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ISSUE 87

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Dear Reader,

There are a number of fascinating articles within this edition:

The *'Leeds Guild of Singers'* are celebrating their 75th anniversary and are returning to Horsforth on the 23rd March for a special Lent Concert (*See page 26*). The Rugby League season has just kicked off and there is a superb article, written by Stuart Myers, regarding the tragic death of his great Uncle, Harry Myers.

For those of you with *'Green fingers'* this edition marks the return of our popular *'Down at the Shed'* column. This month, Bill Hunt, (*Cookridge Gardening Club*) is in the shed, and kindly provides you with some valuable gardening tips as we enter the spring season.

Spring into life and advertise in the April edition of The Squeaker!

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I hope you enjoy this edition. *James Bowling*

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Many congratulations to **Graham Hudson, Stanningley** who spotted 'The Pudsey Brat' lurking in the Sova Healthcare advertisement last month and wins £10. Can you spot him infuriating another one of our advertisers this month? £10 to the person who emails us his location.



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Print: Big In Promotion

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Contributors: Bill Hunt (Cookridge Gardening Club), David Bowman (Leeds Guild of Singers), Stuart Myers (Old Horsfordian), Marion Lawson (Cookridge Gardening Club), Ian Mitchell (Quiz Master) & Susan Wilson (Proof Reader).



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1. Which four herbs feature in the song "Scarborough Fair"?
2. The Americans call it Cilantro - what do we call it?
3. In the 1960s who led his "Tijuana Brass" to chart success?
4. What kind of lawn did Mary Wesley write about in 1984?
5. When "Parsley" was a lion, what was "Dill"?
6. Who played "Rosemary" in the 1968 film "Rosemary's Baby"?
7. What kind of "bouquet" always contains Thyme, Bay and Parsley?
8. Which cocktail consists of Bourbon, Sugar, Water, Ice and Mint leaves?
9. Which herb's comes from the Greek for royal or kingly?
10. Under what guise did Felicity Kendall and Pam Ferris solve crime?

Answers in by the 24th March please

Congratulations to Paul Comaish, Horsforth, who was the first out of the hat and wins the £20 voucher.

Last month's answers:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Mount Kilimanjaro | 3 South Africa (Joburg) | 6 Victoria Falls | 9 (a small) steam boat |
| 2 "Daktari" | 4 Jama Kengatta | 7 Hakuna Matata | 10 Mali (Lima - Peru) |
| | 5 Liberia | 8 El Alamein (2nd battle) | |

Next Month - Tarqs the Lunatic!

Across

1. Gratified (7)
5. Criminal (5)
8. Telegram (5)
9. New England state (7)
10. Brought about (7)
11. Metal worker (5)
12. Breathe in (6)
14. Affix (6)
18. Entice (5)
20. Garments (7)
22. Sunshade (7)
23. Modify (5)
24. Snug (5)
25. Greatly feared (7)

Down

1. "Tosca" composer (7)
2. Waned (5)
3. Clients (anag.)(7)
4. Share out (6)
5. Documents to be filled in (5)
6. Like a lion (7)
7. V-shaped incision (5)
13. Monotonous (7)
15. Desecrate (7)
16. Wished for (7)
17. Climbed (6)
18. Theme(5)
19. Flavoursome(5)
21. Detested(5)

CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 35

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8						9						
10								11				
12		13						14	15			16
						17						
18					19		20				21	
22								23				
24								25				



THE STORY OF HARRY MYERS

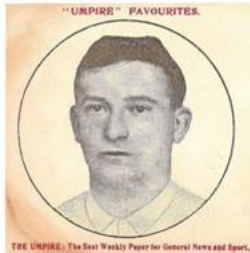
A TRAGIC END FOR A GREAT PLAYER

I was delighted when Rawdon resident, Stuart Myers, contacted me and made me aware of the research he is undertaking regarding his great uncle, Harry Myers. Harry achieved fame playing rugby for both Bramley and Keighley, and indeed England, but died due to injuries sustained in a match played in 1906.

