

January 2005

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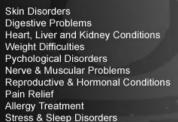
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January 2005

EDITORIAL

Another New Year already! Looking after the Village News certainly makes the months fly by. But it also means that we can start again on our good intentions a bit quicker. I certainly need to re-make some resolutions – good luck with yours!

The Village News is very full this month, there is plenty to do in the village, why not do something new this year?

Happy New Year from all at the Community Association

Anna Morley Editor

HAGLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Patron: The Viscount Cobham MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
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| | | Romsley, B62 0LY | 711120 |
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|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| ADVERTISING MANAGER | Trevor Durnford | 7 Station Drive, DY9 0NX | 884624 |
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| | Martin Freckleton | 29 Newfield Road, DY9 0JR | 882598 |
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| DISTRICT COUNCIL | C.R. Scurrell | 55 Brook Road, Fairfield B91 9JZ | 01527 876485 |

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of how to advertise or submit articles for publication, please turn to PAGE 42

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

I would like to express my views on all the inconsiderate car parking in Chapel Street. The shoppers and office people make it extremely difficult to get out of the drives at times.

The cottages without garages cannot park in front of their own houses. People turning into The Free Church Car Park also have problems. A few thoughts for other people sometimes would help.

Mrs L. B. Bray Church Street

Dear Editor

I am writing with regard to recent letters in the Village News, and was glad to see that I am not the only one subjected to complete idiots parking on pavements. I agree that at times there may be no alternative but these are very few.

My drive way is clear, my car is parked in the garage, yet people park on the pavement outside my house sometimes all night. I think this shows a complete disregard for other people. I am sure I am not the only resident of Hagley subjected to these idiots.

Yours annoyed.

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NOTICES

Surgery News

The doctors of Hagley Surgery are pleased to welcome Bev Jones on to the payroll. Bev's official title is "Healthcare Support Worker" or 'gem'! As healthcare has become more complicated, the demands on the time of the doctors have increased, meaning we are spending more time performing tasks close to the limit of our training, and less time performing routine work. Remember the days when the GP wielded the ear syringe? It is now performed routinely, efficiently and safely by our nurses. Increasingly the nurses are working with patients in the management of long-term illnesses too, such as Diabetes, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and their role is extending in other ways but they need help.

This is why we have employed Bev. Although not a nurse, Bev is fully trained in all the tasks she performs. Taking blood pressures, testing urine, height and weight measurements, heart tracing, simple dressings, assisting with minor surgery are all tasks Healthcare Support Workers are performing regularly. She is currently training to take blood tests and will help our nurses and phlebotomists with that. She can also assist with administrative duties, hygiene and cleaning of equipment, sterilisations.... etc.

Bev will help us deliver effective healthcare to as many of our patients as possible, within the limitations of the resources of the NHS. We are very pleased to be working with her.

If you have been seen by Bev and have comments or suggestions or want to suggest a way we could use Healthcare Support Workers in a wider role, please write addressing your letter to the Practice Manager.

HAGLEY PARISH PLAN

DESIGN A LOGO COMPETITION

The entry date of this competition has been extended to the 31st January 2005. We are in need of a logo that can be incorporated in the final Parish Plan and be used as a symbol that can be associated with Hagley.

The original competition did not receive the response that we had hoped. We need a good contribution from the youth of Hagley to show support for the plan. Remember the final document will directly reflect the concerns of the residents and act as supplementary guidance in the planning process therefore we need inputs from as many areas of the community as possible. So get behind the committee and get creative, you never know you may win a cash prize.

We are relying on parents and grandparents to pass news of this competition on and to encourage their children to participate.

There are three age groups 5-8, 9-13 and 14-16 with the overall winner receiving £25 and the two runners up receiving £10. The only rules are that you must be resident of Hagley and the decision of the committee is final.

So, send your ideas to Hagley Parish Plan c/o 24 Lodge Crescent Hagley clearly stating your name, age and address.

If you would like to know more about the Parish Plan or would like further information contact Steve Colella (Vice Chairman) on 882996.

Happy New Year!

Hagley Parish Plan Committee



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NOTICES



CLENT PARISH COUNCIL

Items of interest from the approved Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, October 18th 2004.

PLANNING MATTERS

The following were granted Planning Permission by BDC 2004/0948 – Ext. - 14 Thicknall Rise 2004/0956 – Conservatory – 70 Piewoods Avenue

2004/0968 - Ext. - 3 Thicknall Rise

Applications 2004/1057 & 1064 for dwellings at 33 - 39 Western Road have been refused.

PLAYING FIELD

Due to the new Discrimination against the Disabled Act the Council will improve the access to the site.

DECDEATION ADEA

Skateboard Ramp - Councillors have visited Romsley to look at the Skate Board area.

CENTENARY FIELD

Cricket Pitch – application for registration of exemption, to in-fill the site has been submitted.

PARISH MAINTENANCE

The Council has appointed Mr Hill as its Parish Lengthsman, which is a partnership scheme with Worcestershire County Council.

OUTSIDE MEETING

Cllr. John Perry attended the National Association of Local Councils Conference and submitted a comprehensive report of the three days. His overall view was that there was an air of expectancy, but also a feeling of apprehension.

PARISH PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

The Terms of Reference for the Committee were considered and adopted.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

A Project Steering Group to meet 20/10/04

Clerk to the Council 01562 886269

NB: It has come to the attention of the Council that the Warden for the Clent Hills will be putting gates across certain footpaths that may have been used as Bridleways in the past, but are identified on the definitive maps as footpaths.



HAGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

HAPPY NEW YEAR: The Parish Council would like to wish all Hagley residents a very happy and peaceful new year. We hope that 2005 will be a good year for Hagley, with everyone working in the best

interests of the village. Many things happened in 2004, including the introduction of the Alcohol Free Zone and more lights around the playing fields. The Parish Council will be taking further steps to reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour this year.

RICHARDSON TROPHY FOR BEST CHRISTMAS SHOP WINDOW: Judging for the best Christmas window displays will take place early this month with Parish Councillors voting for the three that they consider the best and Mr Don Richardson will be presenting the trophy to the winner and certificates and bottles of champagne to the runners-up.

The results will be displayed on the notice board and hopefully feature in the local press. Thank you to all the shops that took part and helped the village look festive.

RECYCLING OF CHRISTMAS TREES: This facility will be available on the main village car park. Please check the Notice Board and local press for dates and other sites.

C. Humphries – Clerk to the Council



Betty and the family of the late Philip Round would like to thank all concerned for the kindness and sympathy shown to them in their recent sad loss, for the donations received for the Friends of St. John and to everyone who attended the service

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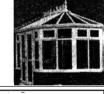
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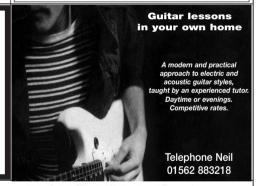
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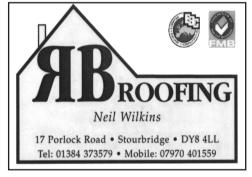
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POLICING IN HAGLEY

The crime figures for last year are very encouraging. The Home Office asks us to

focus on four areas: All Crime reported; Burglary Dwelling; Vehicle Crime and Violent Crime. I have compared last year's figures from 1st January to 30 November (Time of going to print) to the same period for 2003.

The amount of All Crime recorded for Hagley, Clent, Belbroughton and Fairfield is 572 as compared to 726 in 2003, a reduction of 21%, our detection rate is also 21%. Burglary Dwelling fell from 67 to 39 and as I write this there hasn't been a burglary since 27 September, our detection rate is 26%. vehicle crime has reduced slightly from 145 in 2003 to 133, with a detection rate of 11% and violent crime has fallen from 74 to 56 with a detection rate of 64%.

We have made great inroads into tackling anti-social behaviour in the village and will continue to target offenders. A number of young men have received fines for a variety of offences. One young man, who was part of the group who regularly congregated on the playing fields and Railway Station, was sentenced, in November, to 18 months imprisonment for possession of drugs with intent to supply.

I hope that with our ongoing hard work we will see crime fall again during 2005.

PC Chris Lord Hagley Beat Manager

Neighbourhood Watch

A happy safe and secure New Year 2005. The watch is flourishing and doing well in parts of the village but we have not had replacement co-ordinators willing to replace those who have left/retired.

Could you help, are you a mother who takes children to school/nursery groups, active retired, working from home, aware of what is happening around you? PLEASE get in touch if you would like to contribute to the community. Ideally in residential areas, one person for every ten houses works well, people know each other, talk, exchange ideas and concerns. If a crime is suspected, police and co-ordinators can be informed and then information can be circulated through the district by email, telephone and eventually Ring Master if it is relevant.

Help is needed for Lodge Crescent, Lower Park Road, Worcester Close, Chapel Street, Long Close, Meadow Croft, Milestone Drive, Brook Crescent, Ferndale and Long Compton.

The more people work together the easier the task becomes. Let us all do our "bit" to keep the area safe, secure with low crime figures. Reducing the "fear factor" for the elderly and vulnerable.

Kathryn Grocock 01562 720394

AFTERNOON W.I.

Hagley Afternoon WI's Annual Meeting is held in November. This year members welcomed Suzanne Owen, Chairman of Worcestershire Federation of WI's as guest.

The financial statement given by Irene Oliver, Hon. Treasurer, found finances in a satisfactory state and the statement was adopted my members. Hon. Secretary, Joy Peers, gave the Committee's report on Institute activities. It was interesting for members to look back and realise how much had been enjoyed at Institute, Group and County level.

Pat Lane spoke of her first year as President and of the enjoyment it had given her. She then thanked the Secretary, Treasurer and Committee for all the help received and members for their wonderful support.

As an election for Committee was not needed, Suzanne Owen conducted the election of President for the coming year. Members were dellighted that Pat Lane was elected unopposed.

Suzanne gave a talk on WI and on use of IT to co-ordinate information on members etc., so that WI's will be able to access necessary information with ease. When information has been obtained, County Office will have details of members' names and addresses which in the past has not been available. Suzanne encouraged Hagley Afternoon to embrace the technology. At the close of the meeting a member offered to become liaison between County Office and WI.

Members look forward to another year of good speakers and interesting events, so why not come and join us? Meetings are the second Monday of each month, 2pm at the Community Centre.

Megan Bury

EVENING W.I.

Our meeting in November was an "open" one at which we were pleased to welcome several visitors (male and female) to enjoy an exceptionally good talk by Will Farmer of Fielding & Co, Auctioneers, on the subject of antiques.

Prior to this there was a short business meeting, after which we settled down with a glass of wine to hear, in the opinion of all there, one of the best speakers we have heard in a long while. Mr Farmer was fluent, amusing and at the same time gave us a comprehensive "behind the scenes view" of the auctioneering business.

After a break for coffee Mr Farmer went on to evaluate artefacts that members had brought with them. All in all an excellent evening. Incidentally Mr Farmer will be appearing on "The Antiques Road Show" in the New Year, and we shall be watching for him with great interest.

