

Issue 24

The Lostock Hall Magazine

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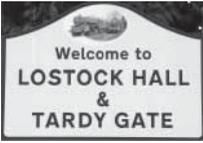


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Welcome to the 24th issue of The Lostock Hall Magazine. Our magazine is a collection of local history articles, photographs and memories relating to the area. Many thanks to all our contributors and readers. Our thanks to Penwortham Priory Academy who support us by printing and formatting the magazine. Please support our local advertisers without them we could not produce our magazine. **A copy of each issue will be kept in the Lancashire Records Office.** Articles and memories this month by Tony Billington, Jackie Stuart, Annette Pearson (nee Pitcher) and Brian Whittle. A big thankyou to everyone who has sent in photos we will include them in the magazines as soon as we can.

We are also collecting material for Preston Remembers and the South Ribble Remembrance Archive 1914-1918, which will include anything relating to World War One in our area. A photo, document, a memory, etc.

If you are able to support us by advertising in our very popular magazine, please do get in touch, without our advertisers we cannot produce the magazine, please support them whenever you can.

If you have any memories you would like to submit to the magazine for publication, please do contact me, or our roving reporter – Tony Billington, especially memories from our older residents, because once the memories are gone they are lost forever. We can call at your home or speak to you on the telephone if you wish us to write down your memories. Copies of the magazine are always be available at Lostock Hall Library on Watkin Lane.

Front Cover image – Lostock Hall Carnival 2015 – Heather Crook

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PHOTOGRAPHS FROM LOSTOCK HALL PAST



Veronica Charnock's 21st Birthday. January 1947 in the Turner Memorial Hall now Parochial Centre. Courtesy of Margaret Cross



Moss's Mill Canteen possibly 1940's or earlier. My two aunts are amongst the workers, one aunt, Emily Sinfield worked there at the time of the Ward Street bombing. My other aunt was Mary Mather. Has anyone any memories or information about Emily or Mary or others on the photograph. Courtesy of Linda nee Sinfield.

FRY INN

18 WATKIN LANE LOSTOCK HALL

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Readers Comments

Photo of Joan Grimshaw in the grounds of the then Lostock Hall Convalescent Hospital (now St Catherine's) c. 1949 Courtesy of Neil Grimshaw



Taken from a recent letter to the Lancashire Evening Post. My memories were happy. It brought back happy memories to see the picture of Lostock Hall Convalescent Hospital as it was in 1949, when, as a student nurse at PRI, it was part of our training to spend eight weeks at one of the three continuing care hospitals which existed at that time and were closed when the Royal Preston Hospital was built. There was 'The Willows' at Ashton for males. Fulwood Hall for orthopaedic patients requiring a long stay, and Lostock Hall for women and children. It was a wonderful experience for my friend and I to continue nursing care of the patients there until discharge. The patients appreciated the care they experienced there which gave them and their relatives more confidence to continue with their lives at home. Lostock Hall was virtually self-sufficient as there was a vast area of land where all the fruit and vegetables were grown and a farm area with pigs, hens and cows and looked after by W. Worthington (handyman) and W. Hewidge (gardener) who lived in the two cottages in the grounds. The kitchen staff did a marvellous job with healthy meals as food was still rationed following the war. It was a sad day when it had to close in 1982 as it then created the problem of patients staying in an acute bed for too long or being sent home too soon. Happy memories of the good old days. Joan Grimshaw.

Mrs Eileen Wilson has been in touch relating to the Carnival Queen photo in Issue 23. Her daughter Valerie, now Rawcliffe, who lived at 4 Avondale Drive, is the Carnival Queen. The girl behind her is Jacqueline Sumner, of Browndedge Road. Valerie was 5 years old at the time. They put all the girls names into a hat to choose who would be Queen.

The school photo from Kath Taylor in last month's issue is St Paul's School and not St Gerards. From Viv and Ken Higham.

I am enjoying the memories. I was born in Leyland but moved to Lostock Hall as a baby in 1935. I went to St James School from 1939 to 1946. Bamber Bridge and Lostock Hall were my stamping ground. So much to recall. Linda nee Sinfield. See photo of Moss's Mill Canteen.



