

A Brief History of Embleton & Wythop, talk given at Embleton 15 April 2015

Part 1, Derek Denman

1.

Good evening. This evening we are going to be covering some aspects of the history of Embleton and Wythop. Firstly I would like to say that Walter and I are not standing here as experts in the history of this area. My part is really a pulling together of much of the work of other people. Rather we are here to illustrate a number of aspects of the history of Embleton and Wythop and we hope it will encourage others to look further at these topics than we have.

2.

The presentation is in two parts. I will outline the generally history of agricultural settlements up to the nineteenth century, while Walter will pick up the story through a number of topics in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. We hope to have time for discussion, but we do not have all the answers.

3.

I will start by showing the extent of Embleton and Wythop civil parishes today. What surprises many people is that Embleton seems to be focussed on where we are today – which I have shown with a star on the various maps. But Embleton stretches to the Cocker – Stanger spa is in Embleton, always has been. I hope to show how the centres of both parishes have moved.

4.

Walter will be covering the antiquities, but I will just say that Embleton had a piece of Roman road – from Castlerigg in Keswick to Papcastle – and no-one has looked for it in Embleton yet.

5.

Moving forward in time – we know nothing from the records about Embleton and Wythop before the Normans. The name Emelton appears first in 1195, and from the name we think the settlement may have Anglian origins – an extension of Northumbria. Embleton and Lorton could be of similar dates. Or it could be Norse/Irish, not from the Danes or Vikings from the east, but from more peaceful settlement from 900 from the west. Cumberland was then in the kingdom of Strathclyde, outside of England.

So when did Embleton become part of Norman England?

6.

Not until 1092, before which the area was held by the kings of Scotland. William the Conqueror never held our area and so we have no Domesday book of 1086. Our local records start with the handing out of the lands under the Normans, as baronies and manors, from that time.

Specifically, the land between the Derwent and the Cocker became the manor of Derwentfells about 1100. Embleton probably already existed as a settlement, and its land and people were given as

freehold to Orme of Ireby in 1195. Embleton is certainly older than Cockermouth, which is thought to have been created around 1200. However, while Embleton was an existing settlement, Wythop did not exist when granted in about 1262 to a younger brother of the holder of the honour of Cockermouth. It was a grant of land on which to build a seat and to acquire a population.

7.

This map just shows the manor of Derwentfells on a master map of course. It was a forest manor, which essentially meant that the lord had free chase, mostly of deer, within it, and those who lived within it had to live by the rules of the forest. There are two parks shown. The parks were where deer were kept and raised. They would be released from the park to be hunted through the whole manor.

8.

This slide is rather complex but it is intended to illustrate the manorialisation of Derwentfells forest. The coloured patches are specific grants of manors to minor lords. The red manors, such as Embleton, are effectively freehold grants of lands and unfree people, so that Orme of Ireby became a mesne lord of his peasant tenants in Embleton – he was their lord and he owed service to the Lord of Cockermouth, when the honour of Cockermouth was created. The while common was used by the inhabitants of the red manor, plus other settlement which remained within Derwentfells.

The green manors, such as Wythop, were grants of land including the common, which the new lords could inhabit and manage fully.

9.

Taking Embleton first – this is the enclosed land of the manor, approximately in the nineteenth century. We do not have a map for 1195, but we know that the park and 85 acres of land were taken from the common in 1285, and so extent in 1195 would not have been far different. These manor was the enclosed lands, not including the common. In 1220 we know it was bounded by a hedge. The population would be considerable – a few hundred maybe by 1300.

I have marked the chapel, which is conveniently central. This village hall is peripheral.

10.

Looking for the medieval centre, we seem to have a settlement on Tom Rudd Beck. The chapel, a moated manor house in the lord's park, a cornmill, and an area of land which looks to be the open arable land cultivated in strips. We know also that Embleton had a fulling mill, for processing woollen cloth, by 1320. This would probably be one of the two mill sites on Wythop beck, either High Mill or Low Mill, but I cannot say which one. Note also Stanley Hall, which I will cover shortly. I have marked old routes dashed on this map. If you wish to see a medieval road then take a walk along Seacross lonning.

Possibly Beckhouse is what remains of a more substantial early village centre – this is not a medieval photograph of course. It still had a substantial population before the decline of arable crops.

11.

The chapel of St Cuthbert. First mentioned in a deed of 1210, and it seems that it would be a little earlier. Loweswater had a chapel by 1125, Lorton by 1198, and the mother church at Brigham rather earlier.

