

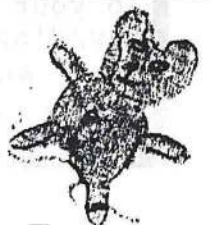
# THE KEY



A NEWSPAPER for NORTH SKELTON & LAYLAND



Many thanks to the staff and children of Skelton Junior School for contributing designs for our front page. This picture was drawn by Donna Smith from Class 3.







# A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS



Thank you to all our readers who gave us donations, they were gratefully received, each edition costs more and more to produce. "The Key" will remain free but anyone now wanting an extra copy will have to pay 30p each. You can also help by supporting our fundraising events, ie tote doubles, Christmas cards, raffles etc. Please keep sending me your ideas, articles and information. See Village Gossip on Page 7, this was originally published in the Whitby Gazette in 1947 along with many stories like it. I am wanting old photos and information on North Skelton, before and during World War II. Have you any stories to tell of any events during WW2? Please contact Norma on 653853.

*Norma Sandra*

## ST PETER'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### CHRISTMAS DAY

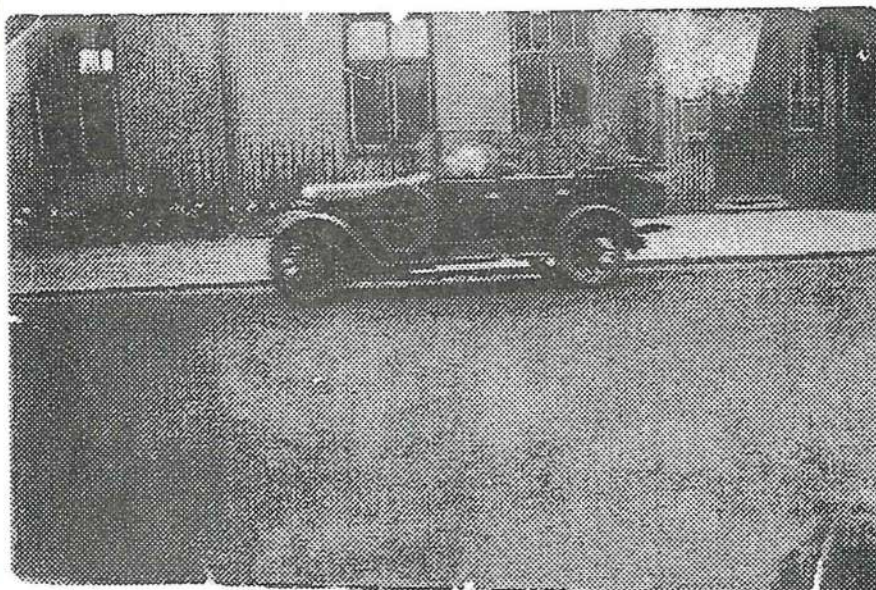
9.00 AM

Holy Communion

### SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER

6.00 PM

Festival of Carols



Tony Watts thinks this is the first car in North Skelton and belonged to Doctor Cross. Eddie Hartley thinks its an Austin 14 Worcester, unless you know different.....?

**ELMORA NURSERIES**  
North Skelton

Growers to the Trade  
Open 7 Days

Flowers  
Plants  
Fruit & Veg  
Xmas Trees

To your requirements.  
Veg/Plant Specialist

Call and see **MARIO** and staff  
for friendly & helpful service

### Traditions

At Staithes and many other areas it was traditional on Christmas Eve to have Frumerty, wheat boiled in milk and seasoned with cinnamon. Also a candle was lit and when extinguished before going to bed the piece that was left was carefully preserved until next year.



Here's  
Davy Lamp  
Can you  
spot him  
4  
more times





# Doc Spot....

In winter coughs, colds & sore throats are more common, mostly caused by viruses, tiny "invaders" that enter the body in water droplets (coughing & sneezing). Immunity is rather poor: the body "forgets" the illness and so is not prepared next time. Many viruses can cause these problems - its no wonder the body gets confused.

So far there is no immunisation for viral infections but there is protection against influenza. If you suffer from chronic chest, heart disease, diabetes or have depressed immunity, I would recommend you consider a "Flu jab".

Treatment for coughs, colds & sore throats: 1) Rest if able to 2) Paracetamol - useful for raised temperature, sore throats & headaches 3) Lozenges pastilles and linctuses can help - ask your chemist 4) Drink plenty of fluids & avoid getting over-heated (especially young children).

When should you see a doctor? If fit, expect to recover after a few days. These viruses are not killed by antibiotics. Children can continue with mild symptoms for a week or two. If you feel worse than expected or getting worse, arrange to see your doctor. Sometimes a second infection occurs and might be helped with antibiotics. This is particularly relevant in those with Chronic Bronchitis.

Coughs & colds are common and rarely serious but some illnesses can start like a cold and develop into something else (eg Chicken pox ear infections). Experience will help you to decide when to seek advice. If in serious doubt contact your doctor by phone or arrange to be seen.

Dr Neville-Smith

## CROSSWORD

by Mark Thirkettle

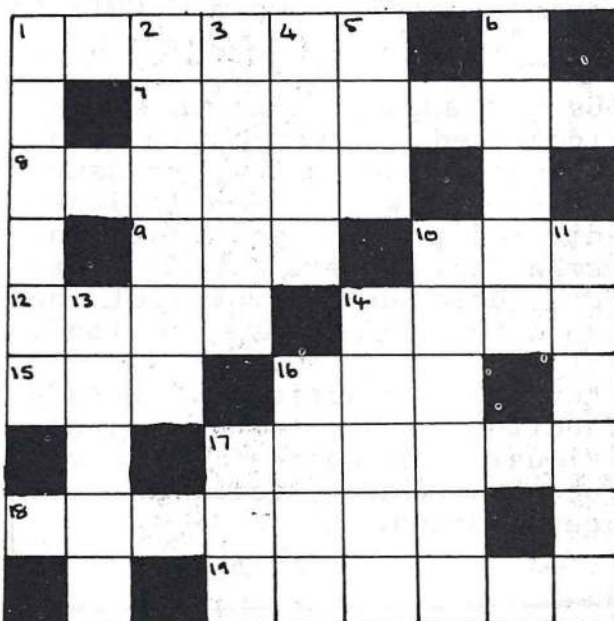
### Across

- 1) Long jagged mountain chain
- 7) Works where metal castings are made
- 8) County of Leinster Ireland between Galway & Kildare
- 9) Perfect serve
- 10) "To ..... ones faith on"
- 12) To make designs on metal
- 14) Lower part of a room wall when coloured differently from the upper part
- 15) Evergreen shrub with bitter scented leaves
- 16) Tame animal
- 17) Hole made in ground by rabbits
- 18) Capitol and seaport of Sri Lanka
- 19) To lie in wait for

