

'Lindale: the by-pass that can't come too soon'

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In 1976 Lindale featured in an article in Lancashire Life, entitled '*The by-pass that can't come too soon*'. This gave a snapshot picture of Lindale residents and the village, concerns about the busy A590 road through the village and scenes before the by-pass was built. Almost everyone was in favour of the new by-pass.

The Parish Council had petitioned for the by-pass for years. Most local residents thought the by-pass would be a good thing, and something that Lindale had waited for for a long time. Queuing HGVs had to grind in low gear up the mile-long 1 in 8 gradient of Lindale Hill, while some tourists were said to career down the hill at speed. Norman Birch was quoted as saying 'You can taste the diesel. It's intolerable'. He said that he and some other villagers had been campaigning for a new road since before World War II.

Mrs Elizabeth Dacre, who used to run the Royal Oak pub and had lived in the village for 70 years, remembered the old horse drawn fairs. Retired joiner Septimus Troughton who lived over the road from the Post Office was in favour of the by-pass, saying 'it's a nightmare and often takes ten minutes or more to cross the road'. Pat Foskett, who had taken over the Post Office 8 months ago said that last year a tanker had run into the front of the Co-op. One lorry driver called it 'Death Row'. Hazel Greenhalgh, manageress of the Little Chef restaurant on Kendal Road, was also in favour of the by-pass.

Others said that the by-pass didn't need to be dual carriageway. 'We are anxious to see what happens to the trackway across the by-pass'.

Elizabeth Johnston, who lived at Cherry Tree Cottage on Back Road thought the by-pass was not necessary. 'The blasting was dreadful. I bet it hasn't done the foundations of Lindale village any good'. Edward Edgecombe, proprietor of Lindale Garage, feared even more accidents, because traffic will go faster on the by-pass. He employed Daniel O'Connor at his garage on Lindale Hill.

Work started on Lindale by-pass in 1974, and was finished in June 1977.

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