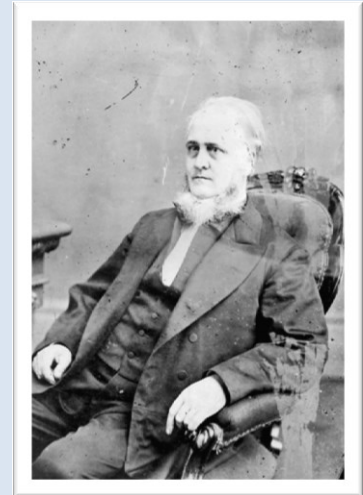


Doctors Surgery

Dr Joseph Hardman Worrall

Had his surgery in Rochdale Road in a cottage on the site of today's Maden Centre. For several years during the doctors early life it is said he kept a monkey in his surgery called Jack. Sometimes the monkey would be in a cage or left to run free in the sanatorium of his cottage. It is said that Dr Worrall used Jack to experiment on testing various anaesthetics and medicines on him.

For several years he was the Medical Officer of Health a job he did without payment. Dr Worrall never married and spent his life working for the people of Bacup quite often refusing payment for his services from the less wealthy folk. In 1892, three years after his death at age 64 a monument was erected over his grave.



Rock House on Newchurch Road became home to several Bacup Doctors, The first was Dr Snell who was advertising in June 1877 *"for a capable young man to collect debts"*.

Four years later, moving from premises at Irwell Cottage the house became home to **Dr William J Clegg** who had qualified at both Edinburgh and the Sorbonne before establishing his practice in Bacup. A prime mover for the building of public libraries and baths, he served as Mayor on two occasions. The first time in 1885-86 and then 1892-93 when he died in office on Saturday 8th April 1893, from a blood clot on the brain aged 64, his funeral procession extended from Rock House to the end of Market Street.



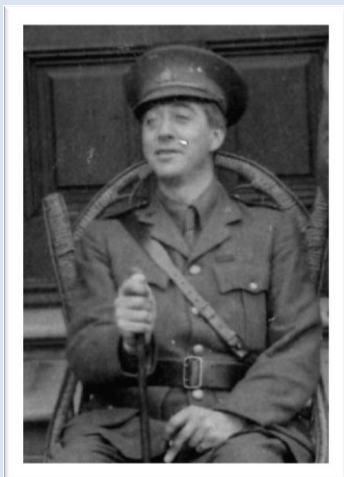
Dr Samuel Tonge Brooks

Dr Samuel Tonge Brooks was born in Farnworth in 1868 Bury son of William and Mary Brooks he graduated in Glasgow in 1894, coming to Bacup about came to Bacup shortly after qualifying working with his brother Dr Edward Brooks who had also qualified in Glasgow in 1888, carrying out his practice in premises at 33 Rochdale Road. Dr Samuel Tong Brooks took over the practice of Dr

Clegg who practised from Rock House. Eventually moving to Forest House with his wife and family of four sons who all became doctors.

An old man remembers how when he was a young lad he had toothache, but the dentist were all shut. He went to Dr Brooks, who protested that he was not a dentist, but still produced a huge pair of pliers from a leather bag under his desk. He sterilized them over a gas jet and proceeded to extract the tooth, causing the pair of them to end up on the floor as the tooth had very deep roots. He gave the boy a tanner for a shot of whiskey, with a firm note to the proprietor that the boy was to rinse it around his mouth but not swallow it.

Dr Brooks who sported a fine handlebar moustache visited people in a pony and trap. One could always tell when he was coming because the pony had a very large bell around its neck. Later he acquired an A.J.S motorcycle. He had a love of brass candlesticks and was well known for cadging them off people. He once told off Mrs Potts for cooking rabbit "Its vermin, put it in the bin!" She never ate rabbit again. Dr Brooks served the people of Bacup as a doctor for 54 years, dying from heart failure on 29th July 1947 in the Royal Halifax Infirmary.



Following Dr Brooks's move to Forest House, Rock House became the home and practice of **Dr Arnold Rothwell Taylor** who set up his practice in 1913 after qualifying a year earlier in 1912. He served as a Captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps during the Great War, not only attending to patients at the Fern Hill Auxillary Military Hospital but at the front as well.

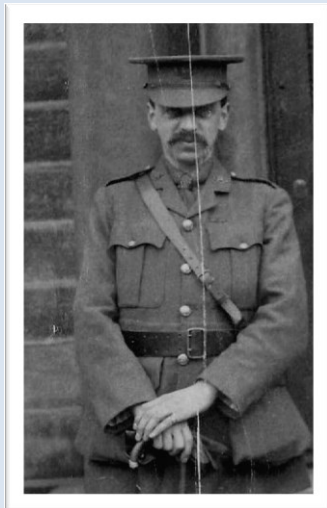
In 1923 he was appointed Police Surgeon and was involved with the St Johns Ambulance. He was, it is said, known to like a drink and on one occasion a bemused recipient of a visit opened the door to find no one there. Dr Taylor had fallen over and was found supine in the bushes beside the front door. Dr Taylor died on 19th January 1933 from pneumonia a complication of the Flu he had contracted.

In 1938 the house was bought by **Dr McVean** who lived there with his wife Ruth and son Richard. On one occasion he returned from holiday to find that a horse had fallen off the bank above, through his garage roof. He was well known for carrying out post mortems in his role as Police Surgeon with a glass of whiskey at his side and a cigarette in his mouth with a long plume of ash that never seemed to fall off. Dr McVean retired in 1967 and moved to Bournemouth, at which time the house was bought by **Dr John Llewellyn Jones** the last of the medical men to live there. Dr Jones, moved to Bacup from Maghull Liverpool an ex-Navy surgeon he was well known for his drinking and could often be found in the Deerplay Pub known to many as his " Second Surgery". In March 1973 he married Margaret Susan, however, his wife left him 5months before his death in September 1976.



