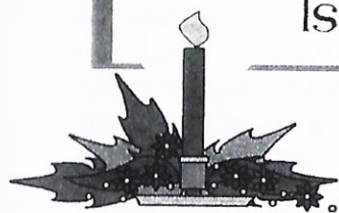


HUCKNALL TORKARD TIMES

Issue 105 December 2022 Price 75p



A happy Christmas
to all readers

COMPUTER PROBLEMS

You will notice towards the end of this issue the format has been changed. This I think is due to my dinosaur of a machine. I will do my best to make sure the problem is solved for the next 'Times' No.106. Is there anything you would like me to put on the research list for the future?

The main story is about the Seven Stars, once a family oriented pub but now looks very sad and delapidated, although it is inside the conservation zone. Documentary history dates it back almost 200 years. The Heritage Society is concerned about several sites in town now and is trying to keep a watching brief. If you spot any building of note history wise you think needs some care please be in touch. Thank you.

Featured in this issue:-

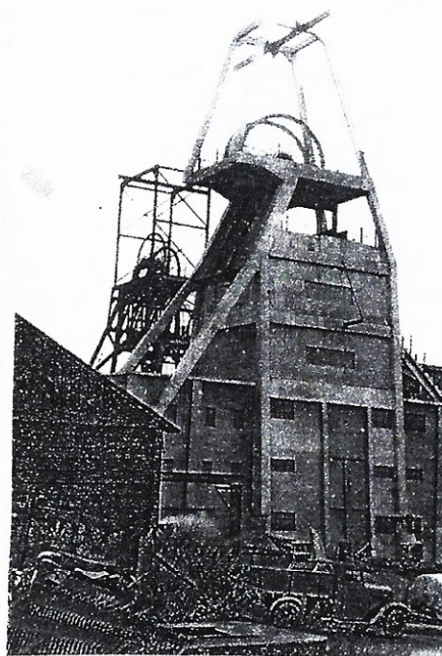
The Seven Stars; Prince of Wales visits Hucknall; Thoughts of the Queen; Hucknall Anniversaries; More Stray Marriages; Banded Together; Down a Pit; Ambulance review; William Brogdale; Around Byron House; Mill & Pond; The Past is ever Present.



The Seven Stars

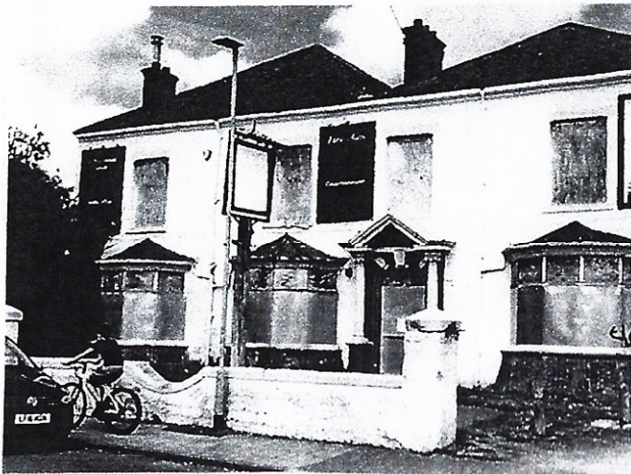


A similar shop to Myra's on
Byron Street



Photograph from John
Capewell

THE SEVEN STARS



Photograph by Sue Knight – September 2022

The earliest mention found so far of this building on West Street is 1828 although it seems it was in existence before then. This was due to an occurrence with possible fatal consequences which took place at Mr. Walker's house the sign of the Seven Stars. A new cellar had recently been completed and the supports uploading the arch taken away above a week before when the arch suddenly gave way and buried the daughter of Mr. Walker under the ruins. Probably about 20 tons weight of bricks, earth, etc. fell in. Two bricklayers were on top but escaped unhurt. Upwards of 15 minutes elapsed before the rubbish could be removed to get at the young woman. When she was rescued from her perilous position everyone was astonished that she had received no material injury.

There was an inquest in November 1831 on the body of Henry Marshall age 55; at William Walkers of the Seven Stars. On the Saturday night he returned home after his family had gone to bed. His daughter-in-law heard him go to the window where he kept his pipe as he was accustomed to a pipe before going to bed. She heard no more. On Sunday morning his son went down stairs and found him lying dead on the hearthstone. He had tied his cravat round his head as a night cap and taken off his shoes and stockings. Verdict: natural death.

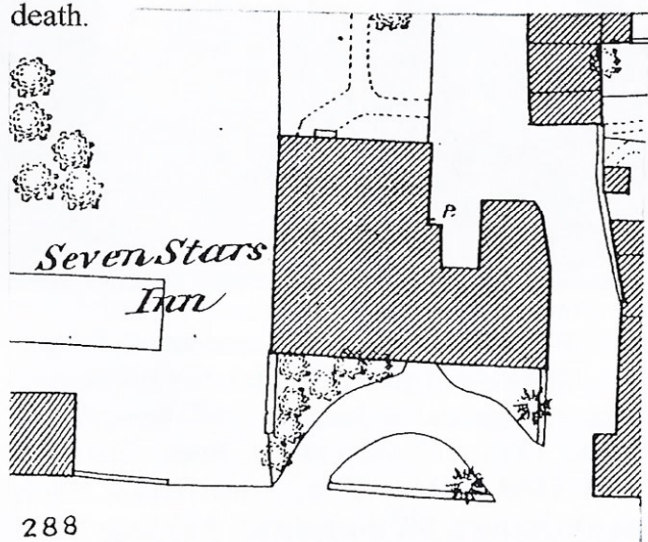
Beardsmore's first mention of the building is 1832 when William Walker was still the host, however, times were changing. In 1845 a new lodge called

"The Byron's Rest" belonging to the Manchester Order of Oddfellows was opened at the house of Mr. William Haslam of the Seven Stars Hucknall Torkard. The lodge business was transacted in the forenoon when 14 members were initiated into the order. About 60 members and visiting brethren sat down to a sumptuous dinner provided by the host. The Hucknall Brass Band was engaged for the occasion. Later the same year a meeting was held 'at the house of Mr. Haslam at the sign of the Seven Stars' to appoint a delegate to attend the Framework Knitters meeting in Nottingham. Mr. John Heywood was appointed. The meeting was also to consider petitioning the Government on the Garden Allotment Bill now before Parliament. It was agreed that a petition should be drawn up praying for a general extension of the allotment system.