### Down

- 1) Northern sea duck with black plumage
- 2) To rub or wipe out
- 3) Small freshwater fish
- 4) "As a ...." means usually
- 5) One or some
- 6) Ancient magician
- 10) To go the rounds in a camp etc
- 11) Scandanavian country
- 13) English period (1485-1603)
- 14) Epsom annual horse race
- 16) Wild feline
- 17) Rod for playing violin

Answers on Page 9





# YOUTH CLUB NEWS

*Nat Wood*

EVERY SUNDAY 7pm-9.30pm.

This may change from time to time depending on my shifts but I try to let people know.

Main activities are Snooker, Pool, Table Tennis, Darts, various Board Games, Tuck Shop etc. Music is played all evening and youngsters can bring their own tapes. I've bought some silk threads and the members make friendship bracelets at no cost to themselves.

Since the summer break we've had an Ice Skating trip, and a future trip is planned to the Dry Ski Slope on Eston Hills at a cost of £4 each plus 50p for petrol - the mini bus is kindly loaned to us.

Members are interested in creating and acting in a play, which if it does take off will be open to the public to come and watch. I think this is a positive and creative step by the young people.



I'd like to see more young people coming to the Club, on average we have about 20 members. There is a 10p cover charge, this helps to buy extra items that go missing, broken or replaced, and to build up resources as we don't get funds from elsewhere, and fortunately we don't pay for the hall either - so I'd like to say thank you to the hall management committee for that.

It takes a long time to build up the kitty (only £2 a week), so kids if you think I'm getting on your backs when I say "Go steady with the gear" especially "You table tennis bat bangers", that's the reason (MONEY), it's short.... Sorry Richard, no full size snooker table coming your way as yet!!!! Richard Beckham is looking for someone to sponsor him as a snooker player! The lad has talent but needs a hand along the right road to stardom.

And last but not least, thanks to the young people that keep coming to the Youth Club, the club needs your support.



MARJORIE & PATS

General Dealers  
27a Vaughan Street, N.Skelton

Fresh Bread, Pastries, Cake  
etc. Groceries, Hardware,  
Gifts, Greeting Cards

Mon-Sat 8.30am - 5pm  
Sunday 10am - 12 noon

THE SECOND HAND SHOP

71/3 HOLMBECK ROAD, NORTH SKELTON

WE BUY + SELL  
MODERN

OPEN

MON TO SAT  
10AM TO 5PM

ANTIQUE  
FURNITURE

CLOSED  
ALL DAY WED.

call in and see  
Steve or Mike

653000



# Well done Andrew



**Congratulations to  
Andrew Stubbs**

from Layland for winning the  
bronze medal in the recent  
Paraplegic Olympics.

Thanks North Skelton from John  
Burluraux for sponsoring him  
for the Childrens Heart Unit  
at Freemans Ward 23.

## TV QUIZ

- 1) How many Dr Who's have there been?
- 2) Which soap began in 1972 and was created by Kevin Laffan?
- 3) Whose mysteries are investigated by Chief Inspector Wexford?
- 4) Which daytime quiz is hosted by Henry Kelly?
- 5) What were the names and numbers of "The Professionals"?
- 6) What is the longest running programme with the same presenter?
- 7) Which police series was set in Newtown?
- 8) Who was the original landlord of the Rovers Return?
- 9) Which brand of beer does the Queen Vic in East-enders usually serve?
- 10) Who was the first presenter of "Take Your Pick" Answers on Page 8



## SEWING TIPS

You can now get machine needles for types of sewing, eg Jean needles for new zips and patching; Stretch needles for polyester; Ball point for silk etc.

When sewing press all seams etc as it makes it easier when garment is finished.

Buying sylkos for your work! I was always taught to buy one shade darker as it stitches in lighter.

Always wash garments with zip closed. We all know they are more difficult to remove than put new in. J. SPYCHALA

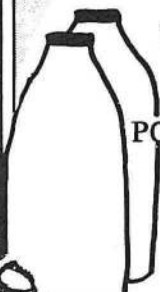


R. WALKER

YOUR LOCAL MILKMAN

Order your  
POTATOES, EGGS, CREAM  
& LEMONADE

TEL: GUIS 652543



## DONNA SAYS GOODBYE

Delivering the papers has been good fun,  
Not nice in the rain, but great in the sun,  
I've tripped around in wind and snow,  
And skipped and jumped till my cheeks glowed,  
But most of all I've tried to be pleasant  
And like to say thank you for all the Xmas presents,  
But now is the time to say farewell  
From delivering the papers which I hope I did well.

From Mam





WORKING TOGETHER

POLICE AND US

*Cherry  
Christmas*

## COMMON DRUGS & THEIR EFFECTS

Information supplied by  
Det. Police Woman Sue Gaunt  
Special Enquiry Unit



Continuing our report on the most common drugs available which are subject to widespread illicit abuse particularly among young people.

We repeat that all four drugs have very significant physical and profound psychological effects which are potentially dangerous and can be fatal.

Last issue we reported on Cannabis and LSD and here we deal with Amphetamines and Ecstasy.

