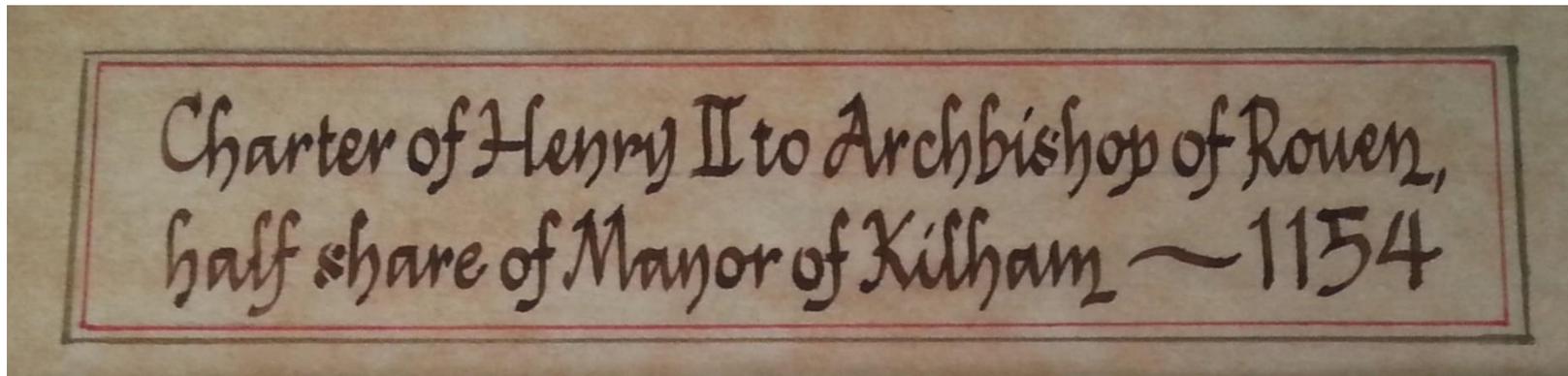


## Kilham

This parish is situated on the eastern edge of the Wolds, having Rudston and Twing to the north, Rudston Parva and Driffield on the south, Burton Agnes on the east, and Langtoft on the west.

The village is situated at the foot of the Wolds about six miles north-north-east of Driffield, eight miles west-south-west of Bridlington, and four miles from Lowthorpe station, on the Hull to Bridlington branch of the North-Eastern railway. It was formerly called Killom; in Domesday

Its total area by Ordnance measurement is 8,173 acres, and its estimated extent for assessment purposes is 7,861<sup>1/2</sup> acres, the rateable value of which is £8,570.



**H**enry king of the English, duke of the Normans, of the  
Aquitainers and count of the Angevins, to the archbishop  
of York and the justices and sheriffs and barons and ministers  
and his faithful people of Yorkshire, French and English, greeting.

Know that I have given and confirmed in free alms to Hugh,  
archbishop of Rouen (Rotomagus) and his successors, in exchange  
for Gisors, half of the manor of Kilham (Killum), the other half of  
which I have given to the canons of Rouen; and I wish and firmly  
decree that he and his successors shall have and hold, well and  
in peace, the said land in perpetuity, as free alms, freely, quietly and  
honourably, with all things belonging to it, in wood and plain,  
in meadows and pastures, in ways and paths, in waters and mills  
and in all things, with all the liberties and free customs belonging  
to it, as my grandfather King Henry I held it in his demesne—.

## Kilham Market

In the 13th century Kilham was granted a charter to hold a fair and market. Its history as a thriving, busy trading place can be traced back to the Middle Ages, and it was in the 14th century that Kilham was the centre for administration of the Wolds, indeed, it was the Capital of the Wolds, at the time when Driffield was a mere settlement of a few houses.

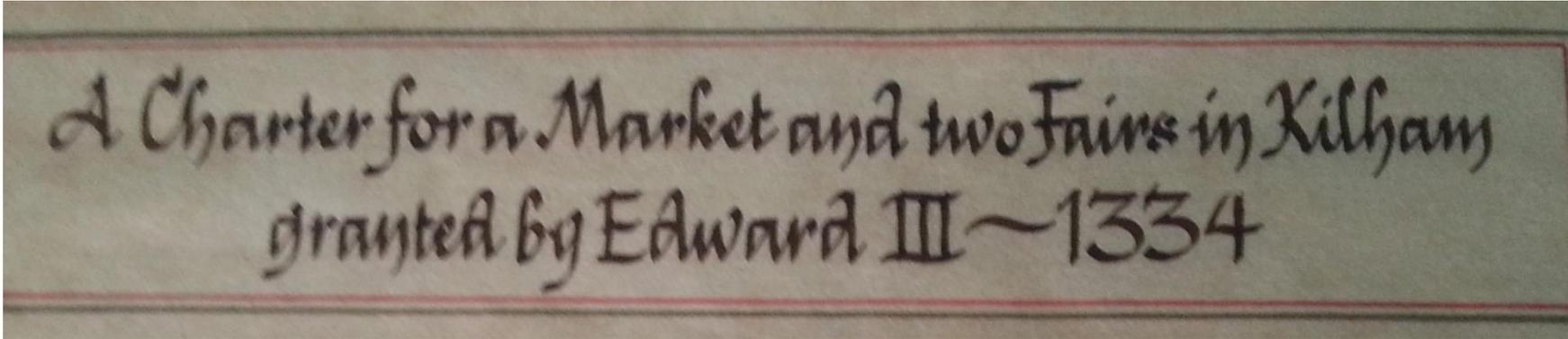
### *Charter for a Market and Fair in Kilham — 1227*

**K**ing Henry III to all, greeting. Know that we have granted and by this our charter confirmed to God and the church of St Mary of Rouen (Rotomagus) and the Dean and Chapter of the same place that the said Dean and Chapter and their successors in perpetuity may have each week on Tuesdays a market at their manor of Kilham (Killum) and that they may have there one fair each year lasting for two days, namely on the vigil and feast day of St Laurence.

Dated at Westminster 6 July 1227.

