

Bilsdale

1914-1919

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Helmsley Rural District Council

The Clerk (Mr R. Pearson) submitted estimates of the work proposed to be carried out in the district in connection with the alleviation of distress during the war. The proposed improvements at the dangerous corner known as Friends' Meeting house, Bilsdale, were estimated to cost £45 17s 6d.

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Helmsley Guardians

Way-Stations not procurable

The Clerk reported, that after numerous inquiries, he had been unable to procure, for the dispensing of midday meals to vagrants, way-stations between that and any of the neighbouring unions, except in the case of Mr. Garbutt, of The Grange, Bilsdale, whose shop was just half-way between Helmsley and Stokesley. Mr. Garbutt was prepared to cater at the following prices:

Bread, 2d. per lb; Cheese, 16d.; Milk, 1d per pint; tea, 1 1/2d; new milk for children, 1d, per gill glass.

Mr Pearson said he had also been in communication with the various unions with regard to a joint arrangement with them and each appeared to have experienced the same difficulty.

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ESKDALESIDE PLOUGHING AND HEDGECUTTING COMPETITIONS

The Eskdale ploughing and hedge-cutting competition, which are held in turn at Danby, Lealholm and Egton, were held at Lealholm this year...

Hedge-cutting - A. Atkinson, Bilsdale, 2, T. Burns, Ugthorpe, 3, T. Flintoft, Lealholm

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[Death of Alfred Bainbridge builder of Great Broughton] Among his many contracts...and the erection of the new Spout House at Bilsdale] [nb married to Mr W Brotton of Bilsdale daughter]

Whitby Gazette 23 April 1915 page 6

BILSDALE

The annual vestry meeting of St Hilda's Parish Church, Bilsdale, was held on Tuesday night, the Rev J. P. Parry presiding. The accounts of the past year were presented by Mr W Garbutt, the Vicar's Warden. The accounts, which were examined and passed, showed a small favourable balance. The Vicar re-elected Mr W. Garbutt as his warden for the ensuing year. Mr J. T. Leng was elected

People's Warden, in the place of Mr Stephen Todd, who did not seek re-election. Messrs. Garbutt Johnson and George Trigg (the newly-appointed school-master) were elected delegates to attend the Ruri-Decanal conference at Amotherby near Malton. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding closed the meeting

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An interesting presentation took place at Chop Gate, Bilsdale on Monday night, when Mr George Garbutt (Chairman of the Parish Council) handed to Mr F. J. Washington a handsome timepiece as a mark of appreciation of his services during the eight-and-a-half years he has acted as school master. Mr Garbutt also handed to Mrs Washington a silver teapot, and to the Misses Kathleen and Florrie Washington, silver jam dishes. The recipients acknowledged the gifts with much feeling and emotion. Mr Washington has now taken up the headship of Kirby Fleetham school. During his regime at Chop Gate, he acted as secretary to the local cricket club and as joint-secretary with Mr Garbutt Johnson of the agricultural show. The best wishes of his many friends in the dale go with him to his new home. Mr George Trigg succeeds Mr Washington as school master at Chop Gate.

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BILSDALE

Thanks to the generosity of poultry-keepers in Bilsdale, close upon three hundred eggs will be despatched every week for the next ten weeks to the National Egg Collection for wounded soldiers.

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CHOP GATE

Sunday and Monday were set apart, at the Wesleyan Chapel, Chop Gate (Bilsdale), for the holding of the anniversary services in connection with the foreign missions. On Sunday, morning and evening, two sermons were preached by Mr J. Parker (lay agent, of Great Ayton) In the afternoon, an old-time love-feast was celebrated. Many fervid and inspiring experiences were related and the ancient custom of passing round the loving-cup, from which each person takes a drink of water, and the handing round of a moiety of spice-cake to each, duly followed. On Monday evening, Mr J. H. Hall of Brawith, Stokesley, presided over a well-attended public meeting. An address was given by the deputation, the Rev W. E Withers of Stockton-on-Tees. The amount of collections, together with the sum collected by the Misses Francis A Leckenby and Rose H Brotton, totalled close up £5_ a praiseworthy sum for so small a dale village. The proceeds were in aid of the foreign missions.

