

and a companion. Plaintiffs, represented by Mr J. G. Kingford Smale, were Wilfred Broadbelt, locomotive fireman, 20, Hambleton Grove, Knaresborough, who claimed £22. 1s. 6d., and Fred Bendelow, 11, Stockwell View, Knaresborough, who claimed £5. 16s. Defendant, for whom Mr W. E. Woods appeared, was L/Cpl. J. Pritchard, Parachute Regiment, of Shorncliffe, Kent, formerly stationed at Scriven Park, Knaresborough.

10 Bendelow stated that about 11.20pm on November 16th, following a communication made to him in Kirkgate, he walked towards home with the object of overtaking his wife. He met Broadbelt in High Street, and they went down Raw Gap together. Half-way down, he saw a soldier with his arm round witness's wife. He said to the soldier, "I can do all the cuddling there is to do at home," and the soldier replied, "If it's a fight you're looking for, you can have it." Pritchard then struck Broadbelt, who had his hands in his pockets, in the stomach and the face. When witness remonstrated with him, Pritchard said, "I'll kill you," and struck him twice on the head, causing profuse bleeding. Witness then hit him back. Neither witness nor Broadbelt struck Pritchard first. After they had obtained Pritchard's name and address from his pay-book, Pritchard said he was on police duty and would have to go. He then went towards High Street, saying they could "see their solicitors and do their words." Witness and Broadbelt went to the police station, and witness's wife went on home. He had a doctor's bill for 10s. 6d., and had had to have blood cleaned off his suit which cost 20 him 5s. 6d. He also claimed for pain and suffering.

Cross examines, witness said Bendelow never mentioned his wife until they reached the couple. Bendelow did not touch his wife. He (witness) had never had a fight with anybody before.

Catherine Bendelow, wife of the first witness, said she was not standing with Pritchard. She had just stopped on hearing her husband coming up. Her husband said he could do any cuddling that was required, and Pritchard "got a bit vexed" and struck out. She thought Pritchard intended to hit her husband, and struck Broadbelt by mistake. He then hit her husband. Neither her husband nor Broadbelt struck first. 30 Her husband and Broadbelt were sober. Pritchard was not drunk, but had had a drink or two.

In reply to Mr Woods, witness said she and her husband had been on friendly terms with Pritchard. Pritchard was simply walking part of the way home with her, and there was nothing in her behaviour to call for criticism. Her husband was angry at seeing Pritchard with his arm round her shoulder.

Wounded at Arnhem

Pritchard said he was wounded at Arnhem and a prisoner of war until last year. While stationed at Knaresborough, he became acquainted with Mr and Mrs

Bendelow. On the night in question, he met Mrs Bendelow in a local hotel and she asked him to see her home. Bendelow had never objected to witness speaking to his wife. As they were going down Raw Gap – they had not stopped – two men came from behind and Bendelow pulled his wife away and said he would give witness “a good hiding.” Broadbelt struck him between the eyes, and he hit back in self-defence. Bendelow then came in, swinging his arms, and struck him several blows. He struck Bendelow in return. The men did not want to fight after that, and said they would take action against him. They asked for his name and address, and he gave them his pay-book. He went to the police station to report the matter.

10 Cross-examined, Pritchard said he had his arm round Mrs Bendelow. Bendelow did not say anything about cuddling.

P.C. Hardy said Bendelow and Broadbelt visited the police station at 11.30 pm, and Pritchard at 11.50. Broadbelt’s lip was cut and witness advised him to see a doctor.

Giving judgment for defendant, with costs, His Honour said he could not consider the case proved. It might well be that there was nothing wrong in the soldier having his arm round Bendelow’s wife, but he could well imagine Bendelow feeling that there was some cause for suspicion. It seems that Bendelow had some suspicion that his wife was on in front,” added His Honour. “He saw the soldier with his arm round her at this late hour of the night, and I can imagine he felt very angry indeed. I think that
20 he and Broadbelt probably thought they would like to teach this impudent soldier a lesson. They tried to do so, but unfortunately without success, as the soldier was bigger than they were.”