For the 1861 Census William Haslam is still at the Seven Stars; listed as a farmer of 63 acres employing one man, two boys, ? keeper and butcher. Living there with him were his wife Sarah and children William, Martha, Frances and George, all had been born in Hucknall Notts. The foundation of the Loyal and Patriotic Society was celebrated in 1869 when over 50 people were served up at the Seven Stars Inn, Hucknall. Among the visitors were H.H. Godber, Esq., W.N. Ball, Esq., J. Widdowson, Esq., Messrs. Srevenson, T. Widdowson, Granger, Alcock (Lynby), Lamin (Annesley), L. Wagg, Porter, etc. An efficient corps of glee singers were in attendance. Mr. Frederick T. Shaw took the chair and Mr. George Brown, the vice chair. After a long meeting the chairman gave the healths of Mr. and Mrs. Haslam. It was one of the most pleasant and intelligent assemblies which had taken place in Hucknall. Two years the Census of 1871 shows William Haslam is age 56 and still there, a farmer of 90 acres, butcher and victualler with his wife and several grandchildren.

A terrible accident happened to George Haslam, second son of the landlord of the Seven Stars Inn, Hucknall in 1876. About 6pm the young man was engaged on a raised platform lading boiling liquor into a cooling vat when he fell into the boiling liquid. He was endeavouring to get out when his brother came to his assistance. Doctors MacDermot and Sands rendered help but the poor

fellow only survived eight hours. Mr. D. Heath, Coroner, attended to enquire into the circumstances. The first witness was the father William who stated that his son helped him at home and was managing the brewing which he had done for years. Between 2 and 3pm the witness left to go to his farm. On his return he heard a scream and on running found his younger son, William had pulled the deceased onto the floor. Young William had heard the ladder fall to the floor and ran to see what had happened. The deceased was alive but made no statement. Some conversation took place regarding the safety of the brewhouse. The Coroner suggested alterations to prevent further accidents. Verdict: Accidental death.



288

The map is the 1880 Ordnance Survey map.
The scale is 10.56 ft. to 1 mile.

By the time of the 1881 census the Seven Stars had a new landlord called Thomas McClure who was listed with Rebecca and several children with the surname Haslam and a servant Elizabeth Davis age 14. The Windmill Friendly Society held the 112th anniversary of this flourishing sick club in August 1882. Proceedings commenced in the parish church after which the members walked in procession through the principal streets of the town headed by Hucknall Brass Band. Dinner was provided in a very satisfactory style by Mr. McClure at the Seven Stars Inn. Mr. C. Franks took the chair. The following gentlemen also took part in the programme:- Messrs. T. Winters, T. Buckle, G. Wagstaff, J. Humphrey, A. Cartledge, T. Wight, and others.

Recorded at Nottingham County Petty Sessions Court in 1888 was that publican Thomas McCluer was fined £10 for allowing riotous conduct on his premises at the Seven Stars. Apparently on Whit Monday there was a glove fight between two men in the large room and there was a charge for admission. After they had fought 1 ½ hours one of the men dropped down dead. Medical evidence showed death was from heart disease. An auction was held by Mr. G.J.Coombs in 1889 at the Seven Stars Hotel. When all the four freehold cottages, with bay windows, situate in Clarence Street, off Cavendish Street, occupied by John Bryan, Thomas Herry, Joseph Mee and John Colley, at a gross annual rental of £28 12s 'will be sold'. The property is situated in a thickly populated neighbourhood, close to Dexters factory and the Bestwood Coal and Iron Works.

Robert Poole from Westbury, Gloucestershire, with his family was the licensed victualler for the 1891 census. Elizabeth Thompson from Weston, Hunts. and Sarah A. Wood from Tibshelf were also there as domestic servants. Once more the Windmill Sick Society was presenting the annual balance sheet to members for the 123rd time at the Seven Stars in 1894. By 1901 Robert Poole was a widower with his sister Sarah Ann acting as housekeeper.

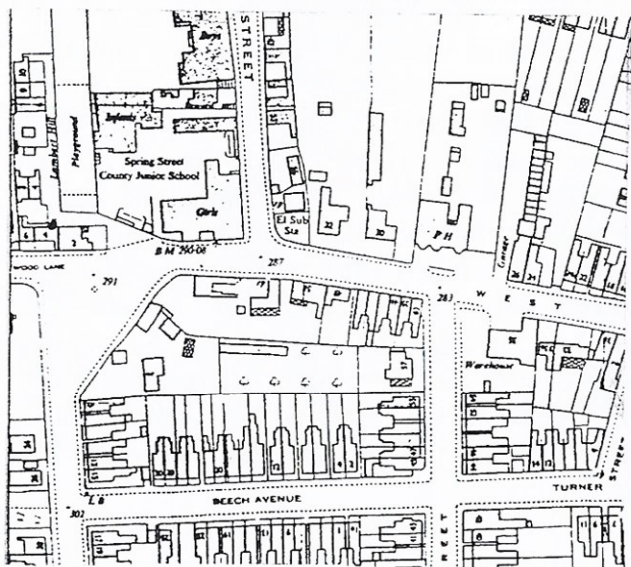
Another auction took place at the Seven Stars Hotel in 1902 when Mr. Coombs was selling off a 'freehold shop and dwelling house recently in the occupation of Mr. J.W. Bradbury'. It was on the corner of Station Road and High Street with good cellarge and on the ground floor two plate glass windows, kitchen scullery and back yard. Upstairs were four bedrooms and a drawing room. Later the same day Mr. Coombs was selling 9 freehold dwelling houses. Numbers 44 to 56, Annesley Road and 11 and 13 Linby Terrace, forming one complete block now in the occupation of Messrs. Liley, Alton and others. The price for the shop and house on the corner of High Street reached £855 and the property was knocked down to the Hucknall Torkard Co-operative Society Ltd. Bids for the houses reached £730 then Mr. John Allcock bid £735, Mr. F. Gration bid £740 and Mr. Allcock bid a further £2. This did not meet the reserve of £750

operative Society Ltd. Bids for the houses reached £730 then Mr. John Allcock bid £735, Mr. F. Gration bid £740 and Mr. Allcock bid a further £2. This did not meet the reserve of £750 so was withdrawn but Mr. Andrew Radford eventually bought the houses at £750.

