

# Coalville Times - October 1913

## Friday October 3rd 1913 (Issue 1128)

### **Local News**

#### *Motor Car Fatality*

Whitwick Chauffeur Exonerated From Blame

*Verdict of Accidental Death*

The inquest on the body of Arthur Holt, the four year old son of Alfred Stanley Holt, electrician, of Earl Shilton, who was killed by a motor car on Saturday afternoon, was held in the Skating Rink, Earl Shilton, on Monday afternoon, by the Deputy Coroner, Mr F. Bouskell.

John Stafford, the chauffeur, employed by Mr H. Watters, C.C. of Newbold Unthank Grange, said he lived at Whitwick. On Saturday he took Mrs Watters and two daughters out for a ride. In making the bend connecting the Hollow with Station Road, Earl Shilton, he sounded the horn, and again a few yards further on, where some children were playing in the road. As his attention was being directed towards them, the deceased suddenly appeared from an entry right in front of the car. Witness immediately threw over the clutch and applied the brakes, doing all that was humanely possible to do, but the wheels passed over the child's body.

Asked by the Deputy Coroner what speed he was travelling and his experience, witness said the car was going from eight to ten miles per hour, and he had been driving for ten months. Leonard Harvey, an accountant, of Barwell, stated that he met the car, which he calculated to be travelling about 12 miles an hour. He heard the driver sound the horn, and on turning round saw the child beneath the wheels. The car was stopped very suddenly, and he assisted the driver in conveying the injured boy to Dr. Garrett. In his opinion the accident was quite unavoidable.

Dr. P. G. Garrett said the child expired a few minutes after arrival at witness's house. The cause of death was shock and internal injuries, consequent of being run over by a motor car. The jury were unanimous in returning a verdict of 'Accidental Death,' in accordance with the doctor's evidence, the driver being exonerated from any blame whatever.

### **Harvest Festival**

Harvest thanksgiving services were held at the Whitwick Wesleyan chapel on Sunday, Mr G. Chester, of Woodville, being the preacher. There was a capital arrangement of flowers, fruits and vegetables and the services were well attended. The collections with a sale of produce on Monday night were for the trust funds.

### **Whist Drive**

In connection with the Whitwick Unionist Association a very successful whist drive was held at the Conservative Club on Wednesday evening. Prizes were given by Miss McCarthy, Mr John Shields, junr., Mr Robinson, Charnwood View, Mr Higgins, Coalville : the winners being:

Ladies: 1st Miss A. Needham, 2nd Mrs N. Haywood. Gentlemen: 1st a tie between Messrs J. Holt and H. Robinson, Mr Robinson was the winner on cut, Mr Holt taking the second prize.

Mr Justin McCarthy acted as M.C. and Mrs H. G. W. Howe presented the prizes. The thanks of the Association are heartily given to the ladies who made the arrangements, and contributed to a very enjoyable evening : also to the donors of the prizes.

### **Whitwick Revision Court**

The revising barrister in the Loughborough Division, Mr C. E. Dyer, held a Court at the Whitwick Holy Cross School yesterday, (Thursday) for the purpose of revising the voter's lists for the parishes of

Bardon Hill (portion), Coalville (portion), Osgathorpe, Thringstone and Whitwick. Mr Lloyd James (Liberal Agent) and Mr A. E. Seymour (Conservative Agent) watched the interests of their parties. The Bardon list was got through in two to three minutes and the same applied to Osgathorpe. On the completion of the Thringstone list, also speedily got through, the Barrister, remarked to Mr Waldrum, the assistant overseer : It is a very good list and does you credit.

In the Coalville list, Mr James objected to the name of Wm. Baldwin, who is the Conservative agent for the Bosworth division, contending that Mr Baldwin was not the rated occupier of the Conservative offices in Hotel Street. Mr Seymour admitted that it was a good objection and the name was struck off. In the case of Wm. H. T. Blower, of 42, Park Road, Coalville, the Liberal objection failed. Mr James held that Mrs Blower was the owner and occupier. Mr Seymour produced documentary evidence to the contrary, and said Mr Blower complained that the person who had made the objection had not taken the trouble to make proper enquires. He was rather sore about it. Mr James : He needn't be. I don't want to get the man off if he is entitled. I don't press it. The name was allowed to stand.

All the old Coalville lodger claims were allowed. A new lodger claim by Arthur James Curtis was objected to by Mr Seymour, who said claimant's mother told him that he paid her 12s a week for board and lodging and that was not sufficient to allow for 5s a week for a separate room. Mr James said it was the case of a son living at home with his parents who might not charge him as much as they would an ordinary lodger. The Barrister said that if the parents came and told him that they were of a generous disposition he would consider it, but sometimes the boot was on the other leg and sons paid more to support their parents. – Disallowed.

Mr Seymour objected to the lodger claim on the Coalville list of Wm. Prentice, stating that claimant was living with his wife's parents and paid 15s a week for board and lodging of himself and wife. Unless the claimant appeared before the courtroom to give further evidence in support of the claim, the Barrister said it would be struck out.

The Liberals objected to the name of Aubrey T. Sharp on the Whitwick old lodger list on the ground that he had been away at Halifax during the qualifying period studying for his final law examination. Mr Seymour said Mr Sharp was continually backwards and forwards and his room was reserved for him at his father's house. The Barrister asked whether Mr Sharp was articled to a Halifax solicitor. Mr Seymour : No, he served his articles with his father, who is a solicitor at Coalville and in partnership with Mr Lancaster, of Loughborough. I got this information from Mr Lancaster.

It was also stated that Mr A. T. Sharp was playing for Leicestershire during part of the cricket season. Mr James held that Mr Sharp was in Halifax the whole year. Mr H. G. W. Howe said Mr Sharp was at home most weekends and came over to assist during his father's illness. The Barrister said that if Mr Sharp had been articled, which to a certain extent, would prevent freedom of movement, it would have made a difference. He had no evidence of that and the name must stand.