Italians Criticised

2 March 1946

Reference to unsatisfactory work by Italian prisoners of war was made during the hearing of 59 summonses by the River Ouse Catchment Board against farmers in the North Riding for amounts due in connection with a drainage scheme. A drainage
30 expert called on behalf of respondents declared, “My land girl could do as much as six Italians.” When the summonses were first before the court six weeks ago, it was stated that while grants were available towards the cost of schemes for the improvement of land drainage, no grants were payable for subsequent maintenance work, the full cost of which had to be borne by the occupiers. The summonses, which were in respect of maintenance work, were adjourned to enable representations to be made to the Minister of Agriculture with a view to legislation

being introduced for the payment of grants for maintenance. Mr E. H. R. Freeman, for the farmers, now told the court that the representations had been unsuccessful, the Minister having stated that he was bound by the law as it stood. The magistrates made orders for payment in all the cases, the total amounting to about £2,000.

WEDDINGS

30.03.1946

GRIFFITHS – COOK

- 10 Miss Vera Cook, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs W. C. Cook, 28 Dragon View, Harrogate, was married at Christ Church, Harrogate, on Saturday to Pte. Frederick Griffiths, Paratroop Regt., youngest son of Mr and Mrs F. Griffiths, of Ashington, Northumberland.

The bride, given away by her father, wore a white satin dress, with orange blossom spray, a net veil, and carried a bouquet of red tulips. Miss Joyce Green (cousin of the bride) wearing pink taffeta, Miss Anita Greenwood (cousin of the bride) wearing blue, Miss Paul Spedding (niece of the bride) wearing white cloque, and Miss Alice Cook (aunt of the bride) wearing pink taffeta, were the bridesmaids. They all wore head-dresses to tone, and carried spring flowers.

- 20 The Rev. W. F. Vernon (Vicar) performed the ceremony,. Mr Ray Norton, R.N., was best man, and Mr Donal Green, groomsman.

Harrogate Borough Court

06.04.1946

Officer Fined

Richard T. A. Burton, Parachute Regiment officer, was fined £4, his licence was endorsed, and he was ordered to pay 14s costs for driving without due care and attention, and fined £2 for driving and failing to report an accident to the police within 24 hours. He pleaded guilty.

- 30 Supt. Cockroft said the offence took place on the Knaresborough-Harrogate Road at 8.45pm on January 23rd. a Mr Green was driving along the Knaresborough Road towards Harrogate when he saw defendant's car approaching Knaresborough Road from Skipton Road. Green was continuing at 10-20m.p.h. at the junction, when it

was alleged that defendant's car came out and crashed into Green's car on the offside. As a result Green's car was pushed into the Wetherby Road. "Defendant reversed," said the Superintendent, "and then drove away towards Harrogate." He added that as a result of the collision Mrs Green knocked her head against the windscreen, and received facial injuries.

Defending, Mr B. Kirby said defendant was a stranger to Harrogate and the car had been bought only that day. It had been snowing and the roads were slippery. His client got out and examined the machine, and observing that there was only superficial damage, drove off. Mr Kirby alleged that the other car was also
10 somewhat negligent. His client was under the impression that if one party reported an accident, it was sufficient.

Jottings Column

8 June 1946

Paratroopers' Thanks

Two men of the Parachute Regiment came in to see me the other day. They were on leave from a camp in the South of England prior to going overseas, and were formerly stationed with their unit in this district. They took away with them many happy memories of the people of Yorkshire, and they desired to find some means of
20 expressing their thanks for the hospitality they and their comrades received during their sojourn in our midst. I offered to convey through these notes, a word of appreciation which they wish to express. It is gratifying to know that the men of this unit, and other units also, who were billeted or encamped in this neighbourhood felt the warmth of Yorkshire welcome to such an extent that they are anxious to renew acquaintance as soon as circumstances will permit. One of these 'boys' told me that he hoped to find work in Harrogate when his period of service is at an end. Another kindly tribute comes from a Canadian airman who was stationed here for a time, and has now returned home. In a letter to the Mayor he says that he was so impressed by the friendliness and courtesy

