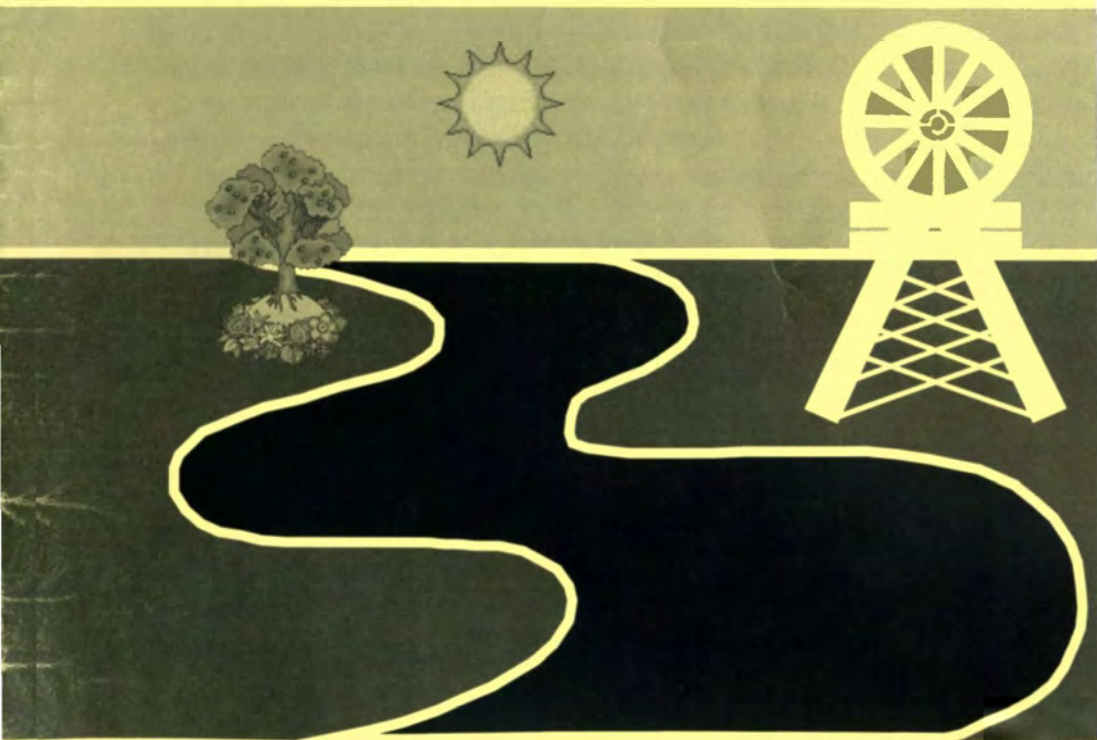


THE ALLERTONER

JUNE 2006



ALLERTON BYWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Annual Report 2005-2006

Dear Residents,

Since taking over as Chairman of the Parish Council in April, the Council has been very busy. We have undertaken a number of projects to improve the environment, make the roads and paths safer and help residents within the village.

Improving the Environment

- Following the erection of an unsightly gas governor on the corner of Leeds Road and Park Lane. The Parish Council, local MP and Ward Councillors negotiated with Transco to ensure it was placed underground and for the site to be levelled and planted with grass seed;

- You may have noticed that the council has purchased its own grass cutting tractor to ensure that the village's grass is maintained throughout the year. 15 cuts were undertaken last year on a voluntary unpaid basis by Councillors and along with the work of the village Lengthman Graham Wilkinson, we trust that you've noticed an improvement in the village's appearance;

- The Council decided to maintain the flower bed around the war memorial, thus ensuring that the memorial looked its best for Armistice Day; We intend to continue with the upkeep of the flowerbeds.
- Once again we provided hanging baskets through the village during the Summer;
- We have planted 4000 bulbs at the end of 2005 to provide colour throughout the village this spring. We would like to thank the Primary School children for their help with planting those outside the School;

Next year we will purchase further bulbs and plants and try and further enhance the displays around the village.

Improving Roads and Footpaths

- Following complaints from the Council about the quality of the roads resurfacing has been undertaken on Blands Avenue and Main Street. In addition temporary repairs have been made in other areas. During the Blands Avenue resurfacing, some of the grassed verges were damaged and the Council have ensured that new topsoil was provided, this has been replanted with grass;

Councillors met with Leeds City Council to discuss traffic lights at Park Lane.

