

North Rode Newsletter

September 2025

*What's on in North Rode
To subscribe or unsubscribe to this
newsletter mailing list, email:
northrode@btinternet.com*

Welcome back after what seems like a long hot summer. So much has been happening with reports from weddings, graduations, a summer ball and a charity luncheon. In this newsletter we also have more tales from the past along with hopefully the start of an introduction to locals, so there is no apology for this being a bumper edition!

Wedding Celebrations



After a 12-year engagement Rob Thorpe and Vicky Burgess eventually decided to get married on Friday 22nd August. They live at Danefields on Church Lane, so St Michael's Church was very convenient, but Vicky still managed to arrive late! The guests were all smartly dressed in black and the bridesmaids contributed colour perfectly with their burnt orange dresses. The reception was held in a marquee at the bottom of Church Lane, and a great day was enjoyed celebrating with family and friends. We wish them both the very best.

Birthdays

Birthday wishes to Toby Thomas who was 2 on 31st August, Casey Burwood who will be 17 on 15th September and Phil Thomas who's celebrating a special '0' Birthday on 30th September!

Congratulations

Congratulations and well done to Felicity Bailey, of Church Lane, North Rode who graduated from her studies at the University of Warwick this summer.



With Sadness..



Mary Rowbotham formerly of Eaton, passed away peacefully on Saturday 16th August 2025 at home with loving family by her side. She was the precious wife of John, devoted mum to Ann, Elizabeth, Helen & Susan, loving gran & great gran. Her perfect heart & big smile made her a very special friend to so many. The family are very thankful for the healthy 88 years she had & her quiet & gentle passing. The funeral will take place at Christ Church, Eaton on Thursday 28th August 2025 at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations to East Cheshire Hospice.

Well Done North Rode Revival 25

North Rode Revival have done another fantastic job and raised over £1500 for the East Cheshire Hospice and North Rode Community this year – Well done and a big thank you to Mike Gilman and his team of helpers. More details later in this newsletter.

Our Active Villagers



Georgina and Felicity Bailey have been very busy this summer completing the Tour de Mont Blanc – a gruelling seven day trek covering 180 km, three countries and a massive elevation of 35000 feet – Wow! Well done ladies!



And Huw Williams completed the 180Km Ring of Kerry charity cycle in Ireland for the 3rd time this July, helping to raise money for local charities in the home county of his wife Joan-Marie. This year was particularly

difficult battling strong winds and rain over the first 90Km.

Play the Organ Year 2025

Astbury Church is offering sessions on Saturday mornings in September for anyone to try out playing their organ. Piano experience is an advantage but not essential. What a wonderful opportunity!

If you are interested please contact Dr Sally Drage on 07977 903561 or music@astburychurch.org.uk. She is their organist and a professional musician.

St' Michaels Harvest Luncheon

Come along and meet your fellow villagers at this year's Harvest Luncheon. This is always a fabulous meal and in a relaxed atmosphere.

**ST MICHAELS
HARVEST LUNCHEON**
At Gawsworth Scout Hut

19TH OCTOBER
12:30 for 13:00 - £22.50

ROAST BEEF OR CHICKEN
PLUS VEGETARIAN OPTION
DESSERTS FROM LADIES OF THE VILLAGE

Bring your own drinks and glasses
Raffle on the day

Tickets available from
Bronwen Bebington 01260 223253
Diane Lowe 07885 553177
Shirley Tudor Evans 07778 648088

North Rode PCC Appeal

Following the Harvest Lunch on Sunday 19th October at the Scout Hut in Gawsworth, North Rode PCC (Parochial Church Council) would like to auction off theme filled baskets, such as; Cheese and Wine, Gin and Tonic with lemon etc, Fresh Fruit, Floral Arrangements, Cream Teas and Pamper yourself sets. We are appealing to the village for donations or pledges to fill the baskets with bottles, flowers, toiletries, gift sets, mixers, cheeses, crackers, chutney and any unwanted baskets of all shapes and sizes would be welcomed.

