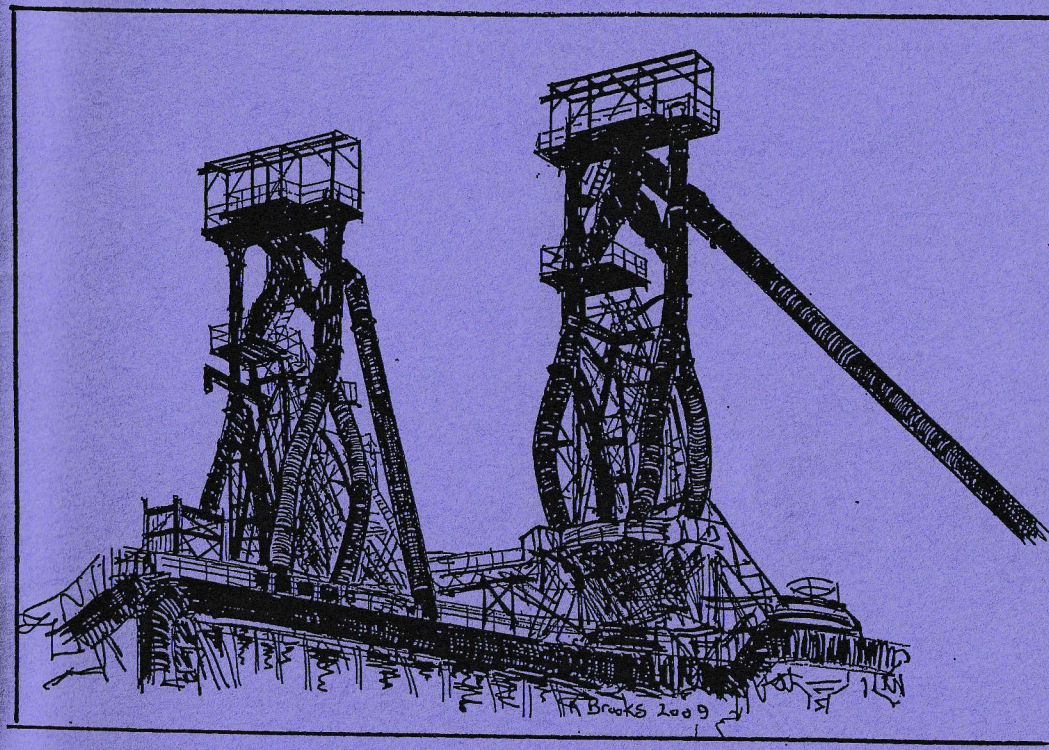


Stapleford and District Local History Society



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Free to Members

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MEETING REPORTS

8 October 2008

TWO QUEENS AND A COUNTESS

by David Templeman

The two queens and a countess of the title were Queen Elizabeth I of England, Mary, Queen of Scots and Bess of Hardwick, three of the most colourful and charismatic women in British history. David explained the connections between the women whose lives were interlaced by intrigue and tragedy.

Mary was born at Linlithgow Palace, West Lothian on 8 December 1542. She succeeded to the throne of Scotland on the death of her father James V when she was only seven days old and was crowned queen at the age of ten months. Her mother was James's second wife, Mary of Guise from France.

When only a few months old, she was betrothed to Henry VIII's son and heir, Edward. This was repudiated by the Scots, making Henry very angry, so she was sent to live in France for her own safety.

On 24 April 1558, when she was 15 and he was only 14, she married Francois, Dauphin of France. On the death of the French king her husband became King Francis II, and Mary became queen of France as well as Scotland. Mary was widowed when she was 18. Even though she was still queen, she was no longer welcome in France and negotiations began for her to return to Scotland to claim the Scottish throne. Mary arrived in a Scotland that had embraced Protestantism and government was in the hands of competing groups of noblemen.

Mary, who was a devout Catholic, considered Queen Elizabeth, the daughter of Ann Boleyn, a Protestant, as illegitimate, having not recognised Henry's divorce from Catholic Catherine of Aragon. Mary had a viable claim to the English throne, being the grand daughter of Henry VIII's elder sister, Margaret Tudor.

In 1565, when she was 22 and he was 19, some say rather rashly, Mary married her cousin Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley, by whom, she had a son James. Darnley was jealous and immature and within six months he had engineered the murder of Mary's secretary, Riccio. Two years later Darnley himself died mysteriously, probably with the connivance of Mary. Soon afterwards she married Darnley's probable murderer, James Hepburn, 4th Earl of Bothwell. In 1567 she abdicated, under threat of death, in favour of her one year old son, James VI. In 1568 following civil war in

Scotland, she fled to England for sanctuary. It is said that James Hepburn died insane in the dungeon of a Danish castle.

Queen Elizabeth refused to see or help Mary, even though they were cousins, but equally she resisted calls from Parliament for Mary's execution. Mary was in fact a prisoner and remained so for the next 19 years.

Among her appointed 'jailers' was Bess of Hardwick. Bess was an ambitious woman, who became very wealthy through her marriages, which also made her very powerful, probably the most powerful woman after the Queen.

Bess was born in around 1520. Her first husband was Robert Barlow (or Barley), whom she married when she was 14 and he was 13, But he died within a few months of marriage. In 1547 she married Sir William Cavendish, Treasurer of the King's Chamber. William died 11 years later, leaving a debt of £5,000 (about £1,000,000 today). Bess had 6 children of her own and two step daughters.

In 1559 Bess was married for the third time to Sir William St Loe, a generous wealthy man, who moved in high circles. Her debts were cleared and she was introduced to the Court in London, where she soon became friendly with the Queen. In 1564 William died, leaving Bess all his property, making her a very wealthy woman.

In 1568 she made her last and most brilliant marriage, to George Talbot, 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, a widower, and an extremely wealthy man. Bess was now a very powerful woman and it was her greatest ambition to put her grand daughter Arbella on the throne. This was not to be.

It was during their marriage that the Earl of Shrewsbury and Bess became custodians of Mary, Queen of Scots, variously at Tutbury Castle, Wingfield Manor, Chatsworth and elsewhere. Mary's downfall came when she was implicated in the Babington plot to assassinate Queen Elizabeth and put herself on the throne. Elizabeth had little choice but to sign her death warrant. Mary was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle on 8 February 1587.

Queen Elizabeth was perhaps England's greatest queen and the Elizabethan age was one of the greatest periods of English history. The daughter of Henry VIII and Ann Boleyn, she reigned for 54 years. In spite of many proposals from European kings and princes and requests from Parliament, she never married. Had she done so, it would most probably have been to Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. In the service of the queen

were some of the greatest sailors and adventurers England has produced, making England a super power of its day.

Not having produced an heir and successor, when Elizabeth died on 24 March 1603, she was succeeded by the son of Mary, Queen of Scots, James VI of Scotland, who became James I of England. In a roundabout way Mary had got what she wanted through her son, the throne of England.

Colin Rowland

12 November 2008

NEWS OF THE 1910s – HOW THE PRESS REPORTED THE EVENTS AND PEOPLE OF THE DECADE

by Alan Clayton

Much has been made of the 90th anniversary of the Armistice that ended the First World War. Our meeting was held the day after Remembrance Day, so members gathered with images of that appalling war fresh in their minds. We obtain our news and images today from radio and television on a non-stop basis, so Alan's talk on the 'tens' of the 20th century brought home to us how important newspapers were, at a time when they were the only means of finding out what was happening. Photographs of papers from his extensive collection, shown on slides, tracked the story of those times in a fascinating way, accompanied by Alan's succinct account of those turbulent years, reminding us of half remembered, half forgotten events.

We began with the wonderfully illustrated papers at the time of King Edward VII's funeral, and then the resplendent pictures of George V's coronation. There were newspaper accounts displayed of the Sidney Street siege, with Winston Churchill, Home Secretary, watching as a nest of anarchists was ousted. This incident was part of general unrest in the period leading up to the First World War and we were reminded of trouble in the mines, including a horrific disaster, the protests of the suffragettes, with a graphic picture of Emily Davison, fatally crushed by the King's horse at the derby, and the rumblings in Ireland.

We saw the accounts of the capture of Crippen, the murderer, with the help of wireless telegraphy (1912), the sinking of the Titanic (1912), with the poignant 'human interest' story of a honeymoon couple where the wife was lost.

As we approached the fateful year of 1914 we met the people who were in charge at the time. We heard of the sinking of another liner, the

Ireland, which had similar casualties to the Titanic, but in the gathering tragedy of the war was overlooked to some extent.

Then the assassination in Sarajevo of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Balkan 'freedom fighter' in August 1914 ushered in the First World War, as a mesh of alliances pushed the nations into opposing camps, clearly explained with maps. So we entered the horrors of the war. Alan covered the fluctuations of the front, with accompanying photos of churned mud, wounded soldiers, dead bodies and naked stumps of trees, with which the journalists sought to portray what was going on. The headlines were often slanted to give the best gloss on minute advances at tremendous cost. Then that most terrible of days, 1 July 1916, the commencement of the Battle of the Somme.

There were lighter moments – a poignant photo of the Christmas Truce of 1914, the development by Thomas Barton of gas bags on the roofs to fuel Barton buses and the introduction of British Summer Time.

