

**- BASLOW REVISITED -**

**MEMORIES FROM THE**

**EARLIER YEARS**

**OF**

**DAVID CARTLEDGE**

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### Owler Bar

The journey begins at Rock End, and what better point at which to start than at the **Peacock Inn** at Owler Bar. Over the door, letters some fifteen inches high proclaimed the name of the Landlord as JOHN H. BROUGHAM, known locally as Johnnie Brougham, whilst beneath it the name of the hostelry struggled for existence in small letters. On the way down the hill towards Baslow there is on the left, about two hundred yards before the turn to Barlow, a level piece of ground. Here stood the house of the gamekeeper (**Ramsley Cottage demolished**), Martin Slack. The last keeper to live there was David Sheldon, who afterwards went to live in the row of cottages opposite the Church. Proceeding down the main road to Baslow, just opposite Rock End on the right, can be seen another level piece of land. I remember a building standing there, which I was given to understand, was where they used to smelt lead.

### Cupola

Further down the hill to Baslow, on the left, lived a Mr. John Beswick in one of a pair of houses called **Cupola Cottages**. A working man, but a true gentleman, he knew every herb and tree in the district and was a firm believer in the healing power of herbs. He was familiar with every public footpath on the moors and kept them clean with his scythe. After he died, Page Mackenzie went to live in his cottage. Around that time a Mr. Briers, the owner of the Snow White Laundry in Sheffield, bought a piece of land on the far side of Bar Brook in order to build two houses, but first he had to build a bridge, which at the time was said to have cost more than it did to build the two houses. Mr. Briers lived in one house and his son-in-law, Mr. Slater, in the other. On the death of Mr. Briers, Page Mackenzie (his other son-in-law) moved over the bridge from the cottage into Mr. Briers' house, and Arnold Turner, a Sheffield man who had moved into the area and was eventually appointed a Councillor for the Bakewell District, became the newest occupant of the Mackenzie Cottage. In the next cottage (**Toll Bar Cottage**), after Mr. Beswick, lived Bill Woodiwiss and his sister May Ingram. May was the village post woman for many years and brother Bill was the local road-man. In the summer they sold sweets and drinks to cyclists. After the Briers house came the village tip. The last person to **take** rubbish there was a Mr. Rowarth who emptied the ashpits in Baslow.

### Far End

On the left, the field at the side of the road constituted the first and second holes of the golf course, the other seven holes stretching over towards the Robin Hood and back to the professional's hut. Mr Bennett was the professional and, as small boys, we used to borrow a club and some balls from him and have a game of golf. This golf course was featured in the brochure of the Baslow Hydro.

The farm (**Yeld Farm**) which Mr. Smedley now has was once farmed by a Mr. Gardom, I believe the Gardoms farmed it for generations, to be followed by a Mr. Hearnshaw. Mrs. Hearnshaw delivered milk round Baslow as did Mr. Holding who lived in the farm opposite (**Yeldwood Farm**), with the help of his son Arthur. There are two cottages at the bottom of the hill. On the right lived (**Yeldway cott**) another Mr. Holding, (brother to the farmer) and in the other cottage (**Yeld Cottage**) Mr. Eades, who was one of the first men to run a bus service to Chesterfield. Stan Eades sold out to Hulley's and then went to work for them. At the bottom of the hill, many a lorry ran out of control and finished in the field. One day a lorry driver lost control and drove through the Golden Gates, which were the gates adjacent to the two Chatsworth Lodge houses where Mr. Smith and

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Mr. Jim Link lived. After this the bend was straightened and a new roundabout was built. Just before the small bridge, (which has been widened) near to the **Wheatsheaf** public house, is the field previously used for the fair, which was then moved to the field up the Wheatsheaf yard, where Baslow football team played, before moving on to the recreation field.

### Nether End

On the lawn at the side of the Wheatsheaf Public House was a bowling green. There was also, above **Joe Fletcher's Garage**, a billiard room which went with the tenancy of the Wheatsheaf which was then held by a Mrs. Neale. This lady used to gather and process beeswax and, earlier in the century, whilst boiling up a pan of beeswax, accidentally tipped up the pan and sustained severe burns from which she subsequently died. She left, I believe, three sons and a daughter. The eldest son was called Cyril Cavendish Neale, who was born in the Cavendish Hotel at Bolsover. He went to live with Mr. Walker, a worker on the Chatsworth Estate, for two weeks and lived with the Walker family till he died.

