

Backtrack Masthead

First a reminder to myself. Always, always create a new or re-named document before starting, why? Because anything can happen to a PC, such as it shuts down unexpectedly and two weeks research can be lost!

However, thanks to those people who contacted me regarding the WW1 photographs. We have a few more people to place now. Our known list is as follows:-

From Left to right

Rear standing	back row	
	Second	Sam Bratt
	Fifth	Jonah Jolley
	Sixth	William Hancock
	Ninth	Joe Gratton
	Eleventh	Hargreaves
Rear standing	second row	
	First	Hiram Holdcroft
	Fifth	Frank Holdcroft
Seated		
	Third	Henrietta Turner
	Fifth	
	Seventh	Alice Jolley
	Eighth	Stumpy Sheldon
Front		
	Second	Cheddy Hargreaves

Any other people you know would be gratefully received



For the record the war memorial (above) was created after a delay of 79 years by the late Mr Allan Sims. Two of the tablets had been found in the Village Hall, left behind when the County Council vacated the premises.

There are photographs showing mounts being constructed in the school garden on which these plaques were to be placed. So what happened? Also one of them has the note that they were the

handywork of the boys at the school 1929/1930. This is not true as a Mr Goodwin called in one day and said he was in the class and that actually Cotterills of Biddulph that engraved them and that it was on slate from North Wales.



Several people have told me that these memorial stones were the cause of a massive argument between the Vicar and Mr Jones the Headmaster of the school. This resulted in Mr Jones being forced out of the headmasters job by the vicar. Supposedly it was over two points,

1. The names differed on the memorials. Indeed it looks as if Hugh Gaskin has been added later
2. The vicar believed that the outdoor memorial could take precedence over the church one if erected

The Vicar clearly won that one.

Anyway the decision to finally erect the memorials resulted in Alan Turner and Dennis Mosedale searching for the names of boys who attended Brown Edge school who died in the second war. The Parish Council paid for the second stone which was inscribed by Mr Burt of Trentham

I had researched everyone (before losing all the info) on the WW1 war memorial and found the war records of all but two of the 28 boys who were lost. All were in the army. I guess we couldn't get away from the fact that the North Staffords were supposedly born with a spade in their hands and the sea is about as far as you can get. I will publish this when I have looked it all up again

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The horrors of war were brought home to me as I was researching online one of the boys who died, I found an interesting set of letters to and from the Pensions Board of the War Office. I had searched Brown Edge and an Arthur Rushton had popped up. It wasn't a name I recognised from the war memorials so I almost ignored it when I remember it was the name of Roseannah Turners first husband who had been killed on 15th November 1915.

Aunt Rose, as my dad called her, I knew had eloped with Arthur and had six children with him. He came from Dillhorne next door to where her mother Mary Anne Twigge had been living before she married Samuel Turner.

One of the letters from Rose reads

*The Rocks
Brown Edge
Stoke on trent
Staffs
27/12/15*

I am sorry I have been unable to fill in the pension form before as I have not been in Normanton for a few weeks as the shock of the news made me ill and I do not have any relations in Yorkshire. My mother bought me home to Staffordshire and all my children have been ill and I have not been able to collect the forms but they have been forwarded here from Normanton. However I have not got the certificates here (marriage and birth certificates) I shall be returning to Yorkshire on the 2nd of January, so if you could allow me a little longer.

Respectfully yours

Rosa Rushton

Widow of the Late Private Arthur Rushton

Army Cyclist Corps

The Turners from The Rocks in 1915/16



Back Row Samuel, Harry, Henrietta (Hetty), Allen – d 19/09/1918 WW1 France, Alice, Sarah, Fred
Front Row Esther, Roseanna, Samuel (Father), Edwin (Teddy) – d 04/02/1917 WW1 France, Mary Ann (nee Twigge) (Mother)

What she didn't mention in that letter was that attached was a death certificate of their son Allen Rushton aged 17 months on 17th December 1915 at The Rocks from Measles.

Her Sister Sarah Helen Leake (Veronica Cartwright nee Snape's grandmother) recorded the death.

Tough times, and more were to come for her as two of her brothers Edwin and Allen Turner, were to die later in the war.

Lions Paw

Several people have come forward with what they believe to be why Lions Paw is called as it is. One which was first put forward by a former recorder of The Old Nortonians some 70 years ago, still seems to have some credence is that it was a derivation of lion spa. Ie the kings water Plot said it cured the Kings evel so this could be true.

Another version is that a lions paw print was found there. Indeed this was the story told to me by my Uncle Alan, and it created an even bigger impression when he said he could still tell me where it was. The truth is absolutely obvious to anyone who has seen it, as there is a rock formation that you can walk through like the entrance to a cave and it is shaped perfectly, just like a lions paw. You can even see the nails on the pads of the toes. Its difficult to see now as trees have grown up around it, but It's there.

More Dialect

gansey	Cardigan	IR geansaí
gather	Fester	OE gatherian
gaumed-up	covered in dirt	ME Gome
gaup	talking loudly	OE galpen
gaup	Looking open mouthed	ME of above
gennel	narrow space between buildings	
gormers	hay cart extensions	Saxon
gosterer	someone who boasts a lot	ME Galster
graunch	grind teeth	
grindlestun	Grindstone	ME grindel-stan
grued-in	ingrained dirt	scandinavia
hard-faced	impudent	
hare-shorn lip	Hare Lip	
hodge	Stomach	
great hullock	Fat person	
hullock, idle	Lazy person	
hutched	haunched	
hutched-up	Crowded together	

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