



Chaddesden Historical Group Newsletter



June 2010 Issue 19

Editorial

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.

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Chaddesden People

Increasingly we are learning of the role played by people born or who have a connection with Chaddesden. This information is gained by events such as the 70th anniversary event at Cherry Tree Hill School, local knowledge, research and information received from e-mails.

At the beginning of January an e-mail was received from Maurice Dawson, a founder member of The Miners Lamp Collectors Society, asking if we had any information on James Ashworth. James Ashworth was a prominent name in the development of early flame safety lamps and he was believed to have lived in Chaddesden around 1900.

Once this was confirmed through articles in Derby Mercury, Rita Johnson took on the task of documenting his life for the archives, an extract from this work is shown below

"In Jan 1891 James Ashworth patented his invention of a lamp for the detection of fire-damp. Experiments with the lamp were conducted at University College Nottingham. The results were presented to the Federated Institution of Mining Engineers in June 1891. A pdf file containing the full details of the lamp can be found at the following web address. http://www.thewandofscience.co.uk/Gas%20Detecting%20Develops_download.pdf This lamp was manufactured by Hepplewhite and Gray.

In 1901 he and his family were living at Highfield House in Chaddesden. (Highfield House is on the Derby City Council Local List of Buildings of Architectural or Historic Interest. It is a typical Derby suburban villa of about 1850, built of red brick with sandstone dressings.) Herbert by now 24 was a Diamond Corer? and Grocer. There was also another son, Edwin C, aged 8. James was still a Mining Engineer, working on his own account.

He wrote a number of books and articles on Mining and Mine Engineering eg OUTBURSTS OF GAS AND COAL AT THE MORRISSEY COLLIERIES, BRITISH COLUMBIA, and Ashworth's Improved Safety Lamps, J Ashworth Vo. 7 (1885) p 195 (Inst of Mining Engineers of Scotland. Nicholas Wood Memorial Library.

James Ashworth is commemorated by having the avenue near Highfield House named after him. According to Mr Dawson, there are still Ashworth patented lamps in existence, which have 'Chaddesden' stamped into them besides his name.

If you know of any such people, we would appreciate receiving the information for our archives and to bring their contribution to our community to a wider audience.

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.



KRAFT HOUSE.

During 2004 there was much debate about 57 Lime Grove, Chaddesden; this was the address of the Kraft house.

This house, so called because it was believed that in the 1930s this house was built and given away as a prize by the Kraft Cheese Company. This was a competition to design a house that would feature on its cheese slice boxes.

Uproar occurred when Derby City Council gave its owner permission to demolish it, and replace it with new homes.



The local residents were up in arms about knocking this pretty little house down. English Heritage was contacted to try and get this house listed, but this was not successful.

The owner of this four bedroom house, with its half an acre of land, had put it up for sale. He was unaware of the history of this unusual lovely building. This left the local residents bewildered

Following an appeal by the residents for any information on the house's history, a former worker from British Celanese came forward to confirm that the house was won in a Kraft competition.

All attempts to save one of Derby's little gems was unsuccessful and disappointed many of residents of Lime Grove. It was finally demolished in 2006.

Nine houses now occupy this site, which has been turned into a cul-de-sac and renamed Kraft Place

Tony Bowler.

Photograph shows the house in 2006 a few days before it was demolished.



Chaddesden Street Names - John Berrysford Close

Have you ever wondered about the origin of some of the street names in Chaddesden? John Berrysford Close is a good example of how the names of local benefactors live on.

John Berrysford of Newington-Butts in 1813 gave £600 in 3 per cents* (£540 in 1817 after deducting the legacy duty etc). The interest of which was to be given to the poorest orphans and widows of the parish of Chaddesden (Derby Mercury 31 October 1837).

*3 per cents were a type of investment.