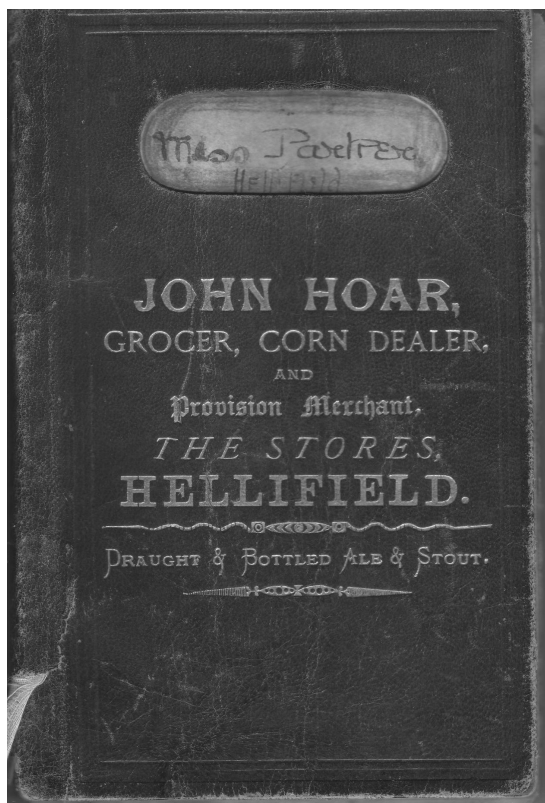

Some more notes on John Hoar, grocer of Hellifield

The December 2021 / January 2022 edition of the Hellifield Herald featured an advertisement from 1895 for John Hoar, grocer, corn dealer and draper of Hellifield with a request for further information. Ken Leak filled in all the relevant details regarding the store and its history in his article in the following month's edition of the Herald.

Looking through my family history archive I recently came across my grandmother's account book for John Hoar's store. The book, with green covers and gold lettering, is shown in the attached photos and must date to pre 1915 as it is made out in the name of 'Miss Parker', my grandmother. She became Mrs. Pearcy later in 1915. A

trawl through some of the records available online for John Hoar provided some additional details which I have added here.

Previously a grocer in Emsay near Skipton, John's Hellifield business was located on Kendal Road and is shown in a recent photo after its conversion into housing, the new stonework showing where the original shop frontage has been replaced. The 1911 census for Hellifield shows John (born 1860 in East-Knoyle, Wiltshire) his wife Sarah Jane (born Emsay) and children Sydney, Lillian and Mabel Annie, all are listed as assisting in the business. (It was also indicated on the census that an earlier child had died). John's son Sydney was amongst Hellifield's first volunteers to serve in the great war, enlisting at a recruitment meeting held on the green in 1914. Sydney served on the western front with the 10th battalion West Riding Regiment. He was to suffer a severe bout of trench fever in 1916 which saw him returned to a hospital in Glasgow for 6 weeks before returning once again to the western front where he was transferred to the Labour Corps and served on until 1919. Perhaps Sydney's experiences during the war contributed to an out of





Mrs. Parlar

In Account with

John Hoar
Hellfield

TEAS.	COCOA AND CHOCOLATE.	SPICES.
Assam Choice Black China Darjeeling Indian and Ceylon Orange Pekoe Young Hyson Gunpowder	Best Trinidad Cocoa Nibs Culinary's Cocoa Essence Cocoa Nibs Chocolate Powder " Creams, plain and crystallized Finest Rock Cocoa Fry's Concentrated Cocoa Pure Ground Cocoa Schweitzer's Cogatina Van Houten's Cocoa	Allspice Caraways, whole " ground Cassia, finest ground Cayenne Pepper " Pods or Chillies Cinnamon, finest " genuine ground Cloves, best Penang " pure ground Ginger, Jamaica " best Cochin finest ground Long Pepper Mace, best " pure ground Nutmegs, large selected " genuine ground Pimento or Jamaica Pepper " ground Soluble Cayenne Pepper, Black, whole and ground Pepper, White, finest " bleached " pure ground
COFFEES.	SUGARS.	
Freshly Roasted and Ground Daily, selected with great care from the Finest Plantations. Chicory of the best quality Choice Mocha Essences of Coffee Fine Plantation Finest Mysore French Coffees Real Jamaica	Best Lump Caster Crushed Crystallized Raw " White Finest Demerara Granulated Icing	

character incident that took place later in 1919 after his return home as reported here in the Craven Herald newspaper of the time:

'Mad Drunk At Skipton - Hellifield Ex-soldier's Foolish Conduct'

"In Skipton Police Court on Monday, before Mr. R.G. Rankin (presiding) and Mr. Arthur Dewhurst, Sydney Hoar (29), grocer's assistant, Brook Street, Hellifield, was charged in custody with being drunk and disorderly in Swadford Street, Skipton on Saturday, and also with assaulting P.C. Markham while in the discharge of his duty. Prisoner pleaded guilty to both charges, remarking that he remembered nothing about his conduct on the occasion in question, and expressing his sorrow for what had happened. The Defendant expressed regret for his conduct and mentioned that he had been four and a

half years in the Army without a mark against his name. Supt. Vaughan said there had been no previous charge against prisoner, who belonged to a very respectable family. A fine of 10s. and costs was imposed in the first case, and of 40s., including costs, in the second; the Chairman offering a few words of advice to the prisoner".

Sydney had married Mary Bownass of Mart Farm Hellifield in 1913 and they had two sons but records from 1920 show that Sydney and his father travelled alone onboard the ocean liner RMS Empress of France to Canada to visit relatives living over there in June of that year. A later record shows John returned to England several weeks later but as a lone passenger. It would seem Sydney stayed on in Canada on his own, the 1921 Canadian census shows him living in Manitoba giving his



occupation as servant, further records dating from 1944 show him serving on the Canadian merchant ship "Dundurn Park" (a Canadian equivalent of the American Liberty ships) as chief cook. As for Sydney's wife Mary, the England and Wales register for 1939 shows her living with her two sons in Gargrave

road, Skipton, her occupation given as boarding house keeper.

John Hoar passed away in Hellifield in 1929 and is buried in St. Aidan's churchyard, his wife, Sarah Jane, passed away in Morecambe in 1943.

John Percy

The 'repair' of Haw Lane

I wonder what the people who use Haw Lane beyond the level-crossing think of the terrible job NYNP have made of the lane.

What used to be a reasonable walk, albeit with a few large puddles to get round, has now turned into an assault course of mud, ditches and ankle 'cruckling' stones. What on earth it will look like after some rain has landed and how will it cope with a winter? I dread to think what large puddles the work has created, and what the side of the lane will look like when stagnant and filled with mosquitos.

It starts the second you exit the crossing gate. What used to be a couple of yards of mud has now extended to 10-15 yards of mud. It quickly deteriorates from there.

My question to NYNP was fobbed off with "No comment" on the work and just telling me to contact NYCC Highways and asking them to resurface the lane.

Can you imagine asking the CC to tarmac a lane when they cannot fill in potholes.

To my way of thinking the National Park has made a much larger mess of things, just to fill in a couple of puddles.

Ron Eccles

Ron has also posted this message on the Hellifield Community Facebook page. Go there if you wish to add your own comments about this story - Ed.