



THE HISTORY OF ERYHOLME IN NORTH YORKSHIRE

First let me declare my interest in the small village of Eryholme in North Yorkshire, England. My Great, Great, Great Grandparents Robert Appleby and Mary Liddle were married at St. Mary's Church in Eryholme on the 13th May 1811 by the Rev. Richard Johnson the officiating Minister and Thomas Jefferson in the presence of Robert Hutchinson, Robert Wallace and Mary Appleby. Robert Appleby was a widower at the time of his marriage to Mary and worked as an Agricultural Laborer. Mary was born in South Shields. He lived in the village most of his life and died there at the age of 70 years. Robert was buried in St. Mary's Churchyard in Eryholme on the 4th November 1847. Robert and Mary Appleby had the following children who were all born in Eryhome and Christened at St. Mary's Church: Thomas Appleby, Christened 28 June 1812 at Eryhome. Anthony Appleby, Christened 14 August 1814 at Eryholme. My family

line descends from Anthony. John Appleby, Christened 23 February 1817 at Eryholme. James Appleby, Christened 14 May 1820 at Eryholme. Henry Appleby, Christened 18 August 1822 at Eryholme. William Appleby, Christened 21 September 1826 and died and buried 15 February 1827 in St Mary's. John Appleby married Elizabeth Johnson of Haughton Le Skerne and became a Market Gardener in the village. He died in Eryholme on the 20 February 1891 and is buried in St. Mary's Churchyard. Robert was previously married to Mary Dennison who sadly died 28 August 1809. They had one daughter Jane Appleby who was christened on the 10 July 1808 at Eryholme. Jane Appleby married a John Parkinson of South Cowton on the 30 May 1831 at St Mary's Church Eryholme. After marriage they lived at South Cowton and had a large and extensive family. Eryholme is situated on the Yorkshire side of the River Tees between Croft and Dinsdale. It is located in the part of the Tees valley where the river makes several dramatic loops called 'holmes'. The word 'holm' is of Viking origin and means island formed by a river. Eryholme's name is however a corruption of its origin name Erghum. This name means shieling – a shelter for livestock, which derives from the Old Irish word 'airgh'. This word was first introduced by the Norwegian Vikings who had lived in Ireland for a number of generations and adopted many Irish words. Many of these Vikings were eventually forced out of Dublin by the native Irish and emigrated to Cumbria and Yorkshire. The present day name Eryholme has arisen from association with the Viking word 'Holme' and Erghum. The 'Great North Road' has not always crossed the Tees at Croft-on-Tees, but used to take a more direct route to the Ford at Neasham, a couple of miles to the east and onto Eryholme. There has never been a bridge here but the two Fords, High Ford and Low Ford, can still be used when the water is low, the old ferry plying once between them. The old road towards Neasham, known as Eryholme Lane, meant dropping down Breakhorse Bank at Eryholme to the level of the Tees flood plain. That might not have been too much of a problem in packhorse days but as wheeled transport prevailed this obstacle would have been a good reason for diverting through Croft, not only to use the bridge but also to avoid what must have been one of the steepest gradients on the 'Great North Road'. The Great North Road in centuries past ran the length of England and in this area used to link the City of York with Darlington, Durham and Newcastle and was a very important artery between North and South. At the bottom of Breakhorse Bank is an Iron Bridge with locked gates that once links Eryholme with the country house of Neasham Hall owned by the Wrightson Family. The Iron Bridge was built in 1909 by Sir. Thomas Wrighton. It should be noted that the family owned the Company 'Head Wrightson' based in Thornaby-on-Tees and supplied Iron bridges and Furnaces worldwide. Some years ago Neasham Hall was in poor condition with overgrown gardens and when the debris was cleared a beautiful Italian water garden was found and later restored by experts. The Italian water garden was said to be one of the finest in Europe, but unfortunately is not accessible to the general public, as it is privately owned.

