

CUMBERLAND PEAT

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In October, 1946, an old industry was revived on Whitrigg Moss by the Moss Litter Coy Ltd. During recent years the value of Peat for old and new purposes has become firmly established and no expense has been spared to ensure production of perfect quality peat. Two mosses are being worked

- (a) Whitrigg
- (b) Gulton

and cover some 750 acres of rich peat to a depth of 15 - 30 feet which assures the long life of the product. The peat is cut, stacked, and allowed to mature for approximately 2 years before attempting to process it and thus ensuring its proper exposure to all the natural elements that, to attain perfection in quality and remove acid, it must have - sun, wind and frost. Mills have been built on each site and when fully processed, the finished article has great absorbing powers and will hold up to 15 times its own weight in water or other more valuable liquids.

The finished article is marketed for the Coy by Messrs T. Howlett and Coy, Cleveleys, Lancs. (the local office being at the Station, Kirkbride) and trial loads have been sent as far afield as New York and San Francisco.

The following grades of peat are marketed :-

Granulated	For all Horticultural use or fertiliser purposes
Fine Granulated	For the same purposes as above but where a slightly finer grading is desirable
Meal	Almost uniform in size (approx $\frac{1}{4}$ ins) This grade is produced for Cattle Food manufacturers and as an ideal top dressing for Greens or the making up of fertilisers for this particular purpose.
Dust	Finely ground peat to rub in as top dressing on Bowling Greens, Golf Greens, lawns.
Tailings	For Poultry litter and the bedding of all animals. For use on horse racing and greyhound tracks, Paddocks and gallops.
Moss Litter	A more lumpy grade than tailings, popular in some parts for horse bedding
Block Peat	Available for orchid growing etc.

Bales or Bags are the means of packing. Bales are made up in a modern all steel plant giving 100 tons pressure on each bale. The size of a bale is about 9 cubic feet and is held together by six wooden laths and four wires. The weight of granulated and dust bales is about 2 cwts but tailings nearer $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwts as this, being coarser peat, does not press together so tightly.

Strong hessian or twill bags are used holding 5 bush. The bag is usually 30" by 56" and is tied or sewn at the mouth. Canvassees Wrapped Bags are available for export or the home market if required.

U S E S

For Poor Soil. Tailings will improve poor soils especially if the soil is worn out or heavy with clay or sandy. It loosens up the soil and aerates and drains it.

For Poultry It absorbs dampness in the cabins and soaks up droppings to many times its own weight. Poultry like scratching in it and it keeps their feet and eggs clean. When cleaned out after serving its purpose the peat is probably worth more than the original cost if used on the land or for re-sale as a fertiliser.

Animal Bedding Tailings or Moss Litter are used for this purpose and make a warm and comfortable bed. Suitable for all types of animal as free from vermin.

Horticulture Our granulated peat is ideal for all glass house work. frames, potting plants and bulb forcing. The roots cling to it if placed on or below the surface and watering is simplified by the fact that the peat retains it like a sponge maintains moisture round the roots for long periods.

Greens Dusr grade, if rubbed into greens by hand will encourage the finer grasses, ensure aeration, keep moisture to the surface and promote dense growth.

Fertiliser Making

Cattle Cake Manufacture.

SOLWAY WASHED TURF
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Kirkbride Solway washed turf is known throughout the British Isles for its quality. Two grades of turf are marketed from the Kirkbride Marshes. First class turf is that which is taken from the area nearest to the river, as it is free from weeds owing to the action of the salt water tides. The silt deposited by the high tides also acts as a natural fertiliser. This particular turf is chosen for Bowling Greens and super lawns and several well known resorts have been supplied with it. Another type of turf contains more fibre and is therefore tough and is used for tennis courts and football pitches and recently a big sports ground in Belfast was relayed with Kirkbride Turf. Second grade turf has a small percentage of weed but much is now being done to kill the weeds with powerful weed killers. This quality turf is suitable for tennis courts and putting greens and is sent regularly to the Midlands and the South. If the turf is intended for a dog track (some has been sent to Wembley) it is cut 2 inches thick and 1 foot by 18 inches but normal turf is one inch thick and one foot square. It takes ten to twenty years until the turf is ready to cut again.

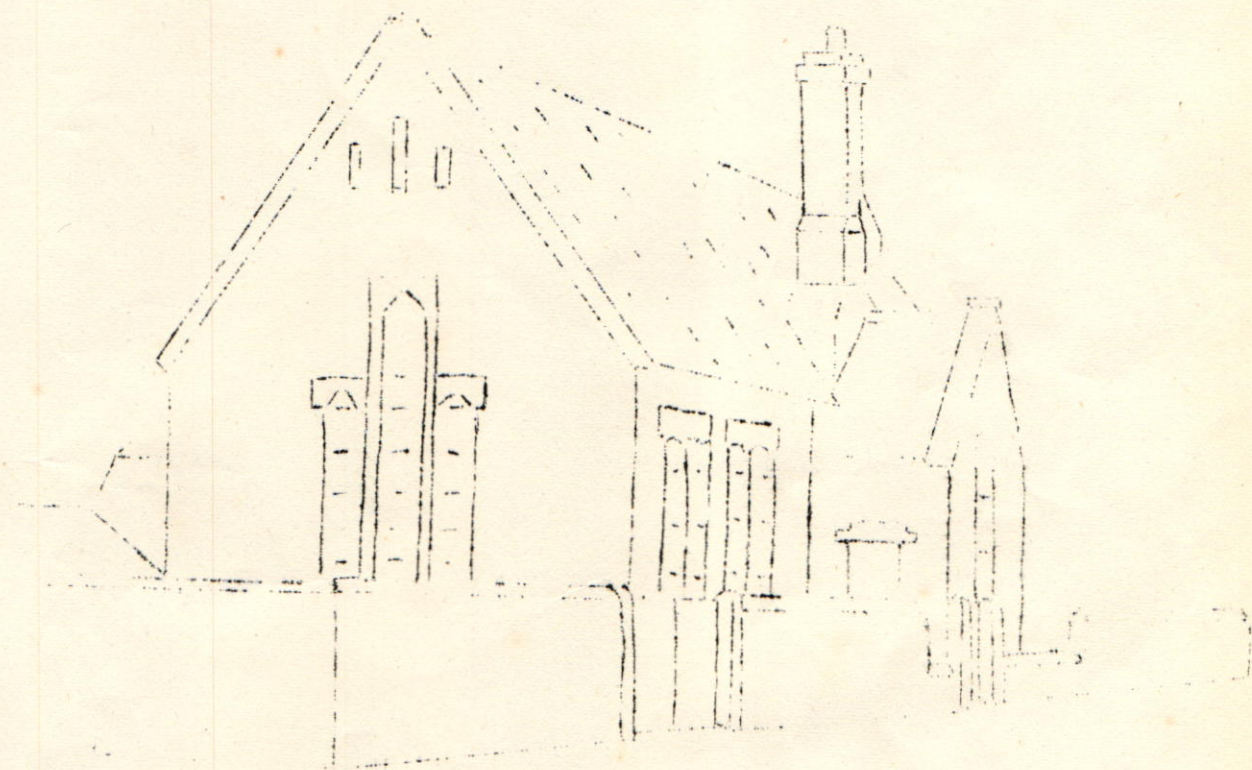
KIRKBRIDE SCHOOL

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The following information regarding early schooldays has been submitted by Mr John Mitchinson, 146 Biggin Hill, London, S.E.19

John Mitchinson, born 13th February, 1868, son of William Mitchinson was one of 46 pupils who attended the present School on opening day, 12th February 1877 and left 1st December 1882, but his "trade or profession was not fixed upon".