The Rector's Letter September 2025

Some readers may remember the time in this country when food was rationed. Restrictions introduced by the government during wartime were only lifted in the 1950s. In the years since we have enjoyed the benefits of relatively cheap food and an ever-expanding selection of choice with food production increasingly dominated by the major supermarkets. Most of us probably give little thought to where our food comes from and the producers. This may change if the UK is forced to accept chlorinated chicken and beef cattle fed growth boosting hormones from the USA.

Harvest has always been one of my favourite festivals in the Church calendar and will be celebrated this year at St. James', Gawsorth on Sunday 5th October at 10.00am, and at St. Michael's, North Rode, on Sunday 12th October at 11.15am. Once again, donations of tins/packets of food are invited for the Macclesfield and Congleton Foodbanks. If you are unable to attend, donations may be left at the back of the Church.

At Harvest time, we have an opportunity to do three important things. First, thank God for our blessings and be thankful for all that is good on the "bit of earth" entrusted to our care. Secondly, farming remains an essential industry in the UK and our farmers deserve our support, our thanks and prayers. Many are facing an uncertain future. Climate change is affecting food production. The driest Spring for over a century has had a major impact upon vegetable crops, wheat and barley etc. It has been the perfect storm of pressures. Thirdly, Harvest reminds us of our Christian duty to help those who are in greater need. On many occasions when I have been delivering food to the Foodbanks, I have found myself listening to some of the desperate "customers", it is a sobering experience. Generosity takes us to the heart of the Christian faith and the unconditional love that Jesus offered to everyone.

Yours ever,

Colin

North Rode Services September 2025

September 7th Trinity 12 Flowers: Anne Lever	11.15 am Holy Communion (CW)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	Revd Anne Freestone Bronwen Bebington Anne Lever
September 14th Trinity 13 Flowers: Anne Lever	11.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	Revd Anne Freestone Lynn Petts Geoffrey Petts
September 21st Trinity 14	No service at North Rode	Gawsorth	10 am Holy Communion 6 pm Evensong
September 28th Trinity 15 Flowers: Pam Robinson	11.15 am Baptism Eva O'Reilly HC (CW)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	The Rector Louise Jackson O'Reilly family
October 5th Trinity 16 Flowers: Pam Robinson	11.15 am Holy Communion (CW)	Led by: Sidesman: Reading:	Revd Anne Freestone Diane Lowe Sharon Oldfield

Rector: Revd Colin Wilson 01260 223201
Enquiries: Mrs Diane Lowe 01260 272576
Secretary: Mrs Diane Lowe 01260 272576
Treasurer: Mrs Lynn Petts 01260 222902
Newsletter:
 Huw Williams 077991717459
 Mrs Marilyn Ainslie 01260 223346

<http://www.northrodechurch.org.uk>



Damage to Church wall was recently caused by a car crash on 3rd August. The police are investigating this incident as the driver fled the scene. Local resident Rob Thorpe sprang into action quickly to arrange repairs to prevent further collapse and keep the road clear – thank you Rob.

North Rode WI Report July & August

Secretary Pam Robinson writes



In July for our 98th Birthday Outing, members visited Biddulph Old Hall. They had an interesting talk and look round the Hall and afterwards enjoyed tea and cake. Members were very impressed with the history of the hall and although the weather was not too good they didn't get wet.

In August we held our Annual Garden Party, this year at Eaton Church and Community Hall in place of one of our Members Homes. It was very warm and sunny after a bit of rain early in the day and we welcomed Ann Beckett, Cheshire Federation Treasurer and Jenny Furnival, Cloud Group Chairman amongst other Guests. The tables were overflowing with food as was the drinks table including Pimms, Gin and Tonic etc and enjoyed by all our Members and Visitors. A game of Standing Bingo was enjoyed by all and won by Pam Robinson and lots of Raffle Prizes were won by Members and Visitors.