Like Rock House, Burwood House was home to several doctors the first was Dr Edmund Whittaker who practised there during the 1860s his father of the same name before him.

By 1877 the houses was home to **Dr John Brown** and his wife Amelia and their fours sons. Born in Callington Cornwall son of Thomas and Elizabeth Brown Tailor and Grocer educated at Knights Commercial School Callington, Charring Cross College of Medicine London, The University College London, and Owens College and Victoria University Manchester. He became House Surgeon of the Western Ophthalmic Hospital London and later Analytical Chemist to the Rossendale Waterworks Company. In 1877 he was appointed Medical Officer of Health to Bacup and in 1899 appointed Surgeon at the Sourhall Smallpox Isolation Hospital. In 1902 he was appointed Medical Officer to the Bacup district of the Haslingden Union and Post Office Medical Officer to Bacup Post Office in 1906 and Medical Inspector for Bacup Schools in 1909. Retiring from service in Bacup in 1913 Dr Brown moved to Blackpool where he devoted much of his time to cancer research having many of his articles published in various medical journals of the time. Dr Brown died aged 79 in July 1929.



Following his father's retirement, the practice was taken over by Br Brown's son **Dr John Percival Brown** who also succeeded his father has Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Maternity and Child Welfare Officer. He published a number of reports one notably in 1915 on an outbreak of Food Poisoning in Bacup.

An active member and supporter since it's beginnings in 1891 of the St John's Ambulance Brigade and became involved in the Red Cross during the war. In recognition of his long services he was appointed an Officer of the Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem in England and was an examiner for the St John Ambulance Association. He was vicars warden at Christ Church Bacup for many years and Vice President of Bacup Golf Club. He died on November 30th, 1942, at his home Burwood House.

Dr Brown was a character with slow drawling voice and his first greeting when he visited you was always the same: "And what's the matter with you •• huh huh huh huh huh?" He presented to the schools a cup which used to be keenly contested for, the Victor Ludorum cup. Dr Brown made his visits to patients in an Austin car.

Born at Coldstream, Scotland, **Dr Shaw** obtained his degrees M.B and C.M at Edinburgh. He came to Bacup to assist Dr W. Stewart and went into partnership with him. When **Dr Stewart** retired at the end of 1908 Dr Shaw took over the practice, and eventually took over a junior partner in the form of **Dr F.J.Thornton**, of Brighouse Yorkshire. The partnership lasted until about 1928 at which time Dr Thornton moved to Peace haven. Dr Shaw then went into partnership with Dr Ivor M.Hughes. Dr Shaw was vaccination officer for number 2 district Dr Shaw died in January 1934 aged 72.



Dr William Haslam Brooks brother of the previously mentioned Dr's Brook, practised from his surgery at Rainford Villas, Stacksteads. During the Great War, he served with the British Forces in Russia. An elderly lady recalls him taking her tonsils out on the kitchen table at Hindle Street. He had tied her hands behind her back but forgot about her feet. He was unable to ride his bike for a bit because the lady had kicked him black and blue with her clogs. At the time of his death on the 27th August 1934, he had practised in Bacup for thirty four years.

Dr James Thomas Brooks

James Thomas Brooks was born at Forest House and was the third son of Dr Samuel Tonge Brooks. Dr Jimmy as he was affectionately known had lived in the valley all his life moving to live in Lumb in 1945. His surgery was in Stacksteads and like his wife he was a Magistrate being appointed for that office.



The youngest son of Dr Samuel Brooks was **Dr Robert Brooks** born in 1908, he lived at The Bungalow in Rochdale Road and began practising with his father in Bacup in 1940. He was a member of the Home Guard during and after the war and in 1942 he joined the R.A.M.C serving as a doctor until 1946 serving in England and Africa. He retired in 1963 leaving Bacup to live in Anglesey.

Dr William Bowie Barclay was the Medical Officer Bacup District and Haslingden Union in 1901 living with his wife Amy nee Bentham at Forest House which at this time was split into several residences. The second son of Mr and Mrs Robert Barclay he was born in Kilwinning Ayrshire and studied at Anderson college Glasgow and at the age of 21 took the degrees of L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S at Edinburgh six years later he took the degree of D.P.H at Victoria University Manchester. Taking over the practice of Dr Snell in Bacup almost immediately he was greatly involved with the St John Ambulance brigade and highly regarded as a lecturer with them.

Dr Edwin Walter Falconer

Dr Falconer lived at 235 Newchurch Road Stacksteads, born in Birmingham he was the son of John and Lucy Falconer his father was the Vicar of Tunstead church from 1889 to 1917. Dr Falconer lived for many years at Heath Hill house and had 3 sons all who followed him into the medical profession. Dr Falconer died in October of 1941 at which time his surgery was taken over by his sons, Dr's J.A. and F.E. Falconer.

Dr Howard Harris

Practised firstly from the cottage and surgery of Dr Worrall before moving across the road to Irwell Cottage, following the demolition of the first surgery in order to build the Maden Baths. Dr Harris died on the 1st May 1897.

Dr F.W. Rigby

Practised from Oak House, Newchurch Road and like his colleagues served in the forces looking after patients at the Fern Hill Auxillary Hospital.



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