



MHG NEWSLETTER

November 2018

December Meeting
Tuesday 11th December 7.30. Memorial Centre

Raffle

Christmas Quiz

BAR

General Knowledge

Food

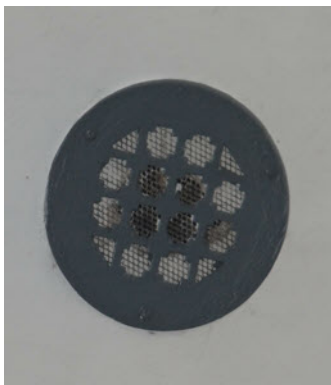
Prizes

Mountsorrel

Music Quiz

Picture Quiz

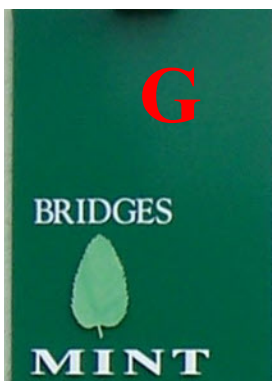
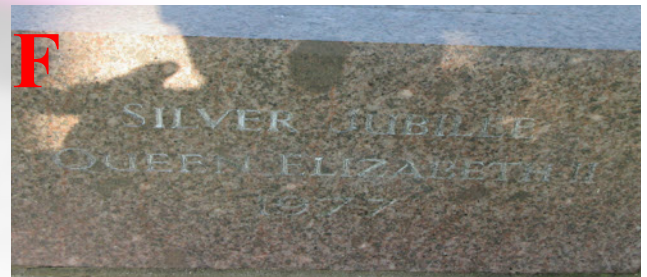
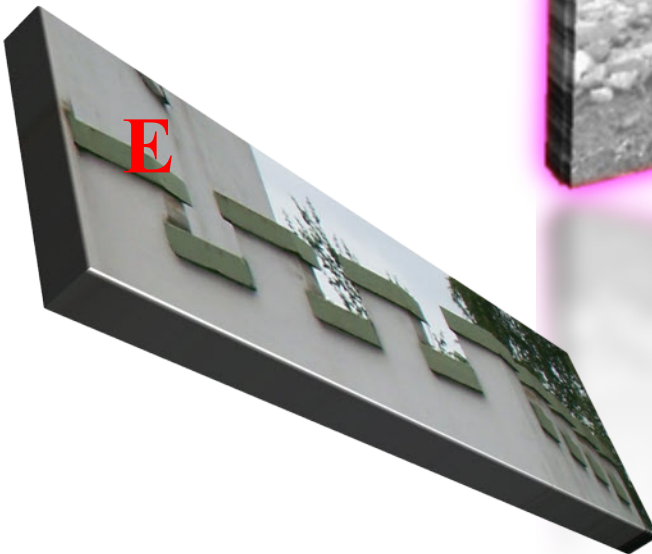
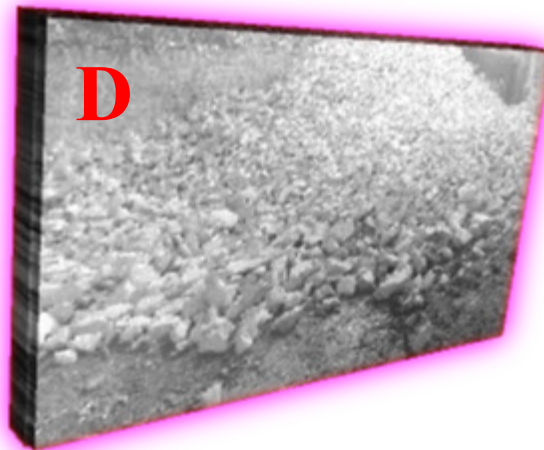
Below is the first question of the Mountsorrel Picture Quiz-you have plenty of time to research the answer. So I expect you all to get the first question correct!



There are six of these in the village but where are they all?

