



CHRISTMAS JOURNAL 2025



Dear Members and Friends of Clitheroe Civic Society

Welcome to our journal for Christmas 2025. The weather has certainly turned more seasonal of late, and the nights are really drawing in but the shortest day isn't far away and then the seasons turn again into the New Year.

We have varied content of interest again in this edition of the journal but always need more content. Please do think about contributing, whether you have some recollections you'd like to share, information about the area or similar; please send anything you have to info@clitheroecivicsociety.org.uk.

A number of the Cultivating Clitheroe team tidied up the town centre planters recently and planted some additional bulbs in these for the spring. The Society has just purchased a new laptop for use in the archive or at presentations as the old notebook was beginning to hamper several potential uses including transferring donated slides of the area once scanned.

Heidelberg Materials have once again provided a very welcome donation to the Society and this mainly goes towards the hosting costs of the Clitheroe Advertiser and Times online archive. Do remember to access the online archive anytime you like via the link on our website. In respect of the website, John Flanagan has completed the re-build of this with a fresh new look, so take a look if you haven't accessed the website for a while.

Our presentation schedule continues to fill up for next year and we're always looking for ideas for the future seasons so if you've seen a presentation elsewhere or are aware of speakers, please let the committee know.

I'd like to wish everyone an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and thank you for your continued membership and interest in the Society.

Peter Llewellyn

Chairman

Clitheroe Civic Society



Autumn Presentation Review



We have had a series of interesting talks since our A.G.M. in September.

At that September meeting, after moving briskly through the purpose of the day, our secretary Louise Davies outlined the 'Missing Pieces Project', where members are encouraged to create an account at Historic England <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/missing-pieces/> and add their own memories and information about Clitheroe's listed buildings. Information about the significant buildings of our town which could otherwise be lost.

In October, Kate Sherry a professional genealogist entertained us with an illuminating history of Gisburne Park and the Lister Family.

The November presentation was given by Linda Sawley, A long time guide at Browsholme Hall, she highlighted the life of Elizabeth Parker an 18th cent. bride and cousin of one of a succession of Robert Parkers.

For the December meeting a talk by Nick Burton had been scheduled, but unfortunately he was taken ill. John Lambert stepped in at the last minute giving us his talk entitled Arthur Langshaw's Clitheroe (Shaw Bridge to Shawbridge St). Not a long way you would think, but it is if going by way of Hayhurst St., Littlemoor, Whalley Rd., and Peel St. Many interesting buildings were mentioned along the way, illustrated by a great number of photographs.



Clitheroe Christmas Greetings 1975



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
to all our
CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
from Jack and Jean
**KING'S ARMS
HOTEL**
BARWLANDS, CLITHEROE

Christmas Greetings
TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS
AND FRIENDS
FROM
**GORDON, SANDRA
and FAMILY**
also ANNE and LIZ
BUCK INN, CLITHEROE

SEASONS GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR
CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
from
**PAT AND JOHN
BLACK HORSE
HOTEL**

**COMPLIMENTS
OF THE SEASON**
TO ALL OUR
CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
from
**ERIC and ANNE GORTON
FREEMASONS ARMS**
WIDWELL, Tel. Whalley 238

**Compliments of the
Season to all our
Customers and Friends**
from
**FRED AND FAMILY
WHITE LION HOTEL
CLITHEROE**

**WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH
ALL OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
ALL THE GAIETY OF AN OLD
FASHIONED CHRISTMAS FROM**
**JOHN and STAFF
NEW INN**
PARSON LANE, CLITHEROE.

**HAPPINESS IS OUR WISH FOR
YOU, THIS MERRY CHRISTMAS
SEASON
AND WITH THIS WISH OUR SINCERE
"THANK YOU"**
from
**PETER, DORIS & FAMILY
ROYAL OAK
INN**
WATERLOO
CLITHEROE

**COMMERCIAL HOTEL
CLITHEROE**
CLARRY, JOYCE AND FAMILY
**WISH TO
EXTEND
SEASON'S
GREETINGS**
TO ALL
THEIR
CUSTOMERS
AND FRIENDS

**MR and MRS GLYN JONES
and Roslyn**
Extend to all their customers
**SEASONAL GREETINGS
AND BEST WISHES**
FOR THE
NEW YEAR
**PARKERS
ARMS**
NEWTON-in-BOWLAND

**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**
TO ALL OUR
CUSTOMERS & FRIENDS
FROM
**KEN, DOROTHY
ERIC AND TRICIA**
**BROWN COW
CHATHUR**
**HORSE
SHOE
INN**
CLITHEROE

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR**
to all our
Customers and
Friends from
**HARRY, JUNE
and FAMILY
DOG INN
WHALLEY**

**STARKIE ARMS HOTEL
CLITHEROE**
We would like to take this opportunity of wishing all
our patrons
**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**
**BRIAN AND JILL
TOLSON**

GOOD WILL & BEST WISHES
this
MERRY CHRISTMAS SEASON
To all our customers and friends
from
**JOHN, JENNIFER
and THE GIRLS**
**WHITE HORSE
HOTEL**
CLITHEROE

SEASON'S GREETINGS
to all our
customers and friends
from
**JOHN AND SHIRLEY
SWAN with TWO NECKS**
PENOLETON

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR
CUSTOMERS & FRIENDS
FROM
**JOHN AND MOLL
STEINHOFEL**
**Hodder Bridge
Hotel**

**Castle
Licensed
Restaurant**
Station Road
Telephone
CLITHEROE
24587
**MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR**
from
CYRIL and SUSAN WHITESIDE
and everyone at
THE 'CASTLE'



Whalley Road



A small slice of recent History

In my childhood Clitheroe seemed to be a series of separate localities, referred to as - down Henthorn, down Whalley Road, up Highfield, up Chatburn Road, up Pimlico, down Low Moor, up Littlemoor - various communities that didn't really overlap.