### AMPHETAMINES

Amphetamines have powerful central stimulant effects which produces an elevated mood and makes the user feel energetic, alert and self-confident.

Available in powder or tablet form at a cost of £10 for one gramme, also known as 'WHIZZ' and 'SPEED'.

Use of amphetamines causes an increased heart rate and elevation of blood pressure together with palpitations, dilated pupils, dry mouth and sweating. Users feel more energetic and do not feel the need for either sleep or food.

Adverse reactions include auditory hallucinations. Visual hallucinations may occur with feelings of persecution.

### ADVICE & HELP

For confidential advice and help please ring

☎ Mbro 301432

### ECSTASY

Ecstasy or 'E' is a new designer drug derived from amphetamines.

Available in tablet form and costs approx £15 each, designer drugs are deliberately synthesized to produce an increase in the euphoric, stimulant, hallucinogenic and other required effects of existing controlled drugs.

Over-indulgence can produce acute paranoia and psychosis.

There have been at least 10 deaths reported in Britain following Ecstasy abuse. Because it is still a 'new' drug, long term effects are not known. Users of Ecstasy become talkative and agitated with a feeling of increased energy and stamina. There is an increase in the heart rate and blood pressure, dilated pupils, dry mouth, increased body temperature and excessive sweating.

In some cases a severe reaction can occur leading to respiratory distress.

The users of Ecstasy will usually consume large quantities of soft drinks and may use 'Vick' Vapour Rub to help keep their airways open.

### CONFIDENTIAL

Any information you can give on misuse of drugs please ring

☎ Mbro 301432

All calls are completely confidential.





Tom Leonard often visited North Skelton Club or the Bulls Head, he loved to sit and listen to the 'Old Faithfulls' choir singing. Here he is having a pint with the old faithfulls (left to right) Tom Leonard; Tom (Tut) Templeman; Frank Winspear, Freddie Hugill.

**Hair by**

Kathleen

and

Mandy

at

**KARADON**

Ladies  
Hairdressers  
Skelton

High Quality

Hairdressing

at Low Prices

Friendly Staff

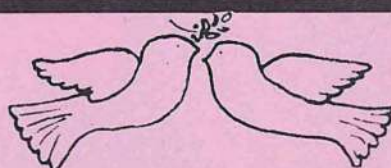
1992 has been a fantastic year for visitors, the volunteer staff have been run off their feet as more people than ever have come to see the museum - lots of schools, colleges, universities, organisations, and many people return having visited in previous years.

The 'Experience' has proved popular with some marvelous reactions. Alan Chilton, Museum Manager, recalls that a few days after it opened there were two old dears on the tour, they were very interested in everything, nodding their heads and listening; he put his back to

them as he bent to light the squib, and says "When I turned round I was on me own - they'd run like hell".

Another lady was half way to sitting down when the explosion happened, "She threw up her hands and screamed, I won't repeat what she called me.....!"

A youngster visiting with a family was asked, "You're not frightened of the dark are you?" The child answered "No, no" adamantly. Inside, the darkness descended and from the pitch blackness a little voice was heard saying "I am".



*Share The Joy Of Christmas*

*Season's Greetings and A Happy New Year*



Tom Leonard was a reporter working for the Evening Gazette. He had an interest in the area's mining industry and by the time the last ironstone mine closed (North Skelton 1964) he had accrued a collection of tools, photographs etc.



### BEGINNINGS

Acquiring a shop in Chaloner Street, Guisborough in the late 1970's he set out his collection and opened to the public every Saturday: this was the beginning of his dream - to establish a mining museum containing a history of the area's ironstone mining industry and the people who worked in it.



### TRAGEDY

Tom Robinson, then owner of the Loftus Mine site at Skinningrove, agreed to rent him part of the site - this was where he hoped to house his collection. Tragically Tom Leonard died in 1981, however family and friends carried on the work he had begun. At Easter in 1983 his dream became a reality when Tom's wife Elsie opened the Tom Leonard Mining Museum.

### DEVELOPMENT

To start with the old engine house was the museum. Local people on employment training schemes helped to develop it. The North Drift, completely buried, was dug out and repairs made. The mines inspectorate insisted on strict compliance with rules and regulations for safety reasons and having met all these demands the North Drift opened to the public in 1991.

The latest addition, the "Mining Experience", also had to meet rigorous safety measures and opened in April this year. It has been a huge success. It takes a step back in time to experience when twelve year old lads were set to work down in the pitch black darkness; the ironstone face drilled and packed with explosive, light the squib and take cover to await the explosion; the tub for filling; the young spraggers job; the tools and timber supports to keep the district safe; the accidents; the old miners amulance beautifully restored.