Harry's funeral was attended by thousands of mourners, and as a passionate Rugby League supporter, I am delighted to publish his story, albeit tragic.



Harry Myers was born on the 3rd of February 1875 in Horsforth, – the 1871 census shows a population of around 2,000. He was one of six children of George Dixon and Margaret Myers, and little is recorded of his childhood, save for him being listed as a scholar in the 1881 census and as a clothier in the 1891 census. The 1901 census shows he had moved to Keighley, was playing rugby as an amateur and is listed as a Job Piece Finisher.



In 1894, aged 19, he was watching a match of Horsforth playing at Newtown. The Horsforth team was short of a player, so Harry borrowed some kit and turned out for them as their half-back. He showed very early promise, and was persuaded to play for the team for the rest of the 1894-95 season. The famous Bramley and England forward Bradshaw then persuaded him to join Bramley, which he did from the beginning of the 1895-96 season.

Whilst at Bramley, he played in the county trial match at Morley, and went straight into the county team as partner to the scrum-half George Mosley.

In the 1895-96 season, the new **"Northern Union"** was founded in Huddersfield – a breakaway group of professional players who played the thirteen a side rugby game now known as the Rugby League.

Bramley continued in the amateur code for the rest of the season, but switched to the Northern Union in the 1896-97 season. Harry refused to play as a professional, and joined Keighley Rugby Football Club for the last game of the season, in which he scored a try.

Harry was much sought after by other clubs, but joined Keighley when a committee member, Mr. Jabez Sharp went to fetch Harry out of bed one morning and persuaded him to join the Keighley Club. Such was he valued by Bramley, that a deputation from the team tried, but failed to retain Harry at Bramley. The following season, he was appointed captain and scored two tries and kicked 28 goals, Keighley finishing top of the Second Competition as a result. His full record at Keighley over eleven seasons is that he scored ninety tries and kicked 197 goals. All contemporary newspaper accounts record the fact that not only was he a highly skilled player and an inspiring captain, but also an unassuming, modest sportsman who led by example and never indulged in foul play.

He played for the county thirty times, played in the North v South match at Exeter and achieved his international cap, playing for England against Ireland at Richmond on 5th February 1898.





The Worth Valley Hotel early 1900s



Keighley Rugby Team 1901

In 1900, the Keighley club converted to the professional code, and Harry continued as their captain. Although he was now being paid to play rugby, it is recorded that he **“took up a position”** at the billiard hall at the Black Horse on Low Street. In 1903 he became an innkeeper at the Brunswick Arms, after managing the Fleece Tap for two years. He was landlord at the Worth Valley Hotel, Ingrow at the time of his death.

A measure of the esteem in which he was held locally is illustrated by a music hall song performed in the show **“The Earl and The Girl”**, at the Queens Theatre, Keighley in November 1906. The song’s title is, **“If I could play half-back like Harry Myers, then I think I’d be satisfied with life.”**

Harry married Ada Winstanley from Wath on the 27th December 1898 at Keighley St Andrews Parish Church, and they had four children.



The circumstances of his untimely death, caused by an accident on the field of play are extensively reported in three articles from the Keighley News of December 1906 as follows.

Playing at the Dewsbury ground, Crown Flatts, on November 3rd 1906, he picked up a loose ball from a scrum, and ran head down towards the Dewsbury line. Having passed two opponents, he collided with a forward, Fred Richardson. The collision caused both men to fall to the ground. Whilst Richardson suffered no more than a bruised shoulder, Harry lay in a semi-unconscious state on the ground, unable to move. A pitch-side examination caused him to be removed by horse ambulance to Dewsbury Infirmary, where subsequent examination diagnosed that he was paralysed from the waist downwards, and that the injury appeared to be one to the spine.

