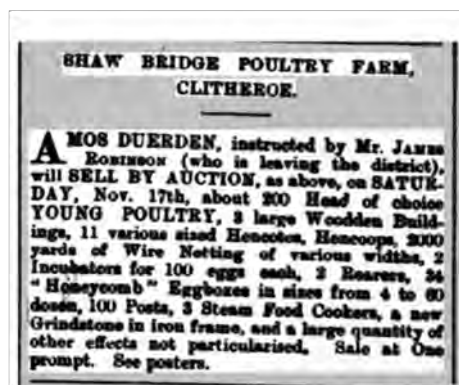
By 1901, though, James Robinson had left Clitheroe with his family and moved to Essex, where he is described as an egg box manufacturer. Could there be a connection with Robinson & Spensley? (A local egg distributor) None has come to light.

The poultry farm must have been a joint venture with James's brother-in-law, John Wilkinson Hargreaves, who had married Hannah Robinson in 1892. CAT snippets suggest that John and Hannah were living at Shaw Cottage with the rest of the family during the 1890's.

Apparently he sold eggs for breeding purposes, and probably for eating too, but had problems with a couple of local lads stealing them. Was their punishment, (see snippet below) six strokes of the birch, enough to persuade them to mend their ways?

By the time of the 1901 census John and Hannah were living in Blackburn.

A notice in the CAT of November 1900 advertised the sale of all the poultry, incubators and cabins etc., as



Mr. Robinson was leaving Henry Robinson was a respected and shrewd business man.

In addition to running the mill, he served on the Town Council for several years and was a Justice of the Peace for over twenty years.

He retired from active business in 1898 and by 1901 he, his wife, and their youngest daughter Ellen were the only occupants of Shaw Cottage.

The census has a column to note if a member of the household has a disability, e.g. deaf/dumb, blind, lunatic, imbecile, feeble minded — no political correctness then!

Sadly there is a tick in this column against Margaret's name.

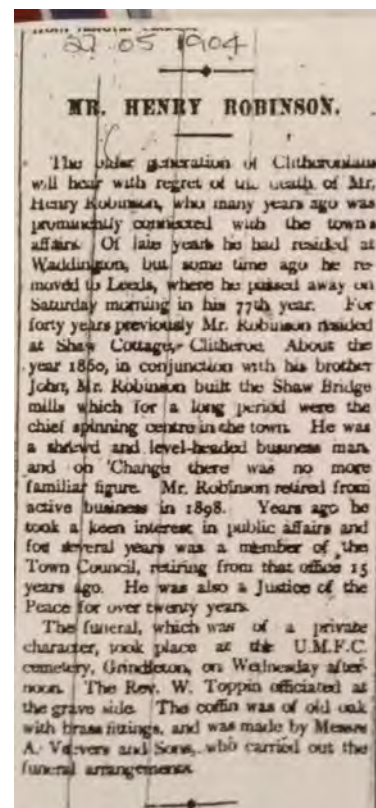
At aged 64 she is obviously handicapped in some way. Perhaps Ellen was caring for her.

Henry moved from Shaw Cottage to Waddington, and then to Leeds, where he died on the 27th May 1904. It's probable that Margaret pre-deceased him. Her death cannot be traced with certainty. By 1911 their unmarried daughter Ellen was living with her brother James, and working as a nurse.

Henry's obituary, appearing in The Times of Clitheroe, paid tribute to the valuable contribution he had made to the town's affairs.

A private funeral took place at Grindleton UMFC cemetery.

Interestingly, his old oak coffin, with brass hinges, was made by Messrs. A. Veevers and Sons, who carried out the funeral arrangements in the district.