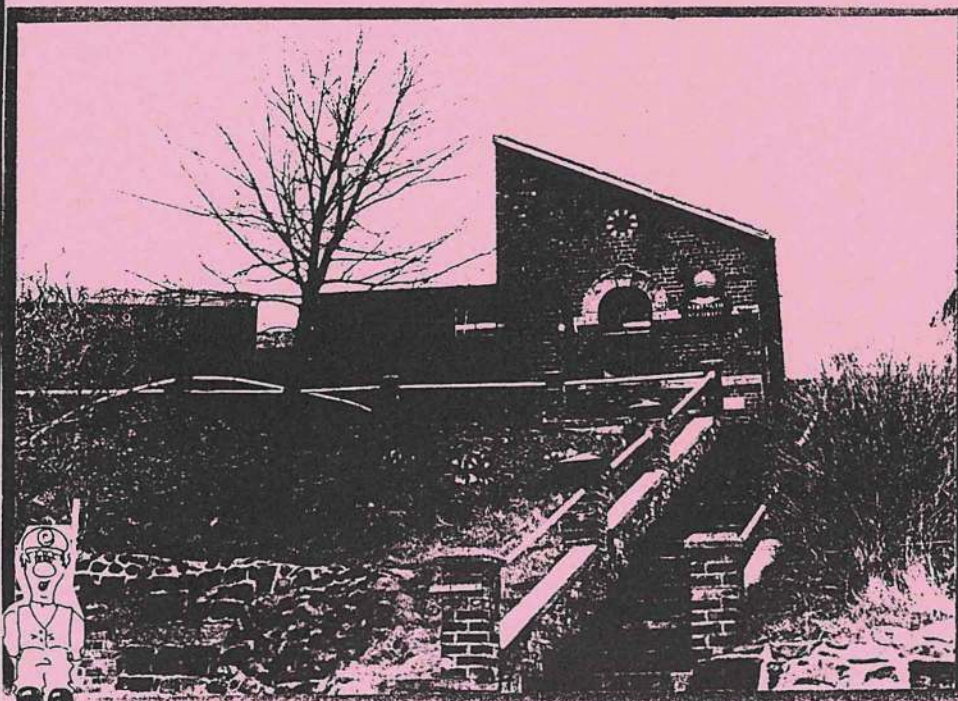


TOM LEONARD

MINING MUSEUM



The museum has been nominated for a British Telecom Award. Next year is the tenth anniversary, they are looking to make further improvements with lots of plans for the future.





The place is a treasure house of photographs, miners tools, equipment, materials, horses gear, with a splendid collection of lamps from an old midge to the modern helmet lamp. The mining royalty is shown and the whole mining process, tools and jobs are fully explained; theres even old miners brass band costumes and lots of homely items used by the miners wife and family.

The museum has been nominated for a British Telecom Award. Next year is the tenth anniversary, they are looking to make further improvements with lots of plans for the future.

### OPENING TIMES

From: Easter or 1st April  
To: 31st October  
7 days a week

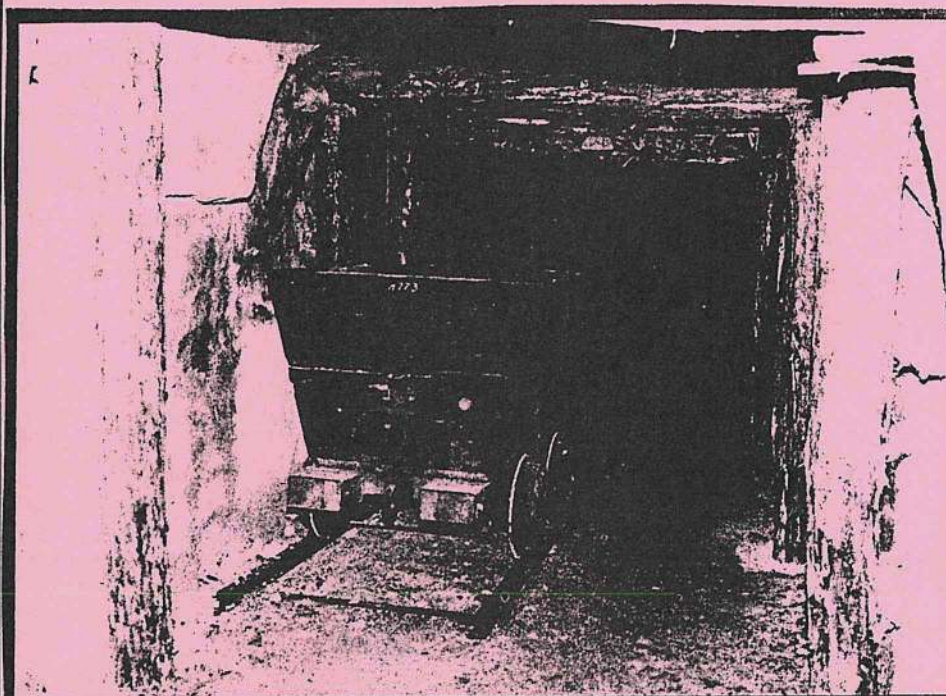
Time: 1pm to 5pm  
Cost: £1.50 Adult, 75p Child  
Tour: Lasting 1 to 1½ hours  
(a fully guided tour)



Please arrive by 3.30pm or 3.45pm latest or you may be disappointed!

### GROUP ARRANGEMENTS

Special arrangements can be made to open for groups, including mornings or evenings throughout the whole twelve months at £1 Adult, 75p child.  
Tel: Guisborough 642877



### Brandy Sour

Double measure of  
Brandy  
1 measure of Lemon  
Squash  
6 drops of A, D,  
Bitters

Top up your tumbler  
with Soda Water and  
ice and lemon

K Marshall

## The Bulls Head

### DECEMBER

Sat 5th P.A.F.  
Sat 12th Ray Hudson  
(the North East's  
Roy Orbison)  
Fri 18th Childrens Fund Draw  
Night  
Sat 19th Highway 61  
Mon 21st OAP Draw Night  
Sat 26th Little Criminals  
Tue 29th Bull Draw Night



January 2nd - Albi Senior &  
Buggy's Big Roll Band  
Tickets £2.50 available now

### NORTH SKELTON WORKINGMENS CLUB

### FESTIVE SEASON 92/93

Tuesday 22nd December  
Grand Xmas Draw and Bingo

New Years Eve  
Brilliant 50/50 Singer  
JEFF EVANS with Boro Disco  
Tickets £2 - Free Raffle

Friday 18th Jan - Family Day  
with Childrens Disco

Friday Nights Cash Bingo  
Tads Quiz every Sunday





# The Tom Leonard

## MINING MUSEUM

The Tom Leonard Mining Museum is run entirely by volunteers. They help out in the shop selling souvenirs, books, gifts, crisps, soft drinks etc. All the museum guides are also volunteers. Any maintenance and repairs to buildings and equipment is carried out by volunteers too.

During the season a team of 4 guides plus a shop attendant is required daily.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP OUT AT THE MUSEUM?

It's a friendly, interesting place, theres lots of people to meet, visitors come from all over Britain and abroad.

Helpers are given training - its relatively easy to pick up, and theres always someone to assist you. Theres help with expenses, not forgetting a cuppa and a biscuit.