Across the road from the Wheatsheaf was the bake-house (**The Old Bakehouse**) which Mr. Sheldon kept, followed by a Mr. Willis, who was the last person to use it as a bake-house. It was subsequently converted into a bungalow and is now a home for Mrs. Whitney... After the bake house in Baslow stopped trading, we then bought our bread and confectionery from the bakery at Pilsley, which in turn ceased trading and eventually became a Post Office. I can remember the Pilsley bakery being run successively by the Siddons, the Garfoots, the Simpson's and finally the Lees. We now use the Chatsworth Farm shop at Pilsley. Up the yard at the side of the Wheatsheaf were the stables and a cowshed, whilst at the top of the yard stood a building which became toilets for the coach parties. Next to the Wheatsheaf on the same side was Strutt's farm (**Ivy House**) and tea rooms, after which came Hearnshaw the farmer (**The Farm**), whose sisters also kept tea-rooms. Further up the lane on the right was Staley's the joiners (**Woodside**). At one time they employed in excess of 30 men and had a saw pit with a top and bottom sawyer. They undertook the joinery on Mortons Estate at Darley Dale. Mr. Ted Staley lived next to the joiner's shop, whilst his brother Frank lived in the big house (**The Croft**) on the left at the top of the lane. When Frank Staley's daughter married Frank Taylor, the couple moved in with him at the big house, next to a cottage (**Croft Cottage**) of which subsequently there were various occupants, among them Freddie Fulford, a mineral water manufacturer from Sheffield. Later Frank Taylor and Francis Staley, son of Frank, built the two houses further up the lane (**Carnfield & Mine-Holme**). From Willis's bakery (**Flower shop**), next door to which lived Mrs. Bennett, wife of the golf professional (who, interestingly, was an excellent pianist), as far as the Devonshire, extended a long row of shops representing a wide variety of trades and services. After the bakery came the house of Mr. Ellis (**Lt part Barbrook House**), a local landowner, who owned all the property in the row. Mr. Kemp's shoe-repairs came next, followed by Frank Taylor's fish and game shop, this being the Frank Taylor who married Frank Staley's daughter. Then came Jefferson's, a grocery before it was turned into a cafe. George Hearnshaw, the butcher, brother of Hearnshaw the farmer, lived and worked at Radcliffe House (**now Izzi's**), and was flanked on the other side by the Baslow Garage (**demolished**), owned by Mr. Barnes and which Joe Fletcher took over when he had to move from the Wheatsheaf yard. After that came the "**Royal**" Public House (**demolished**), a Mr. Pride, I believe was the last Landlord. Joe Fletcher used the Old Royal as an office and also lived there. Next came Dalby's fruit and vegetable store (**demolished**) which at night doubled as a chip shop! After Dalby's left, this **three-storey building** became an antique shop which was run by Chappell's. There was nothing but a space next to the antique shop. The stone steps at the side of Dalby's shop went up to the premises of Teddy Goodlad the saddler, on the top floor, and then came the Devonshire Arms, two storeys high topped with battlements. At the rear

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of the Devonshire stood a large function room where dances and parties were held. The Baslow Association for the Prosecution of Felons and Baslow Cricket Club both held their annual dinners there and the cricket club their New Years Eve Dance for many years. Later, a canopy was erected from the back of the Hotel to the Ballroom. There was also a billiard room. The men's toilet was situated outside under an archway. Then came Ellis's, (**Café on the Green**) a large shop which is still used today. Mrs. Johnson (daughter of Mr. Ellis) who also had a chip shop lived next door (**Corner Cottage**). The cottages next to the brook (**Brookside Cottage**) had various tenants, Colin Pinder being one of the oldest. It was Mrs. Pinder's father, Mr. Machin, who was one of the first to run a bus service to Sheffield.

### Across Barbrook

At Nether End, proceeding towards the small bridge on the left over Bar Brook there are two cottages, one occupied by Mrs. Singleton and her daughter who taught infants in Baslow for many years, and who later became Mrs. Dent, and in the next (**approx site of Parkside House**), Sam Noton. The Singletons' cottage has since been demolished. Crossing the bridge and straight on up the drive (**Park Lodge**) lived Surgeon Lieut.-Col. Wrench (whose daughter married Dr. Eddlestone). Not only was the Lt.-Colonel responsible for the erection of that well-known landmark, Wellington's Monument, but he also designed the face of the Church Clock, suitably inscribed "Victoria 1897" commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It is interesting to note that the letters and numbers of this inscription were so disposed as to depict the twelve hours on the clock face. Following the death of Lt.-Colonel Wrench who, incidentally, among his many other activities was a practising G.P. in the community, his house, called "Park Lodge", was occupied successively by Colonel Wales, and latterly by Mr. Penrose, the Duke of Devonshire's agent, (now retired), the present tenant.. Down the drive in the first house on the left (**Park Cottage**) lived Mr. & Mrs. Osbourne. Mrs. Osbourne's mother brought up Jack Whitney who married, first, Miss Willis for his first wife, and afterwards Miss Grafton. Turning left, in the first cottage (**Thatch Cottage**) lived Mrs. Brightmore (sister to my grandfather), followed by Mr. & Mrs. Walker, then Jimmy Elliot (**now joined as Thatch End**). Opposite them (**Park Lane Farm**) lived the Hulley's, who originated from Nottingham, (I believe Mr. Hulley was born in Beeley), and had come to Baslow for Mr. Hulley to work at the Home Farm. All the cottages over the bridge, excepting Hulley's, had thatched roofs, and belonged to Chatsworth.

Back over the bridge in the cottage on the left (**Barbrook cottage**) lived Mr. Fred Stone, the electrician at Chatsworth, who married a Miss Watson. Next came the row of three cottages (**The "Gas" Cottages!**), Mrs. Watson and her daughter Ivy occupied the first one (Ivy Watson being one of the first to work in the Telephone Exchange at Baslow). Then came Bill Thorpe who worked at the Gas Works and lived in the "Gas House".

Mrs. Froude lived next door with her father Mr. Rydout, having the dubious pleasure of their premises being situated next to the Gas Works. All these cottages belonged to Chatsworth. On the other side stood a wooden hut (**Sweet Gene's**), the salon of Eric Beardall, the village barber. The "salon" was also popular as a meeting place for the village lads. Then came the allotments, where now stand the toilets which, incidentally, I built, and behind which lurked the Nether End ashpit and the whole expanse of the Gas Works.