12.

Apart from the church and the fulling mill, Stanley Hall is the first named dwelling house in the records. The Stanleys were in Greysouthern in the fourteenth century, and held land in Embleton, but the building Stanley Hall is first mentioned in 1425. Not these current buildings of course – but on that site.

13.

Before moving to Wythop, just a brief summary fo the manorial history of Embleton.

The freehold manor granted to Orme of Ireby in 1195. Thomas of Ireby granted a park in 1285, and presumably seated in a manor in that park.

I do not know if this is the same Thomas killed by Robert the Bruce's raid in 1322, but it illustrates the nature of the relationship between lord and tenant as military as well as economic. The Ireby's, tenants were their army as well as peasant farmers, which carries on into the sixteenth century when the border was finally agreed.

14.

At some stage the tenants were allow to buy their freeholds, and so we have no manorial records from the later period when the residual manor passed to Lord Wharton and then back to the Earls of Egremont, who of course were the holders of the Honour of Cockermouth and Derwentfells manor.

15.

Wythop

Turning to the grant of Wythop to John de Lucy in about 1262. This is the area of the modern civil parish of Wythop, but it should conform closely to the original grant. This was a grant of land for settlement, carved out of derwentfells manor. The inhabitants would have their rights of common inside of the boundary, rather than outside. I have shown Embleton sharing the common of Derwentfells at this early time.

16.

Looking at the way the land was used, this is very approximate, but the purple is the lord's demesne, his own cultivated land and his park – which was mainly oak woodland. The brown is enclosed land settled by his tenants. The green is Wythop common. Notice the old

hall – now just a farm. Wythop's corn mill, which is as far down Wythop beck as it could be. And Oldscale

17.

Taking Oldscale first. Where you see the word scale it means huts which were used on the common to manage the stock. Milking for example would be done there in the summer. These scales later turn into farmsteads. In this case the huts are believed to have been there in 1262 and belonged to the men of Lorton. John de Lucy had to buy out the rights before the land could be settled, and one of the new farms was built on the site of earlier huts. See to the left the lynchetts or terraces of the medieval ploughing.

18

Wythop Mill is now the name of the hamlet which developed, but it was the site of Wythop's corn mill, which you see on the bridge. Below the bridge, in Embleton, is Embleton High Mill, which may have been the early fulling mill. Most of the other properties were later intakes from derwentfells common which were deemed to be in Setmurthy for the purpose of rent collection.

19.

The old chapel of ease was at Kelsick. Consecrated in 1552 but rebuilt in 1673. This chapel was attached to Lorton, rather than Embleton, and the dead were buried in Lorton up to 1866 – when the new Wythop parish church of St Margarets was built.

20.

A brief look at the manorial history. This manor soon passed to the Lowthers. In 1319 Hugo Lowther was granted permission to fortify his manor house – against the Scots. But I think that while the Lord of Embleton and his tenants would fight the Scots, perhaps Wythop was somewhere to seek refuge from them.

In 1606 the Fletchers of Cockermouth bought the manor. This was the Catholic family which entertained Mary Queen of Scots. It descended to the Fletcher Vanes and now Lord Inglewood is the major landowner. The tenants were enfranchised, or purchased their freeholds, in 1788, and so before that there are manorial records in the Vane archive.

21.

I now wish to move on to the nineteenth century and the enclosure of the commons, which formed the modern civil parishes as we know them. The enclosure is simply an agreement under which the shared commons were divided up among the landowners who held the rights to use the commons. During the Napoleonic wars, with the high price of grain, there were moves to enclose the commons and grow corn on the moors. The farmers of Embleton pushed for this and in 1812 with Lord Egremont's agreement, The Act was passed which would enclose the yellow area from Derwentfells common. Unfortunately, the first soil was not broken until 1816, when the price of grain had collapsed, and so the farmers of

Embleton missed the boat. The Embleton and Wythop school was built on Embleton common.

Within the manor of Wythop the common was not suitable for corn, and the Lord owned so much of the enclosed land that he could dictate the timing of enclosure. This took place in the 1820s, a little before Lorton.

And so from 1830 the two townships occupied the same space as the civil parishes do today.

22.

My last subject is the drivers of change in the nineteenth century. Walter will be discussing these developments in more detail, but the purpose of this slide is to show how the two factors, tourism from the late eighteenth century and the railway from the mid nineteenth century, moved the focus of Embleton and Wythop to the North and the East. These combined with the reduction in arable farming and depopulation of the centre.

