

Saturday 6th November

Sitwell Rec. Horsley Woodhouse



Gates open 6.30pm

Bonfire lit 7pm

Fireworks 7.45ish

BEAVERS

cubs

EXPLORERS



Scouts



Bonfire & Fireworks

Adults £2 in advance £2.50 on Gate

Kids FREE with paying adult

BBQ Mushy Peas Bar Live music

Horsley Woodhouse Community Association (HWCA) Picnic & Party in the Park

Rain may have stopped the picnic but not the party! As you may recall we had a lovely sunny week building up to 21st August and then on the day of our first picnic in the park the rain came and stayed. But it didn't stop those committed individuals, so a big thanks to all the villagers who braved the weather, came up to the park and enjoyed the food, beer and music.

Thanks also go to our sponsors, those who donated prizes and the Scouts who ran the BBQ and bar.



Photos courtesy of Stephen Lindley and Glynn Wilton



Raffle Prize Winners:

Prize	Winner	Ticket
1 st – Amazon Fire Tablet	Rosie Jackson	0538
2 nd – Afternoon Tea for 2 at Peony's	Brian Annable	0158
3 rd – Luxury Hamper	Jan Needham	0736
Crich Tramway Village – 1 day family pass	Anne Fleming	0432
Haysmiths Grapefruit Gin	J Reid	0572
Fleurs de Prairie Cotes de Provence Rosé	Josh	0115
Deb Group - Home Cleaning Products Pack	Steve	0152



Rosie with the
Amazon Fire Tablet

HWCA - AGM
Wed 6th Oct at 7.00 pm
Old Oak Pub

Come along and tell us your ideas on what you want from the village Carnival and activities.

We'd love to hear what you think.

Things we could do better or those you like.

You can also offer to assist on the day – you could help as a steward, setting up gazebos, selling raffle tickets, help on the gate.

You can also volunteer to become a member of the committee, we meet once a month and like to keep it friendly and informal.

Just pop along

If not, post your comments on the HW Carnival Facebook page:

en-gb.facebook.com/HorsleyWoodhouseCarnival/

Local Clubs, Community Groups & Societies

Horsley Woodhouse & Smalley Royal British Legion



Following the Branch A.G.M. we now have a new secretary and a new treasurer.

This will enable the Branch to move forward and avoid having to amalgamate with either Heanor or Belper thereby losing our identity as one of the few remaining village branches.

The most important outcome is, however, that the building can continue to be used by the community for the foreseeable future.

Don Barham, Horsley Woodhouse and Smalley Royal British Legion

Horsley Woodhouse Over 60's Club

Nothing to report with regard to the Club's future, at the present time no one has come forward to take on the secretary and treasurer post's so it becomes likely that the Club will be closed in the near future.

The Club's constitution lays down the procedure to be followed if this is the case and this will be adhered to.

Don Barham Hon. Sec.

Horsley Woodhouse Ladies Group

The Ladies Group are meeting on Thursday 7th October, at 7.15 pm at the British Legion Hall, Main Street. An informal evening of chat and friendship and try your hand at Pebble Painting if you wish (bring your own pebble, paints and brushes provided).

Everyone is welcome, for more details phone Pat on 01332 880 858.

Horsley Woodhouse Walking Schedule



Date	Meeting Place	Walk Route & Distance (miles)
6 th OCT	MORLEY LAYBY - DE7 6DG	MORLEY CIRCULAR (2.75)
13 th OCT	DENBY POTTERY - DE5 8NX	POTTERY TO MAREHAY AND STREET LANE (2.5)
20 th OCT	KILBURN CAR PARK - DE56 0LX	KILBURN TO HOLBROOK (3.5)
27 th OCT	SMALLEY STAINSBY C/C CAR PARK - DE7 6EN	SMALLEY HALL AND DAM (2.5)
3 rd NOV	DENBY POTTERY CAR PARK - DE5 8NX	DENBY POTTERY TO LUMB FARM AND GREENWAY (2.75)
10 th NOV	KILBURN CAR PARK - DE56 0LX	KILBURN TO RAWSON GREEN AND PARK HALL (3.0)
17 th NOV	CHESTER GREEN CAR PARK - DE1 3RR	DARLEY ABBEY/RIVER DERWENT (3.0)
24 th NOV	DENBY VILLAGE CAR PARK - DE5 8PH	DENBY TO HORSLEY WOODHOUSE (2.75)
1 st DEC	METEOR CENTRE - DE21 4SY	BREADSALL/GREAT NORTHERN GREENWAY (2.75)

