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On Friday 10th April 1981 Ed Wilson and Julie Jarman went to see Mrs. Coppitt's of

She belonged to "Billy Finley's kroupe" Billy Finley taught them to dance and had a younger brother Aby who also danced but they are now both dead.

She was born in 1907 (she is 74) and started learning when she was 8 or 9 - so that puts Billy's teaching during the Great War and after.

One started learning by holding the back of a chair; several people learnt at the same time. They paid a shilling a lesson and had one or two a week.

When she was about 12 years old she started dancing in Sarah Shields (theater).

She danced in a kroupe of 4 or 5 and she was the youngest.

On stage as a kroupe they moved about a lot and danced to "My little Dutch Girl." There was a "quick" tune and a "slow" tune. They wore both coats and shoes with caps.

Solos however were always done on the spot.

They danced to pianos, fiddles and a concertina.

Other pupils of Billy's she remembered were :- Miss Jenny Peebles of Horrokon (Haughkon? - sounded like) - the daughter of a schoolmaster.

Mrs. Heather Scott - née Cumson - lives
at Wormhill (Biddick Lane /
Fatfield Bridge area)

Mrs. Gophan (Chris M. + Alice Smith went
to see this lady)
Heather Cumson's sister Mary danced
but ~~she~~ died young