



MHG NEWSLETTER

No 54

Group News

AGM and July Talk

Prior to the July Talk on Tuesday 12th July at Mountsorrel Memorial Centre we will be holding our Annual General Meeting—the first face to face AGM for two years. Whilst we do not expect the AGM to take long it is an important opportunity for Members to express their views. Non-Members are of course welcome but only paid up members may vote on matters discussed.


The Talk, entitled "Mountsorrel with a twist" will be given by Pat Neal who will take us on a virtual trip around the village using images old and new for comment, identification, disbelief, amusement, nostalgia, argument but not, hopefully, silence! We look forward to seeing you all on 12th.

**MOUNTSORREL MUSEUM
AND HERITAGE TRUST**

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1174559

**ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**

FOLLOWED BY



MOUNTSORREL WITH A TWIST
A different but light hearted look at the village with all of us
learning some thing about the village that we
didn't know

**MOUNTSORREL MEMORIAL
CENTRE**

Tuesday July 12th
at 7-30pm

Members £3.00 Non members £4-00

New Artefacts at the Museum

Whilst we already have a couple of bricks produced in the former Mountsorrel brick yard, Scott Green has generously donated a very fine example.

To go with our WW1 collection Margaret Manning has donated a small mug manufactured to mark the 1919 Peace Treaty.

Festival of Leicestershire and Rutland Archaeology 2022

The Festival from Saturday 2 July to Sunday 31 July 2022 features a host of talks, walks, visits and events across the two counties and the city. For further details, visit <https://leicsfieldworkers.org/festival-of-archaeology/>

The local festival is part of the Council of British Archaeology's national Festival of Archaeology (16-31 July) and to find out more about events further afield visit <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival.html>

Leicestershire County Council Museums – New Website

The County Museum Service have launched a new website showcasing its collections covering archaeology, fashion, fine art, the natural world, home and family life, and working life. There is also information about how museums staff work with the collections, and how they are used. Visit <https://leicestershirecollections.org.uk/>

Mountsorrel Revival 2022

We will have the Museum open for Revival as well as having a stall outside. Our friends in Mountsorrel Community Team are looking for volunteers to help them ensure the day is a success for the village and all the visitors. If you can help please contact MCT at <http://the-mct.co.uk/volunteer-at-revival>

Jubilees

Have we all recovered from the excitement of the Platinum Jubilee? It was great to see the village coming together again after the last couple of years. The new Beacon is stunning as were the fireworks on the night.

We put on two small displays for the Jubilee, a photographic one which was hosted by Mountsorrel Memorial Centre in the foyer and a display of artefacts from past Jubilees in the Museum. We wish to thank all those who loaned artefacts to us for the display.



The new beacon on Castle Hill and Fireworks on Jubilee Night.



Jubilee Artefacts display in the village museum.

The Platinum Jubilee was of course not the first Royal Jubilee celebrated in the village and Newspaper reporting of celebrations in the village captures some of the flavour of the times especially when there are no photographs of events.

Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee – 21st June 1887

Leicester Chronicle 11 June 1887

Mountsorrel – The Jubilee Treat

The subscriptions given and promised or the treat on Jubilee Day now amount to £64, and no doubt they will reach several more pounds. The Treat will consist of a meat tea, and sports and fireworks afterwards, and will be free for children of from three to sixteen years of age and all old people over sixty, and those between sixteen and sixty may attend and enjoy the same by paying 6d. each.

Hinckley News 25 June 1887

Mountsorrel

A bright sunrise ushered in the day; the bells rang a merry peal a few hours later, and the business of the day began. A royal salute of 21 shots were fired, Mr J. Bull acting as artilleryman, and using the boss of a waggon wheel for his cannon. Then came the cricket match between the Mountsorrel Minstrels and the Primitive Methodists, brimful of fun, and a large company to witness. At half past one there was the gathering for procession on the green with a brass band in attendance and the children sang "Awake O Happy Nation". Then the dusty march along the long centre street. This was as soon as possible exchanged for the greensward, where a busy committee had been making every preparation for the coming tug of war. Some 1500 youngsters and adults did ample justice to the good things provided, and the whole passed off with great success. This was followed by some capitally arranged sports which gave great amusement to the numerous company, and were kept up with dancing, till 9.15, when a move was made for the great bonfire. The signal rockets were fired at ten, and the great pile, compacted and arranged by Mr G. Baker was instantly fired. Further firing of rockets and other fireworks brought a happy and busy day to a close. We name no one for special praise (as each did his utmost to fulfil the part allotted to him, and the Ladies Committee, which worked most energetically) except My John Hinks, who cooked the whole of the hams and beef in first class style. He calls himself Little John but evidently, he can do a big job.

Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee 22nd June 1897

Leicester Chronicle 26 June 1897

Early in the day the streets presented an animated appearance, numerous streamers or evergreen and flags extending across the streets at short intervals while from a great many of the houses their floated flags with portraits of her Majesty the Queen, and the red, white and blue. In the afternoon the Commemoration Committee entertained 600 children to tea in the cricket field, and in St. Peter's and Christ Church schools all the old people over 60 years were provided with a sumptuous tea. The programme of sports arranged by the committee in Mr. Willett's field proved very attractive to many hundreds of people, and in the evening a capital display of fireworks in was given on the hill, whence a grand view of the fireworks in other places was obtained, notably those at Leicester and Loughborough, and six of the county bonfires were also plainly seen. The Jubilee Committee are to be congratulated on the success of their arrangements. Although the adults were not catered for by the Commemoration Committee, many tea parties were held. The Granite Company's men, to the number of 150, partook of tea in the Company's field, with sports and dancing in the evening, and many of the landlords made the Jubilee the occasion of entertaining their tenantry to tea.

On Tuesday (Jubilee Day) the tenantry of Mrs Oram, to the number of 40, were entertained to a sumptuous tea on the lawn by Mrs. Oram and Mr. and Mrs Charles Morris. During the evening, spirits, beer, cigars and tobacco were freely supplied, and sports indulged in, and at the close "God save the people" was sung by the special request of Mrs Oram.

King George V's Silver Jubilee 1935

Leicester Evening Mail 2 May 1935

The committee appointed to carry out arrangements at Mountsorrel announce the completion of their plans. At 9 a.m., the children will assemble at their schools to receive souvenir mugs and medals, and at 10 o'clock a comic cricket match between the girls and youths of the village is being staged by the Mountsorrel Castle Cricket Club.

An interesting sports programme has been drawn up after which all the children will have tea in the Drill Hall and the village veterans at the Temperance Hall.

Following a fancy-dress parade, four whist tournaments and two dance will provide entertainment until 10 o'clock, when the huge bonfire now being constructed by the Mountsorrel Granite Company on one of the highest points of Mountsorrel Hills will be lighted. This will be visible for miles and will be followed by a fireworks display.



*King George V's
Silver Jubilee
2nd May 1935
The Buttermarket
and Watling St.*

Leicester Evening Mail 13 May 1935

Open Air Service at Mountsorrel

Upwards of 1000 people assembled on Castle Hill, Mountsorrel, at an open air Thanksgiving service, organised by the Mountsorrel Branch of the British Legion, on behalf of King George V's Jubilee Trust Fund. About 100 ex-servicemen fell in at the Drill Hall, and paraded the main street, under the leadership of Major Charles Martin, Captain S. F. Peshall of Quorn, and the Earl of Lanesborough, to the Granite War Memorial on Castle Hill.

Those to take part in the service were the Rev. E. G. Burland, vicar of Christ Church, and the Rev. G. E. Alvis, vicar of St Peter's Church, and the Rev. W. Sidney John, Pastor of the Mountsorrel and Rothley Baptist Churches. Mr. A. Elliott conducted combined choirs, in singing, led by the Mountsorrel Brass Band.

Leicester Evening Mail 16 May 1935

Mountsorrel Legion

Mountsorrel Branch of the British Legion, in whose social and benevolent work the Earl of Lanesborough takes keen interest, is one of the most active in the area. Major C.H. Martin is President. Mr. C.W. Holland, the secretary has sent me a list of the recent activities of the branch which reflects credit on all concerned; it is worthy of record that the branch was responsible for the flood-lighting of Mountsorrel War Memorial during Jubilee Week.



Queen Elizabeth II'S Silver Jubilee

Loughborough Echo 17th June 1977

Mountsorrel News – Celebrations Were The Best Ever!

Mountsorrel's over 80 agree unanimously that the Jubilee Celebrations held in the village were the finest few days of activities in living memory. More than 6000 people lined the streets and packed The Green to see Jubilee queen Sally-Ann Smith receive a locally-made silver bracelet from Mr Gordon Scholes, chairman of the carnival committee. The bracelet was made by Cathie Stevens Ltd.



Mr Roy Bennett, chairman of the Parish Council presented gifts on behalf of his wife and himself to the six attendants, Hazel Ashwell, Sue Brown, Pam Edmond, Ann Harris, Yvonne MacCahon and Joanne Riley. Mr D B Allard presented them with bouquets on behalf of Mr & Mrs David Mathews. Coun. H Newman was MC and organised the parade on the day together with Messrs Scholes, Bennett and Allard.

Twenty-three mobile tableaux took part in the parade plus 200 pedestrians suitably costumed. Among the prizewinners were; Hawcliffe Road Children, Neal Academy of Dancing, Mrs F. Butherway, St Peter's School, Castle Road, North Sea Oil (Mr A Warner), Mr Norman Boon and Sacred Heart Church. The queen's vehicle was decorated by Mr & Mrs A Harris.