Our Christmas Party and January Meeting will be well over by the time the next issue of the Village News appears, and we shall be looking forward to February 16th – Mrs Canning – "Toastmaster", and March 16th – Mr Fletcher – "Roy Castle", and invite members old and new to any of our meetings.

Joan Ellis

CLENT HILLS SINGERS

After Christmas, on January 13th 2005, the choir will start rehearsing the choral works chosen for the Choral Concert, which forms part of the Hagley Music Festival programme. At this point we hope to welcome other singers from local churches and choirs as we did for the last Festival. For details please contact CHS on 01562 882661. Venue is St John's Church.

S.D.Chatwin



ART CLUB

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to members. Do artists make new year resolutions? I try when I see the work of other artists. Here is an opportunity to get away from our usual style and to try the techniques explained to us by demonstrators at our monthly meetings.

Our next Friday meeting is 14 January, a talk by Paul Hipkiss about Percy Hipkiss a local artist, place is St. Saviour's Church Hall at the usual time, 7.30 p.m.

February is the Annual General Meeting of the Club as we enter into our sixteenth year. The business session will be followed by 'Our Very Own – Bob Swingler'. This will be Friday 11 February. Subscriptions for renewed membership will be due in March.

The November Exhibition was well received and the awards for the considered best traditional and the best modern picture judged by Valerie Briggs who opened the exhibition were Traditional:- *No 86 Tower Cottages (Cumbria) by Graham Madders,* and the modern *No 141 The Night Shift by Gwen Wardle.* Visitors to the exhibition also had the opportunity to vote for their best liked picture of the show and these are, most votes for *No 86 Tower Cottages (Cumbria) by Graham madders* and the runner-up *No 23 Winter's Morning (Mary Stevens Park) by Shirley Bonas.*

A.A. Pritchard (Hon. President)

STOURBRIDGE SPEAKERS' CLUB

It was an exciting month in November for Speakers Clubs with a dramatic Competition between us, Wolverhampton and Sutton Coldfield.

The Blarney Stone Competition took place at the Park Hall Hotel in Wolverhampton and the change of venue proved inspirational for the three members of the Club selected as the team. Each person was given a subject to prepare and had to speak between 5 and 8 minutes. This year three of the Seven Deadly Sins were selected by the host club, Wolverhampton.

Having to wait for the previous teams' six speeches meant a tense time for Brian, Melvin and Sylvia but it was worth it. First, Melvin spoke about Pride holding the audience well. Brian followed swiftly with his impassioned plea for Greed and finally Sylvia wove her spell on the tenderised audience as she spoke about Lust.

As the audience sat back exhausted from the nine speeches the short wait for the judges' decision was alleviated by the drawing of the raffle and short amusing readings by two of the Wolverhampton Club members.

Finally the judges were ready and announced that Stourbridge had won! The competition has been running for a jovial 37 years and it was great that 99% of the Club members were able to witness Stourbridge trounce the opposition.

If you want to get into next year's competition why not come along to the next meeting? See our website www.stourbridgeasc.org.uk or contact Brian Micklethwaite on 01562 851102 or brianmicklethwaite@lineone.net.

Sue Davies

THEATRE GROUP



Looking back, 2004 was a mixed year for the Theatre Group. The adult section struggled to stage a production whereas the youth section staged, very successfully in October, The Wizard of Oz. They even managed to sell out on most nights. The key difference here is numbers, the youth section has increased its membership whereas the

adult section has seen a number of members leave the area at the same time. Whilst new actors and directors are hard to find we have some very keen interest from some newcomers and we plan to stage a production which is likely to include two one act plays. These are about the trials and tribulations of amateur dramatic groups trying to stage a production, very funny if not strangely familiar. These will form a great night's entertainment and you can't get that on T.V. anymore, can you? These are likely to take place at the Community Centre in late March or early April. More details will be in the next issue of the Village News.

We are of course very keen to see even more new members so come on give live theatre a chance. If you are interested in any aspect of theatre from acting, stage management, props, prompting or even running the bar then please contact our Chairman Paula Knight on 01384 894655.

ROTARACT CLUB



December fulfilled its festive objective with a great day trip to Lincoln's Christmas market on the 4th. The next weekend we mixed the pleasure of indulging ourselves with a great meal at Zorba's Greek Restaurant and a

walk in the crisp winter air. Then on the 17th our annual Hagley Christmas meal topped all previous years with the tackiest 'secret Santa's' ever and great food. The next day was the last event before Christmas where we played a bowling grudge match with Halesowen Rotaract. Then after Santa answered our wishes we returned with a walk in the Wyre Forest on the day after Boxing Day where we all realised how much we had eaten but this did not stop us gorging on pizza and popcorn at Merry Hill in the evening.

Our first 2005 event will be a New Year's Party at one of the members' houses followed with a Lickey Hill New Year's Day walk to blow away the cobwebs. On the 8th there is a trip to see Roald Dahl's Witches at Birmingham Rep to satisfy our inner child. On the 15th we will be celebrating Julian's 30th birthday at Va Bene's Italian Restaurant in Hagley. Then the next few weekends will include the regular Birmingham clubbing night and pub of the month.

If you would like to come along to a meeting contact Dave West on 07753 181600 or hagley@rotaract.org.uk. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at the Lyttleton Arms (Hagley Harvester).