Back on the highway was another hut which constituted the premises of the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade, formerly sited on Mr. Bacon's property, which contrasted starkly with the magnificence of the Stockdale Institute (**The Village Hall**) which stood next door. Why ever the institute was pulled

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down and the new one built, I shall never know, for the facilities provided in this building were superb. On the ground floor, there was a Committee room on the left, then a large kitchen with a dumb waiter and large boiler. Across the hall was a large billiards room with toilets, and in the hall to the right of the stairway a bathroom and toilets where people could pay to have a bath. The stairs were very wide with a landing, then a further flight led to another landing where were the main doors to the large room which had a stage on the left with dressing rooms. The back of the clock was in the far right corner of the stage, (I believe Mr. Hall has now got the clock). In the far right hand corner of the Dance Hall a door led to a fire escape with stone steps. Before the Second World War we had silent pictures in the building every Friday, given by a Mr. Brown. Ivy Dalby used to collect the money, and Alan Neale played the piano. The children also used to have school dinners in the large room during the War.

### Church Lane

After the Institute we come to the prestigious Peacock Hotel, now the Cavendish, of which a Mr. Webster was the Landlord, whilst further along the Main Road followed the electricity sub-station and the recreation ground. Across the road was the appropriately-named Brick-a-Day Villa (**Highways**), so called because it took so long to build. Returning to Nether End, Mr. Pawson, a Sheffield businessman lived in a house (**Ashton Fields**) previously occupied by Jonnie Hogg, which is why the footpath leading from there to Eaton Hill is called "Johnnie Hogg's Passage". The next building was Dr. Eddlestone's house (**Ashenfell House**), and the next, known as "The White House", was a residence built and occupied by a Mr. Ramsden, a retired builder from Sheffield, near which could be found a stile over a footpath leading to Eaton Hill. There were then two fronted houses **Tor View & Hawthorne Dene** in which lived Mr. Woodhouse (whose wife was one of the Misses Tasker), then Mr. Hotchkiss. Mr. Charlie Bacon, a worker on the Chatsworth Estate and a cricketer of some note, lived next door in the old cottage (**Nether Cottage**). Next to him was Miss Fawkes' newsagents and confectionery shop (**Il Lupo restaurant**).

### Eaton Hill

On Eaton Hill W. P. Sheldon, my Grandfather's nephew, built a house for himself on the left (**Brynawel**), and on the opposite side the footpath was raised and a handrail erected. On the right, in the cottage where Mrs. Davis now lives, lived a Mr. Jack Howard who bought the cottage (**Howard Cottage**) for £200.00 at a sale set up by the Duke of Rutland. The stone wall surrounding the next house (**Eaton Cottage**), occupied by a Mr. Simpson, came from the Hydro when it was pulled down in 1936. In the next house (**Woodlands**) on the right up the hill lived the sisters of Mr. Wallis, the well-known ironmonger in Bakewell. Adjoining the house of the Wallis sisters we find the School allotments which were moved there when the bungalow was built below the School, then Hanover Cottage, where lived Mr. Sheldon, a retired veterinary surgeon from Hanover Street in Sheffield, hence the name of the cottage. He was, incidentally, no relation to any of the other Baslow Sheldons. Mr. Sheldon's daughter married Ted Broughton with whom she eventually kept the Bridge Inn at Calver until Ted's death, after which she retired to live in School Lane at Baslow. A small cottage (**site of Lone Beech**), occupied by Mrs. Bromley, stood between Hanover Cottage and a space which is now the road to the new Eaton Drive Estate. At the end of the road, a cul-de-sac, were the Hydro garages, followed by the two cottages (**Meriden**) which have been made into one and can still be seen. In addition, other cottages have been built and a new road made. At the top of Eaton Hill, in the cottages on the left (**Merrie Leas**) Teddy Goodlad, the saddler, lived, next to the market garden which Mr. Harwood owned, on which site there now stands a house (**Merle Bank**). To the left going down the passage to the main road is the Doctor's house, on the right Mr. Spooner's (**Ashenfell**) whose wife was the second Miss Tasker. Opposite

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was a footpath to the Yeld Wood, then Mrs. Bagshaw's house (**Ashenbank**) where Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Carpenter lived and which brings you to the cul-de-sac to the field. On the right Mr. W. Dent had the house (**The Gables**) built now owned by Mr. Rankin, whose garden stretched up to the road. In the 30's Mr. Rowbuck and Miss Sorby had the two houses (**High Croft & Stoneygate**) built in Mr Dent's orchard. After which we approach the big house on the left (**Tithe Acre House**) where the Sumpters formerly lived, after whom Mrs. Milner from Totley in Sheffield took possession. I believe Mrs. Milner was related to the Wilson Snuff family. Then Mr. Walker (**Whetstone Cottage**), and finally came the small cottage (**Hove Leigh**) occupied by a Mr. Bradford. Opposite is Dr. Pennington's bungalow (**Sullane**), whose entrance was the main entrance to the Hydro. There was a long drive to the Hydro which had a fountain at the front entrance. In the centre of the road opposite Dr. Pennington's gate is a tree, called "The Prince of Wales Tree", and at the very top of the Hydro, in large letters, was the word "GRAND". The foundation stone for the Hydro was laid by Edward Tozer, the Mayor of Sheffield in 1880, and when it stood empty a Miss Gill lived there alone as Caretaker.