But overwhelmingly the war dominated. Changes in government and military personnel were marked by photos of those involved, and dramatic newspaper accounts of the drowning of Lord Kitchener, the Commander in Chief. Away from the Western Front, there were momentous events in Russia, ending with revolution and the withdrawal of Russia from the war, as the socialists took over. The United States of America joined the war.

The attrition in the trenches continued. Verdun, Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele – reported in the papers to hide the true nature of the gains and losses. But one paper reported that '*Flanders was one vast quagmire*'.

Local mention was made of The Sherwood Foresters, the young women blown up at Chilwell shell factory, a Victoria Cross for Captain Albert Ball and our own Stapleford VC, Lance-Corporal Walter R Parker.

Above the trenches the beginnings of air combat started. Zeppelins bombed London. There were awesome photos of them on fire. The Royal Air Force was created in 1918.

During the war women had taken over many of the jobs of men. Their revised status was recognised in 1918, when those over 30 were awarded the right to vote.

In Russia, as the Bolsheviks took charge, the Tsar and his family were murdered and the Bolsheviks sued for peace with the Germans. But the Western Front wore the Germans down and they sued for an Armistice with the Allies and famously, at 11 o'clock on 11 November 1918, the guns fell silent.

Soldiers had to be demobilised. The wounded and the traumatised cared for, the war graves sorted out and the peace secured. The Treaty of Versailles took place in 1919, overshadowed by the flu pandemic, which swept the world. The Cenotaph was created to provide a focus for the grief of all the families in the country, few of whom were untouched by the carnage.

While this resume covers some of the ground, it cannot capture the impact of seeing the events so ably illustrated by newspapers. This was how the years were chronicled for people. The images they provided and the news they brought were the only means of knowing what was happening. They could reach the most remote hamlet.

Beforehand and during the interval we were able to look at the display of newspapers and magazines and feel their impact. Alan's 'tour de force' came alive in our hands!

Meg Oliver

10 December 2008

SOCIAL EVENING

At the Christmas social we enjoyed two quizzes and a raffle with dozens of prizes, followed by an excellent supper. It was a very pleasant evening. Thanks to all members who brought prizes and food and helped so willingly with preparation and clearing away afterwards.

14 January 2009

NOTTINGHAM'S CINEMAS

by Les Henshaw

Before the evening's programme started Les Henshaw and David Huckerby tested the projection, focus and sound of their films using steam railway footage, resulting in several people thinking they had mistaken the subject of the evening's entertainment. I was told that railway films are the best to check any type of projection equipment!

The *Nottingham's Cinemas* film was produced in 1999 as a result of co-operation between many authorities, groups and individuals. It presented the story of the development of motion pictures alongside the story of cinemas in and around the city of Nottingham. It was narrated by Mike Smith of Radio Nottingham and included interviews and comments from people who had spent their lives as projectionists, managers, usherettes and cashiers in Nottingham cinemas.

The first film shown in Nottingham was at Goose Fair in the Market Place in the early 1890s and ran for only one minute, but caused a sensation. Next very short films on the Kinetoscope system were shown in an empty shop. The Grand Theatre, Hyson Green showed short films at the end of its theatrical programme in July 1896, followed a month later by the first proper programmes of short films at the Palace, Scala and Classic theatres. The Empire, Hippodrome and Albert Hall also showed short films.

This was a potentially dangerous business as the nitrate film was highly combustible. The audience's seats were not secured to the floor and there was no separate accommodation for the projector, nor were any emergency plans in place. However, a Cinematograph Act of Parliament in 1908 required proper premises with safety provisions to be licensed by the local authority.

The first purpose built cinema was the Victoria Electric Palace on Milton Street, which opened in March 1910. A 600 seat 'super' cinema, The Picture House, complete with a cafe, commissionaire and usherettes in uniform, opened on Long Row in November 1912.

As the films were silent, cinemas employed musicians to accompany films - a big orchestra, a trio or just an individual, depending on the venue.

The Globe Theatre at Trent Bridge opened in November 1917. In 1919 plans were drawn up for an exciting new cinema on Parliament Street, but there were serious construction problems because of on site caves. This was to be a huge building with a 1,500 seat auditorium, a restaurant and a ballroom. Unfortunately, they forgot to include a projection room, which had to be added at the last minute. When the dramatic, dazzling, white Elite Cinema opened on 22 August 1921 it was the very latest thing with a glamorous auditorium, complete with Nottingham's first cinema organ, played regularly by Henry Willis. It boasted five different styles of sound, as well as percussion sounds, birds, bells, waves and hooters.

There was a great breakthrough in 1929 with *The Jazz Singer*, the first talking picture. The second 'talkie' *The Singing Fool* was even more popular and was shown in July 1929. The sound was carried on 16 inch discs and was prone to disaster! The needle often jumped and dithered and was frequently out of synchronisation with the moving image.

In the 1930s, the heyday of cinema in Britain, many new cinemas were built with modern, fashionable design and striking external architecture. These were now reaching out into the suburbs, such as, the

Curzon and Metropole on Mansfield Road, the Savoy on Derby Road, the Essoldo at Lenton Abbey, the Futurist at Basford, the Roxy at Daybrook and the Ritz at Carlton.

A new super cinema, the Ritz on Angel Row, later renamed the Odeon, with 2,500 seats, opened on 4 December 1933. This had a Wurlitzer organ, played for many years by Jack Helyer, which could be raised into the auditorium and lowered automatically at the interval.

When the war started in 1939 many cinemas closed, but the impact on public morale was recognised and they re-opened on a strictly utilitarian basis. The Carlton cinema was in course of construction but was never fully completed, opening minus its restaurant.

Extra films were held in stock at cinemas for when an air raid warning sounded and many people sought refuge in cinemas to take their minds off the raids. If the 'All Clear' had not sounded when the films ended, members of the audience were invited to perform on stage, telling jokes, singing or dancing.

There were Saturday morning shows for children. The film reels were often shown in the wrong order, making nonsense of the stories and there were frequent cliff hanging serials. The *Lone Ranger* himself, complete with mask, made a personal appearance at one Nottingham cinema to the delight of the children. Charity events were also held to raise money for war time good causes.

The 1940s saw the highest attendances at cinemas but, following the TV showing of the 1953 Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, television sets quickly became fixtures in most living rooms and cinema going began to decline. In the 1950s various gimmicks were tried - *Toddeo*, *Cinemascope* and 3D films, but the Roxy cinema was the first to become a Bingo Hall.

Sexy continental films were shown at the Scala and New Victoria cinemas in the early 1960s to attract audiences. Films in *Cinemascope* were shown in a giant marquee on The Forest for three months, then for two further three month visits and proved very popular. The Broadway Film Theatre, still going strong in 2009, was opened in 1966.

In 1965 the Odeon cinema was the first in the country to alter its auditorium into twin theatres, with restaurants and licensed bar.

Despite all efforts, the number of cinemas goes declined as television became commonplace, and it proved difficult to change the use of cinema buildings. Between 1954 and 1964 thirty of the 54 Nottingham cinemas closed.

In 1989 the Showcase Multiplex cinema opened on the Ring Road with a vast parking area. This was the first of many such cinemas in England and had 11 screens, with two more added later and seats for 3,200 people. It is a bland, featureless building and provides none of the thrilling sense of occasion of earlier cinemas. However, the audience profile has changed. People can see News and all manner of programmes on TV at home. Now they go to the cinema to see one main feature film.

Very few of the old cinemas remain. Some have become supermarkets or shops. The Byron and Capitol and others are Bing Halls and many have been demolished. The only cinema to remain with little change is the Savoy, Derby Road, which now has four screens and remains in private hands. The Elite closed in 1977 and changed to Bingo, and more recently its splendid Grade II listed building has been used as a night club.

Finally, in 1999 the Warner Village Complex opened on South Sherwood Street with 16 screens, bars and restaurants and is very popular.

It was a fascinating story of the development of motion pictures and the rise and fall of local cinemas, then the resurgence of cinema going in a different form. For those who grew up in Nottingham, it brought back the days of their youth and ardent cinema going. A wonderful evening!

Barbara Brooke

11 February 2009

STANTON AT WAR by Stephen Flinders

The main focus of the evening was film of Stanton Ironworks in operation during World War Two. We welcomed Mrs Marjorie Hooley (nee Brown) who had worked in Stanton offices during the war, as well as many other former workers at the plant.

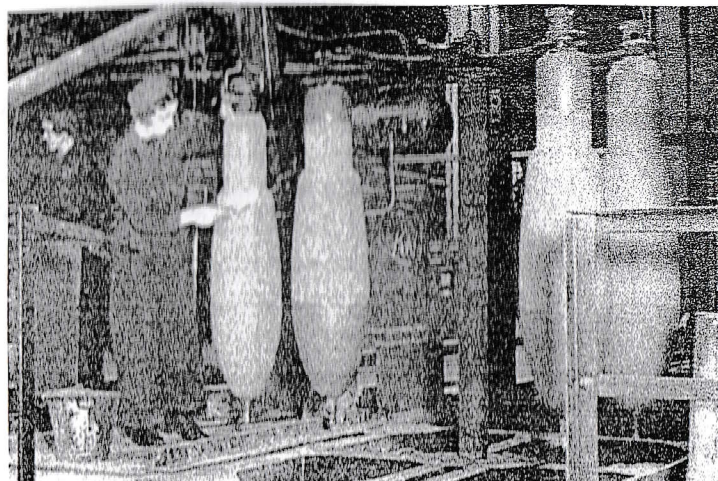
Stephen explained how the films had been found. Once a year the Erewash Museum at Ilkeston is closed so that there can be a 'clear out' of the contents of the archives. With the arrival of a new Curator the spring clean was particularly thorough and, in a neglected corner of the premises, five boxes of 16mm film were found, taken in 1943. They have been described as a 'gold mine of industrial history'. Since their discovery Stephen and Danny Cornes have been using footage to make films about certain aspects of the work. We were about to see two of the fruits of their labours.

