The Smedley Family

D Dalrymple-Smith Mar 2020

Cyril Smedley arrived in the village before the first world War to become the tenant Bubnell Cliff Farm. The 1939 Census describes him as a dairy farmer, born in 1897 and married to Mary Tomlinson b1893, daughter of W. S. Tomlinson.

Life on the farm is recalled by Jan Reynolds in her War Time Recollections. She was conscripted when she left school to work on the farm as a land girl.

By the early 1900s Bubnell Hall was divided into two parts. The smaller older part by the road was The Hall. The eastern part was The Farmhouse occupied by William S Tomlinson, who was also responsible for his family farm at Bridgefoot. When he died in 1945 Cyril Smedley his son in law took over the farm for the next 15 years. In 1961, the whole hall was in poor condition was sold.

The Smedley family, Cyril, his son Cyril and grand on Richard became tenants at Yeld Farm. They also bought Moorside farm at Robin Hood when Ben Froggatt died in 1971. Richard continues to farm both today.