Following this meeting new road markings have been introduced at the junction to aid traffic turning into or out of the village;

Helping Residents

- After complaints from residents the Council ensured that hedges along the road at Westfields and the Pasture were cut. We also ensured that the damaged sections of fence were repaired and/or replaced;
- After residents complaints about the lack of litter bins in the village, the council met with Leeds City Council and arranged for new ones to be sited throughout the village;
- The Council have taken over responsibility for the village newsletter and have changed the name to "The Allertoner", since then three editions have been produced and we've received positive feedback from residents.

The Council continues to ensure that footpaths into and out of the village are maintained. In particular we arranged for the Environment Agency to cut the Boat Fields and we have cut the other footpaths with our tractor;

In addition to the above the Council has dealt with a number of problems encountered by residents, from faulty central heating and drains, to overgrown footpaths and trees blocking light into their houses.

The Council has made small grants to organisations throughout the village including the Rugby Club, Methodist Chapel and Cricket Team. We also contribute to the upkeep and maintenance of the church yard.

In addition to all the above, the Council has continued to deal with planning matters for the village and Councillors have attended a variety of meetings. These include the Yorkshire Local Council Association, Kippax and Methley Forum, Police Forum, Millennium Community Initiatives Sub Group and The Village Company. Some of the Councillors are also School Governors.

Throughout the year, the council have been well supported by the local MP Colin Burgon and the three Ward Councillors, Keith Wakefield, Keith Parker and James Lewis. We would like to thank them for all their help and look forward to working with them in the future.

During the year the Parish Clerk, David Hagen resigned. We would like to thank him for his work on behalf of the Council and the Community.

The Parish Precept for the forthcoming year remains the same even though additional services have been provided. This is partly owing to Councillors working free of charge on a voluntary basis for the community.

The Parish Council holds monthly meetings which all villagers are welcome to attend. The dates and locations of these are advertised on the village notice boards.

We also hold monthly Council Surgeries at the Methodist Chapel. These take place on the 1st Saturday of each month between 10.00 am and 11.00am. A Parish and Ward Councillor are present to discuss any problems you may have.

Kind Regards, Councillor Steve Murray
Chairman

Allerton Bywater Parish Council

Chair:

Councillor Stephen Murray
4 St Mary's Court
Allerton Bywater
Castleford
West Yorkshire
WF10 2AZ

Parish Clerk:

Claire Murray
4 St Mary's Court
Allerton Bywater
Castleford
West Yorkshire
WF10 2AZ

**MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00pm
IN THE VICTORIA STREET COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Councillor S Murray	Chairman
Councillor C Cowell	V/Chairman
Councillor K Asprey	Councillor J Taylor
Councillor J Maskell	Councillor L Tomlinson
Councillor D Nicholson	Councillor M Weaver
Councillor G Parkinson	Councillor M Fletcher

Planning Applications from February 2006 to date

P/06/00218/FU/HE 2 Highfield Green. Application for two storey side extension.
ABPC raised no objections to this application

20/97/06/OT 1 Blands Terrace. Application to build a detached house and garage.
ABPC raised objections to this application and permission was refused by Leeds City Council

P/06/00657/ADV/E Lloyds Pharmacy 20 Nova Scotia Medical Centre Leeds Rd
erection of illuminated sign. ABPC had no objections to this application and planning
was granted by Leeds City Council.

P/06/00954/FU/HE 39 Robinson Street Two storey rear extension and dormer
windows to front and rear. ABPC placed observations on these proposals.

P/06/00808/FU 25 Station Road Detached single garage to garden land rear of 1a
Station Terrace. ABPC placed observations on these proposals, planning was
granted by Leeds City Council

P/06/01481/FU/HE 5 Prince Street, Allerton Bywater, Castleford. Conservatory to rear. ABPC raised no objections to this application.

P/06/01585/FU/HE 20 Woodside Street, Allerton Bywater, Castleford. Single Storey rear extension and porch to front. ABPC raised no objections to this application.

P/06/01828/FU/HE 76 Park Lane, Allerton Bywater, Leeds. Single Storey rear extension. ABPC raised no objections to this application.