Mr Mitchinson says "The earliest and much smaller School stood parallel to the present road, occupying a space where the Southern end of the present School now stands and without any protecting wall for the playground. On the opposite side of the road was a pond called the Puffles and at the back of the School our old friend the 'Moondyke



The floor was of ordinary paving stones, one long central desk with forms on each side, one along the back wall, one short one to the left of the front and only door, master's desk and chair to the right of the door with a low form behind him near the fire place for the smallest kiddies. In my time the S.W. Corner of the roof was giving way and let the rain in badly but nothing was done to repair it presumably because the whole place was to come down to make way for a bigger school under the Forster Act of 1870. The fees known as Quarter pence were very small. We had one long holiday in the Autumn the others very short.

As a small boy I saw one 'barring out' but from the outside with my elder sister now Mrs Yardley. She had to bargain with the big boys inside before they would hand out her books through a window - a very vivid memory to this day

I attended for a very brief period up to the end of Mr Coulson's long career as master. My father was one of his pupils and used to speak of Mr C's 'copper plate' writing. I was told he died at Birch Hill from an accident - falling down stairs.

Then came Mr Hamilton for the short period left before demolition. I see him now in his frock coat and long, rather florid face and I also remember the Rector coming in to put us through our paces. We stood up in a row and had to read a few one syllable words. 'We' consisting of the youngest pupils

Mr Charles Harrison was the first Headmaster of the Board School (the present School). In my time Mr Harrison was a strict and thorough teacher of the three R's, geography, singing and a little history now and then, but the Board School system of those days ignored extras. They were useful in particular areas - at Kirkbride for instance local features such as the peat moss, the tides, the Marsh and its bird life etc. We were never told to connect the bigger tides with new or full moon or at what time of the day to see these bigger tides but we knew countries and other capitals and plenty of capes, bays, mountains etc.

School fees were payable for a number of years and the Board - elected by the ratepayers triennially - held monthly meetings. I have a cutting about presided over by Mr Lumb, the Rector at which "spirited controversy took place in regard to lowering the School fees" This was about 1890.

I have also a cutting showing that for the School Year ending 1888 the Government Grant was £100 11 6d. Clogs were usual in those days, keeping the feet warm and dry and fine for sliding on the Pumples in Winter."

The first entry in the Log Book is as follows :-

"KIRKBRIDE SCHOOL (BOARD)

Monday, Feb 12
1877

Master :- Charles Henry Harrison.

I opened the above school this morning for the first time with an attendance of 46 scholars. The Children are in a very backward condition and seem to have been greatly neglected "

The School in 1877 consisted of the main room as we now know it; there was no classroom. By 13th April there were 84 on roll, the staff consisting of

Mr Chas Harrison, Master

John Stormonth, pupil teacher. Mr Stormonth was appointed on 26/2/77 at the age of 13. He received his further education from the master each morning from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. The H.M.I's annual report for 1878 states "The School is spacious and convenient but some of the walls are damp. The room should be swept and dusted daily. Better means of warming should be provided" There was only one firegrate in the school.

Pleasures in those days were very simple for the school was granted a holiday for a treat - a magic lantern show. On 22/11/81 the children living at Whitrigg were unable to get home as the tide was in the village as far as Jefferson's farm. Many children stayed at home thinking it was a holiday. The storm and tide washed away part of the Whitrigg Bridge and few children were able to get to school. Cleanliness did not seem to be one of the strong points in those days for the annual report says " the floors should be scrubbed at least once a quarter and the school should be properly swept and dusted evry day. The offices should always be kept in a cleanly state. Washing apparatus (basin, towel, and soap) should be provided"

- Contrast present feeding arrangements for 1/11/82
The top of the stove having been taken off and an iron plate screwed down the children are enabled to warm their dinners now.
- 23/5/83 In addition to other duties the master examined sewing. "This morning I inspected the girls' sewing and knitting which I intend to do every sewing afternoon in future because I find they do their sewing much better when they know that I shall look it over".
- There was no water supply as Mr Harrison expressed a wish for a pump or other means of supplying water - "the children are constantly leaving the playground for a drink to the great annoyance of several parties "
- 2/11/83 This morning two boys who were playing over the deks before opening upset the harmonium and broke it but not badly.
- 6/9/84 An infants gallery has been put up in the school- there is not sufficient floor space for the lower Stds for reading. No on register 110
- 20/11/84 This morning I sent three big boys for William Clark who has been truanting for several days and spent his school fees 1/4 I gave him a good thrashing with a small stick on his seat in presence of the whole school
- 18/12/84 Mary Clark has been appointed cleaner and caretaker
- 13/2/85 This morning I billed those parents who are in arrears with their childrens school fees.
- 26/3/85 No on register 120
- 4/6/85 The towels used by the children are now in a filthy state and require washing. They ought to be washed at least once a fortnight
- 30/6/85 A great many children are absent today owing to the opening of the new dock at Silloth
- 5/10/85 Received from Mr Graham Whitrigg Station 21 cwts coal at 7d for school use
- 16/4/86 Number on register 129
- 31/5/86 Last Friday a little boy Allen was truanting. I spoke to him this morning about it and he promised not to do so again. I did not thrash him as I intended but made him stand on a stool for an hour.
- 13/7/86 I wish to call the Board's attention to the great increase in arrears of school fees and also of the great difficulty in collecting school fees. Whether this is owing to the present depression in trade or that the fees are too high for many poor parents I am unable to say.
- 16/7/86 Number on registers 139
- 10/11/86 Opening of new classroom. This morning the infants Stds under the assistant mistress were removed to the new classroom
- 16/2/87 A great number of hat pegs are required in the porch. At present the hats are pitched in a corner and trodden under foot as there are not sufficient pegs on which to hang them The wash basins ought to be removed out of the porches as they are a nuisance. They are often filled with hats piled one above the other until the dirty water overflows and makes the porches dirty
- 1/4/87 No on register 140

- 16/5/87 Mary Allen and Jane Wills two pupils in the school having been engaged as monitors by the school board began their duties this morning. Each teaches during one half of the day and takes the lessons of her own standard during the other.
- 15/6/87 Holiday. The laying of the foundation stone of the new Wesleyan Sunday School
- 29/7/87 Number on registers 155
- 24/9/87 Opened school this morning after the Harvest vacation with an attendance of 97. A great many of the children are gathering brambles and most likely I shall not see them at school again until the bramble gathering is over - the act is a dead letter here.
- 3/12/88 The entrance to the girls porch is in a very dirty state during this wet weather, the children having to wade through a sea of mud. Something ought to be done to make this part of the playground drier. Also the road in front of the school is in a very bad state at present; in fact it is about the worst piece of road in the parish
- 14/5/89 As the arrears of school fees is on the increase I have threatened to send all children, who come without their fees home again.
- 3/2/90 This morning there are a great many children absent suffering from the prevailing epidemic Russian influenza
- 30/4/90 This afternoon the infant boys took sewing with the girls. I intend to present them at the next govt exam
- 22/9/91 Have received notice from the clerk that the Board has accepted the fee grant under the assisted Elementary Education Act and that the fees are now 2d for all children over 7 and children under 7 free.
- 4/5/95 Re-opening of Fingland School
- 16/11/98A pump has now been put up in the boys playground and good water has been obtained. Also a new ventilator has been put up in the in the classroom and answers well.
- 24/6/02 After the mornings attendance the school was closed for the remainder of the week for the King's Coronation
- July 10th
- 11th 1902 School closed. Royal Agricultural Show at Carlisle
- 8/2/07 This morning about 11 o'clock the school roof was noticed to be on fire, caused by the defective piping in connection with the large stove. The children at the time were at play. An alarm was quickly raised and Mr Brown's and Mr Mitchinson's men, by means of a long ladder quickly subdued the flames. By 11.30 the fire was practically out. The rafter ridges and two principals were charred, the principals suffering most. Part of the ceiling is soaked with water and may fall. New piping will be put in this afternoon. Owing to the state of the school the children were dismissed for the day at 11.30. The damage will amount to two or three pounds.
- 9/11/09 The removal of the gallery from the classroom has greatly improved the infants accomodation.
- 25/3/18 It is with the utmost regret that I have to place on record the death of Mr Harrison for over 41 years head of this school Sgd E.D.Elliot
- During this summer 2tons 5cwts 27lbs brambles were collected by this school.