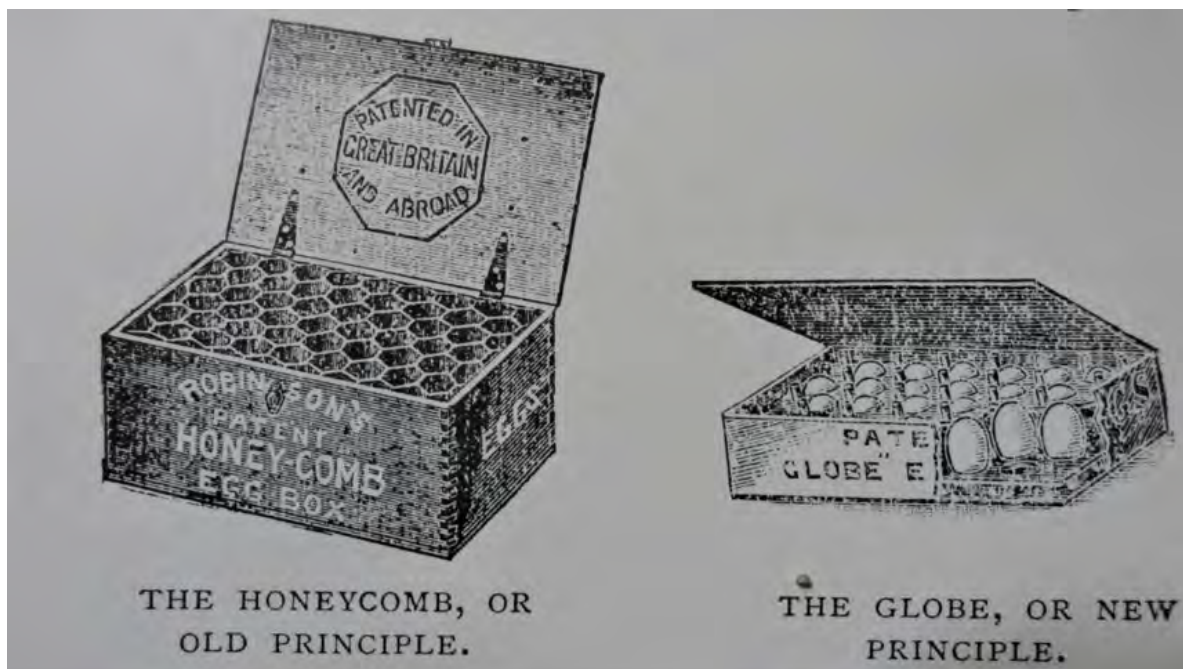
EGG PACKING

James Robinson

Clitheroe in its Coaching and Railway Days – Stephen Clarke

Our worthy townsman, Mr. Jas. Robinson, of Brooklands, conceived an improved system of egg packing. Up to this time all eggs had been packed in square receptacles. Mr. Robinson saw that by a hexagonal arrangement economy would be achieved. He took out a patent for home and abroad, and secured excellent press notices, and has had the honour of supplying her Gracious Majesty with the patent egg box. At the leading Dairy and Agricultural Shows it has carried off the highest honours in medals and prizes. The trade in them is increasing, and its universal approval leads him to confidently believe that it will supersede all previous methods of packing. Specially constructed machinery being necessary for the manufacture of the compartments, this he secured and by his ingenuity has added minor improvements to the machinery. In April this year he took out a further patent which greatly reduces the cost of its manufacture, and in future it is anticipated that its cheapness will cause it to be adopted all over the world.

Two years later, Mr. Robinson took out a further patent connected with the poultry industry, viz, a steam food cooker, which he named "The Lancashire". It thoroughly cooks food with a small quantity of oil. Within four months of the patent having been taken out, it secured a silver medal at the London Dairy Show, being the highest award available.



It is interesting to note that James Robinson was the son of Henry Robinson, proprietor of Shawbridge Mill. After living for a short period with Henry and the family at Shaw Cottage, working as a book keeper and manager at the Mill, around 1893 James and his family took up residence at Brooklands, a new house built on land acquired by his father, bordering Shaw Cottage.

For several years he kept a poultry farm on land behind Brooklands and Shaw Cottage, with more poultry kept near Shaw Bridge.

If only stones could speak!!!

