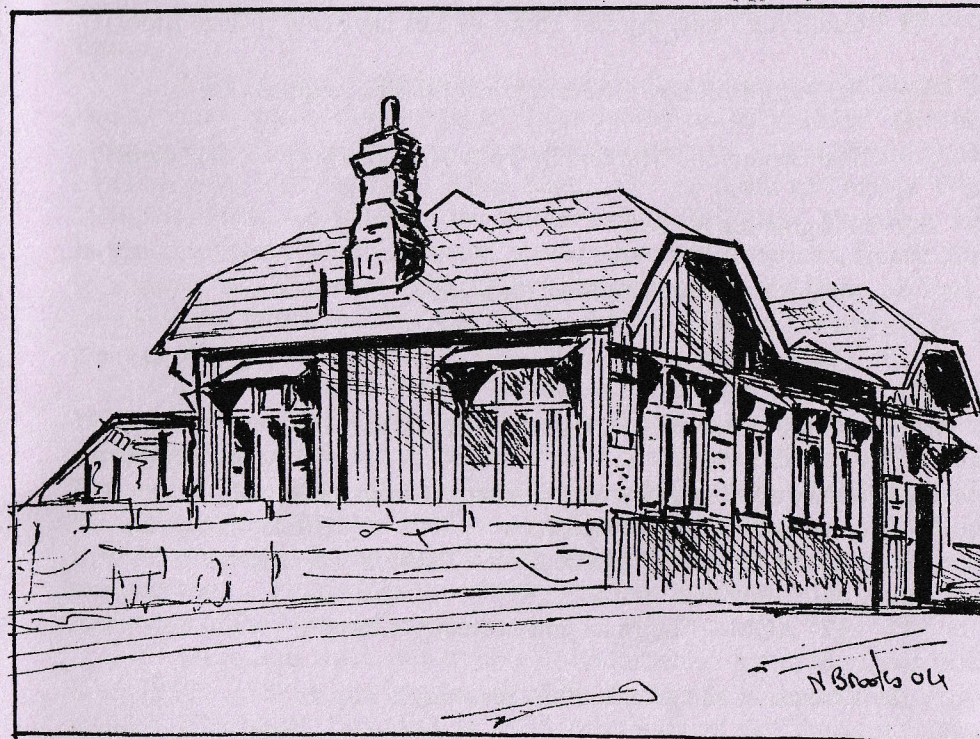


Stapleford and District Local History Society



Newsletter No 22 – Spring 2007

50p

Free to members

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MEETING REPORTS

8 November 2006

THE 1930s – READ ALL ABOUT IT!

by Alan L Clayton

What an achievement to describe and illustrate the events of a decade in little more than an hour! Alan did just that in his talk, covering all aspects of that tumultuous period which seems so distant now from our modern times.

King George V made the first royal radio broadcast in 1932 and he and Queen Mary celebrated their Silver Jubilee in May 1935. George, Duke of Kent, married Princess Marina of Greece in 1934 and Henry, Duke of Gloucester, married Lady Alice Scott. On the death of George V in 1936 his eldest son came to the throne as Edward VIII. However, his intention to marry Wallis Simpson, a twice divorced American, forced him to abdicate in December 1936. His younger brother, the Duke of York, ascended the throne as King George VI and his splendid Coronation took place on 11 May 1937.

It was a difficult time in politics following the financial crash of 1929. Ramsay MacDonald led the second Labour government with a narrow majority. The miners' strike of 1931 precipitated the formation of a National government with MacDonald remaining as Prime Minister, with the agreement of Stanley Baldwin, the Conservative leader. A big 'Buy British' campaign was mounted in the hope of reducing the three million unemployed. Following the 1935 election Baldwin took over the leadership of the National government.

Meantime, there was trouble in Spain which led to the Civil War from 1936 – 1939, when large areas of the country were devastated. Italy invaded Abyssinia (Ethiopia) in 1935 and deposed the emperor. The League of Nations seemed unable to help resolve these problems.

Hitler became the German Chancellor in 1933 and, on the death of President Hindenburg in 1934, assumed total control with his fascist government. Germany invaded the neutral Rhineland in 1936, annexed Austria in 1938 and invaded Czechoslovakia in 1938. The then British Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, attempted to negotiate a settlement with Hitler and it was hoped the Munich Agreement would bring 'Peace in our Time'. However, in the summer of 1939 Germany invaded Poland, which finally spurred Britain into action and she declared war on Germany on 3 September 1939.

In Britain Sir Oswald Mosley, successively a Conservative, Independent and Labour MP, formed the British Union of Fascists in 1932 and staged anti-Semitic marches in London.

Elsewhere, F D Roosevelt was elected Democratic President of the USA, King Alexander of Yugoslavia was assassinated in Marseilles and King Albert of Belgium was killed in a climbing accident, to be replaced by King Leopold.

The 1930s were a time of adventure and innovation in travel but the destruction by fire of the *Hindenburg* airship in New Jersey in 1939, killing 97 people, effectively brought to a close the era of airships.

Amy Johnson piloted her Gypsy Moth aeroplane on a solo flight to Australia and Amelia Erhart was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. Imperial Airways inaugurated flights from London to Cape Town and Australia.

Luxurious new liners were launched, the *Normandie* in 1935, *Queen Mary* in 1936, *Mauretania* in 1938 and *Queen Elizabeth* in the same year, which vied for the lucrative passenger trade between Europe and the United States.

On the railways new speed records were achieved by steam locomotives. The LNER *Silver Fox* reached 115mph in 1936 and then *Mallard* reached the fastest speed ever recorded – 126mph.

The first issue of the *Highway Code* was published in 1930 and a motor vehicle licensing system was introduced in 1931. The Austin Westminster and Morris saloon cars cost £350.

There were great construction projects all over the world. The Empire State Building in New York was completed in 1931, Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932 and the Zuyder Zee in Holland was dammed in 1932 and great areas of land, known as *polders*, were claimed from the sea. The Mersey Tunnel was built in 1934 and the Crystal Palace was destroyed by fire in 1935.

Locally, 1932 was memorable for its weather – much fog and severe floods. The new *Sherwin Arms* was built at Bramcote in 1935 and the *Scala* cinema in Long Eaton was burnt down in 1934.

Some of the top songs of the 1930s were *Red Sails in the Sunset*, *Little Old Lady passing by*, *Roll along Prairie Moon* and *Lambeth Walk*.

By the end of the 1930s Britons were getting used to being at war, building air raid shelters, filling sand bags, evacuating children away from the threat of bombing and carrying gas masks wherever they went.

When Alan had finished his fascinating talk, everyone was able to look at copies of newspapers from the 30s, telling of some of the events we had heard about. A splendid evening!

Barbara Brooke

13 December 2006

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL EVENING

The evening started with members wandering round studying the pictures on the walls that were clues in the intriguing *Who, What, When* quiz, devised by Barbara Page. She had also provided a general knowledge quiz, which was much more difficult! As usual, members had brought a wide selection of food for our supper and a good time was had by all.

Barbara Brooke

10 January 2007

THE CANALS OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY

by Les Henshaw

The Society was treated to this talk/film show, which included the Erewash Canal, together with additional information on the pumping stations and 200 foot tall factory chimneys, which began to line canal banks as the Industrial Revolution gathered momentum.