Tourism focussed on north Bassenthwaite, and new roads supported it, but it was the railway, in the 1860s which caused a real revival of parts of Embleton and Wythop, mostly to the east of Embleton station. Bassenthwaite Lake Station served the fishing and shooting activities based on the Vane estate. The new Wythop parish church was not on the site of the old church in the valley but was placed to support the development around the station.

23.

The development of the Peil Wyke Hotel followed the railway. The name was later changed to the Pheasant, for obvious reasons.

24.

And both the location and style of the old Wythop chapel were unsuited to the needs of the Victorian middle classes who were now influential in Wythop.

25.

The new parish church really seems to be a statement of the change that had happened.

And that concludes my part and I will hand over to Walter.

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Part 2, Walter Head

26.

TOPICS. The following is a mixture of topics which relate to the area of Embleton and Wythop over the last 300 years or so. So in approximately 30 minutes we will spend 10 minutes per century. The first two items fall outside the 300 year period but are worthy of a mention.

27.

The first item is the Elva Plain Stone Circle which is actually in the parish of Setmurthy but is situated above close hill which is behind us here. In 1832 Fletcher Graves of Cockermouth wrote a description of Elva Plain Stone Circle, it consisted of 30 stones which were formed into two circles with one stone on its own outside of the circle to the south west. Today (2015) only approximately 15 stones remain many of which have been moved and grouped together. Most stones are approximately 1 metre (39") high but some only just show above ground level. The stones now form a rough circle approximately 120ft (37 metres) in diameter. The original stone circle is thought to date back to 4000 BC.

28.

The second item is the Embleton Sword. In 1854 while digging a hole for a gate stoop a hoard of weapons was unearthed. The find consisted of 3 spears and 2 swords thought to date from 50 BC. The item in the best condition was a 2ft (333mm) iron sword with a bronze hilt and scabbard which were decorated with red and yellow enamel. The sword was put on display at Mr Crosthwaite museum in Keswick and when the museum closed in 1870 the sword was bought by the British Museum for £32 and is on display there. A replica of the sword is on display at Tullie House Museum in Carlisle.

ACTIVITIES.

29.

One of the earliest activities in the area was farming. The land in the valley bottom was good agricultural land so there was no need for strip cultivation unlike some other areas of the Lake District where the land was variable and farming was carried out in strips so that each farmer had areas of good and not so good land to cultivate. The current field layout has not changed much and is similar to the layout 300 years ago. There is some evidence of strip cultivation on the slopes but much evidence has been lost due to subsequent drainage and cultivation. This cultivation consisted of long horizontal strips where the soil was turned over by single a furrow plough. The advantage of this working on the hillside was that the last furrows at the top and bottom of the strip acted as mini dams and prevented soil being washed down to the valley floor, they also slowed down the passage of water which reduced the minerals lost from the soil.

30.

The use of drainage to improve the ground was recognised in the early 1800's. By 1839 John Murray and son had established a tile making plant at Hundith Hill which included a mixing plant and tile kilns. The tiles produced were 'U' shaped and approximately 12 to 15 inches long. These were placed in a trench about 2 - 3ft deep with the open side down often resting on slates or stones. In 1839 1000 tiles cost £2. The biggest changes in agriculture are the number of working farms which are approximately half of what they

were and farming methods which are too great to cover in this talk and can be the subject to a talk in their own right.

31.

MINING. One of the oldest industries in the area is lead mining. Trial mining was carried out in the late 1700's and early 1800's but came to nothing. In 1853 Peter How took out a lease and opened the old lead mine on close hill almost opposite the old Bluebell Inn. This was driven into the hillside and worked on four levels, it was considered as a dry mine and no pumping was required. In 1855 10.5 tons of ore was produced which sold for £125 but the venture was not viable and the mine closed in 1860. One of the difficulties for industries such as mining was the transportation of the ore which often had to be carried by packhorses due to the poor state of the roads at this time.

32.