MONUMENT INSCRIPTIONS IN ST. MARYS CHURCHYARD

Sir Thomas Wrightson First Baronet of Neasham and Eryholme Born March 31st 1839
Died June 18th 1921 Also Elizabeth his wife Born Sept 19th 1844 Died April 30th 1931

In Dear Memory of John Garmondsway Wrightson 3rd Baronet 1911 – 1983

In Loving Memory of Rosemary Monica Wrightson Wife of John 1913 – 1998

Roney Wrightson Commander Royal Navy 1916 – 1992

Oliver Wrightson 28-5-1920 16-10-1987 Barrister Judge

PROFESSIONS AND TRADES FOR ERYHOLME FROM BULMER'S DIRECTORY
1890

Trades

John Appleby, Market Gardener

Ernest Charles Hitchcox, Schoolmaster

Joseph Pybus, Cowkeeper

John Stainsby, Manager of Tile Works

Rev. Walter Edward Stewart M.A.

George Wake, Joiner and Cartwright

Mrs. Jane Wake

Farmers

Thomas Benton, Westfield house

Alfred Buckle, The Holmes

Mrs. Elizabeth Buckle, Eryholme Farm

Thomas Cumbor, Eastfield (agricultural seed and manure agent)

William Curry, Lowhall (land agent)

John Miller, Village Farm (insurance, manure and seed agent)

Thomas Miller, Holme Farm

George Turnbull, Breakhouse Bank

ERYHOLME FESTIVAL 84

This section is intended to give visitors an outline of life and activities in the village of Eryholme both now and throughout history. Whilst events and dates have been verified where possible it does not pretend to be an authoritative document. People and places have been used to illustrate village life and omissions of some families and events is inevitable in the time and space available. Almost all of the historic information in this section was collected by Jessie Turnbull and this section would not have been possible without her hard work. Thanks must also go to Martin Clark for the cover illustration, Rob Bluman for the Map and Carol Hurst for collating the Church history. Margaret Nicholson for her help in defining the village as it was and Charlie Walker for his recollections on Cricket.

ERYHOLME

Seeing the daffodils around the Bridge House would perhaps bring William Wordsworth to a visitors mind but few would be aware that the Lakeland Poet had possibly walked or traveled on horseback along that same piece of road when visiting his wife-to-be at Sockburn Hall Farm at the other side of the river. On his way from Entercommon he may have passed 'Favorite' grazing at Mr. Maynard's farm (now The Grange). This well-known cow was later sold to join the Colling Herd and became part of the original stock from which came such famous Shorthorns as The Durham Ox, Comet etc. As he descended Breakhouse Bank, if he had looked to the right he may have come across the ladies of the area practicing their bowmanship in Lady Butts, a field which still carries that name. The village connection with archery became particularly famous when in 1673 Henry Calverley whose family seat was at Eryholme Manor presented the Silver Arrow and became the first 'Captain of the Arrow' which although now more commonly relates to Scorton, still has its venue defined by Article to be within a specified radius of Eryholme, the original distance being six miles. Archery skills were not always used for sporting activities, an earlier Lord of the Manor, Timothy Calverley fought on the King's side in the Civil War, this led to Cromwell imposing fines and confiscation of Lands. When Charles came to the throne Timothy's grandson John Calverley had to appeal to him to recover the estate. Cromwell's activities in the English Church were highlighted in the early 1900's when an Elizabethan Silver Chalice was recovered from its hiding place in the wall of the cottage next to Old Hall by Tommy Pickering a woodman employed by Sir Thomas Wrightson. The Chalice with a Hallmark on the rim dated back to 1570 appears to have been hidden about 1640. It is now deposited at Ripon Cathedral but is returned to Eryholme each year for the Easter service. Turmoil seems to keep appearing in village history. One Lord of the Manor sustained such losses in his battles with the Scots that his Tax commitment was waived for one year to allow his recovery. It is believed that the settlement called Ergum or Agrum in Saxon times was a collection of 'wattle and daub' dwellings in Old Hall Field (sometimes known as A.B. or Ancient Briton Field). This village was occasionally invaded by the Vikings who on one particularly ferocious raid set fire to the original church; unfortunately the villagers were inside at the time. However the settlement survived and as North – South travel developed grew into a Township so that in the time of Edward the Third (1301) its 31 taxpayers included 7 tradesmen contributed seven pounds six shillings and nine pence farthing tax, which was second only to Richmond in this district. Growth of the village