P/06/01651/FU/HE 78 Park Lane, Allerton Bywater, Leeds. Single Storey rear extension. ABPC raised no objections to this application.

P/06/01959/FU 5 Westfield Avenue, Allerton Bywater. Single Storey rear extension. ABPC raised no objections to this application.

Other Activities

Councillors have held meetings with Leeds City Council, Council surgeries, York's Local Council Assoc. Police, English Partnerships

Bulbs planted by the Parish Council and Primary School children at the end of 2005 have added some colour to verges throughout the village.

All villagers are welcome to attend the monthly Parish Council meetings. The dates of these are advertised on the village notice boards.

Claire Murray (Parish Clerk), 30 April 2006

West Yorkshire Federation of Women's Institutes

Con: Mrs. Lorna Harris Poplar Farm Bungalow, Richmond Road, Upton, Pontefract,
WF9 1HP Tel: 01977 608367

Put This on Your Calendar Girls

Representatives of West Yorkshire Federation of Women's Institutes are holding an introduction evening at The Miners Welfare hall to give Allerton ladies an opportunity to form their own institute. The W I provide a friendly social atmosphere and opens doors to making new friends, having fun, hearing interesting speakers, being aware of the environment around us and taking part in the local community. Come along and find out what is on offer: Monday 19 June, 7.30pm. Refreshment, Admission Free.

EDWARD VII

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Very old culprits?

In St Mary's Church Magazine of September 1937, Rev Bell wrote....

Litter and Rubbish. We regret to state that a few people persist in dumping dead flowers in the churchyard at the side of the wall or under the hedge nearest the grave, instead of carrying them to the proper place provided for rubbish. Will the offenders please stop doing it and help to keep it tidy? The Churchyard is holy ground and duly consecrated.

Now, in 2006, we have council wheelie bins for the churchyard rubbish, but a new problem.

We now ask that people stop putting grass sods and earth in the bins. It was very difficult getting this service provided by Leeds City Council, and it may be withdrawn if the bin continues to be filled with soil.

Please deposit soil and grass next to the bin and it will be moved and used.

Thank you

Friends of St Mary's Churchyard Tidy Up

People often say that they would help keep the churchyard tidy if they knew when to come and what to do. The last "Churchyard Tidy Up" was very successful.

Also, some people do not know that maintaining the graves in a churchyard is the responsibility of the families of the people buried there, but the Church and the Parish work together to try to keep it tidy.

Four Tidy Up sessions are planned for this summer, at 2pm on the last Saturdays of the month. They are May 27th, June 24th, July 29th and August 26th.

Everyone is welcome. Even if you cannot do heavy work, there will be lots of light jobs too, supporting the people who do the bulk of the work. So whether you can spare only an hour or 3 or 4 hours, please support the people who work together to keep the churchyard looking nice.



Allerton Bywater School 1947 8 year olds

Fairtrade Fortnight Make Fairtrade your habit?

Pupils and staff at Brigshaw High School and Language College were committed to raising awareness and funds during the national Fairtrade Fortnight campaign, 'Make Fairtrade Your Habit'. The aim of the campaign was to show people how a small change in their shopping habits buying products with the Fairtrade Mark can make a real difference to poverty in the developing world.

As part of Fairtrade Fortnight, Brigshaw pupils were involved in a variety of activities aimed at raising their awareness and understanding of issues facing people in developing countries. One project involved nine Year 7 and 8 pupils designing and painting a banner from the Fairtrade Foundation which will form part of a display in The Light, Leeds City Centre. Our banner featured the Education Leeds Owl pushing a shopping trolley of cartoon Fairtrade products. Brigshaw teacher, Ms Merriman explained that "by raising awareness and changing our shopping habits we can make a real difference to people's lives in the third world. Our pupils gave up their free time during the half term holiday to work on the project and created a stunning, eye-catching canvas for the campaign". Year 8 pupil, Ross Hawkin explained that he and his friends were keen to be involved in the Fairtrade campaign to help raise awareness and understanding of the issues surrounding Fairtrade and stated "I enjoyed taking part in designing and painting the poster. It meant I could meet up with friends and have fun whilst contributing to an important campaign. By making these small changes in our shopping habits we can help change people's lives."