Contacts: Gordon McNeil: 07740 243 825
Richard Noble: 07533 830 187

Meeting time 9.45 am

Stargazers Drama Group

Start their Pantomime Auditions

The preparations for next February's pantomime have begun. Auditions for actors, singers, dancers, jugglers, comedians and wisecrackers begin on **Monday 4th October at the Kilburn Welfare and Social Club** on Chapel Street, and will continue for three weeks. All ages of performer are welcome and no experience is necessary. We start at 7.00 pm and finish at 9.00 pm each Monday.

Be ready to observe some Covid precautions.

If you are unsure about anything, just give Ray a ring on 01332 882 200.

An Open Local Forum – 9th September Community Conversation

We all value our health and know 'Our NHS' is one of the best health services in the world, but things are changing. Covid has been devastating, changing the way local surgeries (doctors and all health staff) look after patients – and privatisation is also having an impact.

On Thursday 9th September a group of us who had been litter picking in Horsley Woodhouse and Kilburn, met at the Legion to talk about what we'd hope for from Arthur Medical Centre as times change.

Although the GPs were not able to join us, Martin Allsopp, recently appointed chair of the Patients' Participation Group was there and made a very valuable contribution. Here's some of the ideas addressed to AMC from us as patients. We'd like:

- AMC to tell the community more about how it has been dealing with the pandemic and its plans for the future. More discussion/consultation between patients. Improved public relations.
- More flexibility of service provision: weekends, later evenings, in keeping with modern work patterns.
- A good balance between face to face and online/telephone consultations, as well as appointment making. Phone service needs to be improved. Face to face consultations are treasured.
- Clarity about what health issues can be discussed with Reception and what needs Clinical judgment.
- Recognise that as patients we need to understand what are realistic expectations and what are not.

Our little group are very supportive of AMC and the NHS and hope these ideas are of value.

If you want to join our Litter Picking Group, please email me

Keith Venables at venables_keith@yahoo.co.uk



Weekly Activities at the Church Hall

These activities held at the Church Hall are subject to any revised Government and Church of England Rules and Regulations which may come into force during these unpredictable times.

Date	Activity	Contact details
Monday	2.00 to 3.30 pm - Falls Prevention/ Chair Exercise & 7.00 to 8.15 pm - Line Dancing	Diane - 07919 116 585 Megan - 01159 326217
Tuesday	1.30 to 3.30 pm Village Crafts & Relevétion Dance Academy: 4.15 to 5.15 pm - Acro (Level 2) 5.15 to 6.00 pm - Ballet (Grade 2) 6.10 to 6.40 pm - Tap (Grade 1) 6.40 to 7.10 pm - Modern (Grade 1) 7.10 to 8.10 pm - Acro (Level 1) 8.15 to 9.15 pm - Adult Tap	Joan - 01332 880 887 Leanne - 07500 823 243
Wednesday	Relevétion Dance Academy: 9.30 to 10.15 am - Toddle in Time 10.30 to 11.30 am - Adult Ballet	Leanne - 07500 823 243
Thursday	Relevétion Dance Academy: 4.30 to 5.15 pm - Ballet (age 5 – 8) 5.25 to 5.55 pm - Tap (age 5 - 8) 5.55 to 6.25 pm - Modern (age 5 - 8) 6.30 to 7.15 pm - Acro (age 5 - 8)	Leanne - 07500 823 243
Friday	11.00 to 12 noon – Qigong	Angela - 07762 380 277

If you have any enquiries regarding the Church Hall, please call Sheila (the Bookings Secretary) on 07803 158 235, she will be pleased to help you.