Harry drifted in and out of consciousness over the next few days, often being lucid and cheerful, and not recognising the extent of his injuries. He was subsequently transferred to the Victoria Hospital at Keighley on December 6th, where he died from his injuries at 7:20 p.m. on December 19th 1906. A subsequent Coroner’s Inquest returned a verdict of **“Accidental death”** on Friday 21st December.

The funeral took place at Keighley Parish Church on Sunday afternoon, 23rd December. The cortege left the Worth Valley Hotel at 12:30, where between two and three thousand people had gathered, and proceeded just over a mile to the church at Keighley. Contemporary estimates put the size of the crowd lining the route and at the cemetery at between ten and twelve thousand people.

On December 29th, the Keighley News launched a public subscription fund for the benefit of his widow and children. Subsequent reports indicate that donations came in from all over the country. By 9th February, £25 7s 6d had been raised. When Harry’s will was published on 3rd May 1907, the value of the estate left to his widow and children was £487 17s 3d.

Stuart Myers (Old Horsfordian)



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**COOKRIDGE
GARDEN
CLUB**

This year, Cookridge Garden Club celebrates its 80th Anniversary. The Clubs origins began in the early 1940's. Below are extracts taken from an account of the club's history by local historian, Don Cole.

The old 'Cookridge Village', not really a village in the historical sense, was just a triangle of new houses between Cookridge Lane, Moseley Wood Lane and Green Lane. Building has started at the back end of 1927. There was no churches or Village Hall, nowhere for community activities.

In May 1940 the Local Defence Volunteers were formed, known as the Home Guard, and later that year a hut was erected for their headquarters at the top end of Green Lane. The hut eventually became the centre of community events. ***There was no electricity, just gas lighting and a stove but no water!***



The Hut in Green Lane, late 1946

As the war progressed, Cookridge folk began to grow food as part of the national '***Dig for Victory***' campaign, and an allotment association was formed. The land now covered by the houses and gardens of Moseley Wood Grove and the present vicarage was cultivated by the members. their togetherness, strength of purpose and determination. A '***Fur and Feather Club***' was also created, poultry and rabbits kept to top up the sparse food supply.

In 1944, these two organisations combined to hold their first show on the 9th September in the Home Guard Hut. Although the '***Fur and Feather Club***' folded in 1947, the Allotment Association flourished, grew, and became the Cookridge Horticultural Society circa 1952. **It has continued to the present day and is now known as Cookridge Gardening Club.**

GET INVOLVED

Today, the club continues to thrive. The group is friendly who share a passion for gardening. They meet once a month, to hear speakers on a wide range of horticultural topics. They also use this time to display flowers and plants and share gardening problems and solutions. I am sure many readers will have visited their annual show which is held in September.

The group meets in **Cookridge Methodist Church Hall, Otley Old Road, Cookridge, LS16 7DF.**

Entrance is on Tinshill Road. Doors open at 700 pm.

Talks start at 7.30 pm. Admission is £3.00 for non- members and includes refreshments.

The next three talks in 2024 are being held on the following dates:

20th March Sweet Peas by David Matthewman

17th April Growing Exotic Plants by Peter Sutton

15th May Hepworth Gallery Garden by Kate Merrington

Become a member! For more information visit: www.cookridgegardenclub.co.uk

or contact Marion via info@cookridgegardenclub.co.uk

For you too could become part of a group that shows, togetherness, strength of purpose and determination.



Photography Competition..

Thank you to everyone who entered The Squeaker Photography competition this month.