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LOSTOCK HALL COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Written by Jackie Stuart

A school was opened for the infant children in Standard 1 on June 22nd 1896. The children had been transferred from Cuerden Green School for overcrowding reasons. The Cuerden Green School was founded by Andrew Dandy in the 1670's. The number of children on roll was 106, MM Mattinson was the Head Teacher with BV Johnston the assistant. The subjects at that time were Religious Instruction, Reading and Word Building, Writing and Transcription, Arithmetic, Tables and Number, Needlework (girls) Drawing (boys), Singing, Recitation and Object lessons. Very similar in some respects to what is taught today. The attendance of the children was very poor at times due to measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever and diphtheria. In August 1897 about a third of the children were absent with several deaths reported among the little ones. On February 17th 1904 the school managers commanded that the school close until further notice on account of epidemics of 'Fever' and 'Measles' which prevails in the district. The school closed for good on April 25th 1904 and reopened at Cuerden on a temporary basis until the new school was erected.

January 7th 1908 Lostock Hall County Council School opened. Miss Alice Maddock was the Head Teacher, with Miss Coulthurst as temporary assistant until Miss Pritt was able to take up the appointment. 103 children on roll at the end of the month, age range from 4 to 14. In September of 1908 the first cookery or domestic science lessons started. These lessons took place in what is now called Room 10 (The Meetings Room). Woodwork lessons also began for boys. These lessons took place in what is now the nursery. Children from Brownedge RC, St Saviours and the Wesley School, Bamber Bridge shared the lessons. With the raising of the school leaving age in the 1940's the children stayed until 15 years of age, unless they passed their 11+ examinations. During the late 1950's Walton-le-Dale Secondary Modern was built and the older pupils then transferred there or to Penwortham. Lostock Hall County Council School still housed children up to the age of 11. In the 1970's Linden Drive Junior School began to develop on a piece of Farmer Lawson's field. The Avondale Drive site then became an infant department with children aged from 4 – 7. From the age of 7 – 11 the children then transferred to Linden Drive. In 1993 the two schools amalgamated and became known as Lostock Hall County Primary School. A nursery unit was also introduced. In 1999 the school name was again changed to Lostock Hall Community Primary School.

Photograph from School Log Book courtesy of Mr R Lane. Children from St Saviours School, Bamber Bridge, Wesleyan School and Brownedge RC School arriving by horse drawn wagonette for the first cookery lesson on 7th September 1908. Mr Edward Clayton had the contract for transporting the children.



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LOSTOCK HALL PEOPLE WITH NICKNAMES

BY BRIAN WHITTLE

Slogger Jenkinson – he was a good thrower

Gunner Greenwood – Alf Greenwood – lived corner of Albrighton

Tommy Glass – Tommy Livesey – Glass man on Browndedge Road

Peter Post – Peter Renshaw – newsagent corner of Fairfield St.

Doggy Bob – Bob Taylor – had two dogs called Judy 1 and Judy 2

Sammy Plank – Sammy Cairns – Woodwork teacher

Bunnuk – Ray Parkin

Swiggy – Jimmy Swindlehurst – lived in South View

Scissors – barber opposite the library

Bogey Bamford – Tommy Bamford – lived at bottom of Lostock Square

Hooker – Frank Parker – he was a brickie and played for Lostock Hall FC.

Chalkie White – Brian White – had corner shop across from library

Spud Walker – Arthur Walker – he was short and lived at Four Lane Ends

Dusty Miller – Tommy Miller – lived corner of Fowler Lane

Shirt – Arthur Illingworth – lived near Railway pub

Curly Alty – Frank Alty

Tommy Rat – Tommy Fairclough – lived on Lostock View

Kuik Sale – Eric Sale – lived at bottom of Lords Ave went to Farington School

Podge – Roy Sale

Shelly – Brian Shirliker – local lad

L.T.R. (Lenny The Roofer) – Len Mansley

Rosy – Albert Cross – lives Victoria Street

Laughing Boy – Derek Thompson – always laughing worked in Dardsley House

Scuffy – Colin Schofield

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM LOSTOCK HALL PAST



St James Rose Queen c. 1950's. Queen Kathleen Wilkinson (Burton) is crowned by Martha Wilson (auntie) on the council school field. The other ladies from left to right are Clara Swift (Hargreaves) Margaret Marle (Higham) Barbara Bleasdale (Quinn) and Barbara Bashall, ?. Behind the group are the poplar trees and orchard, rear of houses on Brownedge Rd and then Moss Street. Courtesy of Barbara Quinn.



