



# HISTORY OF KIRKBY GROUP

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## SOUTERGATE

VOLUME FOUR

### ARMADA SURVIVOR IN SOUTERGATE!

**CARL CROSS** has been the name of the home in which I live for many generations. It goes away back in time. Over the years, since I married into the family, I have often thought about the origin of the name 'Carl Cross'. Several explanations have been offered, however, I believe in the following explanation.

When the Spanish Armada was being chased by the British Navy, through the English Channel, their only way of escape was to sail into the North Sea and then head round the coast of Scotland continuing their journey down the west side of Britain and into the Irish Sea. It was here that the ship foundered, approximately opposite the shore line at Askam-in-Furness.

One of the Spanish sailors, named Carlos, is reputed to have swum ashore, and struggled up the beach. Unfortunately, the ordeal was too much for him and he finally collapsed and died on the piece of land where the house 'Carl Cross' now stands, and in which I now live. Before the house was even built, Carl was buried here, with a cross erected over his grave bearing the inscription "CARL'S CROSS".

Many years later our house was built and given the name 'Carl Cross'. Initially the house was smaller than it now is but after a period of time it was enlarged to its present size.

**Andrew Farish**



**Cartmel Family, Carl Cross, 1905**

#### FROM THE PARISH RECORDS

##### MARRIAGE

20th June 1814

Roger Hunter bachelor and Agnes Dixon  
both of Carl Cross tp. wt.

John Parker, John Mayson

##### BURIAL

1831 25th May Roger Hunter  
Carl Cross

#### CUSTOMS AND PAST-TIMES

**Making and smoking** rudimentary pipes was carried out by removing the core of pith from inside a piece of elderberry wood (for the pipe bowl) and inserting into it a length of honeysuckle (cut off below the joints at each end so as to leave an uninterrupted passage for smoke to be drawn through) as the pipe stem. Dried bracken, tea leaves or herbs were used as tobacco!!!

**Making "sap-whistles"** from selected branches of sycamore trees when the sap was running in spring-time. The initial removal of the bark or skin (without breaking it) was a tricky operation and involved spitting on it and then gently tapping with the body of a knife whilst it rested on your leg and at the same time turning it and incanting a magical ditty:

"Sip Sap, Sip Sap  
Billy Billy Whitecap,  
Come off yar!"

Making a whistle that actually whistled was quite an achievement!

**Gordon Calderbank**

## DECLARATION BY HUGH BARTON REGARDING SOUTERGATE MARSH

I HUGH BARTON of Fairmount Kirkby-in-Furness in the County of Cumbria Retired - Farmer do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:—

1. I am Eighty years of age. I was born at Ghyll End Farm Kirkby-in-Furness and took over that farm from my Father in 1932. I remained at Ghyll End Farm until 1955 when I retired and moved to my present address—
2. Having lived in Kirkby-in-Furness all my life I am well acquainted with Soutergate Marsh Kirkby-in-Furness
3. I know that the present ownership of such Marsh is shared between Mr. William Coward of Cart House Kirkby-in-Furness and Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Edgar Procter of Crossbeck Farm Kirkby-in-Furness aforesaid. I do not know in what proportions the ownership of the marsh is shared—
4. Originally the ownership of Soutergate Marsh was shared between several owners of nearby farms in and around Kirkby-in-Furness. Each owner owned a specific number of "Grasses" or shares of the Marsh. I do not know how many different owners of grasses there would be when I first knew Soutergate Marsh. Over the years the grasses were gradually purchased by certain of the co-owners until today I understand that the ownership of the whole marsh is concentrated into the ownership of Mr. William Coward and Mr and Mrs. T. E. Procter-
5. Before I took over the running of Ghyll End Farm my Father tenanted certain grasses on the marsh then belonging to Mr. John Winder and some to Captain W.I. Mason. In 1932 I took over the tenancies of these grasses—
6. The various grasses on the marsh were not fenced off from each other but instead the whole marsh was grazed as one unit and certain rules were agreed and laid down by the various owners of the grasses governing the grazing thereof -
7. The owners appointed a herdsman to supervise the grazing of the marsh. Such herdsman was not paid but was given the free tenancy of a cottage on the marsh. In return the herdsman was responsible for looking after the animals grazing on the marsh and generally enforcing the rules relating to the grazing-
8. The rules included provision that the ownership of two grasses entitled the owner to graze one horse on the marsh, the ownership of one grass entitled the owner to graze one cow or four sheep on the marsh and two heifers or Bullocks counted as one cow until they had four broad teeth
9. The Marsh could only be grazed between the 13th May until the following 1<sup>st</sup> March by which date all stock had to be removed from the marsh -
10. Any lambs born to sheep grazing on the marsh before the 1<sup>st</sup> August in the year in which they were counted as part of the grass owners stock at the rate of two lambs being the equivalent of one sheep -
11. So far as I know no money was spent by the several owners of the marsh on maintaining it. The fencing round the marsh would be the responsibility of the owners of the fields which bordered the marsh -
12. Ghyll End farm Kirkby-in-Furness is about 1½ miles from the marsh -
13. I depose as above from my knowledge of the neighbourhood of Kirkby-in-Furness for a period of nearly eighty years -

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statuary Declarations Act 1835 \_\_\_\_\_