Benjamin Taylor was the publican and licensed victualler for the 1911 census along with his wife Edith and family which included Mary Ellen Williamson a servant. Then in 1925 was another auction selling seven houses, one with sales shop in Spring Street and Eastwell Street. The tenants were listed as Messrs, Tyler, Hawkins, Cutts, Johnson and others producing a gross rental of £98 7s 4d. Bids started at £400 and advanced; eventually being knocked down to Mrs. John Smith of the Seven Stars Hotel and Kirkby at £770 or £110 per house.

The death was reported in 1929 of Mrs. McClure, formerly of the Seven Stars, Hucknall. She passed away at the Old George Hotel, Bedford but interment was to be at Hucknall Churchyard. Mrs. McClure, nee Webster was born in Alferton and married Wm. Haslam. She came to live at Starrs Farm belonging to the late Canon Godber. Later they opened a butchers shop next to the one now occupied by Mr. Clarke on High Street. They also started a butchers business on the corner of Brook Street and Annesley Road now occupied by Mr. R. Catchpole. By the time of the 1939 register William Black was the licensed victualler with Elizabeth Burt as housekeeper and Florence Norfolk as general help which bring us into the time of living memory.

Map below Ordnance Survey 1957. Scale 1-2500



I remember being taken out for walks from our home on Beauvale Estate into Hucknall in the summer time. While my parents went indoors for a swift half at the Stars my brother and I stayed outside in the garden with a bottle of pop and bag of crisps. What memories do you have of the Seven Stars?



Photograph by C. Eyre Allsebrook – 1982/83

SOURCES:- Nottm. Morning Chronicle 11th Nov. 1828; Drifffield Times 9th June 1888; Nottm. Review & General Advertiser 25th Nov. 1831; 23rd May 1845, 11th July 1845; Notts. Guardian 29th Jan. 1869; 5th May 1876; Mansfield & North Notts. Advertiser 18th Aug. 1882; 31st Oct. 1902; The Rushcliffe Advertiser 26th April 1889, 2nd Feb 1894, 24th Oct. 1902; Beeston Gazette & Echo 21st Nov 1925, 10th Dec 1927; Beardsmore. History of Hucknall T.

BEARDALL STREET SCHOOL

One hundred and fifty years ago on 13th January 1873 Beardall Street School was officially opened.

For this special anniversary Hucknall Heritage Society have booked the display wall in Hucknall Library to show some of the photographs taken during this time. Will it show your great-grandparents; grandparents; or any of your other relations like parents, brothers or sisters. Maybe even yourself? Do you have any photographs or stories of this school you would like to share with other people that might be part of this display? Please contact Maureen Newton – see back page

HUCKNALL HERITAGE SOCIETY BACK ON TRACK

I thought everyone would like to know that Hucknall Heritage Society is back on track. After the unsettling time of the Covid interruption the Society had a much delayed AGM in February 2022 when big decisions were made. Firstly; that meetings would be held quarterly; secondly the meetings would be on the fourth Friday of the months of July, October, January and April and thirdly that they would be held in the afternoon 2pm – 4pm. Officers of the Society were elected as follows:- Treasurer, Geoff Curtis; Secretary, Sue Knight, Webmaster, Russell Davies and Chairman, Maureen Newton. The Society has also relocated to the Leisure Centre Wellbeing Hub meeting room. The next meeting is to be at 2pm on the 28th October 2022 which will be an open meeting with a speaker called Andre Rogulski who is going to tell us about local metal detecting and bring some of the artefacts he has found. Watch this space for further information and future news. The officers of the society look forward to welcoming anyone who is interested in the history and heritage of our town to the meetings of Hucknall Heritage Society. Maureen Newton.

HUCKNALL ANNIVERSARIES 2023

50 years

1973 Eric Horriben's book 'Hucknall – of Lowly Birth & Iron Fortune' published

1973 Richard Bullock – was youngest and last Chairman of HUDC

1973 Moss and Plumb's Mansion demolished

100 years

1923 Prince of Wales visits Hucknall

150 years

1872 Beardall Steet Board School Built – opened 1873

1872 Trinity Methodist Chapel built - opened for worship 1873

1873 Bethesda Methodist Mission – first meeting

1873 Local Board to buy land for offices on Watnall Road

1873 First Colliery Houses built

200 years

Death of Lady Byron – poets mother

PRINCE OF WALES VISITS NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

“The Prince of Wales is to visit Nottinghamshire late July 1923. He will arrive at Worksop and then motor to Welbeck Abbey as a guest of the Duke and Duchess of Portland. On August 1st the plan is for the distinguished visitor to motor from Welbeck to Nottingham passing through mostly industrial areas. The route is looking likely to be first to Cuckney, then Warsop, Mansfield Woodhouse, Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Annesley, Hucknall, (where he is due to arrive at the Market Place at 11.22am) and Bulwell. On arrival at the Forest 20,000 children from Nottingham schools will sing for the Prince and then be reviewed by him. Among the outstanding events of the day will be the laying of the Foundation Stone of the new park on Victoria Embankment and also Opening of the Nurses Home at the General Hospital. Afterwards he will return to Welbeck by way of Edwinstowe.”

SOURCE:- Mansfield Reporter 13th July; Nottm Eve. Post 26th July - also see Nottm. Eve. News 10th July & Nottm. Eve. Post 12th July all 1923

THOUGHTS OF THE QUEEN

In 1953 my parents bought a Bush television set from Hucknall Co-op on Ogle Street to allow our family to watch the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It stood in the corner of our living room on Rockwood Crescent. It had a nine inch screen showing, of course, black and white images and I think at the time it was only the second set on our road. Lots of outdoor street parties had been organised for the children but due to weather conditions indoor accommodation was needed. Lots of children came into our home to watch the ceremony to see this amazing young woman being crowned. All local school children were given gifts to mark the occasion.