There are lots of dates for our diary

- Cloud Group Autumn Meeting on Wednesday **3rd September** at 7.30pm. NLC Tickets are £10, The Speaker 'Florence Nightingale' and the Competition is a Nursing Item.
- Autumn Lunch on Tuesday **9th September** at 12 noon. Karen Salt of Rudyard Flowers will be doing a Flower Demonstration after the Lunch at Eaton Church and Community Hall. This will be our next Meeting but places need to be booked. Tickets are £20.00.
- We have had an Invite from Swettenham WI to their Afternoon Tea on Sunday **14th September**, 1pm to 4pm, Tickets are £10.00.
- October Meeting – Tuesday **14th October**. Our Speaker will be Peter Aston.
- CFWI Autumn Meeting on Tuesday **20th October** at 11am. At The Storyhouse Chester. Tickets are £20 plus £15 for the Coach travel.



*NORTH RODE WI AUTUMN LUNCH
FOLLOWED WITH A PRESENTATION FROM*

Karen of RUDYARD Flowers

Presentation starting at 2:00 pm
Floral Arrangements and know about me

**Tuesday, 9th September 2025
12:00 FOR 12:30**

MENU

Beef Casserole

*Slow cooked Beef steak, carrots and onion in rich gravy
Served with new potatoes, crusty bread accompaniments
of pickled red cabbage and or beetroot.*

Vegetarian on request

Desserts

*A choice of homemade desserts or Cheese and
Biscuits*

*A raffle will be held on the day
tickets available - £20.00each*

CONTACT: Diane Lowe 07885 553177, Jackie Spooner - northrodewi@gmail.com

Please bring your own glass and drinks

All profits in aid of North Rode Women's Institute
Cheshire Federation - Cloud Group

The Programme for 2026 is not quite finalised. Visitors are made very welcome to meetings on the 2nd Tuesday in the Month at Eaton Church and Community Hall, 2pm in the Winter Months and 7.30 pm in the Summer Months.



YFC Summer Ball and Charity Dinner

The Cheshire Young Farmers were in full swing in August when the Bullock Family hosted the YFC Summer Ball at Oaklands in North Rode into the small hours of the following day. YFC Chairlady Winnie Bullock reports:



YFC Chairlady Winnie Bullock and Chairman John Manning

On Friday 15th August, the Cheshire YFC top table boarded their ship and set sail across Cheshire to find their treasure. But as luck would have it they got shipwrecked at North Rode, Congleton and decided to host the Cheshire YFC Summer Ball. It was an evening of celebrating with friends from across the county. All elements of entertainment were covered from dodgems, to a DJ and band. We had over 500 people in attendance dancing the night away.



On Sunday 17th August, the marquee had been flipped from the party aftermath which really was a scene of a shipwreck to a stunning scene for our Charity Luncheon raising funds for The Christie. Over 250 of our family and friends attended with music as entertainment and clubs poems too. The food was beautiful provided by Liz Kemp, her team and puddings provided by much loved family and friends too.

The Charity Luncheon on Sunday was supported by many North Rode villagers who were very happy to support our local Chairlady and the Christie, which benefits many people across our region. It was lovely to be entertained by the many young farmers at the luncheon with their very witty poetry and a reminder of what a fantastic organisation the YFC is for the youth in our rural communities. Well done to all!,

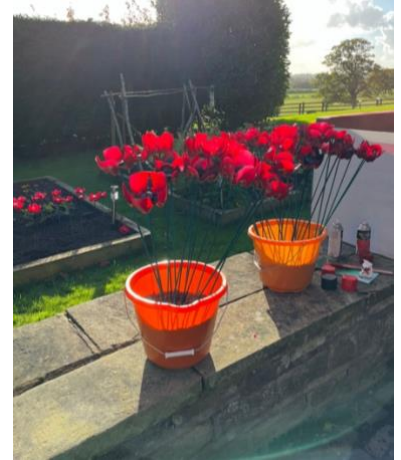




North Rode Parish Council Report

Poppy Workshop

Our remembrance poppy displays will be even bigger and better this year. Villagers have been busy collecting empty soda bottles and we are hoping to more than double the size of last years display with new poppies we will make at our workshop on Sun 26th October. If any villagers would like to come to our workshop, please contact huwwilliams200@gmail.com ASAP as space will be limited.