- 16/7/21 Ernest D. Elliot resigned and Mr W. Barnes was appointed
- 20/7/39 Mr Barnes resigned
- 1/9/39 First Evacuation
- 1/1/40 Mr T. Lazonby appointed headmaster
- 2/3/42 Warships week begun. Kirkbride has subscribed £3260 15s
- 6/6/43 During Wings for Victory Week the sum of £5338 has been subscribed
- 25/7/47 Today is the end of the School year, the most successful in the School's history. With an average of 60 on roll for the year, seven children have been successful in passing the entrance examination to Secondary Schools and in addition two more children have been awarded places as late developers.

In sport the school tied with Wigton Council for the champion school in the inter-school sports and produced the 220 yards champion in the County Sports.

- 20/7/49 Another successful year. Four children have passed for Secondary Schools. Champion School in the District Sports and runners up in the Football League.

CLOGGERS and SHOEMAKERS
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The oldest known clogger lived at Birch Hill over 100 years ago and was Mr J. Studholme. He lived in the house now occupied by Mr Robert Hill. This was before the present railway built. As the road to Carlisle went past Mr Studholme's the farmers left their clogs to be repaired on their way to Carlisle Market. As they went by pony and trap the clogger had plenty of time to repair them before they returned. Market day was a busy day for the clogger.

When the railway was built the Wooden bridge was also erected and has always been known as the Cloggers Bridge as people crossed it to reach the cloggers. Mr Studholme moved his business to Grove Cottage, where Jas Lowther now lives, possibly because the Birch Hill road was no longer the road to Carlisle, the New Road having been made. Later Mr Stodholme took up business in Wigton and the local business came into the hands of Edward Hill, who built a shop on the present site in 1898 assisted by Mr Foster of Bowness on Solway. It was re-built in 1934 by Mr Wm Batey.

About 50 years ago Mr McFarlane had a shop at the Cross now used by Wm Clark.

In those days things were much different than they are today. The clog uppers were made by hand in the shop. Birch and alder trees were bought and sawn into lengths. Two wooden horses were used for this job. The tree trunks were rested on these horses and sawn with a cross cut saw. These lengths were cut into blocks and shaped into clog soles with long knives which are still to be seen in the shop. Clog soles are now to be seen coming in large bundles from the manufacturers. In early days men's clogs cost 1/6 to be soled.

The present owner is Mr Nichol Hill and the shop has always been and still is a meeting place for the men of the village, where things of interest are discised.

CLOGGER SHOP

In't auld clogger shop, t'other side o' the street
Twee brothers sit nappen frae morning till neet,
Tain swoles clogs an' t'other un shoes,
See min' an' be sure o' pays them their dues.

On't lang winter neets when t'win whussels doon
The lads o' the village aw gedder around
Ans tell greet lang teals o' wark done thro' t'day
Sec as ploughin' an' threshin8 or mebbe mown t'hay.

An t'clogger sits quiet and says "Stiddy thee frame"
When sum lad's teal seems nobbut gae leame
But him at swoles shoes niver says much at aw
Unless it's t'counter an unco hard blow.

For tho' a deal o' gossip gaes on ivvery neet
Yet neaboddy's honour is iver impeached
An' creak is reet merry, the wit sharp as champagne
Int' auld clogger's shop away frae the rain.

Theer's Abram Bulman sits quiet in his seat
Robert Hurst on the Woolsack aye twostin' his feet
Robert Todhunter represents t'low end ot toon
An' tells far fetched jokes at wad earn mony a crown

Than their's leyle Harry Townsend frae ower Whittrigg Haw
He leev'd lang in Yorkshire an' still he can blow
O't days when a sowdjer mangs't England's auld men
He helped on the country against the German.

Next t' step in is Jwhon Lowther o' Cumberlan' fame
Alang wid Jwhon Crozier he's noted for sausage an' same
The buy o' the pigs atween Branton and Broughton
An' t'squeals t'only thing they can't mek owt oot on.

Theer's Jwhon Thompson, Tom Wills, Ernest Routledge an ow
The talk they gan on wid indeed it caps aw.
On fitba' an' politics only thing they agree
Is that Carel United should be top o' the tree.

Wills an' Thompson says Socialist sud rule ower't land
But Routledge says nivver, ruinations at hand.
Then Stafford frae Station at cum oot o' Scotland
He ses Bowness Parish can beat aw the band.

Jos Lightfoot gae often steps in for a crack
An' brags that at Finglan' stan's t'best o' corn stacks
But Jim Telford says "Away min they're likelty to faa
Seah be sure to build-in't Dutch barn oot o' the blow.

Harry Gate smeuks black bacca 'at smells varra leyke peat
They say it costs 2/8 to keep him a week
Forbye aw the matches he scratches away
How many he uses we darsen't weel say.

Bill Armstrong the Bobby he represents t'law
Says he comes oot o' Copshaw as weel we sud know
Alang wid Gwordie Foster o' Bewcastle fame
The pairs often in Nichol's or way down at Heame.

There's Hedley Blair, Bill Edgar and leyle Dr Youngson
For speeding Bill Armstrong sud send them to Brumstone
But some say a treedmill wad better fit their crime
As their's nobbut five minutes awteen speedin' an' time.

Then leyle Tommy Armstrong leuks in ov a hurry
Yan day he's in Carel - the next he's in Surrey
Or maybe the Heilan's or else t'Isle o' Man
An he yance sent a horse out tull Van Deeman's land.

If t'talk turns tull flowers or owt about heame
Jwhon Stormonth's heed gardener'll settle Bob Graham
Or if it's a horse- mappen yan that's gan wrang
For expert opinion just ask leyle Jack Strang.

Sum say t'Clogger's shop has steud for aw teyme
But aw agree it's a good shelter in for, snow or shine
An' if at Kirkbride you sud chance for to stop
Just pop in an' hear t'gossip at t'auld Clogger's Shop.

ROADS

Before the days of the Railway the main road of the village was at present but continued past the School to the Cross. Here it branched right up Bridget St past Birch Hill and crossed the Wampool at a point approximately where the railway now crosses. There were numerous lanes branching off from this road which would probably be used as much as the road, by horses and traps as this was long before the time of Macadam roads. The New Road as we now know it was not made until after the Railway was constructed in 1855. This new road was made by the Railway Coy probably in consideration for cutting through the fields en route and to prevent having to construct another bridge lower down the line nearer the river for the road to Cross.

