



view of Bull and Butcher PH, adjacent general store and cottage beyond, Akeley, Bucks, UK
sign, inn & shop, car & van & railing

1960 (circa) & 1960=1969

21-7-86

" The Roses "

Akeley.

Buckingham

History of Akeley

Akeley derives its Name from Ake the old Anglo-Saxon word for Oak, and Ley a Field. It means a Field of Oaks. In The Domesday Book it is spelt Achelei. 100 hundred feet above sea level. Akeley was not subject to any Law of entails in Anglo Saxon times Akeley had a Church in 1164 and that its living came into the possession of Longueville Abbey, England and Normandy having become united again under one Ruler Viz Henry 1st. Several Titled people were buried at Akeley and one a Miss Ann Clark who died at the age of 104 yrs. She saw no less than seven Kings and Queens on the Throne of England, being born in the reign of Charles 2nd and dying in the reign of George 3rd Akeley used to be noted for its Lace Industry, it had a large School for teaching the children the Art of Pillow Lace Making in cottages opposite the Grey Hound Public House which was also the Village Bakery. It is now closed and has been converted into a dwelling house

Akeley also possessed a flourishing Brickyard and Pottery in the early part of the 19th century. This was owned by a Mr and Mrs Barton who specialized in making Flower Pots, Drain Pipes for the building trade and ornamental pedestals, bread bins and bricks etc. The clay was dug from a field at the back the Pits which used to have water at the bottom, have in later years been made into lakes for fishing. The Kiln stood for a number of years after the brick yard closed. The property was owned by a Mr Watts who had a large house and orchard in the Village where some of the ornamental bricks were used in the garden walls. There was also a Butcher and its own Slaughter House, Two Shoe repairers, One Post Office and Shop, and another shop selling a large selection of goods and food. Two Public Houses Viz " The Bull and Butcher " who was also a Wheelwright and Blacksmith. During the 1914-18 War hundreds of horses taken from the farms and land were re-shod before being shipped off to the War battle front in France. Milk was delivered straight from the Farm, to houses in Milk bucket's and ladled into customers jugs etc. Two coal and wood dealers who used to make up Faggots of wood. A local builder who also made coffins maker. Akeley Church was built in 1854 and Methodist Chapel was built in 1829. The Church was pulled down in 1979 owing to the rotting stone and the Chapel closed down in 1986. The Sunday School and Church services are now held in the Village Church School.

In Akeley Wood there is a very large School which was built on a large estate which was built by Mr C Pilgrim Esq and had changed ownership over the years. The main event of the Village Social life was the Horticultural Show which was considered the best in North Buckinghamshire. This closed down in 1918 but was restarted in 1971 and is once again a popular social village event. To date Akeley have many other Social interest Viz Wives Club, Youth Club, Toddlers Gr Group, Akeley Morris Dancers, Gardeners Club, Akeley's own Playing Field bought by the Village, Akeley Friendly Club for the Senior Citizen of the Village.

Mrs Ivy LAND

The Rev John Holford, Risley came to Akeley in 1837, the same year that Queen Victoria commenced her ~~glories~~ glorious reign, He acted as curate for Four years, being instituted as Rector in 1841, It was not long before he began his great work, of renovating Akeley, The old ~~Parson~~ parsonage he began to pull down in 1840. and commenced to building the ~~prese~~ present rectory, At his own expense, with a little help from the Patrons, viz, the new college Oxford, he built the imposing looking house and laid out the beautiful grounds, The old rectory, which has been before remarked, stood in the Kitchen, ^{grounds} and had seen its best days, It was a thatched house, and had been used as cottages since 1789, A piece of Land was bought by the Rev, J, H, Risley, and added to the grounds, The whole length of the south side. the ~~ben~~ beauty, of the Rectory is accounted for by the fact that Mr Risley employed Sir Gilbert Scott as the architect, who also was doing some good work at New College Oxford, By the way, Sir Gilbert Scott was the son of a Gawcott Rector, and was born in that Village 1811, After the Rectory was Finished, Mr Risley made an attack on the work of the new school, It was commenced in 1853, and completed the following year, It was built on the site of the old Village pond, and cost 165 pounds, The School was used for divine service during the building of the Church, Mr Risley commenced in 1854 by pulling down the old church, How long this ancient building had been erected we have no means of knowing, There was a stone over the porch door, with the date 1656, The same two Bells were in the old Church, that were in the Church, that was pulled ~~pe~~ down in 1974.