For about a year in 1965/66 I lived with my husband's parents at the Joiners Arms in Whalley Road Clitheroe.

Whalley Road at that time had several public houses all located between Greenacre Street and Croft Street, and each one had a quite different character and atmosphere. Quite strange really considering that the clientele consisted almost entirely of the locals from the immediate area, working men and women, many related to each other, and most having lived in the area for all of their lives.

The Wheatsheaf, the British Legion, the Commercial, the Top Club, the Joiners Arms and the Craven Heifer all competed for the local trade (the Engineers Arms had been closed for many years).

The Joiners hosted the Pigeon Fanciers every Sunday lunchtime and the tap room would be absolutely packed with Pigeon men, all of them had allotments and keeping pigeons was a way of life. Work, beer, pigeons absolutely normal!

Saturday lunchtime was filled with the Horse Racing fraternity, many of whom were also pigeon men, and the bookies runner would be kept busy pedalling his bike from pub to pub picking up the bets to take to the bookies! Work, beer, betting, also absolutely normal!

Requests would come flying out of the tap room - eight or nine pints at a time, and we would be kept busy pulling pints and staggering with heavy trays held aloft to squeeze between the little iron tables to deliver the drinks. Backwards and forwards until closing time, at 3 pm on Saturday and 2pm on Sunday.

The characters in that era I believe were the last of the old time 'salt of the earth' British workers. They were fantastically hard working, good humoured, and outspoken, they didn't need to stray far from their roots to find work and pleasure enough to fill their lives. Some had cars but many didn't, some worked together, hard physical jobs at Limmer and Trinidad, the Bleach Works, the Mills, Ribble Cement and Clitheroe Corporation. None of these workplaces had the facilities enjoyed now, and after a days work groups of filthy exhausted men would cycle home for a good wash and some tea! Not moaning and whinging, but usually arguing, laughing and joking. Limmer and Trinidad had the reputation of producing the hardest and toughest men, but wherever they worked, the pay packet at the end of the week was the only goal!

All of these characters are long gone, Old Jack who worked in the boiler room at the Bleachworks, he lived in Whalley Road with a very old lady who, according to rumour had

looked after him since he was a boy, she must have been at least 90. Jack would come into the Joiners, having had a few pints elsewhere and burst through the front door at top speed and without fail would fall flat on his face. Somebody would say, also without fail, Eh up! Devon Loch's down again.

The Lawson brothers, who worked on the dustbins, a very heavy job in those days, when the metal bins, filled with ashes and all sorts of rubbish, were hoisted onto their backs and heaved bodily into the wagons. They were two absolute gentlemen, they looked after their Mother all their lives.

The Park Street people who all seemed to be related to each other, like some ancient Clan, might be seen coming home from work looking grimy and shattered, only to reappear a couple of hours later spruce and full of beans!

Then of course, the girls, Melita, big Eileen and Hilda, absolute gems. They would glide through the door, line up at the bar, and order three gills of mild. There didn't appear to be any animated conversation, certainly no girlish giggling, just dedicated drinking, each one paying her turn. Then they would glide out again off to the Craven, which I never visited but was told that the floor and bar were both collapsing and becoming a dangerous hazard.

Every person I met in those days appeared to be 'a character', one or two were still living with the effects of their service in the war, life changing damage that would never heal. There were brief hushed comments - 'Burma railway' and 'prisoner of war' with respectful nods. Another chap, a huge man who always wore a heavy overcoat, and spoke a language which no one could decipher, was nicknamed Oberammergau. He was a mystery!

Occasionally midweek, at lunchtime the bookie would come in, camel hair coat, black hat very dapper and prosperous, accompanied by a lady friend, teetering heels, huge earrings and a little fur jacket. One drink and they'd be off, presumably to somewhere far more exotic than a little local pub!

Things were changing quickly in those years, younger members of the community were moving away to different areas, different jobs. Pubs and clubs out of town beckoned. Unfortunately the days were numbered for traditional local pubs, and now in Whalley Road, some sixty years later, apart from the British Legion, are left.

These are just a few recollections gathered in a year which passed very quickly and which was an eyeopener and an education.

I enjoyed it and look back on it with great pleasure.

Judy Driver



Clitheroe Christmas Greetings 1975



We wish you all the long-lasting happiness of an old-fashioned Christmas shared with family and friends.

Heartfelt thanks for your continued loyalty and goodwill

from

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF ALL DEPARTMENTS

BLACKBURN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD

Clitheroe District

SEASON'S GREETINGS
to all our customers from

COWMAN'S BUTCHERS
CASTLE STREET
CLITHEROE. Tel. 23842

Watch our windows for all the Seasonal Fare

PRIME QUALITY SCOTCH BEEF



SAUSAGES	BEEF	LOCAL
HOMEMADE	PORK	LAMB AND PORK
BLACK PUDDINGS	CUMBERLAND	HOME CURED BACON
		COOKED MEATS

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

DAWSONS
THE IRONMONGERS
56 KING STREET, CLITHEROE
Tel. 25151



SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

F. STANLEY AND SON
7a MARKET PLACE, CLITHEROE
ALSO AT 4a BLACKBURN ROAD, ACCRINGTON

Mr Edmondson wishes all his friends and customers a
MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR



EAGLE SUPPLIES

SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS — from

BATEMAN'S
The Boysware Specialists
16 CASTLE STREET, CLITHEROE. Tel. 23425.