Entries from last month's theme - 'The History Around Us'



'WW2 Sign . Town St, Farsley' Les Plumb



'1691 sundial in Micklefield Park, Rawdon'
How and when did it get there? Barbara Parry



'Low Hall in Horsforth built around 1565' Martin King



'Historical Lines around Us' Lydia Mcalpin



'The Old Mortuary, Pudsey Cemetery' Robert Key



This month's winner was chosen by The Squeaker

Email: enquiries@thesqueaker.co.uk

James said: "Congratulations to all of you who have had your photograph published this month. My favourite picture is 'WW2 Sign, Town St, Farsley' by Les Plumb who wins £20

Deadline –
24th March

This Month's Competition Theme - 'The Joys Of Spring'



'Holy Island' Karen Ford



'Leeds Liverpool Canal at Apperley Bridge' Gary Howarth



'The Black Prince' Nigel Chadwick



'School Street Independent School' A. Fishwick



'East Riddlesden Hall and pond' Christopher Hough



'Kirkstall Abbey' David Cawson



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PREPARING YOUR GARDEN FOR THE SUMMER

It's time for your Green Fingers to spring into life!

Summer may seem some way ahead at the moment but if we are looking forward to floral displays and edible produce there is much that we need to be doing.

Flower and vegetable beds should first be cleared of weeds before applying a layer of compost or well-rotted manure. General purpose fertilisers such as pelleted chicken manure and fish, blood and bone can also be used. Covering the prepared ground with black plastic sheeting will keep it drier and warmer before anything is planted. Cloches are useful for covering directly-sown items such as carrots, radishes and lettuce.

If you intend to plant flowers or shrubs which will require supports then put the supports into the ground now so that the plants will grow through them, otherwise adding supports later towards summer can be difficult and unattractive in appearance. Roses should now be pruned to encourage strong new growth *[remember to wear thick gloves!]* and as their growth progresses they should be fed with special rose feed or a balanced fertiliser.

Plant summer-flowering bulbs such as gladioli and lilies into beds, borders or containers and sow flower seeds now so that they can be planted out in June. Hardy annuals can go straight into the ground or into pots or module trays for planting out later in spring.

If your soil is not frozen or waterlogged you can, if necessary, move deciduous trees and shrubs but whether moved or left in place feed them, together with any hedges that you may have, with a slow release fertiliser which should be lightly forked into the surrounding soil. Fruit trees should be mulched with well-rotted manure or garden compost but avoid mulching up around the trunk. New trees for apples, cherries or other fruits can now be planted, locating them in a sunny and well-sheltered spot, and this is also a good time for planting new raspberry canes and fresh rhubarb crowns.

When mulching rhubarb use a thick layer of well-rotted manure but take care not to cover the crowns.

Watering will inevitably be necessary when hot weather arrives so install water butts if you haven't already done so, connecting them to a downpipe for rainfall collection. Also remember to give your watering can a good scrubbing out to deter diseases.



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LEEDS GUILD OF SINGERS

75 Years Old And Returning To Horsforth



LEEDS GUILD
OF SINGERS

The acclaimed chamber choir, Leeds Guild of Singers, has been a part of the local classical music scene for more than 75 years. As the group returns to Horsforth for a special Lent concert on Saturday 23rd March (*details opposite*), we delve into the archives of the “Guild” and its long associations with places in West Leeds.



Leeds Guild Of Singers in 1948

Leeds Parish Church. 30th June 1948. 26 singers under the direction of organist and choirmaster Dr Melville Cook present a recital of British music by Parry and Stanford, Wood and Byrd. Glowing newspaper reviews the following day remark: **“A new Leeds musical venture had a promising start”**, describing the choir as **“a tremendous asset to the city”**. **Leeds Guild of Singers is born!**

In the early 1950s, LGS fulfilled its promise to **“fill a gap in the musical life of the West Riding”**, taking the debut concert programme to venues across the county over the next year. Cook aimed high and the choir, often accompanied by orchestra and organ, garnered more rave reviews for these performances.

The Guild started a long association with Leeds University through its musical directors in the late 1950s and 1960s: Professor James Denny, Frank Mumby and Professor Richard Rastall. A wide range of sacred and secular choral music was performed during this time, including works by composers from Palestrina and Tallis to Britten and Vaughan-Williams. The choir spent a few years in the musical wilderness during the 1970s, but a review of a concert in 1986 declared that the Guild had



Leeds Guild Of Singers in the 1980's

“emerged from the shadows” with **“a fresh determination to establish a presence on the city’s volatile musical scene”**.