could be because of its proximity to the Hurworth and Neasham Fords, which were the shallowest and safest on this stretch of the River Tees. The road down from Entercommon to the Ford was so important that on the eleventh of June 1605 the inhabitants of Eryholme were summoned to appear at Thirsk Quarter Sessions for “not repairing the High Street and Kings Way at Breakhouse”. This road became an important route for people journeying North. A particularly large number of people traveled the road for an Ecclesiastical Ceremony, which was attended by five hundred horsemen when it last took place in 1800. The function of this ceremony was the presentation of a Falchion to the Bishop of Durham at the County Boundrey, which meant handing over the Falchion in the middle of the river. Several stories, some documented, are told about the ford. One tragic tale concerned a Darlington Gunsmith who came by horse and trap for a days shooting at Eryholme and returned after dark trusting his horse to negotiate the ford, unfortunately the river had risen during the day and he was swept to his death. A more lighthearted tale is related about George Turnbull who crossed safely with a traction engine but on his return journey encountered a swollen river, which disabled the vehicle by extinguishing its fire. The last two incidents bring us to more recent times when the village had ceased to be part of the route North but remained a thriving community. The village had its own school, which survived until 1935 when its remaining eight children began making the daily trip to Croft School. The school had been built to accommodate forty-five children and in 1900 there was an average attendance of thirty-two. Today eleven children are taken to Croft by Mrs. Walker who provides the school Taxi and four older children are taken to Dalton to join the School Bus to Richmond Comprehensive. A few children travel to Northallerton joining the bus at Entercommon and others are taken by their parents to Hurworth Prep. School. The village school was built in 1875 and survives as a private dwelling in the middle of the village where it is easily distinguished by its clock and the old brass bell. Until the school was built education was provided by the church. The village seems to have attracted teachers; in 1851 Robert Elgie was the resident teacher presumably living in the vicarage. Ann Alcock who was a widowed schoolmistress shared her home with her son and a lodger William Hayward who was also a schoolteacher. The rural situation of Eryholme has maintained its chief activity as farming and currently all farms are part of the Neasham Estate. The Wrightson family of Neasham Hall have taken a very active part in village activities ever since Sir Thomas Wrightson purchased the estate from the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley in 1906. Shortly after, in 1909 he built the iron bridge to Neasham Hall and a year later built the Manor, a building easily identified by his initials and year of construction TW 1910, which are carved in stone high up in one of the two gables facing the road. Several members of the Wrightson family have lived in The Manor since 1910 and the family involvement extends back as far as 1570 when Richard Wrightson had lands here. Presently Bridge House, the picturesque cottage overlooking the Bridge is occupied by Judge Oliver Wrightson, brother of the late Sir John Wrightson whose Widow still resides in Neasham Hall on the opposite bank of the river Tees. Moving up the village we pass two derelict buildings on the right in Old Hall field. It is hard to believe that one of these was so long the hiding place of the Elizabethan Chalice described earlier or that both have seen so much activity. The larger of the two forms the backcloth for a photograph taken in 1911 of the whole village and shows more than one hundred and thirty people, whilst sixty years earlier the smaller building was home for two families, one with two and the other with four