Katrina Attewell



GARDENERS' CLUB

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL THE COMMITTEE

We are starting the New Year off with our Annual Social on 26th January. Dinner will include a glass of wine and will be followed by a talk and demonstration given by Harry Grove – "Ring out Wild Bells". There may be a few places still; available although numbers are limited. Telephone Pauline Harris 882875, Judy Perkins 883568 or Margaret Wigley 884437. **7.15 for 7.45 p.m.** Dinner at St Saviour's

Hall, West Hagley. By ticket only.

At our AGM on the 23rd February we will be welcoming one of our own members, Helen Hancox who is going to take us on a visual walk around her lovely garden.

First outing of the year is on Saturday 5th March for spring bulbs and flowers to Woodpeckers near Bidford on Avon. Tel: 01562 777014.

Judy Berrow Tel: 01562 777014

HAGLEY WIVES' AND WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

2005 begins with a lively and varied programme. We do hope that you will manage to join us at St Saviour's Hall at 8.00 p.m. on the following dates.

11th January: "The Macdonald Sisters" Ina Taylor tells of the four Victorian sisters from Bewdley who did very well indeed – giving birth to Rudyard Kipling and Stanley Baldwin and marrying Edward Burne Jones and Sir Edward Poynter. NB: ** This is one of our extra special speakers.

25th January: "My life at the BBC" Lynda Kettle, a costume and set designer for films, theatre and television including *Dangerfield* and *Two point four children*. This should be a fascinating insight into the world of television.

8th February: "Is your Identity at Risk?" Nick Sugden, Head of fraud at Legal and General talks on safeguarding your personal details and how to avoid being a victim of fraud. Identity fraud is one of Britain's fastest growing crimes; come and hear how **not** to put yourself at risk.

Toni Allison

LADIES PROBUS CLUB

Hagley Ladies Probus Club is a luncheon club for retired professional and business ladies. We meet once a month on the fourth Thursday in a private room upstairs at The Talbot, Chaddesley Corbett at 12 noon for 12.30 p.m.

Through a communication mix up our November speaker failed to turn up but nonetheless we had a very lively and enjoyable meeting with "Home grown talent".

Our Christmas Lunch will have come and gone by the time this publication goes to press and we will be at the start of another year – how quickly 2004 has gone!

I am very pleased to say that we have enrolled several new members and welcomed many guests at our meetings in the past year and we look forward to meeting even more in 2005.

Dates for the diary:

January 27th: "Cow Creamers" Michael and Betty Bird

February 24th: "Companion to an Arabian Princess" Christine Ritchie

March 24th: "Entertaining the Queen" Joy Pinder

April 28th: Annual General Meeting.

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HISTORICAL AND FIELD SOCIETY

Our November meeting saw a large audience welcome back Dr. Chris Upton to give his illustrated talk on, "Back to Back in Birmingham". Dr Upton described his recent work in the project to restore the last court of back to back houses in the city. This restoration had

caught the imagination of the public with thousands of people now visiting the site in Hurst Street, many of whom had lived in similar houses. The 'back to back's' were built from the end of the 18th century up to about 1870 to house the massive increase in Birmingham's population which had grown from 15 thousand to 400 thousand; at their peak half of the city's inhabitants lived in them and a few were still occupied in the 1960s.

Back to back's was a cheap way of building high density housing, but the method was not universally adopted throughout Britain, mostly being confined to the industrial midlands and the north, in the south east and Scotland the tenement system was preferred.

Dr Upton finished by saying that despite the poor living conditions the courts of back to back's had engendered a strong community spirit amongst those who had lived in them.

The next meeting of the society is on Tuesday January 4th at which Don Freeth will talk about his project on Hagley War Memorials. All are welcome at St. Saviour's Church Hall at 8.00 p.m. Visitors £1.50 including refreshments.

Malcolm James



ROTARY CLUB

We hope you enjoyed your Christmas celebrations and that the New Year will be more peaceful and happier than 2004. many thanks to those of you who kindly gave cash donations when Rotarians were out in the village "shaking the cans" on

the run up to Christmas. We collected over £800 which we will be giving to various local charities and cancer research at Birmingham University.

For your interest, in the last two years, we have donated a total of over £4,000 to the following local organisations and people:-

Mary Stevens Hospice

Elizabeth Attwood House (for battered wives)

Birchen Coppice School

Hagley First School

Hagley Senior Citizens' Club

Belbroughton WRVS

Kemp Hospice Action Heart Hagley First School

Belbroughton's More the Merrier Club Corbett Hospital League of Friends

Several young people going on Raleigh International and other charity overseas trips including Helen Morton and Sarah Benjamin.

One of our club's aims is to raise money to help with local projects and people in need. To achieve that objective we must increase our membership, which is currently 20. We are now in our Centenary year, so it's an important time to have a membership drive. Therefore we invite people to come and join our lively and entertaining club, which meets regularly at the Stone Manor Hotel.

If you are interested in finding out more about Rotary's activities, give me a ring on 07966 116612, then come and have a free dinner with us one Monday evening.

David Dewhirst



TREFOIL GUILD

The November meeting was a very enjoyable craft session. One tends to forget just how satisfying these evenings can be.

A more sophisticated meeting is planned for January. Our Annual Dinner takes place on Thursday 13th. Kate is making the arrangements, and we can look forward to starting the year's programme in the company of our friends.

