

We'll see you at the White Lion

If you look at the events list for the History Group, you'll see that the December 2012 meeting is due to take place in The White Lion rather than in our usual venue, Farnhill Institute.

Why not come along and join us ? The pictures below should help you find the place.

c1900 - c1910



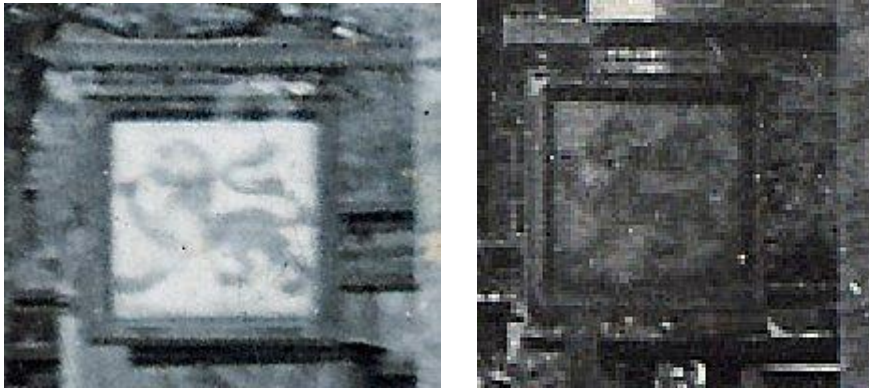
This is probably the oldest photograph the group has been able to find of the approach to Kildwick Church coming over the bridge, with the White Lion on the right.

Here's another early contender.

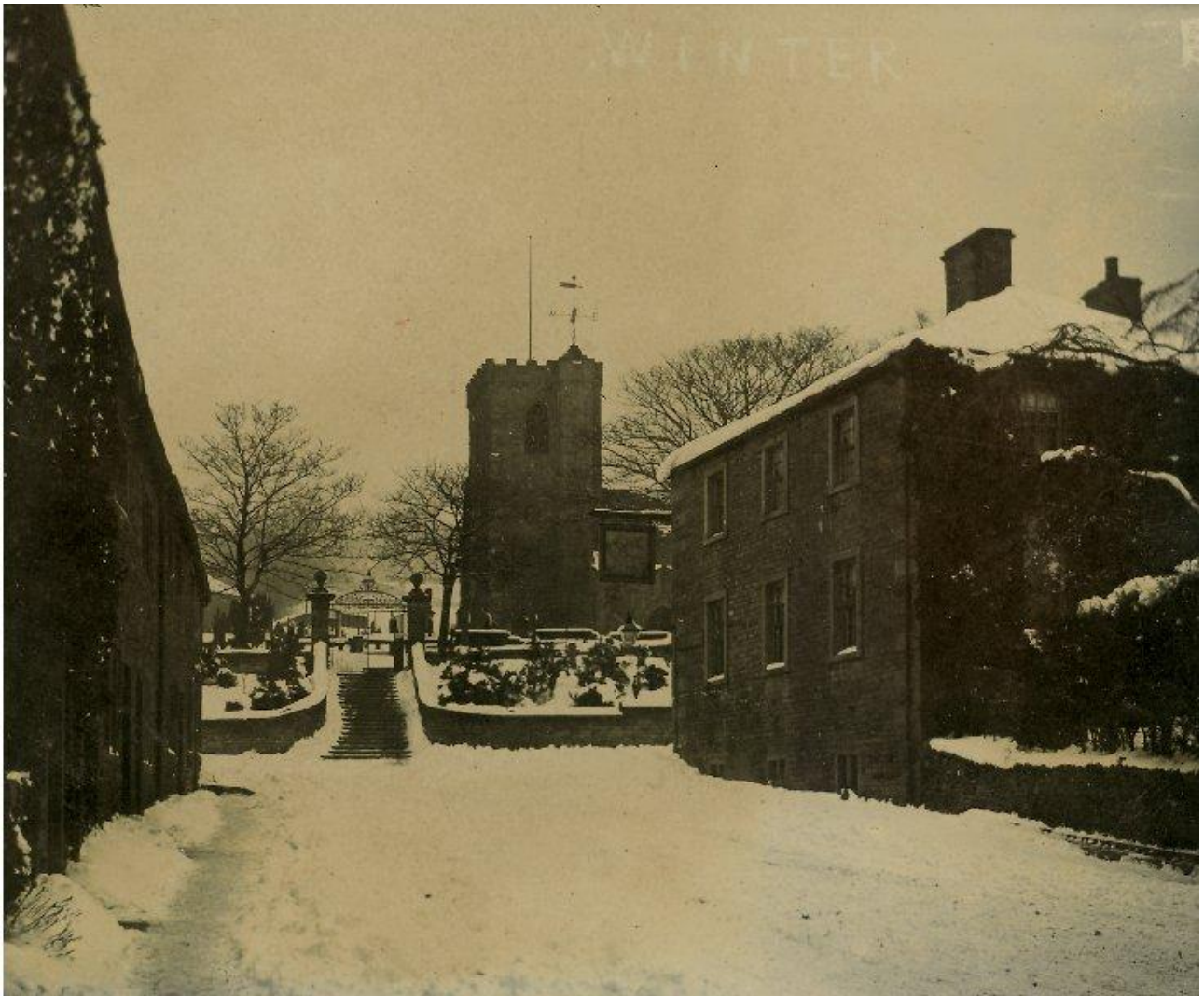


Someone has left a milk-churn on the pavement at the top of the road.