### **A Charter for a Market and two Fairs in Kilham, 1334**

Notes : In medieval documents abbreviations were extensively used. For example, on the first line of this charter, R stands for Rex = King, in this case Edward III. The charter was granted to William de Melton personally, not as Archbishop of York. He had recently acquired the manor of Kilham from the Archbishop and Dean and Chapter of Rouen, owners since 1154/55. Warren was the right to hunt wild animals other than deer and pig, eg, hares. Aston and Aughton lie to the east of Sheffield.



A Charter for a Market and two Fairs in Kilham  
granted by Edward III ~ 1334

To William de Melton, Archbishop of York.

**T**he King to the Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors,  
Earls, Barons, Justices, sheriffs, reeves, ministers, and  
all his bailiffs and faithful people, greeting

Know that we by our special grace have given and by this our  
charter confirmed to the venerable father William de Melton,  
Archbishop of York, Primate of England—  
that he and his heirs in perpetuity may have one market each  
week on Saturdays at his manor of Killum in the county of  
York and two fairs in the same each year lasting for nine days,  
namely one on the vigil, on the day, and on the morrow of St.  
Laurence and the other for three days before the feast of All-  
Saints and on the said feast, and for the two days next follow-  
ing, unless the said market and fairs there are to the harm of  
neighbouring markets and neighbouring fairs; and that he may  
have free warren in all his demesne lands of Killum, Aston  
in Northving and Aghton by Aston in the said county, while  
yet the said land is not within the bounds of our forests—

... given at Westminster, 19 September... by privy seal.

In 1346, the lordship belonged to Thomas Ughtred, the descendant of an Old Saxon family, which held lands at Helmsley, in the North Riding, before the Norman Conquest.

Kilham soon afterwards passed into the hands of William de Tweng, who dying without issue, descended to his three sisters. In later years, it came into the possession of the Duesberys, from whom it was purchased by the Earl of Londesborough.

In the 17th century Driffield was little more than a village with less than a thousand people. In issue 15 of ATW, it is mentioned that during the 17th century, 'The inhabitants of Driffield would have to make trips to the larger Market Towns of Kilham or Frodingham to do their main shopping.' By 1847 the population of Driffield had risen to 3,200.

The opening of a waterway from the busy trading port of Hull via Driffield commencing with a canal a mile and a half south east of Brigham from the River Hull appealed to the people of Kilham, and work began on the first section, with its opening in 1772. Trade with Driffield increased and the need to continue with the second phase of the canal to Kilham did not materialise, thus allowing Driffield to dominate the trade. It was the obvious cause of the decline of Kilham and the reason for the success of Driffield.

Fairs were held in August and November on the Green close to West Street. The November fair was mainly a hirings, where farm labourers and servants, at the end of their yearly contract with their present owners, made themselves available for the forthcoming year to anyone wishing to hire them. This was the main events of the year for many people, with families and friends getting together from all parts of the Wolds, not having seen them since the previous years hirings. I can imagine that there would have been much drinking and merriment on that day.

Thursday was the day of the market, which it is assumed stood on a site in Church Street close to the village pump and lock-up. Kilham did have a Market Cross but during the 19th century it was transferred to the village of Lowthorpe when the town was under quarantine.

By 1821 the market had ceased, and the fairs too had been in decline; by 1888 records show that these were no longer held in Kilham.

The main event of the week was the Sunday football match. Everyone went to church, and after the service the match would commence, and would be played by young and old through the streets of Kilham. There were no rules, just a free for all which became quite rough, usually ending up with broken limbs and cut heads. By 1825 the Methodist, who were gaining more power in the church, had this rowdy practice stopped, concentrating their energies on prayer.

The population in 1881 was 1,209, and in 1891, 1,039, most of whom are employed in the cultivation of the land. The soil is chalky and the surface varied. The lower grounds are watered by the river Hull which has its source in the Beckses, a spring at the east end of the village, and flows through the valley southward to the Humber.

The principle landowners are:

Earl of Londesborough; Lord of the manor

H. S. Lee Wilson Esq; Crofton Hall, Wakefield

Sir Charles Legard, Bart., J.P. D.L; Ganton Hall

Thomas Oddy Esq; Liversedge

Sir Francis Boyd Outram, Bart.,

John Miller Esq; Middlesdale

Ecclesiastical Commissioners

At the time of the Domesday Survey, the greater part of the manor appears to have been lying waste, but two thegns were occupying three carucates and two bovates of the land which belonged to the king, at a yearly tax of forty shillings.

An unusual feature of Kilham are the springs, when one considers that the village stands well over a hundred feet above sea level. It is not uncommon to see them bubbling up in the main street, the most famous being Hen-pit Hole.

Midway between Kilham and Langtoft is Hen-pit Hole, where there was formerly one of those intermittent springs, called in the Wolds country Gipseys. The 'g' in this name is pronounced hard, as in gimlet. The word has no connection with the wandering race of gypsies; it is a corruption of the Old Norse 'geysir' a gushing spring, and was impressed on our language by the Norsemen who effected settlements on various parts of the coast of Yorkshire in the early days of the Saxon Heptarchy.

This gipsey, after intervals of a few years, used to issue with such violence from the ground as to form an aqueous arch sufficiently elevated for a man on horseback to ride beneath it without being wetted. The origin of this intermittent spring has been thus explained: - The water collected in a cavern or reservoir in the chalk rock beneath; the passage between the reservoir and the Hen-pit Hole was siphon shaped; and when sufficient water accumulated in the reservoir to reach the summit of this siphon, the water began to gush out, and continued to flow till the supply was exhausted.

Since the draining of the surrounding country, the flow has been much less copious and at shorter intervals. There is a tradition to the effect that this place received its name from a hen that was drawn into the subterranean reservoir and emerged at Hen-pit Hole.

About a mile from the village, on the road to Pockthorpe, is a round mound called Gallows Hill, where the remains of mortality are frequently dug up.