Over the years since then we have watched the queen on newer, larger T.V. sets and also with later technology. She has reigned in fine style from the beginning and despite problems with her own family she has shown a caring attitude to people all over the world but especially those of the commonwealth.

MORE STRAY MARRIAGES

These marriages are listed as one of the participants gave Hucknall as their parish

Elisabeth Smith to John Trueman 3rd Oct. 1751 Linby
 Elizabeth Starr to John Masland 18th Nov 1753 Greasley
 Francis Buck to Hannah Molt 18th March 1755 Cossall
 John Truman to Mary Machin 23rd Sep. 1755 Selston
 Thomas Hardstaff to Mary Wash 2nd March 1756 Linby
 Henry Hankin to Elizabeth Grammar 5th May 1756 Greasley
 Joseph Burton to Alice Lee 24th October 1756 Bulwell
 Robert Taylor to Elizabeth Barrat 31st Jan 1757 Annesley
 Ann Frost to John Lymb 31st May 1757 Annesley
 Thomas Trueman to Ann Stout 21st June 1757 Bulwell
 Joseph Mitchel to Ann Ryley 12th December 1757 Bulwell
 George Haslam to Elizabeth Green 12th May 1758 Greasley
 Thomas Webster to Margaret Bullin 17th Apr 1759 Papple'k
 John Pinder to Ann Siarson 7th April 1760 Kirkby
 Thomas Allen to Elizabeth Green 30th June 1760 Annesley
 Jeremiah Rhodes to Alice Carnel 4th Dec 1760 Nuthall
 Thomas Wagstaff to Sarah Wesson 19th Jan 1761 Bulwell
 John Mellors to Hannah Lamb 13th Dec. 1761 Bulwell
 Joseph Allin to Ann Mellers 31st May 1762 Kirkby
 Thomas Hankin to Hannah Grammar 12 Oct 1762 Greasley
 Lancelot Butler to Hannah Kirk 25th Dec. 1763 Greasley
 Joseph Low to Ann Allen 18th February 1765 Arnold
 William Alcock to Sarah Burrows 4th April 1768 Kirkby
 William Truman to Mary Sansom 13th Sep. 1769 Bulwell
 John Wayne to Anne Bean 1st Oct, 1771 Papplewick
 Thomas Thorp to Sarah Else 9th Dec 1771 Selston
 Joseph Stevenson to Catharine Eaton 7th Sep. 1772 Heanor
 Thomas Waine to Alice Cont 20th Sep. 1772 Linby
 Anne Caunt to George Hardstaff 31st May 1773 Papplewick
 Sarah Webster to Samuel Farnsworth 4th Aug. 1774 Papple'k
 Henry Hankin to Mary Hardstaff 17th March 1776 Linby
 George Tongue to Elizabeth Fish 10th June 1776 Arnold
 William Haslam to Mary Stephenson 10th Mar. 1777 Mans' d
 John Hodges to Martha Meller 7th April 1778 Kirkby
 John Hardstaff to Ann Barton 25th May 1779 Bulwell
 Henry Barker to Elizabeth Godward 29th Feb. 1780 Mans' d
 Thomas Statt to Esther Wragg 19th Febuary 1781 Mansfield
 John Hardstaff to Ann Kirkland 8th Jan. 1782 Bulwell
 Charles Robinson to Elizabeth Smith 28th May 1782 Kirkby
 Thomas Oldham to Sarah Stenson 27th May 1783
 Ann Mitchell to Wm. Allin 25th August 1783 Kirkby
 Thomas Star to Elizabeth Mosley 8th Dec. 1783 Bulwell
 Elizabeth Tongue to William Cannon 9th Apr 1784 Papple'k
 Henry Smalley to Ann Falconbridge 24th Nov. 1784 Bulwell
 Paul Mellors to Hannah Allen 14th February 1785
 John Severns to Sarah Parsons 24th Oct. 1785 Kirkby
 Thomas Wyld to Ann Turner 3rd Jan. 1787 Shirland, DBY
 John Bennett to Elisabeth Hill 2nd Sep. 1787 Papplewick
 Hannah Hankin to Joseph Bennett 3rd Sep. 1788 Papplewick
 William Mettam to Elisabeth Millington 5th Jan 1789
 Linby George Turner to Mary Fowkes 7th Nov. 1789 Kirkby
 John Cudworth to Mary Hardwick 14th Oct 1790 Kirby
 Job Clay to Sarah Martin 28th November 1791 Bulwell
 Thomas Willmot to Hannah Rogers 14th Oct 1792 Papple'k
 Francis Goodall to Martha Allen 3rd April 1793 Greasley
 John Allin to Hannah Cowp 3rd March 1794 Papplewick
 Hannah Butler to Edward Slack 221 March 1797 Skegby

Jonathan Butler to Dorothy Allen 21st Sep. 1799 Greasley
 William Davies to Elizabeth Dore 25th Nov. 1799 Bulwell
The list of marriages have now been taken up to 1800. Are any of the couples your ancestors? Lots of good Hucknall names here even if spelled slightly different.

BANDED TOGETHER

Many Hucknall people can trace their families back to northwest Leicestershire including myself. In 1898 Leicestershire suffered its worst mining disaster at Whitwick Colliery when 35 men died. The youngest who died was 13 years and the oldest 63 years. Some of the bodies were never found. Forty two men were on night shift on April 19th when a fire broke out - just 7 survived. Money was donated for the dependents and help came from mining communities all over the Midlands especially those with close ties to the area. Among those were: The Rose of Sharon Lodge at Hucknall which sent a donation; William Thomas Belcher died, his wife was Susannah Whitaker born in Hucknall; Thomas Timson dies but with his family were living in Hucknall in 1889; Josiah Brookes died but lived at Newstead in 1885 and finally one of those who went to help search the underground workings was J. Wright, under-manager of Hucknall Collieries.

The book was an interesting but harrowing read. 'Banded Together' was written by Lesley Hale, John Colledge and Michael Wileman from Whitwick Historical Group in 1997.

