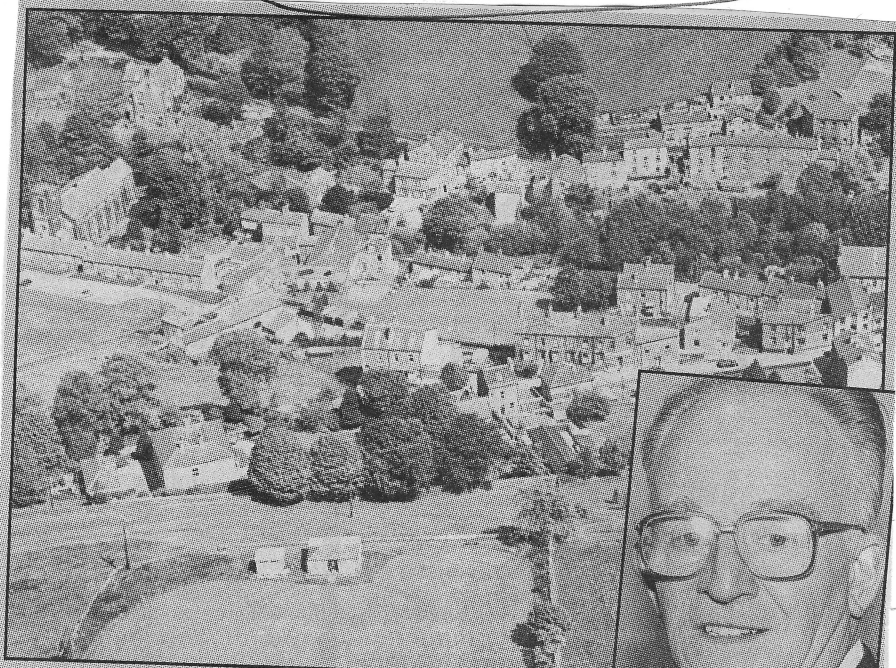


9TH MAY 2000

EVENING COURIER



Luddenden village with, inset, Ron Thrower. . . "People like those I knew and cared for can never be replaced."

Belgrave Close,
Claremount,
Halifax.

A RECENT letter in "Mailbag" by Wilf Manning, of Luddenden, really brought back treasured memories and reminded me of a wonderful area and very kind people.

In the late 40s and early 50s, during my courting days, I travelled 400 miles to see my wife-to-be, who lived in Brook Terrace, Luddenden.

This village and its people were something special and different, something which today is hardly ever found. Not only does time change things but redevelopment spoils the beauty of such

true "tucked away" Yorkshire villages.

Many of its people will no doubt have moved on or sadly passed away but I want to say thank you for the way Luddenden people took to me as an "off-comer". Their friendship became a way of life I will never forget. Thank you and God bless you wherever you may be.

I recall such families as the Birdsalls, my wife's family, the Twemlows, the Cowans, the Pettengells, including Allan, ex-councillor, of course, my final family whose home provided me with

many a weekend family life; Mr and Mrs Jack Donnelly, daughters Irene, Dorothy and Violette.

They came from the North East and were the most caring, loving and genuine family I was privileged to know.

Since those wonderful days, around 50 years ago, sadly my wife, Marion, and I have parted but Brook Terrace, the residents I have mentioned, who

Such wonderful village people

were part of the village's heart, remain more than a first memory to me.

Perhaps I may call and enjoy another beer in the Lord Nelson, but regretfully without my family host, Jack Donnelly.

Thanks to Wilf Manning and the "Evening Courier" for bringing back my memories of a beautiful, charming and historic village.

The village may be redeveloped some day, though I hope not, but people like those I knew and cared for can never be replaced.

RON THROWER