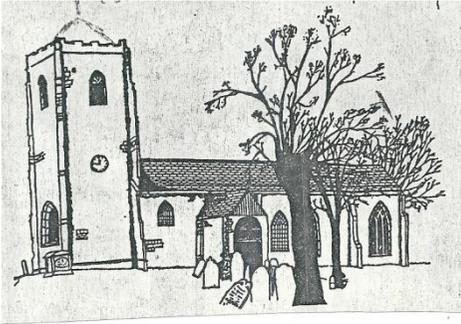
Human bones and relics of antiquity have been found in no inconsiderable quantity at a place called Sand Pits, on the road leading from Kilham to Rudston. In 1814, a helmet and part of a spear were discovered; on the former were the faint resemblances of an inscription, but the individual into whose hands it fell put it into the fire in order to make the letters more distinct and thus utterly obliterated the inscription, which by other means might have been made legible. At different times great quantities of amber beads, and many glass ones of various colours have been found, also brass clasps and pins, and rings made of iron and brass. It is supposed to have been a Saxon burial place.

In 1988 the WI produced a village information sheet and it was heartening to list all the trades and professions still being practiced in the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Kilham. At the same time, the Institute worked on a survey of field names and has rescued from oblivion such field names as:

- Strums
- Honeypots
- Knagsfield
- Skitterdale.

Kilham had an honourable war, Crash runways were built nearby for the bombers returning from missions in Europe, and Free French forces were billeted in the village. Kilham also had the distinction of housing the Pigeon Corps which, perhaps surprisingly, played an important part in Second World War communications. Preparations for the Normandy landings took place here because the terrain is similar to that which faced the Allied invasion forces.

## All Saints' Church

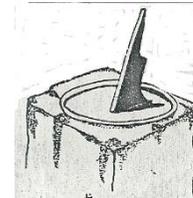


The church, dedicated to All Saints', is an ancient stone structure consisting of chancel, nave, south porch and massive embattled tower containing a clock and three bells. The style is early English, but the porch entrance, a fragment of an earlier edifice, is a very fine specimen of Norman architecture. It is richly moulded and adorned with several varieties of chevron ornament, and above it is some very handsome diaper work. The chancel arch is also Norman, and rests on clustered columns.

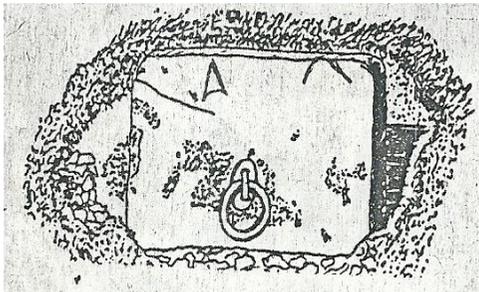
The church is built of Ashlar stone, except for the south porch built in the seventeenth century and built of brick with slate roofing. The nave was built about the twelfth century and the chancel was completely rebuilt in the late thirteenth century, early fourteenth century. The tall west tower dates from the fifteenth century.

The ancient sedilia and piscina remain in the chancel. The font is plain and modern. The windows are filled with plain glass. The church underwent considerable alterations in 1866.

All Saints' Church stands on the highest piece of ground in Kilham and through the church yard there stands an upright stone coffin with a sun dial



dominates the village. As you walk on the top and dates from 1799.



Around the front of the church you may notice the old bull ring in the grass verge. This is probably a remain of Kilham market, which was thought to be held around this area. The market cross used to stand in the church yard, but was taken from Kilham many years ago. Tradition has it that owing to an epidemic of the Black Death, which killed many residences of Kilham, the market along with the cross were transferred to Lowthorpe and the cross never returned. A cross, reputed to be the Kilham market cross still stands in Lowthorpe church yard,

In celebration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, Kilham received a new church clock at a cost of £120.

In 1922 a New Stained-Glass Window was installed in Memorial of the Atkinson family.

A window in memory of Mr C Shipley who played the organ for 50 years, stands with his dog facing the organ.

## Chapels



The Methodists registered the first chapel in the parish in 1789<sup>1</sup> and it was replaced with a new one in Middle Street in 1815<sup>2</sup>. It was rebuilt on the same site in 1907 and the chapel, a red brick building with stone dressings, was still used in 1971.

A Primitive Methodist Chapel was built at the west end of Middle Street in 1824<sup>3</sup>. It was replaced by a new chapel in Baptist Street in 1860<sup>4</sup> and there were 77 members in 1889<sup>5</sup>. It ceased to be used in 1946<sup>6</sup> and has since been demolished.

Like most villages in the East Riding, John Wesley had visited Kilham, aiming his powerful preaching methods at the sinners, and converting them. Many Methodists who were still members of the local parish church, held their own prayer meetings in their own homes. It was not until 1795 that they broke away from the Church of England to become Methodists in their own right.

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid. DMH. 1789/16; G.R.O. Worship Returns, Vol. v. nos. 759,771

<sup>2</sup> H.O.129/24/523; O.S. Map6" (1854)

<sup>3</sup> H.O.129/24/523; G.R.O. Worship Returns, Vol. v. no. 3950; O.S. Map6" (1854)

<sup>4</sup> G.R.O. Worship Returns, Vol. v. nos. 5135, 9346. The original chapel was not deregistered until 1875

<sup>5</sup> H. Woodcock, Sketches of Prim. Meth. on Yorks. Wolds,141

<sup>6</sup> G.R.O. Worship Reg.no.9346

The Wesleyan Sunday School, which existed Middle Street by 1850<sup>8</sup>, and the building was



in 1835<sup>7</sup>, was housed in a schoolroom in used by the Methodists until 1969<sup>9</sup>.

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The Baptists built a chapel in in 1819 in the road leading to Rudston Parva, which later became known as Baptist Street<sup>10</sup>. In 1821 there were 10 members. Their Sunday school, established in 1830, had a lending library attached to it by 1835.

The church gradually declined after the 1880s and by 1912 there were only 6 members<sup>11</sup>. The chapel finally closed c.1920 and was used as a reading room until after the Second World War; it has since been demolished<sup>12</sup>.

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The Temperance Hall with reading room attached was built in 1880 at a cost of £600. It is let for political and other meetings, and will accommodate about 400 persons. It was registered by the Salvation Army in 1882. But by 1896 it was no longer so used<sup>13</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup> Educ. Enquiry Abstract, 1835, 1089

<sup>8</sup> O.S.Map6" (1854)

<sup>9</sup> Local inf.