WE have noted the good work done by the Rev, John Holford Risley, who was Rector from 1841 to 1873, in building the ~~recto~~ rectory, School and Church, After a lengthy incumbency of 32 years he left Ak Akeley for Nuffield, Oxon, where he resided for ten years, dying on December 6th, 1883, His son, who afterwards became Sir H,H, Risley, was ~~born~~ born in Akeley, Rectory, 1851, He entered the Civil Service in 1873, the year his father resigned Akeley, and rose to a high position under the Indian Government, He was appointed Secretary to the Government of Bengal 1891, Financial Secretary to the Government of India 1898 and Home secretary to the Government of India 1902, England will be for ever indebted to Sir Henry Risley, for initiating the stringent measures for putting down sedition in India, and Akeley will always feel proud in having given birth to such a fine specimen of a British statesman,

Mrs Ivy LAND

PLEASE let Mrs LAND HAVE
His. paper back.
"The Roses"



AKELEY RIDGE AND FURROW

COPY OF LETTER
IN NEW COLLEGE
ARCHIVES

BY OWEN T. BENTLEY

Alley Rectory
Feb 15 1864.

My Dear Bursar

I am in a great straits - one from which one
waft of your Bursarial wand can extricate me if you will
kindly stir it in my favour.

Everything is going on splendidly with our School
repairs and the funds for the support of a new
Certificated Mistress whom we hope to have at Easter.

The Cottage is the difficulty, no well educated
nice minded young woman, such as the transient
mistresses are could put up with the Residence occupied
by the old Dame Teacher born in the last century, with
whos mal administration our school is not Blessed.

This Residence joins on to the premises of a Public
House not the best regulated of its kind.

No wall intervenes to act as a screen but a shalby
wooden paling.

There is but one "Jonice" (at least nice amik) for the
use of the Public and two Cottages, one of which is that
I am now writing of. The noise of skittle players and
their language is but too audible - and these continue till late
on Summer nights. You will, therefore, I am sure agree
with me that such a home for the style of person we here
expecting, would simply be a cruelty she could not
tolerate.

Now there is a nice little cottage close to the
School the very thing for a Teachers Residence at
£5 per Ann. The Proprietor is quite willing to let it
for this purpose. The present Tenant is not a good
specimen and Mr James Williams the Proprietor who
is the landlord, would be very glad if the cottage
would offer to rent this cottage for the purpose
of the school. He would then have ample
for adding himself of his present Tenant, who
would thus more willingly, and with better grace.

suit himself elsewhere than if I was the instrument
by which the change was occasioned.