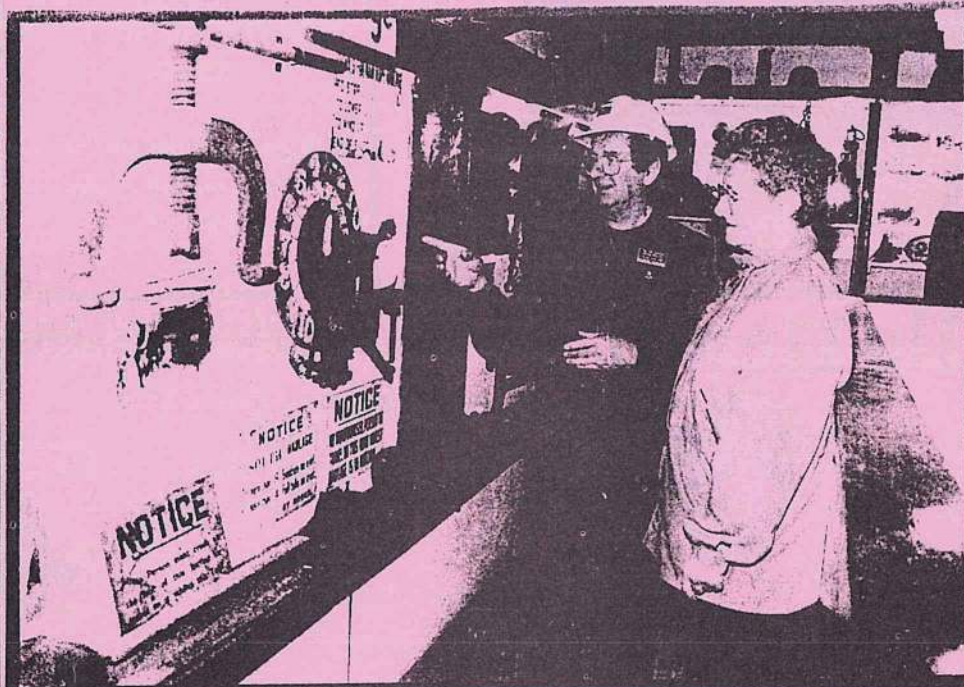
Even if you can only spare one afternoon a week (just 4 hours) it would be a real help to the running of the museum.

Or perhaps you would prefer to help with maintenance or repairs - theres plenty to do! You may have mechanical skills, joinery, painting, or generally helping around the place on odd jobs. For example it was mentioned that a lathe needed putting up at the museum and someone came along and volunteered to do the job.

If you feel you could help in any way, please contact:

ALAN CHILTON

TOM LEONARD MINING MUSEUM  
DEEPPDALE, SKINNINGROVE,  
SALTBURN, CLEVELAND  
TEL: GUIS 642877



Alan Chilton (Manager) and Nora Chapman (Volunteer)

### CURLY TOPS UNISEX SALON

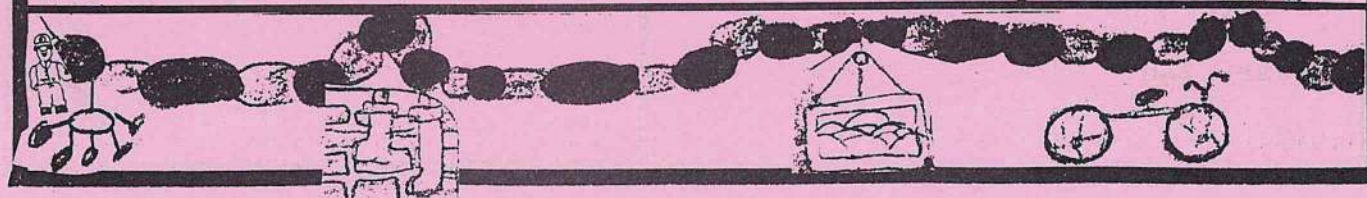


For a  
professional  
service

friendly efficient

COMPETITIVE PRICES

Contact  
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Ann or Kay  
☎ Guis  
650287





# THE GREAT USED CAR

## A Model Collector's Item

Television is a funny thing. The recent 'Inspector Morse' programmes have raised public awareness of the Mark 2 Jaguar. Other programmes like 'Open All Hours' 'Darling Buds of May' 'Heartbeat' and now even the adverts, are featuring CLASSIC CARS.

The classic car movement is going from strength to strength. Clubs and events are springing up all over the place, and now there's never been a better time to buy.

The majority of 1950's and most 1960's cars are perfectly capable performance-wise, of coping with modern traffic conditions and are durable enough to withstand 12,000 miles a year without difficulty.

The new modern cars are all very nice with their tinted glass, cloth seats and "electric wizardry" units under the bonnet, but for me, I'd rather have loads of chrome, leather seats and the old fashioned ignition with points you can understand and adjust or replace yourself.

I wonder how many of you can look back and remember G. Boococks & Sons selling new Austin Cambridges and Austin 1100's and the Austin A40?

Can any of you recall the Austin Summersets or the Austin A40 Devon? Here are a few memory gerkers to think about.



The scene is so striking it could almost have been posed. Note the ironic number plate on the E series Vauxhall; and dig those mock leopard skin seats.

Here in Skelton we have quite a few dedicated classic car enthusiasts. Some run their cars all year round. Others "put 'em to bed" for winter. After reading this article maybe you might fancy a nice shiny CLASSIC CAR! Then you too can stand out from the crowd.

E. Hartley

### CHRISTMAS DECOR....

#### FOLLOW THE GLOSS PAINT CODE



1. Sandpaper
2. Undercoat
3. Sandpaper
4. Gloss



**HELPFUL HINT** - If your room is prone to condensation use MATT Emulsion instead of Silk.



# VILLAGE GOSSIP

## MARY THOMPSON WINS A PIG

Tel'd i' T'No'th Ridin'  
Dialaect bi J.Fairfax-  
Blakeborough an' written wi'  
yan object - Ti mak'ya

LAUGH, an' LAUGH an' LAUGH  
an' by gum, ya will laugh an'  
all!