### **Colliers' trip by Motor Car to Burton**

A motor trip took place on Saturday, September 20th, from Mr George Musson's, the Three Crowns Hotel, Market Place, Whitwick, to Messrs Truman, Hanbury and Buxton's brewery. The route taken was via Coalville, Ashby and Woodville, arriving at Burton at 1 pm. The party, which numbered about 27, were shown around the brewery by Mr Mee and other officials, and afterwards entertained to an excellent dinner provided for by Mr Webb, the agent, who through special business arrangements, was unable to be present. The cloth having been removed, Mr Henry Partridge was voted to the chair. He said he wished, on behalf of those present, to thank the officials of the brewery for their excellent entertainment and also for being shown through the works. It was very interesting, and he also wished to thank Mr Mee for so ably explaining the many works of the brewery. As their trip that day had now become an annual affair, it would make it more popular and he also hoped the good feeling which existed between the officers of the brewery, the landlord (Mr Musson) and the company present would continue for many years to come. (applause). Mr Thomas Moore, who seconded, said they very much regretted the absence of Mr Webb, but he wished to thank him and Mr Mee, and hoped they would live to meet for many years to come (applause). Mr Jack Haywood also expressed his thanks, and Mr Mee, responding, said it always gave Mr Webb and himself pleasure to make their trips as enjoyable as possible, and they were always welcome to come. If Mr Webb was not with them, his heart was with them. The party left the brewery about 4.30 and the route back was through

Willington, Melbourne and Belton, arriving back about 8.30, all being highly delighted with the outing. Thanks were expressed to Mr and Mrs Musson for their generous arrangement with the brewery company, and great credit was due to the chauffeur for his excellent driving.

### **Do you know**

That a Canine Society has been organised for Whitwick, Thringstone and Coalville, with Mr G. H. Hallam, hon. secretary?

That Whitwick Imperial F.C. play Sneinton near Boston at Whitwick, in the next round of the English Cup Competition?

That Mr A. T. Sharp who played last season for Halifax, has signed for Whitwick Imperial F.C.?

### **Sports News**

#### **North Leicestershire Rifle Association**

A league match was fired on Saturday last at Loughborough between Whitwick R. C. and the Falcon R. C., the latter being easy winners with a score of 1084 against 748.

### **Football**

#### *Coalville Football League*

Good progress was made in the Coalville League on Saturday. Except for the Ellistown match with Hugglescote Wesleyans in division one being postponed owing to Ellistown's Hinckley Cup match, all the other games arranged in the league, twelve in number, were played. Coalville Swifts made a poor start, losing 5 – 1 to the Imperial Res. at Whitwick.

The biggest win in the second division was 6 – 1 by Whitwick Amateurs against Bagworth Town. Whitwick Imperial were also competing in the English Cup Competition, having to go to Leicester to play the Imperial who, in an earlier round, had beaten Eastwood Rangers. In a typical cup-tie game they came out victors and were heartily congratulated on going a step further into the competition.

At the commencement Whitwick looked like taking an early lead, Wells being tested to the utmost. Imperial only occasionally broke away, but when they did, the Whitwick backs had rather a warm time, Roadley especially distinguishing himself. Reynold's put in some nice centres but Cooke and Waterfield were such a worrying pair that advantage could not be taken of them. They were really the best men on the side, for the forwards were too anxious to score, and as a consequence failed in front of goal, time after time. Towards the finish of the first half both sides began to tire a bit but Leicester Imperial deserved to score, the forwards combining better than in the earlier part of the game.

The second portion was practically a replica of the first – plenty of kick and rush. Hubbard went to centre-forward, but opinions differed as to the wisdom of this change. There was every indication that the match would end in a draw, but five or ten minutes from time Whitwick made a combined run, and rushing the defence, Brady was enabled to put the ball into the net, Wells not having the slightest chance to clear. Leicester made a big effort to get on level terms, but without success, and retired beaten by the only goal scored.

Whitwick Imperial team to meet Hugglescote St. John's in the Coalville Cup competition tomorrow at Whitwick : Roadley, Waterfield and Cooke, Toone, Hird and P. W. Wright (captain), Wain, Brady, J. Moore, Murdy and Searle. Referee Mr J. Tivey of Coalville.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths Burials**

**Irons** – At Whitwick, yesterday, Margaret Irons, aged 13 months, of Talbot Street.

## **Friday October 10th 1913 (Issue 1129)**

### **Local News**

#### *Accident*

While working at the Whitwick Granite Co.'s quarries, a Shepshed man, John West, was struck in the eye by a piece of stone. He was taken to the Loughborough Hospital and detained.

#### *Miners Meeting*

Mr Abraham Smith, president of the Leicestershire Miners Association, conducted a meeting of workmen employed at Whitwick Colliery, No. 2, 5 and 6 pits on Wednesday afternoon to receive the resignation of Mr Thomas Clay, checkweigher at No. 6 pit, through illness, after 25 years service. The men agreed that a meeting be held at the Hermitage Hotel on Wednesday, October 15th at 6.30 pm. to receive nominations in writing for the vacant position. Nominations to be confined to men working at No. 2, 5 and 6 pits, and that a deputation of four be elected at the said meeting to issue and count the Ballot. Every person to receive and sign his own card.

#### *Swine Fever*

Several cases of swine fever have been discovered at Whitwick and stringent measures taken to stamp out the disease. Last week, three animals belonging to Mr Elliott, of Brooks Lane, were reported by the police to the Board of Agriculture as suspected of the disease. An inspector of the Board confirmed this and the animals were destroyed. Since then others owned by Messrs E. Briers and Sons have been suspected and the whole of the animals on the premises were condemned.