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JUNE WEDDINGS

08.06.1946

SMITH –CLARK

Miss Marjorie Clark, only daughter of Mrs M. J. Clark, Church Row, Beckwithshaw, and of the late Mr H. Clark, was married at Beckwithshaw Church on Saturday, by Canon J. W. Akam (Vicar) to Cpl. Alfred John Smith, second son of Mr and Mrs K. P. Smith, 71, Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough.

The bridegroom, who is in the Royal Corps of signals, had just returned after four years' service overseas.

The bride, who was given away by her mother, wore a white net dress, trimmed with camellia and diamante head-dress, and carried a bouquet of pale pink roses and lilies of the valley. The Misses Pauline and Diane Gebbard were bridesmaids, and they wore dresses of white net over pink underslips, trimmed with rosebuds, rosebud head-dresses and carried Victorian poses of mixed flowers.

Mr George Smith was best man and Mr Hubert A Smith, groomsman.

The service was choral, the hymns being "Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us," "O perfect love," and "Love divine, all love excelling."

Blackpool was chosen for the honeymoon, and the bride travelled in a pale blue dress, camel coat, with nigger brown accessories.

FORMER KNARESBOROUGH ASSISTANT PRO.

Middlesbrough Golf Club has appointed as professional a former assistant professional at Knaresborough Golf Club, Wilfred Atkinson, son of MR AND Mrs E. Atkinson of Old Scriven.

Atkinson who has been serving in the Army during the war, was assistant at Knaresborough under Walter Bowman for four years until his appointment in 1935 as assist

KNARESBOROUGH V-DAY

15.06.1946

Owing to the bad weather which developed in the afternoon, the flight of Meteor jet planes from Church Fenton aerodrome over Knaresborough, had to be cancelled, much to the disappointment of residents who had looked forward to seeing some of these famous aircraft. No official celebrations had been arranged in the town, but one or two shops and private houses put out flags. Messrs. Sturdy's landing on Waterside was decorated, and a float bearing a number flags was put on the river.

WEDDINGS

20.07.1946

WAKEFIELD-WALDRON

10 Mr George F. Wakefield, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Henry Wakefield, 7, Alexandra Place, Scriven, Knaresborough, was married at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Friday of last week, to Miss Winifred I. Waldron, only daughter of Mrs Waldron, of Lane Head House, Glossop, Derbyshire.

Mr Wakefield, who began his journalistic career on the former "Harrogate Times," is now a member of the Hansard staff of the House of Commons.

Miss Waldron has for the past seven years been a Health Visitor in Sheffield and district, and for four years during the war was a member of the Mechanised Transport Corps.

The bride wore a two-piece suit of sapphire blue, with white hat and accessories and a spray of tea roses. She was attended by Mrs Jean Winder, wearing a nigger-brown ensemble. Mr L. A. Giles was best man. Both Mrs Winder and Mr Giles are colleagues of the bridegroom on the Hansard staff.

20 Until the rising of the House of Commons for the Summer Recess, Mr and Mrs Wakefield are at 52, Rosecroft Gardens, Whitton, Twickenham.

Knaresborough War

Memorial

10.08.1946

30 The suggestion at last week's meeting of Knaresborough Urban Council that the removal of the war memorial from the Castle Grounds to Conyngham Hall might be considered, has been received with a marked lack of enthusiasm, and on all sides the hope has been expressed that no such step will be taken. It is felt that the memorial should remain in the present central position, and that damage sustained some years ago should be repaired at the earliest opportunity.

Local ex-Servicemen are particularly concerned, and the Knaresborough branch of the British Legion has decided to call a special general meeting to discuss the matter at the British Legion Club, at 8pm on Monday.