<sup>10</sup> H.O.129/24/523; O.S. Map6" (1956)

<sup>11</sup> Baptists of Yorks. 207

<sup>12</sup> Directories; local inf.

<sup>13</sup> G.R.O. Worship Reg.no.26571

## THE RETREAT, KILHAM (1858-about 1866)

From Heworth, John Atkinson moved to Kilham, where his brother Thomas had been in practice 20 years earlier. Thomas's son Thomas Parkin had succeeded him and lived in Eastgate. A few yards beyond the old poorhouse was a house now known as Clackna Farm, which John Atkinson bought and adapted for use as an asylum. No plans of it survive.

The house has the date 1774 on one of its rainwater pipes. Two extensions which appear to have been made considerably later at the eastern end have no windows facing the road. On the south side, the building overlooked a large yard and garden, with an orchard and a stream beyond.

There were never more than six patients in the asylum, which was very much a supplement to John Atkinson's income as a surgeon. Like Weaverthorpe it was well conducted and the visitors almost invariably found the patients comfortable. The visitors were not inattentive to the welfare of the patients. On one visit in 1859 they noted that a water-closet had been installed and the garden walk extended. In 1863, it was suggested that an air-brick should be inserted in the outer wall of the water-closet.

By 1863 the asylum was in difficulties. In July, the previous year the Commissioners in Lunacy suggested that T. P. Atkinson should be appointed medical attendant to the asylum in consequence of his uncle's 'continued indisposition'; and on 2 September he confirmed that he had commenced his duties. John Atkinson did not recover sufficiently to take charge of the asylum again; he died on 10 May 1863.

His daughter Emily had become joint licensee at the beginning of the year and decided to carry on temporarily with help from her cousin. It was not an easy time for Atkinson. There had been a prolonged epidemic of diphtheria in Kilham in the early spring and among the many who died were three of his children, a daughter of eight years and two young sons, all buried in the first week of March. The loss was not made easier to bear by an editorial in the Driffield Times on 17 March.

The following year John Atkinson's younger brother William, who had worked briefly at Heworth Retreat and from 1862 to 1864 at Ripon Dispensary, joined his niece at Kilham. In March 1864, he notified the office at Beverley that they would not after all renew the licence; Emily had decided to discharge the patients, but would continue living in the house. Something evidently caused her to change her plans; the house continued to receive the insane, and when Sir Henry Boynton and Dr. Pierson visited on 29 March

1866 there were three patients in residence and one had recently been discharged. The patients were comfortable and the house was in good order, as it always was.

William Atkinson made an attempt to carry on his nephew's practice but the executors swiftly forestalled him. He had been passed over and the practice sold to S. N. Harrison, M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Edin.), 'a gentleman legally qualified to practise medicine and surgery under the Medical Act of 1858.' William had studied at Edinburgh University, and obtained there a licence to practise midwifery in 1830. Without the Kilham practice it would be uneconomic for him to continue the small business of the retreat. By 1868 he had taken up practice at Norton and remained there until his death in 1876.

## Charities for the Poor

From the time when Kilham church was assigned to the deanery of York, the revenues of the benefice were charged with providing 50 poor persons of Kilham, Pocklington, and Pickering (Yorks. N.R.) with food daily and with clothing in winter. The alms are said to have been paid until the deanship of Robert of Scarborough (1279 to c. 1291) but not afterwards<sup>14</sup>.

Robert Thompson (d.1736) and Jonas Thompson (d. 1739) left £20 and £10 respectively to the poor of Kilham. In 1822 it was reported that both endowments had been used to buy a poorhouse and no money had apparently ever been distributed to the poor. It was then recommended that payments should be made in accordance with the donors' intentions<sup>15</sup>, but no more is known of them.

Elizabeth Thompson, by will dated 1745, left £5 in trust, the interest to be distributed annually among poor widows of the parish. The endowment was apparently administered by the Prickett family<sup>16</sup> until 1866, when it was assigned to the vicar and another inhabitant<sup>17</sup>. In 1931 the income of 5<sup>s</sup>. a year was distributed to five widows<sup>18</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> Cal. Inq. Misc. ii. pp. 2-3 (inq. Of 1308). For the Dean's dates see York Minster Fasti, i. 8-9.

<sup>15</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Rep. Char. Com 736. A memorandum in the par. Reg. 1794-1812 (E.R.R.O., PR.2017) states that Robert left £5 and Jonas £20.

<sup>16</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Rep. Char. Com 736.

<sup>17</sup> E.R.R.O., PR.2017

<sup>18</sup> Char. Com. files

Edward Watson, probably in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, left £5 a year to the poor out of land in Kilham. In 1822 the money was distributed among poor widows<sup>19</sup>. No more is known of it.

Poor widows also benefited from a bequest of £1 10<sup>s</sup>, to the churchwardens by one Drinkrow in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. In 1882 the interest was regularly distributed<sup>20</sup>. No more is known of it.

Elizabeth Knowlsey, by will dated 1800, left £50 in trust, the interest to be distributed among the poor of Kilham. In 1803 the principle was invested in stock and in 1822 it was reported that the dividends had been regularly used to subsidize the poor-rate. Thenceforth the money was to be used for the poor<sup>21</sup>. In 1971 the income of about £2 from £85 stock was distributed among eleven people<sup>22</sup>.

## Education

A free grammar school was founded at Kilham in 1633 by John, Lord D'Arcy. He built a school-house on 'the Greens' and endowed it with a rent charge of £30 a year from the manor, £20 for the master's stipend and £10 for the usher's<sup>23</sup>. Masters and ushers were regularly recorded from the 1660s<sup>24</sup>, and the patronage descended in the heirs of Lord D'Arcy<sup>25</sup>.

In 1764 about 30 boys and girls received instruction in English, writing, and accounts, but there were rarely more than two or three boys learning Latin<sup>26</sup>.

About 1797 the master claimed that by the terms of the endowment he was obliged to teach only grammar, and not reading, writing, or arithmetic. Sir Christopher Sykes, as lord of the manor, consequently withheld the annuity. The master's claim was

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<sup>19</sup> Ibid.; 9th Rep. Char. Com 736.

<sup>20</sup> E.R.R.O., PR.2017. 9th Rep. Char. Com 736.