children. The next building on the roadside is 'Gardners Cottage' which holds memories for most of the people in the village. The building was replaced as a dwelling by a modern bungalow, which together with eight acres of land is known as Garden House Farm and is occupied by Mr. Davenport and his family. The original 'Gardners Cottage' now a store was occupied until his death in 1980 by Edward (Ted) Carvey. Uncle Ted led an active life until shortly before his death which occurred just a few weeks after moving into his new bungalow. He had always kept a few cows and hens to supply eggs to several people in the village. Ted Carvey's small market garden also included an orchard and many of the plum and apple trees had been planted by his father who had lived in the cottage before him. Early photographs show the cottage as the original stone structure before the addition of the brick extension. Mr. Carvey snr. Had come to the village from Sedgefield in 1875 and married in the village church in 1897. His wife lived in the village all of her life. They had seven children and one of their daughters, Mary still lives in the village with her husband. Their house is called 'Joiners Cottage' and is the nearest house to Gardeners Cottage on the opposite side of the road. Mr. Walker, himself a retired joiner always has a magnificent display of vegetables in one side garden and grows flowers and soft fruit in the other. Mrs. Walker was featured a few years ago in the Northern Despatch when she still used a pump to draw water for all domestic uses. The name 'Joiners Cottage' doesn't result from Mr. Walker's occupation but goes back more than one hundred years indeed in 1850 it was occupied by the Wake family, who were wheel and cartwrights. Moving along the village we come to St. Mary's View, a row of three houses built by the local council to replace an existing terrace of houses. This row is now purely residential but originally included a Blacksmith's shop and a cart repair business. The house nearest Joiners cottage is occupied by Bob Harker and his wife Shiela. Eric and Margaret Nicholson live in the middle house, Margaret is the daughter of Mrs. Walker and her son Robert and his wife Jayne live next door. Their children are the fifth generation of Mr. Carvey of Gardeners Cottage to live in the village. Behind St. Mary's view is a small field known as The Bullgarth which is used as the village children's playing park, there are swings a climbing frame and goal post. The next house along the village is now known as Rose Cottage and is owned by Martin and Jennie Clark who moved to the village about five years ago from the South of England. The house was extended by the previous owner who added the garage, bedroom and bathroom nearest to the drive. Prior to 1976 the house was owned by the estate and rented as a single private dwelling but several years previous had been a terrace of three cottages. From its construction can be seen its development from an original single stone cottage. It is believed that this original section was at one time used as a meeting house although this cannot be authenticated. During its period as a row of cottages one was occupied by Eric and Margaret Nicholson and another by Ted Carvey and his wife Mary formerly Mary Nodding who had lived in the village but who died not long after their Wedding. Continuing up the bank and passing the village name stone the modern bungalow on the left is occupied by Mrs. Gibbon who came to the village before the war and with her late husband Fred developed Westfields the farm now run by her son Peter. There are usually horses in the field next to the bungalow, the family having always been active with Hunters and competition horses. A little further along the road going away from the village on the opposite side is a cart track leading to the private bridge which crosses the Tees opposite the Otter and Fish at Hurworth. This gated track passes through Low Haile

Farm, which has for many years been part of the Estate and is currently farmed by the Walton Family formerly of Eryhome Grange. The private bridge to Hurworth was built in 1875, probably to provide direct access between Eryholme and Hurworth brickworks, which were operated by the same company. Returning from Low Haile towards the village on the left hand side of the cart track can be seen the old workings of the Eryholme Brick and Tile Works which remained working well into this century. The word 'tile' was used to describe a land tile or field drain. The characteristic U-section drain featured above being found frequently in the district. John and John Robert Stainsby are names associated with the Tile works appearing in Records as Tile Makers and Managers of the works. The Kilns which appear on early ordinance survey maps no longer exist and the Brick pond was drained by Bill Turnbull a few years ago. When removing material to clear the pond numbers of a smaller tiles were found which presumably were also made here. Charlie and Caroline Walker now live in Brick Yard Farm from where they operate their Grass cutting business. They usually have a few animals in the field in front of the house which was extended a number of years ago and recently added a workshop/garage at one end of the house. Charlie has always lived in the village, being the son of Mrs. Walker of Joiners Cottage and Caroline's grandparents originally lived in the cottage at Old Hall. Opposite Mr Gibbons Bungalow on the way back to the village their used to be a small detached cottage but this has been demolished and only a few photographs now remain. Then as we pass the Eryholme name stone we arrive at Gosling Ings Farm, now part of Westfields and occupied by Sid and Teresa Hornsby. This farm was once the home of the Millar Family who farmed in the village for many years. They moved to the Holmes when Gosling Ings became part of Westfields and remained there until the late seventies when the Holmes was incorporated as part of Hursts Farm at the other side of the bridge. Next to Gosling Ings is The Cottage owned by Dave and Bet Suttill who bought it from the Estate in 1976, a short while after the death of Mrs. Baxter. Her husband John Baxter had operated the land as a Market Garden until the end of the war. The original house can be identified by the rendered front. It was in poor repair but its original walls and features such as open ceiling joists were retained. A brick outbuilding at the rear had to be demolished to make way for the dining room; this had been a stable for Mr. Baxter's horse, which he used to pull a cart of his produce to the local market. This stable had been built in 1875, later than the house and its bricks were still in good condition, they were cleaned and used to construct the garage. The garage is tiled with the old roof tiles from the house, which was completely re-roofed in 1978. The School House is also part of Westfields and is presently the home of Robbie and Cilla Carter who moved into the village four years ago. The house was damp proofed and had central heating installed at that time. Beside the School House is the old village pump. Although the well still exists parts of the internal workings of the pump are missing so that it no longer functions. The remaining house in the village is 'Courtfield' which is still known to the villagers as the Vicarage'. It is currently for sale, its present owners Nathan and Carol Richmond bought it from the Church about 1971. The original house was built in 1725 by the Rev. Alexander Christie who held the Curacy at that time. Although his entry in the Parish Register said 'a good mansion house and a stable built and maintained at my own expense' it was only a small two-up-and-two-down cottage, however the Rev Christie and his wife brought up seven children in the cottage and also found room for his substantial collection of books and to entertain his many friends. It