Elizabeth Gingell

GIRLGUIDING WALTON DISTRICT



As we head into 2005 full of anticipation of what is ahead it is good to remember as a district what we achieved in 2004. The Brownie movement celebrated 90 years and our district took a nostalgic trip on the Severn Valley Railway to Arley to mark the occasion. Many units went on Pack holidays and the Guides went camping. The Rainbows had a brand new programme launched. Three guides obtained their Baden Powell awards. Our County Commissioner presented a Guiders and a young leader with their Commonwealth award. With lots of wonderful things happening in weekly programs and units full to bursting, not forgetting our dedicated group of Guiders (we still need more) Guiding in Walton District continues to thrive.

Sue Hemmings District Commissioner 01562 711120

RUACH KARATE CLUB

We hope that you had a nice Christmas and wishing everyone all the best for the New Year.

The head of Ruach Karate was so impressed with the quality of the Hagley competitors at the Stratford meeting that he has decided to attend the Monday night training sessions. His presence, twice UK Champion, European Champion, will only increase the endeavours of everyone and is a tremendous honour for our club.

There is a varied mix of all ages within the club and everyone trains and practices at home to ensure their continued progress.

Why don't you come and watch one night and if you like what you see, join, it could be the best thing you ever did.

Monday nights, 7 o'clock at Haybridge Sports Centre.

R. Bache

CHESS CLUB

MATCHES:

Worcestershire County League Division Two (Greg Voskanian - Captain). 4th November - Away versus Headless Cross – Lost 1½ - 3½. Unfortunately opportunities by two boards were missed against an evenly opposed team – perhaps some of our team would have preffered to be in the disconext door!? Draws were achieved by Peter Keate (Board 1), Kevan Ryder (Board 2) and Reg Beasley (Board 5).

12th November - Home versus St. James – Won 3 - 2. At last a win for Hagley! A great result against a strong team, with wins for Kevinb Ryder (Board 2), Keith Dodd (Board 3) and Tony Boyle (Board 6).

Dudley & District League Division Three (Reg Beasley – Captain). 19th November - Home versus Mercia – Drew 2 - 2. A quick win for Martin Borley (Board 2) and draws for Greg Voskanian (Board 1) and Captain Reg Beasley (Board 3) gave Hagley the draw; but given that we put out a stronger team than Mercia, a win should have been gained.

MEMBERSHIP:

Recent press reports show that Tesco's Christmas sales of Chess Sets doubled above expectation - we would welcome to the club anyone wishing to know more about this great game.

Coaching & New Recruits: The club offers coaching to all members, and would certainly welcome both beginners and experienced players of all ages. New recruits contact Martin Borley or come along on a Friday night to the Free Church Committee Rooms 7.00 p.m. onwards.

Tip of the month: Don't bring your Queen of the closet too quickly!

Martin Borley



WEST HAGLEY FOOTBALL CLUB

We hope you have all enjoyed your Christmas and want to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year!

Warm Clothing: Please remember to dress the younger players in warm clothing, (especially gloves and a hat). January and February are the coldest months and the smaller children will not enjoy their football if they are shivering on the pitch.

Girls football: I would like to say well done to our newly formed girls section. You have all come on in leaps and bounds over the past four months. We are very proud of you all.

This month we are forming a new group for younger players (ages 6 & 7) so if any girls wish to learn how to play, please let me know. We have a mixture of male and female coaches all of which are F.A. qualified.

We ran two free sessions for the younger girls in December. These were enjoyed by all those who attended. Following the success of these, we will be running two more later in the season - I will let you know the details nearer the time.

If you need any information about the club, please contact Karen Hanson on 01562 882767.

Karen Hanson - Club Administrator

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Hagley now has its own professional website produced by one of our members. It has features which may be of interest to all residents of Hagley and surrounding areas such as a Free Board for passing on

Board for passing on

unwanted goods free of charge, links to many useful and money-saving servcies and a Links page where local businesses may place adverts free of charge. There is also a U3A members only section for the latest news and photos of group activities. Do visit us at www.hagleyu3a.org.uk

Eileen Wormald

SCHOOL NEWS

CLENT FIRST SCHOOL

The children and staff of Clent Primary School have just been through a very busy time of the year and are all now recovering during the Christmas holidays!

During December our younger children took part in the Christmas play, "The Grumpy Shepherd", and our older children sang in a traditional Carol

Concert at St. Leonard's Church. The whole school visited the theatre to see 'the Jungle Book", and finally, just before the end of term we had "Carols around the Christmas Tree" and a visit from Father Christmas.

We held our Christmas Fayre too, which was organised by the Parents, Teachers and Friends Association primarily to raise funds for the school, but also so the children could participate in various craft activities and games. Thanks to the hard work and contributions of the parents and friends of our school, we have raised over £7000 this year! The money has been spent in exciting and varied ways, including Interactive White Boards, School books, Poetry Guest Speakers, School Trips and Training Courses.

After many months of work the builders have now left us. There are still one or two jobs to be finished off, but it is all looking lovely, and we are very pleased with the finished result.

If you would like more information on our school at Clent please ring 01562 730668 for a prospectus and/or an appointment with the Headteacher, Mrs Barbara Turner, Our email address is enquiries@clentfirst.worcs.sch.uk

Bonnie Harvey

PLAYGROUP

We finished the December term with our Christmas production "The Whoops-a-Daisy Angel", which was a wonderful success, due of course, to the stars of the show, the children, and also our dedicated staff, who sang themselves to sleep at night, humming the songs of the play! It really brings home the true meaning of Christmas to see our very young children performing so sweetly.

We then closed our doors on the last day of term following our Christmas Party, which was enjoyed by all.

May we extend a very warm welcome to all our new children and families at the beginning of term, and also wish our older children the best of luck, as they walk through the doors of Primary School on their first day. We will be thinking of you all.