During the war Stanton was turned over to the making of 500lb steel cases for bombs. The total made was 873,500. The other work undertaken was the making of 1,500 gun barrels, which involved precision boring plants.

When war broke out Britain was seriously under capacity for bomb-making. Companies were approached to devise the plant for increasing that capacity. An American firm, H A Brasser, was given the contract at a cost of £1 million. They arrived on site in October 1940 and by September 1941 the plant, called Stanton and Brasser, was producing the bomb cases. Brasser had experience of such work as, ironically, they had built similar steel works for Germany in 1937.

We then watched the film, with an informative commentary by Stephen. First we saw the extent of the steel plant, stretching over many acres. Then there were shots of the complicated machinery moving along with varying loads. We were taken to the shop floor to see, close up, the workers managing the furnaces and equipment. Women were working cranes and other parts of this highly mechanised plant. Great weights were lifted, heavy loads moved at the touch of a button or the turn of a wheel. 40% of the workers were women, receiving 50% of the men's wages. Even so, the women could earn £12 a week, which was good money in those days. The workers did an 11 hour shift. There were lighter moments. Using the hydraulic lift to deliver a 'cuppa' to a mate in the rigging was frowned upon by management because of the fuel used in the manoeuvre, but, as we saw in the film, that did not stop it happening! The close-up heavy work by the furnaces was mainly men's work. Powdered anthracite was used to attain the very high temperatures, and the molten metal was ready when the flames coming off were pink! We saw amazing machinery pouring the steel from one container to another. There was a blasé attitude to working with this lethal substance. There were men without goggles, hats or gloves! Not a Health and Safety Officer to be seen!

We watched a variety of processes in what was, at the time, a state of the art plant. There was machinery making the steel cases, much of it automated and worked by women with the familiar headscarves to keep their hair out of harm's way. The general mood was one of cheerful camaraderie. Questioned about the nature of their work, whether they felt guilty about making weapons that would wreak such havoc on women and children, they admitted to no such feeling. 'They started it' was the standard response. There was competition among the staff to find out who could make the most bombs in an hour. The average was 100, but the



Handling bomb cores in the 'Bomb Shop'
(from 'Stanton at War 1939-45')

record was 112. There was a stringent checking process, to make sure that the casings were without fault, before they were sent off to be filled with high explosives in Chester. They were transported in railway wagons, barges and lorries. We caught a glimpse of a cat on the screen. There were cats everywhere at Stanton!

During the interval there was some discussion as to why Stanton escaped serious bombing. Members of the audience who had worked at Stanton joined in with a variety of explanations.

'The furnaces were made to blaze so that the whole area was red.'

'Erewash valley was too full of smoke.'

'Hitler wanted it for himself. He knew from the plant in Germany how good it was.'

After the interval we saw a short film about the other work carried out at Stanton.

At the Dale Mould Boring Shop 3 and 4 inch calibre barrels were bored for anti-aircraft guns. A factory at Melton Mowbray made the barrels and then Stanton craftsmen did the precision engineering. 1,500 barrels were completed at Dale. Women were also employed in this work, but it was a different atmosphere from the steel works. The big, airy factory building contrasted with what a 14 year old called the 'gates of hell' where steel was made and moulded. Multiple checks were made on the barrels,

with wax impressions taken to make sure the insides were evenly reamed. A barrel out of true could spell disaster!

This was an evening full of interest. Stephen is still working through the recovered film footage so we shall look forward to seeing future glimpses into an industrial age, now long past.

Meg Oliver

11 March 2009

THE ENGLISH AND GARDENING

by Danny Wells

The word 'garden' means a piece of enclosed land but Danny speculated as to who or what was being kept out. The idea was to exert control over nature. It was hostile out there and people did not trust nature. In Tudor times flowers and herbs were used for skin care and their healing properties. Gardens were geometrical. They were formal, to impose order and tame the land.

Gradually there was a change of mood. Formal gardens were regarded as too regimented and more freedom and liberty were wanted. Lancelot 'Capability' Brown was the leader in this change of style. He undertook more than 200 major commissions to transform the land surrounding large country houses and mansions, such as Stourhead, Longleat and Chatsworth, into rolling parkland with lakes, streams and clumps of trees. There were few flowers to be seen in these grand parks, but plants were of very great interest and were being brought into England from all over the world. Kew Gardens were set up in 1759 to ensure they flourished.

In other countries gardens were used for social occasions and for theatrical shows, but in England the cooler weather emphasised a more melancholic outlook. Antique statuary created atmosphere, follies and ruined temples made links with classical Greek and Roman civilisations and sundials showed the transience of life.

Vauxhall Gardens in London were opened in 1763 and the idea of pleasure gardens soon caught on. They were often the scene of illicit pleasures, dalliances, seductions and diving into the woods!

The Victorian era was a time of sober respectability and a mass movement of ordinary country people into towns as part of the industrial revolution. The population quadrupled and families were crowded together in often squalid conditions.

Joseph Paxton, a man of humble background, became head gardener at Chatsworth at the age of 23. He was a superb engineer and created enormous iron framed glass houses to keep the exotic plants being brought into the country. His ideas were widely copied by wealthy landowners who built conservatories onto their houses.

In 1840 Joseph Strutt created the first arboretum open to the public in Derby. Soon all large towns and cities had their own public parks where ordinary working people could escape their drab houses and stroll around the grounds looking at the trees, plants and flowers that were displayed. The Victorian craze for bedding plants meant that plants were changed several times a year to create continuous colourful displays.

There were, of course, people of more modest means who created cottage gardens bursting with trees and flowers and people who wanted to garden simply to grow vegetables.

William Morris created beautiful, floral designs which are still widely available on printed fabric. The Pre-Raphaelite movement inspired fantasy with rural settings, and Kate Greenaway's illustrations in children's books and the garden scenes in nursery rhymes and stories encouraged a love of plants and greenery. In 1925 Cecily Mary Barker created the 150+ flower fairies, favourites of children to this day.

The horticulturist and garden designer Gertrude Jekyll and the architect Edwin Lutyens began their collaboration creating beautiful houses set in exquisite gardens and garden writers, such as Vita Sackville-West, were syndicated across the world. Percy Thrower led the way in TV gardening programmes and gardening magazines became very popular. Allotments were cultivated by city dwellers in World War I and even more so in World War II. Now in the 21st century a huge resurgence in growing fruit and vegetables is taking place with the emphasis on organic produce.

In 1500 only about 200 plants were being cultivated, mainly herbs for cooking and healing, but by 1839 there were more than 18,000, many from overseas.

It is estimated that there are now about 23 million gardeners, spending £3.5 billion on plants and equipment. The English are renowned throughout the world for their love of gardening and for the huge number of splendid gardens open to the public.

It is the most popular hobby in the land because a garden is always a work in progress. Increasingly people are making their gardens into extensions of their homes with patios, decking, seating and, of course, barbecues.

Barbara Brooke

14th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 8 APRIL 2009

CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is appropriate that I start my report by paying tribute to Barbara Page, a stalwart member of this Society since the very first meeting, when Andrea Lowe, the then Stapleford librarian, invited people to a meeting in March 1995 to discuss the idea of starting a Local History Society for the town.

At various times Barbara acted as Treasurer, Secretary and Programme Secretary and fulfilled these roles thoroughly and capably.

The large number of members who attended her funeral in September was testament to the high regard and affection in which she was held. As a mark of respect, your committee decided to make a contribution to Cancer Research UK in her name.

We have been fortunate that Pat Hodgkiss, who took on joint Treasurership with Barbara two years ago, agreed to assume the full role and, in fact, is standing for re-election tonight for another two years.

Barbara, with her extensive knowledge of local history speakers, always arranged an interesting and varied programme. Nigel Brooks agreed to step into this position. An early committee meeting, when all members pooled ideas, and the purchase of the Nottinghamshire Directory of Speakers, ensured that he was able to organise the 2009 programme quickly. Incidentally, if any members know of speakers who they think might be suitable for the Society, please let Nigel know.

Meetings throughout the year have been well attended and, when Stephen Flinders showed films and spoke about Stanton at War, there were 14 former Stanton workers present.

The Society's newsletters continue to be interesting and often contain well researched articles of local appeal, many by our Newsletter Editor, Malcolm Jarvis. There was a first time contribution from Linda Shearman, reporting on a Beeston Society outing, as well as pieces from seven other members. It is YOUR newsletter and we shall always welcome items from members!

The newsletter is now being printed by Bramcote Hills Sport & Community College on their state of the art copier. This, of course, is more expensive than using Stapleford Bureau's facilities, and we do have to pay VAT, but I am happy to say that I no longer have to assemble and staple the pages and the printing quality is far superior.