was presumably that part of the house, which faces the road, the garage and room above being added by Nathan. The brick built section of Edwardian styling was added in 1908, its date stone being clearly seen in the rear gable when descending the path from the churchyard. The path originally passed much closer to the house but was re-routed when the house was sold. At that time the old well, from which one vicar sold drinking water to the villages was filled in. Its location in the grass verge can be seen in the 1897 ordinance survey map. Looking up towards the St. Mary's Church from the road can be seen a fine row of poplars which is believed were planted in the twenties by Reverend McNay and his daughter, the church itself is currently administered from Ripon and the Vicar, Richard Cooper resides at Middleton Tyas and to use a modern word 'commutes' between his three churches Croft, Middleton Tyas and Eryholme. The Church history and Architecture were well described in a document on Gilling Church of which Eryholme was a Perpetual Curacy and the following description is a resume of that document. In 1233 the Pope licensed the Archbishop of Canterbury to build chapels in outlying places to be served by a Curate paid by the Vicar so that people living in areas such as Yorkshire who would have difficulty in traveling in winter could still get to Church. These churches were known as 'Chapels of Ease' and in this way in 1344 St. Marys formed its attachment with Gilling and this situation continued until 1838 although the Vicar of Gilling still remains a Patron of Eryholme. The present church is a Red Sandstone building described as plain but when a painting was recently made the artist commented on how easy it was to feature because of the multiplicity of colours in the stone. It stands on probably the highest ground in the village and consists of a Chancel with North Vestry, Nave, South Porch and an embattled West Tower, although this is only 6 feet square. The earliest part of the present church dates back to 1150 and the styles range from late Norman to early Perpendicular. The Register dates back to 1565. The seating capacity has changed over the years depending on the size of the pulpit, the organ and the heater and has been described variously between 60 and 120. The Chancel has an early 14th century East window of three cinquefoiled lights, stained glass which are under a painted arch and in the south wall are two modern two light trefoiled square headed windows which are copied from part of an original window now built into the porch. The Chancel arch has two chamfered orders and half octagonal resonds with bases of 13th century details. The Nave has three modern copies of 14th century windows in the South wall, a round headed South doorway with 13th century mouldings and modern jambs and a modern window like those in the south wall of the Chancel to the west of it. The North Arcade of the Nave is of four bays with arches of two chamfered orders, with chamfered labels, circular columns and bell capitals, one of the capitals has early 13th century foliage. Traces of a decoration of single roses remain on the columns and capitals. The Aisle has a two light East window with modern bracer copied from one now walled in the porch and the North doorway has a modern semi circular head. The Tower is entirely plain except for its embattled parapet. It has a small single pointed west window on the ground stage and a round headed light on each face of the upper stage. The Porch is quite modern, into its walls are built several pieces of 12th century details and parts of Medieval coffin slabs. In the Chancel floor is a stone to John Calverley (1660) and his wife Margaret (1671). There are two bells, the Treble inscribed 'Campana Johannis:QWB' in Gothic capitals has a swastika on the waist and the second bell bears the inscription 'Jesus be our speed 1616'. The church plate consists of two cups two plattens, a flagon and an alms dish all