### Bar Road

At the Prince of Wales Tree up the Bar Road, there are two houses. Mr. Clarke occupied the top one (**Brentwood**) and the bottom (**Southernwood**) one stood empty for years. Along the lane is the house of Mr. Fletcher, the painter and decorator, who lived in Orchard Cottage, now the home of Mr. Shirtcliffe. Opposite him lived Sammy Lee (**Cedar Cottage**), whose wife was the last of the Gardoms, and a Miss Riley lived with them as a companion to Mrs. Lee. On Bar Road there are four houses (**Trees, Rossett Green, Roerma, Dale Cottage**) which were opposite the Hydro Tennis Courts. My brother, my sisters and myself were all born in the top house on the corner. Up Bar Hill, in the house on the left (**The Old Willow ex Rose Cottage**) lived Jack Hawksworth, a cobbler who had lost his leg in the 1914-1918 War. His party-piece was to drive a nail into his wooden leg, which feat constantly amazed us as small boys. The next house up (**Hawkfield**) is where Mrs. Cuckson lives. Mr. Fred Hawksworth snr. who is the father of Jack, had this house built. He is also father to Fred who lived in the cottage (**Hydro Cottage**) below Mrs. Scott Brook. Then after Fred Hawksworth came the Fletcher family. Where Mrs. Brook now lives (**Fern Cottage**) were Mr. Hibbert and their Son Ruben, the postman for many years until he retired, then he went on to be the River Keeper. Next to Mr. Hibbert (**Underwood Cottage**) lived a Mr. Hayto, whose cottage was, I believe, at one time a public house. On the left towards the Yeld Wood, in the cottage (**Yeldside Cottage**) where Jack Sheldon lived was where my grandfather and his ten brothers and sisters were born. Just in the bottom path in the wood, were a gate and a public footpath leading straight down to Eaton Hill and to Johnnie Hogg's passage, across the main road to the footpath leading to Chatsworth. Back to the Bar Road where Mr. Mathews lives in the house (**Bar House**) built by the two Miss Brightmores. Next came the farm house (**Ladywell House**), previously occupied by a Miss Brightmore who also owned the Farm. Wilfred Hulley, who worked for her, was no relation to the Hulley's in the Nether End. Up the hill to the top on the left, there are the farm buildings (**Ladywell Shippon**) which Jack Lister converted into a house for his daughter Mary. Jack was one of the Lister family of Steeplejacks from Sheffield, and lived in the farm house, "Ladywell House", after Miss Brightmore died, before he became the Landlord at the Peacock Hotel, now the Cavendish. Opposite, where the house next to the wood stands (**Bar Cottage**) (which incidentally I built) lived Fred Sheldon's family. This house was pulled down to build the new one. The Sheldons changed houses with George Sabey the baker at the Mill, as climbing the hill was too much for him. Down Bar Road, in succession lived, on the left (**Ladywell Cott, Moor cott, Southbank, Yeld Mount**), first Mr. Gallimore, then a Mr. Trown, the Misses Wright, Mr. Gender with his parrot, and finally the cottage where Bill Pybus lived.



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### Gorse Bank Lane

Turning right up Gorse Bank Lane, Taylor Gill lived in the cottage on the right (**Selbourne House**), then Mr. Payne (**Little Willow**) in the bungalow then, in the pair which we called the "Pigeon Cotes" (**Moorlands & Woodlands**) lived Mr. Hoyland. He owned both houses and took a room off the Misses Meots who lived next door to make his house larger. Then came the Green Close field which now has a house at the bottom of the field (**Gorse Mount**). Back down the lane and coming back up was Mr. Brightmore's allotment, which extended down to the lane of Orchard Cottage where there was another village tip. Today there is a house built at the top (**Allbrighton**). Next we have the cottage (**Woodholme**) where Mr. Cox lives, this too was sold at the Dukes sale for £200,00. A Mr. Townsend lived there when it was sold and he went to live in the first Council House on the right, up Wheatlands Lane. He was the horseman for my grandfather, fetching stone from the Bar Quarry to build Baslow Hall. Once, whilst working in the Yeld wood, the banking gave way and the horse and cart fell to the bottom but the horse, who was called Duke, lived to a ripe old age. Further on (**Gorse Bank Cottage**) lived Mrs. Taylor, sister to Mrs. Smith, Pauline's mother. Mrs. Taylor had two sons, Bill and Reg. Albert Taylor, who was no relation to the other Taylors, ran a dairy from Mrs' Taylor's buildings, getting his milk from Thorpe's Farm. I believe at one time Mrs. Taylor delivered milk and her husband delivered fish and game round the village. When he left Gorse Bank Lane, Albert went to a dairy at the Mill. Afterwards (**Gorse Hill**) came the Stapletons and after them Max Turner, now a Mr. Trent lives there. My father built the house for Stapleton's. Then on to Thorpes where John lives (**Ashopstone**). The stone used in the building of John's house came from Ashopton which is now flooded under the Dams at Bamford. Sammy Lee had a poultry farm selling eggs in Sheffield in the field where John Thorpe lives. Mr. Thorpe Senior came to Baslow (**Gorse Bank Farm**) from Ashopton when that village was flooded during the twenties.

### Note

Whilst mentioning the Mill it might be interesting briefly to examine some of its functions and facets. It was situated on Calver Road just past the Rutland Arms and was owned by Mr. Edmund Hodgkinson. It consisted of a wheelhouse with loft over, bake house, granaries with loft over, storeroom and drying kiln. The baker was Mr. Goodwin and his assistant was George Sabey, to whom I have previously referred. When Mr. Hodgkinson died Mr. Lloyd-Jones bought his house on School Lane, and Dr. Ferranti bought the whole of the Flour Mill and all the land that went with it. Mr. Tasker was the first man to have electricity which he generated from the Mill before it was sold. Dr. Ferranti had his own generator at Baslow Hall where he lived until he died in the late twenties or early thirties. When the Mill was working and also used as a bake house I was only a young boy, but I was led to believe that Dr. Ferranti, had he lived after purchasing the Mill, intended to generate electricity from the Mill to supply the whole of Baslow.