A COLLIERY ON THE COMMON

In Nottingham Weekly Courant dated 13th October 4th 1750 is an advertisement:

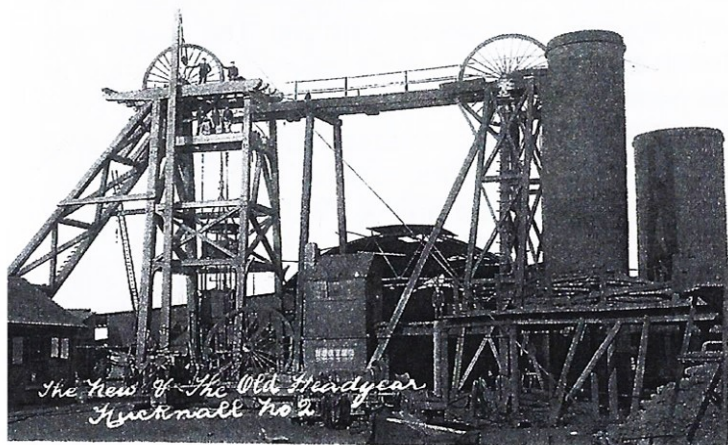
TO BE LETT

A very good colliery lately found on Hucknall Torkard Common. The property of the Right Hon. Lord Byron, for further particulars enquire of Mr. Revill at Bulwell Park, This is taken from a book by Roger Tindall 'Derbyshire in Nottingham Newspapers 1714 – 1776'.

I wonder why we don't seem to hear of this colliery again. It is, of course, over 100 years before Hucknall No. 1 is begun. Would it have been one of the early 'BellPits'?

DOWN A PIT

One morning about 1.30am – I was walking the No.2 beat which took me past Hucknall No.2 Pit. I was making for the nearby Henry Street telephone kiosk point at 2.30am so I nipped in the Engine Winding House to see Bill Bright an ex P.O. stoker in the Royal Navy. I'd met Bill a couple of times when he was out shopping and he'd told me to pop in – so here I was.



Bill sat at the controls of the great big wheel with levers in his hands – turning it this was – then the other. As an ex-stoker of the Royal Navy myself, I noticed how clean Bill had kept things – along with his shift mates. The brasses were cleaned and all parts of the monster machine were oiled liberally as she turned beautifully. There was a faint smell of 'lube oil on steam as a slight whisp escaped from a faulty gland at the end of a ramrod which entered the engine casing easily to drive the pistons.

Not wishing to distract Bill from his gauges, I waited until he'd got a minute and eventually he was able to put the brake on and sit for a bit. "Now then Albert. You made it then?" he said. "Yes. What a fantastic engine- you do keep her clean – Navy training Eh?" "Never leaves you Albert, does it? One of my mates is ex-Navy as well on the other shift but we all muck in – eh? Wanna go down't shaft?" "Er well – will I be long?" "No. Hang on there's a deputy going down in a mo. I'll get him." He then spoke over an intercom gadget and the next minute the door of the engine house opened and a man with a white helmet beckoned me. "Come on Bobby" he

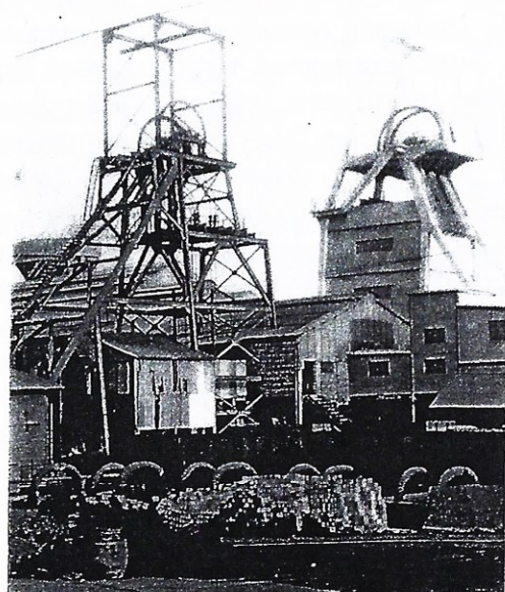
shouted and in no time I'd been placed in the ricketiest lift I've ever seen life with this chap.

Bang/clang – down came a great steel curtain then a few seconds wait before a buzzer sounded. The next minute I thought my brain had ascended skywards as we literally plummeted 2,000 feet in 20 seconds. I can honestly say I have experiences nought like it since and I shall always remember it. When we stopped and I don't know where it was in terms of exact depth, we got out of the cage. "Right" said the Deputy as he pointed along two roadways that were dimly lit. "Let's goo up thissun ere." I said "How far are we going?" He said "Yerv gotta goo abaht a mile tut workins yonder."

I couldn't tell him the claustrophobic atmosphere was scaring me to death so I said "Christ, I've just remembered, I've got to meet the Sergeant at Henry Street at quarter to two and its nearly that now." "Ooh dear bobby" he said kindly "Yould better goo then, but y'can allus cum agen can'tcha?" "Yes" I said nervously. With that he called the cage winder up. I couldn't hear him all that well because of the forced draught near the shaft bottom but he laughed like hell.

Eventually I got out of that pit and never went back but I've always said ever since – a miners worth £10 for every time he steps into the 'cage' before he starts work.

SOURCE:- taken from a booklet called Walking the Beat by Albert R.N.(This piece written 1955?)



AMBULANCE REVIEW

On Saturday afternoon 100 of the workmen, who have undergone a course of ambulance training were reviewed in the Storth Meadow By Mr. F.N. Ellis, Hon. Sec. of St. John Ambulance Association Nottingham Centre. The programme consisted of bandaging head, chest and shoulder, restoring the apparently drowned and various kinds of stretcher exercises in high and low seams of coal. A structure of props and brattice cloth having been erected on the field to represent a 3ft. seam. A mimic colliery explosion was represented by means of dynamite caps fired by electricity. The supposed injured men, whose wounds were denoted by labels tied on their arms were placed at various points in the meadow and this item of the programme was of a highly interesting and even exciting character, for immediately reports were heard men fled to their assistance with bandaged stretchers and splints. The colliery ambulance wagon was quickly driven up to the scene of the supposed disaster and in less than five minutes the wounded were thoroughly bandaged and carried off to the temporary hospital.