Mountsorrel Museum and Heritage Trust
Registered Charity No: 1174559

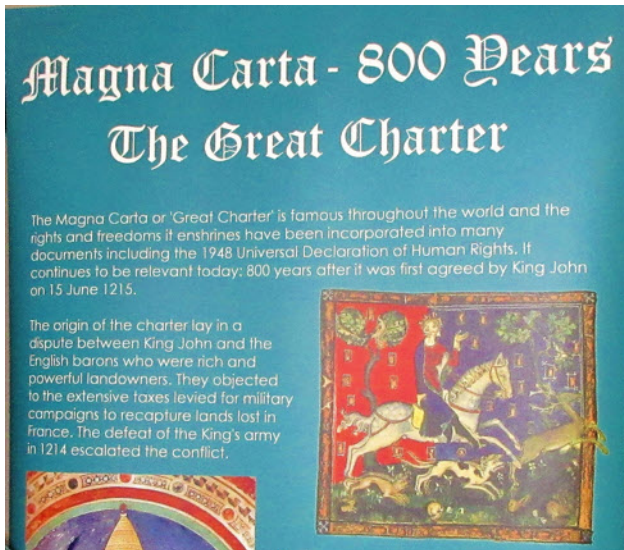
Images not used in the quiz- like the ones in the quiz they may have been mucked about-where are/were they?



Answers
on page 6

The 1216 Invasion of England

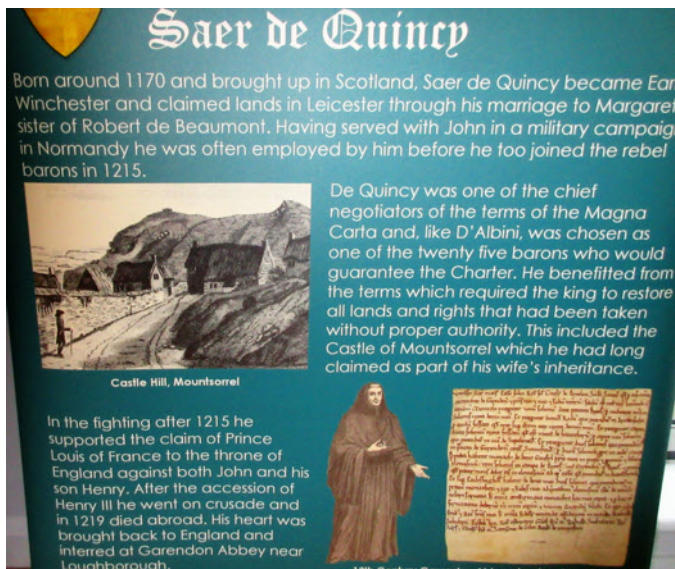
The latest posters on loan from the Record Office and displayed in the foyer of the MMC are about the Magna Carta, but why an image of Castle Hill and a mention of Mountsorrel?



A bit far fetched maybe, but it could be said (by me anyway) that if it hadn't been for Mountsorrel Castle there would be no Brexit as we would now be part of France.

Simplistically then, in September 1215 the war between King John and the rebel barons resumed when the temporary 'truce' resulting from the Magna Carta broke down. In the south the rebel barons held London whilst John had the impressive fortress of Dover Castle.

The rebels invited Prince Louis of France to invade and be crowned king and on 1 December 1215 the first contingent of French troops arrived spending the winter in London moaning about English beer. In May 1216 Louis himself arrived with some 800 ships transporting the French army.



On 20 January 1217 knights and soldiers from Saer de Quincy's castle in Mountsorrel went on a plundering expedition but were intercepted by a force from the royalist garrison at Nottingham.

Just after Easter William Marshall sent a force, including the Earl of Chester, to besiege the baronial garrison at Mountsorrel. The castle held out for several days and 'bravely returned stone for stone and missile for missile' before sending to Saer de Quincy for help.