Ms Merriman, Mr Brass, Language College Director and nine pupils travelled to The Light in Leeds City Centre where the Secretary of State for International Development, Hilary Benn, unveiled the Fairtrade cotton canvas display entitled 'Make Fairtrade Your Habit'. Mr Benn, MP, was very impressed with the artwork saying "With the increasing range of Fairtrade products, there are more and more opportunities to make Fairtrade your habit and to pass on the Fairtrade habit in the workplace, at school and in the community".

Mr Benn, MP, chatted to school children about his experiences of visiting a cocoa bean plantation in Africa and how he had to use a machete to open the cocoa beans.

In addition to the banner project, many activities were organised at the east Leeds school to raise awareness and understanding of the issues surrounding fair trade. All pupils attended thought-provoking assemblies and discussed fair trade issues through PHSCE lessons, they also enjoyed taking the 'taste-test', comparing Fairtrade and non-Fairtrade chocolates. Pupils have spent their lunchtimes raising funds by selling Fairtrade roses and chocolates and staff indulged in coffee mornings where they were able to buy Fairtrade products such as tea, coffee, fruit, cakes and snacks. The more energetic amongst them even took part in a football match in support of the Fairtrade scheme.

All proceeds raised by pupils and staff will be sent via Oxfam to purchase much-needed seeds, tools and training for farmers in developing countries.



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OR

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CONTACT.

MICHAEL OR PAULINE ON 01977 552559

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AS IT LOSES THE CARD ACCOUNT FOR PENSIOERS.

It is said that between 4000 to 10000 more Post Offices could close because of this.

PLEASE DON'T LET YOURS BE ONE OF THEM

We ask for your continued support at this time, it is important that the community keeps all its amenities as more and more shops and Banks close or move to retail parks.

Village life and community spirit revolve around its shops and people. So please do not just consider us when you require a stamp, come along and see what we can do for you.

IT'S YOUR POST OFFICE USE IT OR LOSE IT!!!

Monthly Methodist Coffee Morning & Council Surgery

Just a reminder that if you fancy a nice cup of coffee, (or tea, if that is your preferred tippie) and a chance to meet up with other villagers you might not see so often nowadays, the Methodist Church Hall, Main Street, is a good place to visit on the first Saturday morning of any month. Besides your cuppa, you can enjoy a home baked cake, pick up a good book and help the local Methodist Church funds at the same time. The Coffee morning is held between 10 am and 12 noon.

The local **Council Surgery** is held from 10 am until 11 am during the monthly coffee morning. This gives you the opportunity to air any concerns about the village with the local Parish Councillors and Leeds City Ward Councillors. So besides keeping abreast of what is going on, you can influence what will happen in the future.

ALLERTON BYWATER VICTORIA ANGLING CLUB

As you may recall in the last issue I said the club were fishing in an Angling Times Challenge Match. The match was fished at the Oaks Fishery at Sessay, the winners were Wetherby the home team with Allerton second. This was a very good performance from the team as the majority of them had never seen the Fishery before, And some even had difficulty finding the venue.

NAFAC

The Club are members of an organisation called NAFAC which is the National Association of Fisheries and Angling Consultatives. It is a national organisation which represents the interests of consultative groups, anglers, angling clubs, river associations and riparian owners who share an interest in the aquatic environment.

They make representation at the highest level with Government, the Environment agency, British Waterways and English Nature on matters concerning Angling, conservation, Fisheries and recreation on our rivers, Lakes and Canals.

Also they give guidance and advice to members on a wide range of issues including health and safety their experts provide advice on Insurance and Legal matters, fishery management and general angling related issues.

NAFAC fight to protect the rights of anglers. Lobby for their interests in Parliament, and comment on new Legislation and changes in bye-laws.

The organisation continues to expand and is fast becoming one of the most influential and respected national angling and fisheries representative organisations in the country.

Unlike other national representative bodies, NAFAC is a wholly amateur organisation, in that it has no paid employees and relies entirely on the goodwill of those involved in running it to achieve its aims.

One of the biggest problems faced by Angling Clubs is insurance, NAFAC provide Liability and Individual Insurance for member clubs and Individual anglers at very competitive rates.