I apologise in advance to the gentlemen who like to know things such as there is pressure of 44lbs per square inch on whatever, as this goes straight over my head, but I can tell you that when the lock-keeper's cottage at Trent Lock was turned into a refreshment room in 1979, it stocked 126 varieties of tea!

The first film was made in 1979 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Erewash Canal, which was at the heart of the coal mining industry in this area. From Trent Lock to Langley Mill there are fifteen locks. James Brindley, a millwright from Derby, turned his hand to canal building and was responsible for cutting these 70 feet long, 4 feet wide locks. The original navigators (navvies) were a rough lot of men but, with only simple tools, were each expected, in one day, to dig 6 feet deep, 6 feet wide and 9 feet long! The Duke of Bridgewater built the first canal to transport coal from his estate at Worsley to Manchester and hundreds of navigators were employed.

Pumping stations by the canal were fed by coal and powered over 200 cotton mills in Lancashire. A George Saxon engine of 2,200 horse power was built to last a minimum of 60 years. Six Lancashire boilers generate steam to a tandem engine with a 26 foot diameter wheel. Three pressure gauges show what is happening to the steam. Watching it all come together on film was sheer poetry in motion.

Nowadays, the canals are chiefly maintained by British Waterways with local councils providing leisure facilities. Very few goods are moved by water, but the hard work done by those long ago navvies enables us to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the canal bank in today's sometimes hectic lifestyle.

Eileen Bloor

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STAPLEFORD LIBRARY – LOCAL STUDIES **RECENT ADDITIONS**

Hunting, Jane	Ghosts in a New Light	L85
---	A Walk Down Memory Lane	L30.32
Jones, Philip E (two copies)	Lost Houses of Nottinghamshire	L72.8
Whitworth, Douglas	Nottingham: Life in the Post-War Years	L90.8

14 February 2007

THE DRUMMOND MURDERS

by Tony Horton

Tony Horton gave society members a fascinating talk on 'The Drummond Murders'. He explained that the murder of Sir Jack Drummond, his wife Lady Ann and their young daughter Elizabeth, while on holiday in southern France in 1952, raises more questions than answers, even though someone was tried and convicted for the crime. The killings made the headlines in the international press. In Nottinghamshire, the murders aroused deep emotions, not only because of the unusual and horrific circumstances in which they occurred but because Sir Jack Drummond was the Head of Research at Boots the Chemists and he and his wife were well known locally.

Tony set the scene by describing the world of 1952 in Britain, reminding us of the fact that wartime rationing was still in force. It was one year before the Clean Air Act was enacted and winter smogs still killed many town dwellers in Britain. We had only one channel on TV and television sets were still owned by a privileged few. 1952 was the year *The Hit Parade* started, when the big band sound was popularised on 78rpm records by singers like Dickie Valentine and Alma Cogan. The popular films of the year included *High Noon* (starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly) and *The Quiet Man* (starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara). With regard to holidays, few people went abroad. Currency restrictions were in force and legally each person could take only £25 abroad.

The Drummond family were exceptional. Jack Cecil Drummond was a graduate of London University, a renowned chemist, and a Fellow of the Royal Society. He had been knighted for his work during the war on foodstuffs and much of his work may have been shrouded in secrecy. He had a wide range of interests and possessed a reputation for being able to explain complex subjects in simple language. Lady Ann Drummond was Sir Jack Drummond's second wife and about thirty years his junior. She was also well educated and had collaborated with him in the 30s on a book entitled *The Englishman's Food*. She was active with many local charities. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was described by her teacher as better than average and keen on sport. She was asked as holiday "homework" to write a journal describing her French experiences and her last entry was 4 August 1952, the day before she died.

The holiday destination of the Drummond family was a villa near Monte Carlo, which Sir Jack had arranged to share with a former colleague and his family.

The Drummonds travelled from Nottingham in their Hillman station wagon, taking with them suitcases and some camping equipment. They made at least one stop at a village associated with Joan of Arc before continuing south to their holiday villa where they were welcomed by their friends.

As part of their holiday, the Drummonds left the villa and drove to the town of Digne where they booked into a local hotel. Digne was (and maybe still is) famous for its Bull Festival. During their stay, Sir Jack visited a priest called Father Lorenzi whom he had twice visited in recent years. Why he called on Father Lorenzi is not recorded, but it is known that the priest was an important person in the local wartime Resistance, and this fact could have significance in the story of the Drummond murders.

Having left their hotel and following an itinerary that was never fully explained, the Drummonds made a stop in the countryside near Lurs, where they camped. There, in the night, they were murdered. Sir Jack and Lady Ann were shot, and Elizabeth was clubbed to death with a rifle butt after being chased by her killer.

A local man discovered the bodies at first light, having heard shots at about one in the morning. He contacted the police who were quickly on the scene. They established the identity of the victims. Police from Marseille also arrived led by one Captain Sebeille.

As Tony Horton explained, from the outset the investigation into the murders was marred by personality conflicts between the local police officers and those sent from Marseille. Hostility between local people and the police and hatred between local communists and their opponents seem to have prevented the investigation from progressing smoothly. Local families and political groups did not always cooperate with the police and the authorities had to contend with disturbances as people protested while suspects were questioned. It is even suggested that the French government was concerned lest the trouble spark off a communist takeover in the region!

In spite of these difficulties the police investigations did proceed. It became clear robbery was not a motive for the killings as jewels and money were not taken. All the things belonging to the Drummonds had been thrown around the site, as though the killers were looking for something. A camera had been taken (which commentators think may have been significant). A carbine was recovered from the nearby river and later linked

to the murders, not so much by the bullets as by evidence that the butt had been used to kill Elizabeth. House to house searches were made but the crime scene was not sealed off and local people wandered around freely disturbing the evidence. When autopsies were carried out two different sizes of bullet were found, indicating two weapons and, maybe, at least two killers.

The bodies of the Drummond family were identified by Sir Jack's colleague from their shared villa. The Drummonds had died on Tuesday and on Thursday they were buried in a local cemetery. The funeral was an official, solemn affair and a surprising number of representatives turned up, given the rapidity of the process and the distances that people had to travel. A recent photograph provides evidence that the local community are still caring for the grave after more than fifty years.

In England, several memorial services were organised, including one at St Mary's Church Nottingham that was attended by many people who had known the Drummonds, including representatives from abroad.

Tony Horton described graphically various stages in the investigation and the extent to which evidence suggested that the Drummond murders had been carried out by strangers. This included two persons reported as being in the area and the sighting of a black Citroën at the crime scene on the night of the murders. This evidence was eventually dismissed by the French police and a suspect was arrested: Gustav, a son of the local farmer Gaston Dominici.

The suspect was described as easily led and he changed his story many times. Poignantly, he admitted to finding the young Elizabeth still alive but would not explain why he did not immediately call for assistance. He was later jailed for failing to assist someone in grave danger (this is still French law).

Then the elderly father of Gustav, Gaston Dominici, confessed to the crime, possibly to protect members of his family. Later he retracted the confession but it was to no avail. He was tried in 1954 and convicted of the murders of Sir Jack Drummond, Lady Drummond and of their daughter Elizabeth, in spite of a lot of holes in the case for the prosecution. He was spared the guillotine and released after serving eight years in prison. He died in 1965.

There have been many developments since 1954. The investigation has been reopened on several occasions. The alleged driver of the black Citroën is said to have accused three Soviet/Polish communists of carrying out the killings, and these men are alleged to have confessed to the crime to American or German police.