Whitby Gazette 04 June 1915 page 6

Two interesting events in connection with village life in a dale were the celebrations of two sisters. The brides were Annie Eliza and Jane, daughters of Mr and the late Mrs George Garbutt of Chop Gate. The former was married at St Hilda's church Bilsdale, by the late Rev Charles Wright, on the 10th May 1890 to Mr Robert Pickering, son of the late Mr. and Mrs William Brotton of Bilsdale; and the latter on May 31st 1890 to Mr James Wass Leckenby, son of the late Mr and Mrs Leckenby, of Bilsdale. Both silver weddings were celebrated in similar fashion. the friends of the couples being

entertained, and cordial good wishes exchanged. Mr Brotton carries on a successful building and contracting business and acts as estate builder for the Earl of Duncombe(sic); Whilst Mr Leckenby is a well-known and highly respected farmer. The father of the brides has reached a patriarchal age, but is still a remarkably active man, and still retains all his faculties. He still acts as Chairman of the local parish council and the oldest Methodist preacher on the Stokesley [ends at this point!]

Whitby Gazette 02 July 1915 page 6

During the week, the Cleveland Motor Service Company experienced a most disastrous time.... On Thursday, last week, the Durham-Churchill vehicle was engaged to convey the Bilsdale Church scholars from Ingleby Bank Foot to Redcar and back again, when near Guisborough, on the return journey, the exhaust-pipe blew off, and the 'bus was in danger of taking fire. Thanks to the care exercised by the driver and the inspector (Messrs, F Woodward and W Collis, respectively), who have now joined the Army Transport, the children were safely conveyed to their destination...

Whitby Gazette 09 July 1915 page 6

Bilsdale
The anniversary services in connection with the Wesleyan Chapel, Chop Gate, are the cause of much felicity in the little dale, and the services of last week were in no way behind their predecessors. On Sunday, in spite of the inclement weather, two goodly congregations assembled, both in the afternoon and evening, when special sermons were preached by Mr Donald Burton, of Darlington. On Monday afternoon, Mr Burton presided over a service which was given by the Sunday School scholars. Recitations and dialogues were contributed, and a solo and a duet were well rendered by Miss Ethel Garbutt and the Misses Dora and Ethel Bennison. Tea was afterwards provided, and a cricket match was played in an adjacent field, between teams representing Spout House and Chop Gate. The match was won by the home team, by thirteen runs, the scores being sixty and forty-seven respectively. In the evening, a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr R H Belt of Darlington. Addresses were given by the Rev W E Holburn (Stokesley Circuit Minister), Mr Donald Burton, and Mr J Parker (lay agent, Great Ayton). Solos were contributed by Miss Lilian Bennison (Bilsdale), and Mr George Garbutt of Ingleby Barwick, and quartettos by the same gentleman and Mr G W Brotton and the Misses Rose Hannah and Harriety May Brotton (Bilsdale). Trays were given, and the tea and supper tables presided over by, Mrs Leckenby, Miss Brotton, Misses Strickland, Mrs Johnson Garbutt, Miss Garbutt and Mrs Bennison. The proceeds amounted to over £14.

Whitby Gazette 06 August 1915 page 4

Death of an old Bilsdale resident_ The death took place at Chop Gate, Bilsdale, on Tuesday, last week, of Mr George Sanderson. Mr Sanderson, who was seventy-seven years of age, was one of the oldest residents in the dale. For well over a quarter-of-a-century he held the position of wood bailiff under the late Earl of Feversham. Owing to being afflicted with rheumatics, he resigned this post, and for some years had lived in partial retirement. The interment took place at St Hilda's parish church on Thursday afternoon, last week. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev Joshua Powell Parry, M.A. Messrs Garbutt Brothers carried out the funeral arrangements.