Lostock Hall Council School, Gymnastic Class. Robert Bleasdale middle row 2nd from left. Arnold Livesey 1st. Courtesy of Barbara Quinn.

Beginnings Part Two

By Annette Pearson (nee Pitcher)

Our next door neighbours were Mr and Mrs Greenwood who had no children of their own but they had a television and we were invited in to watch special events, especially the Cup Final. Mr Greenwood was a keen follower of the monarchy and when the National Anthem was played we all had to stand to attention in silence. Another function Mr Greenwood provided was that of a 'Dentist'. When your tooth became very loose my mum used to send us round to Mr Greenwood and he would tie a string around the tooth then around the door knob Close the door and out popped the tooth. You came away minus the tooth but better off by sixpence That was before you put the tooth under your pillow for the tooth fairy. I also used to go into Naylor's across the road to watch Robin Hood every Saturday teatime at 5pm There was always a party tea laid out.

Childhood illnesses were plentiful. Whooping Cough, Scarlet Fever, which was bad in those days, Measles, again you were very poorly and had to have no light because your eyes could be affected and I think worse of all Ear Ache ... the only cure was hot olive oil and your hot water bottle, and, of course, bread and milk, 'pobbies' for your sore throats !!!! We were clothed in liberty bodice, given cod liver oil capsules and Lungealers, and plenty of beef tea to keep us well, and of course there was that little bottle of Indian Brandy for an upset stomach. To help you recover you were given Sanatogen Wine as a tonic. I must not forget 'mumps', I remember several mothers sent their boys to play at our house hoping that they would catch mumps from me !!!!

Animals ... I can remember there being a pony grazing on the piece of land attached to our cottage, I think it belonged to Mr Birchby's daughter, I have a feeling my mum may have cleaned for him at some time and he had bought this pony for his daughter who had not been well and needed somewhere for it to graze.

We had a black cat called Snookes who used to like going around to Mr and Mrs Sweetmore's, unfortunately Mrs Sweetmore did not like cats and Snookes had to dodge the hot water many a time and my Auntie Rose gave me one of her poodles as a birthday gift, it had a typical French temperament !!! It lived to a grand old age, was blind and deaf, losing its coat, 'weeing' on everything that did not move and snapping at my mum when she was the one who fed it. As well as that we had a canary who used to sing its head off when I played the piano. Many a time it escaped when we were cleaning out the cage, that was the time to make sure the cat was not about. I can remember finding it dead on the bottom of the cage on the same day as the Pope died. Of course we had a goldfish that we won at the fair, we used to keep it in the back porch and when the frost came the water used to freeze up. My mum used to put a bit of hot water in the bowl and the fish was swimming about in not time. It lived for a very long time.

Many people called at our house. Mr Clayton, the coal man (his son still carries on the business) the bread man, the vegetable man, we had gypsies and tramps, my mum used to say 'He will do you no harm he only wants some bread'. The smelly fish van came on a Friday, the Rag and Bone man for any old clothes and Johnny Flanagan and his ice cream van came every night and stopped in Avondale Drive, what a treat !
School Time.

My sister aged 11 years had taken her 11 plus and passed for Lark Hill House Convent run by the FCJ nuns. My mum was very pleased but after a visit to the convent she came home very upset because the sister in charge had suggested that the uniform costs etc., may be

too much for my mum to afford and so perhaps my sister should give her place up. Nuns could be very cruel! My mum at that time was working for Father MacKenzie and after telling the story he arranged for her to do some extra hours work and earn a little more money, a thoughtful thing for him to do. My sister was kitted out in her brown coat and hat and set off to face the nuns with her two friends Maureen Redmond and Celia Fletcher.