Having touched on (the first tentative influence of electricity on to the Baslow scene, and the skills developed in that area by Dr. Ferranti, it may be of interest to note that Dr. Ferranti had a large factory in Hollingwood, near Manchester, where experiments were being carried out on the development of A.C. current to replace the commonly used D.C. He generated his own electricity at Baslow Hall which powered all the experiments he carried out at home. He had electric milking machines and various other electrical devices in the early twenties which we take for granted today. He used to travel to Hollingwood in an Alfa Romeo. He did offer to supply Baslow with electricity but it appears that the Powers That Be had a greater interest in the Gas Works.

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When Ronnie Thorpe's father came to Baslow as a result of the flooding in Ashopton, he took over the Froggatts' farm (**Gorse Bank Farm**), and extended it when Ferranti's sale took place.

### Over End

On the lane to the left on the way to the Mr. Walsh's Farm lived (**Raincliffe**) Miss Mills sister to Noel Brooks wife, who had a children's nursery. There was another bungalow, then the Farm House (**South View**) from where George Sheldon ran his farm. George was the grandfather of Brian and Ken, who both played cricket. Close to George's farm was a house in the corner (**Aviemore**) where Ben Hulley lived, previously occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Hall, parents of Geoff and Ken, whose father was known as the "Silver King" as he was so clever as a silversmith in Sheffield.

From the post box next to Dr. Pennington, in the cottage on the right (**Victoria Cottage 2**) lived another Brightmore, Percy the cobbler. In the next cottage (**Victoria Cottage 1**) lived his brother George, (father of Alwyn, George, Gordon, Derek and Trudy), followed by Mr. Birtles (**Paeony cottage**), the farm hand for Lloyd Jones who owned the farm now occupied by Mr. Walsh, (the father of Peggy and Kath). Then came the house (**Nailstone Cottage**) of Winnie McGregor, who was preceded by first, the Flints and prior to them the Windles, who I believe used the house as the first telephone exchange in Baslow. Up the lane to the right of Hawley's shop, in the house on the right (**Rose Hill**) lives Mr. Lloyd Jones, whose predecessor in the house was Mr. Hodgkinson, who owned the Mill on Calver Road.

Adjacent was Penistone Cottage (**Overend Manor**) where a Mr. Redfern lived. I believe Mr. Penistone was the first Wesleyan in Baslow. To the left of Hawley's shop **Village Shop** up the hill can be found **Cherry Tree Farm**, owned by Jim Holmes, Tommy Butterall's uncle. Jim used to take Mr. Dent, owner of the Gas Works and a Magistrate, to Bakewell every Friday in a horse and landau. Opposite (**Sycamore cottage**) lived Mrs. Fletcher (Sister of Henry Hulley, the founder of the Bus Service), then their daughter, Mrs. Brough. Before Henry founded the Bus Service he was employed by the Hydro as a chauffeur. Mrs. Fletcher was a widow who subsequently married a Mr. Glass, father of Sally. Further up Over Lane (**Rosemary Cottage**) resided Mr. Law, after him (**? same building**) Mr. Middleton, then Lance Hulley. Mr. Law and Mr. Middleton both worked for Mr. Ferranti at the farm. All these houses were sold at Ferranti's sale. Mr. Horne now lives in the house (**Jasmine Cottage**) once occupied by Dennis Ferranti. On the corner were Mrs. Bartell and her daughter. Opposite, in the cottages which go down the steps to School Lane, lived Mr. Eadam (**Rose Cottage**), and next Mr. George Brightmore door (**Ash Cottage**). Alwyn Brightmore told me that it was the first house George had lived in before going to live next door to Percy. On the left on the corner lived the Noton family and next to them Mr. Hibbert, whose house (**Greystones Cottage**) now belongs to George Brough whilst Tom Hulley occupied the cottage (**Raleigh Cottage**) in the corner. Back on Over Lane we find a whole list of familiar names all living in close proximity starting with Mr. Rapier (**Shaw Cottage**) and followed successively by Mr. Hawksworth, (**Columbell**) another cobbler, the Norries' (**Rosslyn Cottage**), then my father (**Cherry Tree Cottage**) who built his own and Norries' houses. Tommy Butterall (**Edgeview House**, (Jim Holmes' nephew), and Eric Beardall (**Sunnybank**) the local Barber who had a "salon" in the Nether End. After these last few houses, past the trough, were the pair (**The Meadows & Little Garth**) which Mr. Clarke had built. On Over Lane again to the right was first, Mr. Barton (**Ash Croft**), then Mrs. Barton's sister Miss Myers (**Holme Croft**). The next on the right was Mr. Blundell's bungalow (**Gorse Edge End**), which was built for Mr. Nuttall, the Market Gardener. Opposite the two bungalows where the cowsheds and milking parlour for the Ferranti Farm, and at the side, the rear entrance to Baslow Hall. I am reminded at this point of the occasion when Dennis Ferranti tried to land a bi-plane in the field at the side of Mr. Nuttall's and caught a wire on the top of the wall which



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had been put up to stop sheep jumping over. He never hit the top of the Alma public house, which has been locally alleged. Dennis also raced in the T.T. Races on the Isle of Man on a Norton motorcycle. The next house (**Overland House**) is where Mr. Harrison lived, it was built for a Mr. Plowright who was in the Air force but was killed in the last War. Down the hill stood the houses to Stanton Ford.