So who carried out the murders? Was there a secret mission that Sir Jack was undertaking linked to the existence of a plant in southern France producing chemical weapons? And was his death worthy of a novel by Ian Fleming?

Tony concluded that we will never know and, in 2007, 'The Drummond Murders' remains an intriguing mystery.

Harry Houldsworth

Programme for 2007

- 13 June The Eccentric English Gentleman – an illustrated
 story of the town crier Joe David
 (former Yeoman of the Guard at the Tower of London)
- 11 July Monks and Monasteries of Derbyshire and
 East Staffordshire Keith Blood
- 8 August Little Known Glassmakers of Nottingham
 Gloria Roebuck
- 12 September They Played the Halls Trevor Lee
- 10 October Bits and Bobs Quiz – Some Things New, Some
 Things Old, Some Things Wooden, Some
 Things Gold Bob & Del Neill
- 14 November Pitman – Historical Coal Mining Entertainer
 David Coleman
- 12 December Christmas Social Event

ARCHIVE MATERIAL ACQUIRED 2006/2007

Grace Jarvis

Chatfield's of Stapleford – pink paper bag

Alan Clayton

Extracts from Stapleford's Electoral Register 1939/40

(Partial extracts from the following streets: Ilkeston Road, Hickings Lane, Coventry Lane, Crawford Avenue, Moorbridge Lane, Pasture Road, Toton Lane, Brookhill Street, Church Street, Albert Street, Derby Road, Cyril Avenue)

Photocopy of article from *Ilkeston Pioneer*, 07.07.1916 –
Stapleford's Appalling Infant Mortality

Mike Read, Sandiacre historical Society

Transcripts about Stapleford matters from local papers:

Ilkeston Pioneer- 1880 and 1883 – New Co-operative buildings on
Albert Street

Long Eaton Advertiser- Items about Mr Thomas Northwood

Alderman Tom Martin

Photocopy programme of the official opening of the Town Hall,
Beeston, 17 March 1938

Eileen Marshall, Brookhill Street

Photocopies from *White's Gazetteer and Directory of
Nottinghamshire 1832* (1st Edition)

Title page and Preface

Information re Stapleford village, residents and occupations

14 March 2007

THE PARK ESTATE

by Bill Shaw

With the help of maps and diagrams on the overhead projector Bill Shaw clearly explained the area of the Park estate and in the process, showed how it had got its name.

The medieval castle had a park for the purpose of providing hunting for the owner and his visitors. Sometimes these were royal. It was a large space, outside the walls on the western side of the town. The public were not forbidden entry and would use the area. It was enclosed to keep in the deer, but the public still had access. Only at times of royal or important visitors would the park be closed. After the Civil War the medieval castle was pulled down lest it became a centre of resistance for Royalists. The stone was taken away by people and used for building.

Nottingham had a reputation for being 'trouble' over centuries. (An ironic comment in Westminster that Nottingham people were 'as quiet as lambs' led to the adoption by the local hooligans of the name 'The Nottingham Lambs'!) So in one corner of the Park a Cavalry Regiment was stationed to deal with any trouble in the town. A reminder of this is Barrack Lane, on the left as one comes out of Nottingham along the Derby Road. One of the entertainments open to the townspeople was to watch the cavalry regiment's exercises.

In 1670 the 1st Duke of Newcastle bought the site of the castle. He built the palace we have today. He also acquired the park land. The locals were still tolerated. When the 2nd Duke of Newcastle inherited he perceived that the land was a source of revenue. He sold plots leasehold round Standard Hill. There was a demand for houses away from the town, on the western edge.

But it was the 3rd Duke of Newcastle who was the real developer of the Park estate. He appointed Thomas Chambers Hind, who had won a competition for designing cottages for farm workers.

However the work he now embarked on was different. The Duke decreed that each house on the new estate was to be individually designed for the 'business class'. Each house had to

be up to standard. There were strict rules as to the width of the roads and street lighting. No trade was to take place on the estate and no buses were allowed. Restrictions continued. There was great opposition to the introduction of post boxes. All these restrictions could be enforced because the estate was leasehold and ultimately owned by the Duke. When the carriages could not get out to Derby Road because of a steep incline, the Duke had a tunnel made, so that the inhabitants could emerge with lively horses onto the main road! The tunnel is still in existence.

T.C.Hind's partner in the enterprise was Watson Fothergill. Their designs can still be seen in Nottingham city centre.

The Park is still a private estate. It has gates and the road markings are different. Staff are paid and appointed through a London solicitor for the Newcastle estate, and in the past rubbish collection, street lighting, fire protection and policing were all privately provided.

In the 1900s residents began to agitate to buy their freeholds. This was resisted. However properties began to run down as owners, whose leases were due to run out, were unwilling to spend money on repairs and renovations. The Duke had no male heir. An Oxford College bought the estate, but were bad landlords. Eventually in the 1930s the tenants could now own the properties freehold. So they had rights to sell. One of the ways they exercised this right was to sell swathes of their very large gardens to builders, so that the whole look of the area was compromised. Now the estate is owned by a company. The Newcastle Estate has shares. There is no eligible male heir at the moment to inherit.

Having whetted our appetites, Bill Shaw finished by saying that he regularly leads tours of The Park. (I suspect that we should all have to be impeccably behaved! MO)

Meg Oliver

ADMIRAL BORLASE WARREN and WILLIAM TURNER R.A.

One of that great British artist William Turner's most famous paintings is '*The Fighting Temeraire*' painted in 1839. For a period of around 12 months this 98-gun ship of the line of the British Navy was under the command of Sir John Borlase Warren. On 14 February 1799, Warren was promoted to rear admiral of the white. In July that year he hoisted his flag on the *Temeraire*. In this he joined the Channel fleet and was very successful in preventing the Spanish fleet getting into Rochefort.

In 1838, many years after Warren's death (1822), William Turner was with a party of friends who went by water to dine at *The Ship* at Greenwich. They passed a tug-boat towing an antiquated battleship to the breaker's wharf. It was the *Temeraire*. One of the party suggested to Turner that that would be a fine subject to paint. The hint was taken and the result was one of Turner's masterpieces in oils. Whilst "... such skies and such reflections are to be seen on Thames-side, only Turner succeeded in transferring them to canvass in undiminished glory."

'*The Fighting Temeraire*' having been tugged to her last berth to be broken up was immortalised by Turner's painting of her in 1839 which he subsequently exhibited at the Royal Academy the same year. It now hangs in the National Gallery.