Fundraiser for the Teenage Cancer Trust in Memory of Jacob Holt



Dawn and Jonathan would like to thank everyone who attended or contributed in any way to their coffee morning and afternoon in the village on Saturday 4th September.

The weather was good and it was lovely to see lots of people coming along, meeting up with old friends and relaxing in the garden. The five owls that Collette and Neil brought along from the Woodie's Wings Parrot & Owl Rescue charity in Ripley were very popular indeed, LOTS of delicious cake was eaten and local businesses helped provide prizes for a big raffle.

Overall, including donations from people who couldn't come along on the day, we raised over £2,400 for the Teenage Cancer Trust which is absolutely fantastic! So, thanks a lot for everyone's amazing support.

If you still wish to donate please access the donation page

justgiving.com/fundraising/jacob-holt-2021

Pats Garden Party

We had an enjoyable afternoon in the sunshine in Pat's garden, many thanks to all who came and supported us to raise a wonderful £300 for our village church St Susanna's.

A big thank you to all who helped with the teas and stalls.



St. Susanna's - Church Services

Date	Time	Service
10 th October	6.30 pm	Holy Communion
24 th October	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
14 th November	10.00 am	Remembrance Day Service
28 th November	3.30 pm	Holy Communion

Current Regulations affecting the conduct of Services

Certain regulations seem set to continue for the moment but hopefully these will be gradually lifted over this period as the pandemic recedes:

- *Social Distancing* continues to affect seating and church capacity
 - *Face coverings* continue to be a requirement
 - *Hand Sanitisers* should be used upon entry and at departure
- *Communion* will be 'of one kind' [the bread] and will be distributed according to CoE guidance
 - *Singing* by the congregation is still not possible
 - *Track and trace* procedures remain a requirement

Whilst I do not anticipate that maximum permitted numbers will be exceeded at any service it will be helpful to have an indication of your intention to attend.

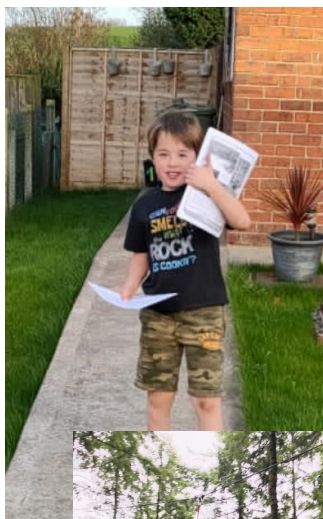
Please contact Andrew Shaw on 01332 883 124 or 07790 012 606 or email

andrew.shaw70@btinternet.com

Wudhus News's Youngest Distributor

We like to encourage our Wudhus News distributors to start early, and here you can see Leo on his first round of delivery. He doesn't just spend his time volunteering though, he likes to get up to other escapades. Here you can see him on the

adventure park in Wales, walking up Snowdon and enjoying himself at the recent Shipley Country Park Colour Run.



Horsley Woodhouse Parish Council

Meeting of Horsley Woodhouse Parish Council - September

- **Roman Road Proposal** - The committee will be asked to attend the next meeting to present their ideas to the Council.
- Advertisement for vacancy of the Clerk and RFO for Horsley Woodhouse Parish Council to be put on DALC website, notice boards and Parish Council website.
- A new litter bin is to be purchased to replace the one removed by Amber Valley for Fairfield Road.
- Members accepted the quotation from Leisurelites to install the Christmas Lights this year.
- The installation of the Christmas lights has been arranged and the tree by the Millennium Wall is to be trimmed once the leaves have fallen.