Anglers tend to forget the hidden overheads faced by their respective clubs i.e. increase in rents, insurance and the restocking of the club waters. All these issues have to be addressed when considering what price to charge for a yearly permit to fish the clubs waters.

Most clubs like us try to keep the costs as low as possible, but small increases are inevitable as the rents are rising yearly on a sliding scale and the price of stock fish tend to rise slightly most years as well. But the club will endeavour as always to give the best possible deal and service to its members.

Regards
Steve Murray
ABVAC Secretary

When and why was St Mary the Less Lych Gate moved? (Allertoner March 2006)

Melvyn Bracewell confirms what we thought

He writes.....I was a choirboy at the time it was moved and what I can recall is this:

1. The Vicar at the time was S. John Thornton (for those who might be interested to know, his youngest son Tim is now Bishop of Sherbourne in Dorset).
2. The move was made for road safety reasons. As Station Road became busier, cars parked outside the gate presented a potentially serious hazard....remember; those were the days when coal wagons were a common sight in that area!
3. The land where the new gate stands was consecrated land and a ceremony took place to either de-consecrate it (and the land where the wall is) or re-consecrate it after the Gate was moved.
4. I think that Ivor Russell (who was Church organist at the time and also a very accomplished carpenter/cabinet maker) had something to do with building the new woodwork of the Gate.
5. It happened between September 1962 and March 1965. Opinion on the exact date varies between the spring of 1963 or 1964.

Editor's note: Any work done in the church or churchyard needs an Archdeacon's Faculty, which is permission to undertake the work, especially work of such a radical nature or if indeed an area was consecrated or deconsecrated. It is likely that the new gate would have been dedicated or blessed.

Now that we have a date, we will try to find the original application in the archives and see if there is any more interesting information included.

Allerton Bywater

Community Initiatives

Are you Interested in what happens in Allerton?
Interested in community facilities?

Do you Want to have a say in community projects?
Know what needs to be done to improve facilities,
environment etc?

If so would you like to be involved in the Community Initiatives Sub Group, who look at proposals for improvements to the village and put these proposals forward to Leeds City Council for funding from the monies given to Allerton Bywater as part of the Millennium Community development? The group meets every 6 to 8 weeks and is quite informal, no previous experience of committees necessary.

Further information from Ann Rushman

On 01977 519601 or 0790 8736 845

MOVING HOUSE IN ONE EASY STEP

NEWS RELEASE: 31st May 2006

Do you drive past new homes with unrequited dreams of living in a fresh, modern, well designed house or longingly visit showhomes, but are put off moving by the thought of being part of the nightmarish property chain?

Prospective buyers who find the thought of managing the house-moving process too daunting to consider buying their dream new home should take a trip just a few miles south of Leeds to visit Miller Homes' groundbreaking Allerton Bywater Millennium Village and enquire about its innovative Movemaker scheme.

Traditionally when buying a newly built home many house-buyers with a house to sell opt for a part-exchange deal with the developer. However, Yorkshire's leading privately owned housebuilder and the 9th largest in the UK, recognised that often this method meant that customers did not get the best market value for their old property. So it has devised Movemaker, a valued-added alternative to part-exchange, which also puts an end to the seller being caught-up in the complex property chain process.

As soon as a reservation fee is put down on a property, Miller will instruct local estate agents to put forward two valuations for the house, based on considerations such as saleability, interior décor and its exterior condition.

Once a price has been agreed, a marketing strategy is drawn up, which includes a targeted advertising campaign. Miller will also ensure that the property is being pro-actively pushed and report back to the seller with progress updates.

And the *piece de resistance* - when a sale is complete, Miller will pay all the agent's fees and advertising cost.

Carolyn Rushbrook, sales and marketing director of Miller Homes - Yorkshire Region, said: "Movemaker was created to give our customers a better alternative to part-exchange and to take the stress out of being part of the property chain. It has proven very popular because not only does it remove the cost of the estate agents' fees, it means that home-buyers can concentrate on their new property and let Miller deal with the sale of their old one."

Millennium Village is located just six miles South East of Leeds, and a few minutes away from the A1/M1 link road and is one of Miller Home's most groundbreaking residential developments to date. It contains three bedroom detached and semi-detached, and four bedroom detached and three storey houses, all designed and planned to the highest standards with the thoughtful touches you would expect from Miller.