#### *Benefit Dance and Social*

For the benefit of Mr J. Smith, of Silver Street, Whitwick, who has been unable to follow his employment for twenty-two weeks, a dance and social provided by his friends, at High Tor Farm, on Saturday, afforded pleasure to a large company.

### **Do you Know**

That the directors of the Whitwick Granite Co., on Wednesday met the railway directors at Coalville East Station to discuss proposed developments in the sidings?

That 38 students have been enrolled in the Whitwick evening school?

### **Coalville Urban District Council**

#### *Signs of the approaching Election*

The monthly meeting of the Coalville Urban District Council was held on Tuesday night, Mr Wm. Sheffield, J.P. presiding. There were also present, Messrs A. Lockwood (vice-chairman), M. McCarthy, S. Perry, T. Y. Hay, R. Blower, S. Armson, F. Griffin, S. P. Matterson, B. G. Hale, J.P., W. Fellows and T. Kelly, with the clerk, Mr T. E. Jesson; surveyor, Mr L. L. Baldwin; and gas works manager, Mr J. W. Eagles.

#### *Plans*

At a meeting of the Plans Committee, the following plans were recommended for approval : Two houses, Highfield St. Coalville, for Mr Slater; and two houses, Whitehill Road, Ellistown, for Mr W. Mason. – With reference to the plan for two houses for Mr Slater, the committee carefully considered the plan, and having regard to all the circumstances of the case, sanction the erection on the site as shown. – At a subsequent meeting the committee recommended for approval, a plan of a house, Crescent Road, Hugglescote for Mr A. Thomas. – The following plans were referred back, Motor Garage, Ashby Road, Coalville, for Messrs Coleman and Sons, and alterations, Holly Hayes Cottage, for the Whitwick Granite Co., Ltd.

Mr S. Perry moved the adoption of the report which was carried.

### *Highway Committee's Report*

The Highways Committee recommended the consideration of laying a sewer in Meadow Lane be deferred for twelve months. – That the clerk write the trustees of the estate of the late Mr C. Burton, of Whitwick, as to the Council acquiring a small piece of ground at the corner of Silver Street and the Market Place, Whitwick, for road improvement purposes. – The surveyor said he had nothing further to report with reference to the foot-bridge to Bridge Road, and he was instructed to bring the matter forward on the first Tuesday evening possible. – The surveyor reported that the cost of the Church Lane improvement was £95 19s 5d., with the addition of £63 3s for land and fees. A letter was read from Mrs Chandler that the fence around the garden was not completed, and the committee recommend the surveyor meet Mrs Chandler and her architect on the site, and report to the committee what was required. – The lodging-house returns were produced and read to the meeting.

### *Telegraph Line*

The postal authorities wrote for permission to erect an over head telegraph line along the Brooks Lane, Whitwick, from Charnwood House to North Street. Mr McCarthy moved that it be allowed subject to the approval of the surveyor. Mr Fellows suggested referring it to the Highways Committee, but the resolution was carried.

### **Coalville Police Court**

To-day (Friday) Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair) Major Hatchett, and Mr Wm. Sheffield.

#### *Cases Withdrawn*

Mark Bradley, collier, Whitwick, was summoned by the Coalville Urban Council for allowing a nuisance to exist on his premises at Whitwick on July 1st. Mr T. E. Jesson, for the Council, stated that the nuisance had been abated, and the costs paid. He asked for the case to be withdrawn. The Bench agreed.

#### *Alleged Assault at Whitwick*

Sophia Bradley, wife of Mark Bradley, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for assaulting Annie Findell, wife of Wm. Thomas Findell, collier, at Whitwick, on September 27th. She pleaded not guilty. Complainant said her husband put the defendant in court for some money owing, and defendant had been on to her ever since. A distress was issued, and defendant's sewing machine was seized. Complainant kept a shop and the defendant came to the shop on the date named for some tomatoes and candles. She did not pay and complainant went for the money. Defendant then "clouted" her three times and threw a bucket of water over her. Defendant denied striking the woman, and said she had no bucket. She had had two stolen from her back door, and now had to borrow one when she wanted one. Kate Howe, wife of Edgar Howe, collier, of Golden Row, Talbot St, Whitwick, said she heard the defendant make use of an offensive expression to the complainant. She was on her way to Coalville, and did not stop to see. By the clerk: She did not actually see any assault, but heard a splash of water, and she heard complainant say, "You have struck me once, and I shall make you pay for it." Defendant said she was doing her little girl's hair and never got up from the chair. She did not strike a blow. Winifred Marriott, married woman, of Whitwick, said she heard complaining "using dirty talk." Witness was with Mrs Howe at the time. She saw no blow struck by the defendant. By complainant: She was there when it started and no water was thrown.

The Bench decided to dismiss the case and complainant had to pay 7s 6d costs.

### **Sports News Football**

#### *Whitwick Imperial's Narrow Escape*

Whitwick Imperial almost made a fatal mistake in regarding their draw at home against Hugglescote St. John's too lightly. When the game was drawing to a close, Hugglescote were actually leading, and it was only by a supreme effort that the Imperial drew level and thus established the right to fight

again. Next time they will probably set about their business in a more serious fashion, profiting by Saturday's experience.

The game started all right for Whitwick, as in the first few minutes, Moore scored with a splendid shot from a free which gave Adams no chance and this confirmed the idea of some of the players and supporters of the club that they were in for a soft thing. For the first twenty minutes, Whitwick were almost continually pressing, but their shooting was very indifferent. Then Brown broke away and scored what many of the spectators seemed to think was an offside goal but Referee Tivey allowed the point. Thence forward to the interval, play was even, and just before the whistle blew, Brown put the St. John's ahead in a rather unexpected manner. The ball hit the upright and to the surprise of Roadley went into the net. Thus the visitors crossed over with a lead of two to one.

