

RIMINGTON PEACE DAY August 1919

Record from the Craven Herald 22nd August 1919

Rimington and Middop entered wholeheartedly into their celebration of peace which took place on Saturday last in weather, the more fitting than its promise had been, somewhat shaken by the thunderstorm of the early hours of the morning. Stopper Lane made a very brave show with its flags and bunting, and the interior of the Council School, the centre of operations, was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Proceedings began at 1.00 pm in the schoolyard, a procession being formed in which children dressed in dainty white, with flags and nosegays, were a very prominent feature. Headed by Giggleswick Brass Band and a large draped Union Jack, the procession wended its way to Station Road, after first making a detour to Newby to be viewed by several invalid inhabitants unable to share in the rejoicing – a kindly thought which did credit to the organisers.

On the return route a halt was made at the Cenotaph erected by Stoops Farm – a simple cross, beautifully draped in purple and white, surmounted by a laurel wreath with purple streamers, and bearing the brief but telling inscription “Our Glorious Dead”. Here the Rev. W. H. Vickers, of Salem Congregational Church, gave out two verses of the hymn “Peace, Perfect Peace”, which were sung very feelingly by the assembly, after which the flowers carried by the processionists were laid round the monument. This tribute paid to the men who made “Peace Day” possible, the procession reformed and marched to Stopper Lane Chapel where a very touching half hour service was conducted by Mr. Vickers, special music rendered by Mr. J. Duckworth at the organ proving most impressive.

Then came the lighter side, sports for adults and children in a field kindly lent by Mrs. L. Duckworth, taking up most of the afternoon. A tempting array of prizes was laid out in the adjoining schoolyard, and these were afterwards presented by Mrs. Pollard, of Nelson and Rimington, who seemed most pleased at the pleasure she herself was bestowing on the recipients.

A free tea for all comers was one of the features of the day, the tables being a perfect picture both as regards decorations and the weight of good things covering them. After tea there was dancing on the field and the final feature of the day was a costumes dance in the school room. Originally, a charge was to be made for entrance but this plan was abandoned thanks to the generosity of Messrs. Pollard, Gill, Pickles, Saul and Moore who agreed to make up any deficit in the prize money on condition that all were admitted free.

A parade of costume characters took place at 8 pm, the judging being done by Mr. Stirrup and Mrs. Cunliffe. The prizes were as follows: Best character costume (Ladies) – Miss Robinson, Mylah, as A Russian Lady; 2 Miss A. Loynd, as “Weldon’s Fashions”. Best character costume (Men) – Mr. R. E. Pye as “An Unspeakable Turk”; 2 Mr. John Duckworth, Stoops, as “Uncle Sam”. Best humorous costume (Ladies) – Miss N. Spencer as “Ragtime”; 2 Miss F. Hartley as a pierrott. Best humorous costume (Men) – Master T. Robinson as a Christie Minstrel and Master T. Stirrup as a clown.

There is a strong feeling that the temporary cenotaph should be replaced by a permanent structure, and steps are to be taken to give expression to this feeling. A telegram wishing success to the Peace Day was received from the Rev. J. Heslop who is on holiday in Cheshire.