

VILLAGE VOICE

2009 ANNUAL GALA

Gala Day, 4 July, is now only a memory, but it was a great success and we are now starting to plan for the 2010 Gala on 3 July.

We got 2009 off to a great start with a visit from Gareth Evans of BBC Radio Sheffield and our special guests, Natascha Engel, MP, Councillor Frank Higgins, the Dronfield Town Mayor, Bethany Atkin and Maisie Emsell, the Sunday School Queen and her attendant. We will do our best to make 2010 another fun day for people of all ages, but especially for children. There will be many of the old favourites, but we will also introduce a few surprises, and we hope that we shall have a Well Dressing.

Meanwhile, here are a few memories from 2009.

We are most grateful to everyone who added to the event, not least the following local businesses which donate prizes for our raffle.

Barnard's Coffee Shop, Barnard Avenue
David J Fruits, Barnard Avenue
Ferndale Garden Centre, Dyche Lane
Greendale News
Hallatt's Newsagents, The Cross
Hidden Treasures, Barnard Avenue
McCalls Butchers, Barnard Avenue
New Leaf Nursery
Sheaf Motors Coal Aston, Dyche Lane
Stone the Crows, Green Lane
Ward's Garden Centre, Eckington Road
Wok Wonder, Greendale

Coal Aston
Village Hall

Autumn 2009



CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

It would be remiss of me in this my first 'Chairman's Column' not to pay tribute to Ron Hubbard who held this position for so many years. Ron guided the management of the Village Hall long before it was the beautiful and successful building it is today. He will be a hard act to follow, having given above and beyond the call of duty. It is great that he has decided to stay on as part of the Management Committee.

As for myself, it was as representative of Falcon Players that I joined the Committee some 14 years ago and for many of them I have been particularly involved in the planning and organising of the Annual Gala and subsequently became active in the development of this magazine.

It is my fondest hope that the Village Hall will continue to thrive; with the continued support of my colleagues on the Management Committee we will endeavour to maintain the high standard of care given to the Village Hall and offer an increasing variety of entertainment for the residents of this community.

Pamela Wigfield



REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Monday

Ladies Keep Fit

Two classes 18.45 and 20.00 hours; for information telephone 0114 2746480 or details

Spanish Classes

For information telephone 01246 203654

Tuesday

Afternoon Yoga classes

Phone 01246 415471

Stop Smoking 17.30 - 19.30 hours for information telephone 0800 085 22 99

Weight Watchers 18.00 - 19.30 for information telephone 07967722932

St John's Marching Band
18.45 - 19.45 hours

Short Mat Bowling Club 19.45 - 22.15 hours (membership list full)

Wednesday

Dance Fit 17.30 - 18.30 hours for information telephone 07543 099721

Norton Players 19.30 - 22.00 hours; for information telephone 0114 2746124

Thursday

Dronfield Band 20.00 - 22.00 hours; for information telephone 07783 452551

Pilates 19.00 - 21.00 hours for information telephone 0114 2747059

Ladies Keep Fit in the Main Hall
18.45 - 19.45 hours

Saturday

Sing and Sign 09.45 - 12.00 hours (two sessions) for information telephone 01246 432784

Sunday

Norton Players 19.30 - 22.00 hours

Dronfield Band 18.00 - 22.00 hours

Other regular users

Wednesday

WI meeting on the second Wednesday each month 19.15 - 22.15

Tuesday

Violin lessons.

For details telephone 0114 2748234

Sunday

Stamp Fair third Sunday each month
(See notices in foyer for confirmation of dates).

Village Voice Briefs



PRESIDENT

RONALD HUBBARD

At our Annual General Meeting earlier this year, Ron Hubbard, chose to stand down as Chairman after 17 years of dedicated service, in which his contribution to the success of the Hall was paramount. Together with Derek Andrews he spent many hours travelling to meetings and negotiating the Lottery funding which made the dream of modernising the Village Hall a reality. We are fortunate that Ron has agreed to continue to serve the Village Hall in a new capacity as our President.

ST JOHN'S AMBULANCE BAND

It has been a big year for the Dronfield St John's Ambulance Band who practise on Tuesday evenings in the Village Hall. In June they were in London to lead the St John's Ambulance rededication service parade from London's Smithfield Market to St Paul's Cathedral and now they have been invited to play at the dedication service of the St John's Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire. This service will be attended by HRH the Duke of Gloucester. We congratulate the Band on these achievements.

Look out for a group photograph of the Band which is to be hung in the Village Hall.

DRONFIELD BAND

The Dronfield Band, meanwhile, has been to Switzerland, touring and playing at various venues around Interlaken, in the Bernese Oberland. The Band will be forty years old next year, but the celebrating has started already. For the first time the Band reached the final of the National Brass Band Championship of Great Britain on 26 September in Harrogate and took second place in their class. This is a great achievement and our congratulations go to them.