Play continued even for a time in the second half and the St. John's played hard for further success, but found the defence impregnable. Then as time was passing, the Whitwick men realised the seriousness of the situation and buckled to, but their shooting was very erratic. About ten minutes from time, Waterfield (back) made a splendid run on his own, nearly the length of the field and then passed nicely to Wain, who centred beautifully enabling Brady to score the equalising goal and so send up a sigh of relief from many of the Whitwick supporters. The Imperial forwards missed many chances of taking the lead in the next few minutes. The end came with the score two goals each. It was a narrow escape. At the same time the St. John's are to be heartily congratulated on their good display and giving their powerful opponents such a fright.

## **Friday October 17th 1913 (Issue 1130)**

### **Local News**

#### *P.M. Missions*

Services in aid of foreign missions were held at the Whitwick P.M. church on Sunday, conducted by the Revs. T. Johns Martin and W. H. Whiting. There were fairly good congregations. The annual missionary meeting was presided over by Mr J. Newbury on Tuesday when an illustrated lecture on "Our work in Southern Nigeria" was listened to with much interest. The collections were for the mission funds.

#### *Parish Church*

The harvest festival was held at the Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday. The Vicar, the Rev. T. W. Walters, conducting all the services. There were large congregations, many being unable to obtain admission in the evening. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit, corn etc. Anthems suitable to the occasion were nicely rendered by the choir. The collections were for the hospitals.

#### *Whitwick Carter's Compensation Case settled at Ashby*

At the Ashby County Court before His Honour Judge Wightman Wood, yesterday. Mr T. H. Moore of Coalville, representing Mr J. J. Sharp of Messrs Sharp and Lancaster, of Coalville and Loughborough, asked for the Judge's award in a workman's compensation case which was adjourned from the last Court, a settlement having been arrived at in the meantime. The parties in the case were James Wyatt, labourer, of Loughborough Road, Whitwick, and Elijah Wolfe, farmer, of the Irish Farm, Whitwick. Wyatt formerly worked for Wolfe as a carter and when carting stone on March 3rd, 1911, the horse stepped on his right toe, causing him to fall and the cart wheel went over his right arm, causing laceration and bruising of the flesh and muscles. Since then, 2 1/2 years, he had not been able to work. His wages at the time of the accident were 18s a week and the respondent paid him 9s until May 26th 1913. In the interim, applicant was twice in the Leicester Infirmary. He had a wife and four children dependant. The respondent offered the applicant a light job, but Wyatt said he was unable to do it. The question originally raised by the respondent was whether Wyatt was now wholly or partially incapacitated as a result of the accident and the case was adjourned from the last Court to enable him to be examined by a medical referee. Mr Moore said the report of the referee was in the applicant's favour and respondent had agreed to pay 9s a week. The application therefore, was for His Honour to make an award accordingly. Mr Moore also asked for the costs of the medical witnesses who had reported on the case. Dr. Marriott, of Leicester, was the medical referee, and

there were reports by Dr. Blakesley, of Leicester and Dr. Burkitt, of Whitwick. His Honour made an award for 9s a week, and allowed costs on scale B, also the two doctor's fees for their report and a special qual – (the final line is missing).

#### *Cycling Accident*

A girl named Yeomans, aged 13, of Hermitage Road, on Saturday night whilst carrying her baby brother, aged two years, was knocked down by an Ibstock cyclist, who was on a visit to the locality. The girl sustained a cut on her arm, but the infant was not harmed in any way, although pitched out of its sister's arms.

#### *Mr H. Underwood run over by his Bread Cart*

A well-known Whitwick tradesman, Mr Horace Underwood, who carries on the business of a baker in Castle Street, had an unfortunate experience on Tuesday. About mid-day he was loading up his bread cart in the yard, preparatory to starting on his round, when he slipped off the step of the cart, and fell to the ground. This caused the horse to start on, and the wheel of the cart went over Mr Underwood's back. He was rather badly hurt, and Dr. Burkitt, who was sent for, has since been in attendance, though we understand Mr Underwood is recovering.

#### **Do you Know**

That at the Coalville football cup draw on Tuesday night, Whitwick Imperial were last out of the hat?

That Whitwick Imperial have been drawn against Grantham Avenue at Grantham in the next round?

#### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Major Hackett and Mr William Sheffield.

#### *Pup stolen at Whitwick*

Thomas Wileman, labourer, Measham, was charged with stealing a dog, value 10s at Whitwick, on September 20th. He pleaded guilty. Wm. Stocks, miner, Green Lane, Whitwick, said the defendant came to him and asked him if he would sell him a bull terrier pup for 5s. Complainant told him he wanted 10s for it. When he got home he missed the pup and he subsequently reported it to the police. He identified the pup at Ashby Police Station. P.C. Holmes said that when he saw the defendant he denied having the pup but, after being cautioned, said it was at the house of a man named Parsons. He added that he would make it warm for the prosecutor if he summoned him. Defendant also told him prosecutor had promised him a pup. He took it and sold it to Parsons for 2s 6d. Fined 10s 6d and costs 17s or 14 days hard labour.

#### *Drunk*

Frederick Bryan, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick on September 9th. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley said the defendant used bad language towards the neighbours for some time. He was very drunk. Fined 7s 6d and 14s costs or 7 days.

Patrick Allen, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick on September 28th. P.C. Grewcock said the defendant had a lot of people around him in the City of Three Waters. He was drunk and using bad language. It was Sunday night. Defendant who did not appear, was fined 5s 6d and costs 12s 6d or seven days.

#### *Loughborough Police Court*

At the Loughborough Police Court on Wednesday, James Gee, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using a dog to take game at Belton on Sunday October 5th. Trevor Pratt and his son said defendant was with a dog after hares. Defendant denied the charge and said he never got off his bicycle. Fined 30s including costs or 21 days.