<sup>21</sup> Plaque in church; Rep. Char. Com 736.

<sup>22</sup> Ex inf. Mrs V. A. Fincher. Kilham 1972.

<sup>23</sup> E.R.R.O., DDDU/11/96, 208; V.C.H. Yorks. i.483

<sup>24</sup> B.I.H.R., Schools index

<sup>25</sup> Complete Peerage, iv.70-2, 75-8

<sup>26</sup> B.I.H.R., Bp. V. 1764/Ret.85

upheld by a lawyer's opinion and it was reported that in the past parents had paid for their children to be taught writing and accounts<sup>27</sup>.

In 1819 the number of pupils was 50-70 and the master received quarterly fees for teaching reading, writing, and accounts<sup>28</sup>. By 1822 there were generally 90-100 pupils in winter and 80-90 in summer, the master taking 'as many... as the school will accommodate'. The total included 10-12 boarders and about the same number of day pupils from neighbouring parishes. Only about a dozen pupils were taught Latin, still without charge. Fees paid for instruction in English, reading, and arithmetic were reported to have been agreed by the parishioners and the previous master.

Additional fees were charged to wealthier parents. The whole of the rent-charge was then received by the master, there being no usher, and the school was held in a house belonging to the master and built at his expense<sup>29</sup>. This was perhaps the school-house which stood in Church Lane in 1850<sup>30</sup>.

The school contained 80 boys and girls in 1835<sup>31</sup> but by 1865 it had declined to about 30 boys<sup>32</sup>. In 1884 it was reorganized as a secondary school under a Charity Commissioners' Scheme. Free instruction was abolished and scholarships open to boys who had spent three years in any public elementary school in Kilham and district were established<sup>33</sup>.

By 1892 the school was being held in a recently built yellow-brick house called Laurel Banks, in Wold Gate<sup>34</sup>. The Scheme, however, proved to be a failure and by 1896 the school was in abeyance.

In 1902 the endowment was converted into two scholarships, known as D'Arcy Exhibitions, each worth £15 a year and tenable at Bridlington Grammar School and Bridlington Girls High School<sup>35</sup>.

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<sup>27</sup> E.R.R.O., DDSY/36/10

<sup>28</sup> Rets. On Educ. Of Poor, 1819,1085

<sup>29</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Rep. Char. Com.735

<sup>30</sup> O.S. Map6" (1854) There was an unnamed building on the site as early as 1729: E.R.R.O., DDDU/12/53

<sup>31</sup> Educ. Enquiry Abstract, 1835, 1088-9

<sup>32</sup> B.I.H.R., Bp. V. 1865/Ret.289

<sup>33</sup> V.C.H. Yorks. i. 483; Kelly's Dir. N.&E.R. Yorks. (1889),415.

<sup>34</sup> Bulmer, Dir. E. Yorks. (1892), 220; local inf.

<sup>35</sup> E.R.R.O., DDX/25/9; V.C.H. Yorks. i. 483; Kelly's Dir. N.&E.R. Yorks. (1897), 4 544

In 1835 there were five other schools in Kilham, one of them established in 1828. They had a total attendance of 83 pupils, taught at their parents' expense<sup>36</sup>.

The National school was built at the corner of Mill Back Side and Driffield Lane in 1847. In 1862 the average attendance was 60 boys and 30 girls. It then received £25 in voluntary contributions, £5 from endowments, and £10 10s from school pence<sup>37</sup>. It received an annual parliamentary grant by 1850<sup>38</sup>. In 1871 85 children were in attendance<sup>39</sup>. From 1908 to 1914 the attendance varied only between 158 and 170, but it fell to about 120-140 between the World Wars<sup>40</sup>. It was an all age school until 1952, when senior pupils were transferred to the Bridlington secondary schools<sup>41</sup>. The average number of children on the roll in 1971 was 54<sup>42</sup>.

In 1865 the vicar reported that an evening school had been held in Kilham and in 1884 that another had been held in the winter months, both with little success<sup>43</sup>.

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<sup>36</sup> Educ. Enquiry Abstract, 1835, 1089.

<sup>37</sup> ED.7/135.

<sup>38</sup> Mins. Of Educ. Cttee. of Council, 1849-50 [1215],p.497,H.C. (1850),xlili.

<sup>39</sup> Rets. rel. Elem. Educ. 1871,474

<sup>40</sup> BD. of Educ. List 21 (H.M.S.O.).

<sup>41</sup> E.R. Educ. Cttee. Mins. 1951-2, 225; 1952-3, 69

<sup>42</sup> Ex inf. Chief Educ. Officer, County Hall, Beverley, 1971

<sup>43</sup> B.I.H.R., V.1865/Ret.289; Bp.V.1884/Ret.

# Hall Farmhouse

Hall Farmhouse is situated in East Street and was said to be the grandest house in Kilham in its day.

The house was built in 1716, with later pediment. Red brick, stone dressings, slate roof. Central direct entry, 2 storeys and attic, 5 bays 2:1:2. Plinth and angle pilasters. Centre bay breaks forward slightly. Door of 6 raised and fielded panels under fanlight with intersecting glazing bars in round-headed brick surround flanked by projecting stone volutes. Projecting keyblock with recessed panel bearing date '1716' over heraldic motif.

Ground floor has 8-pane sashes with sills under flat gauged brick arches. Moulded string to centre bay and corner pilasters only. The 18<sup>th</sup> century staircase occupies a central projecting bay at the rear. The 18<sup>th</sup> century fireplace survives on the ground floor.

First floor has 8-pane sashes with sills under flat gauged brick arches throughout. Moulded eaves cornice under low coped pediment with Diocletian window with sill now blocked to right and left, with central 4-pane sash. End stacks.

Iron insurance plaque bearing motto 'Britannia' and figure of Britannia over door.

Rear elevation: unaltered Diocletian window to pediment. A grand old English garden is well maintained today.

Originally the home of the Thompsons, the chief family of the Village. (1729)

Hall Farmhouse was also the Poor House and the Law courts for the area at one point.