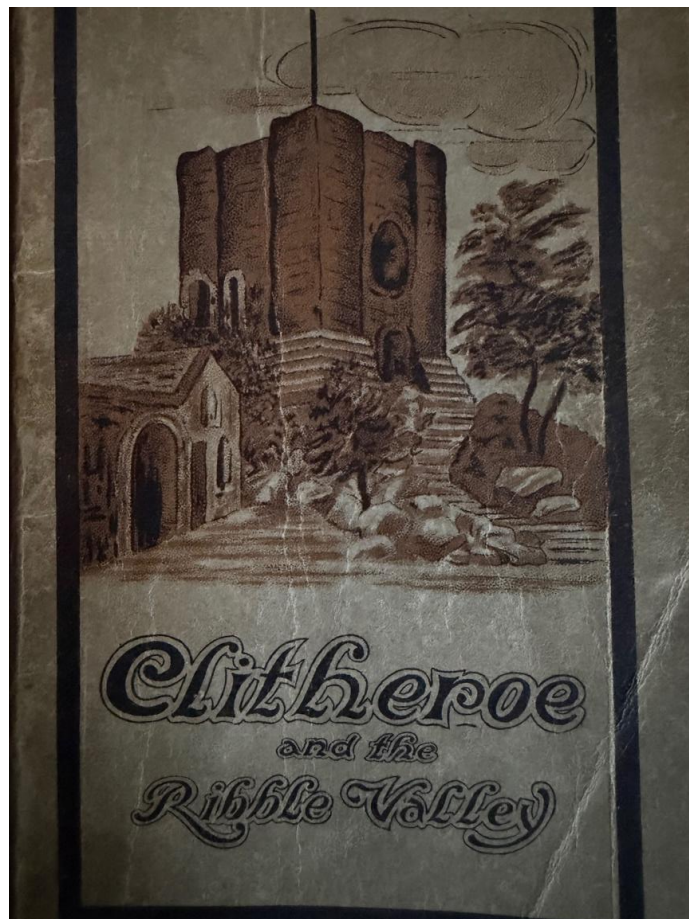


Clitheroe and The Ribble Valley booklet – a donation



The Society was contacted recently by someone who had a Clitheroe booklet which they were happy to donate to our archive – some of you will have seen this before or even have a copy perhaps.

The booklet looks to be from the 1930s and apart from a general history of the town and sights to see there and in the surrounding area, the advertisements are always of interest.



And if you wanted accommodation – one of the many places on offer was the Swan and Royal (which in 2025 has just had a refurb with more to come next year) – or The Haven Hotel in Rimington.

Groceries could be had at Cunliffe's in the Market Place, bike hire from Benthams for Bikes, also in Market Place.

Harrison & Bailey provided all of your pharmaceutical needs from 29 Castle St or from Harry Taylor's in Moor Lane.

If you required a Rolls Royce to tour the area, E. King of Pimlico Road had these available 'at no more cost than other cars'.

SWAN & ROYAL HOTEL
CLITHEROE

The house of call for everybody who visits Ribblesdale, whether for business or pleasure.

The house pre-eminent, whether as to its situation in the centre of Clitheroe, or its superb accommodation.

Luxurious lounges, a spacious ballroom with the most modern floor, cuisine famous throughout Lancashire and Yorkshire and even further afield; prompt, courteous and efficient service—these things have made the reputation of the "Swan & Royal" its most valuable asset.

It caters for the local resident, too; that is why there is only one answer to the inevitable time-honoured query: "Which is the best Hotel round here?" "Why, the 'Swan & Royal,' of course." And that settles it.

TARIFF ON APPLICATION.

G. WILSON, MANAGER

SWAN & ROYAL HOTEL, CASTLE STREET, CLITHEROE. Tel. 130.

CLITHEROE AND THE RIBBLE VALLEY 41

HOLIDAYS ! HOLIDAYS !

SPEND your holidays in Ribblesdale, one of the most beautiful and romantic districts in the British Isles. The Ramblers' Paradise. Excellent centre for Motorists. Bracing air. Delightful scenery.

— Stay at —

THE HAVEN HOTEL
(FULLY LICENSED)

Excellent Cuisine — Comfortable Public Rooms — Good Library — Garden — Tennis Court — Bowling Green — Garage — Large Recreation Room for Games and Dancing.
(Private Parties Catered for)

Terms: Saturday Tea to Sunday Tea (inclusive) 10/6
Monday Breakfast " 15/-
Full Board from £2-17-6 per week.

Send for Descriptive Circular. Telephone Gisburn 20.

The Haven Hotel, Rimington, Nr. Clitheroe
Proprietor: W. R. HIGSON

THE PUBLISHERS

If you needed a bus to Rimington to your lodgings, you'd have been able to take the train back then but if you needed a bus elsewhere you would have needed to start in different places about the town. The Advertiser was published every Friday back then - I wonder when that changed?

Small Parties catered for.
Teas and Hot Water Supplied.

Ideal Camping Ground
Terms moderate
GREEN LANE FARM,
DOWNHAM,
VIA RIMINGTON, CLITHEROE

BUSES.

Buses start from the Market Place for—
Chatburn
Whalley
Bolton-by-Bowland
Blackburn
Manchester
Accrington
Great Harwood
Burnley
Preston
Skipton

From the Railway Station for—
Low Moor
Slaidburn
Whitewell
Waddington
Bolton-by-Bowland

From Wellgate for—
Grindleton
West Bradford
Pendleton

(For large or small parties)

Splendid Accommodation for visitors

GOOD BEDROOMS. Moderate Terms.

Proprietor: J. SPEAK

GARAGE
Tel: Chatburn 2.
Station: Chatburn.