North Rode Well Dressing – Postponement

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the planned well dressing in 2025 as we were unable to renovate the well in time. However the good news is, this will be our key event for 2026 and we are making plans for this to be a memorable event that all villagers can take part in. We will be starting the renovation of the Church Lane well and surrounding area this Autumn.

New Reporting for Highway Problems

Cheshire East highways have launched a new map-based online tool called **traCE**, that enables people in Cheshire East to report and track local issues such as potholes, fly-tipping, abandoned vehicles, and streetlighting. **traCE** is designed to improve delivery of high-demand services by using digital technology.

It should enable you to :

- Report issues quickly and easily – from any device, at any time, and from any location.
- Search for issues within our ward – using an interactive map to view live and historical reports.
- Gain insights into the types and frequency of issues being reported in our area.

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/website_information/trace.aspx

Bramhall Hill Drainage Improvements

You will probably have noticed that Bramhall Hill was closed for a couple of weeks in August. This was to carry out installation of much larger chambers beneath the grids to cope with heavy rain and placement of larger improved drains. This should make emptying out silt washed off surrounding fields much easier and less frequent. In addition some ditches in surrounding fields have been cleared. Hopefully this will prevent further flooding as we head into winter.



Recent Planning Applications

25/2142/FUL Ladera Luxury Lodge Retreat, Regularisation of site layout with and additional 6 retrospective units.
25/2218/FUL Ladera Luxury Lodge Retreat, Conversion of existing building to a Children's Residential Care Home
25/2416/DSC Bank Farm Change of Land Use – Discharge of Conditions – Noise Management Plan

You can view applications online at: [Cheshire East Planning Applications](#).

Defibrillators – We have found that the locks on the defibrillator boxes can be a bit fiddly. We recommend that if you are passing, you give them a try out. Use code C159X.

Next Council Meeting

Our next parish council meeting will be held on Thursday 6th November, at Daintry Hall at 7:30pm. All villagers are welcome to come along.

Huw Williams, Chairman North Rode Parish Council

North Rode Revival 25



North Rode Revival took place on 22 June this year. We had some rain on the day and believe that kept some people away as well as it stopping flights. That said around 60 cars were on show and the sun shone for much of the live music sets. People got into the swing of things in fancy dress and enjoyed the atmosphere. The event made over £1500 (over £900 from the cake stall) which will be split between East Cheshire and North Rode Community funds. This is the fourth event to take place which comes together because of the hard work of a number of locals that we need to pass a heartfelt thank you on to, you know who you are !

We'd also like to make special mention to the local people who supported the Cake stall with donations and giving their time on the day, namely, Nan, Martin, Bronwen, Shirley TE, Shirley C, Diane, Mary, Cath, Jenny, Hilary, Pippa, Nikki and Jasmine. You should all know that the cakes were extremely popular and we received some wonderful feedback, with people coming back more than once.

This year we could have made more money promoting the raffle and activities but just didn't have enough people on the day, so if you'd like get involved planning the event, or supporting on the day please reach out to Mike Gilman or Janet James.



