



Autumn Planting

The areas of fodder beet grown off Honley Road, land to Hey Wood and land west of Farnley Hey, has not been a success. The crop is grown for its bulbous root and when harvested it is "clamped" against frost damage and fed to dairy cows. There have been problems, due to weather and with the amount of weed growth which has "starved" the fodder beet. An attempt at lifting the beet was not successful and the crop will be grazed with sheep during the winter months prior to planting spring cereals.

Other main areas of land, as seen on either side of Honley Road, and north of Royd House, are now planted with winter wheat. There have been one or two areas which have needed re-seeding due to extensive damage by crows. Crops throughout the Estate are now reasonably established and with a good `crisp` winter should be in good condition for next spring.

farnley
estates
farnley
view

Dairy Farmer Marge Hall with Fodder Beet. This is a moderate example.



Would you like to deliver this newsletter on behalf of the Farnley Estate?

We are looking for someone to distribute Farnley View to the 250 homes in the village. We expect to produce it monthly and we will pay for the service. If you are reliable and relatively fit (a number of the houses are in remote areas) then please give us a call on 01484 667744.

Wheat from Field Lane.

On the Range

Whilst on historic matters, a 'large bore' rifle range is located off Brockholes Lane, within the farmland around "The Wood, Brockholes". The Rifle Club was set up in 1901 by way of a lease between the Earl of Dartmouth and the Huddersfield Rifle Club. The intention was to give firearm training to the then Militia and Reserve Forces as the Boar War was underway at the time.

In the last two years, extensive upgrading work has been undertaken by the Rifle Club to provide car parking, toilets and improved range facilities. Currently the Rifle Club is looking to create a further range for small bore (.22 calibre) and the Estate is looking at ways that it can facilitate this.

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Farnley View is designed and produced by
InHouse Marketing. Photography by Jonathan Turner.

Latest News...

A further Estate Walk has been organised for Saturday the 1st December at 9.30 a.m, meeting at farm buildings off Field Lane. All are welcome.



Winter on the Estate

Thank you

Since we sent out our first newsletter, many of you have responded positively. As we said then, we hope this newsletter will keep you up to date with what we are up to in the village and provide you with a little bit of background on the village and Estate.

In our last issue before Christmas, we will be looking at some of the buildings and locations that have played an important role in the village's history and also taking a look at the changing fortunes of the Estate's farming heritage.

As was discussed in the last issue, the Estate is looking at options to combine the traditional land usage within a modern economically profitable solution. In the long term the Estate would wish to develop, with other employment related development, the appropriate storage and processing facilities for Estate grown produce which would include vegetables, potatoes, grain and apple juices.

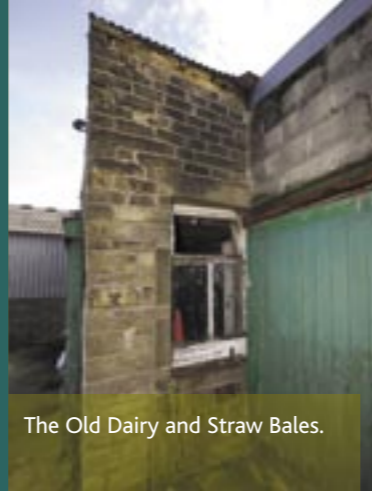
Consideration is being given to establishing a farm shop in the village, in conjunction with community and education facilities, which would give us an outlet to sell our own produce. Not only would shoppers be able to buy locally sourced produce but we would also be able to tell shoppers the exact fields it had been grown in or produced from.

The Developers initial plans are still at an early stage, however on Wednesday 31st October we discussed these plans with the Village Committee. As we went to press in the middle of November we are still awaiting feedback from the Committee.

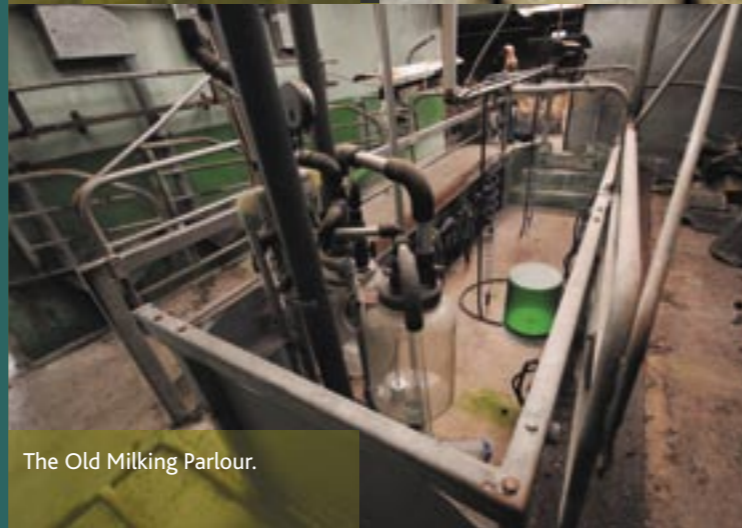
Finally, we would like to give you an update on our autumn planting as well as a list of the events happening on the Estate over the festive period.