WHILE IN RIBBLESDALE

see to it that you secure
— each issue of —

THE ADVERTISER & TIMES

containing full reports and clear
pictures of local events, not to
mention details of

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Published every Friday



Clitheroe Christmas Greetings 1975



GREETINGS

TO ALL FRIENDS
& CUSTOMERS
FROM

LEE-MING
THE HAPPY
CHINA-MAN

Limeron & Leeming

1749 MOOR LANE
CLITHEROE. Tel. 22626

SEASON'S GREETINGS

from
**E. SWALES LTD,
BAWDLANDS**
and
**RED ROSE COFFEE BAR,
WELLGATE**

Phone 23123

**A MUST AT ALL FAMILY GATHERINGS
SWALES VANILLA ICE-CREAM**

OBTAINABLE IN: 1 GAL ½ GAL & 1 LITRE PACKS
ALSO AVAILABLE: 1 LITRE PACKS OF VARIOUS FLAVOURS
(our own make).

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR**

TO ALL
CUSTOMERS &
FRIENDS

Our showrooms are closed
December 25th, 26th, 31st,
Jan. 1st.
Open Dec. 27th-30th, Jan 2nd.

CERAMICA ITALIA
THE COACH HOUSE, DUCK ST, CLITHEROE
(Opposite Wellgate Motors Ltd). Tel. 2457025502

**BRIAN & JOAN
WELLGATE FISHERIES**

**WISH A HAPPY CHRISTMAS
TO EVERYONE and
A PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR
FOR 1976
and many
to follow**

Tel. 23511.

TURNERS FOR FESTIVE FOODS
WINES AND SPIRITS

CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES
LATE OPENING: Thurs., Dec. 18th and Fri., Dec. 19th till 8 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 24th till 6 p.m. Mon., Dec. 22nd and Tues., Dec 23rd, till 9 p.m.
Open all day Saturday Dec. 26th, open 9-5 p.m.

**EXAMPLES FROM OUR SELECTION
OF WINES AND SPIRITS**

Bristol Cream	£1.69
Campani	£2.33
Hennessy 3 star	£4.99
Caplain Morgan Rum	£3.69
Tropicana White Rum	£3.59
White Saffin Gin	£3.35
MacArthur's Select	£3.35
Scotch Whisky	£3.35
Emva Cream	£1.05
Wide selection of Canned Beers	

UP TO 30% SAVING ON Manufacturers' Recommended Prices on most Gift Packs.

BISCUITS

Shortbread Tarts 2lb Assorted	RSP	Our Price
Patented Tarts	£1.49	89p
Tarten Assorted Usual Price	89p	89p
10 Thin Fingers Assorted	—	£1.32
10 Thin Fingers Assorted Cream	—	£1.32
Victoria Biscuits	£1.99	£1.79

CHOCOLATE LOQUEURS

ASSORTED LOQUEURS (small)	RSP	Our Price
ASSORTED LOQUEURS (medium)	£1.50	£1.15
ASSORTED LOQUEURS (large)	£2.25	£1.69
CHERRIES IN BRANDY	£1.35	99p
MILK LOQUEURS	£1.35	99p

These plus large stocks of standard grocery lines
OUR MOTTO: PRICES LOW ON BRANDS YOU KNOW

**TURNERS Bawdlands, Clitheroe. PLEASE NOTE: We are open
9-5 p.m Sat., Dec. 26th**



Clitheroe's Cotton Queen



**Clitheroe's Grand Pageant of
Cotton Queens**

In consequence of last Saturday's bad weather, and
following on their return from London

Clitheroe's 16 Cotton Queens

will again Parade in the CASTLE GROUNDS
TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, MAY 24th.
at 3 p.m. — Wet or fine.

**DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE
THIS GORGEOUS DISPLAY.**

PROCEEDINGS BEGIN AT 2 P.M.

SCHOOL CHILDREN'S DANCES. BOROUGH BAND

ADMISSION BY COLLECTION AT ALL ENTRANCES.

Until the late 18th century Clitheroe was a small market town of fewer than 1500 inhabitants.

From the 1780s through to the 1930s spinning, weaving, calico printing and other related businesses brought about the huge population increase and expansion of the town. Around 5500 people were living in Clitheroe by 1850. After a turbulent 150 years of startups, successes and failures, strikes and shortages and, ultimately, competition from India, the textile industry was increasingly struggling for survival.

In 1930 a "Cotton Queen Pageant" was organised to encourage publicity and support. Each mill nominated a 'Cotton Queen' to represent them wearing beautiful outfits demonstrating how locally produced material could be used.

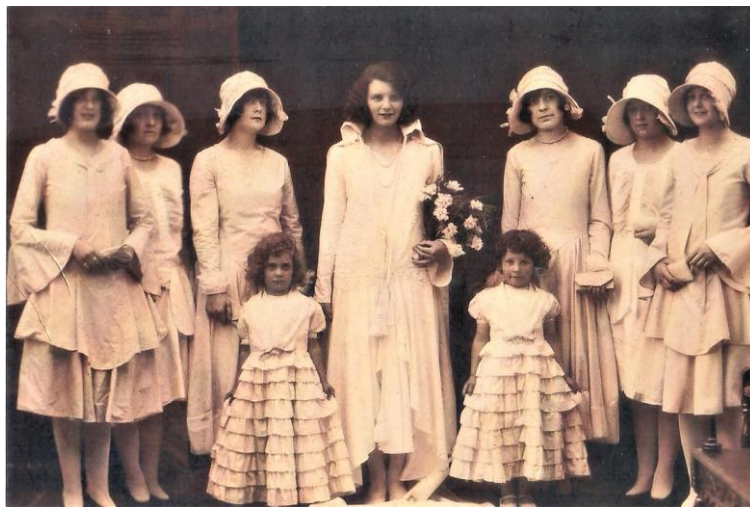
The winning queens were invited by Clitheroe's then Member of Parliament, Sir William Brass, to visit London, as ambassadors for the Lancashire Cotton Industry, with tours of the wonderful sites of the City, a trip to the theatre, Westminster Abbey, and to the Houses of Parliament where each was given a green leather bag provided by Sir William and presented by the Duchess of Atholl.