The Bilbrook-Bunson's, Lizzie Leckonby's parish magazine leaving friendship with whom has occasioned so much jealousy with Mary Thompson, conceived the idea of a "raffle" for a pig to assist the church funds. We have had many "raffles" for cushions, dreadful pictures, and other articles the owners wished to get rid of, and which ticket holders were relieved they did not win. A pig, however, is another matter. We discuss pigs, their condition, increasing weight, and feeding, as some folk discuss books or babies. Pigs are a part of our lives; and pigs, rather than politics, are debated by sty-e-touring parties on sundays.

So the Bilbrook-Bunson raffle captured the imagination of the villagers. They considered sixpence to a ten weeks old pig a good bet, and the tickets went like hot cakes. There were excursions to the Bilbrook-Bunson's, batches of ticket-holders feeling they had a right to have pointed out to them the particular animal in which they held a stake. There were speculations as to its weight, and what weight it would ultimately attain.

At last the day for the "raffle" arrived. "The draw" was fixed for a Wednesday at the Fox & Hounds, in whose stable the pig was present in person, to be viewed and ultimately claimed by the winner.

The ladies of the Sewing Meeting had had books of tickets to dispose of for the Bilbrook-Bunson pig, and though Mary Thompson had at first demurred on principle at being a party to "Anythink to do with gammellin' an' lotteries" and had protested that as a church councillor she felt she ought to consult the Archbishop about a pig being mixed up with the church funds, she bought a ticket. As the Sewing Meeting took place at the same time as the "pig draw", it was not unnatural that the ladies should express wonder as to "woh's won t'pig?" Suddenly there was a resounding knock at the schoolroom door and Matty Pearson, either much elevated with the excitement of "the draw", or something else, announced in stentorian voice: "Mary Thompson's won t'pig, an' I've fetched it for her!" With this he placed a sack at Mary's feet. The ladies there assembled had undeniable squealed evidence that that which Matty spake was indeed true. Now John Jorrocks, the immortal Master of the Handley Cross Foxhounds, once said, "Confound all present what eats!" and for a person who has never kept a pig, who has no accommodation for a pig, had never intended, or wished to keep a pig, to suddenly find herself possessed of one, obviously very much alive, is what we call "a capper". So much so in the case of Mary Thompson that she went into a quick succession of what she terms "hot sweats", and for once was speechless.





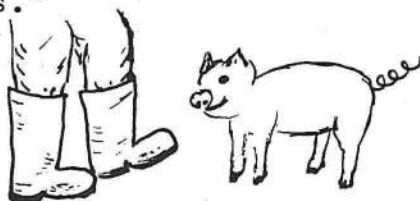
Her usually active brain could not cope with this sudden added responsibility. She had no time in between the announcement of winning the pig and the arrival of the pig to formulate plans. Both had been thrust upon her simultaneously, and publicly. There was the pig, and there was Matty Pearson waiting for instructions.

The Sewing Meeting ladies chatted excitedly in groups as Mary sat panting and fanning herself with her handkerchief.

"I thowt you'd be pleased," remarked Matty, advancing still closer to Mary as though expecting her to take the pig in her lap and embrace it.

"Tak it away!" she repeated.

"What can a respectable lady in a satin frock do with a pig at a Sewin' Meetin'? - or anywhere's else so far as I am concerned? You'd no right to plunk such a thing on me unbeknownt, an' flusther me at a time like this. Because I taks a ticket in a raffle it doesn't signify that I'm boond ti tak what's to be drew for if I wins it but doesn't want it. I should have been consulted more privater than this as to what my hintentions was."



"Well, Mary" said Matty, "its your pig; you've won it fair and square, It's here; it's yours, I've fetched it, and the law is that them what has the lucky nummer at a raffle draw, taks what's raffled fer. It's as grand a young pig as yan could find here an' there. Shall I put it in your coal house, or wesh-house? It'll feed up into a good 'un, an' you'll have bacon fer all ivvers, like Lizzie Leckonby had from her pig".



"Yu can tak it back to the public," replied Mary with dignity, having now regained possession of her thoughts, "an' you'll say that my wishes is that it be raffled fer again for the good of the chetch funds, but that I claims an 'am, and that Elizabeth Leckonby is barred from the draw. I'll nut be saddled with a wole pig I doesn't know what to do with; no! not to please you nor nobody else, an' I doesn't thank you fer upsettin' all my little nerves, i' the way you has done; booncin' in on folks with a pig in a poke, so to speak as a body might term it. Bud mind ya I sticks to an 'am; one leg is mine wohever wins it the next time. That's to be understood".

So off Matty had to go with his burden, and, as no one felt inclined to feed the pig till the second contest for its possession could be arranged, back it went to the Bilbrook-Bunsons. They have decided that never again will they give a pig for a church, or any other raffle, and Mary Thompson has also decided that never again will she compete for any prize that is "wick" though she will see that the winner of the "church pig" delivers to her a ham in due course.



**DAVID BROWN BUTCHERS**  
Home Christmas Fayre

Pies to Please!

Hand raised Stand Pies  
Poultry fresh from Local Farms  
The Best of British Beef

**ORDER EARLY**

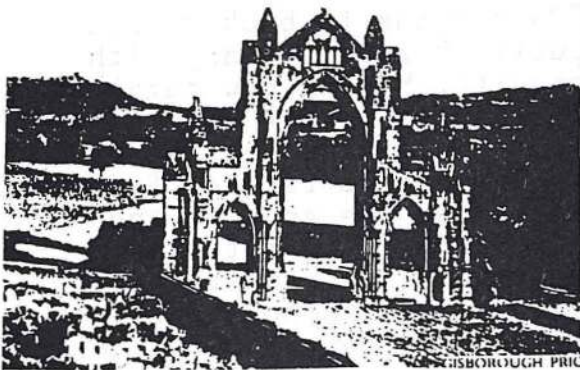
HAPPY XMAS  
from DAVID & STAFF



Answers to TV Quiz:

1)7 2)Emmerdale (Farm) 3)Ruth Rendell 4)Going for Gold 5)Bodie (37) Doyle (45) 6)The Sky at Night 7)Z Cars 8)Jack Walker 9)Churchills 10)Michael Miles





### THE MEN OF GUISBOROUGH PRIORY

### THE LAST YEARS OF KING HENRY

Henry never recovered from the death of his son in the White Ship disaster, and as the years passed he grew gloomier. He married a second time, Adelisa of Lorraine, in the hope she would provide him with a male heir. But the marriage was without issue. He then turned to his last surviving legitimate child, the Empress Matilda, to satisfy his dynastic ambitions.