If you would like to know more about us, please feel welcome to drop in at the Community Centre (mornings only), or telephone Sharon Gould on 01562 882433.

SCHOOL NEWS

HAGLEY RC HIGH SCHOOL

We are delighted that Ruth Leavesley, Year 13, won Worcestershire Young Musician of the Year 2004. Ruth achieved this honour following her vocal performance at the finals, held in November at Huntingdon Hall in Worcester. Stephen Drinkwater was also honoured and won Most Promising Young Musician 2004.

Their performances will be broadcast by BBC hereford and Worcester on New Year's Day.

In November the school hosted a successful Boogie and Balti evening which raised over £1,000 to support our application for Specialist School Status.

We have produced Christmas cards and a CD called "The Generosity of God", a celebration in words and music which involves many pupils from our school, together with pupils from St. Joseph's, St Wulstan's and Sunfield School in Clent.

Paul Taylor-Mills, year 13, auditioned for the National Youth Theatre during the year and has been accepted. Paul completed a course during the summer and is now planning to spend more time with the National Youth Theatre. Paul will be performing at the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith, London, in September 2005.

Our VI formers attended a 16+ conference at Worcester Cathedral in November to discuss controversial issues in preparation for the General Studies A level examination.

English students travelled to Bath in December to see a production of 'Hamlet' to support their English Literature A level studies.

The Christmas Celebration in December focussed on the 'Generosity of God'. Poetry, music, dance and drama were performed to encourage our community to respond to God's love in order to bring peace and justice to our troubled world.

V. Shaw.

FROM ANOTHER TIME..... A HAGLEY BIRTHDAY

It is the sound of traffic passing through Hagley that often wakes me in the morning. For the inhabitants of the village on 27 October 1863 it was a very different sound the din of artillery. For this day was the twenty-first birthday of Charles George Lyttleton of Hagley Hall. The celebrations, involving almost all of those who lived in Hagley, were to last for no less than eight days. At 6' 3" Charles was an imposing cricketer, but at Eton and Cambridge – where he scraped a second class degree – he had not distinguished himself as a scholar. He cannot have looked forward to the series of speeches that lay ahead. He began with local schoolchildren, wisely providing them with cakes after his speech. At midnight the same evening 500 members of the Worcestershire elite sat down to supper at the Hall. They did not eat cakes; top London caterers provided the food. Charles had little time for sleep. The last of his guests did not depart until 4 am and he had to be up early the next morning for church and a speech by William Gladstone. yet for Charles there was still more to do: dinners and speeches for local women, tenants, servants and cricketers and an unsuccessful attempt to mark his birthday by persauding someone to ascend in a hot air balloon. Charles Lyttleton seems to have been a demure man. he often travelled second class on the railways and avoided taking taxis in London. he was briefly a Liberal MP, dying in 1922.

Stephen Roberts is Head of Humanities at Hagley R.C. High School

FREE

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

We extend a warm invitation to come and join us in our Centenary Celebration. As well as the programme of events set out, we have planned a series of special activities which we will be announcing as the year progresses.

(Inter-denominational) This church has a firm interdenominational tradition, and welcomes all who wish to express and explore their Christian faith in an open tolerant way. In addition to our services of worship each week we have nearly five hundred people enjoying fellowship and friendship through our various activities. many of which are supported by people who are not members of our Church.

In so far as they can, every member of our congregation helps someone else and many are involved with organisation which give support to those in need. We do our best to spread the love of Jesus.

David Tubb

100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

The first half of our session has flown by, and ended on December 9th with our Christmas Party. We look forward now to the New year and hope that it will become a peaceful one. We start our meetings on Thursday January 6th at 8.00 p.m. in our Hall.

This will be a Devotional meeting and we expect the Rev. C Radburn to tell us about his work as Chaplain at Mary Steven's Hospice. All will be welcomed. Further speakers are announced each month in the Village News Diary. My thanks to the committee for their support.

Pat Waite

MOTHER'S UNION

Our January meeting is on January 20th at 2.30 p.m. in St Saviour's Hall.

Dates for your 2005 Diary:

Feburary 17th – our AGM and Prayer Pilgrimage around St Saviour's Church.

May 17th – Diocesan Festival – venue to be arranged

September 21st – Deanery Festival – Clent

Thanks to everyone who supported the Aids Vigil in December. In the world in one hour 510 people will have been diagnosed as HIV+/ with Aids and nearly 400 people will have died from this pandemic.

Judy Plant



HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

2005 Centenary Year

Sunday 9 January Morning service to launch the year, followed by lunch

and a touch of magic, concluding with communiton.

Saturday 22 January Social event

Sunday 20 & 27 Feb and 6 March

Three linked services looking at HFC through the eyes of

different generations concluding with Mothering Sunday

Saturday 26 March 40th Anniversary walk up Snowdon – leaving Hagley at

6 a.m.

Saturday 24 April President's Sunday - we propose to invite all former

presidents to attend morning service

Sunday 22 May Special Sunday School Anniversary

Saturday 11 June Concert by The West Midlands Police Male Voice Choir

Fri/Sun 24/26 June Flower Festival combined with Home Missions with

Youth as the focus. BBQ for young people on Saturday

evening Refreshments available all day Friday &

Saturday and on Sunday afternoon

Saturday 9 July Musical evening, featuring a young organist

Saturday 17 September Centenary meal/social

Sunday 18 September Special Centenary services

Sunday 25 September Harvest Festival/Youth reunion

C

DANCING IN HAGLEY

Hagley Dance Club meets each Monday for a Social Dance, comprising ballroom, sequence and Latin American dances with the occasional line dance.