You will have an opportunity to congratulate them and hear them play at the Dronfield Civic Hall on Saturday 31 October, in a Proms to Poppies Concert (Tickets £8.00; £4.00 for Friends of Dronfield Band) and at the Village Hall on Saturday 12 December.

The Band has a Charity Dinner Dance at the Park Hotel, Sheffield on 6 November in aid of Cavendish Cancer Care. Fundraising Table Top Sales will be held at the Village Hall between 10.00 and 12noon on 14 November and 1 December. For more information telephone 07783 452551.

WEIGHT WATCHERS

Are you looking to lose weight? If so you will be interested to note that a weight watchers group has been formed in Coal Aston and meets at the Village Hall on Tuesday evenings. For more information telephone 07967722932.

ERIC CHARLESWORTH (1924 died 2008)

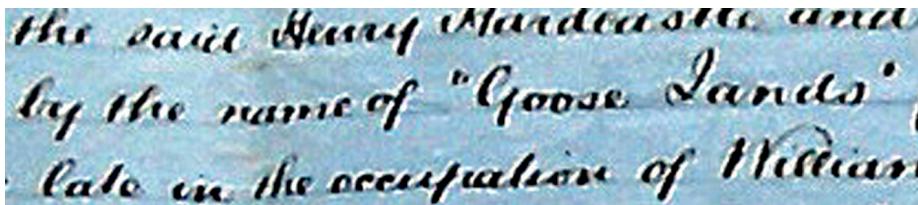
On Saturday 8 August, Friends of Eric Charlesworth gathered on the green, opposite the Village Hall on Eckington Road, to dedicate a plaque in memory of Eric who died late last year. Eric was a quiet, modest man, well known for his participation in a number of voluntary activities, but he also was involved in helping many individuals unknown to anyone except those directly concerned. Eric was a life member of the Dronfield Civic Society, who organised the ceremony.



Old Coal Aston

HAVE YOU HEARD OF GOOSE LANDS?

In response to a recent request in Village Voice we have had the loan of four documents which refer to the sale of property in Coal Aston, called Goose Lands. These documents are dated between 1853 and 1888. We have not yet managed to establish precisely where this piece of land, some 'one thousand and eight superficial square yards or thereabouts', is located. One suggestion is to the north of Eckington Road, somewhere behind and west of Pastures Farm. Another possibility is on Wilson Road and the third, which was found on the Internet relating to a Conveyance of May 1731, is between the south side of Cunliffe Street and Eckington Road.



There are other names that have been changed or forgotten over the years. The Coal Aston census returns are an obvious place to start looking. Sadly none of these census returns (issued at ten year intervals between 1841 and 1901) gives a positive address for individual Coal Aston residents, except for public houses and some farms, but there are a few intriguing pointers.

The area covered by the ten yearly census does not restrict itself to Coal Aston as we think of it today. In 1841 it records Thomas Hydes, a farmer at 'Hallowes' with his wife and seven children. The 1851 summary includes Povey Farm on the far side of the Moss Valley for the first time and is still mentioned in 1901.

From 1861 there is a greater number of street names mentioned. 1861 introduces Sheffield Road, with nine houses, and The Flat. These could most likely be old names for Dyche Lane (once the main road from Sheffield to Chesterfield and hence to London) and Eckington Road, which is the only 'flat' or level road in the village. The latter is more or less confirmed by some families appearing under 'The Flat' in 1891 and under Eckington Road in 1901.

In 1861 there is also a reference to four Rhodes Houses, listed between the entries for Bentley Hall and Sicklebrook. Bentley Hall was the residence of James Rhodes, farmer and Colliery owner, but where were the Rhodes Houses situated? The 1861 records also show nine dwellings known as Graham's Houses. Where were they situated?

Drury Lane is introduced with five houses, two of which accommodate eleven and eight residents. Stone Road is also mentioned for the first time with five dwellings.

Buxton Terrace is included for the first time in the 1891 census with nine dwellings. In 1901 five dwellings are listed as 'Back of Buxton Terrace'. Enquiries suggest the houses on Buxton Terrace were not large enough to be back-to-back houses, so what explanation could there be for the 'Back of Buxton Terrace'? There is no mention of Foresters Lane in the census, which might be the answer, but if any readers have another explanation we would be pleased to hear from you.

Coal Aston Folk

We've had a very good year to date with appearances ranging from our local pop star Dave Berry, to folk singer songwriter Steve Tilston, the fantastic rubber faced Phil Cool and Dave Swarbrick and his Whippersnapper band. All excellent nights, very different in styles and extremely well supported both by our local followers and also many new faces from further afield.

