

At Saddle End Farm, home of the Airey family, a new baby girl was born. The nurse who attended after the birth was picked up by horse and home-made sledge after Mr Airey delivered the milk over the fields to Wolfen Mill Dairy. Many sheep were buried. Bill remembers many times catching rabbits on top of the snow with sheep dogs.

The Parker family was living at Moss Hall Farm. The snow was so bad, it was 28 days before anything came along the road by the farm. Bob remembers digging a tunnel under the snow round the corner in the road, to get to a field gate up Fiddler Lane. Both he and Mrs Ellison at Colte Coates remember a girl who worked at Moss Hall after being hired at the Ulverston Hirings. She called at the Ellisons on her way back after shopping in Chipping. She was frozen cold, and stayed for a cup of tea and warmed by the fire, before setting off again in driving snow. Much later she staggered back to Colte Coates, having lost her way completely. She stayed until George Parker, who was searching for her, arrived from Moss Hall about midnight.

People baked their own bread at this time, and many recall walking into the village for barm. Two postmen walked from Longridge with the mail, and the Chipping postman delivered it where he could.

Eileen Wells remembers her cousin, Mrs Adgie Walmsley, who was at Cardwell House at the top of Jeffrey Hill, coming down into Chipping to help with the funeral of Eileen's father, Edwin Hoyle, who had died on January 14th. When she got back to Cardwell house after the funeral she was cut off for six weeks as the road over Jeffrey Hill was completely blocked.

Many people remember the bus completely covered by snow near the junction at Hesketh Lane. A lot of road clearing was done by men from Berry's chairworks at this time, and they came across a provender wagon from Procter's mill, down Green Lane, completely covered by snow.



*Local farmers from the Loud Bridge area clearing snow on Height Lane in 1940.*

*Left to right: — John Slater, Higher Fairclough; Bob Slater, Homestead; John Jackson, Fairclough; Bob Jackson, Loud Bridge; Joe Jackson, Fairclough; Dick Martin, Little Elmridge; George Pinder, Mossley; Jim Metcalf, Elmridge; Thomas Bradley Jnr., Countess Hey.*

Perhaps 1940 was more memorable to some because people were more dependent on horses then, or had to walk to get about. Whatever the reason, if you know more about either winter, the Society would be pleased to hear your story, and is grateful to everyone who contributed to this account.