RAILWAY

The railway running through from Carlisle to Silloth was first called "The Silloth and Carlisle Bay Railway and Dock Coy" and was formed in 1855. The land on which the station stands was gifted to the Coy by Messrs Messrs S & G Saul who owned the adjacent farm of Angerton (now occupied by Mr Evans) and the level crossing at the station which is not a public crossing was put in by the Railway Coy for the benefit of the tenant farmer, and he is the only one who can claim the right to use this crossing at any time. The road to the south of the station i.e. towards Wigton is public but the road leading to the station from the lower end of the village belongs to the Railway Coy, and is maintained by them. At the entrance to this road at the depth of approximately 7ft a paved road was found when the present sewer was installed but where it led to is unknown.

CALEDONIAN RAILWAY - SOLWAY JUNCTION

The line extended from Kirtlebridge in Scotland to Brayton near Aspatria and was connected to England from a point called Seafield, Annan to Bowness on Solway by a bridge 1960 yards long, 34 feet high and pillared every 30 feet. The bridge was damaged by ice in the severe winter of 1881. Says Mr J. Stafford of Station House, "One man was fatally injured and died in my grandmother's house later in the day. I believe this was the only fatal accident in the course of erection. His name was Cousins, but in the course of demolition which occurred I think in 1936, three men, were swept away in a boat and drowned".

The line from Bowness over the Moss was laid on brush-wood. The stations on the Solway Junction line were Annan, Bowness Whittrigg, Abbey Junction, Bromfield and Brayton. These were closed to traffic in 1917 but the line was re-opened after the end of the 1914 - 1918 war and finally closed on the 1st Sept 1921. The Solway Junction line joined the North British line at a point half a mile beyond Kirkbride station westwards and ran to Abbey Junction.

A signal box stood near the Kirkbride end of the Junction. This was demolished after the line was lifted in 1937 (Mr Jos Wills, Angerton purchased the box)

Over 1000 tons of scrap iron was lifted from this portion of the line Bowness to Kirkbride. The dismantling started on April 12th 1937 the first dispatch being made on May 17th and the final on 16th July 1937.

The contractors were Messrs Arnoll Young & Co Glasgow.

FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

1. Up the Gribs from Kirkbride to Longlands Head
2. From Angerton Cottage across the railway joining up with the lane going into Angerton
3. Through Croziers' field to Halftol and Whiteholm's well This well is approximately 3ft long, 2ft wide and 2ft deep. Although so small it has never known to be dry.
4. By the Marsh to Peat Wath now known as Sheep Wash.

AERODROME

The Aerodrome at Kirkbride was commenced in 1938 and when completed was known as No 12 Maintenance Unit. Built on the southern side of the village it occupies approximately 385 acres.

During the course of construction of this airfield over 250,000 tons of traffich passed through Kirkbride station. The first consignment arrived 24th June 1938 and the first plane arrived at 4125 p.m. 21st September 1939.

The contractors were Messrs Harold Arnold, Doncaster and their agent in charge was Mr W. Peake, the clerk of workss Mr Goulden. 11 hangars were built by them and 4 by the Cleveland Bridge Construction Coy. Messrs Arnold took about 66 weeks to complete the 11. The gravel used in construction was taken from land near Oulton. The Nurseries and house of Mr Sutherland together with Crosshill Farm owner Mr T.A?Gordon were demolished to clear the Airfield site. Mr T. Wills and Son re-built the house on the New Road and called it Sutherland House after its previous owner.

During the war dispersal sites were constructed but were removed in 1948 - 1949

DISCOVERY OF FLINT WEAPON

In March 1950 a flint implement was found by Mr T.A. Gordon at Sunnybrae. He thought he must have brought it with some rubble from the old barn at Ivydene and that it had probably been built into the old clay wall. It was sent to Tullie House and was found to be a "rough out" of a stone axe. The mortar was cleaned off with the hope that it might show traces of an attempt to polish it. This was not so and it had probably been thrown away as it showed two flaws. It is of "Borrowdale volcanic ash" of the layered type. Two quarries of such axes are known in Upper Langdale where broken ones have been found in great numbers.

MEMORIAL SLAB is in the possession of Mr J.R. Wills but has proved to be a fake. The letters M.D. at the top should be reversed to D.M. "Dis Manibus" - to the gods of the underworld. Samuel Hallifax a son of a former Rector had wished to become a sculptor and had carved the heads on the vicarage stable, also the letters on Hallifax Cottage. Has he any connection with the Memorial stone ?

The following is a copy of an old poster advertising sports in Kirkbride. The original is in the possession of Mr Geo Carr Clogger, Lilac House.

KIRKBRIDE

Joseph Scott

respectfully announces to his friends and the public that he intends to give the following prizes to contend for on Friday the 22nd day of August 1862

(being the expiration of his apprenticeship) with

Mr John Carr of Kirkbride.

To be raffled for

1 pair of Gentleman's Boots for the First and

1 pair ladies slippers for the second

£1 to wrestle for

2/6 for a footrace

All disputes to be settled by the stewards and their decisions in all cases to be final.

Mr Joseph Johnston, Junr)

Mr John Carr)

Mr John Coulson)

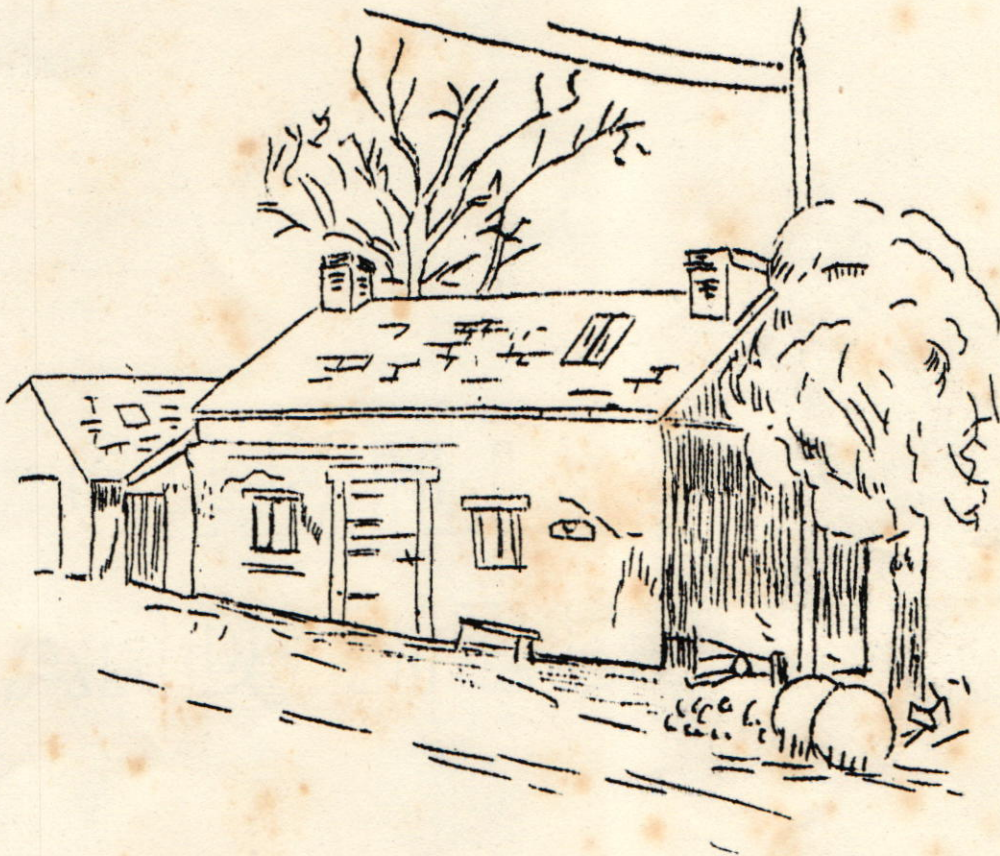
Stewards

N.B. A Ball in the evening at the Barley Mow Inn

THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH

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Below is a sketch of the village smithy complete with the spreading chestnut tree. The present owner is the fourth John Brown to have served the farmers of Kirkbride and his son John is following in his footsteps. This business has been in existence for almost 140 years during which time Browns must have shod thousands of Clydesdales for the Kirkbride district is famous for that breed. With more mechanisation on the farm this type of business has fallen off but Browns have adapted themselves to the changing conditions and repair all types of farm implements.



