



### **THE ORIGINS OF THE ORIGINAL HISTORY GROUP (1987)**

Down at the bottom of our garden lived an old lady by the name of Miss 'Ethel' King she was in her 80s and was very frail, she virtually lived in a chair in her kitchen.

When my two girls had Chicken Pox I left the bathroom light on, so if they were ill they could get out themselves, anyway she sent Bill Watts who lived next door to her to tell me to switch off the bathroom light because it was shining in her eyes all night.

So I went down to see her and a friendship soon developed and over time I was cooking her an evening meal, looking after her and doing her shopping, As we got to know each other better, we got to talking about the village and its history and she produced a postcard of the metal Haxton bridge which she kindly gave to me.

I showed it to my Dad and he wondered if there were any more photos about so we put a piece in the newsletter and Eileen Power answered that she had some postcards, we met up with her and wondered if it was worth advertising in the newsletter if anyone would be interested in starting a History Group which went on for several years meeting at the Yews once a month.

In 2001 people enquired and were persistent in asking if I would start the History Group again, so I did. We hired the school hall for meetings, we went out on visits had guest speakers and I was responsible for the running of it, which lasted 8 years. but as numbers reduced, and the cost of the speakers were getting dearer it just wasn't feasible to carry on, so the group, unfortunately disbanded.

Maureen Mitchell

**Photo:**

Rear row from Left to Right: Tony Mills, Eileen Power, Bill Rowe and Richard Power  
Front row from Left to Right: Maureen Mitchell, Carol Dover and Jim Swinton