We also hold a number of Saturday functions. In October we held an American Supper Dance, which was very successful, December saw a Christmas party Dance and in January we have to a Pork and Turkey Roast Supper Dance.

Strictly Come Dancing has raised interest in dancing. We have capacity for several more couples so why not come along to St. Saviour's Church Hall on Monday evenings at 8 p.m. from January 17, after the Christmas break. For more information telephone Stuart Forrest on 01562 882353 or Ron Jackman on 01562 884828.

The Parish of Hagley St John the Baptist with St Saviour

JANUARY 2005

Hagley Parish Music Festival Wednesday 20 to Sunday 24 April

The 2005 Festival presents an impressive programme of recitals, concerts and workshops for audiences and musicians with varying musical tastes. Tasmin Little, one of the world's leading violinists and Wayne Marshall an internationally known organist and jazz pianist will perform together on Friday 22 April; The Staffordshire Brass Band (Thursday 21 April), The Midlands Fretted Orchestra and The Haybridge Soul Band (lunchtime Saturday 23 April); Mark Bebbington, described by The Times as "a remarkable pianist" will play pieces by Schubert, Chopin and Liszt (Saturday 23 April) and the Festival will finish with the traditional Choral Concert where local musicians, the Clent Hills Singers and the Central England Ensemble will join together to sing Zakok the Priest, Bach Magnificat, Albinoni Adagio and Parry I was Glad.

Leaflets available in Mercian Travel and at St Saviour's and St John's Churches. Postal bookings taken from 2 January.

HADAC Christian Unity Service - Sunday 23 January

Please join us for this service at the Free Church at 6.00 pm which will be led by Bill Hopley, Chaplain with the West Midlands Police.

JANUARY SERVICES

| Date | 8.00 am | 9.30 am | 10.30 am | 6.30 pm |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 2 January | | Morning Praise | Holy Communion | Evening Prayer |
| E piphany | | St Saviour's | St John's | St Saviour's |
| | Holy | | Morning Prayer | |
| 9 January | Communion | | St John's | Evening Prayer |
| Epiphany I | St John's | | Holy Communion | St Saviour's |
| | | | St Saviour's | |
| | Holy | | Parish Family | |
| 16 January | Communion | | Communion | Evening Prayer |
| Epiphany 2 | St Saviour's | | St John's | St Saviour's |
| | Holy | | Parish Communion | HADAC Christian |
| 23 January | Communion | ŀ | St Saviour's | Unity Service |
| Epiphany 3 | St John's | | | Free Church |
| | _ | | | 6.00 pm |
| | Holy | | Parish Communion | Confirmation |
| 30 January | Communion | | St Saviour's | Service |
| Epiphany 4 | St John's | | | St Saviour's |

THE HAGLEY HANDYMAN



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Stour Valley Cat Rescue



Reg. Charity 514904

are holding a

TABLE TOP SALE

at the

HAGLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE, WORCESTER LANE, HAGLEY ON

Saturday January 15th 2005

Admission Free 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Lots of stalls including:

Books, Jewellery, Bric a Brac, Toys, Food, Collectables

Tea and Coffee available — to include various Charity Stalls

Charity Fun Quiz 2005

St Saviour's Church Hall

Friday 18th March at 7.30 p.m.

Entries in teams of 4 people

£5 including licensed bar and supper

Book early

TAKE



HEART

Monday January 10th 2005

THE ROY CASTLE STORY

7.30 P.M.

at the Briars Hotel, Habberley Road, Kidderminster,

Admission £2.

Refreshments provided. All welcome. No smoking.

For further details ring Barrie Jones 01562 882990

JANUARY DIARY

TUESDAY 4

Historical and Field Society

St. Saviour's Hall 8.00 p.m.

'Hagley War Memorials'

THURSDAY 6

Free Church Fellowship

Free Church, 8.00 p.m.

"Praying - a Good Habit"

FRIDAY 7

Chess Club

Free Church Hall, 7.00 p.m.

MONAY 10

Playgroup

Community Centre, 9.00 a.m - 12 noon

Monday to Friday not Thursday

Parish Council

Community Centre, 7.00 p.m.

Stourbridge Speakers' Club

Talbot Hotel, High Street, Stourbridge

TUESDAY 11

Hagley Wives & Women's Fellowship

St. Saviour's Hall 7.45 p.m.

"The McDonald Sisters"

Wyre Forest & District Centre

Blakedown Parish Rooms, 8.00 p.m.

"A Writer's Shropshire"

WEDNESDAY 12

Book Club

36 Lodge Crescent, 8.00 p.m.

Word Games Evening

THURSDAY 13

Free Church Fellowship

Free Church Hall, 8.00 p.m.

"A Life in Entertainment"

Clent Hills Singers

St. John's Church, 7.30 p.m.

FRIDAY 14

Chess Club

Free Church Hall, 7.00 p.m.

Art Club

St. Saviour's Hall 7.30 p.m.

MONDAY 17

Parish Council

Community Centre, 7.00 p.m.

THURSDAY 20

Free Church Fellowship

Free Church Hall, 8.00 p.m.

"Finger-prints for Detection"

Clent Hills Singers

St. John's Church, 7.30 p.m.

FRIDAY 21

Chess Club

Free Church Hall 7.00 p.m.

MONDAY 24

Stourbridge Speakers' Club

Talbot Hotel, High Street, Stourbridge, 7.45 p.m.