Graham Coatman became MD of the Guild in 1998 and held the reins for nearly 20 years, bringing not only a passion for early music, but also a desire to explore choral works of all eras and genres, as well as his own prolific output of compositions and arrangements. A poster for one of his concerts claimed: **“Expect the unexpected and unusual!”**. Under Graham, the choir sang a concert history of English church music, narrated by the late TV celebrity Harry Gration, put on successful **“come and sing”** events, and in 2016 went on its first overseas tour to perform at a music and arts festival in Brittany.



LGS emerged from coronavirus restrictions to enjoy singing together again and is in good health with nearly 40 singers of all ages under the direction of Benjamin Kirk.

Leeds Guild of Singers has commissioned several choral works and given first performances of many others, including at its 70th anniversary concert, which featured the new work **“Sing”** by local composer (and LGS tenor) Matthew Oglesby. The choir is now a registered charity and also raises money for other charities at some concerts.

LGS has performed in many venues in West Leeds over the years, including St Margaret’s, St Mary’s and St James’s in Horsforth, St Thomas’s Stanningley, St John’s Farsley, St Paul’s Ireland Wood, St John’s Adel, St Oswald’s Guiseley, St Paul’s Esholt and St Giles’s Bramhope.

Perhaps readers have heard the choir sing at one of these churches in the near or distant past?

A lot has changed in the last 75 years, but the LGS mission remains the same as in 1948: **“to promote knowledge and appreciation of choral music by means of performance for the public benefit”**.

The Guild is delighted to return to Horsforth for its next concert: “Lament and Adoration” at St Margaret’s Church Horsforth on Saturday 23 March at 7.30pm. The programme features beautiful singing reflecting the Lenten season by well-known composers alongside rarely-heard works. Expect pieces from across the world, down the centuries and in a range of styles.

Tickets are £15 for adults including a souvenir programme. Available at the door or online. Entry is FREE for students and under 18s, as the choir continues to encourage young people to enjoy classical music.

David Bowman (Chair of Leeds Guild of Singers committee)

For more information, visit: leedsguildofsingers.org.uk



LEEDS GUILD
OF SINGERS

**Choral meditations on Lent
From the Renaissance to now**

Lament + Adoration

Saturday 23rd March, 7.30pm

St Margaret’s Church, Horsforth Church Lane, Horsforth LS18 5LA

Josquin des Prez

Arvo Pärt

Directed by Benjamin Kirk

Tickets £15 (Students and U18’s Free)

Visit: www.leedsguildofsingers.org.uk





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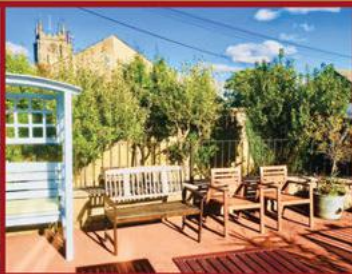
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There are thirty eight single bedrooms and one shared bedroom. All the residents services described opposite for The Grove, apply also to Red Court.

You are most welcome to view both Red Court and The Grove.

Since Red Court was opened as a Care Home thirty six years ago, it has gained an enviable reputation for the quality of care provided for the elderly residents. It has always achieved a 'Good' rating by the Care Quality Commission, the Government Authority responsible for inspection of Care Homes.

Both Red Court and The Grove are owned and operated by the same private company.

The company are responsible employers and are proud to have received the Investor in People accolade.

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THE SQUEAKER NEWS



BRINGING NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY TO THE COMMUNITY!

HORSFORTH MUSEUM

Horsforth Village Museum Re - Opens On Saturday 30th March



You know that spring has arrived when Horsforth History Museum opens its doors for another season!

Like the spring season, the exhibitions are fresh and ready to be enjoyed! The Squeaker met with Susan Watson, Museum volunteer, who kindly updates us on this season's offerings.