presented in 1889 by William Henry Allan, The Elizabethan Chalice was described earlier. Records exist of most of the clergy involved with Eryholme over the years and Rev. Cooper is currently updating the list of Curates, which usually hangs in the church. Three of the Curates were featured in a fascinating article by Rev. A.E. MacNay which he wrote for the Darlington and Stockton Times and a copy is available in Darlington Reference Library, these were:- Edmund Smithson, Priest and curate of this Parish from 1571. John Idson who held the curacy from 1618 to 1639. Alexander Christie - 1706 to 1728 'who was the oldest and most presentable of these men'. Caleb Readshaw - Curate 1793. Richard Skipsly - Curate 1834. It is difficult in an article as short as this to do justice to the efforts and anecdotes associated with the various people associated with the church therefore the following are used simply as examples of the type of activities associated with the clergymen of this parish. Alexander Christie for example was very proud of owning a cow, which he kept in a small building to one side of the vicarage. Mr. Heath was interested in building and making all sorts of things in fact he assembled the church organ. Tales are told of all the children of the village visiting the vicarage and receiving a dyed egg at Easter, this was in Mr. MacNays time and his wife used to operate a Christmas Club so that the village people could contribute each fortnight and eventually at Christmas could spend the money they had saved at Todd's shop at the top of Crown Street where they were also given a discount which was added to their club money. An example of the difference in value of money today is well illustrated in the Church records. The church was restored in 1889 at a cost of nine hundred pounds and was re-roofed in 1900 when the cost was one hundred and eighty pounds. Around that time the vicar the Rev. Walter Edward Stewart M.A. had an income of eighty-one pounds a year but with his church there were over twenty acres of Glebe Land. Some of the features of the Church were presented at that time an oak communion table and a pulpit frontal were given by his sisters, Miss Stewart and Mrs. Owen. This pitch pine pulpit was subsequently, in 1932 replaced by the present oak pulpit, which was placed in the church by the Wrightson Family in memory of Sir Thomas. It is interesting that the pitch pine pulpit was then dispatched by rail to Hertfordshire to a church where the Rev. Gerald Stewart presided. Another member of the Wrightson family is remembered in that one of the stained glass windows bearing the inscription 'to the glory of God and in perfect peace' was erected in the memory of Jean Wrightson 1918 - 1944. The church always seems to have been involved in village activities, in fact the writing of this pamphlet and the idea for Eryholme weekend were initiated by the Vicars suggestion that we should have a Pageant or something similar to 'put Eryholme back on the map'. Newspaper cuttings exist of an evening get-together in the early 1900's which was held in the school to raise money for 'the improvement of Illumination in the Church, so even then the villagers would happily pull together when something was required. As well as social activities the village has an affinity for sporting Activities, several people are active in the local gun club and partake in Clay pigeon shooting but Eryholme's best publicized activity is Cricket and the village side compete on the village cricket field which is on the right hand side of the road between the bridge and the Holmes. Norman Farnaby can perhaps claim to be the Founder of the present team when he and his sons together with Dick Tiplady and Dennis Biglin started playing cricket with other lads and grown ups in the village for fun on a Sunday Afternoon. They played in various fields among them Metcalfes field near the double bend and quit obtain in the clay pit behind Brickyard

