

## R H Hazell's Dairy

*The article by Tony Yoward entitled 'Milk in Emsworth' in The Emsworth Echo, Issue No. 48, November 2016, prompted Mike Rogers to write the following memories:*

In 1946 I moved from Lumley Terrace (my aunty's house) to a ground floor flat in 'The Rookery'.

We had milk delivered each day by local dairy R H Hazell; the milkman's name was Skipper. In 1949 my family moved to Palmers Road. Skipper asked my father if I could help him with his milk round during weekends and holidays. I was only eight years old.

From the dairy in Warblington Road (now Fiscal House), Skipper would collect me from home in a Ford van laden with crated bottles of milk for 25 Families Camp in Cemetery Lane, Westbourne. This was an army camp of families whose husbands/fathers were serving unaccompanied overseas.

After checking in at the Guardroom we would proceed to the cookhouse to deliver the milk and were given a cup of tea and a cooked breakfast. We used to carry the milk in hand crates and it was silver top or gold top, dependant on whether or not you wanted full cream. The milk bottles were stamped with the name of the dairy.

We then continued with delivering the milk and collecting the week's milk money. Our round consisted of Mill Road estate off River



*Café in Westbourne on the corner of King Street. Now the Art and Framing Shop*



*Lumley Mill Toll House*

Street, Paradise Lane, Monks Hill, The Grange (old workhouse in the Covington Road) and Commonside. In The Square at Westbourne we would have another cup of tea in the café on the corner of King Street where the Art and Framing shop is now. The café was used by cyclists and there was a Cyclist Touring Club sign on the wall. We then drove along White Chimney Row to Mill Lane and then on to Lumley via Lumley Lane.

We would pick up a couple of full milk churns from Lumley Mill Farm and continue delivering milk. One stop was Lumley Mill Toll House. I had to open the front door and put the milk in the dark passage. It was very eerie and frightening. I did the delivery and collected the empty bottle as fast as I could. We then delivered to the cottages and finally to The Rookery. To return to the dairy it was necessary to pass Fosters Cottages. If it was high tide we could not pass and we would have to retrace our steps to Westbourne and back to Emsworth via New Brighton Road.

When we reached the dairy we unloaded the full churns of milk together with the empty bottles. We would then go to Skipper's house, 84 North Street, to count the takings and balance the books.

During the time I helped with the milk round we used the first electric milk float.