All 197 of the new homes have been designed to minimise the ecological impact of the building process and to reduce domestic waste, energy and water consumption. Special features include low energy/high output boilers, extra insulation in walls and lofts, low flush WCs, low energy white goods and extensive waste recycling facilities.

Its environmentally-friendly ethos could help you save on your household bills, while you help protect the environment.

In addition to the many green features Allerton Bywater also has family friendly traffic restrictions throughout the development with landscaped areas and cleverly planted trees that give greater priority to pedestrians rather than vehicles.

The site is also surrounded by green open countryside, close to RSPB Fairburn Ings nature reserve, walks along the River Aire and attractions like Temple Newsam. Yet it's just a short drive from all the living, working and leisure amenities you could hope for due to its central location between Leeds and Wakefield.

Homes with four bedrooms start from £186,500. Anyone interested in finding out more about Allerton Bywater Millennium Village should telephone 01977 557943 or visit www.miller.co.uk.

For details for Miller Home's other developments in the region, telephone 0870 336 4600 or visit www.millerhomes.co.uk.

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CONTACT.

MICHELLE on 01977 516 438

Living life to the full in the fast lane (June MMVI)

Older readers casting their minds back some 50 years may recall three young Allertoners emigrating to New Zealand. They were Alwyn Manley, Norman Attack and Herbert Sedgewick. Sadly, Norman and Herbert have both died, but not so Alwyn.

Leaving his Mam and two sisters Doreen and Sheila, Alwyn and his wife Hilda (nee Booth) a Hollinhurst girl went off to New Zealand to begin a new life.

Now 81 years old, a recent cutting from an Auckland newspaper dated 16th November 2005 sent to his family mentions Alwyn's achievements and his reason for good health. Titled 'Living life to the full in the fast lane'

"At 80, Auckland's record breaking Masters Swimmer Alwyn Manley shows no sign of slowing down" writes Alice Hudson.

Alwyn Manley was close to being snubbed by the Auckland photographer sent to Mt Roskill's Cameron Pool. Waiting in the lanes, she is on the lookout for an 80 year old, and immediately dismisses the man strolling towards her as far too young... His identity is soon confirmed and Mr Manley, already dry after 3KM worth of laps, obligingly changes back into his swimming trunks.

"He's up on the blocks in no time, further surprising with confident dives and fast paced freestyle. The Mt Roskill man, his Yorkshire accent still evident after 50 years here, is a local swimming legend."

At this year's Masters Games in Cambridge, he won a 'Best Performance Award' after winning all four of his races. "I think four of them may have been records" he says.

But he prefers to swim in the sea to the pool. "I specialise mostly in harbour swims. I have swum at least three this year the early part of the year of course. There are at least two I will be doing before Christmas".

The holder of old national records in various races including butterfly, he is "known as a breastroker". That is the stroke the grandfather of five uses for the harbour courses, some of which are more than 3km long. "The only reason for that is so I can see where I am going" he says.

Mr Manley believes swimming is the best exercise you can do. "I swim with a friend who is a year older than me and both of us rarely have anything the matter with us. I'm sure it is because of the regular exercise. After 40 years starting each weekday morning with a swim, Mr Manley has no plans to stop.

"It's become part of my life. I pace myself, though; I don't try to beat the young ones"

Still, he overtook his daughters years ago. "They were both competitive swimmers, that's why I took it up again. They fell by the wayside, though, and I have just kept going."

Many thanks to Stan Jones for the newspaper cutting and introduction to this feature.
George Parkinson



Obituary 'Mac' McRill

We are very sad to announce the passing of Mac McRill.

Mac and his wife Winnie were popular members of Allerton Bywater until they moved to Derbyshire in 1991. They enjoyed their new lifestyle until Mac had a serious stroke in 1998. Despite the problems this caused, Mac regained some of his mobility and speech and never lost his pleasant personality and sense of humour.

Mac sadly passed away in April. Their Allerton Bywater friends extend condolences to Winn and all the family.

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Allerton Anthology June MMVI No 49

How many miners remember the 'Allerton Bywater Champion'?

It was the monthly news information sheet published by British Coal, Allerton Bywater for free issue to the workforce.