HIGHWAYS. The ancient footpaths and bridleways in the area were as are marked on the current Ordnance Survey maps. In 1770 a turnpike road was constructed from Keswick to Cockermouth via Whinlatter Pass and in 1825 a second turnpike road from Keswick was constructed but this went via the other side of Bassenthwaite Lake and Ouse Bridge to Cockermouth. It was not until 1860 that a turnpike road was constructed from Keswick via Thornthwaite and Embleton to Cockermouth. John McAdam supervised the section of road through Embleton. There is an early turnpike milestone at the side of the road opposite the old Bluebell Inn which reads Cockermouth 3 miles, Keswick 10 miles. Following the building of the turnpike road there were three horse drawn coaches per week from Cockermouth to Keswick to connect with the coaches which ran south from Keswick over Dunmail Raise.

RAILWAYS. While the building of the turnpike roads greatly improved the transport situation the largest impact was the coming of the railroad. The increase of iron and steel production on the west Cumberland coast in the mid 1800's led to a greater demand for good quality coking coal from the north east and also a system to enable the pig iron produced in Workington to reach the market place. To do this a railway line was considered essential to allow this to happen. (by 1882 Cumberland produced 12% of the nation's pig iron, approximately one million tons) The Cockermouth Keswick and Penrith railway (CK&P) was constituted under an act of parliament dated 1st August 1861. The first sod was cut on 21st May 1862 and the single track line with passing loops was opened to mineral traffic on 26th October 1864 and to passenger traffic on 2nd January 1865. There were two stations in the Embleton and Wythop area.

33.

Bassenthwaite Lake Station had a station masters house, signal box, coal depot and timber sidings. In 1882 two cottages for the signalmen and a passing loop were constructed. There were a set of

level crossing gates which were operated from the signal box. The first station master was Samuel McKenzie who was paid 21 shillings per week with a free uniform and house provided. On 11th June 1890 William Peel was killed at the station, his father issued a writ and compensation was paid by the CK&P railway.

34.

The second station on this section was Embleton Station which was actually situated at Lamb Foot. The first station master here was John Scott who was paid 19 shillings per week with a house and uniform provided. Goods trains were placed in a small yard to allow passenger trains to pass. The station had two sidings, one for coal and the other for the sawmill. There were a set of level crossing gates at the east end of the station which were manually operated. David Johnston was the last stagecoachman between Cockermouth and Keswick and when the ` old mail `gave way to the railroad ` he accepted the offer of crossing keeper at Embleton station. In January 1867 during a period of sustained frost special trains were run from Cockermouth to Bassenthwaite and on 18th January David's wife Sarah Johnston was killed by one of these trains as she endeavoured to open the crossing gates. When David Johnston applied for compensation he was told by the CK&P board that his wife had been negligent and that if it was not for their sympathy for his loss then he would have been dismissed and compensation was out of the question. Not surprisingly David Johnston resigned in April 1867. He was replaced by Mrs Dixon who received 5 shillings per week and a rent free house. In October 1890 the station master J Ewart was removed from office due to insobriety and demoted to porter at Keswick Station, he returned as station master at Embleton station in October 1906. Embleton station closed on 15th September 1958.

There was a third set of level crossing gates at Rakefoot which was located approximately one mile east of Embleton station. There was a gatekeepers cottage and a set of manually operated crossing gates, a porter at Bassenthwaite Lake station lived in the cottage and his wife operated the crossing gates. In 1963 Dr Beeching recommended that the entire line be closed and the last train between Workington and Keswick ran on the 16th April 1966. The entire line closed o 4th March 1972.

35.

TOURISM and LEISURE. The construction of the turnpike roads and especially the railway opened up the area to an increase in tourism and leisure activities. Visitors were able to visit the area for shooting on the Vane estate and enjoy fishing as the Pheasant Hotel employed a resident boatman to take customers out onto Bassenthwaite Lake to fish. There was also access for walkers, artists, poets and for general sightseeing. Visitors could also visit Stangar Spa, the saline spring was originally known as St Anna Holy

Well and it is thought that Stangar is a corruption of this. In the mid 1800's a local doctor in Cockermouth was selling bottles of water from the spa at 6 pence a bottle. Embleton had a cricket club which played on a field opposite the Pheasant Inn. A sailing club was founded in 1952 and moved to its current location in 1956. Cockermouth golf club was founded in 1896 and moved to their current location in 1905. The Forestry Commission was established in 1919 to oversee the replanting of forests following the extensive logging during the First World War and built an office complex and accommodation on the hillside at Peile Wyke. There were four inns to cater for the tourists, The Pheasant Hotel which was a 17th century coaching inn, The Bluebell Inn which converted from a farm to a public house in the early 1700's, The Wheatsheaf dating from early 1800's and The Globe at Wythop Mill dating from the early 1700's which catered mostly for local people but also served tourists.