“An Affront to the Dead”

10 Commenting on the suggestion on Monday, an old resident said he hoped the memorial would not be moved. Instead of money being spent on moving it to Conyngham Hall, where few elderly people would be able to go very much, the memorial should be repaired and left on its present site, which was where the men whose names appeared on it played as boys. “I should look on the removal of the memorial as an affront to the dead,” he added.

The memorial was unveiled by Brigadier-General H. L. Alexander and dedicated by the Bishop of Knaresborough (the late Dr. Lucius Smith) on Saturday, June 18th 1921, in the presence of a gathering of four or five thousand people. General Alexander recalled that out of a population of 5,600, Knaresborough sent nearly 1,000 men to the war, of whom 154 made the supreme sacrifice.

20 The memorial, 29 feet in height from pavement to apex, was designed by the late Mr A. A. Gibson, architect. It takes the form of an elaborated wayside cross of traditional English late 14th century character, and bears the following inscription: “Remember with Thanksgiving and Honour all Ranks from this Town who gave their lives in the War, 1914-1918.”

HARROGATE’S FIRST “SQUATTERS”

28 September 1946

Two Families Move Into Starbeck Camp

30 The “squatting movement” has spread to Harrogate. On Friday, two families from Knaresborough, comprising three adults and ten children, moved into two of the Nissan huts at the camp in High Street, Starbeck, vacated last week by German prisoners of war. Water is laid on to the camp, but there are no heating or lighting arrangements.

GERMANS IN ROAD TRAGEDY

23 November 1946

Driver Exonerated

“For some unknown reason, the cyclist turned into the lorry before it was fully past.” This comment was made by the York District Coroner, Mr E. T. Heap, at an inquest in Harrogate on Thursday, where he returned a verdict of “Death by Misadventure,” on Johan Schueller (38), a German P.O.W. corporal, who died in Harrogate Hospital on Tuesday as a result of a collision between his cycle and a lorry at Scriven earlier in the day.

10 Dr J. V. Wilson said the cause of death was the combination of a fracture of the pelvis, hemorrhage, and shock.

Giving his evidence through the interpreter, Lieut. A. W. Snowman, of the Enniskilling fusiliers, the driver of the lorry, another German, Johannes Kirsten, who was exonerated from blame by the Coroner, said he was driving out of the P.O.W. camp at Scriven at about 10 to 15 m.p.h., when he saw Schueller on a cycle 30 yards ahead. He gave Schueller a wide berth, but when he got to the junction of Scriven and Greengate Lane, he heard the crack of something striking the lorry. He found Schueller lying on the road, and took him back to the camp.

In answer to the Coroner, the witness stated the lorry was covered, and that
20 therefore the passengers saw nothing of the incident.

Mr J. T. Bradley, works foreman, Fisher Gardens, Knaresborough, corroborated that the cyclist was given ample room. At one moment the cyclist was level with the lorry and at the next, he had turned into it. He (witness) shouted to the lorry driver and the vehicle pulled up in seven yards. The witness said he could give no reason why the cyclist should have swerved, but he agreed with the Coroner that if Schueller had meant to go down the turning, he would have turned at about that point. As it was, the machine caught the rear of the lorry.

P.O.W.s Invited

28 December 1946

I hear than on Christmas Day about one hundred German prisoners of war from the camp at Scriven Park, Knaresborough, were invited to spend the day in the homes of residents in the Knaresborough and Harrogate districts, and that a number of their hosts went down to Scriven by car to pick up men from the camp. The remainder of the prisoners were allowed liberty from the camp during the day, and groups of them, in their uniforms of blue or brown, with distinctive P.O.W. patches on the back, were to be seen about the town. In the evening, the men put on an impromptu concert, with items by a band formed from among their number, and they also enjoyed a
10 cinema show. Germans from a prisoner of war camp took part in a candlelight service at Great Ouseburn Congregational Church on Sunday evening, when they sang several carols. After the service, the men gave toys which they had made in their spare time from odd pieces of wood, to children of the Sunday School.