A severe thunderstorm took place in many parts of Cleveland on Monday, last week. In Bilsdale, the storm was of unusual severity. Mrs Trousdale, wife of Mr John Trousdale of Ellermire, had gone to the moors to gather blueberries, a succulent fruit which grows wild upon the moors. As some anxiety was felt for her safety, her youngest son, Arthur, a young man twenty two years of age started away to escort her home. He had not gone far when he was struck by a vivid flash of lightning, and rendered unconscious, being found by his mother on her return journey. The young man was conveyed home, and Dr Yeoman, of Stokesley, was summoned by telephone from Chop Gate. Mrs Paddey, wife of the Rev W.G Paddey, Vicar of Kirby-in-Cleveland, who was waiting at Chop Gate for the storm to abate, learned of the occurrence, and at once proceeded to the home of Mr Trousdale, where she rendered invaluable first aid. Much gratitude for her skill and kindness was expressed by the distressed parents and friends. Mr Trousdale, junior, who is now recovering from his unenviable experience, was badly burned down one side, and had a shoe and stocking torn off. Three sheep belonging to Mr Trousdale were also killed, and an outbuilding struck and set on fire. Some large stone flags forming the floor of the shed were torn up, and left standing on end

Whitby Gazette 24 September 1915 page 4

Bilsdale

Miss Florrie Bentley, youngest daughter of Mr John and the late Mrs Bentley, of Cross Holme Farm, Bilsdale, who has held the position of supplementary teacher at the Fangdale Beck school for some little time, has resigned. The managers have appointed Miss Marion Dawson as her successor.

Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough 17 January 1916 page 6

The death has occurred at Chop Gate after an illness of some weeks, of Mr George Garbutt. The deceased gentleman was the oldest inhabitant in Bilsdale, being in his 84th year. All his life had been spent in Bilsdale, where he was a very successful farmer. Mr Garbutt was the oldest local preacher on the Stokesley Circuit plan, on which he served for over half a century. He had been Chairman of the Parish Council since its formation.

Whitby Gazette 21 January 1916 page 4

BILSDALE

DEATH OF A CLEVELAND WORTHY_

The death took place at "Seave Green", Chop Gate, Bilsdale, on Friday night, of Mr George Garbutt. Mr Garbutt, who was eighty three years of age, was one of the oldest inhabitants in the dale, in which all his life had been spent. Prior to Seave Green Farm being taken over by his younger son, Mr Robert Garbutt, with whom the old patriarch spent his retirement, he was a very successful farmer. He was a noted breeder of cattle and pigs, and with the latter he took many prizes at Stokesley and other local agricultural shows,, enjoying an unbroken sequence of success for a period extending over many years. He took an active part in dales life, and held many public offices in connection with the village. Mr Garbutt was for many years way-warden, and was Chairman of the Parish Council since its formation, which office he held up to his death. He was a member of the school

committee for over forty years, was a School Manager, representing the Parish Council. The deceased gentleman was the oldest local preacher on the Stokesley Primitive Methodist Circuit plan, having served in that capacity for well over half-a-century. He preached the last sermon to be delivered in the old Primitive Methodist Chapel, Great Broughton, prior to the new one being opened. His last sermon was preached in the Wesleyan Chapel, Chop Gate, about six weeks ago. Mr Garbutt was a missionary of no mean order, and in his youthful days led the church choir for many years, playing a clarinet. He was also an able performer on the slide trombone. He leaves two sons and three daughters to mourn their loss, as well as thirty-five grandchildren and many great grandchildren. His wife and two daughters (Mrs Joseph Bennison, of "Broadfield" and Mrs Stephen Todd, of "Northwood") predeceased him by some years. The interment took place at St Hilda's Church, Chop Gate, on Tuesday, when there was a large assembly of people to pay their last respects. The Primitive Methodist body was well represented, six of his fellow local preachers acting as bearers namely_ Messrs, George Myers (Broughton) James Bainbridge (Stokesley) J. H. Wilkes and E Johnson (Great Ayton) Henry Bainbridge (Ingleby Greenhow) and T. Hall (Hutton Rudby). Before the cortege left for the Church, a favourite hymn was sung, whilst prayers were offered by Messrs, Johnson and Wilkes. The service in church was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev J Powell Parry M.A.), and "Rock of Ages" was sung with great feeling, as was another favourite hymn at the graveside. The coffin containing the remains was of polished oak, with massive brass mountings, bearing the inscriptions "George Garbutt, died January 14th 1916, aged 83 years". A number of floral tributes were sent, including_ "With deepest sympathy, from the Earl and Countess of Feversham", "In affectionate remembrance from his sons and daughters", "To the memory of dear Father, from R.P and Annie Eliza Brotton", "In loving memory, from Stephen Todd", "To the memory of dear grandfather, from Garbutt and Edith Johnson", "A last token of respect, from Hannah Eliza Johnson", "With deepest sympathy, from George and Susan Todd, North Ormesby", "From granddaughters, Mary and Hannah"; "With loving memory, from his granddaughter F.A Leckenby" and "With deepest sympathy, from Mr Mattison and family". Messrs, Garbutt Brothers efficiently carried out the funeral arrangements.