36.

INDUSTRIES. Two businesses which benefitted from the railway were Embleton Sawmill and Close Quarry.

The sawmill which was driven by steam was located at Lambfoot and in 1902 the owner Mr Bewsher applied to build a 300 yard siding to serve the increase in the timber trade especially the demand for pit props, it was built at a cost of £300 plus a charge for the tonnage taken in and sent out along with the normal freight charges. When trade declined the then owner Mr Rutherford closed the Sawmill in 1926.

37.

Close Quarry was started in 1907 by the Cumberland Granite Co. and some of the old lead mine tunnels were exposed during the life of the quarry. In 1908 Mr Glossop constructed a set railway sidings just east of Rakefoot for use by the quarry and these were connected to the mainline in 1912. The quarry operated a narrow gauge railtrack which used two tubs to carry the rock down to the hopper, crusher and screens. The two tubs were connected by a wire hawser and the full tub, as it descended, pulled the empty tub back up to the quarry at the top. The treated stone then passed under the CK&P railtrack to the weighbridge and sidings. In 1936 the quarry was bought by the Threlkeld Mining Company who already operated a quarry at Threlkeld. Close Quarry was the more profitable of the two quarries. Close Quarry ceased production in 1950 and in 1952 the sidings were closed and the track lifted.

38.

Another industry in the area was the Wythop Silica Works but this had a chequered history. Silica was in demand for the glass manufacture and the steel industries and in 1920 Mr Lyon was given permission to put two shots into the ground above Wythop to check for silica. Mr Wright was also given permission to check the vein. In

June 1927 Mr Scoular of the Braithwaite Mining Co offered to take a 5 year lease at £150pa plus a royalty of 6d per ton. Mr Anthony Wilson of Thornthwaite Mines proposed to mine silica and transport it to Thornthwaite Mine for processing and he was offered a 45 year lease at £25 pa plus royalties of 3d per ton. In 1929 Mr Wright applied for a lease but delayed implementation. On 25th March 1929 a lease was agreed with The Lakeland Syndicate at a cost of £75 plus royalties of 6d per ton, they approached the CK&P railway re the possibility of constructing a siding and the Forestry Commission re erecting an aerial ropeway from the works to the railway siding but no start had been made by 1933. In 1933 Lakeland Bricks issued a prospectus but the venture folded due to lack of capital. In 1934 Cumberland Silica Bricks Ltd issued their prospectus and claimed that test had proved that their bricks could withstand temperatures of 1850 degrees centigrade. Independent tests proved this to be a false claim and the true figure was 1650 degrees. On 6th December 1934 work started on site, a dam was constructed on the river, production plant and kilns were erected and bricks produced. I have seen papers which claim 100 men were employed but I have not been able to confirm this. On 28th April 1939 Cumberland Silica Bricks Ltd went into voluntary liquidation and that was the end of the venture.

39.

In 1850 the Davidson family owned Orchard House at Routenbeck and operated the more unusual business associated with the area, this was international shipping. The founder of the shipping line was Joseph Davidson who was born in 1818, as all good men are, in the parish of Dean at Branthwaite. He went to sea at an early age and had gained his masters certificate by the age of 22. Although the Davidson family lived at Routenbeck their ships sailed out of Harrington near Workington and they also owned a house there which they called Ling Fell after the hill behind their home at Routenbeck. The Davidson shipping line operated a total of seven sailing ships four of which were named after locations near their home. The first two ships were purchased second hand but their 3rd ship was built for the Davidsons by Thomas Williamson of Harrington. This ship was the 193 ton Embleton launched in 1867. Their 4th ship a 260 ton vessel was originally built by Thomas Williamson for Nelson Ismay & Co and named the Castleton, but when the Davidson line purchased it in 1872 they renamed it the Castle How. They purchased their 5th ship in 1875, it was 930 tons and built by Whitehaven Shipbuilders. Their 6th ship was also built by Whitehaven Shipbuilders in 1882, it was the 1270 ton Moresby. The 7th ship and the largest was the 1352 ton Wythop built in 1882 by Ritsons of Maryport. It was a steel hulled vessel capable of carrying a cargo of 2,100 tons. The reluctance of the Davidson family to change from sail to steam led to the shipping line ceasing

to trade in the 1930's. The Pheasant Hotel has an oil painting of the Wythop by Maryport artist William Mitchell and a photograph of the Castleton / Castle How.