## **Sports News**

### **Football**

#### *Whitwick Progress in the Premier Competition*

Boston Town, against whom Whitwick Imperial were drawn in the English Cup Competition at Whitwick, on Saturday, were a sort of "dark horse." Very little was known about them in the colliery district, but the fact that they had beaten Sneinton in the previous round won for them a certain amount of respect among the Imperial supporters. The uncertainty added a spice to the match and there was a good crowd. That Whitwick would give the Lincolnshire men a good run for their money whatever their calibre was freely anticipated, but the easy victory which the home team gained came as quite a surprise. Not that it was undeserved, for it was apparent on the day's play that the Imperial were vastly the superior side.

The issue of the match was practically settled in the first half, when Whitwick gained a lead of four goals. The scorers were Bird, Hewitt (2), and Moore. The Imperial, who the bulk of the play in their favour, were also awarded a penalty, with which Roadley, the goal-keeper, was entrusted, but he shot the ball straight at his confrere, who made a safe return. Whitwick continued to monopolise the play after crossing over, but the Boston forwards once got away and their inside right obtained their only goal. The home team again got to work and before the end came Joe Moore and Murdy put on further goals, giving Whitwick victory by six goals to one.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

#### **Whitwick Councillor Bereaved**

##### *Death of Mr T. Kelly's Father*

An old and well-known resident of Whitwick, Mr John Kelly, of Brook's Lane, has passed away during the week, and was interred at the Whitwick Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon. He was 75 years of age and leaves an aged widow, who is, unfortunately, blind, and five sons, one of whom is Thos. Kelly, of the Railway Hotel, Whitwick, and one of the Whitwick members on the Coalville Urban Council. Deceased formerly worked as a miner at the Whitwick pit, and later at South Leicester, giving up work there about 16 years ago on account of his age. He enjoyed fairly good health up to a week last Sunday, when he had a stroke, and thence up to his death, kept his bed. Only a fortnight today he visited Coalville market, walking both ways, and when his son Tom asked him why he did not go in the brake, he scouted the idea and said he felt as young as ever he was. Both Mr Kelly and his wife were old age pensioners. He had lived in Whitwick for over 40 years and of the party with whom he originally came over from Ireland and settled in Whitwick, only four now remain – Mrs O'Mara, aged 84, Mrs Noon, Mrs Doyle and Mrs Kelly. Deceased was a genial old man, popular with all acquaintances who all regret his death.

The funeral service on Tuesday was conducted by the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly. The mourners present were the widow, Mr and Mrs P. Kelly, Mr John Kelly, junr., Mr and Mrs T. Kelly, Mr and Mrs John Kelly with grandsons and daughters, Mr and Mrs P. Griffin, Mr M. Concannon, Mr W. Carter, and Mr M. Shea. The bearers were Messrs Martin Noon, Michael Noon, T. Cooper and P. Riley.

Wreaths were sent by Mr John Smith (a friend), Joe and Agnes and children, Mr and Mrs Griffin and family, Mrs Noon, Mrs Stafford and Mrs Slattery and there were others bearing no cards.

### **Burials**

**Ward** – At Whitwick, on Monday, Hamel Elizabeth Ward, aged 16 years of North Street.

**Kelly** – At Whitwick on Tuesday, John Kelly, aged 75 years of Brook's Lane.

## **Friday October 24th 1913 (Issue 1131)**

### **Local News**

#### *Extensive Property Sale At Coalville Land Company to be wound up*

One of the most extensive property and land sales held in Coalville for some years was conducted at the Half-Way House Hotel, on Monday evening, by Mr Edward Moore, of Messrs Moore and Miller, in the presence of a large and representative company.

..... Land at Whitwick was next offered, viz, two encloses of building or accommodation pasture and arable land, known as "Holly Hayes Closes", having a frontage of 330 yds, or thereabouts to Forest Road, and adjoining Holly Hayes Wood in the rear, and containing a total area of 10a. 3r. 30p. or thereabouts, in the occupation of Mr S. Berrington, on a Lady Day tenancy at a rental of £22 10s per annum. There is no tithe nor land tax and the minerals are also included in this lot. The main sewer and Coalville water pipes are laid nearly the whole length of the frontage. For this lot there was no bid. The last lot was an enclosure of accommodation pasture land, situate adjoining the main street, Whitwick, formerly two closes known as "The Croft" and "Moore's Close" containing an area of 6a. 0r. 28p. or thereabouts in the occupation of Dr J. C. S. Burkitt, on a Lady Day tenancy, at a rental of £14 per annum.

There is no tithe or land tax and the minerals are included in the sale of this lot. Owing to this plot having 210 ft or thereabouts frontage to Silver Street, it forms a capital building site. Bidding started at £200 and stopped at £300 the lot being withdrawn.

The vendors solicitors for these lots were Messrs Fisher, Jesson and Co., of Ashby and Coalville.

#### *Young People's Day*

Sunday was observed as "Young People's Day" at the Whitwick P.M. Chapel. The preacher was Mr W. Frearson, of Coalville, and there were good congregations. A children's service was held in the afternoon. Mr A. J. Briers presiding, and addresses were given by Mrs W. G. Wheatley and Mr W. Frearson. Solos, duets, etc were rendered by the scholars.

#### *Parish Church*

In his sermon at the Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday night, the vicar, the Rev. T. W. Walters, made suitable reference to the terrible disasters of the week and especially to the Welsh Colliery explosion. The vicar is a native of the district where this disaster occurred. At the close of the service, Mr R. West, organist played the Dead March, the congregation standing meanwhile.

#### *Victories of the Cross*

Whitwick Baptists were on Tuesday favoured with a visit by the Rev. E. A. Carter, of London, president of the pioneer British, Continental and Russian Mission, who gave an interesting lecture on "Victories of the Cross." Mr T. W. Bourne presided and there was a fairly good attendance. Votes of thanks were accorded on the motion of Mr H. Mann and Mr A. Aris.