By Janet James

Meet Geoff Petts

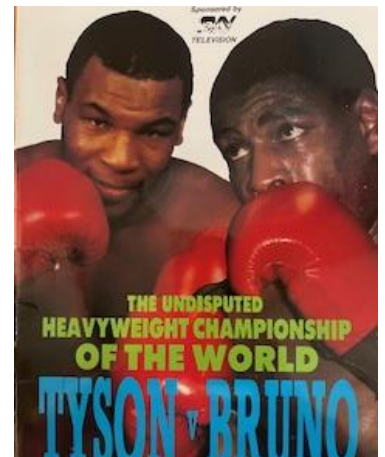
Each month we are hoping to introduce you to the interesting life of some of our villagers... don't be shy!



For the majority of my 45 years in sports and music promotion, the Reform Club has featured prominently. It has been the venue for a series of family celebrations, including 18th and 80th birthdays in the Library, and has been invaluable for entertaining business associates from around the world. The Reform Club is a private members club in Pall Mall, London and founded in 1836 to mark the passing of the 1832 Reform Bill. Famous members include Palmerston, Asquith and Churchill.

I am proud to say that on the 1st May this year I completed 40 years as a member. Since 1985 I have seen many changes. Forty years ago the club was a relatively quiet sanctuary, away from the buzz of the outside world. Now it is a hive of activity, offering something for everyone. Being a traditionalist, I am afraid there are some changes I cannot agree with. By the time I joined the Club I had been promoting for four years, but my promotional career very nearly didn't get started. In 1980, long before Live Aid, I thought I had successfully negotiated to put the Rolling Stones on at Wembley Stadium, in what would have been the world's first live satellite music show, but to my frustration the band had a change of heart and opted for a more financially rewarding tour.

I was left jobless after leaving the Visnews Television News Agency, but fortunately I knew that a big fight was being planned in Las Vegas and joined forces with Cliff Richard's then promoter Eddie Jarrett of Savile Artists, to secure the live UK television rights to the 1981 world welterweight showdown between Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns. With ITV's Reg Gutteridge commentating at Caesars Palace, the fight was beamed into cinemas around the country and to my relief, every ticket was sold. More boxing transmissions followed, featuring Leonard, Hearns, Roberto Duran, Marvin Hagler, Frank Bruno and Mike Tyson. Leonard v Hagler in 1987 and Tyson v Bruno in 1989 were the two blockbusters. Both attracted sell out audiences nationwide, in cinemas, theatres, nightclubs and, even the Festival Hall and London Palladium. As a teenager watching Sunday Night at the London Palladium, little did I think that one day my name would be on the publicity outside what is perhaps the world's most famous theatre.



Tyson v Bruno. The UK's record breaking live satellite closed circuit television presentation in February 1989



Geoff with America's top selling Hispanic singing star Vikki Carr at the Royal Festival Hall in June 1990

December 1981 saw my first international music transmission, featuring Rod Stewart and Tina Turner. They were in concert at The Forum in Los Angeles and this was relayed into a packed Odeon Leicester Square. By the mid 1980's I had formed a partnership with Jarvis Astaire of Viewsport, the Vice Chairman of Wembley. Through him I became a Barker of the Variety Club, and together we introduced big screens to football, relaying away matches live, back to fans at home grounds. The first of these was at The Den for Millwall and soon a number of Premiership clubs started regular transmissions. Others followed, including Celtic in Scotland and top Rugby League club Wigan. The average attendance was in excess of 12,000. The most people watching a screen was 32,000 at Sunderland's Stadium of Light, for an away match at St. James's Park against arch rivals Newcastle United.

Astaire and I extended our business relationship, when he invited me to, join National Promotions with him, Mickey Duff and Terry Lawless. We had a contract with the BBC, to supply top level boxing, primarily from Wembley and the Royal Albert Hall for Sportsnight and Grandstand. We were able to feature many of our own boxers such as Bruno, Lloyd Honeyghan, John Mugabe and Kirkland Laing in European and World Championship fights.