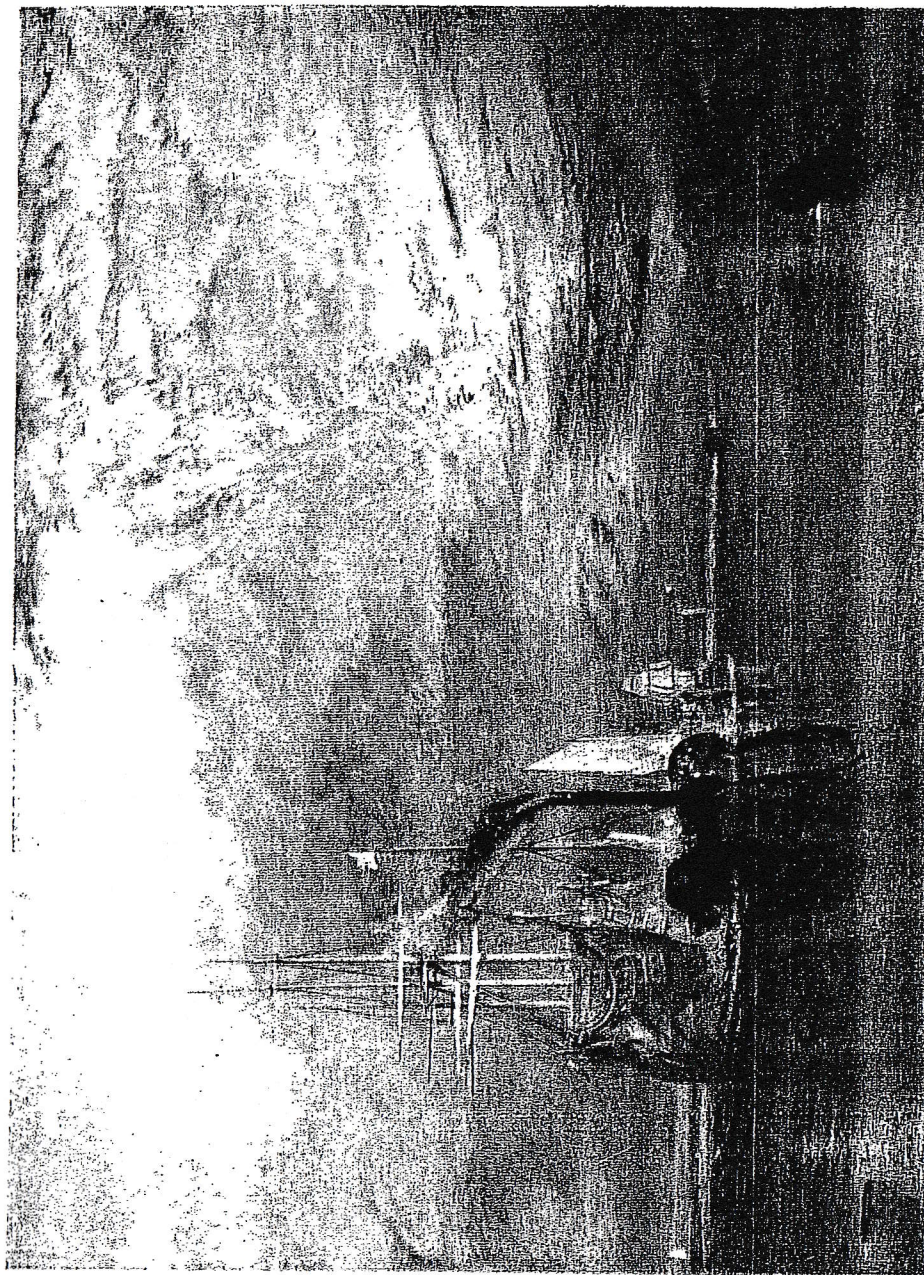
The illustration in black and white does not do justice to the beauty of the real painting, but readers will surely recognise the scene perhaps without realising that at one time the subject did have a link with one of Stapleford's most famous sons.

Alan Clayton

References: *Nottingham Journal* March 1822

British Admirals of the Napoleonic Wars, LeFevre and Harding

British Painters, their Story and their Art - Joseph Mallord William Turner RA., Edgcumbe Staley



The Diary of Abigail Gawthorn
Of Nottingham
1751 – 1810

Extracts from the Edited edition
By Adrian Henstock.

Introduction of the diary
Social context

Abigail Anna Frost, the author of the diary was born in 1757. She was the daughter of Thomas Frost, a Nottinghamshire man who became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1758. She married her cousin, Francis Gawthorn of Nottingham, a white-lead manufacturer, in 1783, but was widowed by 1791 and died in 1822.

Her diary, which covers most of her life up to 1810, reflects the viewpoint of a member of upper-middle-class Nottingham society. Her circle of relatives and friends embraced members of all classes from the titled families, the country gentry, the clergy and the visiting army officers, to the attorneys and respectable tradesmen, all of whom constituted in her later life Abigail Gawthorn was both a Nottingham manufacturer and a county landowner; she continued to run her late husband's leadworks from 1791 to 1807, but possessed a substantial house and other property in Nottingham, a country seat and a small estate at Holme, near Newark, and other land at Granby, Basford, Chilwell, and elsewhere in Nottinghamshire. Both families also had close connections with the church.

Apart from her relations, Abigail Gawthorn's social connections included close friendship with lesser gentry families such as the Launderers of Elton and the Sherwins of Bramcote and also her distant relatives the Brough/Charlton/Staunton family of Staunton Hall. She was well acquainted with the two prominent Nottingham banking families, the (Abel) Smiths and the Wrights, and with one of the famous naval heroes of the period, Sir John Borlase Warren, of Stapleford.

Abigail Gawthorn's son-in-law, Captain William Sleigh, lived at Niagara Cottage, Stapleford, and died there in 1842, aged 62. A monument recording his military service in Egypt and Canada formerly stood in the churchyard at Stapleford but has recently been dismantled, only two small stone sphinxes now remaining. His son, William Blucher Lumley Sleigh, followed his father into the army and served in various regiments, including the 15th Hussars from 1842 to 1844, and died at Stapleford in 1853.

Diary entrants

1801 Oct 2. Peace with France signed in London by Lord Hawksbury on the part of his Majesty and M. Otto on the part of the French; we illuminated at Nottingham, Monday, Oct 12 on the ratification being signed; many transparencies, the Exchange looked beautiful, several Roman candles let off from the top of it which had a pretty effect; our house and Mr Nevill's a candle in each pane of glass; was obliged to illuminate the old house in Pepper Street.

1802 Sep 13. I and Anna went to pay a bride visit at Stapleford to Mrs Sedley, she was rode out.

Feb 6. Mr Burford died at Mr Sedley's at Stapleford; he was steward to Sir John Warren and father to the Mr B. who was formerly a mercer on Beast Hill, and mother to Mrs Attenburrow.

1805 Oct 9. The Infirmary anniversary, none of us at church; we went to the assembly; Miss Statham came to us for a week; Mr Edge president, a large party with him; Sir John Warren there, he looked in good health and spirits.

1806. Jan 1. A duel fought at Basford between a Mr Brown and Mr Butler, two officers; the former was killed on the spot; the seconds were a Mr Wiltshire, an officer, and Mr Hall of this town, a son of Mr Thomas Hall, a Hosier, a young man of bad character; Lieutenant Brown was buried on the 8th in St Mary's church yard; Mr Middleton preached a sermon in the church before the interment on the melancholy occasion and the dreadful effects of duels.

1807 May 17. I and Anna at Stapleford to call on Lady Warren; she was rode out.

22. At Stableford to call on Lady Warren; they were returned to London yesterday; at Bramcote, walked in Mr Longdon's gardens and hot house.

1808 Oct 26. Mrs Shore died, aged 84; she was sister to Lady Santry.

Newscuttings: (a) report of a public dinner given by the Corporation of Monmouth to Lord Nelson, the Rev Dr Nelson and Sir William and Lady Hamilton on 19th Aug 1802, and of the speech of the mayor in praise of the navy; (b) eye-witness account of the death of Lord Nelson on the decks of the 'Victory' (1805)

Newscuttings: (a) 'account of the 'exact circumstances' of Lord Nelson's death, and his last words ("Yes, my back is broke, Hardy, they have caught me at last"); (b) description of procession to Aylsham church for victory thanksgiving service.