#### *For Sale*

Excellent Villa Residence, "The Laurels", Hermitage Road, Whitwick – Also, six well built cottages adjoining. This property is highly recommended as a sound and profitable investment. Gross annual rentals, £113, 15s. Apply to Mr John Ward, builder, Silver Street, Whitwick; to Mr Philip Greasley, Belvoir Road, Coalville, or to Mr C. E. Crane, Solicitor, Coalville.

#### *Whist Drive and Dance*

A whist drive and dance were held in the Holy Cross School on Wednesday night in aid of the funds of the Holy Cross Church. About 150 were present. Mr and Mrs Popple (piano and violin) played for

dancing and the M.C.'s were Messrs John Rewhorn and A. Dyer. The M.C. for whist was Mr J. O'Mara and the prize winners were:

Gents : 1st, Mr G. Harding; 2nd, Mr J. Fox Ladies: 1st, Miss A. Needham; 2nd, Miss Weston Refreshments were served by a ladies' committee.

### **Property Sale**

At the Three Crowns Hotel on Tuesday night, Messrs Orchard and Joyce offered for sale by public auction the two newly and substantial brick built semi-detached messuages situate in Church Lane, Whitwick, in the occupation of Messrs Laban Johnson and James Stanyard at weekly rentals of 6s each. Each messuage has a passaged entrance with bay windowed front room, living room, kitchen and scullery, three bedrooms, coalhouse, w.c., and garden. The total area of the site was 560 yards. The bidding went up to £405 at which point the lot was withdrawn. Messrs Sharp and Lancaster, of Coalville and Loughborough, were the vendor's solicitors.

### **Do you Know**

That over 400 people were booked at Whitwick Station for Loughborough on Saturday for the Corinthians V Imperial football match?

That the collecting at the Whitwick Parish Church next Sunday will be for the Lord Mayor of London's fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of the victims in the Welsh Colliery Disaster?

That Mr John Ward of Whitwick, presided at a concert in Shepshed on Saturday night in connection with the new P. M. Chapel?

### **Coalville Police Court**

To-day (Friday), before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Major Hatchett, Mr H. J. Ford, Mr J. W. West and Mr B. G. Hale.

#### **Refusing to Quit**

Frederick Newson, collier, Whitwick was summoned by Thomas Irons, publican, for being disorderly and refusing to quit his licensed premises, the Prince of Wales Inn, at Whitwick, on October 20th. Defendant pleaded guilty. Mr T. E. Jesson, of Ashby, appeared to prosecute. Complainant said the defendant threatened to strike a man named Brownlow in the house. Witness asked him to leave, but he refused and witness had to put him out. When he got outside, defendant put his hand through the window. He had paid for the pane of glass being broken. Defendant, who appeared with his arm bandaged having cut it on the glass, said he could remember nothing about it. Fined 10s 6d and 13s costs or 14 days.

#### *Helpless*

Jacob Webster, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk at Whitwick, on October 19th. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley said he found the defendant quite helpless and had to take him home. Fined 2s 6d and costs 11s 6d or seven days.

### **Sports News**

#### *Football*

The only match in the first division was at Whitwick, where Ibstock Albion Reserves received a check. They had played three games previously and won them all, but the Imperial Reserves defeated them 4 – 2 on this occasion.

### *Whitwick's Fine Recovery at Loughborough*

Whitwick Imperial did remarkably well to draw with the Corinthians at Loughborough in a Hinckley cup match on Saturday, especially when it is considered that they played a good portion of the match with only ten men, Bird, their centre half, being off injured.

The match aroused a good deal of interest, and there was a big crowd. The Imperial at once made the pace and were soon one up as the result of a good shot by Brady, but before the interval arrived the Corinthians had equalised. Things looked bad for Whitwick when Bird had to retire and Loughborough had forged ahead to the extent of 3 – 1, but the Imperial made a splendid recovery and a couple of goals by Moore put them on even terms again, and the end came with the score three goals each. After this experience, the Imperial are hoping to pull off the event in the replay at Whitwick tomorrow, when a big "gate" and another fine game is expected.

It is interesting to note that Mr Aubrey T. Sharp made his first appearance for Whitwick on Saturday and played an excellent game at right half. He fed the forwards in a pretty and stylish manner repeatedly and proved to be a good acquisition to the side. Whitwick now have a nicely balanced lot of players who should continue to give a good account of themselves as the season advances.

The Whitwick Imperial team to meet the Loughborough Corinthians in a re-play Hinckley Cup tie at Whitwick on Saturday:

Roadley, Waterfield and Cooke, A. T. Sharp, Bird, and Joe Moore, Wain, Brady, Murdy, Wright (captain) and W. Moore.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

#### *Co-Operative Shop Manager's Bereavement*

We regret to report the death of Mrs Sarah Ann Latham, wife of Mr Stephen Latham, manager of the Coalville Central Stores and late of the Whitwick branch. The deceased lady, who was 41 years of age, had been ill for some time, and the sad event took place on Saturday, shortly after her removal to Leicester Infirmary. She was a member of a well known Coalville family, being a daughter of Mr Thos. Chambers, formerly miner's agent, and much sympathy is felt for the husband, who is left with three boys. The funeral took place at Coalville Cemetery on Wednesday, the body being first taken to the Whitwick Primitive Methodist Church, to which the deceased was formerly attached. The first part of the service was conducted there by the Rev. W.H. Whiting. The chief mourners were the husband and three sons – Stephen, William and Cecil; Mr and Mrs T. Chambers, father and mother; Mrs E. Hunt, Mrs A. Hunt, and Mrs Wild of Sileby, sisters, with their husbands; Miss Rose Chambers, sister; Mr Wm. Chambers, brother; and two sisters-in-law and a niece and nephew. Also present were Mr and Mrs Sharp, Hugglescote; Mr and Mrs Ed. Wallam, Whitwick; Mr W. Brooks, Mr A. Churah, and other employees of the Co-Operative Society. The bearers were Messrs G. Bishop, B. Henson, A. J. Briers and J. Gilberd. There were several beautiful wreaths, including one from the Co-Operative Society employees, one from the Co-Operative Women's Guild, and one from the Ladies' sewing meeting at the Whitwick P.M. church.

