

Newsletter



March 2021 Issue No 32



We hope this finds you well, and great that it looks as though things in the country are very gradually easing.





The snow drops, aconite and crocus in the Churchyard are looking a picture! It has been quite an interesting and exciting month!

## 1856 Sampler by Mary Porteus

We were really pleased a few weeks ago, out of the blue, to be given through one of our members, a sampler made by Mary Porteus. The sampler was part of a 'job lot' bought in a local second hand shop and may have originated from a house clearance. It is great that it has returned to the village some 160+ years later!

Mary was 10 in 1856 when she made the sampler and attended Escrick Park School. There are a number of references to the Porteus *(or sometimes spelt Porteous)* family in the area between the mid 1800's and early 1900's. A number of the family are buried in the Churchyard and family members are known to have danced the Escrick Sword Dance.

If anyone has any information about the family it would be lovely to hear from you and maybe find out a little more about Mary and her family. Thank you.

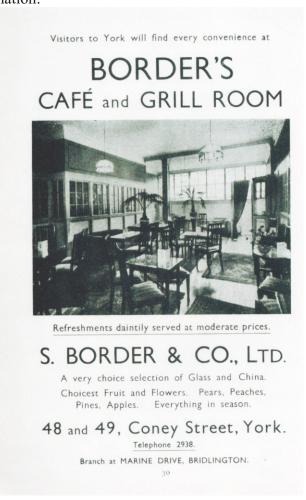


## **Escrick Heritage website and Oral Histories**

We continue to add items to the website, including Oral histories. You can now hear Jeremy Maidment talking about his 24 years as Head Teacher of Escrick School and Peggy Brown sharing her lifelong memories of living in Escrick. Here is the link to the Oral History page <a href="https://www.escrickheritage.org/heritage/oral-history/">https://www.escrickheritage.org/heritage/oral-history/</a> When we are able to meet up with people again, we very much look forward to getting the tape recorder out and continuing to record conversations with people, sharing their memories of the local community.

## Following on from last month's newsletter piece about The Eley family at The Villa:

Thank you to those who have shared information about the grocers 'Borders' of Coney Street York. What a small world it is. It is great that some of you remember enjoying coffee there and Geoffrey has even made contact with Alan who was a 'Borders Rep'. It was Alan's job to visit notable York families for their weekly grocery orders, but it was of course a little after the time the Eley family were at Escrick! Thank you to Geoffrey for sharing the following information:



The Laycock Family

The family lived in Escrick in the mid 1880's when James was the local Blacksmith. Jane has been in touch as she is researching her family history and would love to hear from anyone who may be related to the Laycocks, have any knowledge about the family or information about local Blacksmiths around that time.

In 1886 the family lived next door to the Black Bull and Jane and Charles Harriman. Please do get in touch through:

escrickchurch@gmail.com

if you can assist. Thank you.

## **Please Note:**

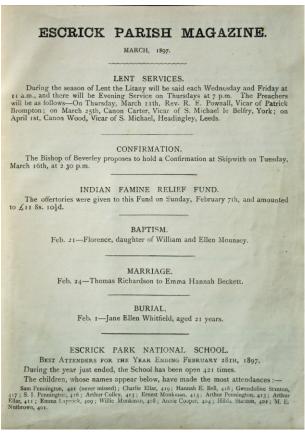
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It is lovely to keep in touch with everyone and we very much look forward to being able to meet again in person, hopefully in the summer.

Stay Safe.

Coney Street and Spurriergate in York were historically known as the home of grocers or provisions merchants. Samuel Border came to York in 1867 with his uncle, John Winn, who was a grocer. Samuel and John became partners in 1874 forming Winn and Border. On the death of John, the business became Borders. As well as running a very successful business, Samuel became Lord Mayor of York in 1898 and again in 1907. He died in 1911 aged 61. The business continued to be run by his family until September 1960, after which the building was sold and demolished. The site was developed and became Saxone shoe shop with Maison Lee hairdressers above, which some of us may remember.





Copy of March 1897 parish magazine kindly shared by Eileen