Whitby Gazette 28 July 1916 page 4

BILSDALE

FARMER'S SUDDEN DEATH_

Whilst driving alone to Stokesley Auction Mart on Monday morning, John Bentley, aged sixty two, a well-known and respected farmer and cattle dealer of Crossholme, Bilsdale, was, when near Seave Green, seen to be leaning over the front of his trap, and, instantly, he fell out on to the road head-first, and was picked up dead. Meanwhile, his horse bolted, and over turned the trap. Deceased had partaken of a good breakfast, had not complained of anything, and on calling at the Post Office a few minutes earlier, had seemed in good spirits. Dr J.F. Porter, J.P held an inquest, on Tuesday, when a verdict of "Death from apoplexy" was returned.

Whitby Gazette 15 September 1916 page 4

CHOP GATE

With much regret we record the passing of a deservedly respected dalesman, in the person of Mr James Wass Leckenby, which took place at his residence, Seave Green, Chop Gate on Sunday. The

deceased gentleman, who had only obtained the comparatively early age of forty nine years, was a native of Bilsdale, and the whole of his life, with the exception of three or four years was spent there. His brief absence was spent on the Hamiltions Old Byland, where he successfully farmed. The blood of a true dalesman ran in his veins, and he was unable to resist the call of Bilsdale, and subsequently returned. The late Mr Leckenby was a successful and painstaking agriculturist. He acquired fame throughout the district as a breeder and exhibitor of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs. For a number of years he has been the representative of Bilsdale Midcable on the Stokesley Rural District Council, holding the office jointly with the Rev J L Kyle (Vicar of Carlton in Cleveland), and he was a member of the Finance and Works Committees. Upon the death of his father-in-law (Mr George Garbutt) a few months ago, he was appointed chairman of the Bilsdale Parish Council, and a Manager of the Chop Gate Day School. He was a staunch and enthusiastic Wesleyan Methodist, and dispensed hospitality with liberal hand to the local preachers fulfilling appointments at the little dales chapel. He had the welfare of the Sabbath School at heart and took a special interest in the children. The Agricultural Show committee also claimed his services, and no keener worker for its welfare could be found. The interment took place at St Hilda's Churchyard, Bilsdale, on Wednesday, when there was a large assembly of friends and relations from all parts of Cleveland. The principle mourners were:- Mrs Leckenby (widow), Messrs, William, Robert and Thomas Leckenby (sons) Miss F. A Leckenby (daughter), Mr J. T Leckenby, Easingwold (cousin) Mr and Mrs Wilson and Mrs and Mrs John Cussins, Old Byland (cousins) Miss Laura Leckenby, Helmsley (cousin) Mr and Mrs Harry Wass, Kirbymoorside (cousins) Mr and Mrs R Garbutt (brother-in-law and sister) Mr and Mrs George Garbutt (Ingleby Barwick) brother and sister-in-law) Mr and Mrs R P Brotton (Brother and sister-in-law) Mr Stephen Todd, Bilsdale, (brother-in-law) Mr and Mrs Garbutt Johnson, Bilsdale (nephew and niece) Mr Charles Hodgson, Great Ayton, (nephew), Mr and Mrs James Hodgson, Great Ayton (nephew and niece), Mr and Mrs William Dawson, Broughton (nephew and niece) Messrs John and Harry Todd (nephews) Miss Phoebe Todd (niece) Miss R H and H M Brotton Bilsdale (nieces) Master R P Brotton (nephew) and Miss Ethel Garbutt (niece). The coffin was of unpolished English oak with carved mouldings and brass furnishings was borne by Messrs, J. Belt, T. Curry, W. Dunning, G. Garbutt, J. H. Garnett, and J.K Cook. The funeral service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev J. P Parry, M.A, assisted by the Rev J.L Kyle. The hymn "Rock of Ages" was sung with much feeling and as the large cortege left the church, the "Dead March" was played on the organ. At the graveside, the hymn, "Peace, Perfect, Peace", was sung. On the coffin were placed many beautiful floral tokens, including those from his sorrowing wife and children. R.P and Eliza Brotton and family. "Robert Mary and Ethel", Mr and Mrs George Garbutt and family, Stephen Todd and family, Mr and Mrs William and Emily Noble. Mr and Mrs W Dawson and Annie, the Committee of Chop Gate Show, Garbutt and Eadie Johnson and Mr and Mrs G Metcalfe, Messrs, Garbutt Bros, carried out the undertaking arrangements.