My thanks to the staff at the Nottingham reference library

Editor

From *Ilkeston Advertiser*, Friday 28 October 1910

Extract from the Stapleford Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 26 October 1910.

MOTOR SERVICE TO NOTTINGHAM

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Messrs A Barton Bros of Nottingham asking permission to ply for hire with a motor omnibus from Stapleford to Nottingham with the object of ascertaining whether there was sufficient traffic to warrant their making daily journeys between the two places. Mr R Hardy - "Let 'em all come!" (laughter) The Clerk was instructed to reply that no objection would be raised to such a scheme.

(From Alan L Clayton)

12th ANNUAL GENERAL MEEETING, 11 APRIL 2007

CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY'S REPORT

After all the excitement during the previous year in connection with the launch and sales of our 'Stapleford in World War Two' book, this has been a relatively quiet year.

The programme of talks arranged by Barbara Page has been very varied and interesting, from the all-action involvement of the audience in Jason King's 'In the Trenches' to the individual, personal interest of being able to look at newspapers and magazines of the 1930s after the talk on that era. There has been the Nottingham connection with the talks on the Park Estate, Burtons of Smithy Row and the Drummond murders, then locally a film about the Erewash Canal and slides of Stapleford.

We all appreciate the contributions that our members Nigel Brooks and Alan Clayton made to that programme. Thank you from us all to Barbara Page for continuing to recruit speakers who give such interesting and stimulating talks.

The Society's newsletter has continued to be of a high standard and there have been contributions from eight members in the two editions published this year. Malcolm Jarvis does a great job in editing the magazine, as well as carrying out research for his own articles - many thanks.

Eileen Bloor, Nigel Brooks, Colin Rowland and I are continuing with our task of sorting the Society's archive material and, whilst we all enjoy the work, it is a very slow job!

I have led two walks round the Society's Town Trail with Eileen as back marker, 13 members of Sandiacre Historical Society on a cool, damp evening in July and 10 people on a bright Saturday morning in October as part of the Carnegie Centenary celebrations, the walk on this occasion followed by refreshments provided by the town council.

As part of the National Heritage Weekend in September, I was asked to meet people at the sites to talk about the Hemlock Stone and the walled garden at Bramcote Hills Park. Very few people turned up, due to poor publicity, but those who did enjoyed it.

As part of the centenary celebrations of Stapleford Library, we were asked to create a display about life in the town in 1906. This formed part of the events at the Carnegie Centre and was well received. The display panels are here tonight for you to look at after the AGM.

In November I gave a talk on the history of Stapleford to the Rotary Club of Stapleford and Sandiacre, accompanied by overhead projector pictures, held on this occasion at Attenborough Nature Centre. They must have enjoyed it as they have asked for another!

Meg Oliver and her husband, George, organised a *Time Traveller* event which involved all 193 Year 4 children at schools in Stapleford in an exploration of St Helen's church. This proved so successful that they are hoping to organise a similar event involving the church and the history of Stapleford.

You may be interested to know that, on behalf of the Society, I sit on the Bramcote and Stapleford Hills Open Spaces Forum, a body which meets twice a year under the auspices of Broxtowe Borough Council to ensure that the various sites (Stapleford Hill, Bramcote Hills and Bramcote ridge as far as the city boundary in Wollaton) are developed in an appropriate and co-ordinated way. As well as representatives from local history, cyclists' and ramblers' groups, schools and Community Action Teams, organisations covering wider areas such as Notts Wildlife Trust, the Greenwood Community Forest, Groundwork Greater Nottingham and Biffa are also involved. The input from this body, together with very hard work by its grounds staff, helped Broxtowe Borough Council to achieve the prestigious Green Flag award for Bramcote Hills Park in 2006.

The Hemlock Happening at Bramcote Hills Park in June was a great success on one of the hottest days of the summer. Nine Society members had helped to distribute fliers beforehand and five were stewards on the day. Preparations are going ahead well for this year's event on Saturday 9 June, when the specially commissioned community play is about Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren. In support of this year's multicultural theme, we have recruited musicians from eight countries and Congolese and Zimbabweans bands, as well as performances by eight schools, international folk dancers and all the usual field activities. The organising committee would be very pleased to recruit any flier distributors or stewards again this year. If you have never attended, do give it a try. It's a great event!

'Celebrating Stapleford' is an event to be held at Fairfield Primary School, Toton Lane, on Saturday 28 April. This is a free community day when local groups and organisations will be mounting stalls to showcase their activities. There will be displays, demonstrations and some 'have a go' sessions. Eileen Bloor and Pat Kelly will be in charge of this Society's stall and will hopefully recruit some new members. There are to be 53 stalls and light refreshments will be on sale during the event, from 10am to 3pm.

An ongoing local project is the renovation of the so-called sunken church at Bramcote. In fact, the tower is the only remaining part of St Luke's church, which was demolished in the 19th century when the new St Michael and All Angels' church was completed. The tower and adjacent grounds will form a community area for the village.

The programme for Stapleford Carnival 2006 included an extract from our book 'Stapleford at the Dawn of the 20th Century'.

Your Committee has decided to make Norman Greator, uncle of Barrie, and proud to be a former 'Stapleford lad', now living in Twickenham, an Honorary

Member of this Society in recognition of his two substantial donations to our funds. Thank you, Norman.

During the year many Stapleford members have taken part in Beeston Society outings – to Chavenage, a historic Cotswold house, to Downham Market and Collectors World and to Windsor and Eton. In 2007 we are invited to take part in visits to Hereford in April, Market Drayton and Hodnet Hall Gardens in June and to Haworth and the Worth Valley Railway in August. We are very pleased to be included. Thank you, Alan.

This is my opportunity to thank everyone who has helped the Society in any way. Firstly, Grace Jarvis has done a very good job as Treasurer and Membership Secretary, despite her health problems this year. She is here this evening to present the Accounts for your approval for her second and final year, because she feels that, due to her continuing ill health, she cannot offer herself for re-election. Thanks to Pat and John Hodgkiss who have been stalwarts at the table, supervising the payment of dues and to Carol Moore, who has been Grace's go-between at meetings when she has been prevented from attending.

On your behalf I want to thank Robert Butler for arranging to have our Accounts audited, free of charge, by C J Lucking & Co, Chartered Accountants, of Long Eaton. We are very grateful to them.

Many thanks to Pat Kelly and her helpers for operating the Society's library, which is very much valued by members. Thank you to Nigel Brooks for producing posters, maps and colourful cards and to Eileen Bloor for continuing to run the sales stall. I have already thanked Barbara Page for organising the programme and Malcolm Jarvis for producing the newsletter. Finally, thank you to other committee members for their help and support and to all members for their co-operation in preparing the hall for our meetings and for tidying away afterwards.

Thank you all for a very good year and here's to another good one in 2007/2008.

Barbara Brooke
Chairman and Secretary

TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Although it has been a quiet year the bank balance has increased and stands at £6,467.62.

The sales of the book have now slowed down and there have been no big expenses incurred this year. We have received another generous donation of £200 from Mr N W Greator. The room hire has remained the same, although this year there was no free month.

We now have 74 members, 12 of whom are couples and they now pay £8 per couple. Single members still pay £5. There is no increase this year. The average attendance is 33 members. The highest turnout was for The Drummond Murders in February and the lowest was for the AGM in April. There were, on average, 6 visitors per meeting (not counting the Christmas social event and the AGM) and the highest number of visitors, 16, was for Nigel's Slides of Stapleford in October.