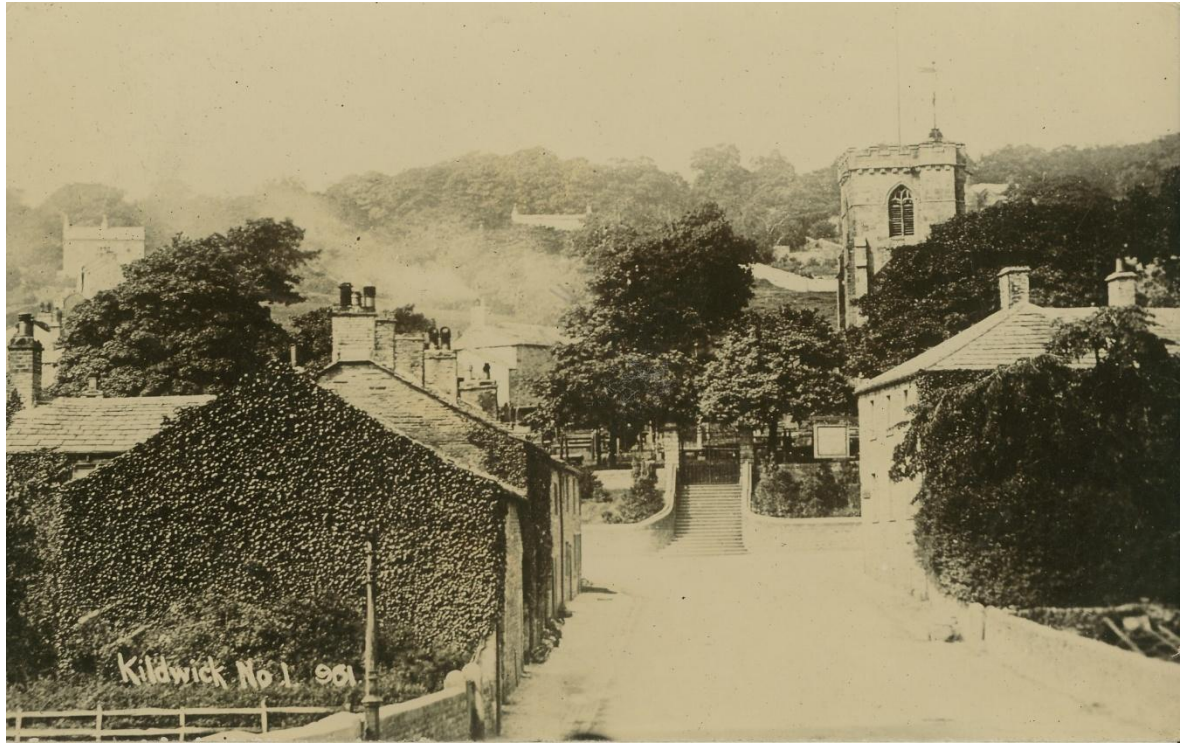
In both of these, the pub sign is a very stylized lion.



Here are some more from around the same period.



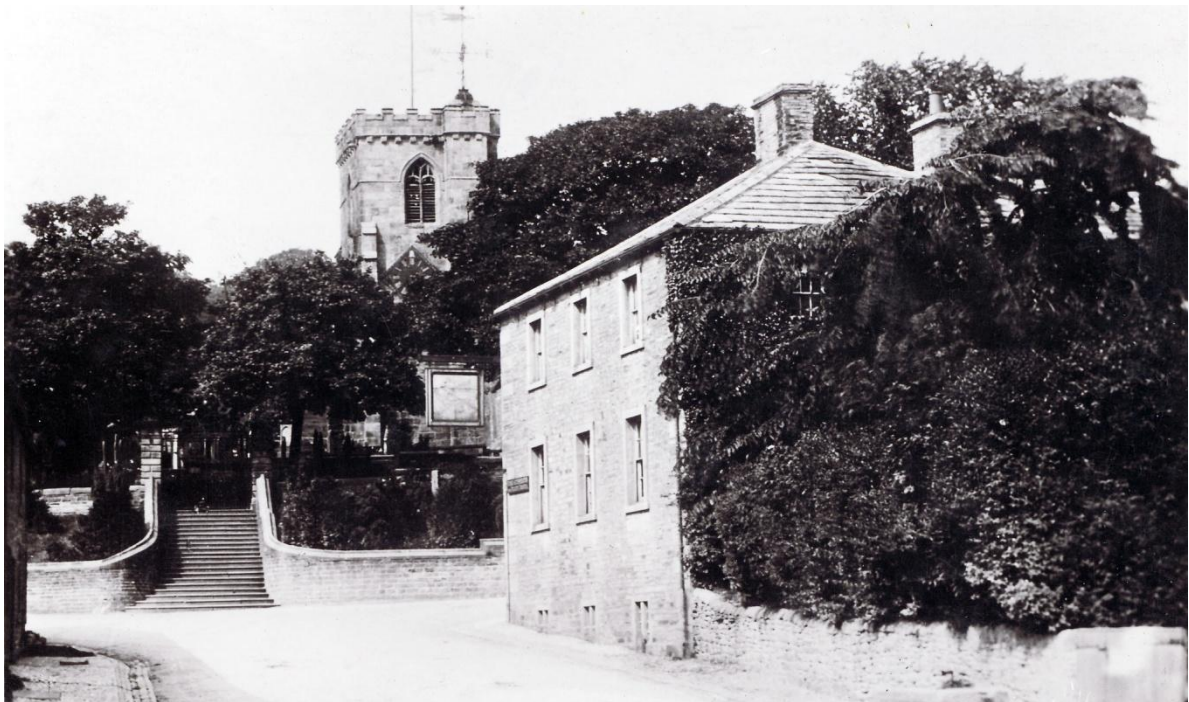
This photograph dates from no later than January 1904, as it appears on a postcard where the stamp was franked January 23rd.