Planning

AVA/2021/0753 – Stainsby Bungalow, Main Road, Smalley. New dormers, open flat roof area and new front porch.

No objections

AVA/2021/0804 – 15B Church Lane, Horsley Woodhouse. Enlargement of existing tandem garage incorporating shallow pitch roof with three roof windows and render applied to existing house and proposed development.

No objections

Recreation Matters

Monthly play equipment inspections are to be carried out thorough the winter months; all maintenance has been carried out throughout the summer.

Date of next meetings:

The next two meetings will be held on **Tuesday 5th October and Tuesday 2nd November 2021 at 7.00 pm, at the British Legion. If you wish to raise any issues**, please get in touch with your local Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk.

If you wish to raise any issues, please get in touch with your local Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk.

Parish Council Contact Details:

- Cllr K Seals (Chairman) – 01332 881 983
- Cllr S McGuinness (Vice Chairman) – 07790 849 000
 - Cllr A James – 07811 384 858
 - Cllr A Nathan – 07790 730 610
- Cllr I Ratcliffe – 01332 781 872
 - Cllr S Till – 01332 881 739
- Cllr J Whitmore – 01332 880 203
- Mrs K Richardson (Parish Clerk) – 01332 883 404 or
Email: horsleywoodhouseparishcouncil@aol.com

The Safer Neighbourhood Team provides up to date information on twitter @HeanorRuralSNT and you can email the team on ripley.neighbourhoods@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk

Crimes and anti-social activity can be reported by ringing 101

What's on - events and village news

Don't forget to keep up to date with all things Horsley Woodhouse via the Parish Council's village website and Facebook site.

Website: www.horsleywoodhouseparishcouncil.org.uk

HW Facebook page: www.facebook.com/horsleywoodhouse/

Wudhus News - online Past and Present

You can access all copies of the Wudhus News in colour with past and present editions, from 2013 to date. Just click on the News and Events/Wudhus News Page section of the website.

Keeping the villages connected... Kilburn News



KILBURN, DENBY & HORSLEY CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS CAROLS & CRACKERS

The Kilburn, Denby & Horsley Carnival Association are pleased to invite you to join us for an afternoon of Christmas festivities, live entertainment and buffet food on Saturday 4th December 2021 at Kilburn Village Hall, Church Street, Kilburn, DE56 0LU from 12 noon until 3pm for those aged 65 and over.

A buffet lunch will be provided as well as entertainment and other festive themed activities. Limited transport will also be available for those who require it.

Booking is essential as places are limited and this can be done by either returning form on the back of this leaflet or by telephoning 07756762192.

Please note the deadline for bookings is Friday 5th November 2021 at 12 noon.



Kilburn Junior School

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Friday 12th November

9am-11am

in the school hall

Please come along, join in the fun and support this important charity



Kilburn Parish Council - Nature Reserve Update

Kilburn Parish Council apologises for the delay in getting the nature reserve re-opened.

The footpaths are unsafe and they are currently negotiating with a contractor to enable some of the footpaths to be completed which would enable access to the nature reserve. We are hoping this will not take too long.

The Parish Council thanks residents for their patience. Should you require further details please contact the Parish Clerk via T: 01332 671 513 or E: kilburnparishcouncil@gmail.com.



KILBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Keeping you in touch Cllr Trevor Ainsworth

Hi

Hope you have managed to enjoy the Summer, as things continue to open up in society, some groups and individuals may require some assistance. If you do need help, please contact me and I will do what I can to assist.

Community Leadership Scheme

Councillors at Derbyshire County Council have extra funding available this year to help local groups in their area.

Each county councillor usually has £3,860 to give to local groups, but this year an additional £3,860 has been allocated bringing their total to £7,720. And next year councillors will receive £3,860, plus £1,500 Platinum Fund to give to local groups organising activities to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Groups seeking funding should contact me explaining the nature of the project, the amount sought, what other funding may be available, and how it will benefit the community.