By the late 1990s I was doing more music shows, particularly in The Gulf. The first was at the Marina and Yacht Club in Abu Dhabi and since then I have promoted regularly in Bahrain, Dubai, Qatar and memorably at the Hard Rock Café in Beirut. Visiting Beirut shortly after the Hostage Crisis was a strange experience. Would I be next? As it happened I enjoyed my visit very much and could see why Beirut had been the playground for the French. The past 45 years have been a challenge, with the inevitable disappointments, but I have been lucky enough to see the world, while working on headline sport and music events and meeting a



Chairman of the Anglo American Sporting Club

wide range of interesting, influential, and at times, controversial people.

For years I was London based, with an office in Wardour Street, and after shows I could often be seen ringing the Club's doorbell at 2am. These days I live in North Rode, but the Club is still an important base for me, as it has been for 40 years.

Prior to all that. When I worked in TV news I had my own music show, interviewing superstars for stations in the Middle East, China and South East Asia, Australia and NZ and USA and South America. People interviewed included Paul and Linda McCartney, Mick Jagger, Roger Daltrey, Cliff Richard, Kate Bush, Olivia Newton John and one of the last people to interview Freddie Mercury.

In 1984 I was the first independent producer invited to China and took with me American superstar John Denver.

Geoff has lived in North Rode with his wife Lynn Petts for the last 7 Years



North Rode Railway Memory

We were recently sent a picture of John Radcliffe, who was the North Rode Station Master in 1881, by his Great Great Grandson, Dan Weildon of Glossop. John Radcliffe lived at Station House. After working at North Rode, he went on to become the station master at Mow Cop and then Alton. We have recently unearthed more stories about the old North Rode station and these will appear in a future newsletter.



THE HISTORY OF NORTH RODE, AS I KNEW IT FROM 1914 TO 1973 – Part 5

Written by W.L.Cumberlidge.

Continued.....

Station Cottage was occupied by Mr. Heathcote who was Estate Foreman and Assistant Overseer, I took his place as Assistant Overseer in 1923. He was a reserved man, probably owing to the position he held. He had one son, who has his own business, but does not live in North Rode. We then come to Station House, which was occupied by Mr. G.W. Kennerley who had four sons and two daughters. I have written an account of the station in the Parish Minute Book [This will be a future newsletter article] . Our last-place of call is Beehive Lodge. This was the home of Mr. Midwood's Coachman, Mr. J. Slaughter. He was a well-built man and interesting to talk to. His daughter, Olive, had a confectionary business in Mill Lane, Macclesfield, now retired.



Station Master, G W Kennerley

I would now like to refer to the Brickyard at North Rode, for I am sure that future generations will wonder who built it. In 1920, the North Staffordshire Railway undertook a large laying of a new water main to take the water off the railway. The contract was given to a firm at Stoke, and they excavated at the side of the railway to lay the drain, and came across solid clay. The owner of the firm, who had the contract, made several visits to the site and said that if the clay was in Staffordshire it would be worth a fortune to open a Brick Works.

I saw Mr. Clayton (Rode Hall Farm) and Mr. Biddulph (Bell Farm), and informed them of what the man had told me, and they went to see the owner of the firm. It was arranged for a sample of the clay to be sent to the Potteries and be made into bricks. This was done, and the resulting bricks were of a reddish colour, and it was thought they would find a ready sale. It was decided to open a Brickworks, Mr. Clayton being the largest shareholder, the others were Mr. Goodwin, Mr. T. Biddulph, Mr. A. Brown, Mr. Shufflebotham and myself.



Thomas Biddulph outside Bell Farm in 1941 (Now Dobford Grange)



A Mr.Higginson who was Foreman Bricksetter with the North Staffordshire Railway, and two of his men built tile brick buildings where the machinery had to be put. The machinery for tile making of the bricks was bought second hand and was erected by Colliers of King Edward Street, Macclesfield. We bought a second hand traction engine and the machinery was driven off the fly-wheel. The bricks, when made, were put out in the open to dry, they were placed in rows with wooden coverings to keep off the rain. This was not successful and it was decided to have two sheds built. I approached a Mr. Brocklehurst, who lived near me, to see if he would undertake tile job, and he agreed. When the work was nearly-completed, he was taken ill with a cold and was off work, this turned to pneumonia. As I was going home one night I saw him standing in the doorway of his home, he looked like a shadow and it frightened me to see him like

that, he died that night. It was then found that the traction engine was not powerful enough to run the machinery and we bought a diesel engine from Crossley Bros. This was erected by Colliers of Macclesfield. We also bought a motor wagon that ran on solid tyres, to deliver the bricks.