Whitby Gazette 03 November 1916 page ?

BILSDALE

The harvest thanksgiving service was held in St Hilda's Church, Bilsdale, on Thursday night, last week, when there was a large congregation present. The special preacher was the Rev W Hughes M.A., Rector of Hawnby, near Helmsley, who delivered a stirring and eloquent sermon to a goodly congregation. The services were continued the on the following Sunday when the Vicar the Rev I

Powell Parry, M.A., preached appropriate sermons to appreciative congregations. The church was simply, but tastefully, decorated with grain, flowers etc, Miss Parry presided at the organ, and the choir acquitted themselves in splendid style.

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CHOP GATE

The Wesleyan Chapel was well filled on Sunday and Monday for the "harvest home". On Sunday, the special preacher was Mr Chamberlain, Hull. On Monday evening, Mr John Farrow presided over the annual public meeting, when addresses were given by the Rev W. E Holburn and Mr Chamberlain. The collections were in aid of the Circuit Trust Funds.

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BILSDALE

A remarkable nature incident has occurred at Oak House farm Bilsdale. A ewe, the property of Mr J Trousdale, gave premature birth to a lamb about Christmas-time, and it has now dropped other three fine healthy lambs.

Within a space extending over a few weeks, the relentless scythe of the great reaper, Death has removed from Bilsdale a trio of standards in the persons of Messrs, George Garbutt, Williamson Brotton, and John Peacock. The last-named passed away weak at the patriarchal age of eighty-six years. The deceased gentleman for many years carried on a successful blacksmith's business, but, some years ago, entered into retirement, to the business being carried on by his son, Mr I. Peacock, a man typical of 'Longfellow's "Village Blacksmith"'. The late Mr. Peacock was an ardent and enthusiastic Wesleyan Methodist, and his name appeared on the circuit plan as a local preacher since he was sixteen years old. He was the oldest local preacher on the Stokesley circuit plan. For many years, he was Sunday School Superintendent, and always evinced a keen interest in the work in that direction, and in the spiritual welfare of the children. The interment took place at St Hilda's churchyard on Saturday, and, a large number of people assembled to pay their last tribute of respect and sympathy. Prior to the cortege leaving the residence, a brief service was held, conducted by Mr J Parker, lay agent, of Great Ayton. The Rev J. Powell Parry M.A., the vicar of the parish, read the service, both in church and at the graveside. The hymn "Rock of Ages" was sung with much feeling in the Church, and the "Dead March" was played on the organ as the remains were carried out. The coffin was of polished oak, with massive engraved furnishings. The breast-plate bore the simple inscription: "John Peacock, died April 19th, 1916, aged 86 years". Many beautiful floral tributes were placed upon it. The chief mourners were Mr & Mrs I Peacock (son and daughter-in-law), Mr I Peacock (Yarm, brother), Mr James Peacock (Stokesley, brother), Master James and Miss Mary Peacock (grandson and granddaughter). Mr Mark Peacock (Middlesbrough, nephew), Mr Frank Peacock (Stokesley, nephew), Mrs Rayfield (Middlesbrough, niece), Mr William Peacock (Newby, nephew), Mr John Flintoff (Trenholme Bar, nephew), Mr Tiplady (Great Ayton, cousin), Mr Joseph Belt (Bilsdale, cousin), Mr T Bentley (Snilesworth, brother-in-law), Mrs H A Richardson (Stokesley, niece) and Mr R Tuton (Redcar, nephew).