**By Courtesy of Dorothy Procter**

**Summary of the name changes which occurred to the property at Soutergate known as  
'The Sun Inn' taken from the Land Registry Documents.**

Date	Owner	Title
1886	Mr. John Addison	The Sun Inn
1900	Mr. Richard Dilworth	The Sun Inn
1961	Hartleys Ulverston	The Sun Inn
1962	Mr. & Mrs. R. Mawdsley	Sunyn View
1970	Mr. & Mrs. R. Mawdsley	Sunyview
1971	Mr. & Mrs. H. Cowling	Sunny View
1986	Mr. & Mrs. K. Gregory	Sunyn
1988	Mr. & Mrs. Jones	Sunyn View
1989	Mr. & Mrs. A. Stevens	Sun Inn House

Akn Benson

**Memorial Stone in St. Cuthbert's Churchyard**

Isaac Atkinson of Soutergate—Master Mariner—died 29.11.1815 aged 80 years.

Agnes Atkinson wife of the above died 14th July 1762 aged 24 years

Isaac Atkinson their son "Perished on a voyage to the West Indies on board the  
Schooner 'Fly' at the beginning of 1782" aged 21 years.

June Whitehead

**'The Cottage', Rose Cottages**

'The Cottage' was occupied over one hundred years ago by Mr. George Todd and his wife Libby Ann. They were married on 15th August 1900. She was the daughter of John Coward who worked in the Roanhead Mines, and lived in 'Bridge End Cottage' opposite 'Bridge House', now known as 'Old Bridge House'. Libby Ann's father kept cattle in the shippon at 'The Cottage' before he started farming at 'Bank House'.

Before Libby Anne was married she worked for Mrs. Chamley at 'Pear Tree Farm'. Times were hard as Libby Ann and members of the Chamley family walked from 'Pear Tree', through Lane Head, past Harlock, with two baskets apiece, full of butter and eggs, to sell in Ulverston Market. When they reached Ulverston, they had to sell the produce, and purchase any commodities which could not be bought at the Grocer's Shop. One night Libby Ann was walking back alone when she fell and injured her hip making her lame for the rest of her life.



**Elizabeth Anne and George Todd,  
Wedding Day.**

**The Cottage' was** originally the house of a farm, with buildings extending from the end of it. The barn, now the lounge of No. 3, was above a shippon which housed cattle. There were further buildings beyond. The little door and window were used by Libby Ann to clean her stairs' window. 'The Cottage', which is now joined to the others by a bedroom, once had a narrow alleyway, which was used by the joiner to store timber when No. 3 was a Joiner's Shop.

**Libby Ann sold** paraffin & vinegar at 'The Cottage'. She stored the paraffin in a tank in the peat house. The vinegar which was delivered by Thompson's of Barrow was sold until the 1950's

**After their marriage** George worked at the iron ore mines at Roanhead walking from and to Soutergate each day.

## Number Two Rose Cottages

**This cottage had** one front bedroom and two at the back with the "peat house" under one of the back bedrooms. In 1940 Mr. & Mrs. Morton Bushby lived there. They had two sons, Tony & Gilbert. Mr. Bushby was a coppice woodsman who used a paddock at Ghyll End where he had a pen in which he kept hens.

## Number Three Rose Cottages - The Joiner's Shop

**In 1881 the joiner** who had his workshop at No. 3 was called Hartley Braithwaite. He stored his wood in the alley between No.2 & No.3. From the 1881 Census, he and his brother, who also lived in the village, classified themselves as house carpenters. They also made corner cupboards, clocks, and tables which were treasured by people in the surrounding area.

In 1936 Mr. & Mrs. Anderson lived here for a short period, while waiting for 'Holly Cottage' to be refurbished. Their daughter and son-in-law still live in the village at 'Morden'.

Bert & Florrie Whitworth purchased No3 in 1950, but did not move in until 1951 as there was a lot of work to be done. In the house there were two front bedrooms and one back bedroom, with the "peat house" under one of the front bedrooms. The peat house contained a coal bunker and a flush toilet. The outside door had two mitres cut out, one at the bottom and one at the top, to give ventilation and part illumination as there was no electric light. In the room downstairs there was a black-leaded grate and oven which today would be regarded as an antiquity. There was no bathroom, just one cold-water tap, and only electricity downstairs. As Bert was a plumber he set to work and transformed the cottage into what we see today.

## 'Soutergate House'



**The Dickinson family** must have moved into this property some time between 1851 and 1861. In the 1861 Census Henry Dickinson, a retired maltster, is living there together with his wife, daughter and son. Then in 1871 his widow and two unmarried daughters were there and the house is listed as 'Lane House' 1891, Henry's wife seems to have died and the son, Matthew, a solicitor is living there together with his two sisters. They are all unmarried. By 1901 Matthew has married and has three children. The family are living there together with Matthew's sisters.

The property must have been given the name 'Soutergate House' at a later date. It is referred to as 'Lane House' in the 1871 Census.

Whilst working on the property the present owners found an envelope lodged in the chimney. The post date is January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1872 and addressed to M. J. A. Dickinson, 'Lane House', Soutergate, Kirkby Ireleth, having been posted in Barnard Castle, County Durham.

The Dickinson connection with the house ended in the early 1960's.