### THE EMPRESS MATILDA

At the age of eight Matilda was sent to Germany, to marry the Holy Roman Emperor, Henry V, a man twenty years her senior.

Widowed and childless at the age of 25, her father ordered her to return to England. Henry arranged another marriage for his daughter, to Geoffery, a boy of fourteen, the son of Count Fulk of Anjou.

Matilda was outraged, at the thought of marrying a mere boy. She was a sophisticated, beautiful woman of the world, with many suitors. And she had just begun to enjoy life, after the dour experience of the German court.

It was rumoured she was having an affair with her cousin Stephen, a very popular member of her father's court. The two were often seen together enjoying each other's company. But her father insisted, she married Geoffery, and held her prisoner until she consented. Henry now addressed the question of succession. In medieval times, Kings were elected to their high position. A prince with the necessary hereditary qualifications, would normally face no problems, but with a princess there could be difficulties.

At his Christmas court of 1126 Henry asked, the leading men of his realm to swear a solemn oath, to accept Matilda as their Queen, on his death.

First to take the oath was William Archbishop of Canterbury, then King David of Scotland, Matilda's uncle, Stephen, Henry's nephew, Robert of Gloucester an illegitimate son of Henry and then the barons Robert de Brus and others.

With England in turmoil and ravaged by civil war. The Lord of Skelton would break his oath to Matilda, in a bid to return stability to the Kingdom. He succeeded, but future Kings of England would never forgive De Brus, or his descendants, for this act of disloyalty.

### THE EMPRESS MATILDA

Geoffery and Matilda married in June 1128 at Le Mans. Matilda was still angry with the match, and behaved so unreasonably towards Geoffery, that the boy husband could bear it no longer. And sent her back to Normandy, after less than a year of marriage.

In 1132 they were reconciled, and Matilda returned to Anjou, and in 1133 the Empress gave birth to their first child. The future King Henry II of England.

### THE LAST YEARS OF KING HENRY

King Henry was besotted with his young grandson. He gave him so much pleasure, that he moved his court to Normandy to be with him.

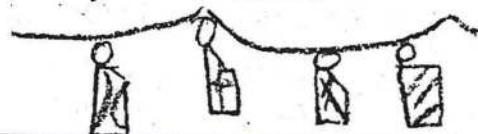
Matilda gave birth to a second child Geoffery, in 1135. There were complications with the birth and she nearly died. As she lay dying, she requested, that her body be buried in the Abbey of Bec. Her father disagreed, and insisted that she was buried at Rouen, fortunately she recovered.

Henry was now in the last year of his life. He had ruled with a firm hand, for 35 years in England and 29 years in Normandy. History would record that his reign brought stability and prosperity to England. The chronicler, Henry of Huntingdon complains, of his vices, avarice, cruelty and licentiousness. Robert de Monte records, a few cases of imprisonment and of blinding, and then praises Henry.

On the 1 December 1135, at the age of 65 years, Henry I died at Lyons. His last request was granted, that his heart be buried in the church of Saint Mary at Emendreville, a church founded by his mother, and that his body, buried at Reading.

Written & Researched

by Ian Duncan



### Crossword Answers:

Across: 1) Sierra 7) Foundry  
8) Offally 9) Ace 10) Pin 12) Etch  
14) Dado 15) Rue 16) Pet  
17) Burrow 18) Columbo 19) Waylay  
Down: 1) Scoter 2) Efface  
3) Roach 4) Rule 5) Any 6) Druid  
10) Patrol 11) Norway 13) Tudor  
14) Derby 16) Puma 17) Bow



# Recipes

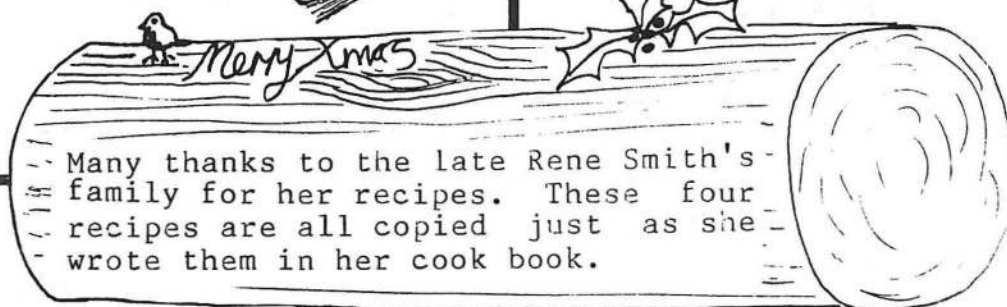
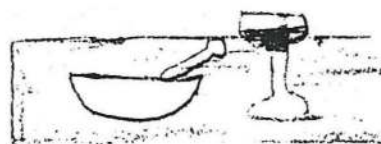
## Mrs Smiths Xmas Cake (Queens)

6 Eggs  
10oz Butter  
12oz Plain Flour  
2oz Cornflour  
10oz Castor Sugar  
6oz Currants  
6oz Raisins  
8oz Sultanas  
Pinch Salt  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp Nutmeg  
4oz Ground Almonds  
Juice Rind  $\frac{1}{2}$  Lemon  
2tsp Brandy  
2tsp Marmalade  
2tsp Treacle