Comprehensive reports and many photographs appeared in the Clitheroe Advertiser & Times issues of the 23rd and 30th May 1930, available to view on the Civic Society Website: clitheroecivicsociety.org.uk

My mother-in-law, Barbara Birtwell, was a seventeen year old working at Westhead's mill and became cotton queen for that Mill. Her costume, dress, cloak, pantaloons, little green bag and souvenir paraphernalia eventually came to me. The dress was lovely and I even wore it to a 'white night' fancy dress ball!

In 2011 an exhibition of Cotton Queen regalia, photographs and press cuttings was organised at Clitheroe Library by Sue Holden, who had a great interest in and knowledge of all aspects of old Clitheroe, historical, architectural and cultural. My husband agreed that we should donate his mother's outfit to the library and Sue assured us that it would be used by Lancashire County Council in future exhibits and educational events etc.

Sadly that is the last I know of it. Sue moved on to pastures new and the present library staff have no knowledge of what happened to it. I regret now that we didn't donate it directly to Clitheroe Museum to supplement the small exhibit there.





Clitheroe Christmas Greetings 1975



DRAPERY DEPT.
GREAT REDUCTIONS
IN LADIES AND
CHILDREN'S WEAR.

GLOVES FROM.....	50p
BRA'S FROM.....	£1-00
CUSHION COVERS.....	30p
HAND TOWELS.....	85p & £1.05
BATH TOWELS.....	£1.75 & £2.25
TEA TOWELS.....	32p & 48p
COTTON SHEETS SS.....	£3.20 each
COTTON SHEETS DS.....	£3.50 each
MATCHING PILLOW CASES.....	60p each
48" WIDE CURTAINING FROM.....	50p yard
GENT'S SHIRTS.....	£2.50

LARGE SELECTION OF
REMNANTS AND MANY
MORE BARGAINS

**FOR LOUNGE AND DINING
ROOM**

3 PIECE SUITE.....	Our Price	£300
Rec. Retail Price £340.....		
4 PIECE SUITE.....	Our Price	£299
Rec. Retail Price £320.....		
3 PIECE SUITE.....	Our Price	£267
Rec. Retail Price £290.....		
3 PIECE SUITE.....	Our Price	£210
Rec. Retail Price £240.....		
3 PIECE SUITE.....	Our Price	£197.50
Rec. Retail Price £215.....		
3 PIECE SUITE.....	Our Price	£197
Rec. Retail Price £230.....		

More suites at reduced prices

STUDIO COUCH.....	Our Price	£55
Rec. Retail Price £50.05.....		
DINING ROOM SUITE.....	Our Price	£138
Rec. Retail Price £158.....		
BUFFET SIDEBBOARD.....	Our Price	£138
Rec. Retail Price £155.50.....		
LOW SIDEBBOARD.....	Our Price	£67
Rec. Retail Price £75.50.....		
LOW SIDEBBOARD.....	Our Price	£62
Rec. Retail Price £70.....		
ROOM DIVIDER.....	Our Price	£49
Rec. Retail Price £57.....		
ROOM DIVIDER.....	Our Price	£46
Rec. Retail Price £55.....		
DISPLAY CABINET.....	Our Price	£61
Rec. Retail Price £69.50.....		
DISPLAY CABINET.....	Our Price	£43
Rec. Retail Price £50.....		

ST MICHAEL AND ST JOHN'S CHURCH, CLITHEROE

Christmas Eve
7-30 p.m.—9-00 p.m. Confessions.

Christmas Day
Midnight Mass preceded by Carols (Doors open 11-20 p.m. Christmas Eve).
7-00 a.m., 8-00 a.m., 9-00 a.m., 10-00 a.m., 11-00 a.m. Masses.

CLITHEROE PARISH CHURCH (ST MARY MAGDALENE'S)

Sunday, December 21st Advent IV
6-30 p.m. Carol Service with Nine Lessons and Augmented Choir.

Christmas Eve
11-45 p.m. First Communion of Christmas.

Christmas Day
8-00 and 11-15 a.m. Holy Communion (Sung).
9-45 a.m. Parish Communion (Sung).
6-00 p.m. Evensong (Sung).

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, LOW MOOR

Christmas Eve
9-30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Sung).
6-00 p.m. Family Carol Service and Blessing of the Crib. (Attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Ribbles Valley—Councillor and Mrs Tom Robinson).
The First Communion of Christmas.

Christmas Day
11-30 p.m. Holy Communion.
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10-30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4-00 p.m. Evening Prayer (Sung).

ST LEONARD'S PARISH CHURCH, LANGHO

Sunday, December 21st
4-00 p.m. Festival of Lessons and Carols.

Christmas Eve
11-45 p.m. First Communion of Christmas.

Christmas Day
9-15 a.m. Holy Communion (Old Langho).
10-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10-45 a.m. Family Communion.

PENDLETON CHURCH

Sunday, December 21st
7-00 p.m. Advent Carol Service.

Christmas Eve
4-00 p.m. Children's Carol Service and Blessing of the Christmas Crib.
11-30 p.m. Midnight Communion.