Each event was briefly explained to the spectators by the Hon. Sec. A ring was formed before the tent and the duties of chairman were undertaken by Mr. J. H. Beardsmore. The re-examination certificates and bronze medallions of the St. John Ambulance Association were handed to about 60 men who then called upon Mr. Kingstone to present a gold ambulance medallion to the Hon Sec. who, the chairman remarked has undertaken the onerous duties connected with the post five years ago when ambulance work in Nottingham was flagging. During Mr. Ellis' secretariat hundreds of policemen, railwaymen and ladies have received the useful instruction. Mr. J. Kingstone, speaking on behalf of his fellow miners, observed that Mr. Ellis had introduced ambulance work in Hucknall, and by its means much suffering had been saved. Many who had been taken to hospital had come out weeks sooner because of the prompt first aid treatment they had received in the pit from ambulance men.

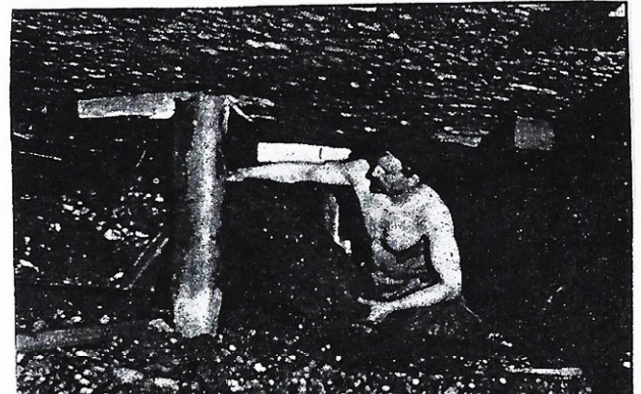
Mr. F.N. Ellis thanked those who had given him the beautiful medal which he would highly prize. The medal was the same shape as the bronze ones given out that afternoon and as he had passed the three examinations required by the Association – it entitled him to wear their gift. He believed it to be the duty of employers to make the employed as free from danger as possible but accidents would happen and it was best to be prepared to treat the sufferers intelligently. Since he had taken the secretaryship of the Nottingham Centre 230 railwaymen, 103 policemen and 146 ladies had received certificates; while many others, such as corporation workmen and miners had also been instructed. He acknowledged the great help given to the classes by Drs. Coates and Jones. Mr. Kingstone proposed and R. Willmott seconded a vote of thanks to Mrs. Ellis for attending and presenting the certificates. Mr. Ellis observed that his wife was much interested in the work.

The following is a list of men who received certificates of efficiency:- Fred Tilley, John Kingstone, Geo Pitman, Enoch Biddle, William Ball, John Cullen, William Cooper, Geo.H. Parkin, Wm. Tilley, George Clarke, Jno. Woollatt, R. Corbett, E. Griffiths, Wm. Vann, Abel Marwood, Geo. Radford, J. Homes and H. Charles.

The excelsior Brass Band struck up and marched out of the field, followed by the men who walked four abreast. On arriving at the Coffee Tavern tea was taken and Mr. W. Ward thanked host and hostess Corden. This was followed by a vote of thanks to the band, Mr. Dan Godfrey, the leader responding.

SOURCE:- The Rushcliffe Advertiser 20th September 1889

Image below. Underground at No.1 Colliery (Coates)



WILLIAM BROGDALE

The origins of William Brogdale are still somewhat obscure. Consecutive census returns (1851 – 1871) tell us that he was born in Hucknall Torkard in about 1806. Likewise his formative years are still a mystery. There is evidence to show that he moved to South Shields in the 1840s but the reasons why have yet to be established. In 1851 we find him there at 38, East Holborn which was on the quayside in a very lively part of town. He gave his occupation as 'Draper & Outfitter' and William and his first wife Elizabeth were living over the shop. Elizabeth was born in Lincoln; she died in 1853 and was buried in Westoe Cemetery a resting place that she shares with members of the Tudbury family. I should add that Westoe was then a small village on the outskirts of town and no children were born of this marriage.

In 1854 William Brogdale married again to Mary Crackles who was the eldest daughter of John Crackles of Hull; a wealthy whalebone merchant. The speed with which William re-married suggests that the couple already knew each other. It was also a mature marriage as at this time William was about 47 and Mary about 40. Both their parents were deceased. The Crackles family comprised nine children so she lived at home until the last child, Henry, came of age in 1853. She was then free to marry and so was the recently bereaved William Brogdale. It seems they both saw the marriage as an opportunity to make a new start. They had just one child Mary Crackles Brogdale born in South Shields in 1855.

Mary may well have had her own money but William seems to have prospered on his own account. He went from living over a shop to owning a house in Westoe village. The 1853 register of electors states that he was also the owner of two houses on Brondswick Street, South Shields. Significantly he was able to acquire leases on church land from the diocese of Durham. The full extent of his holdings has yet to be determined but one of these properties was the farm next door, Shield Farm. In 1851 it was occupied by William Tudberry, his wife Hannah and their family, who seem to have arrived in

South Shields about 1853. Close by at Minde Modse are John and Maria Tudberry and their family. All these folk came from Hucknall and are related to, or connected with William Brogdale. I think Maria Tudberry was William's sister. My view is that having prospered William wrote to his relatives with an offer of work and a place to live.

In about 1863 William Brogdale moved back to Nottinghamshire, specifically Nottingham but his reasons for making this move are unclear. Durham Cathedral was asset rich but cash poor. Money was needed to fund the establishment of Durham University and to pay for the building of new churches to serve the expanding urban population, so throughout the 19th century assets were sold. Whatever deals were done made William Brogdale a wealthy man. He invested in property in Nottingham; both Angel Row and Arkwright Street have been mentioned. He certainly bought houses on Arboretum Street and there were investments in stocks and shares. I think it is clear that William Brogdale knew exactly what he was doing when he moved to Nottingham. He became a pillar of the emerging middle class in the city.