### **Burials**

**Latham** – At Coalville, on Wednesday. Sarah Ann Latham, aged 41 years, of Whitwick

**King** – At Coaville, on Wednesday, Winifred Jeanette King, aged 7 months, of Hermitage Road

**Geary** – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Joseph Geary, aged 55 years, of Leicester Road.

## **Friday October 31st 1913 (Issue 1132)**

### **Local News**

#### *Memorial Service*

The Rev. W. H. Whiting on Sunday evening, at the Whitwick P.M. Church preached a funeral sermon on the late Mrs Latham, wife of Mr S. Latham, manager of the Coalville Central Stores. The deceased lady was an active worker for the church when her health permitted, and suitable references were made by the preacher. There was also appropriate music by Mrs J. B. Newbury (organist) and hymns. There was a large congregation.

#### *Whist Drive*

A whist drive arranged by the Whitwick Unionist Association was held at the Conservative Club on Wednesday evening, when excellent prizes were given by Messrs McCarthy, C. E. Crane, W. Hoult, T. Irons, W. Musson and J. H. Robinson (of Charnwood View) and the following were the winners: Ladies: 1st Miss A. Needham; 2nd Miss E. Middleton; 3rd Miss N. Haywood. Gents: 1st Mr W. D. McCarthy; 2nd Mr J. Hoult; 3rd Mr W. Moore.

Mr W. D. McCarthy acted as M.C. The committee wish to thank the donors of the prizes and the ladies who gave and helped with the refreshments.

#### *Change Ringing*

A peal of grandsire triples (5,040 changes) was rung at St. John the Baptist Church, Whitwick, on Wednesday in 2 hours 46 minutes. The bells were rung by Messrs S. W. West, J. H. Swinfield, Burton; W. C. Wolsey, Burton; W. W. Worthington, Netherseal; J. Paget, Derby; A. P. G. Stone, Burton; A. Stonely, Stoke Golding; A. Wagg, Netherseal. Conductor, Mr J. Paget.

### **Do you Know**

That the collections at Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday raised £5 14s for the Welsh Colliery Disaster relief fund?

That Mr A. Webster of Swannington, has been appointed check-weigher at the Whitwick Colliery in place of Mr T. Clay?

### **Sports News**

#### **Football**

#### *Loughborough Corinthians Lucky at Whitwick*

Loughborough Corinthians can thank their lucky stars that they managed to pull off their re-played Hinckley Cup match at Whitwick on Saturday. The game produced only one goal and the Imperial had a good deal the best of the argument, and ought to have scored three or four, but luck seemed to be altogether against them. They were often peppering away at the Loughborough goal, and only the splendid defence of the

Corinthians saved them. Considering the pressure that was applied, great credit was due to Wooton, the Loughborough goal-keeper, and the backs, Brown and Cumberland for their successful efforts in preventing Whitwick from scoring.

The home side, unfortunately, were without Brady and Bird, and this brought Springthorpe into the centre line, and Abell among the forwards. The goal which gave Loughborough victory was scored by Belton in the first half immediately after Roadley had returned a splendid shot from Pilkington. Several good opportunities were missed by the Whitwick forwards, particularly in the second half, and there were one or two occasions when the spectators thought penalties should have been awarded but these incidents passed unnoticed by Referee Heath. During practically the whole of the second half, Whitwick played like a winning team and that they would succeed seemed almost a certainty seeing

the miraculous escapes which the Loughborough goal repeatedly had. Brady was greatly missed. Had he been there one could hardly conceive him missing some of the openings that presented themselves. Joe Moore nearly did the trick once, Wooton having to deal with a high drive, but the custodian was invincible, and when the end came it was a keen disappointment to the Whitwick players and supporters, considering the trend of the game, to find the team a goal behind.

Whitwick are engaged in another strenuous match to-morrow, being due at Grantham to play the Avenue for the English Cup.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### *Burials*

**Lycett** – At Coalville, on Monday, George Wm. Lycett, aged 22 months, of Hermitage Road. Accompanying Notes to the October Articles

## **Friday October 24th – Extensive Property Sale**

*Mention is made of a 'Lady Day tenancy'.*

Since the Middle Ages, the 'quarter days' were four dates each year when rents became due and servants were hired. They were roughly three months apart and made sure that debts were not allowed to linger on, as accounts and reckoning had to be made and publicly recorded on the quarter days.

The English quarter days are:

Lady Day (25th March) Misummer Day (24th June) Michaelmas (29th September) Christmas (25th December)

The British tax year still starts on 'Old' Lady Day (6th April under the Gregorian calendar and corresponded to 25th March under the Julian calendar.

### *The Sengenhydd Explosion*

This report comes from the Coalville Times for 17th October and gives an upbeat message about the situation at the colliery.

### *Welsh Colliery Disaster*

#### *Pitiable Scenes at the Pit Head*

A terrible disaster occurred on Tuesday morning at the Universal Colliery, at Sengenhydd, a mining village, near Cardiff, and resulted in a great loss of life. At about 8 o'clock there was an explosion, and this was unfortunately followed by a fire, and which cut off the escape of hundreds of poor fellows. At an early hour on Wednesday morning the position was as follows:

Descended the pit, 935; brought up alive, 500; still below ground, 409; total known dead, sixteen.

When the explosion occurred the pithead gear was practically destroyed, and the banksman, named Mongridge, had his head blown from his body. The neighbourhood was shaken by the report, and in a very short time there were large crowds of men, women and children at the pithead anxiously making enquiries.