My time as Treasurer is now finished and, as I am not enjoying the best of health, I am stepping down. I give a heartfelt thank-you to John and Pat Hodgkiss for their support and invaluable help in collecting the money at all the meetings and a big thank-you to my friend Carol Moore who has done a lot of favours for me behind the scenes. I would not have been able to complete my term of office without them, or the moral support given me by Barbara Brooke and Barbara Page.

Grace Jarvis
Treasurer and Membership Secretary

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As there were no other nominations Barbara Brooke was confirmed in office as Chairman/Secretary. The only nominations received for the post of Treasurer/Membership Secretary were for a joint tenure between Pat Hodgkiss and Barbara Page. This was approved unanimously by those present.

APPEAL TO MEMBERS

We are very keen to include contributions from members in the Society's newsletters.

Have you any interesting stories from Stapleford's past? Can you remember some event or a particular place that no longer exists? Have you an interesting story from local schooldays?

Don't be shy!

We should love to hear from you!

EARLY 20th CENTURY FIRE BRIGADE SNIPPETS

In going through some old local newspapers recently I noticed a number of items involving the Stapleford Fire Brigade. They cover a variety of topics, many being from reports on Parish Council meetings. I stress these are not Council minutes, but newspaper reporters' work.

I find there are petty arguments in the Council, red tape and humour, reports on a new fire station, on alleged cruelty to horses, on an outsize fire captain and so on! Some of the items are unrelated to each other but give an idea of what the fire service life was like, up to over 100 years ago. The cuttings appearing on the following pages range from 1904 to 1918.

It was in the days of horse drawn fire engines; before and after the new fire station was built on Warren Avenue next to the then Carnegie Free Library. This fire station was opened in 1909 eventually to be demolished after the present fire station on Pinfold Lane came into use.

It is astonishing to read about the cost of services in those times - a few pounds only as the water charge for a whole year, arguments over just a few shillings (or in those days we would have said 'a few bob') in the price of a uniform.

Several names are mentioned - mostly local councillors, including Mr H Stevenson the local baker and a long serving member on the Council and its Fire Brigade Committee. The Stevenson School commemorates him. A Mr Wm Peatfield gets a mention - is there a link with Peatfield Road? Two chief firemen (the 'captains') are named - a Mr Grundy appointed in 1907, later succeeded by a Mr Wilkinson, who incidentally, had earlier lost out to Mr Grundy.

Do any readers have other items of relevant interest? Please let the editor know.

Alan Clayton

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 1 February 1907

Extract from the Stapleford Parish Council meeting of Wednesday 30 January 1907

PARISH COUNCIL AND THE FIRE ENGINE

The Chairman reported that the old fire engine had been tested with fair results, the tank leaked but the pumps were as good as they were 20 years ago. The Committee recommended that a tarpaulin be purchased to cover the engine and that it be stored in the Library yard.

Mr Maltby asked what it cost to store the engine. He maintained that it was a waste of money to pay £5 a year to store it now that they had a new engine.

Mr Cadman: Have they had the pumps repaired?

The Chairman: No, they are in very good condition.

Mr Scattergood: We have got this engine and I think it would be a wrong thing for us to part with it. Perhaps when the new Council comes into office they will find a new home for it.

Mr Harrison: What will the tarpaulin cost? Will it cost more than the storage? I think if the thing is worth having it should be stored properly. I think it should be kept under cover a little longer, for if you put it out of doors it will soon go wrong.

Mr Maltby: My opinion is the engine is not worth the expense and if we cannot get shelter for it at a cheaper rate the sooner we get rid of it the better.

Eventually it was decided to allow it to remain where it is.

The directors of the Water Co. wrote to say that in future the annual charge for the supply of water to the fire engine would be £5 5s instead of £1 1s as formerly. The Committee recommended that an offer of £3 3s be made which the Council agreed to. They (the Water Co) also wrote that any increase in the size of the water main to meet the Council's wishes would have to be done at the Council's expense.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 11 March 1904

Extract from a report on the Stapleford Parish Council meeting on Monday 7 March 1904

A NEW FIRE ENGINE?

The meeting was engaged discussing about a new fire engine, a recommendation for the purchase of which was contained in the minutes of the parish meeting 12 months ago. Mr Stevenson asked, amid much laughter if they had got the engine yet? The Chairman replied that they had not got it yet, but they were hoping to have it next year, at which there was more laughter and ironical "hear, hears".

..... Mr Mellows remarked that the County Council would postpone the question of the engine for twelve months after it was submitted to them. The Chairman agreed and said that in a place like Stapleford, with 7,500 inhabitants and all the workshops in the place, it was a disgrace that they did not have a fire brigade. (Hear, hear.) Mr Harding said that rather than have the question shelved for twelve months he suggested that the meeting consider the advisability for making provision for a fire engine. (*i.e. in the rates - ALC*)

Mr Peatfield moved "That this tiresome fire engine be dropped" and Mr Stevenson remarked that they were all in a muddle, and suggested the Chairman writing to *Tit Bits*. (Laughter)

Mr Harding said the question was too serious a one to be disposed of in that way. If a fire broke out and men were thrown out of work, the Council would be blamed for lack of foresight. He moved that the rate precept be raised to £380 to cover the cost of a fire engine. The former resolution was rescinded. Mr Harding's seconded and carried, and the business of the meeting then ended.

very man for the position on account of his being a practical engineer. They required a practical engineer to take charge of the working of the engine. Where was there another practical man in the Parish for the work.

Mr Lilley supported.

Mr Taylor thought Mr Wilkinson more suitable but Mr Stevenson remarked; "If Mr Wilkinson was always on the place he could not do the work of the engineer."

Mr Grundy hoped that nobody thought he was seeking the office. It came on him unexpectedly. He was willing anybody else should have it, but otherwise he would accept it.

Mr Grundy's appointment was carried.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 30 August 1907

Extract from the Stapleford Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 28 August 1907.

NEW FIRE STATION. Mr Ross, Architect presented the plans of the new fire station and caretaker's house, the estimated cost being - for the cottage £275, and the fire station £332. It was decided to advertise for tenders for the erection, the tenders to be restricted to builders of Stapleford, Sandiacre and Long Eaton tradesmen.

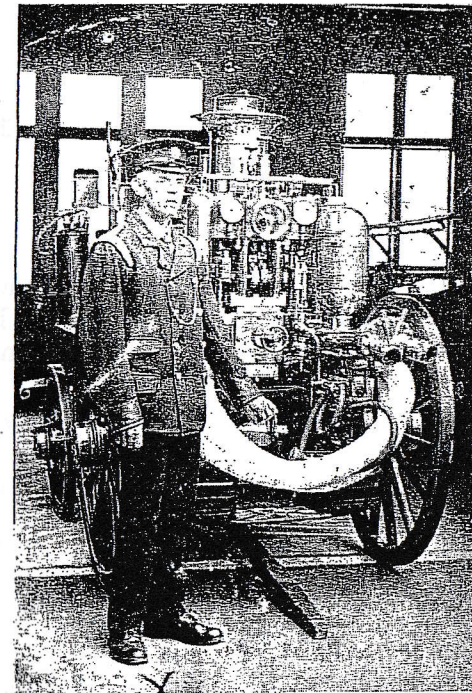
Mr Scattergood moved: "That in the opinion of this Council, these plans are satisfactory, and a Parish Meeting be called to authorise the Council to apply for a loan, the same to be extended over a period of twenty years." By doing that they would repay the loan and interest at about the cost of the present arrangement.