William Tugwell, a teacher from Compton in Surrey, arrived on the scene about 1871. Education was in short supply and teachers or tutors were in demand. I suspect this is how the Brogdale family became acquainted with him. There is little doubt what he and the young Mary Crackles Brogdale got up to at Christmas 1873. A hasty marriage followed. William was about 26 and Mary little more than 17 years old. A position was found for William as Master of a village school at Langford in Bedfordshire. Their first child William Brogdale Tugwell was born there in September 1874 and a second in 1875. Mary would go on to bear a total of 12 children, 9 survived; my grandmother Amy was the youngest. When she died in 2000 aged 105 Amy was Nottingham's second oldest citizen.

Returning to the fortunes of the young couple it seems arrangements enabled them to return to Nottingham. The precise date is uncertain but the rest of the Tugwell children were born there.

Money and goodwill enabled William Tugwell to open a private school at 12 Arbouretum. His in-laws lived next door at No.14.

William Brogdale is an interesting character who was born with no particular advantages. Subsequent life events suggest that he benefited from a basic education. He learned something about textiles and farming at an early age. Crucially he acquired knowledge of the ways of business and what the world outside Hucknall had to offer. It seems he kept in touch with his roots in Nottinghamshire although he was away about 30 years. I suspect that his social and business circles were the same. Perhaps his marriages were a result of connections in trade as I think his second marriage to Mary Crackles certainly was. It would be easy to describe William as a typical Victorian self made man and local boy made good but how he got his start in life and became so successful is still a mystery.

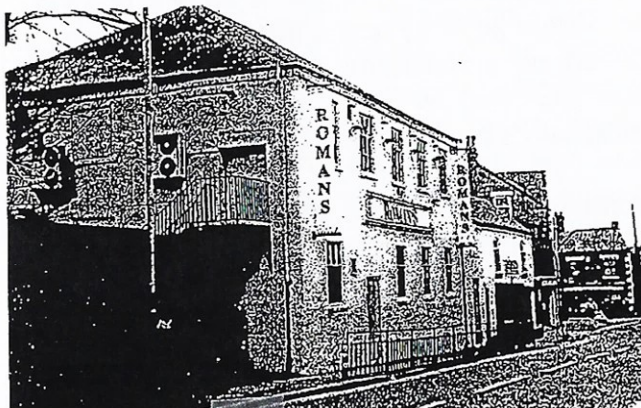
William Brogdale died in 1877 Mary in 1890 then later William and Mary Tugwell so that the two couples rest together in a family grave in the Rock Cemetery, Nottingham. The will of William Brogdale dated March 1875 throws some light on the workings of the inner man. His executors and trustees were his wife Mary and Joseph Sturge Gilpin, Alderman of Nottingham, chairman of School Boards, stock and share broker and also a Quaker. In effect William created a trust fund over which the trustees were to operate complete control. The income from the estate was to be paid to his wife during her lifetime and then to his daughter. The estate was to be divided between his grandchildren as they became of age or before at the discretion of his trustees. He states quite specifically that William Tugwell (or any future husband) was not to benefit from Mary's income and on her decease it should revert to the estate. This was a sensible way of protecting his daughter against exploitation by rash or unscrupulous suitors. So it was that the estate was gradually disposed of and family ties loosened and the grandchildren went their separate ways.

The timing of the will may be significant when it was written William Brogdale was aged 69 so maybe he had some thoughts of putting his affairs in order and by allowing William Tugwell to return to Nottingham it concentrated his mind on what the future might hold.

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NOTE:

Information from Beardsmore's History of Hucknall gives more details of this family. "William Brogdale was a minister to the Methodist New Connexion; eventually leaving the ministry for the drapery trade. His new venture was a success and his worldly wealth was further increased by marriage to a well-to-do lady. In the 1870s the old gentleman gave up business and came to reside in Nottingham but he gave the old Hucknallites a tea annually in the National School until his death" This note makes it a bit less of a mystery about his education and formative years. It also seems possible that he would have attended the Methodist School and Chapel on Annesley Road although no documentary sources exist at present. This building now demolished was recently called Romans.



AROUND BYRON HOUSE

There were many shops and small businesses around Byron House on Watnall Road that are gone forever and we will never see the like of them again.

Mr. Johnson at 22, Byron Street was a chimney sweep – cum- ice cream vendor. He swept chimneys in winter; then in summer he made and sold ice cream from his wheelbarrow. At 93, Watnall Road lived a coal dealer who sold coal from his backyard. You could take a wheelbarrow and purchase a hundredweight of coal which he weighed on huge scoop type scales. On the corner of Watnall Road and Mosley Street stood herbalist Brown's a gloomy old shop full of glass fronted cupboards. They contained rows of jars and bottles bearing strange sounding names of herbs pills and powders. Herbert Brown, the owner, a lean bespectacled man, walked miles over the Misk Hills and the Commons gathering herbs to make his own remedies and potions. I recall many errands to fetch a bottle of his homemade Mouse Ear Syrup.

Next door but one to the herbalist at 128 Watnall Road was the pawn shop with the traditional three brass balls hanging outside and a window full of trinkets and second hand jewellery. Inside the shop was lofty and dark. The window was built up at the back, blocking out the light and preventing anyone looking into the shop from the street; probably suiting the poor unfortunates who went there to pawn their positions. Straight opposite was the bakery owned by Howis and their shop which sold not only bread and confectionary but also corn and grain. They had a blue and white metal sign outside which read "You may telephone from here" because telephones were few and far between in those days. Quite a number of shops sold an assortment of products my cousin lived further down the road at 59a and she sold fish, chips and green grocery.