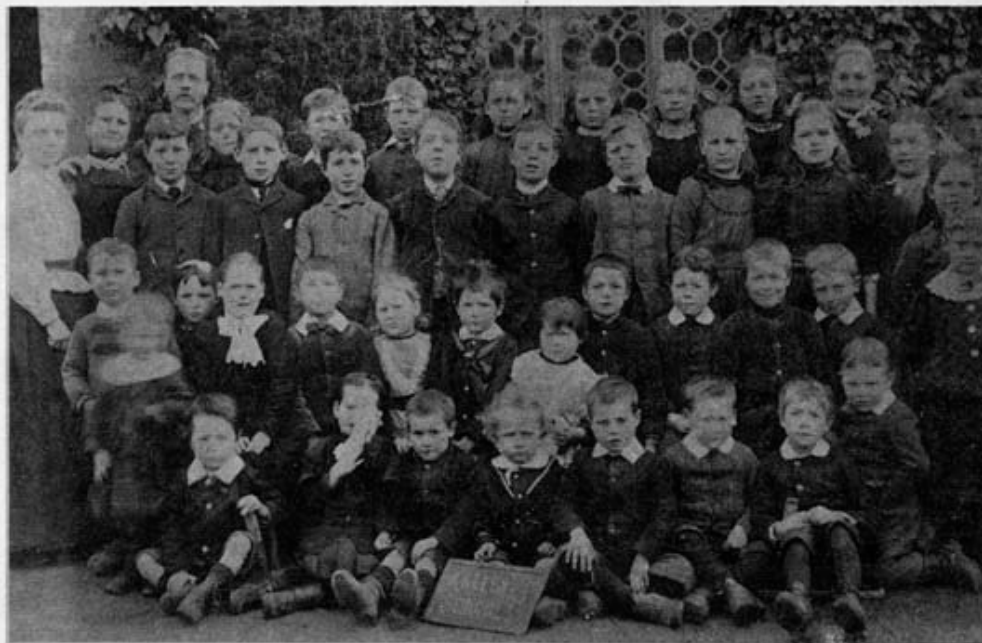
I am ready & willing to pledge myself for
the payment of the Rent and all outgoings, do the
repairs and every thing. It is in deed a case of
emergency - and if you and others will but come
to the rescue all may be managed happily - It is
impossible to get a residence anywhere else in
the Village.

In a few years the money you put out to
invest, with the addition of aid from prominent
and other sources, will enable us to build a
Residence. For the present we must rent one.

The Cottage I am so anxious for is Copyhold
and the Landlord thinks that the application from the
Lords of the Manor to Rent it, must of necessity be
irresistible and no one here could for a moment or
would he say think of refusing. In such reverence
and awe do they hold the Lords of the soil.
Pray do all you possibly can for in this
matter and forgive me for thus bothering you - but
what can I do - or where for help in this matter,
but to you in this matter, but to you Giants of
New College.

I am my dear Bursar
Yours very truly
J H Risly.

BACK TO THE OLD DAYS AT AKELEY



TATLER WATCHED the generous efforts by the young people of Akeley on Saturday when they took part in a sponsored walk to raise money for the Akeley Playing Field Fund. How odd it was that on the same day Tatler was lent a picture of the children of the village taken about the turn of the century.

The photograph was lent by Mr. Harry White, landlord of the Bull and Butcher public house, Akeley, who acquired it from Mr. Fred Ridgway, of Akeley, because he wanted the old frame that the picture was mounted in.

Through the kind offices of Mr. K. Richardson, of Patchmead, Leckhampstead Road, Akeley, Tatler has been able to put a name to the majority of the people shown in the picture.

Two of them are still alive. Mr. George Jones, of Main Street, Akeley, who is now 86, and Mr. Lewis Tibbetts, aged 82, who now lives at Ventnor, Isle of Wight.

30 IDENTIFIED

Of the remainder, 30 have been identified by Akeley residents to whom Mr.

Richardson has shown the photograph. Tatler would be pleased to hear from anyone who can identify the other children in the picture.

Top row, starting with Mr. Wood, the schoolmaster, includes Arthur Tibbetts, Annie Hodges, Mrs. C. Jones, Mrs. Annie Ridgway and Miss Lizzie Hogg the schoolmistress, all deceased.

In the second row there are six children who can be identified: Burleigh Clarke, William Dytham, Alfred Blackwell, Emily Jones, Edie Hodges and Lizzie Dytham, all deceased.

In the third row there are 10 children who have been identified: Harry Leeman, Clive Clarke, Anne Healey, Bert Freeman, Nellie Blackwell, Lewis Tibbetts and Esther Tibbetts. Also Arthur Healey, Geoffrey Ridgway and George Jones, most of whom are dead.

In the front row is Harry Dytham, Lottie Hodges, Charlie Jones, Harry Tibbetts and Henry Healey. Two little boys, sitting in the front row were two brothers named Hobbs.

Tatler realises that there are many gaps to fill in as far as names are concerned, and if any reader can recognise a long-forgotten face from the old photograph, please write in and let him know.