Another postcard, this one dated 19th August 1907. The writer said that the weather was showery and they weren't sure whether it would be fine enough for them to go Bradford to see the Yorkshire v. Lancashire cricket match. In any event, they were setting off for home (to Birmingham) a couple days later, on the 12:13 train from Keighley. The fare was 3/3d each (16p), and they hoped to get home in time for tea.

1911 - c1920

This is an original photograph, that was later used as a postcard. The postcard was titled "Kildwick 1911".



By this time, the lion is looking very faded. Time for a refurb.



Notice the four likely looking lads with nothing better to do with their time but hang around the church steps. It was ever thus. Only, for these chaps, their leisure time would be cut cruelly short by war.

The new sign looked like this.



Another photograph from the same period.



The "G.W." was almost certainly George Whiteoak. He took a number of photographs of Farnhill and Kildwick around this period. He lived at High Croft on Bradley Lane.

Early 1920s



Certainly post-war, this photograph shows a very new-looking war memorial (erected 1922) and the newly built Unionist Club (also 1922), now the New Church Centre.

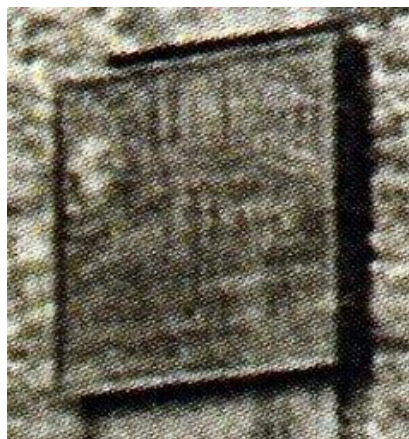
Notice that the hanging pub sign has now been moved to the back wall, with some of the ivy removed.

But the most worrying aspect of this photograph is the fact that the car at the pub entrance is being driven by a woman ! There's also a woman riding a bicycle at the corner of the road !!

This next one is difficult to date, but the sign board on the very corner is also present in the previous photograph but not in any of the later ones. This is the first indication that the pub was owned by Tetley's brewery. For the rest of the century, the White Lion will act as an illustration of how the Tetley's signs changed.



The sign above the door is almost certainly the licence board. The top line reads "White Lion Hotel" but the name of the licensee, on the line below, is unclear. Here's an enhanced and enlarged photograph. Any ideas ?



Late 1920s – early 1950s

A couple of photos show the results of another major refurbishment.



Dating of these two photographs:

- A high magnification of the lower photograph shows the car registration number to be UB 861. Two-letter area codes became obsolete in the early 1930s.
- The "SCHOOL" sign, extreme left. Signs of this type came into use in the 1920s and were standardised by the Road Traffic Act of 1930.

So, late 20s or early 30s.

This next one is a little later, despite the presence of horse-drawn traffic; we now have white lines down the middle of the road, and a car with a three-letter registration.



The old name board looks in need of repainting and the name sign has already been replaced. Late 30s ?

In this one, all the signage has been renovated.



The photograph was used as a postcard. The copy we have is undated, but the stamp is one of the Queen Elizabeth II stamps in use from 1952 onwards.

1950s and '60s

Another change to the signage. Late '50s ?



The photo below must be later than the one above, as the tree in the churchyard has been considerably cut back. Also, there are cats- eyes in the road.



Presumably the cats-eyes were removed once the new road re-routed the bulk of the traffic away from the village.

1980s - 2011

For the first time in living memory, the White Lion actually had signage depicting a white lion.



2012

Below, the White Lion in its latest livery.



What next ?

Do you have any old photographs of Kildwick or Farnhill that you would be willing to share with us ? Please contact admin@farnhill.co.uk.

Alternatively, why not come along to one of our meetings – you know where we'll be on December 17th. For any of the others, see the website for details.