The Stapleford Town Trail is always a steady seller and we have just had 250 additional copies printed. They look very attractive.

Following talks on the History of Stapleford that I have given to Ilkeston & District Local History Society and to Beeston & District Civic Society, I have

arranged to lead walks for their members round the Town Trail on Tuesdays 7 and 14 July, when the new copies should be popular.

Eileen Bloor, Nigel Brooks, Colin Rowland and I are continuing to sort the Society's archives. As I reported last year, it is a slow job but we think will prove very worthwhile when completed, especially as anyone should be able to find items easily, using the index.

Barbara Page organised an outing to Papplewick Pumping Station on a glorious evening in June. The site was specially opened for the Society and we had a guided tour by the curator. We were able to admire the stylish construction of the buildings and the decorative embellishment of the interior, as well as the superb machinery, in particular the three Pillatt's Perfect Combustion furnaces built in Stapleford.

Many of our members have taken part in Beeston Society outings during the year to Stamford, Castle Combe and Lacock, Fountains Abbey and Ripon and to Renishaw Hall and Bolsover Castle. The first outing of 2009 took place on 1 April, when 12 Stapleford members went on the Beeston visit to Audley End and Saffron Walden in Essex in glorious spring sunshine.

This is my opportunity to thank all members who have helped the Society during the year – Eileen for operating the sales stall, Nigel for being responsible for publicity and for producing cards and maps and now the programme, Malcolm for being Newsletter Editor and for the talk he gave at last year's AGM and the one we shall hear later tonight, Pat Kelly and her helpers for operating the society's excellent library, Meg Oliver for sorting food requirements for the Christmas social event, the trio who work with me on the archives and all those who have contributed to the newsletter. Thank you to Pat Hodgkiss for being 'on the door' with husband John, for being Treasurer and for preparing the accounts and having them successfully audited by C J Lucking and Company, free of charge, through the good offices of Robert Butler. I also want to thank all members for helping with the chairs at meetings, for introducing new members and for supporting meetings.

It is now a year since Lillian and Tony Britton volunteered to put on refreshments – tea, coffee, soft drinks and biscuits for 30p – at our meetings, initially for a trial period of three months, then carried on through the year. I am sure everyone agrees that this opportunity to have a drink and socialise with other members, as well as extra time to view the library books and sales stall, has added greatly to the atmosphere of the society's meetings. A warm thank you to Lillian and Tony, who are willing to continue doing this valuable service for members. Incidentally, any profit will go into society funds.

Finally, thank you for your support of our Society. I am sure we can all look forward to another interesting and productive year ahead.

Barbara Brooke
Chairman and Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

You will notice on the Statement of Accounts that there is a deficit of £235.41 for the period 1 April to 31 December 2008 which they cover. This is because of the reduction in membership fees for this period, a 'one off' donation of £100 to Cancer Research UK in memory of Barbara Page, founder member, Treasurer and Programme Secretary for many years, the ever increasing cost of speakers' fees and the raising of the rate for hire of the Maycliffe Hall.

I would like to thank the Committee for all their support in what turned out to be a difficult year, circumstances resulting in me taking over the role of Treasurer half way through the year. Thanks also go to Robert Butler (C J Lucking and Company) for auditing the accounts for us.

Pat Hodgkiss
Treasurer

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

No other nominations were received so the following Officers were re-elected for a further period of two years:

Chairman and Secretary – Barbara Brooke
Treasurer – Pat Hodgkiss

FINANCES – Additional statement by the Chairman

While doing the accounts Robert Butler kindly did a breakdown of the Society's finances. As detailed by the Treasurer, it was obvious that subscriptions, which have only increased once since the Society's formation in 1995, needed to be increased.

Your committee have therefore decided to increase subscriptions with effect from 1 January 2010 to £7 for individuals and £10 for couples.

Meeting charges for members will increase from £1 to £1.50 and for visitors from £1.50 to £2.50. However, there will be no admission charges for the AGM or for the Christmas social evening.

As mentioned in my report, it was also agreed that any profit from the sale of refreshments will be retained by the society, though the price will be adjusted if we are making a significant profit.

The officers and committee have the authority to make these changes but we hope that we have the approval of the membership.

A resolution in support of these changes was proposed by Harry Houldsworth, seconded by Colin Rowland, and unanimously approved.

Programme for 2009

10 June	On the Buses	Peter Hammond
8 July	History of St Helen's Church, Stapleford	Chris Bull
12 August	Not just a little old lady	Maureen Jones
9 September	Elvaston Castle and the Earls of Harrington	Nigel Brooks
14 October	Goings On below stairs	Dr Wendy Freer
11 November	Melbourne in Derbyshire	Bill Clarke
9 December	Christmas Social Event	

STAPLEFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY, LOCAL STUDIES RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Buttress, D	Music while You Work	L98
Wright, J	Castles of Nottinghamshire	L95
Morse, J S	9 th Service Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters	L35.22
Oldfield, G	Picture the Past, Nottingham	L90.8
Waltham, T	Sandstone Caves of Nottingham	L55.5
Wiseman, RJS	Tramways of the East Midlands	L38.8
Cousins, R	A Basketful: Willow Growing and Basket Making in Notts. And Lincs.	L68
Rushton, M	The Canary Girls of Chilwell	L.62.3
Taylor, K	Trent Lock, Shardlow and the Erewash Canal	L38.6
Nightingale, A	Murder and Crime Series – Nottingham	L34.6
Harwood, E	Nottingham	L72

MEMBERS

Have you any memories of old Stapleford – of people, places or events - that you would like to share with other members? Please let us know.

ARCHIVE MATERIAL ACQUIRED 2008/2009

Newspaper cuttings used in newsletter (Malcolm Jarvis)
 Service sheet - Royal Marines Assn - Commemoration service L/Cpl W R Parker
 VC Royal Marines Light Infantry + 18 photos of parade and wreath laying at
 Cemetery (Barbara Brooke)
 Copy photograph Lance Corporal W R Parker, VC
 Sale advert with photos of Cloud House - Evening Post 24.04.2008
 Plan of Stapleford and Sandiacre businesses 1930s? (Eileen Bloor)
 History of the Post Office in Stapleford (donated by Dennis Humphreys)
 Press cuttings re Thomas Northwood 1944
 Article re changes to Bardills Island - Beeston Express 13.04.2007
 Photo Stapleford Town Football Club 1915/1917 - S & S News
 Photo Chambers Pencil Factory staff 1948 - S & S News 27.03.2008
 Press cuttings and photos re Barton Transport centenary
 Stapleford Town Trail walk 2002 - photos Barbara Brooke
 Photos Carnegie Centenary 2006 - Barbara Brooke
 Advert - sale of Brockhills Tannery - Derby Mercury 07.02.1844
 (donated by Mike Jobling, Ilkeston)
 Map of part of Derby Road (then March Lane) 1885 (donated at library talk)
 Article re Stapleford in World War Two - Local Historian August 2008
 St Helen's Church - photos of work in progress during refurbishment
 2008/9 and of damaged gravestone of Arthur Warren d. 1697 (donated
 by Chris Bull)
 Family tree of Arthur Warren (Nigel Brooks)
 Coach hire documents 1964 (donated by a member)
 Papplewick Pumping Station visit 04.06.2008 photos (Barbara Brooke)
 Fairfield Primary School, 7 class photos 1950s (partly named) (Margaret
 Williamson)
 Christmas shop window competition 2008 - Ilkeston Advertiser 11.12.2008
 George Spencer Bollywood dancers - Ilkeston Advertiser 15.01.2009
 Stanton Ironworks commemorative plaque - Ilkeston Advertiser 11.12.2008
 Rene Shimwell Dance School photos 1930s (Eileen Bloor)
 Remembrance Sunday Service sheet, 09.11.2008, Walter Parker VC Square

ADDITIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

December 2008

- 1 Local History News No 88, Summer 2008
- 2 The Local Historian, Vol 38 No 3 August 2008
- 3 Basford Bystander Issues 128, 129, 130
- 4 The Nottinghamshire Historian, No 81 Autumn/Winter 2008

January 2009

- 1 Stapleford & District LHS Newsletter No 25 Autumn 2008
- 2 Stapleford & Bramcote by David Ottewell - interesting views on old postcards

February 2009

- 1 Beeston Echoes No 29, Autumn 2008 - interesting snippets of local events
- 2 Canary Girls of Chilwell by Maureen Rushton - good read, lots of old photographs
- 3 The River Trent by Brian Lund - extra copy
- 4 Nottinghamshire Collieries by Angela Franks
- 5 Notts County Football Club - we have one on Nottingham Forest. Must look out for one on Derby County. Don't want complaints about favouritism!