Cottage, where Norman lived at the time. They played their first organized game against Great Smeaton in 1956 when Smeaton scored 15 all out and Eryholme won with five wickets to spare however their next game against Middleton Tyas resulted in defeat when the opposition scored more than 100 runs with Eryholme all out for 72 runs. Both of the first season's matches had been away and the team began to become established between 1957 and 1961 whilst playing friendly games against any side they could arrange to meet. During this time their home ground was the field adjacent to Brickyard cottage. Darlington and District League accepted the team in 1962 and sponsorship was sought to purchase the equipment that the team required to compete, this was provided by Fred Gibbon, Bill Turnbull and Sir John Wrightson and the team unfortunately lost the first six games but pulled their game together and went on to finish third in the league and in fact only lost three more games in the season. In the early days the side was mainly village lads with a few people joining from Neasham. Early teams were drawn from Norman Farnaby and his sons Peter, Clifford and Jeffrey and later Bernard and Tony with Dick Tiplady, Dennis Biglin, Charlie and Ken Walker, Ronnie Thompson, Ces Tupling, Bill Carvey, Peter Gibbon, Derek Causer, Jim and Tom Stephenson. Ted Carvey started as a player and later became a regular Umpire. Ray Bean, George Bell, Peter Hall and Robert Sanderson were regulars from Neasham. The side in the last couple of seasons has included a number of players from, as far a field as Darlington and this seems to be a necessary trend because of the lack of prospective players in the village. Last season a team drawn from Charlie Walker, Colin Harker, Keith Nicholson, Roger Dent, Alf Hutchinson, Malcolm McKenzie, Geoff Lynn, Peter Warne, Ian Oliver, Terry Simpson, Paul Edwards, Peter Clarkson, Alan Biglin, Garry Allonby, Ian Clarkson, Ian Burgess and Colin Proudfoot won the B Division Championship for the second time in the club's history in a league which travels as far as Barningham, Middleton in Teasdale etc. An even earlier team can be recalled by some of the villagers, which again played in friendlies against local villages, playing home games in the field in front of The Manor. Members of this team used to travel by horse and trap or cycle or even walk to their away games. The present field was leveled by Bill Turnbull and turfed by the club members. Originally an old Marquee was erected each game for a changing room but was eventually replaced by a show building purchased from Fred Robinson as his original Auction Yard was cleared to make way for the Bus Station in Darlington. This building was itself replaced by the present Pavilion, which was purchased from Wheatley Hill when it became redundant. It was transported by Charlie Walker in sections. Charlie is the mainstay of the present club acting as Secretary, Captain and Groundsman keeping the pitch in good cropped and rolled condition. Over the last few years the cricket field has also seen service as a sports field when the village has congregated on a Sunday Afternoon, usually in July or August and held its annual Sports Day. The morning is usually spent by volunteers such as Bill Carvey, Alex Turnbull, Charlie Walker and other willing helpers who set out the Pole for pillow fights, the net for obstacle races and mark out for start and finish of the various flat races. The wives of the village organize a tea in the Pavilion, of home made cakes and sandwiches and there is usually a gift stall and a raffle. Races are segregated into age groups for children and there are separate mens and womens events. The highlight of the afternoon is usually the Marathon, which attracts entries from all age groups and takes place along the riverbank path returning along the road from the ford. When races are finished and tea has digested the afternoon usually