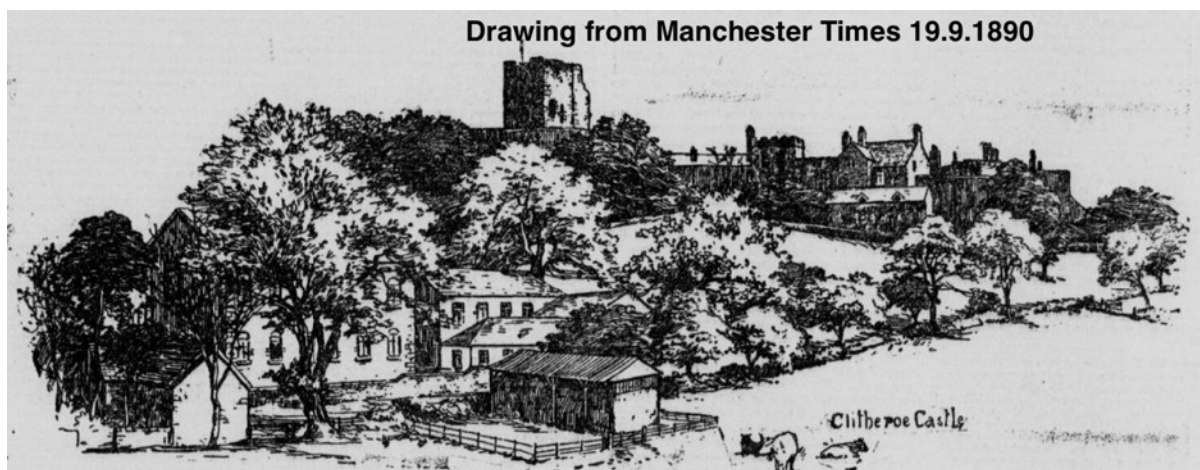
In May of 1922 comes the first mention of the pavilion which still stands proudly in the castle grounds which the inhabitants of Clitheroe bought as a lasting memorial to the men and boys from the town who laid down their lives in WW1. At a meeting of the Parks and Playgrounds Committee it was decided to adhere to their original scheme of “erecting a pavilion near the bowling green and tennis courts.....” Nothing more could be gleaned until, whilst searching the 1924 edition of the Clitheroe Advertiser and Times , a small snippet caught the eye, - “ The old stables and coach-house near to the Wesleyan School is to be pulled down and the material used in erecting a tennis and bowling pavilion at the Castle.” Further investigation didn’t at first reveal who the stables and coach-house belonged to but a search of maps DID turn up a building in 1884 near the Methodist (Wesleyan) Chapel where the present day toilets near Stock Well are now It was still a mystery who they belong to though!



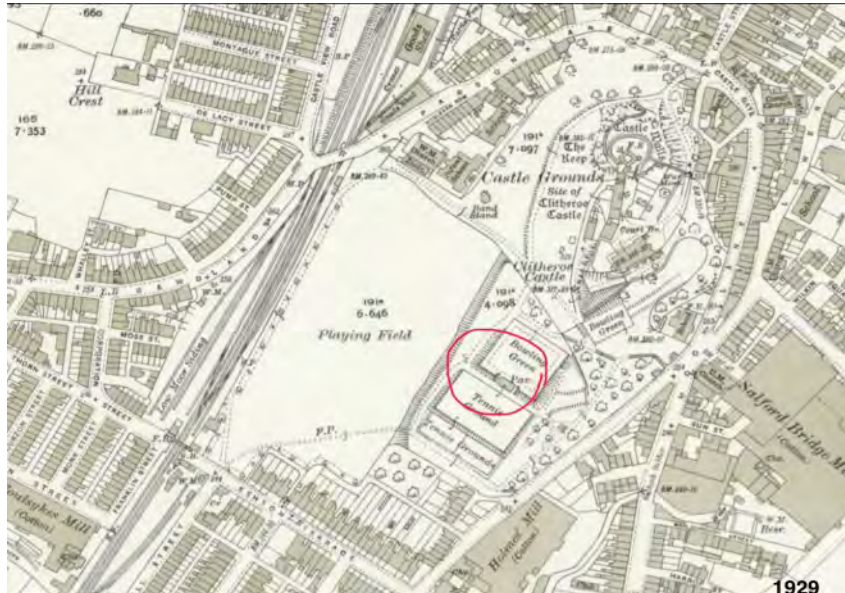
This was solved through a letter sent to the editor of the Clitheroe Advertiser and Times in which a train commuter had a suggestion which included Grime’s stables (coal merchant of Eshton Terrace near the level crossing) and a “new ash path” running alongside the railway across the Castle Meadow to the Castle stables.

located.

Another discovery was made investigating the Manchester Times. Sadly the artist's name is barely legible.



Further browsing found an article with a description of the “new” tennis courts and the facilities available for the players culminating in the statement that, “the stonework formerly composed the barn and stables which stood near the Wesleyan Church and the material has been well used.” A map of the castle grounds shows clearly the pavilion in it’s space between the “top” bowling green and the “hard” tennis courts - and the building near to Wesley has gone



All is supposition which, if the stones could speak, they could verify or dispute!!!



(Image courtesy of Francis Frith.)

..... and so yet another very small part of the long history of Clitheroe Castle has been unearthed.

Shirley Penman.