Down by Hawleys Shop, on the opposite side is **Beechcroft**, a house which was built for Mr. John Frith, the Water Engineer for Chesterfield. He also designed the water services for Baslow and the Hydro which came from below the Wellington Monument. After John Frith's demise his son Gilbert took over the house. Then followed in succession a Mr. Crossley, Mr. Dyson and Mr. Redmile. I believe Mr. Frith's telephone number was 1. Mr. Redmile kept this number when he moved to Royal Croft Drive, but slightly changed it to 3101. Mrs. Redmile's father, Mr. Cawthorne, who was a survivor of the 1914-18 war, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, which is the next highest award to the Victoria Cross. The building on the right just inside the gate was the stables (**Beechcroft Cottage**) for Beechcroft, which were subsequently converted to a house. Down the road, in the cottage (**Overland Cottage**) opposite the lane to the **Alma**, lived Mrs. Fenten who sold sweets etc., before Hawleys had a shop.

Up the lane to the Alma were the cottages on the right (**4 cottages now Sycamore Cottage**) with the toilets opposite, next to the road. The Middleton family lived in one of these when they came from Sheffield. Next, **the Alma** public house, which was built in 1854 and was named after the battle of Alma, the first battle won by the British in the Crimean War. The last person to hold a licence was the father of Eric Smith the postman. The toilets were on the site of the new Telephone Exchange. Up the lane on the left lived the Blackwells (**Moorview**) who had a haulage business. Mr. Henry Hulley's house was at the top on the left (**Moorview**). After Mr. Henry Hulley, Joe Winfield, then Mr. Taylor who eventually moved to a house opposite the school. Further on (**Hanover Buildings**) came George Noton, George Fletcher and Mrs. Hall. All coal lorries and ashpit collections took their lorries to the top of the lane. Next down School Lane next to Fentems lived Mr. Alan Greaves' (**also Overlane Cottage**) who made his own electricity. He was also the only man that I knew of who went swimming round the Green at the Nether End when we had a flood. Next along was the **School House**, then the **School**. Opposite stood a row of four houses (**School View**). I remember Mr. Gilton living in the top house, Mr. White, Mr. Stansfield and Mr. Taylor in the others. My Grandfather lived here for a short period and my Mother got married from this house. The bungalow after the School (**Meadow Cottage**) Mr. Crossley had built for his Mother on the site formerly occupied by the School allotments. Across are the **Chapel rooms**, then the **Red House** which a Mr. John Tasker had built, he was the first man to have electric lights in Baslow. He had a line taken from the paper shop (Mrs. Chapmans) to the Church. Mr. Tasker was the pioneer of electric light and the telephone in Sheffield and he was the first man to try and floodlight a football match, which he did on October 14th 1873. The captains of the two teams were the famous Clegg brothers. This house stood empty for a long time until a Mr. Armitage bought it. Just before the 1939-45 War Mr. Bowles purchased it and named it **Abney House**, as his father owned Abney Estate near Hathersage. Next came Tommy Leach's cottage (**Quince Cottage**) which Mr. Tinker now lives in, then the cottages (**Magnolia Cottage**) where Fosters lived and where the telephone exchange was until just after the War. They had the new one built before the War, but it was not used until it ended.

Following on came The Cottage which is now called **Baslow House** where Mr. and Mrs. Stanton lived, major benefactors to the Church. Opposite (**The Beeches**) lived Mrs. Burdekin then Mr. Turner, father of Max. Joe Heath later bought the house and turned it into flats. The house opposite the Prince of Wales (called **The Thatches**), stands on the tennis court which the Turners

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played on. Opposite to Baslow House, the wall to the back of The Beeches is where Mr. Coates used to salt pigs and the wall was crumbling due to the salt. You can see where it has been repaired (badly). The bungalow on the right (**Woodlow**), going up School Lane was also in the grounds of the Beeches. It was built for £1,200.00, (father built it) for Mr. Dolman, a brother of Mrs. Wortley who lived on Calver Road. Down School Lane on the right (**1-4 School Lane & Church Terrace**) lived Walter Ollivant who died in Japanese hands during the last War. A number of people lived in the others. Up the steps lived Albert Burgess then in the row Mrs. Hollis. The waterboard man whom we called Little Dye and Mrs. Chapman whose daughter Ethel Bufton had the paper shop. All this property was owned by Mr. Coates who lived in the house in the corner of School Lane (**Corner Cottage**), which at one time was a shop. Next to Mr. Coates in the cottage (**Willow Cottage**) lived Joe Marples, the cricket club umpire for many years. Opposite the cottage on the other side of the road next to the **Prince of Wales** where the green gate is was the Mortuary, which I believe the Village had to have. Before it became a Mortuary, it was a Hearse House where the Hearse was kept for people to use at funerals, no doubt they had their own horse but could borrow one. After the row of cottages lived Mr. White the farmer (**Church Farm**), whose daughter Alice married John Holding the farmer's son from the bottom of Sheffield Road. On his marriage he took the tenancy of Cross Farm at Bubnell. Alice made the front of the house into a shop and sold sweets and tobacco. Next, where the Dentist is (**now Art Gallery**), Mr. Wyer had a bakery.

### Church Street

Then we had, one after the other, Mr. Kelsley, a butcher (**Toy Shop**), then the house where Mr. Marples lived (**Church Cottage**), then the open yard before Mr. Coates' large shop (**Avant Garde large building**). The large windows grandfather put in as the original ones were too small, the right side was for drapery and the Post Office and the left for food and the public telephone box. The shop was sold to Sharman's of Sheffield and that's how Harry Sheppard came to Baslow as the Manager. They also bought White's Shop and when Sharman's sold out to Arthur Taylor, H. Sheppard acquired the shop from White's, turning it into a Hardware Shop. After Coates was Miss Baggs (**Charles's Bistro**), who had a cafe, Mrs. Fletcher, newsagent, then the Bank, Williams Deacons of Bakewell, now the Royal Bank of Scotland, which opened twice a week. Then came the fruit and vegetable shop, who also sold sweets W A Taylor (**Avante Garde, end building**). Taylor had three lorries and delivered fruit and vegetables to the local villages. His private car was a Clyno.