We sold the bricks to various builders in Macclesfield and got a contract to supply a firm on Wythenshawe Estate, Manchester. My own house and the house next door are built with the bricks also several council houses on the Hurdsfield Estate, the Farmers Trading Society building in Castle Street and various other buildings. We carried on with the business for a few years but never made any profit and it got that we could not pay our way. I wrote to Messrs. Jacksons of Manchester, who had several brickworks and told them that I was interested in brick making and asked them to let me visit one of their works, and they agreed. I reported this back to Mr. Clayton and other members of the company, and it was decided to close the works. The works remained empty for several years until bought for the making of tiled fireplaces - it went under the name of Leighton Tileries. On the sale of the works we got back about a third of the money we had invested. The Tileries worked for a few years and then closed and remained closed for several years and now is used by H & L Slater for the storage of rolls of paper which had been at Macclesfield Goods Station until the closure of the station.

The Parish has not had much development during the 60 years I have known it. The first new house to be built was by Heath Bros., then two houses were built opposite Station Cottage by a private builder, next to them the Macclesfield R.D.C. built 4 Council Houses. Mr. Biddulph built a house at the side of Bell Farm and Mr. Cooper built two houses for his sons. Mr. Naden, who was a porter at North Rode, built a bungalow near the station, attached to it was a small building which he opened as a Newsagents and sold various commodities, it is now North Rode Post Office. Mr. Naden also built a small bungalow at the side of it.

Mr. W. Naden built a bungalow by the side of Bank Farm, then Miss Heaths built a house in Marton Lane and Mr. W. Ford, from Eaton, built a house there and Mr. J.S. Swindells a bungalow. These are the only properties that have been built during the last 60 years and I have not mentioned any of them. Only the house built in Marton Lane and the house built by Heath Bros. had been built when I finished collecting in 1947.

In 1914, only a small portion of the parish had a supply of water, this was obtained from the canal feeder. In the summertime the cows used to stand in the feeder, and when water was drawn from the tap it had the colour of strong tea. After pressing for several years for an adequate supply, a supply was found in Bosley, and the supply from the feeder was discontinued.

All the parish was lit by oil lamps but is now supplied with electricity. Sir Tootal Broadhurst had a supply of electricity from a plant which he had installed. Some of the farms had whitewashed walls and stone floors, they were sparsely furnished with white wooden-topped tables and a few chairs. This has now altered and the farms have modern furniture and all the farmers have a motor car. Things have altered greatly since 1914, in those days it was not unusual to see tramps passing through the village. One morning someone telephoned the station and told me that a man was dead on the roadway near the railway bridge below the Oaklands. I went there and found a body of a man about 40 years of age. His body was taken to Ethels Green Farm, and I believe he is buried in an unknown grave in North Rode Churchyard. At the inquest it was stated that he had died from exposure.

Before Sir Tootal Broadhurst rented the Manor House, it was always occupied by the Daintry family who, with the Ryle family, had their own bank which was situated on Park Green. The bank failed, and in order to meet the liabilities of the creditors they had to reduce their way of life. The bank which the two families owned was taken over by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Bank, then by Martins and it is now Barclays Bank. One member of the Daintry family was so fat that he had a piece taken out of the table so that he could get his belly in. When he travelled by train he used the guards van because he was too stout to get through the carriage door.

..... **to be continued in next months newsletter. Huw Williams**