But the most fascinating shop of all my childhood, the one I shall always remember stood on Byron Street. It was half way down on the right hand side owned and run by Sam and Myra Woodhouse and was always known as Myra's. Though it was only a small backstreet shop they sold almost everything. You could buy groceries, some items of clothing, pills, potions, make-up, medicines, paraffin, firewood, sweets cigarettes, fruit, vegetables, pots, pans, soaps, washpowders, ribbons, and haberdashery, whatever your needs of the day. The jumble of it all was unbelievable. The window was full of boxes of sweets on top of which stood dishes of potted meat, plates of cakes and pastries, socks, hankies, cards of hairnets, a dish of yeast – anything that would balance on top of the boxes. Inside the shop stood a tank of paraffin, bundles of firewood, sacks of potatoes, boxes of fruit and vegetables, crates of minerals, a barrel of vinegar, a barrel of treacle and you couldn't actually see the ceiling there were so many things hanging from it, including pots, pans, sides of bacon, snap tins, water bottles, buckets, a bunch of bananas, fishing nets, copper dust pans, clothes lines and of course the gas light over the counter.

The walls too were covered in cards holding little tins of pills, powders, bottles of cough syrup, olive oil, camphorated oil, tins of ointment, bandages, safety pins, gas mantles, boot laces, darning wool, hooks and eyes, tins of brilliantine, corn plasters, and countless other commodities. The whole shop seemed c hoc-a-block and bulging at the seams but believe it or not at Christmas time they always found room for some toys and games. And on top of all else, in the already overcrowded window would be Christmas tree decorations, sheets of pretty tissue paper for making garlands, lengths of tinsel, chocolate novelties and always a box of sugar pigs.

SOURCE:- Neighbourhood News. (No date) Written by **Mrs. F. Smith** (I think 1985) who lived at Byron House, Watnall Road, for 32 years

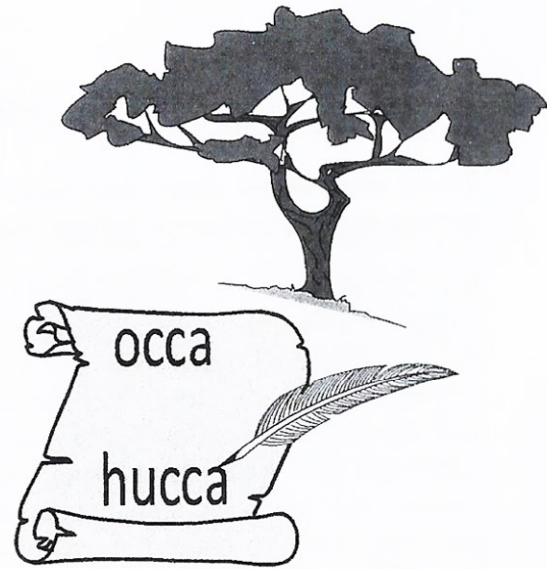
THE PAST IS EVER PRESENT

Where started Hucknall's story, did Big Bang give it birth?
The past won't yield its secrets entombed beneath the earth
Save for the odd Eureka, a chiselled mystery stone,
Some moulded coin undated or eroded shard of bone.

Which priest once Christened Hucknall (or other variant spelling)?
At peace in nature's catacombs, the chroniclers aren't telling.
Some scribes still lean to 'Occenhall' with oak tree connotations.
Alas we're left in puzzlement and flimsy speculations.

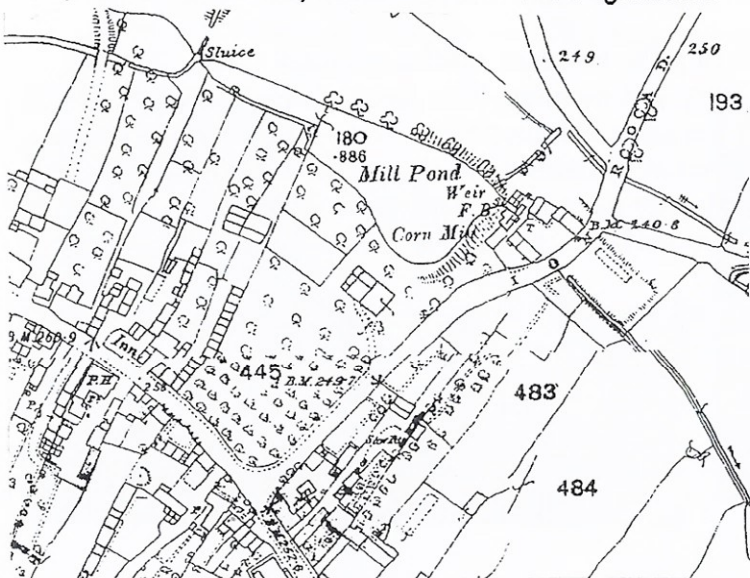
Could Hucca be the pioneer within his dingle nook
Who left a sepia fingerprint on Hucknall's story book?
Did he appraise its woodland, the life affirming streams,
Its clay and soil potential in his visionary schemes?

This is only the beginning of a historical poem about Hucknall by Trevor Hunt which continues for 5 pages. It is sometime since he sent it to me but I have been in a quandary wondering whether to print it in short pieces but I think it loses all its impact. I think it is very good and worth a short booklet of its own. What do you think?



MILL & POND

A question arose about the mill and mill pond near The Station Hotel. Information from Beardsmore states "As cloth making was introduced in the country by Flemish weavers when William the Conqueror ruled, it is possible the fullers mill situate off Station Street was being worked at that period, its water wheel turned by the waters of the town brook." On a later page under the heading Church Income and property "The fulling mill was near the site of the Great Northern Station. Tenter Ley is now called Millott's Yard; here were the tenter frames and hooks on which the cloth was stretched to dry. Tenter Hill which was also probably used by the cloth fullers is now occupied by Duke Street and school and other buildings. This old water mill was fed by the town brook and was latterly used for grinding corn. It was pulled down about 35 years ago." (Presumably this would have been about 1870. Note: Surely the locals would have been making cloth before 1066 otherwise they would have been very cold in the winter.) Map is Ordnance Survey 1879-82 scale 1:2500 original size.



DRAMATIC NOTES

The prize of £1 1s offered by Mr. Sidney Spenser for the most suitable title for his new play was divided between Mrs. Hawkesworth and Mr. J. Bailey - both reside in Byron Street. "The Hero of the Flag" was chosen as title for the play at the Theatre Royal on Annesley Road. They received 10/6d each.
SOURCE: - The Rushcliffe Advertiser 8th January 1902

If you have any questions, comments or have something to include for Hucknall Torkard Times - please get in touch.

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