Speech Competition

TUESDAY 25

Hagley Wives & Women's Fellowship

St. Saviour's Hall, 7.15 p.m.

"My life at the BBC"

WEDNESDAY 26

Gardeners' Club

St. Saviour's Hall, 7.15 p.m.

"Ring out Wild Bells"

THURSDAY 27

Free Church Fellowship

Free Church Hall, 8.00 p.m.

"Hagley Shops"

Clent Hills Singers

St. John's Church, 7.30 p.m.

Ladies Probus Club

The Talbot, Chaddesley Corbett, 12 noon

"Cow Creamers"

FIRDAY 28

Chess Club

Free Church Hall, 7.00 p.m.

Could the affiliated societies check their contact details are still correct? Thank you

Editor



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3 MONTHS MEMBERSHIP* FOR ONLY £60

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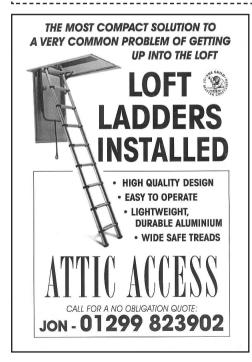
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|--|------------------|
| AFTERNOON WI: Joy Peers, 22 Brooklands Road | 884616 |
| CAMPING CLUB: Mrs J Jeffries, 2 Drapers Close, Brookfields, Worcester | 01905 455378 |
| CENTRAL ENGLAND ENSEMBLE: Anna Downes | 886625 |
| CLENT HILL SINGERS: Mrs Siriol Chatwin, 11 Middlefield Lane | 882661 |
| CLENT PRIMARY SCHOOL: Mrs B J Turner, Clent, Clent First School, Bromsgrove Road, Clent | |
| CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION: Dr Sarah Venning, 46 Hall Lane, Hagley | 885996 |
| EVENING W.I.: Elizabeth Knight, 36 Lodge Crescent | 884557 |
| | 0121 4222435 |
| | 0121 421 6657 |
| FREE CHURCH: Mr D Moss, 12 South Road | 883583 |
| FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH: Mrs. Pat Dunn, 1 Church Street | 883748 |
| GARDENERS' CLUB: Mrs Margaret Wigley, 56 Worcester Road, Hagley | 884437 |
| HAGLEY ART CLUB: Mrs Anne Garth, 89 Park Road | 884374 |
| HAGLEY CHESS CLUB: M A West, 21 Church Street | 885241 |
| | 01384 390000 |
| HAGLEY GUIDES AND BROWNIES: Sue Hemmings | 711120 |
| HAGLEY HELPLINE: Monday - Friday, 10am - 12 noon | 886696 |
| HAGLEY LAWN TENNIS ASSN.: Rosemary Brice, 8 Middlefield Lane | 883774 |
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| HAGLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL: Mr Kevin Bailey | 883280 |
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| HAGLEY THEATRE GROUP: Corinne Fox, 8 The Quarry, Kidderminster | 632484 |
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| HAND OF FRIENDSHIP: Mrs C Milbanke, 38 Summervale Road | 884730 |
| HAYBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL: Brake Lane, Mr Ed Mayell | 886213 884257 |
| HEARTSTART - Bromsgrove & District: Mr Geoff Gough, 26 Worcester Road HISTORICAL & FIELD SOCIETY: Mr Malcolm James, 2a Gregory Road, Wollaston | 01384 372275 |
| KIDDERMINSTER OPERATIC SOCIETY: Mrs. Rosemary Jones, 250 Droitwich Road, Fernhill Heath | |
| | 01384 374644 |
| | 01527 570864 |
| MOTHERS' UNION: Jayne Mottershead, 10 Ferndale Close, Hagley | 882053 |
| PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL: Parish Church Office (Mornings) | 886363 |
| PLAYGROUP: S Gould, 40 Lodge Crescent | 882433 |
| PROBUS CLUB: Malcolm Roberts, 4 Orchard Close | 885422 |
| RAMBLER SCOUTS: M H C Radford, 14 Newfield Road | 882362 |
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| ROTARY CLUB: David Dewhirst, 6 Trehernes Drive, Pedmore | 885499 |
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| RUACH KARATE CLUB: Richard Bache, 4 Oldfields | 883244 |
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| STOURBRIDGE SPEAKERS' CLUB: Brian Micklethwaite, 15 Highfield Road, Kidderminster | 851102 |
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| TAKE HEART: Brenda Jones | 882990 |
| UNIVERSITY OF THIRD AGE: Valerie Godfrey, 17 Brookland Road | 884335 |
| WEA (WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOC.): Mrs J Buckle, 2 Kidderminster Road | 720268 |
| WEST HAGLEY CRICKET CLUB: Andrew Long, 14 Station Road | 885622 |
| WEST HAGLEY FOOTBALL CLUB: Karen Hanson, 144 Worcester Road | 882767 |
| | 01384 637085 |
| WI MARKETS: Mrs J Waine, 32 Lychgate Avenue, Pedmore | 882255 |
| WYRE FOREST NATIONAL TRUST: Mrs M Fernihough | 883460 885200 |
| WYRE FOREST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Jill Sparke, 15 Station Road, Hagley | 003200 |
| ST. JOHN'S & ST. SAVIOUR'S: Rev, R. Newton | 882442 |
| HAGLEY PARISH COUNCIL CLERK: Mrs C Humphries, 74a Worcester Road | 881727 |
| LOCAL M.P.: Julie Kirkbride - Constituency Office | 01527 872135 |
| HAGLEY (& FURLONGS) COUNTY COUNCILLOR: P Fallows | 883985 |
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