There were a number of small businesses or trades in the area in the late 1890's. Including a Builder, Butcher, Clog Maker, Coal Merchant, Cow Keeper, Dress Maker, Furnace Manager, Gamekeeper, Joiner, Post Master, Shop Keeper, Wagoner and Wood Steward.

40.

EDUCATION. Embleton and Wythop Voluntary School was built in 1808 at the top of the hill at Wythop Mill, prior to this pupils were taught at a house just below Embleton High Mill. Eight parishioners contributed to the cost of the building and in 1900 the CK&P board donated £50 towards enlarging the school. The number of pupils attending the school increased dramatically in 1940 with the influx of refugees from the north east and at this time water was piped into the school from the fell above. Pupils who passed the eleven plus went to Cockermouth Grammar School. The school closed in 1978.

Wythop Sunday School was erected in 1887 near to the church, Embleton Sunday School was built adjacent to Embleton Church, this building had two floors, the Sunday school was held upstairs and the downstairs was used for storage. Built into the wall of this building is a rare Victorian post box although there is also one at Routenbeck.

41.

RELIGION. Wythop St Margarets Church was built in 1865 to replace the old chapel at Chapel Wood, it cost £1000 and was consecrated in 1866. The alter cross was made of wood taken from the old chapel and covered with brass by the Industrial School in Keswick. Embleton St Cuthberts was built in 1806 on the site of an earlier church, it was remodelled in 1884. Quakers were recorded in the area in 1653 and tended to be in the west of the area nearer to the meeting house at Pardshaw. They met at the house of Mr Bell at Hundith Hill and the Peile family at Stangar.

42.

The Methodists were founded on the teachings of John Wesley in the early 1700's. A small group are recorded at Embleton in 1839, they met at Byresteads Farm and later at Eskin the home of Daniel Mandale. The Wesleyans split from the Methodists in the mid 1800's and a small group met at East House the home of Jonathan Granger. They built a chapel at Embleton in 1863 at a cost of £127. Unfortunately it was built over a hidden spring and within a few years large cracks appeared in the walls and the building was unsafe to use. Until the chapel was rebuilt they met at Netherscales. The chapel was rebuilt in 1903. Services ended in 1970 and in 1977 the building was sold and is now a private home.

43.

UNEXPECTED DEATHS. In 1867 Thomas Park was killed on the railway line between Embleton and Cockermouth while in a drunken state. In 1898 on the 14th November Gilbert Howard was killed at Bassenthwaite Lake station when he fell from an engine footplate while attempting to exchange the safety baton. While carrying out research on another topic for the L&DFLHS for the period 1700 to 1865 it was noted that in the area covered by the history society there were 13 suicides recorded 61% of these were at Embleton. Although not connected with the area I would like to mention the death in July 1732 of George Robinson of Birkby near Maryport who died from excessive drinking while assisting the Customs and Excise agents searching for smuggled brandy, perhaps he found some. There is one murder recorded in the area. On the 26th March 1860 Ann Sewell was discovered murdered at Beckhouse Farm. On the 6th April George Cass who was born at Eaglesfield and who also worked at Beckhouse Farm was arrested for her murder. He was found guilty at his trial on 2nd August and hanged at Carlisle on 17th August 1860. From the documents I have seen I am not fully convinced of his guilt and perhaps there was some sympathy for George as although the last public hanging at Carlisle was in 1862, when George was executed in 1860 screens were erected to shield him from public view. Ann was buried in Embleton churchyard and a headstone paid for by public subscription reads as follows :- Sacred to the memory of Ann Sewell whose life was terminated by the hand of an assassin while in the discharge of her humble duties on the 26th day of March 1860 age 26 years.

EARTHQUAKE. An earthquake with its epicentre at Wythop was recorded on 19th August 1993 at a depth of 13 kilometres and a magnitude of 0.7.

44.

TRIBUTES. I think it is only right that I conclude this talk by mentioning the following men of the area who lost their lives during the first world war fighting so that we are free to gather for meetings like this and the other freedoms we enjoy. The men from Wythop were, George Armstrong, William Crooks, George Edward Long and Wilson Rothery. The men from Embleton were, Alfred Edmond Watson, Robinson Watson and Thomas Cecil Beck who lost his life exactly 90 years ago today on the battlefield in Belgium age just 19.

45.

End of Talk.

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