



Chaddesden Historical Group Newsletter



Christmas 2007

Issue 6

Editorial

Welcome to the Christmas 2007 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



COUNCIL HOUSE VISIT

On Monday 16th April 2007 23 members of the Chaddesden Historical Group were taken on a civic tour of the Derby City Council House by the Mayor's chauffeur John Heany. Unfortunately the Mayor and Mayoress of Derby, Councillor John Ahern and Mrs Pamela Ahern, were unable to attend due unforeseen circumstances.

A thirty minute talk on the way the debates are carried in the Council Chamber was followed by a visit to the Reception Area and the Mayor's Parlour. The panelling around the room came from the old Derwent Hall, a former Youth Hostel, that opened in 1933 and closed in 1942. The villages of Derwent and Ashopton were submerged for the building of the Ladybower Dam that was completed in 1945.

The desk in the Mayors Parlour was made from the roof timbers in the old Tudor Council building in Tenant Street. This was demolished in 1948.

The robes of the Mayor are on display; the traditional three cornered hat with the black and gold robes.

The highlight of the visit was seeing the priceless Mayor's Chain of Office, together with a lesser chain.

It's a joke amongst the Mayors that they are all members of the chain gang. We were fortunate to be able to examine many treasures and artefacts. These included the Civic Mace, which represents the Queen's Authority in the City and dates from the 17th century, together with a royal seal.

I was fortunate to be able to complete my list of Mayors from 1638 – 2007, with the five missing names.

The group had a most enjoyable and informative tour.

The photograph shows Cllr. John Ahern, the Mayor, with Oliver Fox, a war veteran. The photograph was taken during a wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial in the Market Place on 27th June 2007.





ChaddesdenTaxi Companies
Information provided by John Matkin
(co-owner of Chads Cars)
Interviewed by Larry Bradley



The second part of the interview was concerning the practicalities of life as a taxi driver.

Fares

The first fares charged by John Matkin were 2 shillings (10 pence) for anywhere in Chaddesden. If there were two or more people the fare increased to half a crown (12½ pence). The fare to Spondon was 3 shillings and the fare to Castle Donington was £1.10 shillings.

The fares weren't increase for special events such as Christmas and the New Year.

Then and now

In the early days passengers had a lot of respect and decency. The drivers were bought up to be courteous open doors and help with the luggage. Nowadays we get a tremendous number of runners, who leave without paying.

Chaddesden has changed, in the early days it was not much bigger than a village. There was no Albert Road Estate or Oakwood and Morley Road was farmland.

Speakers List

6th December 2007	Fire Safety in the Home -Sue Noakes (Chaddesden Fire Station) - plus Christmas Party
3rd January 2008	Great Houses of Derbyshire - Tony Bowler
7th February 2008	A Year as Mayor of Derby - Cllr John Ahern
6th March 2008	Notorious Women of Derbyshire - Joan Ward
3rd April 2008	Annual General Meeting plus Know Your Derby - Tony Bowler
1st May 2008	Never Volunteer - Barbara Fibiger
5th June 2008	Apprentice Training at the Railways in Derby - Philip Churchman

Your Committee Members - Linda Crosby
 (Secretary)

I was born and brought up in Normanton-by-Derby (to give its correct title) and attended the local schools of Peartree Infants and Girls and Normanton Juniors.

On leaving school at 15 I was employed by Rolls-Royce Ltd as a trainee shorthand typist. Rolls Royce had their own training school at Sandown Road. I worked in quite a few departments and loved every minute of it until I left in 1976 to have our first child.

In 1977 I became a founder member of Windyridge W. I. of which I am President.

I returned to work and was a school secretary for 15 years at Derwent Community School. I was working for Social Services in the Child Protection Department when I retired.

My hobbies are countryside pursuits, watching amateur and professional productions, local history, Women's Institute and organising holidays and days out.