October 17th sees Scuppered in concert at The Village Hall with performances from old friends Geoff and Anne Heppell who many will remember from Bone Lazy along with our own John Hodge. Also with us will be Pete (Jobbo) Jobson who will be unleashed with what is bound to be an amazing set.

December 19th marks our annual Christmas show, and already people are booking tickets for this favourite local event, which in previous years has sold out early. Ring us on 01246 410611 to reserve your places for this festive evenings fun.

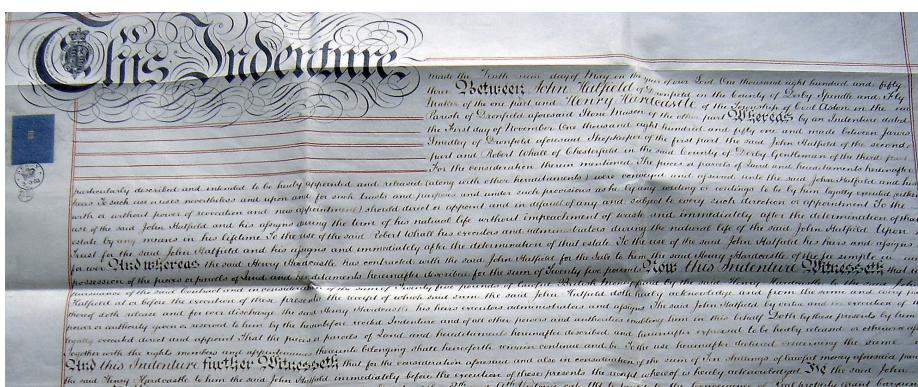
The Village Hall is well renowned as a Folk based music venue; next year we have a full programme of events with some favourites including again Dave Berry on January 9th (book early!), Tom McConville Band on February 6th, Bob Fox on May 8th and with some new faces to Coal Aston including French songstress Flossie Malavialle on April 3rd, Texas swing band The Swing Commanders on July 3rd (Gala Night) and top folk band Elbow Jane on September 11th.

Thanks to all our followers for their continued support - without you it couldn't happen.

King Arthur

Norton Players return with their annual fun-filled pantomime 'King Arthur'. Camelot is a hilarious world of magical adventure – an Arthurian tale with a twist. This year, the Players have been encouraged by the addition of some more new faces in the cast from the Coal Aston area to help swell the numbers. The usual songs, routines and slapstick humour promise to entertain on a cold November evening. The show runs from Monday 23 November to Saturday 28 November from 7.15pm with a matinee show on Saturday 28 November at 2.30pm. Tickets are priced at £6.00 for adults, £5.00 concessions.

The Monday and Tuesday night shows are being offered at 'Buy one, get one free' (no concessions). A family ticket (2 adults, 2 children/concessions) is available for the rest of the week at the reduced price of £20. Tickets are available from telephone 0114 2372326, or pick up a booking form in the Coal Aston Village Hall reception area.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

At the Village Hall unless stated otherwise

Saturday 17 October

An Evening with SCUPPERED and Friends

Including Peter (Jobbo) Jobson and Geoff and Anne Heppel

Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours. Tickets £6.00
Book your tickets in advance from 01246 410611 or 411526.

Saturday 31 October

DRONFIELD BAND 'PROM TO POPPIES' CONCERT

**At the Dronfield Civic Hall.
Concert starts at 19.30 hours**

Tickets £8.00 (£4.00 for paid -up
Friends of the Band)
Telephone 07783 542551

Saturday 7 November

**VULCAN VARIETIES proudly present
A NIGHT AT THE MUSIC HALL**

An evening where Joviality meets Frivolity
Curtain up 20.00 hours

Tickets £7.00 (Concessions £6.00) Tel 0114 2431339

Saturday 14 November

BARN DANCE with Strings and Reeds

19.45 until 23.30 hours

Tickets £9.00 including Pie and Peas supper
From Tel 0114 2746124

Monday to Saturday 23 to 28 November

**NORTON PLAYERS present their pantomime
KING ARTHUR**

Curtain up 19.15 hours; Matinee
1430 hours Saturday
Ticket £6.00; concessions £5.00
Telephone 0114 2372326

Monday and Tuesday 'Buy one get one free
(no concessions).

Saturday 5 December

WALKS IN LIMESTONE COUNTRY

An illustrated talk by Andy Firth at 19.30 hours.

Admission at the door £2.50.
Light refreshments available.

Saturday 12 December

DRONFIELD BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Doors open 19.00 for 19.30 hours
Tickets 07783 452551

Saturday 19 December

THE CHRISTMAS SHOW

Our 20th Annual Christmas Show featuring
all the usual fun.

Hosted by Scuppered.

Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

Tickets £ 6.00 including Christmas Fayre from 01246
410611 or 411526

Saturday 9 January 2010

DAVE BERRY AND THE CRUISERS

In Concert supported and hosted by Scuppered
Tickets £10. Book early for what is sure to be a sell
out from 01246 410611 or 411526.
Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

Saturday 6 February

THE TOM McCONVILLE BAND

With a brand new band for the 2010 Tour
Supported and hosted by Scuppered.
Tickets £7 from 01246 410611 or 411526.
Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

Coal Aston Village Hall is acknowledged as the
district's most popular venue for live entertainment.
There is always a big demand for tickets.

To avoid disappointment our advice is to book early.

Sustainable Energy – Without the Hot Air

David MacKay is Professor of Physics at Cambridge University. The following is abstracted from his book "Sustainable Energy – Without the Hot Air" which is available free in electronic form from www.withouthotair.com.

We have an addiction to fossil fuels, and it's not sustainable, for at some point they will run out, and we may then find ourselves critically reliant on foreign fuel imports. Furthermore, we should be very concerned about the effect of these fuels on the climate. So, can we get off our fossil fuel addiction? It won't be easy, because Britain obtains 90% of its energy from these fuels. The crucial question is: Can we conceivably live on our own renewable energy sources?

We mustn't be duped by the mantra "every little helps." All the energy saved in switching off a phone charger for one day is used up in one second of car-driving. We should still switch it off, but be aware how tiny a gesture this is. Conversely, if we fly to Cape Town and back once per year, the energy we use in that trip is nearly as large as the energy used by driving an average car 50 km per day, every day, all year.

For any renewable facility to make an appreciable contribution it has to be country-sized. To provide one quarter of our current energy consumption by growing energy crops, for example, would require 75% of Britain to be covered with biomass plantations. To provide only 4% of our current energy consumption from wave power would require 500 km of Atlantic coastline to be completely filled with wave farms. Someone who wants to live on renewable energy, but expects the infrastructure associated with that renewable not to be large or intrusive, is deluding himself.

Second, if economic constraints and public objections are set aside, it *would* be possible for the average European energy consumption of 125 kWh/d per person to be provided from these country-sized renewable sources. The two hugest contributors would be photovoltaic panels, which, covering 5% or 10% of the country, would provide 50 kWh/d per person; and offshore wind farms, which, filling a sea-area twice the size of Wales, would provide another 50 kWh/d per person on average. Such an immense panelling of the countryside and filling of British seas with wind machines (having a capacity five times greater than all the wind turbines in the world today) may be possible according to the laws of

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physics, but would the public accept and pay for such extreme arrangements? If we answer no, we are forced to conclude that current consumption will never be met by British renewables. We require either a radical reduction in consumption, or significant additional sources of energy – or, of course, both.

The first three strategies reduce energy demand, and eliminate the gap through population reduction, lifestyle change, and changing to more efficient technology. The other strategies for eliminating the gap increase energy supply, and include sustainable fossil fuels with carbon capture and storage, nuclear power, and living on renewable energy from other countries – in particular, countries blessed with plentiful sunshine, large areas, and low population densities.

Finally, let's highlight a few sacred cows that don't fare too well under the spotlight, and a few that do.

Bad: Hydrogen-powered vehicles are a disaster. Most prototype hydrogen-powered vehicles use more energy than the fossil-fuel vehicle they replace. The BMW Hydrogen 7 uses 254 kWh per 100 km (while the average fossil car in Britain uses 80 kWh per 100 km).

Good: In contrast, prototype electric vehicles use ten times less energy: 20 kWh per 100 km or even 6 kWh per 100 km. Electric vehicles are far better than hybrid cars. Today's hybrid cars, which are typically at best about 30% better than fossil cars, should be viewed as a brief helpful stepping stone on the way to electric vehicles.

Bad: Decentralized combined heat and power is another looming mistake because it is only about 7% more efficient – and uses fossil fuels!

Good: Heat pumps, which are back-to-front refrigerators powered by electricity, are a far more efficient way to use high-grade energy to make heat.

Bad: Roof-mounted micro-wind turbines are an utter waste of resources. They never pay for themselves.

Good: In contrast, roof-mounted solar water heaters really work, even in Britain.

Bad: Turning phone chargers off is a feeble gesture, like bailing out the Titanic with a teaspoon.

Good: Turning the thermostat down is the single most effective energy saving technology available to a typical person – every degree we turn it down will reduce our heating costs by 10%.

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Observations and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Sub-committee nor the Village Hall Management Committee

The Village Voice is issued by the Management Committee of the Village Hall and we welcome your news, old photographs, views and items for publication in future issues. Send these to the sub-Committee at the Village Hall, using the post box outside the main door or by post to Coal Aston Village Hall, Eckington Road, Coal Aston, S18 3AX.