### Calver Road

In the next building was the Blacksmith's shop (**The Old Forge**) owned by a Mrs. Marples. Mr. Derbyshire and his son Bill worked for her and on her death took over the business. Both Mr. Derbyshire and his son lived in the houses called Derwent View. In the cottages opposite the Rutland Hotel (**Japonica Cottage**), Hubert Sheldon lived, he used the first two to run a plumbers business and shop to sell mantles for the gas lamps. Reggie Taylor served as his apprentice plumber. Then came Mr. Tomlinson the butcher shop (**Jasmine Cottage**) and when he had a house built to the right of the lane, going to Hulley's Yard, Mr. Hobbs took it over as a Painting and Decorating Shop. Leslie Udall married his daughter (Hilda) who died young, they also lost a son, Russell, in the War. Next we have **Hulley's Bus Depot**, then the **Derwent View** (12 Cottages). My Father told me they were built for under £100 each. Back to the **Rutland Arms** which had the gents toilets outside, then the **Mill House** where the miller lived until the Mill closed, when Mr. Hodgkinson died. The Mill also made electricity for Mr. Tasker at the Red House, he also took an overhead line to the Church. The Mill was purchased by Dr. Ferranti and at his sale, a Mr. Glossop purchased

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the Mill and the buildings which Hulley's made into a garage for buses. Previously they had been used by Sam Hibbert, a builder, and by my grandfather. D. Sheldon, also used them when he bought the Tan-Yard. The Mill house was bought by Mr. Hurst who set up a printing works in a large shed which he had erected in the garden. He was also the Captain of the cricket team.

Back across the road to the end of Derwent View is the entrance to the Tan yard and all the White Lodge buildings my grandfather purchased at the Duke of Rutland's sale. He used the yard as a builders yard where the house which was built for May Staley was **(Tanyard Cottage)**. It used to house the mortar mill for his building work, for in those days the mortar was ground i.e. ashes and lime ground in the mill then taken to the site. Where Peter Fletcher now lives **(The Archways)** it was once used as a store and paint shop. Grandfather lived in the house facing the lane **(White Lodge Cottage)** and Mr. Staley in the one next to the road **(White Lodge)**, he also made a flat for my grandmother, when he moved there he sold his house to a Mr. Nixon from Eyam. On the same side next is White Lodge Lane which was a cart track and grandfather built the four houses at the top. My father lived in one and had a builder's yard at the side, before which he bought the land across the main road at Ferranti's sale. Father and myself used it as a builders yard until I sold it to my nephew John when I retired as a builder (where he now lives). All the houses round the field Father built. At the top of White Lodge a Mr. Hetherington built the houses on the left and right.

Mr. Davie built all the new houses on the right to the two bungalows **(Bemersyde & White Oaks)**.

The village Policeman had No. 12 Derwent View for many years, then he moved to one of Mr. Davie's houses **(Riverside House)**, Mr. Glover being the last policeman to be there. Then you reach the entrance to **Baslow Hall** built by my grandfather for the Reverend and Mrs. Stockdale the Vicar of Baslow and his wife, in 1910. He did the most to collect the money to build the Stockdale Institute). When he died Mrs. Stockdale sold the Hall to Dr. Ferranti, after Ferranti it was taken by Mr. Davie, then Frank Kenning, then Mr. Clixby, then Fishers the present owner. Then he built the Chancel at the Church. All the stone came from the Baslow Bar Quarry to build the Hall, the extensions to the Church also the Baslow War memorial and the Stockdale Institute.

Mr. Ferranti's sale took place in July 1930, that's when things started to change in Baslow. It saw the start of all the building work in Baslow, the Calver Road Estate, the Over Lane Estate and all the houses on the left of Calver Road past the Mill. As nearly all the land belonged to Mr. Ferranti (except the Hydro Estate) and the Church View Drive, (now the Church View Drive Estate), which belonged to Mr. Bowles, it was sold on his death.

Going back to the lane leading to the river at the side of the church, on the left in the grounds of the churchyard is another village tip. This used to be the ford crossing before the old bridge was built in 1603. There was also an old watchman's hut. At the bottom of the lane a 12" pipe took all the sewage from the old stone soughs as Baslow did not have a sewerage system until the sixties. All the old houses had earth toilets except the ones that had septic tanks, but all the raw sewage went into the river or the brook at Nether End.