March 2009

- 1 The Nottinghamshire Historian, No 82 Spring/Summer 2009
- 2 Local History News No 89, Autumn 2008 - article on Hope Historical Society & Wakes Week
- 3 The Local Historian - article on typhoid in Uppingham, Rutland 1875-77
- 4 Basford Bystander Issue 131, December/January 2009 - interesting bits and pieces
- 5 The Thrill of it all by David Roddis (donated by a member) - The story of the cinema in Ilkeston and the Erewash Valley, see Page 85, Chapter 3 - Sandiacre and Stapleford
- 6 Beeston Echoes No 30, Spring 2009 - much local interest

Contributions from a member

- 1 A Collection of views of old Stapleford by Ralph Penniston Taylor
- 2 Stapleford and Bramcote by David Ottewell
- 3 2 copies of 'Story of Wollaton Hall' - Nottingham Art Galleries and Museums Committee
- 4 Great Nottinghamshire Gardens by Philip E Jones
- 5 Clumber Park - Nottinghamshire County Council

24 October 2008

VISIT TO THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM AND LICHFIELD

by Barbara Brooke

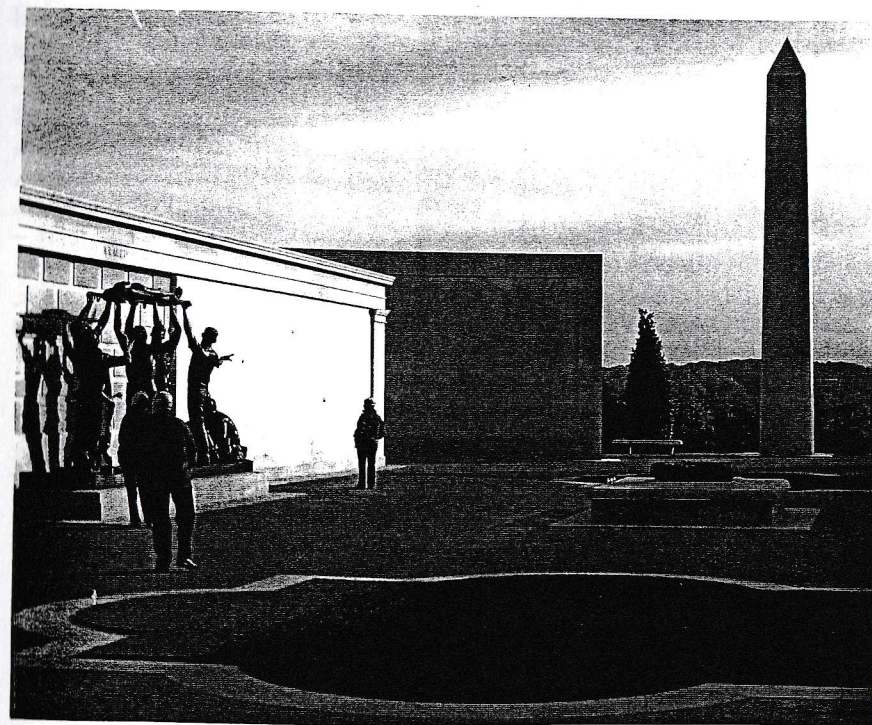
Soon after 9.30am on a bright, but chilly, morning the coach pulled into the car park at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas, between Burton upon Trent and Lichfield. The arboretum covers 150 acres with some 50,000 young trees and is devoted to the concept of remembrance.

It was established in 1997 on a former gravel and sand pit gifted by Lafarge Aggregates, who had extracted materials from the land. Public donations were matched by the government, then augmented later by the Millennium Lottery Fund. The arboretum has grown rapidly to become a focal point for commemoration and celebration and already contains more than 130 memorials. Any group or body can apply to design and establish a memorial, and while many are to branches of the armed forces others are to such bodies as the Boys' Brigade, the Ambulance Service, the Inner Wheel and the Police.

We were impressed by the well laid out grounds and the excellent plan and information sheet, making it easy to find one's way around. Many of our party made their way to the inspirational Millennium Chapel of Peace and Forgiveness where a two minute silence is observed daily at 11am. Then a guide gave a brief description of the development of the site and the setting up of the memorial and the inauguration of the chapel in 2001.

Following discussion in parliament about the need for a national memorial for all the people who have lost their lives in the 47 conflicts since World War Two, a dramatic new Armed Forces Memorial has been erected on a special mound and was opened by the Queen in 2007. The Portland stone construction features two curved outer walls and two internal straight walls and measures 43 metres in diameter, marked with a commanding obelisk at one end. The names of the 15,600 personnel have been carved into the walls. The memorial is enhanced by two evocative bronze sculptures showing the suffering and sacrifice caused by warfare.

On our return to the visitor centre to look at the displays and the shop and to have some lunch, all agreed that the whole arboretum site was a moving and deeply impressive memorial.



Part of the new Armed Forces Memorial

We spent the afternoon in the very attractive, small cathedral city of Lichfield, only a few miles away. The bustling weekly market was in full swing and nearby was the Lichfield Heritage Centre, where *The Lichfield Story* showed the history and development of the city. The Staffordshire Millennium Embroideries gave us a unique stitched representation of a thousand years of Staffordshire's history. The Treasury housed splendid gold and silver plate, goblets and commemorative items from the city, the cathedral and the Staffordshire Regiment. Memorabilia and photographs showed country life in the 19th and early 20th century and a dramatic audio/visual presentation showed the Civil War in Lichfield and a walk through the city's history.

There was just time for a peep into the remarkably beautiful cathedral before it was time to board the coach for home.

Thank you, Alan, for organising such an interesting day. I know I was not alone in promising myself another visit to both destinations.

World War One Veterans.

Known Stapleford men who survived the Great War.

ATTEWELL Jonathan. Private 60051 in the Leicestershire Regiment. He served between June 1918 and ended his service in 1919. The Leicestershire Regiments saw front line action in many areas of France. He lived at 42 Hickings Lane, Stapleford. (1). The Leicestershire Regiments who provided 10 battalions during the war saw service at Aisne - 1914, La Basse - 1914, Armentieres 0 1914, Festubert - 1914/15, NeuveChapel. Aubers. Hooe - 1915, The Somme - 1916/18, Benzentin, Flers-Courcelette, Morval, LeTransloy, Ypres - 1917, PolygonWood. Cambrai - 1917/18, StQuentin, Lys, Bailleul, Kemmel, Scherpeubery, Albert - 1918, Bapaume - 1918, Hindenburg Line. Epehy, StQuentin Canal, Beaufeuvoir. Selle. Sambre. France and Flanders. 1914 - 1918, Megiddo. Sharon. Damascus. Palestine 1918, Tigris - 1916, Kut - al - Amara 1917, Mesopotamia 1915 and 1918. (6)

During the war they lost 6,692 men and 336 officers. (7)

ANDERSON Charles. Private in the Army Service Corps who served between August 1916 and 31st March 1921. His unit would have had the responsibility of keeping the supply lines fully supplied to enable the front line troops to have enough supplies, not just for fighting but also their survival. In many cases members of this corps were actually on the front line, or close to it. Their supply routes were often hazardous. Charles lived on Moorbridge Lane, Stapleford. (1). In November 1918 King George conferred the title 'Royal' for outstanding services during the 1914 - 18 war. (6)

During the war they lost 8,052 men and 410 officers. (7)

BELL Percy. Sergeant 40073 attached to the 21st Battalion, Tank Corps. He served between 10th January 1916 and 16th January 1919. As a Sergeant he no doubt would have been either Commander of the tank, or the Second in Charge of it. The tanks of World War One were the front runner of today's modern tanks, but without modern luxuries. Percy would have been in the front line, often travelling over sludgy boggy terrain. He lived at 31 Ash Grove, Stapleford. (1).

The Tank Corps formed on 28th July 1917 from the old Heavy Section of the Machine Gun Corps, later the heavy Branch, until becoming the Tank Corps. They saw action at the Somme - 1916, Arras - 1917/18, Messines - 1917, Ypres - 1917, Cambrai - 1917, StQuentin, Villers Bretonnax, Armeins, Bapaume, - 1918. Hindenburg Line, Epehy, Selle, France and Flanders - 1916/18, and Gaza.

'The first great tank attack in history was mounted by the Tank Corps on 20th November 1917 when 378 massed tanks smashed through the Hindenburg Line at Cambrai, contributing largely to the initial success of that offensive. 'Cambrai Day' is still celebrated by the Regiment. The Regimental Colours of brown, red and green originated with the makeshift flag flown by Major General Elles on his command tank at Cambrai. He had the flag made up from the only coloured silks he could find in a local draper's shop, and they were held to exemplify the early struggles of the Tank Corps. 'Through mud, through blood to the green fields beyond.' (6)

During the war they lost 1408 men and 219 officers. (7)

BESTWICK Lewis Bernard. (M.I.D.) Private 3766 later 71435 with the 15th Battalion of the Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Regiment. He landed in France on 27th October 1915. During February 1918 the 15th Battalion of the Regiment were in action at in the area of Langemarck in Belgium. This is north east of Ypres, not far from Polcappelle, bordering on the edge of the Passchendaele Ridge. They left Belgium by train on the 9th March moving to Chauncey Farm Camp where they remained until the 23rd when they again moved by train to Maricourt in France, and were again in action at Curly Wood, near Maricourt. He was mentioned in Despatches from Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig, K.T. G.C.P. L.C.V.O. K.C.J.E. dated 7th April 1918 for gallant and distinguished service in the Field. "I have it in command from the King to record His Majesty's high appreciation of the services rendered" Signed Winston Churchill. Secretary of State for War. He lived at 175 Brookhill Street, Stapleford, then 27 Antill Street, Stapleford, and worked at Stanton Iron Works, where he was employed as a Despatch Foreman. He suffered from injuries received during the war until he died in 1971 when aged 83. (8a), (11).