Browsing through my filing cabinet the other day I came across several of these editions. The first one I looked at had been published in May 1986 twenty years ago.

On the front cover it carried a congratulatory message from the manager to everyone concerned in the production of 5,774 tonnes of coal more than budgeted.

On page three, James McGinty returns a score of 77 gross on a 71 par at Temple Newsam golf course to win the monthly medal.

Ken Coleman and John Mahon completed the London Marathon and raised £600 for Muscular Dystrophy.

However it was an article on page two which really caught my eye, under the heading "From the history books". It went on.....

"An end to the old tin tub" when Allerton Bywater miners were issued with Bather's Handbooks in 1949. It did not mean that the National Coal Board was planning a scheme to send colliers to some sun-drenched holiday paradise. It did represent a revolution in miners' welfare, which, in the dark days after the last war must have seemed to many, every bit as fantastic.

In July 1949 Allerton Bywater was to have its own pit baths.

The Bather's Handbook was issued to guide pitmen through the strange new routine which has become automatic to all who work in the mines.

It is a fascinating social document from the time when major changes were affecting mining.

Judging from some of the instructions you would think that the miners had never had a bath in their lives.

"Bring your soap and towel with you" says one of the first commandments.

Some other instructions are more obscure. "Standing on the lavatory seats is strictly forbidden" states one.

"If you take your pay into the baths, you must take it with you when you go into the showers to wash" says another. How you were supposed to keep it dry is not explained.

The new baths were opened on July 4th to the Monday morning shift, with men clutching copies of their handbook and desperately trying to follow the instructions. The Allerton Bywater guinea pigs were to go to work in their pit clothes but to carry a parcel of clean clothes with them. They were also asked to come to the pit a little early.

They were to enter the pit at the clean entrance and pick up a bather's registration slip, a key and a card bearing the numbers of their two lockers. Clean clothes were to be hung in the clean locker room. After being reminded to withdraw the key carefully from the clean locker, miners were urged to proceed to their pit clothes locker, where working clothes were kept.

When returning from work, miners were confronted with the new fangled Boot Cleaning Apparatus. According to the handbook these were "revolving brushes driven by electricity". The days when miners clumped home through Allerton in their wet soggy pit clothes were over. From then on there was a new deal for pitmen.

The instruction in the handbook which says "After the first day, go to work in your clean clothes" must have been welcomed in a way that could never be understood by those who had not worked underground.

Some refused to use the facility at first because they thought it was unhygienic to bathe with all those other people. It was understandably strange to them, when you consider that some of them had been going to work and going home in their pit clothes for over 40 years. The only way they could have a bath was to sit in a tin tub.

I can remember seeing miners going home covered in pit muck. Now, when a miner drives home in his car, you cannot tell whether he has been working in a factory or in an office.

May I say a big thank you to Colin Goddard who wrote the above account for the Allerton Bywater Champion, May 1986.

George Parkinson



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WEDNESDAY	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 9.00	
THURSDAY	CLOSED	4.30 - 8.30	
FRIDAY	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 10.00	
SATURDAY	11.30 - 1.30	CLOSED	

St Mary's the Less seventy years ago.

This picture shows the interior of St Mary the Less as it adorned the front of the church magazine until an ink and paper shortage after 1939 required a much smaller publication.

Notice the lights. They were originally gas lights, but whether or not they had been converted to electricity when these photos were taken I do not know; but the globes look very much like gas globes to me.

The two mottoes on the end of the chancel, either side of the east window 'God is Love' and 'Come unto Me' were still there in 1945.

The Altar was covered in hand decorated cloth. This cloth was changed during Lent, Eater Day and Christmas. I enjoyed it best when it was laden with the fruits and vegetables to celebrate the harvest being safely gathered in.

The pulpit and lectern stand proud below Chancel level and the Soldiers Table and Memorial Plaque can be seen below the Union Flag.

The window to the right of the Soldiers Table is of plain glass, but in 1946 two stained glass windows commemorating the fallen of the second war were installed.

Also can be seen two pipes running either side of the aisle, disappearing under the floor near the front pews. These pipes provided heating and were approximately 4 inches in diameter. During the cold winters, the boiler that heated these pipes often burst.

George Parkinson



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