Christmas Day
9-30 a.m. Holy Communion.

HURST GREEN PARISH CHURCH

Sunday, December 21st
1-00 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols.

Christmas Eve
11-45 p.m. Holy Communion.

Christmas Day
10-00 a.m. Holy Communion.

ST JAMES'S CHURCH, CLITHEROE

Sunday, December 21st
6-00 p.m. Carol Service.

Christmas Eve
11-15 p.m. Midnight Communion.

Christmas Day
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion (Sung).
10-30 a.m. to 11-15 a.m. Family Service.
11-15 a.m. Short Holy Communion.

ST MARY'S, LANGHO

Christmas Eve
Midnight Mass (Sung).
Christmas Day
8-15 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses
No Evening Mass.

ST LEONARD'S PARISH CHURCH, LANGHO

Sunday, December 21st
4-00 p.m. Festival of Lessons and Carols.

Christmas Eve
11-45 p.m. First Communion of Christmas.

Christmas Day
9-15 a.m. Holy Communion (Old Langho).
10-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10-45 a.m. Family Communion.

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, CLITHEROE

Sunday, December 21st
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10-30 a.m. Morning Worship.
Preacher: Rev. P. M. Gordon Hood (Chalton).

Christmas Eve
11-30 p.m. Holy Communion.

Christmas Day
9-30 a.m. Family Worship.
Preacher: Rev. Norman D. Walton.

DIVAN BEDS

1 ONLY 4 FT. COMP. DIVAN Rec. Retail Price £67.....	Our Price	£61
4' 6" DIVANS COMPLETE Rec. Retail Price £123.95.....	Our Price	£88
4' 6" DIVANS COMPLETE Rec. Retail Price £117.95.....	Our Price	£82
4' 6" DIVANS COMPLETE Rec. Retail Price £79.45.....	Our Price	£65
4' 6" DIVANS COMPLETE Rec. Retail Price £66.95.....	Our Price	£60
4' 6" DIVANS COMPLETE Rec. Retail Price £61.70.....	Our Price	£57
1 ONLY 3' DUNLOPILLO COMPLETE DIVAN Rec. Retail Price £59.75.....	Our Price	£47.75
3' COMPLETE DIVANS Rec. Retail Price £85.95.....	Our Price	£48.95

SPECIAL
BEDROOM FITMENT..... £149.50
MATCHING CHEST..... £35.95

FOR THE BEDROOM

MATCHING ROBE Rec. Retail Price £105.90.....	Our Price	£95
MATCHING DRESSING TABLE Rec. Retail Price £87.10.....	Our Price	£77.50
MATCHING TALLBOY Rec. Retail Price £56.70.....	Our Price	£50
BEDROOM FITMENT Rec. Retail Price £188.70.....	Our Price	£165
BEDROOM FITMENT Rec. Retail Price £132.....	Our Price	£116
COMBINATION ROBE Rec. Retail Price £71.55.....	Our Price	£66
ODD DRESSING TABLE Rec. Retail Price £42.75.....	Our Price	£38



From the Archives



CLITHEROE THEATRE A HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS AGO.

Theatres and concerts are at the present time so much in vogue and so prominently brought before one's mind, that when one reclines in one's seat during the interval of a highly fashionable and imposing play, and gives oneself up to reflection, one commences to think of the days before such buildings were erected. When one sees an express conveying its load of passengers, or a vessel transporting goods from one country to another, one tries to imagine and sum up the process of conveyance centuries ago. As naturally as this thought of the bygone days of our forefathers and their different modes of procedure practised at the time, so when one commences to meditate on such a subject as we have chosen, just as naturally come the questions: "How long have these companies existed? Where were the plays usually given, and of what did the entertainment consist? Surely, they have not been from time immemorial?"

To such questions as these, especially if referring to old-time boroughs like Clitheroe, doubtless a lot of information might be attached, and less doubtless still, a protracted space of time might be taken up in seeking such information.

Having been acquainted with the fact that so far back as 1776 there was in Clitheroe a theatre, where the people might have spent a pleasant evening in enjoying themselves, this made us rather, as it were, "shuffle uneasy in our seats" for a little enlightenment. Now that the shuffling has abated by the gleaning of interesting reminiscences, not by sheer luck, rather by dint of repeated investigation, we place ourselves in the position of endeavouring to give our readers a little insight into Clitheroe's early theatre days.

THE BILL OF FARE

The play-bill will no doubt prove interesting in no small degree, and will probably be the subject of much comment. We are indebted to Dr. Laycock, of Sabden, for the copy, the original of which is in the hands of this gentleman. The date, 1776, might at first sight appear to many people to be a concoction, and that no theatre was even held or ever dreamed of in that remote period.

WHERE THE THEATRE WAS

After research, we are led to the conclusion that although the playhouse is described as "the" theatre, yet it was not a building of itself, but was held in the large room of an inn or some other building. The information we obtain from Mr. Robert Heath backs up this idea, for he states that the Starkie's Arms, then the Rose and Crown, was, in the days of his father, enlarged, several cottages being pulled down in order to allow a larger area for

theatrical performances. The large room of the old Black Bull, formerly standing where Mr. Sefton's shop now stands, was at one period let for performances of this kind. Coming down to the early years of Mr. Heath, he informs us he can well remember these entertainments being given in caravans on the road-side. Such a spot was by far the most patronised by these travelling companies, which seldom exceeded one caravan. Our informant states that long before the shops which now solely constitute Moor Lane, were erected, the street was made up of numerous dwellings and a woodyard, owned by a man named Anderson. The caravans put up in this yard for days together, and also in Wellgate, just above the Liberal Club.

THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES IN THE TOWN HALL

Mr. Heath remembers a play given in the old Town Hall about the year 1820, the person in charge of the concern being a Mr. Cooper. Later still, the performances were gone through in barns and other buildings, and he recollects one being given in the old barn which formerly stood on the road to Waddington, just beyond the Crown Inn. Mrs. Thomson, wife of Mr. Thomson, then of the Primrose Print Works, was a patroness of such a house. Numerous other barns were also occupied in the same manner in the district.

The bill earlier referred to. From *Clitheroe Times* 22nd September 1899:

For the Benefit of
Mr. and Mrs. Cuthell.
At the Theatre in Clitheroe,
On W. Evening will be performed the Comedy called
THE FASHIONABLE LOVER,
By the Author of the West Indian Brothers.

Lord Abberville	Mr. Newbound.
Mortimer	Mr. O'Neal.
Aubrey	Mr. Hamilton.
Tyrrel	Mr. Jackson.
Bridgemore	Mr. Bilton.
Dr. Druid (a Welshman) ...	Mr. Earle.
Naphali (a Jew)	Mr. Gibson.
Collin McLoud (a Scotchman) ...	Mr. Cuthell.
Mrs. Bridgemore	Mrs. O'Neal.
Miss Bridgemore	Miss O'Neal.
Mrs. McIntosh	Mrs. Cuthell.
Miss Aubrey	Mrs. Hamilton.

End of the Play, a Grand Witches' Dance, out of the Celebrated
Tragedy of Macbeth.
And the Warwickshire Lad in the Character of Ballad Singers,
By Mr. Cuthell and Mr. Earle.
End of the 1st Act of the Farce,
Bucks have at You, Or The Picture of a Play House,
By Mrs. Cuthell.
To which will be added a Farce called
FLORIZEL AND PERDITTA,
Or the Royal Shepherd.

Florizel	Mr. Hamilton.
King	Mr. Cuthell.
Camillo	Mr. Earle.
Antigones	Mr. O'Neal.
Clown	Mr. Bilton.
Antolitus (a ballad-singing pedlar)	Mr. Newbound.
Perditta (with a sheep shearing song)	Mrs. Hamilton.
Pastoral Mympis	Miss O'Neal and Miss Gibson.

To conclude with a dance by the characters.
Doors opened at 6 and to begin at 7 o'clock.
Pit 1-6. Gallery 1-9.
Tickets to be had at the Swan, and of Mr. and Mrs. Cuthell, and at the White Bull.
(And at the Swan in Whalley).
Days of playing: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
The play-bill is bound up in the balance-sheet of George Johnson, who made the Overseers' Accounts of Pendleton for the year 1777. The bill itself bears on its back "6th April, 1776, John Walshman made Overseers' Accounts."

TWO 'MYSTERIOUS' SKELETONS

In the early Twentieth Century two 'mysterious' skeletons were unearthed at two Clitheroe quarries. The first of these discoveries was at Bellman Park in 1904 and the second at Salt Hill in 1907. These skeletons were both claimed to be giants, with the Bellman Quarry one said to be about seven feet tall. This, however, was later debunked by Professor Boyd Dawkins, a leading scientist of the time. Both discoveries were briefly reported in the Clitheroe Times and it was said crowds flocked to gaze upon the discoveries. However, interest appears to have soon waned and nothing is known what conclusions about the age and origins of the skeletons were drawn. The discoveries were barely reported elsewhere. The following is what little we can learn from the local paper, starting with the 1904 event from the Clitheroe Times of 23rd September 1904 under the headline 'Skeleton Unearthed at Bellman Quarry':

Whilst "feying" or baring rock at Bellman Park Quarry on Wednesday afternoon, the workmen of Messrs. J. Carter and Co., exhumed a skeleton. The men were engaged at the east side of the quarry, where the ground rises and falls, and in some places the rock is not more than a foot below the sod. In a declivity, some two feet below the sod, was the skeleton of a man, the head lying to the west and the feet to the east. Unfortunately, the bones were disturbed by the men, some being broken up. A curious feature was the discovery of a second skull, which has apparently been buried with the other one, but no trace of bones can be found. The teeth of both skulls and the bones are in a state of good preservation.

There is no trace as to the period to which the man belonged, though it is thought to be upwards of a thousand years ago, as placed in position the bones show that he must have been quite seven feet in stature. No trace of buttons or coins or anything likely to supply a clue was to be found. Some time ago, it is interesting to learn, a coin of one of the old German Emperors was found.

A number of the bones, together with the broken parts of the skulls, are lying at the office of Messrs, Carter, who will be pleased to show them to parties interested.

In the following week's edition, the paper said:

At the mere mention of a skeleton the scientists and antiquarians prick their ears. The "important" find at Bellman Park Lime Works has led Professor Boyd Dawkins to giving his opinion to a newspaper man. He says there is nothing in the reports of the discovery to support the theory that the skeleton is at least a thousand years old. This, according to the Professor is "mere surmise" as it would be "very difficult for anyone to arrive at the period in which the man lived unless coins or implements were found in the same spot." As if to further crush

the ordinary lay opinion Professor Dawkins goes on to throw cold water on the statement that the man must have been seven feet high. "There are very few people," he continues, "who can make such a measurement with exactitude, and it is very probable that the height has been exaggerated." But after all even what the Professor says only amounts to conjecture for at the time his words were penned he had nothing better to form his conclusions upon than what he had read; he had not himself seen the skeleton.