## Mrs Smiths Shortbread

8oz Plain Flour  
6oz Castor Sugar  
8oz Butter  
1 Egg

Warm butter in bowl  
Mix in beaten egg  
Mix in flour, sugar and knead  
Slow oven about 45 minutes



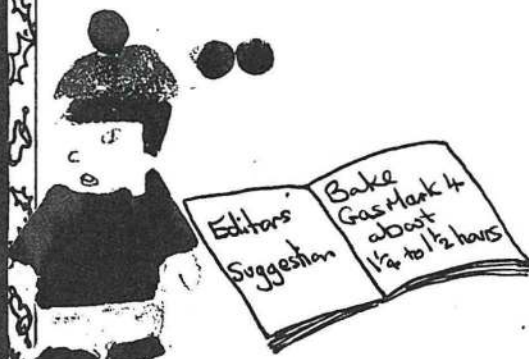
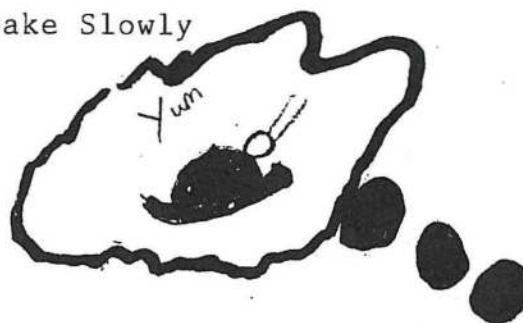
## Mrs Leeks Rice Cake

8oz Ground Rice  
3tbs Plain Flour  
8oz Sugar  
4 Eggs  
1tsp Baking Powder  
2oz Ground Almonds  
8oz Margerine

## Mrs Smiths Ginger Sponge

2 Lge Cups Flour  
1 Lge Cup Sugar  
2 tbs Lard  
1 tbs Butter  
2 tbs Syrup  
2 tsp Ginger  
1 tsp Baking Powder  
1 tsp Carb. of Soda  
1 cup Warm Milk

Bake Slowly





**CAPRICORN**



(Dec. 23-Jan. 19)

You may get a surprise visitor Xmas Eve; is your chimney swept

**AQUARIUS**



(Jan 21-Feb 20)

Your cup may overflow with Xmas cheer, easy on the rum sauce or you may be seeing stars instead of fairy lights

**PISCES**



(Feb 21-Mar 21)

Nothing fishy about your Xmas dinner, over-stuff yourself and you'll nod off before the Queen

**ARIES**



(Mar 22-Apr 20)

You are in for a holly-rocking Xmas with all the trimmings - and no butts.

**TAURUS**



(Apr 21-May 21)

Take Xmas by the horns & don't spare the tinsel, you may see a stout stranger in a red suit.

**GEMINI**



(May 22-June 21)

Twin enjoyment decorates your Xmas - go festive crackers.

**CANCER**



(June 22-July 23)

No need to be crabby dear, be like the reindeer and enjoy the jingle bell season.

**LEO**



(July 24-Aug 23)

A tasty time ahead - fill up on Xmas cake and start the New Year with a roar.

**VIRGO**



(Aug 24-Sep 23)

Be like the angel on the tree and surround yourself with goodies - relax & enjoy

**LIBRA**



(Sep 24-Oct 23)

Eat, drink & be merry but don't go near the scales till after New Year.

**SCORPIO**



(Oct 24-Nov 22)

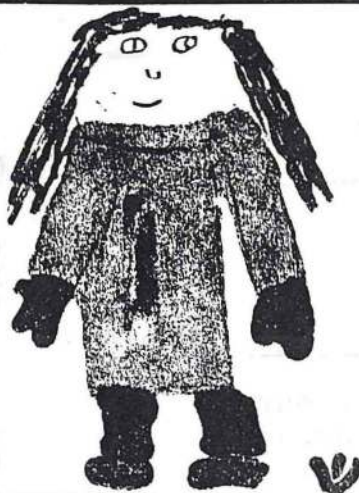
An interesting Xmas, no sting in the tail for you just a pleasant surprise in your Xmas stocking, don't forget to hang it.

**SAGITTARIUS**



(Nov 23-Dec 22)

Have a wild time and go nuts, but don't make a beast of yourself over the Xmas pud.



**TRIXIE'S**

**NEWSAGENTS**

Vaughan Street

Call in for your

- Newspapers
- Books
- Ice-Cream
- Soft Drinks
- Sweets
- Cigarettes & Tobacco

**THE DAY WE GOT OUR WHEELIE BIN**

I've never known anything like it happen in our street before, Since those leaflets were quietly dropped on the mat through every door.

The Council was giving us notice, they'd be coming very soon, Our street was in an uproar, everyone was over the moon.

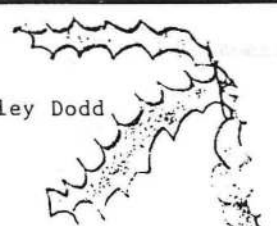
They'd be big and strong and have two wheels, it seems a pretty wise move, It will hold two and a half times a dustbin full, but that is yet to prove.

Gone are the days of rubbish everywhere and the days of the think black sack, It's a move towards a tidier town and we'd all say yes to that.

The day drew nigh, that wonderful day and all were up at dawn, There was work to be done before the fun, Oh hail this cheery morn!

The hour, the minute, the second arrived and the lorry came right on time, They were lifted off and there they were, wheelie bins all in a line.

Shirley Dodd



They all stood to attention, like soldiers dressed in green, A finer sight our back street has never, ever seen.

The excitement, the fervour had reached its peak and somebody ran outside, With headscarf and pinny and slippers on, "They're here, they're here" she cried.

Well! that was it, with a scurry and a slamming the street was all athrong, The men and women, young and old couldn't wait to push them along.

The chatter was loud, the dogs went berserk, the cats all ran away, "They're here, they're here, they've arrived at last, Oh what a glorious day!"

One thing for sure, I honestly know that nothing will ever compete, With THAT day the Council delivered the wheelie bins to our street.