## Orchard House

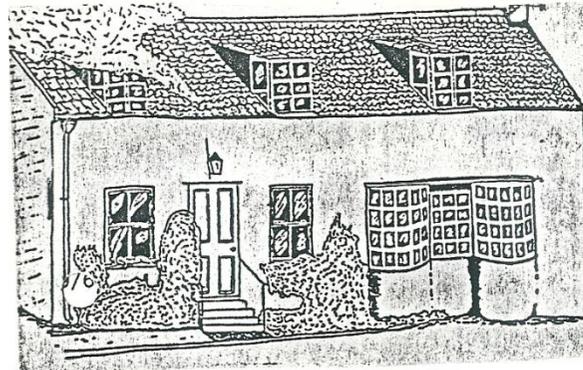
Orchard house is II Grade Listed building (1831) Street and Church Lane.

Brick, whitewashed, pantiled roofs. Baffle entry; rear cells. 4 C20 steps to left of main door of 6 bolection-with pilasters supporting shallow cornice, flanked by brick arches to right and left.

Early C19 tripartite shop-front to right: central 12-pane under fanlight with radial glazing, flanked by 25-pane architraves.

Attic has swept dormers with casements with glazing bars. Dentilled brick eaves cornice, end and axial stacks with bands and stepped cornices, tumbled-in brick to raised gables with kneelers.

Orchard House used to be the village shop but is now a private residence.



situated at the corner of East

wing. One storey and attics, 3 moulded panels, in doorcase 4-pane sashes under segmental

pane window, replacing door, bow windows, all in fluted

## The Saddlers

The Saddlers is an attractive 18th century brick and pantile and the old Market Place. *The Saddlers* is a grade II listed

House. Mid C18. Red brick in Flemish bond, cast-iron railings, 2 storeys and attics, 3 bays. 5 steps to 6-panel door with arch flanked by late C19 canted bays with glazing bars. First architraves with sills under flat gauged brick arches. Stepped offsets to left, end stack to right, each with band and cornice. Railings with baluster newels and decorated balusters, mounted either side of the door.



house at the corner of Bakehouse Lane building. Listed on 20 September 1966.

pantiled roof. Central direct entry plan. oblong fanlight under flat gauged brick floor: sashes with glazing bars in eaves cornice, external stack with Tumbled-in brick to raised gables. slender handrail. A saddlers' last is

## The Village Hall

The Village Hall was for many years the hall of the Foresters' Friendly Society. The hall was built in 1880 with red and yellow bricks and round headed windows. A modern entrance hall has been added to the south of the building.

# Evacuees

## GREETINGS <sup>Refugee</sup> TO KILHAM <sup>Durham</sup>

Sir, - We and our family send best wishes to the villagers of Kilham for the festive season, and our grateful thanks, for all the kindness and courtesy we have received over the past 30 years.

It was in August 1946 that I first laid eyes on that lovely little village; we were on our honeymoon and as my wife had been evacuated to Pasture Gate Farm, to two of the most wonderful people in the world, Mr. and Mrs. Reg and Clara Wilson and their family; we have spent many happy times on numerous visits.

Many older friends have passed on but we saw quite a few on our visit during summer.

This has been our longest absence since our first visit to Kilham; I can no longer run a car and am disabled with heart trouble. However, nothing can take away the lovely memories we hold and will always treasure of Kilham and all the wonderful people who opened their hearts and homes to the pupils of Monkwearmouth Central School during the war. We wish them a merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous and peaceful New Year. - Yours, etc.,

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon  
and Minnie Dunn  
24 Eglinton Tower,  
Monkwearmouth,  
Sunderland.

b7 Children from Chilton St Boys School.  
136 " " Monkwearmouth  
Sunderland.

Born 1927

## THE EVACUEES

Age 67 now

An Evacuee to Kilham  
by Ted Allison

In 1939 I was twelve years old and living down Division Road off Hessele Road in Hull. I attended Chiltern Street school, and on the morning of Friday September 1st, 1939, mother took me to school where two or three single decker buses were waiting.

I had a brown paper carrier bag with string handles, it contained my pyjamas and a change of clothes, also a gas mask in a cardboard box. The atmosphere outside the school was similar to that at the departure of a charabanc trip. We knew we were going, because of the talk of war. But we twelve year olds knew we had beaten the Germans once already and were quite confident of the outcome should a war start. We were pleased to go on our trip - to where we didn't know.

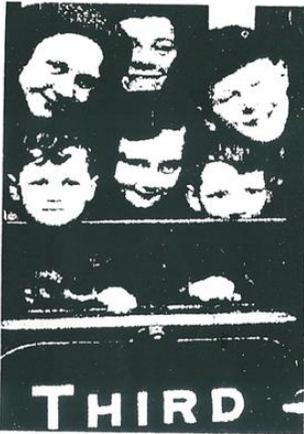
There didn't appear to be any tearful farewells and in no time we were off. I remember nothing of the actual journey and my next recollection was of being in a village hall full of tables, children, and grown ups very busy. Two ladies ushered a small group of us out of the hall and we set off through the village. I remember, in conversation, one boy referred to his mother as 'our old woman' and was told 'Thoo mount say that'. That was the first time I had heard the unique wolds dialect. Something I too was to acquire very quickly.

Boys were dropped off at various houses and the depleted band continued across 'The Pasture' when I was told I was in Kilham which of

course meant nothing to me. I eventually arrived at a farmhouse where I was welcomed by Mrs Wilkinson (the ladies called her Annie) and her daughter Mary. Mrs Wilson gave me a stamped addressed postcard to send home showing my address as c/o West End Farm, Kilham, Nr. Drifffield. I was told that Mr. Wilson (Harold) was out harvesting and Mrs and Mary were just about to take the men their 'lozenges' so I left my carrier bag in the kitchen and set off with them. We walked seemingly for ever up Craik Road to the field being harvested where we saw the horses pulling the reaper and the men stocking at the other end of the field. Mrs Wilson spoke to Mister across the field and I was so surprised that her voice carried such a distance. I recall saying 'He can hear you'. Quite a difference from the din of the Hull streets.

On Sunday 3rd September we heard the declaration of war on the wireless and consequently I stayed with Mr and Mrs Wilson until I left school aged 14 in December 1940 when I returned to Hull.

