



Chaddesden Historical Group Newsletter



Summer 2008

Issue 9

Editorial

Welcome to the Summer 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

HIGHFIELD COTTAGES.



Thirty terraced cottages were built in two parallel rows in the 1860s by J.H Sanders for the Midland Railway workers. Another building from this time is the Highfields

Mission Room. This stood by the Derby Canal and was run by St Mary's Church, Chaddesden from the early 1890s. In 1944 it was sold for £50 and rebuilt at Burton Joyce near Nottingham, where as the Chesterfield Drive Free Church it celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1994. Two cottages were lost at a later date, one due to expansion of the Nottingham Road cemetery. Two other properties of note are Highfield Lodge and Highfield House. These and the cottages were given conservation area status in 1993.



Your Committee Members Marie Garner

I have lived in Chaddesden all my life, attending Morley Road School and then Parkfield Cedars School. After leaving school in 1949, I worked at Midland Bank, before leaving to have my children. In 1967 I enrolled as a mature student at Bishop Lonsdale College, studying English, history and education. In 1970, after qualifying as a teacher, I taught at Chaddesden Park Junior School for 21 years.

Since retiring in 1991, I have enjoyed travelling with my husband in America and Europe, My interests are reading, gardening and solving puzzles.

Can you recognise these past and present Derbeians?

1. A man with his head above the clouds? (4,9)
2. Famous mother of eight with royal connections? (4,2,8)
3. A well travelled man? (5,4)
4. Has he got any questions? (3,5)
5. Founder member of a royal area (7,6)
6. Can she get through customs OK? (4,6)
7. Does she know which way to go? (4,10)
8. An arresting man? (5,5)
9. Could he stop the enemy for us? (6,4)
10. Is this man a "rock" or not? (4,7)



Visit to Derby Cathedral and Bridge Chapel on Tuesday 16th October 2007

On Tuesday October 16th fifteen members met at the Cathedral café for tea, coffee and cake before enjoying a trip to Derby Cathedral and the Bridge Chapel. Here we were met by a lady guide from Chaddesden.

The Church of All Saints, (Derby Cathedral) history dates back almost 1,000 years, there has been a church on this site since 943. Yet it is the youngest diocese in the country.

The magnificent perpendicular tower stands 212 feet high and is all that remains of the medieval church which was demolished in 1723. The tower, 50ft square at its base and 40ft square at its top, rises in three storeys and its summit is ornamented with battlements and lofty pinnacles. This great Gothic tower was completed about 1530. The tower is the second highest in the country and is one of the great architectural ornaments our city possesses. A magnificent skyline view of the city of Derby can be seen from the top of this great tower. The cathedral has the oldest ring of ten bells in the world.



The rest of the church was rebuilt in 1725 and the chancel was added 1967-1972. Work was completed on a new extension for the retro-choir and Baldachino, this was designed by Sebastain Comper in 1972.

The interior is as striking as the exterior, its magnificent wrought-iron screen which divides the nave from the chancel and bears the Hanoverian Royal Arms, was part of James Gibbs original scheme for the church. The altar rails and its ironwork, in front of the mayor's pew, shows the quality of Robert Bakewell's work, as do the gates which guard the Cathedral tower.

We also visited St Katharine's Chapel a quiet place for private prayer. We were met by a second guide, who took us to the Bridge Chapel. The Chapel of St Mary on the bridge is one of only six such chapels surviving in the country. A chapel would have existed in Derby during the 13th century, this would have incorporated a toll booth where money was collected for the upkeep of the bridge. The money collected was known as Pontage. On July 25, 1588, three Roman Catholic priests, Nicholas Garlick, Robert Ludlam and Richard Simpson, were convicted of high treason, and suffered a most terrible death. They were hung drawn and quartered, and their remains left draped on the bridge, after which they became known as the Padley Martyrs.

In 1712 the chapel was converted to dwellings for the poor. In 1723 Sir John Statham of Wigwell Grange Wirksworth, gave 20 shillings towards its upkeep in remembrance of his ancestor Thomas Statham of Morley. In 1873 it became the mission hall for St Alkmund. All went well until 1912, when Bridge Gate Mission Hall was opened, then the chapel was left to decline. In the late 1920s, the local archaeological society, fearing its collapse, bought the building with the aid of a loan.

The situation was not ideal and in 1930 Captain Eric Haslam and his two sisters, Mrs Hann, and Miss Edith Haslam, contributed the money for its restoration as a memorial to father, Sir Alfred Seale Haslam of Breadsall Priory, who had been Mayor of Derby from 1890-91.

The stained glass east window was designed by Miss Mary Dobson and installed with the expenses paid by family and friends of Sean Ferguson. Sean was a young man of promise, who died aged 21 in 1972.

In 1985 the Padley Day Centre was started by a Sister of Mercy, from Bridge Gate Convent.

The chapel is still used for services and well worth a visit, all enjoyed our visit to this quaint little chapel, one of Derby's little gems.