ends in a football match with the sides containing as many players as are willing to compete. Apart from the football matches all winners are awarded a prize, particularly the children. Sports days are a tradition with the village and photographs have been kept of such occasions over the years in the cricket field, at Breakhouse Farm and of smaller 'Children Only' afternoon in the Bullgarth. At Christmas in the last few years there has been a Carol Singing Evening. Until a few years ago this was a traveling occasion visiting homes in the area but in the last couple of years has been an open house occasion when Mr. And Mrs. Sale invited people to the Grange and last year when Mr. and Mrs. Mills organized a similar occasion at The Manor. Perhaps the best known social event in the area is the Eryholme Harvest Festival, which is held every year on a Friday Evening in the Church with a Harvest Thanksgiving at which the Sunday Club Children form the Choir and perform a well rehearsed rendering and a special and entertaining sermon is always forthcoming. The church service is always followed by a supper at one of the farms, Breakhouse, Eastfields and Westfields, each taking a turn to host the evening and never failing to provide an enjoyable evening. Other enjoyable evenings have been spent in the Reading Rooms at Neasham when the village get together has been held and photographs over the years show numerous celebrations, some at Neasham Hall for Jubilees, Coronations and other state occasions. Although preceding pages have concentrated on people living in the cluster of houses in the village, Eryholme is also a Parish and the people living in the Farms around the village have contributed as much to the events and occasions that have been described. Breakhouse Farm has perhaps the longest continuous family connection with the village amongst the farmers. It seems unlikely that in 1888 when the original members of the Turnbull family were driving their stock from Hurworth Moor and searching for one unfortunate animal that got lost somewhere near Shoppe bank they would imagine that their descendants would be farming from the same house that they were then about to occupy. The family have extended their circle far outside the village indeed in the first world war one of the ladies of the family was awarded a medal for her services overseas as a nurse and more recently one of Alec's sisters traveled as far as India on an exchange visit. The farm itself has grown since that time having absorbed The Grange and the Smallholding at Low Sheds and some of the original farm workers cottages, although two of these have been replaced with modern detached bungalows. Bill Turnbull and his father George before him were always active in fund raising for the village and partook in all social activities, Bill, as mentioned earlier help finance the cricket club and to prepare the original pitch. He was for many years Churchwarden. His son Alex continues the tradition willingly providing transport and labour for Sports days etc., whilst Alec's mother Jessie remains active in the church and has been responsible for gathering most of the information for this pamphlet. Bill and Sheila Carvey at Eastfield have a shorter history on their farm but Bills connection with Eryholme is as well established being another member of the family from Gardeners cottage. Their family was preceded on the farm by the Aldersons, another well-known local family. Bill is currently Churchwarden and again a willing contributor to village events. The history of the village was resurrected a few years ago when a cannonball was found in one of the fields by a member of Bill's family. Westfields is another farm associated with most village and Church events and Ruth Gibbon, Peter's wife is presently secretary of the Parochial Church Council. Mr. Benton had the farm until the 1930's when it was transferred to the care of the present family.

Low Haile and The Holmes have already been mentioned. Carlingholme is also part of the Parish and the Estate and is the most recent farm to change hands now being occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Kirkup. They moved there after the departure of the Chilton family who took over from Ianson Smith, a character who seems to have been well liked in the community. The remaining farm at Entercommon is operated by Rob Ward and his wife Shirley. Rob is well known in the area which he also travels selling Agricultural Machinery. The present farmhouse was built in the fifties and was initially occupied by the Middlemiss family who had previously lived in the original house. The Grange mentioned earlier as the home of a fine Shorthorn herd in the time of Mr. Maynard was at one time occupied by the Walton family and is now the home of Robert and Susan Sale who live there at weekends but during the week usually commute to London. In their absence the house is kept secure by Rob and Hazel Bluman who live in the attached cottage at the side.

Eryholme Villagers 1984

Mr. & Mrs W. B. Davenport

Mr & Mrs R. Walker

Mr & Mrs. R. Harker

Mr & Mrs E. Nicholson

Mr & Mrs R. Nicholson

Mr & Mrs R. Carter

Mr & Mrs D. Suttill

Mr & Mrs M. Clark

Mr & Mrs S. Hornsby

Mrs. F. Gibbon

Mr. & Mrs C. Walker

Eryholme Villagers taken from 1881 Census

John Appleby, aged 64 years Market Gardener, Birthplace Eryhome. Elizabeth Appleby, wife, aged 55 years, Birthplace Hurworth-on-Tees. William T. Cooper, unmarried, Nephew, Ferrier Laborer, aged 17, Birthplace Richmond.

Thomas Pickering - Woodman Hannah Pickering 2 Daughters, 1 son-in-Law

Jane Wake Aged 81 1 Grandson

Martha Muster Aged 81 1 Daughter, 1 Granddaughter

John T. Maynell - Blacksmith Ellen Maynell 1 son

William Dodsworth - Agricultural Laborer 1 Daughter, 1 Servant

Joseph Allen - Agricultural Laborer Mary Allen 1 Niece

John Etherington - Agricultural Laborer Mary Etherington 3 Daughters, 3 Sons.

George Wake - Farmer Ann Wake 2 Sons.

Dinah Walker - Cowkeeper 1 Son, 1 daughter

John Miller - Farmer Emily Miller 1 Son, 1 Niece

Elizabeth Hall - Cowkeeper 2 Sons, 2 Boarders

TILEWORKS John Slainsby – Tile Maker Mary Slainsby 1 Daughter

Compiled by Colin Appleby Web Site: <http://colinappleby.com> 26th March 2004