The only other reference to this discovery, so far found, is contained in the Northern Daily Telegraph of 24th September 1904:

Professor Boyd Dawkins, with that passion for exactness which is the first essential to the scientist and antiquarian, is inclined to think that the skeleton found at Bellman Park Limeworks has been measured with a too elastic tape. He doubts the accuracy of the statement that when living the man must have been seven feet in height, and the "thousand years" which it was stated the skeleton must have lain in its present position is, in the Professor's opinion, a "mere surmise." The state of preservation of the bones, lying so near the surface, disposes of the thousand years theory, and "a good many years" is as exact an estimate as can be advanced without close and expert examination. In any case, Coroner Robinson will scarcely feel any official interest in the find. No jury will be empanelled to unravel the mystery of identification, age, or cause of death.

What became of this skeleton after it had been kept for show in Mr. Carter's office is not known and, so far, no picture has been found.

Moving on to the 1907 Salt Hill skeleton the Clitheroe Times of 12th April 1907 reported:

To put it mildly the discovery of a human skeleton at the Salt Hill Quarries of Messrs. James Carter and Co. caused something of a commotion, though this, of course, is not the first discovery of the kind. During excavations the gruesome object was unearthed at a depth of about three feet. The skull was broken either through excavation or previously, but the other parts are in good condition. Night after night this week crowds have wended their way to Salt Hill out of curiosity to see the skeleton which is of large size. The last skeleton found was of such large dimensions that theories were propounded as to its being the remains of a prehistoric man, but Prof. Boyd Dawkins did not confirm this. A curious feature of the present find is that a stone weighing about two-hundred weight was found apparently on the chest.

This time however we do have a photograph:



This is all that has so far been uncovered about these two discoveries. It is hoped that more information will come to light in the future.



Poems and tips



Wise Words

Don't have a bath every day
It's bad for your delicate skin
They say that it washes the goodness away
And makes your hair wispy and thin.



The water will shrivel your fingers and toes
The soap will get into your eyes
You may smell a treat, but everyone knows,
A bath every day isn't wise!

Have you had your flu jab?

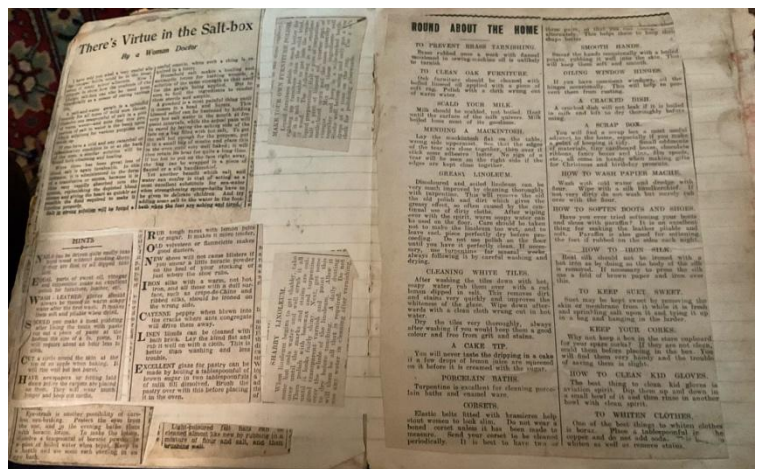
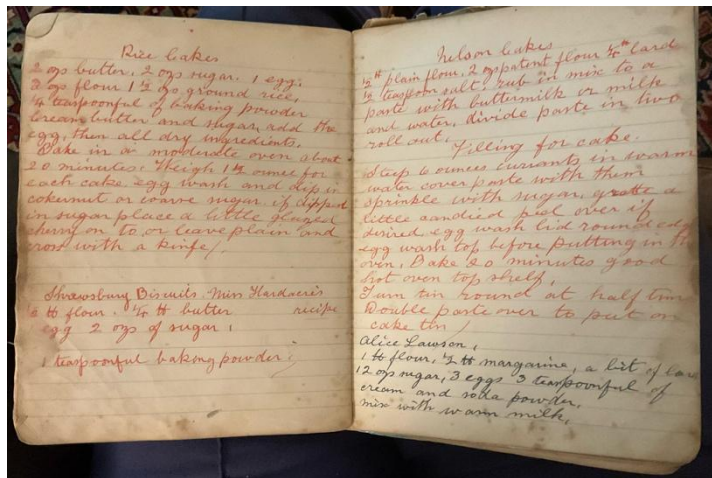
I'm not well it might be flu
It's not measles, it's not chicken pox,
the doctor has no clue

He suggests it's just a virus
"You'll feel ill for days and days
Paracetamol and fluids and keep warm" is
all he says



That's a great big help to me when I've got all my jobs to do
Give me some magic potion
I'm not well – I think it's flu!

and household tips book 😊



A brief update on the activities of the Society's Cultivating Clitheroe Group.



Whilst many members and friends view the Society's Facebook page and read about us on the website to follow our progress, there are also many who don't. We have come a long way since 2018 when we first embarked on cleaning the Wells. This year age and infirmity has forced us to resign that task with the hope that other, more youthful volunteers will take up the challenge.

Our gardening commitments have taken priority. Whilst improvements in the Castle Grounds and Library bed are ongoing, with more donated plants added, the main concentration this year has been on the tree planters, barrels and tubs throughout the Conservation Area.

There are now ten tree planters and twelve smaller tubs, plus several other sites which we have adopted.

This year, when the RVBC was planning new paving and road surfacing in the Market Place we were pleased that our experience was called on to help stock and maintain the five new planters provided as part of the scheme.





In November all the planters were refreshed with winter planting and bulbs. We have high hopes for next Spring! Photographs of the colourful work we've done over the years are collated in two albums available to view at our monthly presentations. Here are a few current examples.