A fire on the Moss once crossed it 7 times and burned everything that was standing, the wind changing each time. This fire was started by a shoemaker named Skelton

When the present sewage pump house was erected in 1939 near the station an excavation approximately 14ft deep was dug and it was observed that in the soil formation lines of wreck or wrack had been left by the sea at some time. From this one could suggest that most of the low lying ground was continually submerged or periodically flooded by the sea. Much of the soil from the blacksmith shop downwards is largely of a sandy nature with large pockets of quicksand.

If a person wanted a bit of carting done about 50 years ago a farmer would do the job free looking upon it as a privilege.

Bees in Church A large swarm of bees found their way the other day into Kirkbride Church during Divine Service which had to be brought to a close in consequence. It was found that their home was in a cavity in the wall. This was opened out and a large quantity of honey extracted but the bees have not yet been thoroughly evicted from the building.

Church Times - 26th April 1907.

PLACE NAMES

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- SCOTBIT** Its earliest name was Scotby Close. Between this house and Brighton House was the village well, known as the Greenwell. It had chain and bucket and winding gear. It was used until 1942.
- SANDY LONNING** that is the road to Whitrigg. The road was mainly sand and until it was remade was in a very bad state. The stone used to repair the road came from Brayton Hall.
- WHITE GATE ROAD** - road to Newton Arlosh. A large white gate barred the road on to Newton Common. The land so called being open was probably used for the grazing of the cottagers stock. This would be used until the land was enclosed in 1816. which did away with much of the Common land. A cottager was allowed to graze 2 cows. A part of the parish is known as Bull Lees, where the the parish bull was kept for the good of the villagers. This field has now been requisitioned by the R.A.F. At the time of taking over it was owned by Mr J.W. Crozier who had bought out all the shares, to the number of 22. Originally however there were 25.
- WINE LONNING.** leading from the Church to the Marsh. Different explanations have been given as to the origin of the name :-

- (a) The Romans took their horses down this way to the river to be watered when there was a Roman Camp there
- (b) It was the way wine and spirits were smuggled from Scotland, probably to the Rectory cellar and the various inns of which there were three- The Wheatsheaf, The Barley Mow and the Bush.

This is quite likely as the salt pans at Saltcotes are still to be seen. Duty had to be paid on salt from England into Scotland in those days. Spirits were smuggled one way and salt the other. The river was navigable then by shallow draught boats as Sir Walter Scott mentions ships going as far as Laythes in his Redgauntlet.

- PUMPHILLS** or commonly known as Puples. was the claypit opposite the School where was obtained to build the clay dabbins which at one time were very common in Kirkbride at one time. At the present time a great many of the houses are still clay or have some of the walls clay. The thatched roofs which were part of the clay dabbins have now disappeared

OCCUPATIONS Bricks were made both by hand and machines. Longlands Head bricks stood most pressure under test when Carr's Flour Mills at Silloth were built. Hand bricks were made in a mould or box with the two sides off. Boys and girls used to run with the boxes filled with clay to the kiln. These bricks were burned in a clump. Bricks were made on the following sites.

1. Brodge Hill
2. The Grove
3. On a site near to Thompsons.

Weaving was also carried on. Shirtings and similar cloths were made Newshams, West End Poultry Farm was a weavers cottage. Mr W. Thompson has some of the shuttles which were used.

At some funerals it was the custom about 70 or 80 years ago for the mourners to set out a basin on the table. All who attended the funeral put in their contributions which helped to pay the expenses.

RINDERPEST or cattle plague broke out in 1865 but was stamped out in 1879, by the compulsory slaughter of all diseased animals and has never been known since.

MOSS SHARES

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- 161 Kirkbride Parish Council
- 160 Mattocks, Laythes.
- 159 Little, Lilac House.
- 158 Stormonth, The Croft.
- 157 W. Abbott, Moss House.
- 156 Barley Mow
- 155 Bush Inn
- 154 Stormonth, The Croft
- 153 Stormonth, The Croft
- 152 W.C.Little, Kirkbride House.
- 151 Stormonth, The Croft
- 150 John Glencross, West End Garage. (Cottage)
- 149 J.Lightfoot's Cottage
- 148 W.Thompson, Scotbit.
- 147 W.Thompson, Scotbit
- 146 Exors J Brown, Longlands Head
- 145 Exors J.Walton, Powhill
- 144 W.W.Edgar, North House.
- 143 R.Todhunter, The Bank
- Mrs M.J.Carr, Lilac House
- 142 John Wills)
- Exors J.J.Brown) Half Shares
- 141 Cross House.
- 140) J.Mitchinson, Bridge Hill
- 139)
- 138)
- 137 Stormonth, Croft House
- 136 J.Lowther. Midtown
- 135 J.Lowther, Midtown
- 134 Exors J.Walton, Powhill
- 133 Mary Carr, Mansion House.
- 132)
- 131)
- 130) J.W.Crozier, Burgess Farm and Cottages.
- 129)
- 128 Baird, Mill Green Cottage (Borradaile)
- 127 Abbott, Black House.
- 126 Carruthers, Powhill
- 125 Exors J.Walton, Powhill
- 124 Exors J.J.Brown, Longlands Head.
- 123 R.W.Gate
- 122 Exors J.J.Brown, Longlands Head
- 121 Moore, West House.
- 120 J.Little, Lowther Farm
- 119 Kirkbride Rectory
- 118 W.Gate, Longlands Head.