I kept in touch and visited them whenever possible throughout my life.



Evacuees leaving Paragon Station

which was spent in the army and working away from Hull. On occasion I took my parents to see them, and they liked to visit Kilham and had become good friends too. During all the years since leaving Kilham the time spent on the farm has always been a gem of a memory for me.

In the hard winter I picture Kilham under snow, a hot baked potato in my hand, on the way to school on a cold morning; Sunday evening tea with all the baking on the table and a deep trifle bowl waiting to be delved into; the Sunday evening walks to and from Chapel which I enjoyed because of the singing; threshing times with us lads getting in the way and chasing the mice that came out of the stacks; carrying 'Caff' and learning to avoid the barley as the horns went down your neck. This had to be done by the Dairy man.

My favourite job was using the swede cutting machine, chopping them

IF YOU WERE AN EVACUEE - SEND US YOUR STORY.

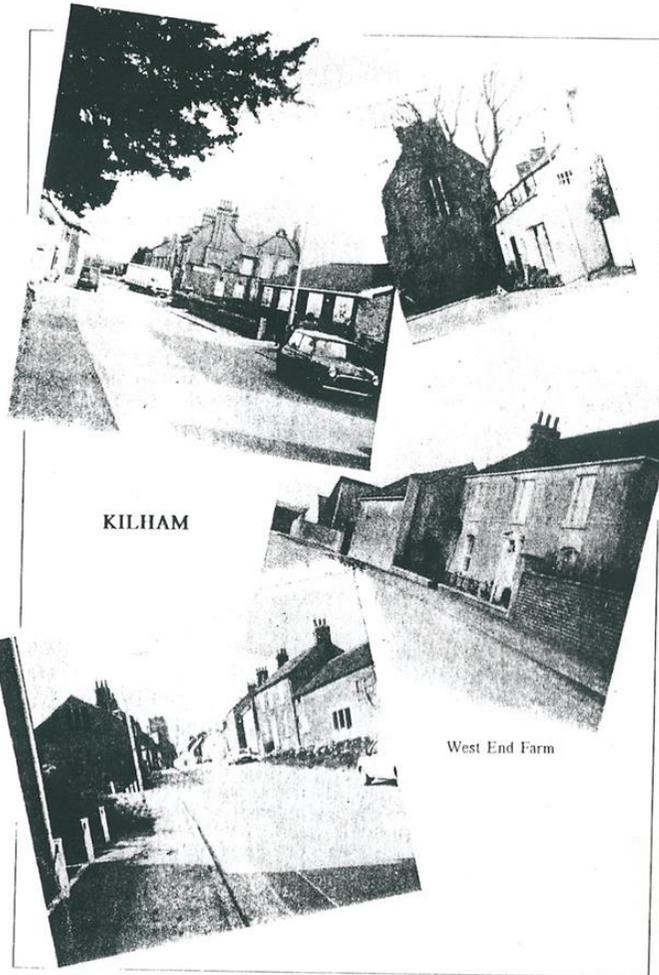
into inch square chips, filling skip after skip, astonishing not only Mr Wilson but myself too. The whole farm was mine to roam over without trespassing anywhere.

The tin bath beside the bricked in copper in the 'Old Dairy' in winter. The Village Hall concerts and parties. So much seemed to have happened in that time but it all falls into the category of great pleasure and happy memories. Writing this brings it all back to me.

I came back to live in Hull a couple of years ago, and although rather immobile now, Kilham and the people I knew still exists in my mind, and I suppose there'll be quite a few of them around still.

*Many evacuees were seeing the country for the first time: the nine o'clock news on the 29th October 1939 ended with an essay by a ten-year-old East London evacuee:*

*The cow is a mammal, it has six sides, right, left, an upper and below. At the back it as a tail, on which hangs a brush. With this it sends the flies away so that they do not fall in the milk. The head is for the purpose of growing horns and so that the mouth can be somewhere. The horns are to butt with, and the mouth is to moo with. Under the cow hangs the milk. It is arranged for milking. When people milk, the milk comes and there is never an end to the supply. How the cow does it I have not yet realized but it makes more and more. The cow has a fine sense of smell, one can smell it far away. This is the reason for the fresh air in the country. The man cow is called an ox, it is not a mamal. The cow does not eat much, but what it eats it eats twice so that it gets enough. When it moos it is hungry, when it says nothing it is full of grass.*



KILHAM

West End Farm

Telephone 601100 - Telex 3222 212521

# Inn has pair of old guests

Roche-to-be, Mrs Maxine Eyre has discovered two unexpected "guests" says before her new premises are completed and there may have been there for more than 500 years.

The discovery on the site of the former 16th century inn at Kilham was being investigated by archaeologists in the yard at the site.

by Dick Clark

The new findings in the old part of the inn are being investigated.

Archaeologists who dug out the bones are medieval and pre-medieval bones.

"Skeletal remains were found in the site of a 16th century inn," said Mrs Eyre, who lives in the site with her husband Robert.

Workmen who dug the site recently, at nearby Roche, the local site, discovered Roman, Saxon and pre-medieval bones. Several thousand years old, the bones were found in the site.

The site has also produced important skeletal remains, which have been excavated and are the pre-medieval.

# Riddle of the bones

HULL DAILY MAIL, FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1989 17

## Cemetery may be 1,000 years old

ARCHEOLOGIST believe that human bones found on the site of a proposed hotel at Kilham could be 1,000 years old. Workmen discovered them while digging out drainage trenches. It is now known that the site was once part of an old Christian cemetery.

John Dent said: "What we have ended up with is basically a jumble of bones, which will probably relate to a dozen or so graves." A bone specialist will now examine the specimens and then they will be made available for reburial.

By STEVE PETCH

Difficult But it is difficult to tell how many skeletons were found because the trench cut across several graves.

Mrs Maxine Eyre, who hopes to open her hotel by the Spring Bank Holiday, initially thought there were two skeletons.

But archeology expert Mr

John Dent said: "What we have ended up with is basically a jumble of bones, which will probably relate to a dozen or so graves."

A bone specialist will now examine the specimens and then they will be made available for reburial.