My first day at Our Lady and St Gerrards approached and Miss Baldwin was there to greet all new starters. Miss Baldwin was a spinster and a proper infant teacher. Her outward appearance was a little frightening but she had a heart of gold and she always had a soft spot for the poorer children of the school. I can see her now walking around the school yard with the children hand in hand and maybe singing a nursery rhyme, then into the sandpit, play was very important in those days. Her arrival and departure from the school on her scooter was a sight to behold. After trying to start it several times it finally set off at some pace with Miss Baldwin hanging on for dear life. Then it was into Miss Ormerod's class where we were prepared for first Holy Communion. Miss Ormerod again was a spinster and she was a very kind person. She has just had her 100th birthday, perhaps that's what being a spinster does for you. First Communion was a big day when you wore a white dress and veil. You carried up a prayer book and rosary beads to the altar, which were blessed, you also got a certificate (I still have mine). Afterwards you went into the school hall and had a breakfast. In those days at no cost must you touch the host. Its all changed now, and you could not go into Communion unless you had visited confession the day before!! It was a mortal sin to miss Mass and even when you were on holiday your first job was to locate the church and the mass times. Always remember not to eat meat on a Friday, this was Fish Day. We always got a little bottle of milk and orange in those days at your break time, which were most welcome. The Catechism was regularly tested and was your tables and every now and again we got a Religious Inspection and an afternoon off if you passed, which always seemed to be the case. Next came the dreaded Miss Moon who certainly made an impression on me, that is one of fear!!! If you misbehaved she used to make you kneel down, many fainted, and she also was too fond of using the cane, a long thin stick. One day a boy who was a regular participant of the cane snatched it off her and broke it in half, much to the classed delight. We made little progress in her class but we certainly knew how to stand to attention and kneel upright. On to the top class and Miss Thistlethwaite (Thissy) was a long streak of misery with buck teeth but it was her job to prepare us for the 11 plus. She was okay but I do remember her having her favourites. She always picked one of these to ring the School Bell which was a job everyone wanted to do as well as being milk monitor. The eleven plus was soon upon us and I failed both the School Exam and the Entrance Exam for the Convent. More next month

Photo of St Gerard's mid 50's Back row – Shirley Pilkington, ?, Margaret Newton, Bernice Jones, Frances Perry, Teresa Sargeant, Mary Turner, Christine Flanagan. Front Row – Irene Maloney, Christine Gates, Eileen Swarbrick, Annette Pitcher, Pat Butcher and Ursula Corbishley



Todd lane South, Then and Now

Looking at an old map dated 1911 of Lostock Hall recently I noted 'Black Lane' and 'Moss Lane' connecting at Four Lane Ends (please note, not the Moss Lane running from Watkin Lane to Prospect Avenue and beyond). Just when 'Black Lane' became 'Brownedge Road' and 'Moss Lane' was given the new name of 'Todd Lane South' I'm not certain but would appreciate any information on this subject. Unfortunately there will be very few if anybody out there who is still around from those days.

I can only personally go back to the 50's and 60's up to the present day and they have always been 'Brownedge Road' and 'Todd Lane South'. 'Todd Lane North' was still plain 'Todd Lane' on the above said map. Whilst living in Moss Street and then later Avondale Drive a trip to Dandy Brook or the woods beyond School Lane and Stoney Lane would entail a trip via Tom Parr's Garage, down the old wagon 'pad', past the shunting yards and wagon repair sheds and up the 'iron steps' onto the railway bridge on Todd Lane South. However, if for some reason we went by the 'scenic route' this would be along the



whole length of Todd Lane South. We would trudge along Brownedge Road up to Four Lane Ends, turning right at Sylvester Birchbys Garage (now Texaco) we would enter Todd Lane South. Across from the old red telephone box was a plot of unmade land behind a privet hedge. This was the site of an ancient cross but no evidence ever existed in our childhood. A rest-home now stands on this site. The Crescent, Bridge Road, and small park still remain almost unchanged from the 50s and 60s, maybe a few more cars! The houses opposite the park remain and then we arrive at Mayfield Avenue which offers access to Rosemeade Avenue. Up the brow of Moss Bridge (the actual name of the railway bridge) we passed the iron steps and see the now demolished Lostock Hall Junction Signalbox. The impressive structure stood 26"1" high and was built so as to give the signal man a clear sight over the bridge of oncoming trains from Bamber Bridge and from under the Red Bridge from Todd Lane. (Mr Foy and his daughter who lived in the last house in Moss St, next to the allotments, manned this box). On walking down the opposite brow of the bridge to our left was the market gardeners run by Mr Shultz. He grew fruit and veg on this plot for sale in the family greengrocers on the corner of Watkin Lane and Hoghton Street (now Enchanted Brides). A large cabin stood on the

