

Mrs. F. Clark, The Beeches, Low Wood, Havorthwaite, N. Lancs.

Mr Frett

Dear Sir

If you
call at Mrs Clark's
at Low Wood Havorth-
waite you may get
news about Robinsons
as she is a niece
of them and a dancer
herself

From a friend
of the family,

Mrs Clark is a granddaughter of old Jos. Robinson, and cleared up a good many mysteries surrounding the family.

Old Jos. Robinson was born at Cunsey on the west bank of Lake Windermere, in some cottages near an old bobbin mill. He died on July 25th, 1908, at the age of 70. (Mrs Clark still has his "death card"), and was buried at Finsthwaite.

He had 7 children, namely

Stanton Robinson, who had the Laurels and the Lakeside Hotels at Windermere. He probably died before old Jos, for Mrs Clark can't remember him.

Albert (or Alfred) Robinson, born in 1882. Mrs Clark has a newspaper cutting of 1951 about him - he was 69 then, and had just retired. He went to Morecambe in 1919, and from then until his retirement he drove landaun on Morecambe promenade. In the "back-end" he held old-time dancing classes in the countryside round Morecambe.

He was a clever clog-dancer, and gave many exhibitions - he used to be billed as Cock of the North. He may still be alive in Morecambe, and the place to try is the Morecambe York Hotel, where the cabbies gather. He retired to live with his three daughters in Joseph Robinson, Mrs Clark's father. He was a carter, and had the contract for the carting for the "blue mill" at Backbarrow. Mrs Clark has a newspaper cutting about him which says that in his younger days he taught dancing between himself and Milnthorpe. He was born in 1877, and died in 1951 at the age of 74.

Robert Robinson. He also ran cabs on Morecambe promenade

Jack " He hired rowing boats on Windermere at Bowness,

Kate & Maggie. Both dead.

[I have the order wrong here: Stanton was the eldest son, Joseph the next.]

Mrs Clark's father, Joseph Robinson, was a very good step-dancer and clog-dancer, though he had not taught dancing within her recollection. He had a black velvet belt with medallions on it which he had won for dancing. His clogs had no irons, and the edges were rounded. Mrs Clark thinks that there was a small [Morris-type] bell on the outside edge of the sole, about halfway along the clog. The uppers were cut to the usual clog height. [In her young days, many people in the district wore clogs]

Mrs Clark has heard her father talk about the Sword Dance - it sounded as though he knew it, but she has no idea how it was danced.

At one exhibition, Stanton R's daughter danced on a blackboard; this brought forth the comment from ~~her father~~ Mrs Clark's father that "a really good step-dancer can dance on a dinner-plate".

Mrs Clark's brother is the postman at Finethwaite, Mr Joseph Robinson, and has a photo of old Jos. ~~One~~ His wife's brother's wife's mother also has an old programme.