



# Chaddesden Historical Group Newsletter



February 2010 Issue 17

## Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of 2010

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. Articles on Chaddesden are always appreciated.

Tony Bowler

*Chairman*

John Crosby

*D Chairman & Treasurer*

Deryck Morley

*Asst Treasurer*

Linda Crosby

*Secretary.*

Sid Marson

*Speakers Booking Sec*

Ken Garner

*Photographic Archivist*

Marie Garner

*Asst Photo Archivist*

Pam Bowler

*Holder of Raffle*

*Prizes & Newsletters*

Sandra Rainsford

*Raffle*

Andrew Bailey

*Archivist*

## British Postal Museum and Archive



14th February is St Valentine's Day, cards have been exchanged over many years. One of the earliest, still in existence, is held in the British Postal Museum. It is a hand-made watercolour, pen and ink puzzle card and is dated around 1790. It can be viewed by contacting the museum at [www.postalheritage.org.uk](http://www.postalheritage.org.uk). This site is also useful for those wanting to find out details of those employed by the Post Office between 1831 to 1956, plus pensions and gratuities records for Post Office staff up to 1959.

## Articles on Chaddesden Required !!!

Chaddesden is changing rapidly and as part of our role we would like to record the history of the area before too many changes take place. Newspapers and magazines provide useful information, but they lack the personal touch.

The Guardian on the 7th February 1964 reports the death of Charles Carlin, a local artist and caricaturist. In 1948 he was made a Knight of the Order of St Gregory by Pope Pius XII for his services to the Roman Catholic Church. In 1957 he gave his 11 room house, the Grange, Morley Road, for the use of a religious order. This became the Convent of the Holy Name.

Do you have any memories or information on this artist?

## Your Committee - Andrew Bailey (Group Archivist)

Andrew was born in Chellaston in 1950 and attended the local school before moving to Shelton Lock Secondary Modern. A trade apprenticeship with Rolls Royce followed and he stayed with the firm testing aero engines until March of 1971. He then joined the Royal Air Force as an engine fitter and served a total of 22 years. He flew around the world as a crew chief on the Nimrod Maritime Patrol aircraft before ending up as the senior engine fitter on a Jaguar squadron. He didn't see much of the world flying in the Jaguar as he had his eyes shut most of the time.

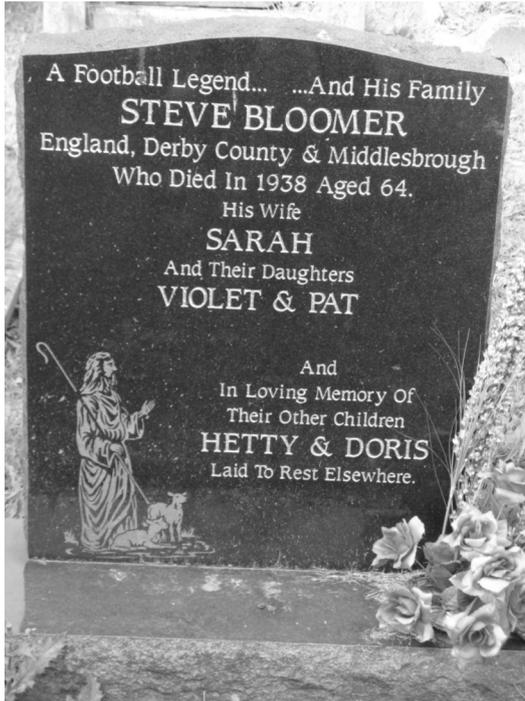
Andrews link to the area was through his fathers family who originated on Breadsall Moor as farmers in the 16th century. That branch of the Bailey family never fell far from the tree and they worked their way to Chaddesden culminating in his father being born in Cardigan Street in 1928. The family lived in Walpole Street until 1959 when his grandfather died. His grandmothers family, the Margerrisons had lived further down Walpole Street from about 1910. Various cousins continue to live in Chaddesden and Andrew had always enjoyed visiting. Andrew and Rita moved to Chaddesden in 2005 having spent over 30 years living mainly in the north east of Scotland. Their interests include family history, indoor bowls and restoring an old Hillman Minx in what spare time they have.

For more information about the group, details of the speakers and planned visits, please contact Linda Crosby, the Group's Secretary on 01332 676425 or by e-mail at [linda.crosby2@ntlworld.com](mailto:linda.crosby2@ntlworld.com).



## Chaddesden Historical Group Visit to Nottingham Road Cemetery

by Linda Crosby secretary and Visits co-ordinator, photographs Ken Garner



On a fine dry and sunny day in September, 28 members of the group, set off on a guided walk around Nottingham Road Cemetery with the expert knowledge of Blue Badge Guide David Parry.

This cemetery was established in the 1850's and is listed by English Heritage, with its main gatehouse and lodges being Grade II listed. The gothic style of the cemetery was designed by Henry Isaac Stevens RA (1806-73) who also built St Michael's in Derby. One of the chapels on the left is used as storage for mowers etc. for Derby City Council, whilst the other chapel on the left is used by a religious group on rare occasions and they have named it St. Hilda's. It is due for refurbishment, but a few of the members arranged to have a look inside whilst the architect was viewing the premises for said refurbishment.

The Derby Burial Board was formed in 1853 which led to the first municipal cemetery in Derby. The grounds were planted out by Mr. Lee of Hammersmith who it is believed worked at Elvaston Castle. The consecration of the cemetery took place in April 1855 by the Bishop of Lichfield and was officially opened on 1st May 1855.

Many well-known Derby graves are sited here including well known sportsman Steve Bloomer, and cricketer Unwin Sowter who played in Derbyshire's first ever county match and was later Mayor of Derby.

There are also the famous Gypsy graves, even today Nottingham Road can be completely blocked with a cavalcade of cars attending a Gypsy funeral. It can be quiet in this part of Chaddesden away from the traffic on the busy Nottingham Road. The staff at the office are very helpful and indeed if you have research to do they will do all they can to help.



If you are interested in the history of this cemetery, a good source of information is Derby Mercury. It gives an insight into the history of the time. Mr Stevens, the architect, is reported in the Derby Mercury on 19th April 1854, stressing the importance of the division between consecrated and unconsecrated ground; access to each portion of the ground and sufficient space for the arrival and departure of several funerals at the same time. He recommended one general entrance for carriages, opening into a quadrangle on the left side the chapel for the Church of England, on the opposite that for the dissenters. Not only was the cemetery split between consecrated and unconsecrated ground, but there were 5 classes of grades.

Derby Burial Board was often at the centre of controversy. The 15th September 1869 issue of the Derby Mercury includes a report of the Board meeting detailing discussions on a headstone that provoked comment:

“Slowly her earthly frame decay'd;  
Her end appeared in sight;  
We laid her in the hallowed grave;  
With hope in him who died to save.”

It was felt to be doggerel and would provoke comments from the visitors to the grounds and destroyed all feelings of thoughtful solemnity. At this time the only additional information to the name and age allowed, were appropriate verses from the scripture!