Officials of the colliery and rescue parties consisting of managers from other collieries in the vicinity were quickly on the scene, and went down the shafts. They reported that everything was all right in the east pit, but that things were very bad in the west pit, where the fire was raging.

Bands of rescuers worked heroically, but could not get near the vicinity of the explosion owing to the foul air. They came across several dead bodies, and directed their operations for the removal of the

injured, who on being brought to the surface were conveyed to a Salvation Army Barracks, close to the pit head.

Sad sights were witnessed around the colliery. Aged women and young girls were bemoaning together the absence of news of their beloved ones, and here and there strong men, and women fell upon the necks of those dear to them as they came up from the depths below.

A telegram at midnight stated that it was officially reported that the fire in Lancaster Pit was being successfully fought, and the rescue parties had increased hope of being able shortly to make an entrance to the workings where the entombed men are.

Rescuers say a providential diversion of the air current caused by the explosion saved the men in York Pit. The blast reversed the ventilation, turning Lancaster Pit from the downcast to the upcast shaft. Dr Atkinson, Chief Inspector of Mines, Professor Redmayne, Cardiff, and Mr Morgan, the miners agent, were amongst the members of the rescue shift who came up shortly before midnight. Dr Atkinson held there was a faint hope. The fire was well in hand, it had been short-circuited, and the fire-fighters were in advance of it.

The Coroner formally opened the inquest in the afternoon, and adjourned the enquiry indefinitely, after taking evidence of identification, so that the burials might proceed. One of the injured men brought up earlier in the day, died on the way to hospital.

Mr Clement Edwards, M.P. after going down the mine with several officials, stated that some little distance from the pit bottom there had been a huge fall of roof, and the fire there had been extinguished. The question of whether there were any survivors could not be ascertained until it was known whether the doorways had been blown away beyond the point where the fire was burning in the return airways.

With unremitting effort the rescue parties persevered with their dangerous task and shortly after two o'clock on Wednesday morning news came to hand that 21 of the entombed miners had been found alive.

The following report printed a week later on 24th October has no good news about those still in the mine.

#### *Welsh Colliery Disaster*

#### *Search Parties Difficulties*

#### *Relief Funds Growing*

During Tuesday the Lord Mayor of Cardiff visited the Universal Colliery, and conferred with Lord Merthyr, as to the payment of increased grants to the widow and dependants. Arrangements were made to distribute these grants on Friday.

Lord Merthyr handed the Lord Mayor a personal cheque for a thousand guineas, which is in addition to the thousand given by the company through Lord Merthyr. A cheque for one hundred guineas was also received from the Welsh Rugby Football Union. These contributions bring the total of the Cardiff Lord Mayor's fund to over £18,000. The Lord Mayor of London's fund on Tuesday night, exceeded £11,000.

As showing the sympathetic and human side of the catastrophe, two letters were on Tuesday morning, received by the police superintendent, one containing an offer from a collier at Madeley Market, Salop, to adopt an orphan girl whose father had perished in the mine, and another from Penally, enclosing a cheque for £1 as a special donation to the most deserving case. The police have given this to Mrs Baker, the mother of 11 children, whose husband and son, the sole support of the family, are entombed.

Five bodies were seen by the explorers during Tuesday, leaving 367 still to be accounted for. The exploration has proceeded unceasingly, in face of almost insurmountable difficulties. Every part of the

colliery is permeated with noxious fumes, and the rescue party have repeatedly to retrace their steps on the warning conveyed by the collapsing of the canary carried by the Inspector.

The party have now got to within 400 yards of the face of the workings where about one hundred of the men are entombed. Fresh air is now being pumped through to enable the exploration to be carried further. One of the bodies passed on Tuesday was practically nude showing the terrific force of the explosion.

***This report comes from the Coalville Times of Friday 14th November***

*Welsh Colliery Disaster*

*Experiences of Exploration Party*

Two more bodies were brought to the surface at Senghenydd Colliery on Tuesday, leaving 270 still in the mine. An early morning exploring party penetrated far into the Pretoria district, and came across 30 bodies. According to one of the exploration party, these men had evidently made an attempt to get out of the mine after the explosion. They were found in various positions, some lying on their backs, others on their faces, and some were on their knees. One man was found with a boy still clinging to him. He was apparently carrying the lad when both were overtaken by afterdamp.

***And in the Coalville Times of Friday 9th January 1914***

*Welsh Colliery Disaster*

*Jury inspect the Pit*

The coroner's jury who are investigating the circumstances of the Senghenydd Colliery disaster, on Sunday made an inspection of the fatal pit. A number of the jury are experienced colliery workmen, but there are several who are not so well acquainted with colliery workings, and it was thought desirable that the whole of the jury, 20 in number, should go down the pit so as to get acquainted with several important points which have arisen during the inquiry.

The jury were accompanied by Mr Edward Shaw, the general manager, Mr Hubert Jenkins, the miners' agent, and a number of colliery officials. They descended at 9.30 am and returned to the bank about 1.30. The jurymen said the inspection proved very interesting, and they had gained considerable information by the visit.

Sadly, this would turn out to be the worst mining disaster in the United Kingdom with 439 miners losing their lives. The probable cause was a firedamp (methane) explosion, possibly from an electrical source such as that from an electric bell signalling gear. The explosion and shock wave raised coal dust from the floor, ignited it and then continued like this throughout the workings. Those miners not killed initially by the explosion, would have died by carbon monoxide poisoning or suffocation from lack of oxygen.

Four memorials to the disaster are located in Senghenydd: At Nant-y-parc Primary School, built on the site of the mine, at St. Cenydd School there is a list of the names of those who died and a coal truck as a memorial and the local pub, the Green Pint, also carries a memorial. A new memorial garden next to the primary school, is due to be opened this October 2013, on the centenary of the disaster.

Local groups, churches and individuals in the Coalville and surrounding area raised funds for the victims' families and these appeared weekly in the Coalville Times.