Mr Dent, who works for the archeology unit in Humberside County Council, said the existence of the cemetery was already known

from bodies distributed in buildings nearby.

"The construction of the original Methodist Chapel in the early 19th century brought to light over 100 bodies," he explained. "That was about 30 yards away."

He went on: "In 1976, I went to have a look at some more bodies that appeared at the back of Wesley Terrace, next to the chapel.



Mrs. Maxine Eyre of Kilham with Mr. John Dent of the Humberside County Council Archeologist Department with some of the bones at Kilham.

Layout "That was the only time we had a clear picture of what was going on we were able to observe the layout of the bodies.

About a dozen were found and they had their heads to the west and feet to the east — typical Christian orientation."

Mr Dent continued: "Our main problem now is to understand how it is that a Christian cemetery existed yet does not appear on any historical records.

Interpretation

"Our present interpretation is that the Normans may well have re-organised the village, moving the site of a Saxon church across the

# BUILDER UNCOVERS ANCIENT BURIAL GROUND

1976 GROUND

**BURTON FLEMING BUILDER** Mr Stephen Fisher started digging out the foundations for a bathroom and kitchen extension to a house at Kilham yesterday and found he was making his way through what is believed to be a pre-1500 burial ground.

There were bones everywhere. He took one into Nafferton to show to the village policeman, Pc Brian Howe. He was away from home so Mr Fisher asked a local doctor for a diagnosis. He thought they were looking at an animal's jaw bone. Later, Mr Fisher went back to work with his spade and discovered a human skull. He went back to Pc Howe and archaeologists were called in by Insp Douglas Taylor of Duffield police. Mr Dent, director of excavations at Garton Slack for Humberside Joint Archaeological Committee, and his assistant, Mr Kenneth Turnbull, travelled to Kilham to look at the remains and collect some samples.

## PLAGUE THEORY

A local farmer had offered the opinion that it was a communal grave left over from the days when Kilham was hit by the plague and that the bodies were buried in line. Mr Dent discounted that theory. In his opinion, Mr Fisher had most probably found some mediaeval Christian burials associated with some religious foundation. It had been used as a burial ground over a period of time. The east-west alignment of the remains suggested they were Christian and the fact

that they were buried extended, suggested they were later than the prehistoric period.

There were many graves from prehistoric times in the area and all involved crouched burials where the remains were doubled up into a crouched position rather than extended as in today's practice.

Parts of the Kilham site had been disturbed previously, he said. They were of little archaeological interest, he said.



Mr Stephen Fisher, of Burton Fleming, points to the layer of bones he found at Kilham.

10/5/00

# Mystery of grisly Kilham dig discovery

by MATTHEW CROSHAW

MYSTERY surrounds the death of up to 17 people whose bodies have been discovered by an archaeological dig at Kilham. Some of the remains had been deliberately concealed.

Expert Peter Makey has spent weeks painstakingly unearthing the remains, which probably date back to medieval times.

How they died is to become the subject of a special archaeological investigation.

For at least one of the bodies showed signs of having suffered a fractured skull.

Archaeological consultant Mr Makey, from Drifffield, believes that a deliberate attempt had at some time been made to cover up some of the bodies.

Mr Makey unearthed the remains during a three-and-a-half week dig on Main Street, Kilham – close to a known burial site from early in the last millennium.

It is believed that someone imported the bones to the dig site around 100 years ago and, in a move that has left Mr Makey puzzled, a special effort to hide them had since been made.

Mr Makey explained that halfway through the dig he had given up hope of finding anything significant, when suspicions led him to delve deeper

into the earth – where he found between 11 and 17 bodies.

In one ditch there were “piles of skulls and long bones” – such as leg and arm bones – and in another there were fingers and foot bones.

Deliberately concealed beneath the second ditch were yet more remains.

“I had this feeling that something was wrong – there was something peculiar about the deeper ditch,” explained Mr Makey.

“Someone had gone to extraordinary lengths to cover it up.”

According to Mr Makey, the remains may have been taken to the site in 1907 when the nearby Methodist Chapel was built, but in 1953 or 1954 an attempt was made to cover the bodies up.

From examining the bones he has discovered that they belonged to people who died in their 20s and 30s, some of whom were “amazingly large individuals”.

The bones are now likely to go to Durham University, where they will be analysed for disease and age. At least one of the skeletons showed signs of arthritis.

And in a bid to find out more about the strange circumstances surrounding the remains, Mr Makey is appealing for anyone with information about the cottages on Wesley Terrace in Kilham to get in touch with him on (01377) 253693.



THE BONE COLLECTOR: Peter Makey displays the grisly find.

ps80522

## Glossary

Thegns	Thegn or Thane, is an Anglo-Saxon title (Anglo-Saxon: þeg(e)n, Danish: degn, Old High German: degan, Old Norse: thegn or "king's follower") meaning an attendant, servant, retainer or official, usually in a military sense similar to the later "knight."
Carucates	The carucate or carrucate (Medieval Latin: carrūcāta or carūcāta)[1] was a medieval unit of land area approximating the land a plough team of eight oxen could till in a single annual season. It was known by different regional names and fell under different forms of tax assessment.
Bovates	A bovate was a measure of land which could be ploughed in one day by one eighth of a plough team with eight oxen, or in other words the measure of land representing one eighth of a carucate. The term is used in the Domesday Book for places under the Danelaw. The word is derived from the Latin word bo, meaning ox.
Heptarchy	The Heptarchy (from the Greek ἑπτὰ hepta, "seven" and ἄρχω arkho, "to rule") is a collective name applied to the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of south, east, and central England during late antiquity and the early Middle Ages, conventionally identified as seven: East Anglia, Essex, Kent, Mercia, Northumbria, Sussex, and Wessex. The Anglo-Saxon kingdoms eventually unified into the Kingdom of England.
Inclosure	The Inclosure Acts (or "Enclosure Acts" in modern spelling) were a series of United Kingdom Acts of Parliament which enclosed open fields and common land in the country, creating legal property rights to land that was previously considered common. Between 1604 and 1914, over 5,200 individual Enclosure Acts were put into place, enclosing 6.8 million acres (2,800,000 ha; 28,000 km <sup>2</sup> ).

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