plot along with a well used rotavator. The market garden is now the site of Moss Bridge Park. Just past here stood an impressive red brick which is still there to this day. A family called 'Eachus' lived there for a while and amongst many uses the property housed Basbox Kennels at the rear. To the side and behind the house now is 'Highgale Gardens' was the house ever named Highgale? Opposite the house was a very large field which stood between the road and the railway and stretched far into the distance towards Bamber Bridge. We always called it the 'Daisy Field' unofficially. To appreciate how much land the field covered, it is now the site of the huge Townsway housing estate. Back onto Todd Lane South where several houses still stand that were there in the 50's and 60's and even much earlier. In the right hand corner of the Daisy Field next to the track leading to Lostock Hall Farm was a large tree and quite a deep hollow in the ground. The hollow would hold lots of water after a downpour and a rope swing was put to good use above the flooded patch. It was always a source of amusement if anyone fell off or the rope snapped! The farm track which has been named St Catherine's Way led to Lostock Hall Farm which is now Chestnut Grove. This road is an access road to the rest home and also the rear of St Catherine's Hospice. On the other side of what is now St Catherine's Way was a large stone wall which at the time seemed like it would last forever but alas an ordinary brick wall has replaced it (as Yosser Hughes once famously said in the acclaimed 'Boys From The Blackstuff' – Once you've seen one wall, you've seen 'em all) Behind the stone wall was a big farmer's field which continued down a slope to the banks of the River Lostock. 'Cuerden Rise occupies the higher reaches of this field whilst the Amazon rainforest seems to have claimed the rest. It's unbelievable that an empty field that once stood here has been completely taken over by nature. The stretch of river from the long brick wall which formed the boundary of the convalescent home (now St Catherine's Hospice) to the Dandy (Stone) Bridge had unhindered views of the river and bank on both sides, The river was deep enough to swim in due to the weir/lock near the Lostock Hall Spinning Company holding the water

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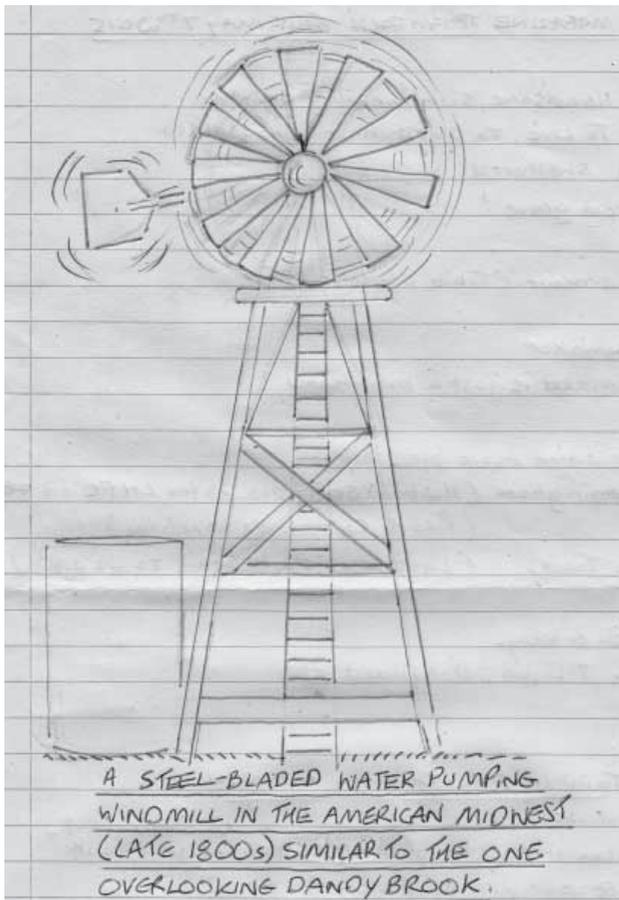
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back. Close to the bridge on the hospice side was a small sand bank in the centre of the river which was accessed by a decent leap from either bank or a paddle, knee deep at times. The river, or brook, and the brick wall are hardly visible from the road nowadays. I'm just glad it wasn't like that when we were kids. Back onto Todd Lane South opposite Cuerden Rise were a small row of cottages, which are still in situ. At the end of the cottages on the brow of the hill was a track which led down to Ivy Cottage Farm and beyond that Pearson's Farm. One of these farms (maybe both) owned an old fashioned windmill (a la wild west, not the type found at Lytham etc.) It was a metal and wood structure, possibly home made, oil derrick style with a large fin to catch the wind. The rears of Albrighton Close sit on the hill close to the location of the farm. Down the hill from the farm the river was still quite deep. The stepping stones in situ now would have been of little use as the river was knee deep and sometimes waist deep at this point. Back along the path towards Dandy Bridge, one had clear access and views to the river all the way down unlike now where nature has struck here as well. Towards the bridge the river isn't visible where there was once a row of old iron railings which doubled as steps into the river. Under the bridge was a sandbank which fekk quite deeply to the other side. This would be the safest way to get from one side of the bridge to the other nowadays as Lostock Lane and Todd Lane South have turned into a racetrack and rat run where speed seems to be the order of the day. The bridge has been reinforced as it would not last long nowadays with the traffic volumes and speeds it now endures. No doubt the modern age and 'progress' will replace it with something sturdier and uglier to confine to history another Lostock Hall landmark. Todd Lane South in the 50's and 60's, or today? No contest ! Halcyon days never to be forgotten.