The Quilt Room- which has been designed for families to

enjoy this special place.

One of the main attractions is the 2023 Horsforth Walk of Art Textile Map.



Susan said: *"So many local people contributed to make this wonderful work of art, and it is a*

real privilege for us to display it."

There is also an exhibition of photography and cameras which takes you back through the years. This is combined with a display of clothing fashion up to the 1950's.

Susan added: *"Please come along and pose for a picture with one of our glamorous models."*

**SEND US
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Rotary's Quirky Quiz A Winner Once More

This annual event once again pulled in the crowds with 15 teams and 80 participants raising £275 for Aireborough Rotary's local and international charities.

Each round contained eight challenging questions laced with variety. In no other quiz would you find Tigers, Chocolate, TV theme tunes, Transport, to name but a few!

Choosing the right round to play the Joker and earn double points simply added to the difficulty.

In a close finish the Infamous Five, Adam, Christine and Andy Dobson plus Geoff and Susan Bartrum won by a short head from Julie Witham and friends: *'Lilian's Girls'*.

Next on the Rotary calendar is the Easter Egg Hunt at Rodley Nature Reserve on 31 March.

Aireborough Rotary Club
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THE SQUEAKER NEWS

BRINGING NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY TO THE COMMUNITY!

Enroll Now for Horsforth Walk of Art 2024



WALK OF ART

6&7th July 2024

LS18

LOCAL ARTISTS, musicians and performers are being urged to sign-up for Horsforth's biggest ever festival of creativity as the hugely popular Walk of Art gears up to celebrates its 10th anniversary.

The weekend of July 6th and 7th will be a **Free-To-All** showcase of all the wonderful cultural brilliance that bubbles away all-year-round in Horsforth's incredible community.

It will see artists and performers popping-up in both every day and unusual spaces – all with the aim of inspiring more people of all ages to get involved in making

art in all its forms.

Every year the Walk of Art has a theme, and this year's is

'THINGS THAT GO'.

And to ensure this year's celebrations are bigger and better than ever before, organisers are urging all local artists, musicians, groups and venues to enrol to be part of the exciting extravaganza. Events will be staged on both the Saturday and Sunday from 11am until 4pm.

Walk of Art Lead Organiser Kezia Roberts said: *"In our 10th year we are taking the festival back to*

its roots and focussing on offering hands on activities and the opportunity to watch artists while they work.

We are looking for artists to join us in inspiring others, this can be from their own home/studio or in a place we organise for them, groups who want to create an activity, showcase their art or put on a performance."

If you would like to participate in the Walk of Art the application period is open from the 1st March until the end of March.

For more information contact **Kezia Roberts** on **07984 025335** or **horsforthwoa@outlook.com**



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- Half Board & Monday High Tea



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ALL ABOARD AT WEAVERS COURT!



Weavers Court Care Home, Rawdon, invite all Squeaker readers to their Open Day on Thursday 21st March. The highlight of the event will be a talk by Professor Paul Read, about his 2000 mile, six- month voyage around the Caribbean.

Professor Paul Read, BSc. MSc. PhD has always had a passion for the Ocean. He was Professor of Marine Biology at Edinburgh Napier University.

Paul and his wife, Jane bought their first cruising yacht in 1974. They developed and perfected their sailing skills with 30 years cruising and racing on the west coast of Scotland. In 1999 they sailed their own yacht across the Atlantic from Scotland to the Caribbean as a Millennium project. In 2005 they sailed the Atlantic a second time which takes us to the topic of his talk.

After spending Christmas and New Year 2006/2007 in The Bahamas, His yaught, Shian set sail on an adventure of 6 months and 2000 miles south and east to Trinidad. His voyage took in 30 Caribbean Islands as well as navigating the infamous and treacherous 'Thorny Path', a sailing route picked through the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos, then along the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico to the Virgin Islands.

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Crossword
Puzzle Answers

From Page 9

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