Mr G Chivers: By using the front plot of land they are spoiling it for future use.

Mr Cadman: My opinion is the front is the best place for it. (Hear,hear)

In reply to Mr Hardy, Mr Ross said the estimate did not include the architect's fees. He believed the house could be built for the money.

The Chairman and Clerk were appointed to make the arrangements for the Parish Meeting to consider the matter.



From Memories of Old Stapleford

Courtesy of Nigel Brooks.

45 — Fire Engine a "Shand Mason" Steamer, these steam engines were said to be able to pump over 500 gallons of water a minute. The first fire station was on Isaac's Lane.



46 — Horse-drawn fire engine in the school yard about 1912. In the 1920's a Dennis open-bodied "Braidwood" fire engine was bought.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 26 April 1907

Extract from the first ordinary meeting of the new Stapleford Parish Council on Wednesday 24 April 1907.

STAPLEFORD'S FIRE BRIGADE

PROPOSED NEW FIRE STATION. Mr R Hardy called attention to an item of £1 3s the cost of heating and lighting at the Fire Station. It was only a matter of 6s more than the cost at the Free Library. There was something wrong somewhere.

Mr Chivers pointed out that during the severe winter weather, they had to have the stove burning night and day.

It was recommended that Mr Wilkinson, the librarian, be allowed to use the piece of land adjoining the Free Library, for cultivation.

Mr Cadman thought he ought to pay for it, but the Chairman said Mr Wilkinson had offered to pay, and the Committee thought that the risk he was undergoing in having to give it up at any time, was as much as the use of the land was worth.

Mr Cadman thought the Committee could not afford to have land and let a man have it for nothing. They could not get allotments for nothing. They were paying £5 a year for storing the fire engine and he thought they ought to use the land for building a new station.

The Committee further recommended that the Fire Brigade have 12 practices during the year, three of these to be with horses. This was agreed to, as was the recommendation that the sub-committee decide on the position of two hydrants already estimated for. The Committee also recommended that having regard to the present rental of the fire station, the question of erecting a station on vacant land adjoining the Free Library be considered in the near future.

THE OLD CAPTAIN'S BIG CLOTHES. Mr R Hardy said that it was well known that the late captain of the Fire Brigade had clothing of an extraordinary size. When the new captain was appointed he would like to suggest to the Fire Brigade Committee, they should make two suits of the old one and thus provide for another fireman (laughter).

A NEW CAPTAIN. Mr Cadman did not think Mr Grundy, the new captain had had practice enough.

Mr Chilvers and the Committee thought that Mr Grundy was the

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 2 August 1912

Extract from the Stapleford Parish Council's meeting on Wednesday 31 July 1912.

FIRE BRIGADE'S EFFICIENCY

Mr Taylor reported that on July 22nd, the Brigade received a call from Smedley's Factory, Sandiacre, to which they responded most expeditiously. The alarm was given by the Chairman of the Council.

Mr Wm Peatfield took exception to these false alarms. If he was to give such an alarm, he would very likely find himself in prison for it. Not only so, but according to the report of the Fire Brigade Committee, these alarms were rather expensive. Their Brigade was composed of a hard working body of men, and it was not right that they should be called out on such a useless errand. The Council had never sanctioned an expenditure of £1 17s 6d on such a display.

Mr John Taylor replied that the necessary expenditure had been sanctioned by the Fire Brigade Committee. There was nothing better than a false alarm to test the efficiency of the Brigade.

Mr Wm Peatfield: There was no necessity to call out the Brigade on a wet night on such a futile errand.

Mr Rufus Hardy called attention to the manner in which the Brigade horses were galloped through the streets. It was nothing short of cruelty. Men who understood horses had said to him that they would rather shoot a horse than gallop it in that way.

Mr G A Harrison said it was a very good practice. The men carried out their work for the public benefit rather than for their own interests. He was present at the time the false alarm was given. He saw no cruelty, and the turn-out was a splendid performance from beginning to end.

From *Ilkeston Advertiser* Friday 2 November 1916

Extract from the Stapleford Parish Council meeting of Monday
30 October 1916

LIGHTING AND WATCHING

Mr H E Stevenson stated that with respect to the Fire Brigade there were accounts of £2 2s, and for the lighting and watching £2 10s 6d, making a total of £4 12s 6d. The usual quarterly fee of £4 from the Sandiacre Parish Council was to hand, for subsidising the Stapleford Fire Brigade.

Satisfactory reports were given respecting the efficiency of the brigade, which in the opinion of Lieutenant Stevenson and Engineer Wilkinson, was all that could be desired.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer*, Friday 15 June 1917

STAPLEFORD - A FIREMAN'S RECORD

Chief Engineer Wilkinson of the Stapleford Fire Brigade, has had his long service rewarded by the presentation of a silver medal from the National Fire Brigades Union. Engineer Wilkinson's connection with the brigade is a notable one. Joining over 20 years ago, he has received from the above Union various marks of honour. After ten years meritorious work he was awarded the Bronze Service Medal; five years later he was given an additional bar. Now the blue ribbon of the Union has come into his possession and Stapleford is proud of this recognition of his yeoman service.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 27 September 1907

Extract from the monthly meeting of Stapleford Parish Council of
Wednesday 25 September 1907.

FIRE BRIGADE SUITS NOT GAUDY

The Lighting and Watching Committee's report was presented by Mr Geo Chivers. The payments were £36 19s 4d; included in that was the sum of £3 7s for captain of Fire Brigade's suit.

Mr R Hardy: I should like to ask if it is not a large order. A sum of £3 7s for a suit and 15s for boots to my mind is a lot of money. Whose suit is it?

Mr Chivers: It is the captain's.

Mr Clark: I am of the same opinion as Mr Hardy. Is it not £1 more than before?

Mr Wallis: I think we should see if we cannot get the price reduced.

Mr Grundy: I gave no order, and I don't think the suit is a gaudy one.

The Chairman: If the price is more than has been paid before, the best plan will be to refer the matter back for further consideration.

The Clerk: The committee have had this matter under their consideration. There is 18s 6d difference.

Mr Hardy: I should like to ask if the committee have seen both suits, and do they think there is 18s 6d difference between the value of the two?

Eventually it was referred back.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 2 June 1916

Extract from the Stapleford Parish Council meeting of Monday
29 May 1916

FIRE BRIGADE EXECUTIONS

Mr W Peatfield drew the attention of the Council to a recent cartoon appearing in the local press, which depicted himself and Mr R Hardy being executed by members of the local Fire Brigade for their opposition to the payment of the members of the brigade. He was very angry to hear of such a sad event since the last meeting of the Council, especially with regard to the two oldest members of the Council. Who the executioner was he was not quite sure. It might have been Captain Grundy or Engineer Wilkinson, or the Lieutenant. The place of execution was at the Cross. (Laughter)

Mr R Hardy: The proper place. (Laughter)

Mr Peatfield: This is what I am arriving at: they executed us because we were supposed to be opposed to the payment of 5s to the members of the brigade. Such an idea is wrong. Our objection was to the payment every time there was likely to be a raid, or when the Zeppelins were only off the Dutch coast; and because of that we have been publicly executed. But I am glad to say that there has been a marvelous resurrection. We are here again tonight. (Laughter)

The Chairman: Although the matter introduced by Mr Peatfield is not quite in order, I believe Mr Peatfield has relieved his mind and is at ease once again!

