

THE LOSERS

CALDERDALE has not escaped the decline of the WMC with several shutting down in recent years.

The list includes:

The South Ward WMC, Raven Street, Halifax, shut in 1990 after a history spanning 110 years.

In the early 1970s it had a membership of 1,400 and 500 seats with people queuing at the door from 6.30 pm.

When it shut it had 150 members and its demise was blamed on young people preferring town centre pubs and the high cost of cabaret acts.

Luddenden Foot WMC shut in 1986 with heavy debts.

It had joined the union in 1882 but officials finally called time after struggling for several years.

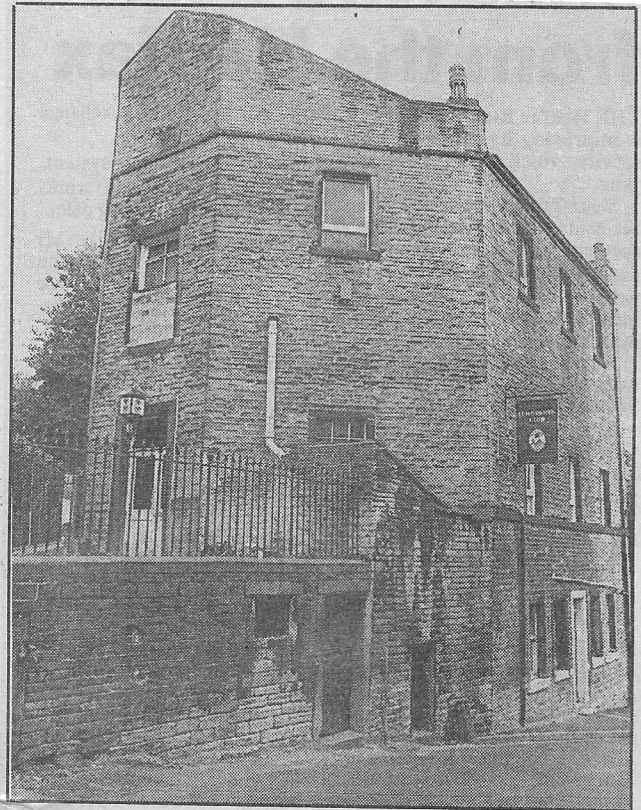
Its membership had dropped from a high of 600 to only 200.

In 1985 the Friendly WMC, Burnley Road, Sowerby Bridge, closed after 106 years.

Officials blamed a lack of support from members and said if every member had drunk two pints a week it would have survived.

The West End Club, Sowerby Bridge, shut in 1978 after being crippled with debts.

Membership had dropped to only 40 and problems began 20 years earlier soon after a concert room was added to a once thriving club.



Victim . . . the Luddenden club