Tony Billington

A local source (a Lostocker all his life) says that the Forestry Commission planted trees, shrubs etc., from the boundary wall at St Catherine's Hospice all down the river to wherever. He is not sure when, but assures me they are cutting them down again now !



DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY **CELEBRATIONS**

Stan and Jean Rudman celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to Stan and Jean on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 20th August from The Lostock Hall Magazine.

MOTHER GIVES AWAY BRIDE

The wedding took place at St James Church, Lostock Hall, on Saturday of Miss Jean Homewood, youngest daughter of Mrs Homewood, and the late Mr William George Homewood, of 102 Browndedge Road, and Mr George Stanley Rudman, third son of Mr and Mrs Ben Rudman, of Coote-lane Farm, Lostock Hall. The Rev FM Phillips Vicar conducted the service. The bride was given away by her mother, and wore a dress of white nylon lace and net, trimmed with diamante. She carried pink roses and carnations with stephanotis and wore a headdress of orange blossom. She was attended by Miss Phyllis Wood, friend, Miss Marlene Bowling, Miss Shirley Damp and Miss Joan Tickle, nieces. The Best Man was Mr Kenneth Rudman, brother of the bridegroom, and the groomsmen were Mr John Homewood, Mr James Wilkinson and Mr Eric Rudman. There were 60 guests at a reception held in St James Institute, Lostock Hall. Photo F Turner, Leyland.



**The Leyland Guardian Thursday
August 25th 1955**

Stan and Jean catered for themselves and some of Jean's friends from Thomas Moss's Mill waited on. The three-tier wedding cake fell into the trifle but a quick rinse under the tap did the trick! Today, Stan and Jean still live in Lostock Hall (Farington really!) in Croston Road. They have two daughters Shirley and Linda and two granddaughters.



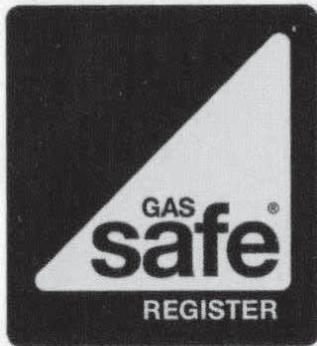
PHOTOGRAPHS FROM LOSTOCK HALL PAST



School Trip from Linden Drive School c1978. Youth type centre at the end of Windermere where pupils made rafts and did rock climbing. 8th from left back row is Catriona Heyes. Photo courtesy of Margaret Heyes



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'KEEP CLEAR, DOCTOR c. mid to late 70's. Bert Dawson outside his garage behind 1-7 Cote Lane. To put off would-be parkers Bert put the 'keep clear, doctor' sign on this garage door! It seemed to do the trick. The site still have problem parkers to this day. Courtesy of Rene Molyneux.'