To find out more visit the county council's website at

[www.derbyshire.gov.uk/
communityleadershipscheme](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/communityleadershipscheme)

Tackling Anti-Social behaviour funding

The Grant, worth a total £100,000, is designed to help local groups and organisations, including parish and town councils, to take a stand against the problems that bring misery to their communities. The funding is available in grants of up to £5,000.

The fund has been established to support projects that respond to issues already highlighted by local residents and will also provide vital help for initiatives designed to prevent problems from developing in the first place.

Applications are welcomed from innovative projects such as sports and creative arts diversionary programmes to drop-ins for young people, mentoring and parental support. Other projects could include better lighting, CCTV and community clean-ups. The Commissioner will also consider applications from organisations that offer some level of matched funding.

Reporting Road defects

Reporting any issue regarding Highways can be completed on-line, very quickly, you can even add a photo. If you go to the Derbyshire County Council website www.derbyshire.gov.uk.

There you will find a drop-down menu click on the **REPORT A ROAD FAULT**, it then leads you through it. When you have submitted it, you will get an email giving you a reference number. If for some reason the job does not get completed, please forward the email with the reference number included to me, and I will chase a response.

You can of course phone or email me with the issue and I will report it on your behalf.

Trevor.ainsworth@derbyshire.gov.uk

T: 01332 780 833

M: 07811 494579



Only when it rains - Harvest Moon

Is it true or is it not that the sky and clouds like forget-me-nots, drift left and right and side to side up so high, glide and glide?

There is the sun, the Earth, the moon. Related to us all by time, man-made of course, before we came it worked just fine, 'Look around now'! But now here we are, way up the road, the Earth is dying so I've been told. If our Earth could talk, she would surely 'tell us to walk', not just to talk but to walk our talk.

In years of past humans did the last, to try to make things work, not just for themselves but for our Earth and nature too; took only enough from the land that they needed at the time, to provide for their families, tribes or clans. To stock-up for the leaner times ahead, I give thanks to them all.

Our Earth survived and managed perfectly well without us before and if found to be necessary it will do so again. Look around, what do we see, devastation on a huge scale, mammoth fires and floods, extreme heat, cold and wind.

Our Earth and all that's living on it needs our help, not just a fiver or a tenner, now and again, here and there. It's time for young and old to stand up, speak up, be heard.....

Thoughts, words and action, that's all that is needed, but not tomorrow, next week or when we get back from our holidays. Our Earth and all on it, humans, animals, plants and fish all need our help now.

Let us all think about that now. I'm sure even as individuals, no matter of our health or wealth can come up with some way to help!

The choice is yours of course.

Thoughts from Rob Ranger

GARDEN OPENING

Thanks to everybody who came to the 9 Main Street Garden Opening on 31st July and 1st August and supported the charities represented there.

We had fine weather and good attendance (128 people). It was lovely to see the garden full of people again and to meet friends. We raised £1,063.70; £367.70 for Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre and the remainder for the National Gardens Scheme which supports cancer and nursing charities. For full listing of the NGS donations please see their website.

Special thanks to all my kind friends and neighbours who helped beforehand, on the day, and afterwards, making this successful event possible.

Alison Napier

Horsley Woodhouse Methodist Church

SERVICES

October 2021

Sunday 3rd at 6.00 pm - Service led by Revd Julian Penfold

Sunday 10th

10.30 am – Café Church

6.00 pm – Service led by Mrs Kath Brydon

Sunday 17th at 6.00 pm - Service with Holy Communion led by Revd John Malnutt

Sunday 24th at 6.00 pm - Service led by Mr John Turner

Sunday 31st at 6.00 pm – Service led by Mr Peter Morley

November 2021

Sunday 7th at 2.30 pm – Service led by Mrs Geraldine Stamp

Sunday 14th

10.30 am – Café Church

2.30 pm – Remembrance Service led by Mr Keith Bryan

Sunday 21st at 2.30 pm - Service with Holy Communion led by Revd John Malnutt

Sunday 28th at 2.30 pm – Service led by Revd Kenneth Cupit

PLEASE NOTE: From November this year, through till March 2022 inclusive, our Services will be at 2.30 pm.