BOADEN Frederick. Private M/375575 in the Army Service Corps serving between December 1915 and January 1919. He also would have been supplying the fighting troops. The M in his regimental number denotes that he was attached to the mechanical transport sections (1). He lived at 17 Horace Avenue, Stapleford. (1). All Regimental details as per Private Charles **ANDERSON** above.

BRODIE J. Charles. Private 7115 in the 1st Battalion of the Dorset Regiment. He served between March 1914 and January 1918. After the war he lived at 19 Oakfield Road, Stapleford, having previously lived in London. (1). The Dorset Regiment provided 13 Battalions and served in most areas of the war including the retreat from Mons and also the battles at Suvla part of the Gallipoli campaign. (6) During the war the Dorset Regiments lost 3710 men and 219 officers. (7)

BURTON Thomas. Private 54431 in the 15th/16th Battalion of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (Sherwood Foresters) Regiment. He lived at 1a, Northwood Street, Stapleford, after moving from Brookhill Street. (8a), (12).

BURGESS Albert. Private 99424 in the Durham Light Infantry. He served during the war until February 1919. The Durham's had many Battalions who served in various theatres in France and Belgium during this war. He lived at 23 Nottingham Road, Stapleford. (1) The Durham Light Infantry provided 37 Battalions during the war and saw action in most areas of the fighting. (6) They lost 11950 men and 607 officers. (7)

CLEAVER Frederick. Corporal 10562 in the 2nd Battalion of the Yorkshire Light Infantry. He served between October 1911 and April 1915. Frederick was a volunteer who joined before the commencement of war. He lived at 19 Hickings Lane, Stapleford. (1) The Yorkshire Light Infantry saw action in most areas of the war and lost 9,033 men and 417 officers. (7)

CLEAVER George. Rifleman 6681 in the Rifle Brigade. He was attached to the 158 (Welch) Field Brigade. He served between November 1914 and May 1919 and was involved in the war shortly after war was declared. He lived at 9 Newton Drive, Stapleford. (1) The Rifle Brigade provided 21 Battalions and saw action in every area of action including the Retreat from Mons, France, Belgium and Macedonia. (6)

They lost 11,242 men and 562 officers during the war. (7)

CUNNINGTON Harold. A.M./I (Air Mechanic Class I). 233160 in the Royal Navy Air Service and then with the Royal Air Force. He served between 10th July 1917 to 22nd November 1919. This was at a time when the countries air force was in its infancy. He lived at 33 Eatons Road, Stapleford. (1)

The Royal Air Force, originally The Flying Corps started life with the Royal Engineers but then drew personnel from many areas of the forces. (6)

DAVIS Joseph. Private 17958 in the 3rd Camaronians Battalion, part of the 9th Regiment of the Scottish Rifles. He served from 1915 to 1917 and previously lived at 12 Windsor Street, Stapleford. (1)

They saw action in most areas of the war in France, Belgium, Egypt and Palestine. (6) During the war they lost 6219 men and 451 officers. (7)

DRAYCOTT Arthur. Bombardier 167503 working with the 180th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. He served from 23rd May 1916 to 19th February 1919. He lived at 2 Hawthorne Avenue, Stapleford. (1) The Royal Garrison Artillery manned the coastal defences deploying heavy, siege and mountain batteries. (6) Between the Royal Garrison Artillery, Royal Field Artillery and Royal Horse Artillery they lost 46,202 men and 3407 officers. (7)

DURSLEY William. Private 3649TF with the Gloucestershire Regiment, 'Gloucesters'. He served with the regiment from 1914 to 1916. He lived at 22 Peatfield Road, Stapleford. (1) (Letters after regimental numbers were added due to it being found that two people had the same regimental number. (2) The Gloucestershire Regiment served in all the major areas of the war in France, Belgium, Macedonia, Italy, Gallipoli and Baghdad. There were also involved in the retreat from Mons, (6) They lost 7692 men and 410 officers. (5)

FARMER Alfred Harold. Private 202086 with the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (Sherwood Foresters) Regiment. He served from 12th December 1915 to 26th September 1919. He lived at 11 Manor Road, Stapleford. (1) The Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (Sherwood Foresters) Regt., provided 32 battalions during the war and served in all areas. (6) They lost 11,409 men and officers during the war. Crich memorial high above in Derbyshire, near to the border with Nottinghamshire was dedicated in 1923 to the 11,409 men of the Sherwood Foresters who fell during the war. (8)

JACKSON Dennis. Sergeant. For all details about him please see the article in Newsletter 20 of 2006.

ORGAN David. Private 64518 with the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment. He served from 10th December 1915 until 6th June 1918. He lived at 3 Hawthorne Avenue, Stapleford. (1) All Regimental details as with Private Alfred Harold FARMER.

PALFREYMAN Bernard. Private 69398 in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He served from 1919 until 1924. He served from the end of the war for five years, probably as a volunteer. He later lived at 26 Antill Street, Stapleford. (1) The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry provided 26 battalions and saw action in all theatres of the war. Their war dead is calculated with the Yorkshire Light Infantry of 9033 men and 417 officers. (6)(7)

PARKER. V.C.

Lance-Corporal Walter Richard Parker V.C., of the Portsmouth Division, R.M.L.I. For his full record see all the previous articles about him.

PICKERING Algar McRicie. Private 2590 in the Surrey Yeomanry then Lieutenant in the City of London Yeomanry. He served from 4th September 1914 until May 1919. He lived at Brayforks. Nottingham Road, Bramcote. (1) Between the London and Surrey Yeomanry they served in all the theatres of war and during that period lost 1047 men. Mostly were officers who served. (5) (7)

PRYDE Arthur Henry. Private M/285067 with the Royal Army Service Corps. (Mechanical Transport Section). He served from 1915 to 1919. He lived at 272 Stapleford Road, Trowell. (1) (2)

All Regimental details are as per Private Charles ANDERSON above.

PUGH Ralph. Private 38907 with the Lincolnshire Regiment. He served from 29th November 1915 until 29th October 1919. He lived at 1 Dalley Close, Stapleford. (1) The Lincolnshire Regiment was action in every area and theatre of the war. (6) They lost 8042 men and 394 officers. (7)

REID Charles Gordon. Temporary Corporal WR286475 with the Essex Regiment Reserves. He initially served with the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment as Private 69701, then transferred as Private 36726 with the Essex Regiment before transferring to the reserves. He served from 18th May 1916 until 31st March 1920. He lived at Melrose, 242 Pasture Road, Stapleford. (1) (4) The Essex Regiment provided 31 battalions during the war and fought in all theatres of the war. (6) They lost 8464 men and 471 officers. (7)

RICK John William. Serjeant 17622 with the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. He served between 5th September 1914 and 5th April 1919. He lived at 3 West End Street, Stapleford. (1) The Northumberland Fusiliers provided 52 battalions and served in every theatre of war including the battle of Suvla. They lost 16159 men and 846 officers during the war. (7)

ROWAN Vernon. Private 42747 with the Leicestershire Regiment. He served between 20th July 1917 and September 1919. He lived at 77 Brookhill Street, Stapleford. (1)

All Regimental details as per Private Jonathan ATTEWELL above.

START Arthur Edward. Private M/270628 with the Royal Army Service Corps, attached to the Mechanical Transport section with the 4th Queen's Own Hussars. He served between 15th November 1915 until 16th November 1919. He lived at 8 Wesley Place, Stapleford. (1) (5)

All Regimental details as per Private Charles ANDERSON above.

STEVENSON Horace Henry. Private 204859 in the King's Shropshire Light Infantry. He served between 14th October 1914 and 25th May 1919. He lived at 44 Ash Grove, Stapleford. (1) They provided 13 battalions and fought in every theatre. (6) They lost 4491 men and 242 officers. (7)

STOREY William Edgar. Driver 4603359 with the Royal Artillery, later on the 2nd Battalion, the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (Sherwood Foresters) Regiment. He served from 4th March 1917 until 14th November 1933. From these dates one can guess that he volunteered to soldier on after the war. He lived at 3 Alexandra Street, Stapleford. (1) (8)

All Regimental details as per Bombardier Arthur DRAYCOTT above.

TAYLOR Owen. Sergeant 2899 later 13517 with the 1/5th Battalion, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (Sherwood Foresters) Regiment. He served between 6th August 1914 and 20th March 1919. He lived at 98 Church Street, Stapleford. (1) (5)

All Regimental details as per Private Alfred Harold FARMER above.

TOLLEY John Henry. Private 64185 with the York and Lancaster Regiment. He served between September 1914 and 16th June 1919. He lived at 37 Frederick Road, Stapleford. (1) The Regiment saw action from the beginning of the war at Aisne and Armentieres in 1914, right through most areas of France, Belgium, Italy, Macedonia, the landings at Suvla, Scimitar Hill, Gallipoli and Egypt. (6) They lost 8186 men and 410 officers. (7)

WARNER Frederick. Private 44881 with the Royal Army Medical Corps. He served between the 3rd October 1914 until 30th June 1919. He lived at 5 Ryecroft Street, Stapleford. (1) The Royal Army Medical Corps were in action in every theatre of the war. They lost 5538 men and 709 officers. Most of their officers were in fact doctors and surgeons. (7)

WHITBY Henry. Private S/218980 in the Royal Army Service Corps. He served from December 1916 until August 1918. He lived at 130 Toton Lane, Stapleford. (1) The S on his regimental number denotes that he was with the supply corps. (3). All Regimental details as per Private Clive ANDERSON above.