**Merry Christmas
from all at the Estate.**

Farnley Estate grown potatoes being sorted and bagged up to be sold.



The Old Dairy and Straw Bales.



The Old Milking Parlour.



The Old Slaughterhouse for Royd House Hamlet.

Down on the Farm

Farming has played an important role in the development of Farnley Tyas, but over the last twenty years many practices have become no longer acceptable, either practically or financially. This has had a direct impact on many of the buildings around the village.

One of the major impacts has been on the many 'mistals' (cowsheds), the stone buildings used to house cows, which are scattered around the village. These traditional dairy buildings, sometimes lofted, had a manger at the front of the cow, an upright partition called a boskin to separate the cows and a dung channel to the rear. Cows would spend the winter months tied by the neck to the boskin. With the introduction of milking machines, these cow buildings would have milk and vacuum lines linked to an adjoining building which would have been used as a dairy.

Mistals fell out of favour following the advancement of the construction of specific buildings for the housing of livestock. Farnley Tyas adopted the 'cubicle system', a number of individual raised beds, in rows, for individual cows, and within modern constructed buildings. The dairy quite often stayed in the same location with churns being replaced by a bulk tank to cool the milk. The former mistal commonly became the parlour to which cows entered to be milked and then released either to fields or back to the cubicle housing.

The main source of winter forage was hay, which was stacked within open sided buildings known as Dutch Barns. The introduction of silage allowed greater volumes of grass to be harvested and reduces the impact of the weather, compared to that of hay making. To make silage, lightly wilted grass was hauled from fields to either an open or covered 'pit' area. The grass was then pressed to remove air pockets and sealed using plastic sheeting. The fermenting of the grass creates the high quality silage which is required for milk production.

With the dairy farmers at Farnley Tyas retaining heifer calves as future replacements for dairy cows, a number of other specialised buildings such as calf kennels and young stock housing were also required.

Sycamore Farm and Beech Farm

The range of farm buildings previously used by Sycamore Farm and Beech Farm form a complex of buildings between Manor Road and Field Lane. These are mainly modern constructed buildings of steel frame beneath fibre cement roofing, though they are located around traditional buildings of stone construction beneath stone roofs/fibre cement sheeting. The Estate does not currently own or manage directly any livestock and therefore the buildings are redundant, especially taking into account the specialist nature of their design and the limited number of alternative uses.

Winter cereals grown at Farnley Tyas on harvesting have previously been stored, prior to sale, within the former silage clamp for Sycamore Farm. However, there is a serious problem with vermin and birds. This means the grain cannot be protected and without care there can be some cross-contamination of crops which cannot be completely segregated. Whereas the Estate would wish to grow cereals for both livestock and human consumption, only cereals for animal feed can be grown at the moment.

The current set-up prevents the Estate gaining suitable farm assurance certification and therefore the market for produced grain is again limited. One potential area of diversification is to change the use of former cubicle housing for dairy cows into a place for the sorting of Estate-grown potatoes. However, the building is not of farm assured standard for this usage and cannot be temperature controlled to protect the crop against seasonal weather conditions.



Other Farnley Sights

The Slaughterhouse

The Royd House Slaughterhouse was located at the Royd House Hamlet, Farnley Bank; however it is now in a considerable state of disrepair.

It is one of the few buildings on the Estate which hasn't been developed in some way. As this slaughterhouse bears some historic interest to the village, we have considered restoration work to the building, but funding through grants has been near impossible to achieve. It is a sad situation because if work is not undertaken soon, the structure will become unsalvageable.

The Farnley Tyas Slaughterhouse used to be located at the top of Manor Road, but that is now Ferndale Farm.

Piggeries

Formerly located at the end of Manor Road were piggeries, a water pumping station and tannery. The former piggery and the water pumping station have now been demolished and their place has been taken by a new residential unit.

The Pumping Station

The pumping station formed part of the Farnley Tyas Water Company through which the majority of the village was supplied with water. It was only recently in 1998 that the supply of water was transferred from the Estate to Yorkshire Water.

The pumping station, being a traditional building of stone construction beneath a stone slate roof was located above a number of large stone reservoir tanks, which are still in situ. Pumping was originally undertaken by way of a steam engine but, subsequently this was replaced by an electric pumping system.

Water collection relied upon a number of aquifers which were located within the hillside picking up numerous springs. The labour to maintain the aquifers was great and many have now fallen into a state of disrepair.

For many years, Mr Eric Briggs of Church Terrace, Farnley Tyas, maintained the Farnley Tyas water pumping system.

Two of the outlying smallholdings located to the north of Ludhill Lane, Ludhill and Middle Ludhill, were formerly on a very unsatisfactory supply from a spring and aquifer system. Things were so bad in fact that during the summer months there was inadequate water to serve the properties. In 2004, with assistance from the Estate, a water main was introduced providing a clean, year round supply of water to these properties.