I N S C R I P T I O N S

Inscription	Site	Meaning
1. HALLIFAX	Hallifax Cottage.	These letters are carved on the Corbel stones or stones projecting to support eaves gutters. Carved by Samuel Hallifax
2. 1720	Cross House	Original house built 1720 Rebuilt in 1910
3. S W J 1828	Mrs Wood's Bush Terrace	Built in 1828 by William and Jane Sibson
4. FRANCIS HALL ANNE HALL 1721	Lilac House	This inscription appears twice, above the archway & on the lintel of the kitchen door. The second oldest house in the parish. Has an interesting oak door studded all over with wooden pegs. In the bedroom is an oak 4 poster bed the feet are let into the floor and the top into the ceiling. The fittings are still for the curtains. At the head of the bed is a panel depicting the tree of life with the date 1723. In behind is a cubby hole or hiding place. Francis was son of Rector of Kirkbride; married Anne Hodgson.
5. KB 16 TI 72	Station Brow	The oldest house in the parish, built in 1672 by Thomas Ismay of Kirkbride. Repairs to porch 1904
6. T S A M 19 '03"	Hilcote	Built by Thomas & Sarah Ann Messenger 1903. Thos Messenger was the Dr in Kirkbride Dist.
7. M W M 1831	Jefferson's Garage	Margaret & Wm Mitchinson
8. W S M 1864	Bridge Hill	Wm & Sarah Mitchinson 1864
9. EH 1898 AH	Croft House	Edward & Anne Hill

The following appear on the buildings at Kirkbride House but their meanings are not known

S
1774 I M

R.D. A.D. 1693

COMPARISON OF PRICES
=====

Commodity	1820	1900	1950
Eggs doz	8d	16 for 1/-	3/9
Poultry each			5/6 winter
Flour st	2/4	1/6 to 2/6	2/- to 2/11b
Oatmeal st	2/2		2/10
Potatoes st	1 1/2d	2d	7/-
Salmon lb	8d		1/11
Beef lb	3d to 7d	6d to 1/2	to 10/-
Mutton lb	6d	6d	1/- to 2/4
Bacon lb	2 1/2d to 3d	7d to 8d	1/- to 2/4
Ham lb	4d to 6d	8d - 9d	2/3
Live pigs 8 wks	5/6 - 8/-	10/- to 12/-	2/6
Coals cwt		8d	£7 - £9
Butter lb	9d - 10d	8d - 10d	4"- 1/10

CLOGS

	1880	1950
Mens Watertights	5/6 to 6/6	25/-
Boys do	1/8 to 4/-	14/6
Women's Clasp	2/5 to 3/-	14/6
Childs (tan & Black)	1/8 to 2/2	10/-

About 1900 it was possible to buy an ounce of tobacco for 3d with a clay pipe and a box of matches free. Today an ounce of brown twist tobacco is 3/7 and matches 2d.

Whisky was 3d a glass; today 2/11

As one man said "Those were the days "

In comparing the above prices it must be remembered that almost all the foodstuffs in the above list are rationed in quantities and heavily subsidised otherwise the prices would be much higher.

Whilst prices were much lower at the end of the last century and the beginning of this, so were wages. Many houses were kept on as little as 10/- a week. Girls could be hired for £4 for the six months and lads for £6 or £7. Today these are the prices paid for one week's work.

Boys and girls were hired at the local fairs, which were held twice a year at Wigton and Carlisle. Everyone congregated at the Cross and were taken to Wigton by wagonette, the fare being 1/-

A LIVING FROM POULTRY ON TWO AND A HALF ACRES.

EXTRACT FROM THE MODERN POULTRY KEEPING, FEBRUARY, 25th, 1948.

Some thirty years ago an enthusiastic young Cumbrian with firm ideas but small financial resources, plunged into the intricacies and uncertainties of poultry farming by taking possession of a 2½ - acre small holding. About the same period there were hundreds with similar ideas, but many did not survive the vicissitudes of the slump years as did Mr. William Newsham, of West End Poultry Farm, Kirkbride, Cumberland.

Why should Mr. Newsham have succeeded when so many failed? Here is his own answer to the question:-

"I started with very little capital, which looking back proved to be a real God-send. There were times when ready money would have been very welcome, and would have made the task easier, but it had not to be. Each year stocks were increased, by ploughing back into the venture any profits, however small, made from the previous year's working.

MOST IMPORTANT.

"The most important factor contributing to the establishment of a successful pedigree poultry farm was that the rate of experience gained did not lag behind the rate of growth of the farm. The limited capital available deterred any suggestion of rapid expansion, so that hand in hand experience and hard-won surplus cash, plodded on together, each in its own way making a valuable contribution to the building-up process.

"It is the slow hard way, but in my opinion is the only sound basis on which to establish any successful live-stock holding."

Those of who recall the tragedies of the '20s will give our blessing to the formula as prescribed by Mr. Newsham, particularly as it applies to the inexperienced still waiting on the threshold for the opportunity of entering the ranks of the poultry industry.

An additional asset in the make-up of Mr. Newsham is his dour, fighting spirit and the inability to recognise defeat in the face of apparent insoluble problems.

Take the all important question of chick rearing, for example. There was a time when this was more a nightmare than the pleasure it has now become. During inclement weather in the early part of the year, the greatest difficulty was experienced in maintaining the temperature under the hover, particularly during the early hours of the morning. Chick mortality during the first few days was considerably higher than normal.

Partial solution was found in the covering of the hover canopy with sacks, etc., in an effort to retain the heat. Nevertheless, the quality of the chicks and the rate of growth did not come up to the standard required, even though the mortality rate had been reduced considerably.

Eventually the problem was overcome by the adoption of a special brooder, all wood, with the exception of the canopy which is galvanised metal, the hover is box shape, being approximately 1 yd., square, with sufficient depth to allow an oil lamp to be placed inside, when closed the lamp guard is but ½-inch from the underside of the canopy lid.

A false wooden floor is fitted into the box, with a central circle cut out, being the diameter of the lamp and allowing the well of the lamp to rest flush on the floor of the brooder proper.

At the front a small hinged door allows easy passage of chicks to and from the brooder to the small temporary run erected for the first few days on the brood house floor.

Chicks are placed in these brooders at day old and remain for two to three weeks, after which they are divided into two hatches of fifties, and transferred to the all metal brooder, there they remain until they are weaned.

Such is the system of chick-rearing now generally adopted by this successful Cumberland poultry farmer, system which has made chick-rearing a joy instead of a drudgery.

It is claimed that the ideal combination of necessary heat and free flow of pure air has been harnessed to good effect as reflected in the satisfactory rate of growth, the reduction of the mortality rate to insignificant percentages; quicker feathering and the evenness of growth which in itself reveals the success or otherwise of any system of chick-rearing.

Of the farm itself, which is fully accredited, two breeds are kept, R.I.Rs. and Black Leghorns, with the Rhode predominating.

Mr. Newsham's interpretation of sound breeding stock is founded on a five-point programme: (1) constitutional vigour, (2) percentage of hatch-ability, (3) rearability, (4) egg size and (5) high egg production, in that order.

The "test of time" is applied to the breeder before their selection for the individually mated pens. At one time every bird on the farm was fully pedigreed, but now with labour shortages only the very cream of the stock is fully pedigreed on what is, apart from some help from the good lady of the house, a one man concern.

All eggs are hatched in small incubators, with the hatching season proper commencing early in the New Year.

Some successes have been obtained at the Laying Trials, while the "fancy" interest is evidenced by the display of show awards, which included such classics as "Crystal Palace" and the "Dairy". At the present time some five or six hundred head of stock are being maintained, all on the fixed house and run system as the very nature of the farm does not allow for any free range.

Through the experience of this Cumberland smallholder, sufficient evidence is forthcoming to suggest that a large acreage of land is not absolutely necessary for the establishment of a successful pedigree poultry farm, a thought which is most encouraging to those who have yet to win their spurs, and particularly the little man with limited financial resources.

OCCUPATION ROADS AND PUBLIC DRAINS

The following is an extract from the Kirkbride award "----- and we do hereby order and direct that all the said occupation roads, bridges, conduits and public drains and parts of Monk Dyke near to and opposite to the school and when no allotments adjoin there-on shall after the same has been put into such repair and condition as we may think necessary for ever hereafter be cast and kept in repair by and at the expense of the several owners of lands and hereditaments within the said Manor and parish except the owner of the tothes, in proportion to the Poor Rate of the said Parish under the direction of the Surveyor of Highways for the Township of Kirkbride for the time being - and that the said surveyors of the Highways are hereby empowered to levy the said rate from time to time by distress and sale in the same manner as landlords for rent in arrears.