The house on the left before crossing the bridge was only a small cottage **(Toll Bar Cottage)** and has been extended to what it is today. A glance at the verges on the Lychgate will disclose lettering in memory of a Mary Wilson of Sheffield. The Lychgate was donated by the Wilson family. Over the bridge on the left were two thatched cottages which have been made into one **(Bridgefoot cottage)**, their occupants being Messrs. Charlie Wyer and Mr. Naylor. Opposite was

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a single house (**Bridge Cottage**) which, I am told, was a public house called "The Joiners' Arms". Near at hand was the farmhouse (**Bridgefoot Farm**) where Mr. Tomlinson (my cousin) ran the farm. This had been in their family for generations and was also a butcher's shop. At the side in the farmyard sheep and cattle were slaughtered for the local butchers. In the cottage on the left up Bubnell Lane lived Mrs. Helliwell (**Bubnell Cottage**). Next to her was Tomlinsons' farm (**Bubnell Hall Lt**), who also farmed Bridge Foot farm which was situated behind Bubnell Hall (**near road**), where Miss Peel lived. The buildings have now been amalgamated to form a single residence for Colonel Rhodes. Further on was the only new residence (**Wheatlands House**) to have been built in the Bubnell area before the 1939-45 war. It was built for a Mr. Attenborough. **Cross Farm** was the next habitat (now a house) and after that came Furness's farm (**Bubnell Farm**). A game-keeper's house (**Keepers Cottage**) was next, then, the last house before Bramley farm, the Froggatts (**Bubnell House**). My son-in-law's family, the Kitchin family, worked Bramley Farm for generations, going back to 1642/48. During the Civil War three of my son-in-law's ancestors, sons of the incumbent at that time, were bringing in the hay from the fields when they were pressed into the army together with their horses. When they returned after the war they found the carts as they left them with the hay still loaded. All this side of the river belonged to Chatsworth, and still does.

It is interesting to consider some of the movements into and out of some of the farms around the Bubnell area. At Cross Farm, J. Eades was one of the earlier tenants, he died in December, 1924. Cyril Smedley took over from 1924 -1927, and from 1927 to 1939 at the outbreak of war the incumbent was T. Mycock. John Holding moved in on his marriage in 1939. He retired in 1962 and the farmhouse and buildings were sold to Mr. Richardson. When Cyril Smedley left Cross Farm he went to Cliffe Farm following Mr. Dicke and farmed there until 1947, when Henry Rains took over. Then he went to his father-in-law's farm, (Tomlinson), until it was converted into the part of Bubnell Hall in which Col. Rhodes now lives.

Returning to Wheatlands Lane, the three houses where Tony Watson lives are the ones built by my father before the Second World War, and Grandfather Sheldon built the first council houses for ex-servicemen in 1924. All the council houses south of Wheatlands Lane were also built by my father. This constituted the area now known as Baslow West End. At the bottom of Wheatlands Lane the new buildings owned by Chatsworth had allotments at the side, and are now the site of the new bungalows. Father crafted the lettering on both sides of the Devonshire Bridge built in 1924/25 by Lehan, Mackenzie and Shand.

The Baslow Cricket Club was formed in 1910. Father played in the first team formed at Baslow, and years later three generations of our family played together at Baslow. (I was the captain of the first X1 for nine years).

My grandfather David Sheldon left Baslow in the eighteen hundreds to work in Sheffield for a builder called James Fidler and eventually became their General Manager, having been in charge of work at Brocco Bank Church, the University of Sheffield, the Excise Offices, the Grand Hotel and many other public buildings. He left Sheffield after the Grand Hotel was completed and returned to Baslow to build the Baslow Hall. He was the Vicar's Warden at the church for seven years and built the War Memorial, the extensions to Cliffe College, in addition to the building of Grindleford Church and the first council houses at Bakewell. He also carried out the extensions to St. Elphins School in Darley Dale. My father built the new Lady Manners School at Bakewell in 1935-36. He built council houses at Eyam, Bakewell and Calver, and I built the Ambulance Station at Bakewell and numerous private houses, and carried out considerable work for the Chatsworth Estate,

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including alterations to the Devonshire Arms at Pilsley. In addition I carried out alterations to properties at Beeley Hill Top and other work at Chatsworth.

When father built Lady Manners School, my brother and I took off the first turfs and laid the first stone and brick, and father said we would always be able to tell this to everyone. When the foundation stone had been lettered by a stone mason who came from outside the area, Mr. Carrington, the Duke of Rutland's agent, noticed that an "E" had been added to the end of "MONTAGU", when the inscription should have read "JOHN HENRY MONTAGU MANNERS". Panic set in as the mason had taken three days cutting the stone and it was only three days to the opening. Father took half an inch off the top, chamfered the edges and recut the lettering in time for the opening. It took him two days.

I wonder how many of the pupils of Lady Manners know where the stone carving of the peacock over the main doors of the school came from. It was removed by my brother from the gable directly above the door of the entrance to the Derbyshire Dales offices in Bath Street, Bakewell !

Whilst in reminiscent mood, I recall an occasion in the early thirties when my brother and I were in father's builder's yard near to the River Derwent, which was very deep at that point, being close to the weir, and I was throwing at an object in the river when, suddenly, my brother shouted to me to stop. He had realised that the object of my attention was a body. My brother contacted the police and they dragged the body out. It was identified by means of laundry marks and it was established that the male corpse originated from the London area and had worked in a bank. On his person were found a coin and a note which said "An obolus (small coin) to Charon", whom you will recognise as the Ferryman who rowed departed souls across the River Styx to Hell !.

Then on another occasion my father, during the 1914/18 war had an unusual experience. He saw a man being buried, as any other, in a sack cloth. The man was Captain Noel Chavasse, V.C. and Bar, one of only three to receive this honour. I believe he was the son of the Bishop of Liverpool.

One of my earlier memories concerns Mr. C.R. Allcock, who came to be Headmaster of Baslow School in 1926. He formed a Scout Troop, and subsequently a Rover Scout Band, of which my brother and I became members. We were equipped with six side drums, two tenor drums, a base drum and twelve to fifteen bugles. We played at Armistice Day parades and on camping expeditions, and had practices once a week. Regrettably these instruments have all now disappeared, but no-one seems to know what happened to them.

(Ed – Names in red identified by DDS)