WHEATLEY Thomas. Private 17010 with the Northumberland Fusiliers, then Private 360664 with the Royal Engineers. (5) He served from 6th January 1915 until 20th February 1919. He lived at 5 Middle Orchard Street, Stapleford. (1) All Regimental details as per Sergeant Charles Gordon REID above.

WILKINSON Arthur. Trooper 4169 with the 2nd Battalion of the Life Guards. He served from 9th November 1914 until the 6th April 1919. He lived at 30 Ash Grove, Stapleford. (1) The regiment traces its origins back to accompanying Charles II in exile on the continent and on his return to London the regiment was established in 1661 in the new standing army. They served in most theatres of war but at first were in action on horseback. (6) They lost 4455 men during the war. (7)

WINFIELD Alfred Ernest. Private 120917 with the 5th Battalion of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment. He served from July 1918 until November 1919. He lived at 5 Birley Street, Stapleford. (1) All Regimental details as per Private Alfred FARMER above.

WOOD Frederick. Corporal 5038 with the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (Sherwood Foresters) Regiment. He served from February 1900 until 6th October 1919. There is a possibility that Frederick fought during the South Africa wars. He lived at 13 Halls Road, Stapleford. (1) As Regimental per Private Alfred FARMER above.

WOOD James Thomas. Pioneer 341963 with the Royal Engineers and Private 113228 with the Army Service Corps and also with the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment. He served from 22nd April 1915 until 13th April 1918. He lived at 32 Frederick Road, Stapleford. (1) The Royal Engineers served in all theatres of the war involved with the maintenance of the ammunition. (6) They lost 16124 men and 1165 officers during the war. (7)

The following names have been entered at the beginning of the Brookhill Church minutes book first dated 1907 and through the World War I era. (9).

BARKER John (9) who was killed in action on 17th August 1918 whilst serving with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and previously lived at 53 Antill Street, Stapleford. (10)

BARKER Walter. (9)

BARNSON A who was killed in action. (9)

Records show that Private 203765 Alfred BARSON who served with the 1st Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment was killed in action on 19th September 1918 in France and Flanders. (7) He was the son of William and Sarah BARSON of Stapleford, and the husband of Charlotte BARSON of 48 Alexandra Street, Stapleford. (1) I believe that this is the same person and that the surname had been wrongly spelled, as I have not been able to identify anyone by the name A. BARNSON serving in the forces during WWI.

BROWN Sydney recorded as killed in action. (9) I have been unable to identify this man's details.

CHURCH Thomas N. (9)

GOUGH A. (9)

GUNCILL A.E. (9)

KEELEY Lesley who was killed in action. (9)

Records show that Private 313107 John William Lesley KEELEY who served with the 6/7th Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders and who was born in Sandiacre was killed in action on 25th October 1918 in France and Flanders. (5)

He was the son of John and Amy KEELEY of 178 Derby Road, Stapleford. (8)

LAU H. (9)

LONGMIRE Harold E who was killed in action whilst serving with the Canadian Regiments. (9)

OLDERSHAW F. (9)

OSBORNE. L. (9)

PLACREH M. served with 5th Battalion of the Leicester Regiment. (9)

ROBERTS. E. (9)

ROBERTS F. (9)

ROGERS Lesley. (9)

SHAKESPEARE ? (9)

SHELTON Arthur. (9)

SHELTON James. (9)

SIMMONS Leonard. (9)

SMITH Walter. (9)

SUMMERLIN Walter who served in the Grenadier Guards. (9)

Records show that Guardsman 12174 Walter Joseph SUMMERLIN of the 3rd Battalion of the Grenadier Guards was killed in action between 14th to the 17th September 1916. (7)

SUMMERS Albert. (9)

THOMSON C. (9)

TIMMS H. (9)

TURNER H. (9)

WHALEY Arthur. (9)

WOOD George. (9)

YARNOLD Thomas who is recorded on the page as killed in action on 9th August 1915. (9) Records show that Private 2700 Thomas Arthur YARNOLD who served with the 7th Battalion of the Royal Munster Rifles was killed in action on 9th August 1915. He has no known grave but is remembered on the Helles memorial. (7) (10)

In relation to most of these names listed in the front of the Brookhill Church minutes book, there is not enough information for me to be able to identify any of them from records held at the PRO so I am unable to progress the search for their records. However, I believe it is correct to add their names to the list of men of Stapleford who served during the Great War. Should anyone have further information that would help in fully identifying these men I would appreciate that information. Editor.

Sources:-

(1). The Royal British Legion/British Legion membership application forms for the Sandiacre branch of the British Legion prior to the closure of the branch.

(2). (3). (4). The Collector and researchers guide to the Great War. By Howard Wilkinson.

(5) The Public Records Office, Kew. Documents on line. World War One.

(6) A Guide to the Regiments and Corps of the British Army on the Regular Establishment. By J.M. Brereton. And all his various references.

(7) Soldiers died in the Great War. Naval and Military Press.

(8) A short history of the Regimental Memorial of THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS. Courtesy of Cliff Housley.

(8a) Cliff Housley, Historian for the Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Regiment (Sherwood Foresters)

(9) Entries at the front of the Brookhill Church Minutes book for 1907 through the Great War years held in the Nottingham Public Records Office.

(10) Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

(11) Mr Stuart Bestwick, (Grandson)

(12) The relatives of Private Thomas BURTON.

I am indebted to **THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION** and in particular Mr Bernard PAGE, Secretary of the Derbyshire County, for giving us permission to use their records of members who were in the first world war and on one occasion the Boer War, from the old Sandiacre branch of the Legion membership application forms.

There are still branches that cover the Stapleford area, namely Long Eaton and also Ilkeston, and all ex service personnel are encouraged to join.

Malcolm G Jarvis.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 6 March 1912

HOME MISSIONS WEEKEND
Local Methodist Chapel events on 29 Feb/1 March 1912

A successful concert was held at the Brookhill Schoolroom on Saturday in aid of the Christian Mission Band Instrument Fund. Dr D Montague-Snell presided. The soloists were Miss R Mellows, Miss M Gill, Dr C S Vartan and Mr H Summers; Mr W Harrison, violinist; Mr A Brown, clarinet; Mr W Wood, euphonium. The Primitive Methodist choir male quartet and Mr W Whitlock (elocutionist) also figured in the programme. Mr C Mitchell was the accompanist.

The cause of Home Missions was pleaded at the United Methodist Churches on Sunday. At Wesley Place the preachers were Mr J T White and the Rev Fred Scowby (Nottingham). At Brookhill Church, the pulpit was occupied by the Rev John Jay of Leicester and Mr W H Wood. At the Nottingham Road Church, the pulpit was occupied by the Rev G W Potter and the Rev John Jay. At the United Methodist Church, Sandiacre, services were conducted by the Rev T Scowby and Mr J E Dalley. At all the local places of worship, collections were taken on behalf of Home Missions.

At the United Methodist (Brookhill) P.S.A.class (*), Mr T Northwood presided. The services were in aid of the Home Missions. The deputation in the afternoon was the Rev John Jay of Leicester who gave an address on the work of missions in London. Miss Colley sang a solo and the choir rendered an anthem. Mr Wood of Chilwell was the preacher at the evening service and collections were taken on behalf of the Home Missions funds.

(From Alan Clayton)

(*) P.S.A. = 'Pleasant Sunday Afternoon'. (ALC)

**The Best Boots under the Sun
are Frisby's.**

100 Branches. SPECIAL - 1000 ARMY'S.
Soled and Heeled, from 8/11.
CLODS, 1000 pairs at 4/11 and 5/11.
Send your Boot Repairs.

FRISBY'S BOOT STORES.
Derby Road, STAPLEFORD.

From the Sandiacre & Stapleford weekly news
Friday 31st October 1919.

F. THURLAND, High-class Boot Repairer
95 Derby Road, Stapleford

Don't forget to patronise the only man in
the town who has distinguished himself.

Awarded Gold Medal and two Diplomas
at the Manchester Exhibition.

Advert from the *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 22 November 1912.

Both courtesy of Alan Clayton.

The following four pages copied from the
Wages Councils Act of 1959
Showing the
BOOT AND SHE REPAIRING WAGES COUNCIL
(GREAT BRITAIN)
STATUTORY MINIMUM REMUNERATION.

These copies are courtesy of 'Cobbler Paul'
From Sherwood, Nottingham.

They show life 34 years ago in relation to prices charged for repair of shoes.

'The Office of Wages Councils' permits Wages Councils Acts to be reproduced
providing the specific Acts are shown as they are in this case. Editor.

WAGES COUNCILS ACT 1959

**BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRING
WAGES COUNCIL
(GREAT BRITAIN)**

STATUTORY MINIMUM REMUNERATION

The Minister of Labour has made the Wages Regulation (Boot and Shoe Repairing)
Order 1965 (S.I. 1965/431) (Order D. (139)) dated 10th March 1965, which :—

(1) fixes the statutory minimum remuneration set out in the Schedule to this Notice in
substitution for the statutory minimum remuneration fixed by the Wages Regulation
(Boot and Shoe Repairing) Order 1962 (Order D. (131)) as amended by Schedule 1
to the Wages Regulation (Boot and Shoe Repairing) (Second Amendment) Order
1964 (Order D. (136)) ; and

(2) revokes Order D. (131) and Order D. (136).

