



Chaddesden Historical Group Newsletter



Spring 2008

Issue 8

Editorial

Welcome to the Spring 2008 issue.

We would like this newsletter to reflect the interests of the members of the group. Please forward any suggestions you might have to a member of the committee.

Tony Bowler
Chairman
John Crosby
D Chairman & Treasurer
Linda Crosby
Secretary
Sid Marson
Speakers Booking Sec & Outdoor Activities

Members
Joy Barraclough
Brenda Bradley
Pam Bowler
Ken Garner
Marie Garner
Sandra Rainsford

Family & Local History Open Meeting

West Park School
Monday 28 April
7pm — No charge

This is an opportunity to talk to people with similar interests and share your knowledge.

For more information, please contact Mrs Jean Moss, West Park School, West Road, Spondon, Derby DE21 7BT, telephone 01332 821964, e-mail community@westpark.derby.sch.uk.

Do you remember the shops and businesses in Chaddesden? Do you have photographs, can you help produce a list?

St Mary's Parish Magazine from September 1940 lists the following:

W Whitfield	Contractor	30 Chaddesden Lane
Martin	General & Fancy Draper	497 Nottingham Road
H A Thompson	Post Office	Chaddesden
B Shaw	Coal Dealer & Sweep	20 The Crescent
Misses D Wantling & E G Ashton	Birds Confectionery	Nottingham Road
C E Mellors	Builder	Nottingham Road
Mrs MacAlister	Dressmaker	Field House, Field Lane
H & A G Sanders	Newsagent	Chaddesden
W Goldsborough	Hairdresser	Nottingham Road
R Day	Boot & Shoe Repairer	Chaddesden Lane
H Parsons & Son	Monumental Craftsman	Nottingham Road
F Pike	Tailor & Outfitter	Nottingham Road
A M Crawford & Son	Garage & Filling Station	Nottingham Road
Victor Buckland	Radio Specialist	503 Nottingham Road
Modes	Ladies & Children's wear	Nottingham Road
J W Murphy	Plumber	490 Nottingham Road
Oldershaw Bros	Butchers	The Village, Chaddesden
F Greaves	High Class Meat Purveyors	Nottingham Road
R Ray	Chaddesden Park Diary	Chaddesden

Your Committee Members - Ken Garner

I was born in Spondon, attending the Infant, Junior and finally Spondon House School* On leaving school I served an apprenticeship in the plumbing trade, before being called up for 2 years National Service in the Royal Army Medical Corps. I served in the Suez Canal Zone for 14 months, based at El Ballah, a camp on the banks of the canal. Whilst in Egypt I was called upon to provide medical coverage at the Opening of the War Cemetery at El Alamein by Field Marshal Montgomery.

On returning to civilian life I changed occupation to management in a local Building and Plumbing Merchants. I moved to Chaddesden in 1956 when I married a local girl. My interests are photography, gardening and supporting Derby County Football Club.

* Did you know that the foundation stone from the first school in Spondon, is displayed in Reception at West Park School?



Visit to Heage Windmill on 10th September 2007

On a hot and sunny Monday in September 24 members visited the Heage Windmill, and a group photograph was taken.

We were ushered into the mill base for tea, coffee, cake and a video before going into the mill by staff dressed in miller's garb to fit the occasion. Afterwards we were taken in two groups to see the workings of this grade 2 listed windmill by the excellent guides, who were dressed in authentic garb of the mills period. This mill possesses a unique fireplace, I imagine in former times it was used to keep the temperature correct for flour milling.

Climbing its very narrow wooden staircases, we were able to see the mill's old wooden mechanism in place, capable of driving two pair of millstones. French and Derbyshire grit stone was used. French stones were preferred as the Derbyshire grit stone tended to wear down more quickly. It was both fascinating and interesting to see the movements of this one – time great lady.



The Heage Windmill is set in some of Derbyshire's spectacular countryside scenery. From its lofty position at Nether Heage it has splendid views and is near to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage site.



Heage Windmill was originally built in 1797. In 1850 two brothers Isaac and Joseph Shore purchased the mill. At this time the mill was fitted with four patent sails with shutters rather like Venetian blinds. They were worked by a rod, which went through the centre of the wind shaft.

Heage Windmill operated in this form until February 1894, when a fierce gale destroyed the mill's cap and four sails. The opportunity was taken to increase the wind power by adding two more sails.

In 1919, the mill was struck by lightning and the fantail was damaged. Tom Shore the mill's last miller, decided to abandon any attempt to repair it.

The mill was left to decay until Derbyshire County Council stepped in in 1968 to rescue it. After much hard work it was opened in 2002 to visitors. Heage Windmill is the only mill in Britain with a stone tower and six sails in working order.

The mill's stone tower stands eight metres high, surmounted by the cap adding a further three metres, producing a total height of 11 metres (35 feet). It is driven by six large sails, each nine metres long, the cap – the roof of the mill – comprises of a substantial timber framework and supports the wind-shaft, brake-wheel and other internal equipment.

Externally, the cap has a six metre diameter, and the whole cap rotates to face the wind to enable the sails to work effectively. In 2001 it was restored and refitted.

The fantail mounted on the cap is a mechanical device to turn the cap into the wind. The Heage fantail is unusual in that no other drives of its pattern survive. The day of the visit we could stand back and admire this great lady again in working order, a credit to all the staff who operate her and welcome the visitors to the mill.

The above picture shows the restored mill in full glory and Jean and Arthur Bellaby, Belper's Town Criers declaring the mill open in 2003. Arthur performed the same duty in 2002.