OPENING. We opened up for Services at the beginning of September and have really appreciated being back together in worship.

HARVEST FESTIVAL. We thank all those who supported us in whatever way for our Harvest Festival. All the fruit and vegetables, all the goods on (and under!) the two tables, went to the Padley Centre in Derby.

MEMBERS. Two of our members have died recently. Mrs Violet Rice and Mrs Nancy Millhouse. We remember their families and friends in our prayers.

OUR METHODIST CIRCUIT - is undergoing a change. Our Ministers are forming a Team Ministry – Ministers are not being allocated to specific churches. Revd John Malnutt still wants us to contact him if we need a Minister, or have information a Minister needs to know.

Minister:
 Revd John Malnutt
 Tel: 01773 713 711

Church Contact:
 Mrs Phyllis Shaw
 Tel: 01332 880 083



Scouts, Cubs, Beavers & Explorers

1st Sitwell and Ignis Explorers had a great camp on 18th & 19th September, doing many activities including rocket making, den making, fire cooking and tracking to name a few.



We held a Best Beaver, Cub and Scout competition recently. It was very hard to pick as nearly 90% hadn't been on a Scout camp before, so we could only pick the young people who did their best.



Best Cub - Sam
Best Beaver - George
Best Scout - Lucy





I just want to say a Big THANK YOU to all the leaders and helpers for giving up your weekend to ensure the young people had a good camp.

Many thanks to the support group for helping behind the scenes getting the group our new camping equipment etc. throughout the year. If you would like to help, please just get in touch.

It's our bonfire/firework event soon - of course this is down to permissions, insurance and to follow any government rule changes, so it could be cancelled (fingers crossed it will all go ahead). This year it's on **6th November, gates open at 6.30 pm.**

We have a Facebook page just for the event, look for 1st Sitwell Bonfire Night - Horsley Woodhouse via Facebook.

Keep an eye out as we have a couple of social media competitions this year, one before and one during the bonfire event, great prizes to be won too. **Please share the page and of course the event and hope to see you there.**



One of the Leaders enjoying the food on offer, a little too much!

Saturday 6th November
 Sitwell Rec. Horsley Woodhouse

1st SITWELL SCOUT GROUP

Gates open 6.30pm
 Bonfire lit 7pm
 Fireworks 7.45ish

BEAVERS CUBS EXPLORERS

Scouts

Bonfire & Fireworks
 Adults £2 in advance £2.50 on Gate
 Kids FREE with paying adult

BBQ Mushy Peas Bar Live music

event and hope to see you there.

We are looking for the **best photo for our bonfire event**; this can be of us setting up, cooking, people helping out, the bonfire, the band or even the fireworks. The **best picture** put on our bonfire event Facebook page will win a prize. So the more photos you put on the bonfire event page more chance to win. However, I am the judge so none of me.



Why not ask to become a leader and join the adventure of scouting:

Email - Ian at

gsl@1stsitwellscoutgroup.co.uk

“RAMBLING” Through Time

(A serialised alternative history of Horsley Woodhouse)

Part 3. Top Dobholes to Bottom Dobholes

As we turn right from Stainsby Avenue we pass the Bus Shelter and then look to our right, we pause and see the brick built, double fronted Grand Moore Farm. A straight, paved path across lawns leads to the front door. Each side of the path is adorned with traditional cottage flowers making a glorious approach to this substantial dwelling. Adjacent is Grand Moore Cottage which nestles cosily behind its stone walls and hedges. Each spring a beautiful display of bright purple Aubretia tumbles from the front wall, chocolate box style. In contrast to this peaceful scene there is a distant memory of this property being struck by lightning a long time ago.