Louis was attacking Winchester castle when, on 28 April a large force of English knights turned up with Saer de Quincy who asked Louis for a force to relieve the garrison at Mountsorrel. Louis agreed, and made the fatal mistake of dividing his mighty army into two large contingents, one remaining to deal

with Dover Castle, still in royal hands. The other, on Monday 30 April, moved north to relieve the castle at Mountsorrel. The Earl of Chester hearing of the approach of Louis's army destroyed his siege machines and withdrew to Nottingham. Mountsorrel was relieved and the decision was made to march to Lincoln. According to Roger of Wendover 'on their way through the Vale of Belvoir the French infantry who were the filth and scum of their country left nothing untouched'

Meanwhile William Marshall, in a speech to his captains, said that with Louis's force split now was the time to engage with enemy. On 19 May the French army was defeated at the Battle of Lincoln. This marked the end of Prince Louis in England.

The day after the battle the news was received that the garrison at Mountsorrel had fled. On the 23 May it was granted to the Earl of Chester who had it destroyed.

Mountsorrel Armistice Centenary Commemoration 2018

Working with the Mountsorrel Branch, Royal British Legion and other village Groups we made a real impact at the Peace Garden which was laid out as a small War Cemetery. From the messages received from many quarters, the Peace Garden display really caught the attention and approval of villagers and folk from elsewhere who travelled to view it. We



were particularly touched by the keen interest shown by Year 6 Pupils from Christ Church & St Peter's School who visited after their Remembrance Service



Courtesy of Mountsorrel Post



Courtesy of Mountsorrel Post

Mountsorrel in the Great War

Copies from our second print run are selling well and will be available for sale at the Monthly Meetings but if you would like to order one or more as Christmas presents please speak to the Treasurer or contact John Doyle at johncdoyle@talktalk.net

Memorial Centre Display

Our final display this year relating to the village in the Great War looks at our casualties. We have widened this last display to include the casualties lost in WW2.



The Peace Garden

Work Parties

There will be work to be done in the New Year in the Peace Garden in conjunction with village Royal British Legion Branch who have successfully bid for Borough Councillors' Ward Grant. Jointly we are planning to use the grant for shrubs to be planted along the Sibley Lane edge of the garden. Watch out in next Newsletter for diary dates.

Wildlife

Wildflower Meadow

The Meadows has now been "put to bed" for the winter but work will continue – weather permitting – as we need to clean out the bird boxes and look to trimming back some of the unmanaged tree and shrub growth which is starting to impinge on the wildflower area.

Birdlife

We've noticed evidence of a Little Owl in the cemetery area and what may be the same bird has been heard calling in the late evening around the Green. In the next few weeks we will be examining the pellets that have been found to see if we can identify the birds feeding menu.

Big Garden Bird Watch

The 40th Annual RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch takes place 26th to 28th January 2019 <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch> As in other years we will do a mini Mountsorrel version. Anyone wishing to take part simply leave your results on our website (<http://mountsorrelarchive.org/>) and if there's sufficient data we'll put a report together later in the New Year.

Christmas Presents

Don't forget if you are buying presents at Amazon, and you use Amazon Smile instead [it's exactly the same] the charity of your choice, Mountsorrel Museum and Heritage Trust, receives a donation from Amazon

Archaeology

The Bones

Two mounds, one in the car park of Freeway Farm known locally as The Bones, the other in an adjoining field, were surveyed using ground penetrating radar. This was carried out by the University of Leicester, ably assisted by two local volunteers.

Preliminary results indicate they were indeed mounds

Thanks to Mrs Gay Pepper and Will Orton for allowing access



Test Pits

Two more tests pits have been dug

One in the garden of 4 Loughborough Road.

Thanks to David and Rachel Winsor for allowing us to invade their garden.

The other was a second 'informal' dig in the garden of 28 Market Place resulting from the need to dig out a plum tree

Findings are still being assessed

Quiz Answers

- A** Once Pat Hynd's gift shop on the corner of Watling Street Buttermarket
- B** The urn on the top of the
- C** 91 Loughborough Road. Once a wool shop, previously William Job Spence's grocery and off license
- D** Collapsed quarry bridge in Bond Lane
- E** 'Turrets' on 175 Leicester Road (once a pub called the King's Head, later renamed George III)
- F** Seat on The Green
- G** Sign from what was once a pub next to the bridge across Loughborough Road, originally called the Railway, now Domino's
- H** The anchor sign on what was the Anchor pub (later used as accommodation for unmarried mothers until 1978.