The public occupation roads are the
 Moss Lane from the Irish Road, south and west to Saul's moss
 Both ends of West Lane
 A part of Aftle Lane
 The lane from George Johnston's property occupied by P.C. Bryson
 A lane at Longland's Head shaped like the letter T
 A lane at Powhill to Miss Huntington's allotment of Common and a lane over the Marsh to the Peat Wath "

 The public drains contain 519 Roods of customary measure viz: 7 yards to the rood

Parish of Kirkbride - Rate made October 1871
 An assessment for the repair of the occupation roads, public drains, bridges and conduits -- and other purposes chargeable thereon according to law made this 16th day of October 1871, after the rate of one penny in the pound sterling.

Total amount of Rates £7 13s 2½d

Balance Sheet

Cr			Dr
		1870	
Cash from CB	1 6	1 Oct 1	Pd to Wm Todhunter
Cash rec from rates	7 13 2½		1 cart load stones 10
			5 horse & cart ½ day 1 6
			Man horse cart 1 day 6 0
			6 22 6" tiles @ 7/6 1 5
			14 2" do @ 2/6 4½
			Paid for this book 1 3
		26	4 days work J.N. 2/6 10 0
		Nov 11	D Lisgo bill 3 6 7
		Oct 3	Wm Pattinson 1 day 4 6
		1871	
		Jan 25	Jos Bell 1½ days work 3 9
		Aug	Jos Kirkhaugh cutting thistles 1 0
			Paid to J McVitty 2 9
			Postages 2
			12 cartloads gravel laid on R. Reed 5 0
			Paid for leading sand 1 15 6
		Apr 28	½ day John Nelson 1 3
	8 19 3¼		
	7 2 9½	May 1st	1 tile grate 8
	1 16 5¼		
			£7 2 9½

David Lisgo undertook to do the work at 1½d per rood or 7 yards.

YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB

The Kirkbride and District Y.F.C. was formed on Thursday, 10th February, 1944. The chair was taken by Mr. T. Lazonby and a talk on the objects of Y.F.C. was given by Mr. Steele, W.A.E.C. assisted by Mr. W. Johnston (now of Powhill).

The following officials were elected,

Chairman - Mr. R.D. Hill.
Secretary - Miss F.E. Hill.
Treasurer - Mr. John Armstrong
Club Leaders - Mr. T. Lazonby
Mr. T.W. Armstrong.

The Subscription was fixed at 2/6. Thirty six members were enrolled.

SUCSESSES.

- 18:5:44 Judging 4 Geldings at Mr. T.W. Armstrong's.
1. Mr. W. Armstrong.
2. Master. J. Hewitson.
3. Miss Sheila Watson.
- 1:6:44 At Bowness Club - 1st. and 2nd. Kirkbride.
- 17:6:44 Newton Rigg. - 1st. for judging poultry.
1st. for guessing weight of sheep.
2nd. for judging Dairy cattle.
- 24:6:44 Wampool. - 3rd place in the judging of horses
and cattle.
- 5:4:45 Public Speaking
Competition. - 1st. Prize for Mid Cumb. Region.
3rd. in the finals for the
Cumberland region.
- 3:5:45 The Mid Regional Rally
Wigton 2nd. Prize for sheep - teams
under 21.
1st. Prize for sheep - individuals
over 21.
Three first's were gained in the ladies
competitions.
3rd. Prize was gained for the team under
21, and individuals, over 21.
- 16:6:45 Judging of horses at
Wigton. 3rd. for teams under 21
1st. for individuals over 21
also a prize for highest individuals,
marks for ploughing.
1st. Prize was gained in the ladies classes.
- 23:6:45 Wampool 3rd. 4th. 5th. places in judging of horses
and cattle.
- 21:2:46 Annual Drama
Competition Carlisle 3rd. place.
- 27:6:46 Corporation Stables
Carlisle Height - 1st. Mr. J. Armstrong.
2nd. Miss. J. Hurst.
Weight - 2nd. Mr. R.D. Hill.
Placings 1st. Miss. M. Hill and Mr. J. Brown.
- 27:3:48 Public speaking
competition at Carlisle 3rd. prize.
- 26:2:49 Drama Competition at
Workington Tied for 1st. place with Drigg Y.F.C.

HOME GUARD.

The Home Guard was formed in May 1940, and was originally known as the Local Defence Volunteers or L.D.V, the distinguishing badge being a white arm band with the letters L.D.V. in black.

The following were the original members, sworn in by Major R.N. Carr in the Church Institute, Kirkbride.

T. LAZONBY	C. SKELTON.
J. MULHOLLAND	W.W. EDGAR.
R. LITTLE.	P.W. MOORE.
J.F. BEATTIE.	T. MARTIN.
HEDLEY BLAIR.	JOHN BROWN.
P. BUIMAN.	R. DUGDALE.
JOHN WILLS.	J. COULTHARD.
S. WILLS.	J.J. STORY.

The first instruction of any kind we got was on the Sunday following this meeting and took place at Kirkbride Aerodrome where a detachment of the National Defence Corps was stationed. The Instructors were S. Major Wite and some of his Sergeants we were given a very sketchy talk on the rifle by the S.M, who might have known more about than appeared. Some of us also were issued with a suit of denims etc. On subsequent Sundays we got a bit of foot drill, right turn, left turn etc. The last Sunday we went we were asked to take something to resemble a rifle, so that we could do some rifle drill. John Beattie knocked the head off a sweeping brush after all the trouble hunting these things we were told to throw them away when we got on parade we were then formed into groups each in charge of an N.C.O. who was more interested in the arrival of the Sunday paper than anything else. This ended our training under the redoubtable S.M.

From here on we had to fend pretty much for ourselves. We were also at this time patrolling Newton Marsh. The first uniforms which were issued were denim overalls, but after a while this was changed to battle dress proper, with great coat, gloves, belts, anklets, shoulder titles, indicating the Battalion to which we belonged, and cap badges showing the regiment. Kirkbride was No. 1 Platoon, 'D' Coy. 3rd Bn., Home Guard. Our H.Q. at this time was in the Wesleyan Schoolroom and our duty was to man a banner on the main road opposite Lowther's shop.

The task of looking after equipment made it necessary to have some place to store it. Two ammunition dumps were built in the builders yard of Mr. Jos. Moore and the Pavilion at the Tennis Courts was taken over as storeroom for clothing etc. Later a hut was added to act as Coy. Office.

As time went on we began to receive equipment of all kinds. At first it was dumped on us without much check, which led to some wangling later on. However things were put on a more business like footing - receipts had to be given and returns had to be made. In the early days shot-guns were used. A special cartridge was supplied which contained a single lead bullet about the size of a marble. Also we received about 2 gross of S.I.P. grenades. These were bottles filled with liquid which ignited on contact with the air. Later a gun called a Northover Projector was supplied from which these S.I.P., grenades could be fired.

Training had by now reached a fairly high standard and the men were encouraged to take proficiency tests, which entitled them to wear a badge (no pay). In the early days a subsistence allowance of 1/6 was made for those doing guards, but by this time was discontinued and men were now conscripted with the organisation - it was no longer voluntary.

Orders were issued from Bn. every week. Exercises were arranged frequently and courses in various subjects were going on all the time.