We then turn right and walk a few yards and we find a row of cottages known as Top Dobholes. As we face the cottages, there used to be a Nail Makers Hut on the right, (it has recently been demolished). There were several of these huts in the gardens of some of the older properties in the Village. They had a small furnace and a chimney and they formed part of the cottage industries. The men carried their bags of nails to sell in Nottingham. There was even a hostelry called the Bag O’ Nails on the way. Let’s hope the cost of the refreshment didn’t exceed the profits.

Back onto to Church Lane again for another right-hand turn, past a huge old Ash tree which grows from the embankment on the right. A little further on and we arrive at a short access lane leading to a terrace of 5 houses running at right angles to the road. Each dwelling was built one step higher than the previous one with the top of the terrace being almost level with the Sitwell Rec. This terraced row was known as Bottom Dobholes or Stepping Hill. Across the hard earth yard at the front was the row of coalhouses and lavatories. The coalhouses are self-explanatory, but the lavatories (also known as “Privies”) need a little further elaboration for readers who have only known the luxury of more modern facilities. An earth lavatory was housed in a small (usually) brick built shed with a latch door. To the rear of the inside of the shed a large oblong pit was dug to quite a depth with a hole to the rear, below the back wall for access to the waste and for ashes to be thrown into the pit. (You will notice on Geoff’s illustration a bucket is the receptacle and not a hole in the rear of the “privvy”, one would assume this was a more modern version). The seat was a substantial piece of wood placed over the hole and supported by a solid brick front with rear and side supports. This seat had either just one aperture which accommodated all sizes (a one ‘oler) or some had a second smaller hole (a two ‘oler) which one would assume was safer for children to use without them accidentally plunging into the depths below. The seats were always thoroughly bleached and scrubbed smooth. Toilet rolls hadn’t been heard of in those days and squares of newspaper were cut and pressed into vital service by threading string though one corner and suspending them in a bundle from a nail within easy reach of the occupant. A candle was a necessary companion on dark nights. The draught blowing through the rear must have been dreadful on a bitterly cold winter night, only to have been eclipsed by swarms of flies in



the summer. Not a venue to ever loiter in at any time of the year! These lavatories were emptied by the “night soil” men who had a cart with a wooden barrel with a piece of carpet thrown over the top. This onerous task was completed with the tipping of the barrel’s contents at regular intervals over neighbouring fields. The locations of the deposits were later clearly marked by areas of lush dark green grass. The cart and barrel system was later replaced by a tanker wagon with a tap which could be operated for the more accurate and hygienic release of the contents.

The kitchen in a dwelling of this age was a multipurpose room for all the family, the focal point being a black leaded range. More often than not the ranges in these areas would be fuelled by the miners’ concessionary coal. At one side was a boiler where water was ladled in and out to maintain the supply of hot water for all domestic eventualities. Amongst these included the weekly fireside bath for the whole family (the dirtiest one last!). The fire in the centre part had a large smoke hood which was adjusted according to the required “draw” of the fire (no thermostatically controlled appliances here!) and there would be a trivet for pans and a kettle at the front of the fire grate. On the other side there was an oven. These beautiful, gleaming, black leaded beasts are now a much sought after “must have” in traditionally restored homes. They were in their day the irreplaceable beating heart of a home. The washing was always done on a Monday with the dolly tub, ponch and mangle. The kitchen was transformed into something which closely resembled a sauna. Mother would be red faced and sweating with the huge amount of effort needed for this weekly chore. On blowy Mondays the washing was hung out to dry, but on wet wash days the sauna continued with assorted garments and bedding festooning the kitchen. (In later years after the introduction of an electricity supply, gradually most homes would have the luxury of a “wireless”. Imagine the cosy scene with the range burning warmly away and the family sitting around listening to the latest programmes and also the news reports in the war years).