New provisions are printed in italics.

Order D. (139) becomes

EFFECTIVE AS FROM 21st APRIL 1965.

Should this date not correspond with the beginning of the period for which wages
are paid to a worker who is paid wages at intervals not exceeding seven days, Order
D. (139) becomes effective as from the beginning of the next full pay period, but in no
case later than 27th April 1965.

This Notice takes the place of Notices D. (131) and D. (136) and sets out the statutory
minimum remuneration effective in the trade as from 21st April 1965.

Issued by order of the Wages Council, 31st March 1965.

J. J. WATSON,
Secretary.

Office of Wages Councils,
Ebury Bridge House,
Ebury Bridge Road,
London, S.W.1.

NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

Failure to comply with the statutory requirements may render an employer liable
to prosecution. See Note C. on pages 42 and 43 of this Notice.

NOTICE TO WORKERS

Workers should make themselves acquainted with the contents of this Notice and
make sure that they are receiving not less than the statutory minimum remuneration
applicable to them.

This Notice must be kept posted up
with the current Notice(s) relating to
holidays and holiday remuneration.

PART IX
A—SOLES—COMPLETED WORK

Paragraph 17

(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph 19 and the provisions as to extras and reductions specified in paragraphs 20 to 29 inclusive, the piece rates for male or female workers employed on repairing soles (completed work) are set out in the following Table.

(2) "Benching throughout" means the performance by a single worker of all the separate operations of benching, the appropriate rates for which, in paragraph 42, amount to the appropriate rate for benching throughout, and includes in the case of riveted work the operations of riveting round soles by machine when the riveting machine is operated by the benchmark but does not include the sewing or stitching of the new soles where the work is sewn or stitched.

(3) The piece rates for "benchings throughout" shall be increased by 2d. per pair where nails have to be removed from full nailed or bradded work.

(4) The piece rates for "hand stitching (with square awl)" shall be increased by one-third when old stitches are taken out from wells before restitching.

	RIVETED WORK							SEWN OR STITCHED WORK						
	Men's	Ladies'	Youths'	Boys'	Girls' and infants'	Men's	Ladies'	Youths'	Boys'	Girls' and infants'	Men's	Ladies'	Youths'	Boys'
Size	6-11	2-8	2-5½	11-1½	7-10½	6-11	2-8	2-5½	11-1½	7-10½	6-11	2-8	2-5½	11-1½
Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.
(a) (i) HALF SOLE (other than pumps and slippers) :—	7½	6½	7	6½	5½	5½	5½	4½	8½	7½	7½	7½	6½	6½
Benching throughout	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 0½	1 0½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½
Hand sewing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 0½	1 0½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½
Hand stitching (with square awl)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 0½	1 0½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½
Hand finishing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 0½	1 0½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½

	Male workers	Female workers
Per week of 42 hours	s. d.	s. d.
(v) as closers (that is, in fitting and machining) in the making of uppers for bespoke (which term includes surgical) footwear and not employed in clicking	191 6	137 0

	All workers
Per week of 42 hours	s. d.
(d) workers employed in altering footwear or on finishing operations (whether performed by hand or machine) in repairing leather footwear	187 0

	Male workers	Female workers
Per week of 42 hours	s. d.	s. d.
(c) all other workers to whom this paragraph applies	184 0	132 0

PART III
MALE OR FEMALE WORKERS AGED UNDER 21 YEARS
GENERAL MINIMUM TIME RATES AND GUARANTEED TIME RATE

Paragraph 5

(1) The general minimum time rates applicable to all male or female workers aged under 21 years, being—

- (a) foremen or managers as defined in paragraph 3 (3),
(b) press cutters responsible for cutting and costing, or
(c) workers who have worked at least five years in the trade under a contract of apprenticeship,

are the general minimum time rates which would be applicable to those workers under paragraph 3 or 4 if they were aged 21 years or over.

Per week of 42 hours

(2) The guaranteed time rate applicable to the workers specified in sub-paragraph (1) (a) of this paragraph when employed on piece work is 209 6

GENERAL MINIMUM TIME RATES

Paragraph 6

(1) The general minimum time rates applicable to all male or female workers aged under 21 years except (i) the workers specified in paragraph 5 and (ii) learners or apprentices to whom the minimum rates specified in Part IV of this Schedule apply are those specified in the following Table.

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
	The workers specified in sub-para. (2) of this paragraph	Other male workers	Other female workers
	Per week of 42 hours		
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Aged 20 and under 21 years	149 6	149 6	117 9
" 19 " " 20 "	134 6	134 6	105 3
" 18 " " 19 "	120 6	120 6	94 9
" 17 " " 18 "	101 3	101 3	81 0
" 16 " " 17 "	92 3	92 3	72 6
Under 16 years	85 3	85 3	65 6

PALACE, Stapleford

Telephone :
Sandiacro 3152

SUNDAY, October 20th — Kathryn Grayson, Red Skelton, and Howard Keel in **LOVELY TO LOOK AT** (u) (Tech)
Also — Debbie Reynolds, Bobby Van and Bob Fosse in **THE AFFAIRS OF DOBIE GILLIS** (u)

MONDAY, October 21st — **FOR THREE DAYS**

Norman Wisdom in

UP IN THE WORLD (u)

with Maureen Swanson and Jerry Desmonde

Also — Dirk Bogard, Jon Whiteley and Michael Holdern in

THE SPANISH GARDENER (u)

VistaVision and Technicolor

THURSDAY, October 24th — **FOR THREE DAYS**

Celia Johnson, Diana Dors and David Kossoff in

A KID FOR TWO FARTHING (a)

Eastman Color — Also

Robert Hutton, Paul Richards in **SCANDAL INC** (a)

VICTORY

Telephone : SANDIACRE 3120

STAPLEFORD

LARGE FREE CAR PARK

SUNDAY, October 20th — **CONTINUOUS from 5.40**

Brett King and Barbara Lawrence in

JESSE JAMES v THE DALTONS (u) (Tech)
At 5.48 and 8.11 p.m. — Also — At 6.57 p.m.

Johnny Weissmuller, Christine Larson in
VALLEY OF HEADHUNTERS (u)

MONDAY, October 21st — **THREE DAYS — CONTINUOUS 5.40**

Kieron Moore, Lois Maxwell, Donald Wolfitt in

SATELLITE IN THE SKY (u)

CinemaScope and Warnercolor

At 5.22 and 8.55 p.m. — Also — At 7.21 p.m.

THE ANIMAL WORLD (u)

Unusual and Interesting Film in Technicolor

Last Complete Performance 7.16 p.m.

THURSDAY, October 24th — **THREE DAYS — CONTINUOUS 5.15**

Tommy Steele, Patrick Westwood, Lisa Daniely in

THE TOMMY STEELE STORY (u)

At 6.23 and 9.08 p.m. — Also — At 5.27 and 8.07 p.m.

Bill Elliott, Douglas Dick, Eleanore Tanin in

FOOTSTEPS IN THE NIGHT (u)

Last Complete Performance 7.55 p.m.

from *The Ilkeston Pioneer*

18th October 1957

Alan Clayton

Paragraph 17 (contd.)

Size	Column	RIVETED WORK						SEWN OR STITCHED WORK					
		Men's	Ladies'	Youths'	Boys'	Girls' and infants'	Under 7	Men's	Ladies'	Youths'	Boys'	Girls' and infants'	Under 7
6-11	1	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.	Per pair s. d.
2-8	2	1 2	1 1	1 1½	1 1	10½	10	1 3	1 2	1 2½	1 2	11½	11
2-5½	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 5	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
11-1½	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 11	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
7-10½	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
11-1½	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
7-10½	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
11-1½	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
6-11	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
2-8	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
2-5½	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
11-1½	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
7-10½	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
11-1½	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
7-10½	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11
Under 7	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	11½	11

1) SOLE UNDER HEEL (other than pumps and slippers):—

Benching throughout
Hand sewing
Hand stitching (with square awl)
Hand finishing (whether heeled or not)

(b) HALF SOLE, SLIPPERS (other than pumps):—

Benching
Hand sewing
Hand finishing

PRICE LIST of items for sale at Society Meetings
At any other time please apply to the Chairman

Stapleford Town Trail	£1.00
Stapleford Tea Towels	£2.95
Leather bookmarks	£0.80
Local views – framed	priced individually
Local views – cards with envelopes	£1.00
Pen & ink drawings by Jack Vernon	£1.00

Full colour illustrated maps of Stapleford + Borlase Warren
Coat of Arms in gold frames (produced to order) £14.00

Society Newsletters – some back copies available at reduced
prices

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CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY– Barbara Brooke 0115-939 4979
TREASURER – Pat Hodgkiss – 0115-939 5273

**The deadline for submission of items for the next Autumn
2009 issue of the Newsletter is 30 September 2009.
Material can be given to any of the above named.
This is YOUR newsletter! We'd love to hear from you!**

Front cover:
Stanton Old Works - No. 1 and 2 furnaces
Drawn by Nigel Brooks