

Cotesworth Barn

In the mid fifties my mother found an advert in the Lady magazine for a cottage to let in Arncliffe. We were returning to the UK and my father was posted to Catterick. As you may have heard it was not the most popular place for families in those days so we happily settled for a move to Arncliffe while we took stock. The cottage belonged to Miss Mears in the Mill Holm, we were captivated. At this time Arnold Schneider had decided to sell Botany End after his mother's death. To cut a long story we had a family conference and decided it was 'an eye teeth job' and bought it. Botany End, which is mentioned in the Domesday Book as 32 habitations or 6 cottages for mill workers, was our first proper house that I could remember which perhaps explains my attachment to Littondale.

My father took early retirement, went on a Pottery course at Leeds Art College and became Peter the potter. At first he had his studio in what was 'the chauffeur's room' with sales in the dining room. This venture became so successful he quickly needed more room, bought the barn in Grassington now known as the Gallery and converted it to a pottery and showroom. He did much of the work himself. He had his wheel in the bay window where people could watch him throwing pots, also from the gallery above. The curved supports up to the gallery were made with the wood from old oak barrels - hence the curve.

Life in the dale in the 50's was exciting! - on Saturday there was a bus to take us to the cinema in Grassington Town Hall and then back, after picking up fish and chips from Mr Binns van.

Mr Bracewell came from Kettlewell to collect the weekly grocery order to be delivered - I think- next day. We had bread delivered from the baker at Threshfield, veg. from Mr Rymer, 2 butchers - one was called the midnight butcher and always arrived singing Aida, and Mr Binns the fish man - we called him Bangers because he also delivered sausages. There was also Gipsy Mary who came with large bundles of various materials, towels etc. Mary got the brocade to make my wedding dress. Newspapers came with the postman. Church on Sunday was followed by coffee at the vicarage. Hugh Thorman, the vicar, also used his Land Rover to deliver milk in cans.

In 1960 Richard and I were married at St Oswalds by Hugh Thorman (It was Mrs Barbara Thorman - a kind, no nonsense special person who kindled my ambitions to have my own sheep farm - fulfilled in 1978 starting with 40 Kent ewes and building up to 750 ewes). In 1961 Kirstie was born, followed by Christopher born 1963, both christened at St Oswalds by Hugh. In 1967 Helen was born but sadly not christened in Arncliffe.

In 1970 my parents sold Botany and moved to Spain - many tears etc. not because they moved to Spain but because they sold Botany.

In 1990 we bought Cotesworth Barn, then called 'Cetelwella', from Mr and Mrs Haines. Over the years we have had quite a bit of building work done on the house, not least extending the lean-to upwards and a new roof. Architect - Robert Groves, Builder - David Claughton. The Haines had bought and converted the barn in 1972. Colin Chapman and others remember mucking out cows here.

In 1992 daughter Helen was working at Bolton Abbey and lived here with her two ponies Tommy and Puzzle. In 1985 Tommy and Puzzle did pony drives at the Arncliffe Fete.

Technically it is a holiday home, but Eileen Groves née Gill says we do not count, Peggy Chapman is my sister's sister in law, my sister Jane and David Wilson were married in 1959 in Tossie where they lived and David worked the family farm.

In the mid fifties my mother found an advert for a cottage to let in Arncliffe
in 'the body' magazine, we were returning to the U.K. - my father was
posted to Catterick. As you may have heard it was not the most
popular place for families in those days so we happily settled
for a move to Arncliffe while we took stock. The cottage belonged
to Miss Means (Dorie) in the Mill Holm. We were captivated. At this
time Arnold Schneider had decided to sell Botany End in Arncliffe after his
mother's death. To cut a long story we had a family conference & decided
it was 'an eye to the tooth job' and bought it. Botany was our first
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St Oswalds by Hugh Thomas. [It was ^{me} Barbara Thomas - a kind, no nonsense
special person who kindled my ambition to have my own sheep farm - fulfilled
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building work done to the house - not least extending the hearth upwards
and a new roof - ~~Architect~~ Architect - Robert Groves. Builder David Cloughton.

Technically it is a holiday home - but Eileen Groves - nee Gill says we do not
count. Peggy Chaplin is my sister's - sister in law. My sister Jane & David
Wilson were married in 1958 (ish) in Toss Side where they lived & David
worked at the family farm.

I do not know how much of this scrawl is relevant to the
'Millenium Book' but feel free to sift what ever is of any
use. We did take some photos of the house with daughter
Kirstie & grand son William — ^{semi now - David Connors' parents live in Middleham.} Also christened in St Oswalds — but I
have put them in such a safe place I cannot find them

The Haines bought & converted (not v. well) the barn in 1972
for the history you will have to check with Pagie & Eddy. Colin
Chepman & many others remember mucklay out cows here.

In 1992 daughter Helen was reading at Bolton Abbey (holiday work for
Cinemaster) and lived here — with her two colour ponies — Tommy & Puzzle.
in 1988 or 9 Tommy & Puzzle did Pony drives at the Annette Fete/gala.

Leaghd

[Shebaght Hells wainwright near Newbold]

On Saturdays

In the 50's, there was one bus into the village in the morning and one early evening (Sat.) to take us to the cinema in Crossington Town Hall and then back to Ancliffe - after picking up fish & chips for ~~Mr. Bins~~

Mr. Bins jr.'s van. - What an exciting life we had!

Mr. Bracewell came to Ancliffe to collect the weekly grocery order to be delivered - I think - the next day. We had bread delivered from the Baker in Thredfold. Veg for Mr. Rymer, 2 Butchers - one was called the mid night butcher and always arrived singing Aida. & Mr. Bins the fish man. We used to call him 'Bangers' because he also delivered sausage! There was also Gipsy Mary we came with large bundles varying materials, towels etc. Mary got the

Brocade to make my wedding dress. Milk was delivered daily by

Hugh Thelmer (the vicar) in his handrower in cans - Jersey milk from

Berbara's cows (is wife) Newspapers came with the Post man

as now. Church on Sunday was followed by coffee at the vicarage.

The Thelmers had Colonial school children to stay during the school holidays & would pile them, their own children & me into

the handrower on cushions in the back & take us into Harrogate on Leeds to the cinema or some such treat. In the summer we would

swim in the Pool à la Tom & the leader babies Botany End is

mentioned in the Domesday Book as 32 habitations or 6 cottages for the mill workers I presume.

In the mid fifties my mother found an advert. in the 'Lady' magazine for a cottage to let in Anneliffe. We were returning to the U.K. and my father was posted to Catterick. As you may have heard it was not the most popular place for families in those days so we happily settled for a move to Anneliffe while we took stock. The cottage belonged to Miss Doray Meass in the Mill Holm, we were captivated. At this time Arnold Schneider had decided to sell Botany End after his mother's death. To cut a long story we had a family conference and decided it was 'an eye teeth job' & bought it. Botany End, which is mentioned in the Domesday Book as 32 habitations or 6 cottages for Mill wakers, was our first proper home that I could remember which perhaps explains my attachment to Liffordale.

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