SANDIACRE AND FIRE BRIGADE It was stated that a letter had been received from Sandiacre Parish Council with reference to the Fire Brigade payments in case of air raids, which would be considered in camera again.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 12 July 1918

STAPLEFORD'S FIRE ENGINE TO THE EDITOR OF THE "PIONEER"

Sir - Will you allow me space in your valuable paper to bring before the citizens of Stapleford a matter of grave public interest, which ought to be taken up at once. I refer to the very serious delay which occurs whenever the local fire engine is called out, owing to the fact that it is now extremely difficult to obtain horses. Quite recently the brigade had a call to what might have been a fire of a very serious consequence to every householder in Stapleford. The fire engine was got out of the engine house, and steam was raised with promptitude, and then a delay of 47 minutes occurred before it could proceed to the scene of the fire. Another brigade was able to be in action long before ours, and they had at least a dozen miles to come. Some time ago the question was raised of having a motor to convey the engine to fires. It was turned down by the ratepayers; but the time has arrived when this matter should be taken up again, considering that many more factories are being built in the neighbourhood, some of which are of a very dangerous character; and also considering that it is impossible to rely on getting horses. In my opinion, the Parish Council should take up the question of having a motor engine again with vigour, and so allay that uneasy feeling that all is not as well as it should be.

Yours truly.

CITIZEN

Stapleford, July 8th 1918

Library additions

January 2007.

1. Various books on Mathematics – Gerald Seymour.
2. The Local Historian – volume 36 No 3.
3. Nottingham Historian No77. Autumn/Winter 2006 – many interesting short articles.
4. Ghosts and Legends of Nottinghamshire – David Haslam – ideal reading for a dark wintry night.
5. Nottinghamshire – A portrait in colour – Derek Forss and Mike Astill
 - some lovely photographs and interesting short written information.
6. Beating the Invader – Judith Church.
 - Beeston and Chilwell in World War Two and the floods.
7. "Family History"
 - a) Practical Family History September 2006 No 105.
 - b) Family History – October 2006 No 135.
 - c) Ancestors – March 2006 No 43
 - useful for anyone interested in their ancestors etc or compiling family trees.

February 2007.

1. Local History News Number 81. Autumn 2006
 - interesting article.
2. The Local Historian November 2006 Volume 36 No 4.
3. Basford Bystander October/November 2006 Issue 118. December/January 2007 Issue 119.
4. Alan Sillitoe's Nottinghamshire – photographs by David Sillitoe.

A wonderful writer's view of Nottinghamshire – a really good read – amusing, informative and full of information from and about real people.

5. Portrait of Nottingham – Emrys Bryson. – another good read!. It makes you realise how little most of us know about the city. Trouble is now remembering it!

Our Librarians.

From *Ilkeston Pioneer* Friday 3 November 1916

STAPLEFORD PARISH PUMP

The following appears in a report of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 30 October 1916:

Mr Stevenson reported that this old pump, which was a dangerous obstacle in one of the thoroughfares, had, by his Committee's instructions, been whitewashed.

Mr Hardy suggested turning it into cash.

Mr Stevenson said they had given instructions for the removal of the pump, and it was advisable it should be done quickly. The Clerk had been instructed to get at the proper authority on the matter, and have it shifted out of the way.

Mr S Barber seconded that the removal be carried out forthwith, and it was carried.

(From Alan L Clayton)

Written by an ex Prisoner of War
Kanyu II.

There's a ghostly camp of Horrors at the North of
Kanyu II,
There are scores of Bamboo crosses in the mud,
And they mark the place where, thousands lie,
Where once the jungle grew.

In the test that was denied them, whilst they lived,
It was known what man could do, by the doc's of Kanyu II.
That the place was hot, and it was bound to tell,
So they warned the Yellow Cranks of the thinning of the
ranks.
And the Colonels made a fuss of it as well.
Men had striven hard and long with the courage of the
strong,
That they had died from strain of work, was plain to tell.
Some were barely twenty-one, and arrangements had
begun,
To bury them as they received their call.

The doctors raved and stormed, as the gory total grew.
But the Yellow B-----s sneered at all they said,
The bland reply was simply that "THE RAILWAY MUST
GO THROUGH."
Even though the place was filled with British dead.

Then the rains began to fall and the working parties small,
Had to work as they never worked before.
And they had to walk for miles through the deeply cut
defiles.
Where the Yellow Swine forever drove them on.
They returned to camp at dark looking haggard, worn and
stark,
Their backs and aching shoulders fiery red,
They were fed on Jungle Stew, 'twas all that they could do,
To drag their weary bodies off to bed,
They woke before the dawn, every one had almost gone,

When they thought of stricken comrades who had fell,
And when the daylight trickled through
You could see the weary crew
As they ploughed along the muddy Road TO HELL.

On a still and tropic night with the Death rate at its height
The living, aching, suffering, prayed to GOD
But no success came, until the god forsaken Rail Went
Through,
'Twas the VENGEANCE of the Little YELLOW GOD.

There's a ghostly Camp of Horrors at the North of Kanyu II
There are scores of Bamboo Crosses in the Mud
There'll be Broken Hearted Women When the Tale of this
gets thro'
May the Living God avenge with YELLOW BLOOD.

A waste of the moon.

To-night dear the moon is shining
A silvery orb in the sky
Shedding its soft rays about me
As it once did about you and I
The stars like a great jewelled ceiling
Glisten as sunbeams on the dew
In this magical night I'm feeling
Is wasted my dear without you.

What a waste of the moon
What a waste of the starlight
Now, I'm all alone without you, I'm blue
I need you my dear, to hear my soft whisper
I pray all in vain to the Lord up above.

The tropic moon was mellow
The stars more bright in the sky
It brings a lovely memory that makes my sad heart cry
A waste of the moon, a waste of the starlight
I'm all alone without you I'm blue
I need you my dear, for what good is the moon without
you.



"Be good, sweet maid and
 let who will be blessed
 For the things that we dream
 of in our day long
 And so make "Life" "Death"
 and "Love" "Forever"
 "The Grand Sweet Song."

M.B.
 1907

From the autograph book of Beatrice Brooks - 1900 - 1920

140 Breeden St.
 Long. Cal. 90
 22.7.15.

"Life were not worth the
 living,
 If no one were the better
 For having met you on
 the way
 And known the sunshine
 of your day."

Emily Cunningham

From the autograph book of Beatrice Brooks - 1900 - 1920

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 - hand painted cards (with envelopes)	£1.00
Pen & ink drawings by Jack Vernon	£1.00

Framed full colour illustrated maps of Stapleford + Borlase Warren Coat of Arms (produced to order)	£7.00
As above, but in gold frame	£10.00

Society Newsletter - some back copies available at reduced prices

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Malcolm Jarvis - 0115-932 3457
CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY - Barbara Brooke - 0115-939 4979
JOINT TREASURERS - Barbara Page - 0115-939 2573
and Pat Hodgkiss - 0115-939 5273

**The deadline for submission of items for the next
Autumn 2007 issue of the Newsletter is
30 September 2007**

**Material can be given to any of the above named.
This is YOUR newsletter! We'd love to hear from you!**

Cover: Stapleford & Sandiacre Railway Station
drawn by Nigel Brooks