Exercises, although hard work were generally enjoyed and usually something happened which was enjoyed - (afterwards) for instance during the course of a night patrol competition at Thursby, when utmost silence was essential, one patrol leader fell with a loud splash into a ditch.

Another amusing incident was when we were supposed to be German Paratroops. We clashed with troops from Hadrian's Camp. Some of our men although young fellows were fast becoming old soldiers. They crossed open ground in the approved fashion and made their way to a Dutch barn there to lie up until the exercise was finished. Umpires were few and far between, the result being a difference of opinion as to who were the captors and captured. During one of these arguments one of our fellows had the misfortune to put his thumb in a soldier's mouth and was promptly bitten.

HOME GUARD. (Contd.)

In the course of the same exercise two of our fellows were taken prisoner and were put in amongst the defaulters.

The final parade was held in Carlisle in December 1944 the Kirkbride Platoon having the privilege of producing the Guard of Honour for the 3rd. Bn. and the Coy. Commander, Commanding the Battalion of the day.

A film was made of the History of the 3rd. Bn. Home Guard, by Mr. Geoffrey Carr, and Kirkbride appears very prominently in this record.

M I S C E L L A N E O U S .

Port Carlisle harbour, constructed by Lord Lonsdale between 1819 and 1823. Canal out to Carlisle in 1823 and had 8 locks and rises 60 feet.

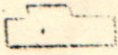
Railway to Port Carlisle built 1854.

Railway called the Carlisle and Silloth Bay Railway and Dock Company was formed in 1855. This was completed and opened for traffic on 28th. August 1856,

Mr. John Mitchinson was a grocer and joiner and also had a slate business. His slate yard was where Mr. Coulthard's shed now stands with half the school yard. The last wooden plough in the district was broken up in the last 7 or 8 years.

Before the coming of the Council's piped water supply, pumps and wells were the means by which water was obtained. To make a pump, a larch tree was set up on a trestle and bored from each end with a long auger. For a deep well two trees were joined together.

Sawing wood was done by a Frame saw, with a man on the top side of the tree and another underneath. Logs were brought up the Wampool as far as Sandy Lonning end and dragged to the saw pit, on the site of Mr. Edgar's house. Auger Saws can still be seen at Mr. W. Thompson's, Joiner.

An interesting but crude article is fixed on the Smithy wall . This was used to bend iron for, say a cart hoop.

At one time there were 5 bakers and 4 horse bread vans and within living memory there have been 7 Brick ovens, each about 3 feet square. The method of heating it was to put a fire in the inside until it was hot enough, then take out the fire and put in the bread. Previous ovens were sealed up with a stone or flag and the joints made up with cow dung.

All lanes are known as Lonnings, e.g. West Lonning, Bull Lees Lonning, Halfdale Lonning, Wine (wind) Lonning, Moss Lonning, Marsh (Sandy) Lonning

Oak Trees are often found in peaty soil and are known as Moss Logs. These are sound as bells, although they have been buried for thousands of years. A strange thing about these logs, is that they all lie one way-east and west as though they have been pushed over by ice and covered by the same or else they would have rotted. They have been known to be 4 feet thick and about 60 feet long. Mr. Jos. Wills used this bog oak on his lathe and made ash trays, candle sticks and table lamps etc.

Some Building Prices.

Wesleyan Chapel	1869.	£150.
Primitive "	1865.	£150.
Rectory	1790/1800	£1600.
School	1875	£805.
Reading Room	1949	£450.
New Houses at Lees	1949	£1200

WESTERN BANK, sold March, 1950 for £1950.

A large piece of granite on the Irish Road came out of the middle of the field at the end of the Moss Lonning on the left. A pair of ploughing engines, called Cain and Abel pulled it out. This stone would be left by glaciers. It must have been removed by R.A.F. as it has now disappeared.

KIRKBRIDE WORTHIES

=====

'Neath the spreading chestnut tree
The village blacksmith you can see,
And very oft as you pass by
You will notice sparks do fly.

This young fellow in Kirkbride,
Is rather on the cheery side,
In the smithy all day long
He is hefty big and strong.

For many years Browns the name
That has brought the village fame
John, for generations five
Has kept the blacksmith's line alive.

Since the time of Waterloo
Browns have kept the horses shoed
Horses come from far and wide
From all around the countryside.

At the bottom of the hill,
Stands the shop of Nichol Hill.
Folk come in and bring their shoes
And tell him all the latest news.

In the shop all day long,
He taps at the shoes hammer and tongs
He's such a heap of shoes to mend
That he has no time his money to spend.

Old Robert Hurst pops in for a talk
When he's out for a little bit walk
Nichol talks while he taps away
And Robert for company has to stay

In comes Stafford from Station House
Of the government he is ready to grouse
But Nichol being a cheery fellow
Soon gets Stafford to vote for yellow

Down beside Gordon's shop
Live the Bateys Mam and Pop
Bill was a joiner in days of old
But now his workshop he has sold.

Now Bill Batey's seventy six
Rises at seven to chop the sticks
Then to the station to meet the train
Delivers papers in fine or rain.

At Whittrigg Grange in olden days
Jim Telfor farmed the old fashioned way
For many hours he did toil
To cultivate the Whittrigg soil.

He did farm for many a year
Not a man did he call Sir
Many a heifer from Ireland came
To feed and fatten for his gain.

To Myrtle Cottage he retired
When old age had made him tired
In the Park keeps stirks and hens
And does other odds and ends.

Bill Clark's shop is at the Cross,
He is never, never at a loss
He sells books, papers and all
To the people who happen to call.

In his shop he sits all day
Serving all who come his way
At six o'clock he shuts at night
Closing down his shutters tight.

Mrs Jim Little is next on the list
We would be sorry if she were missed
She, for many many years
Was the Kirkbride village nurse.

She did this work without pay
But this was Mrs Little's way
Her only thought were those in need
Others first was her creed.

And we must remember her husband Jim,
And what we all owe to him.
To the Council, clerk was he,
And for the show was secret'ry.

John W Crozier is the J.P.
Representative also on the C.C.
Although retired is a very busy man
In order to help does all that he can.

Another old worthy is Mrs Wood,
She works much harder than she should
Scrubbing and papering here and there
Never a minute has she to spare.

Up in the morning with the lark
Matting and washing until dark
Prepares the hall at half past five
Takes two hours off for the whist drive.

At Lilac House there lives Dick Carr
His fame as a policeman has spread very far,
Many a criminal he has sought
And lots of others he has caught,

Always very fond of sport
To play bowls, he goes to Port.
In his youth the wrestling art
Took a very prominent part.

Robert Todhunter is tall and stout
He carries a stick when he goes out
At Bank House he now resides
Where he can watch the Wampool tides.

He goes out for a stroll each day
Calling at Bill Clark's on the way,
Then off to Littles he doth go
Chasing children to and fro.

The oldest of all is Robert Hurst
If there's bowls to be played he'll be there first
Although he has now reached eighty eight
Can still be relied on to throw the jack straight.

Joseph Johnston of Ingle nook
In days gone by, the van he took
The body was brown and white on top
It really was a travelling shop.

Every morning at break of day
Joseph Johnston made his way
Selling butter, eggs and cheese
Round about Whitrigglees.

Now he cuts peats on Roger Moss
And brings them back to his home at the Cross
He goes to sports meetings and football galore
Now he's retired he does more than before.

When these old worthies of Kirkbride meet
Off to the Smithy, they go for a seat,
They say they can't do with the young folks of today
They do too little work and get too much pay.

Composed by the children of Kirkbride School.
May, 1950