CORNER SHOPS AND ALL THAT !

Photo courtesy of Rene Molyneux c 1935. Petrol pumps outside T Ball and Sons, 450 Leyland Road. Harold Ball and Arnold Molyneux stand between the petrol pumps on the pavement in front of Tommy Balls.



A very good friend of mine who passed away not long ago asked me this question ... 'How many things can you not buy in Tardy (and Lostock) that you could 20 or so years ago?' He named quite a few things and it got me thinking as well. So hear goes (I hope readers can get their minds jogging as well to add to the list)

1. **Fresh Meat.** We had at least 3 butchers in my 'short' lifetime. Miss Roberts (now Dental Practice). Nightingales (Coote Lane Corner next to Tommy Balls) and Heyworths at Four Lane Ends.
2. **Shoes.** I'm sure there have been one or two short-lived businesses including The Bacup Shoe Company in Ward Street on the site of the Factory Canteen. (Since 1982 this has been the headquarters of Calvary Christian Fellowship)
3. **Petrol.** Still obtained at Texaco at the Four Lane Ends (formerly Birchby's) but we had the Riviera Service Station opposite the Pleasant, Leyland Road (now car sales) and of course the petrol pumps outside Tommy Ball's shop on Leyland Road (see photo).
4. **Tailors.** H. Sandlands (we used to call him Mr Swindley out of Corry Street) This was opposite the footpath and Library.
5. **Bank.** A village the size of ours and we ain't got a bank! Nat-West once faced the Pleasant, it was next to the Riviera Service Station, I have it on good authority that two lads from Lostock Hall Engine Shed used to go down for the payroll on a Friday to the bank and a big ginger-haired lad carried a loaded revolver, I am assured that he would have used it! Halifax Building Society changed into a bank but then transferred its business to Longridge ! (more rich farmers and landed gentry to keep sweet!)
6. **Newspapers.** I know Spar (Tardy Gate and Four Lane Ends) sell them but we had 3 proper newsagents in the village. Sid Reynolds (near Miss Robert's butchers) Mounts (taken over by daughter, Moira, at one time, then Renshaws before several 'pretenders'. Lenthalls paper shop was over the bridges on Watkin Lane/Fairfield St corner. I think Renshaws also had a long spell here as well as one on Chain House Lane/Green Lane corner opposite Coxheads.
7. **Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.** Again Spar does this (what don't they do?) but a genuine fruit and veg shop opposite the 'Tardy', several owners over the years including Dlogg's at one time.
8. **Cloggers and Shoe Repairs.** There may have been several but there was one where 'Bet Fred's Bökkies is now, before it was a bookie the shop has also been used as a greengrocers and veg (see Part 7 above) and a fishing shop. Past bookies have been Brigg's and Ribble Valley Racing.

9. **Post Office.** Spar again, but a genuine honest to goodness Post Office (several, over the years) there was one over the bridges on Watkin Lane before my time near the bus stop to Leyland, I believe. We had one on the corner of Watkin Lane/Lindley Street, it moved down to near the Fry Inn opposite the Library in later years. The other one was at Four Lane Ends on Todd Lane North/Brownedge Road corner. Birkbecks had it at one time but now it's a private dwelling.
10. **Fresh Fish.** A fish van still comes round and several others have over the years. Many years ago Mr Bollenberg used to sell fresh fish. Bidwells had the last fresh fish shop in the village itself. This stood at 468 Leyland Road opposite Brownedge Road. Sumners Barbers now in situ, whilst 'New World Records' once traded from here too. Does anyone have a photo of the Record shop? I can also remember Mrs Finch on Cedar Avenue/Brownedge Road corner. Didn't she sell fresh fish at one time?
11. **Penguin Dry Cleaners.** This stood for many years on Hope Terrace next to the Pleasant. There was a large laundrette too near where KFC is on Leyland Road.
12. **Corner Shop.** Yes, there are corner shops now, but the ones I mean sold nearly everything. Bread, fruit, veg, pop, etc.
 - (a) **Bleasdales.** (see issue 21) on the corner of Sephton Street and Watkin Lane, opposite the Library.
 - (b) **Schultz's.** (now Bridal Shop) corner of Hoghton Street and Watkin Lane. He grew his own veg on Todd Lane South next to Lostock Railway Junction. Mrs Shultz used to let us have a peek at football cards/bubblegum in case we already had them!
 - (c) **Fowler Lane/Croston Road corner.** You could buy almost anything here as well and stocked up en route to River Lostock down Fowler Lane and Neddy's Well (great watercress at well).
 - (d) **Bell's.** (Once Nelly Bamber's) corner of Moss Street and Brownedge Road. (Now Car Parts)
 - (e) **Kellet Acre.** First house on the right was a corner shop we used to get frozen orange drinks in a cardboard sachet here. It took a whole afternoon's trainspotting at Farington to suck all the orange out till we only had a block of ice left!
 - (f) Above orange drink also available at Conway Café on corner of Flag Lane and Leyland Road. The same 'ice only' process was carried out whilst trainspotting at Flag Lane or Bee Lane.
 - (g) **Chesters.** Corner of Victoria Street and Watkin Lane.