A pantry was a necessity with a stone thrall to keep food cool and shelves heaving under the weight of home- made jams, pickles, chutneys, bottled fruit and salted beans to last for the winter months. Cheese, bacon, butter, cold meat etc., were stored in a Meat Safe with mesh sides for good air circulation. Bacon and cheese were wrapped in greaseproof paper and if the cheese grew a mould.....it was fine, just cut it off! Bread, cakes, biscuits and pies were all skilfully baked on the range and dinners were cooked in an assortment of heavy pans on the trivet. Times were hard. Hens and a pig were often kept in the back garden for eggs and meat. The pig was killed

when ready, hung up and bled for black puddings, the fat was rendered into lard and the offal was eaten first for obvious reasons. Bacon and ham were cured and hung as flitches on hooks in the pantry, trotters were boiled and served as a dinner and the cooking juices formed the jelly to be used in pork pies. Heads were boiled, stripped, seasoned and pressed into brawn for cold savoury cuts. In fact the old saying was, “all the pig was used apart from the squeal”! All food was respected, nothing was wasted and sell by dates were not needed. A good rotation, a keen nose and good cooking and preparation skills were all the safety measures necessary. Most of the produce used was home grown, imagine the skills and the hive of industry at harvest time, preparing and preserving food with taste and quality without E numbers and the bewildering chemistry of additives found in a lot of our modern over packaged foods. The fare was

“RAMBLING” Through Time cont...

seasonal, wholesome and good, thanks to recipes, traditions and skills handed down through generations and now regretfully lost to the past along with the art of ale and wine brewing.

The bedrooms were exactly what it said on the label in the old days. They were cold in the winter and not at all hospitable until snuggled under eiderdowns and blankets with a Denby or Langley hot water bottle or an oven shelf warmed and wrapped in a towel to take the chill off the bed. The bedrooms in warmer weather were certainly not a place of escape “to do your own thing” the place to be was downstairs in the hub of the family, unless of course you were ill and bed rest was ordered by the Doctor. A quaint but very necessary item in every bedroom to be found in antique shops nowadays was a “Po” or “Guzunder” with often an eye painted in the bottom. A survivor of Victorian humour and the culprit behind a lot of unexplained rusty bedsprings! The more flowery elaborate ones are desirable jardinières for modern day conservatories.



I mentioned the Nail Makers earlier and this seems a good opportunity to include the other main cottage industry which took place in the Village. This was called Chevening. Socks were knitted and collected from Village properties which housed a Stocking Frame. The ladies worked very fine stitching on the sides of the socks which was in the shape of a chevron motif. This work was done in the evening when the day’s work was finished. In order to see the fine needlework a candle or lamp was placed behind a glass container filled with water. This was angled so that a concentrated patch of light shone onto the work. The Chevening was very poorly paid with only a few pence being earned for a dozen pairs of socks. It must have been a tiring and monotonous task. A stark contrast to today’s huge choice of home entertainment!

I have covered some of the finer details of typical life up Stepping Hill because it seems an appropriate early opportunity to create a mental picture of the home life of many of the inhabitants of the Village as our ramble continues next time.

Sheila Cullen

(Sketch courtesy of Geoff Nash and Photographs courtesy of Di Cliff)

If you wish to contact us or put an article forward:

If you would like to put forward any details to be included in the next edition of the Wudhus News please contact Tania Pells (Editor) at editorwudhusnews@gmail.com

If you are holding a fund raiser, have some community news or you need support to write an article please get in touch. All articles and information submitted will be reviewed by the Parish Council before it can be approved. Unfortunately we cannot advertise businesses within the newsletter or print personal letters.

If you wish to use any material that is listed within the Wudhus News, please contact Tania Pells (Editor) on the above email address.

Publishing Deadlines: 20th Nov - Dec 21/Jan 22 and 20th Jan - Feb/Mar 22

Unfortunately, any information received after the deadline will not be included but may go forward to the next edition.