Other little shops of not which sold everything I have already mentioned plus bubble-gum, Penny Arrows, Black Jacks, Fruit Salad, etc., were Mrs Gill's at Four Lane Ends next to the butchers, Nickson's on corner of Brownedge Road/Wateringpool Lane (see issue 23) Mrs Nickson sold brandy snaps, uncle joes mint balls, 6 for 2 old pence etc. Another shop we'd visit was McCanns on Todd Lane North just past the post box. I'm sure they sold most of what I have already mentioned but when we were Todd Lane Station and go to McCanns for an ice cream. Some was really yellow and I believe made from duck eggs! Last but not means least was Tuckers on Cote Lane Railway Bridge. We rarely trainspotted round here so hardly ever used the shop but it probably so everything I've mentioned, inc. orange drink. I'm sure a lot of our older readers can remember a few more similar shops for the not too distant past. Well, there we have it. Just a few things we once took for granted which we no longer have on our doorstep.

Tony Billington.

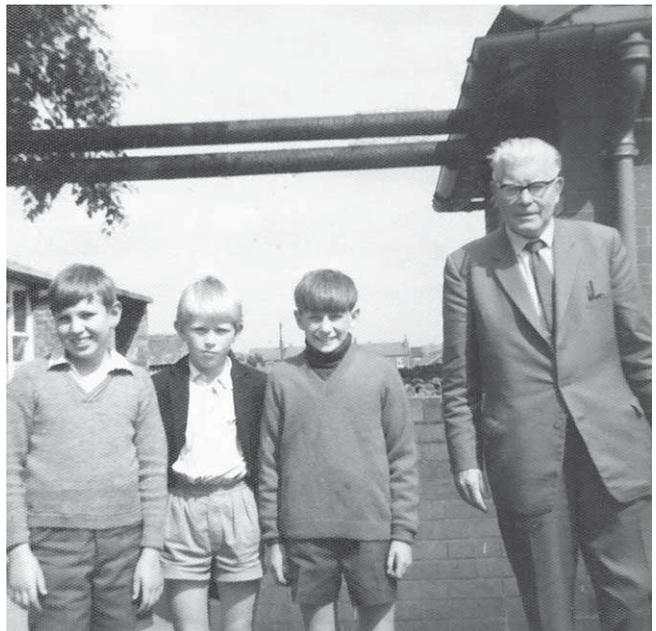
IN MEMORY OF BENNY SANDERS (1947-2015)

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM LOSTOCK HALL PAST



St Gerards Morris Dancers – c1950's courtesy of Annette Pearson. Back Row – Christine Flanagan, ?, Susan Burgess, ?,?,?,?. Front Row – Christine Gates, ?, Geraldine Crook, Annette Pitcher, Irene Maloney, Margaret Newton.

Lostock Hall Council School. The summer of 1965. Class 7 in front of the 'coke burner'. Left to right – Tony Suart, Eric Duckworth, Stephen Riding and Mr Abbott the Headmaster. Courtesy of Neil Grimshaw



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