Winners in the children's classes were; Garry Dickens, Kirsty Taylor, Rosemary Worsley, Wendy Parker, Darren and Marie Drew, Noelle Worsley, Katrina Wheat, Kenny Smith, Neil Grace, Tracey Shepherd, Tracey Waterfield and Pascale Stuyvens (who was on holiday from France). Cycles: Mark Chappell, R Simpson and Mrs Bunney. More than two weheels: Mrs W O Bignell, Mr D Wiltshire. Adults: Mr M Lemon and Mrs J Beazeley, Mr N Waterfield. Groups: The James Families, Hawcliffe Road Ladies and the Junior Boys Brigade. More than £220 was collected on the route including over £50 by Mrs Connie Dunne.

Best Decorated Dwelling 1 Purvis Family, 60 Rockhill Drive, 2 Wakeling Family, 30 Market Place, 3 Lamb Family, 239 Swithland Lane. Best Decorated Property, 1 Messrs Bennett's, 2 A.G.M., 3 Dog and Gun. The first prizes were presented by the local branch of the Royal British Legion.

Pensioners were prominently placed in the best-kept gardens competition, for which a new trophy was presented by Coun and Mrs Newman. Over 960 gardens were looked at by the judges. Mrs & Mrs J Reid, 47 Dunster Rd., Mr & Mrs W Jacobs 25 Laurel Close, Mrs & Mrs F Swift, 19 Hawthorn Rd., Highly Commended, 19 Fort Rd., 39 Hawcliffe Rd., 40 Halstead Rd., Commended, 67 Rockhill Rd., and 34 Laurel Close.

A glass work of art presented by Quorn Art Glass and made by Mr Harry Bunn was won by Mrs Jean Porter of 36 Laurel Close. An open air service was held on The Green.

Mr & Mrs David Beazley organised a sponsored walking race and Mrs & Mrs Allard gave trophies to John Roberts, Chris Beazley, Dawn Beazley, David Puddenphatt, Kenny Smith, Simon Waterfield, Troy Gerrity, Adults, Chris Ison, Gary Lant, Colin Dodge (only Pensioner taking part in this event) and Mrs K. Smith.

Winners of a wheelbarrow race along Boundary Road, Halstead Rd and Church Hill Rd were Mr M Brewin and Mr Gary Clarke.

Several hundred people gathered in Castle Hill to see a 1¼ cwts barrel rolled up the hill. The event attracted a large number of young men and one lady, Mrs Maureen Lant, who failed to reach the top by just 18ft. The men were more successful and a there was a reclimb against the clock. Winner was shoemachinist Jack Towles (1min 57 secs). The event was organised by Mr Brian Wain.



The three-legged, three-armed pub race attracted 29 entries. Winners were Mr S Leake and Dave Smith. Runners-up: Malcolm Burgess and Kevin Heist.

Mr Michael Osborne, suitably dressed, acted as Town Crier throughout the week. Mr George Whitehouse, a member of Mountsorrel's well known cricketing family, organised a comic cricket match. The Bull and Mouth won the tug of war organised by Mr Alan Palfrey.

Mr Ray Woodward organised a full programme of sporting events. Winners; Football, Five a Side G Dawkins team of students; Runners Up Clive Attwood's Team. Junior Football: Junior Boy's Brigade, Runners Up, Dewick & Co. The competition, organised by Mr Bob Attwood, was marred in the last 5 seconds of the semi-final when teenager Malcolm Burgess broke a leg. Table tennis singles David Torrance, Runner up Lee McLeod. Juniors, Russ Weedon. Pairs, David Torrance and Lee McLeod. Chess Michael Sandham (walkover), Cliff Leader. Crib, Dave Palfrey, Roger Burton, Runners up, Jim Cart, Steve Allsop. Darts: Mixed Pairs, Anne Sharpe and Frank Byrne, Runners Up, Jean Smith and William Townsend. Junior Draughts: Rebecca Greasley, Runner Up, Joanne Green.

Mountsorrel's Loyal Message was carried by a team of teenagers comprising, David Bond, Martin Gill, Pauline Love, Paul Smith, Janine Roche, Sharon Axten, David Page, Paul Coltman, Dorothy Moore, Dawn Butler, Chris Newby, Michael Palethorpe. The message was handed over by the Jubilee Queen and conveyed in a special container made by Wakeling Bros. David Roche and Chris Newman carried the message up Beacon Hill and handed it to the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Col. Andrew Martin who was born at Mountsorrel. The carrying of the message over a distance of six miles was organised by Coun Newman.

The Mass exhibitions attracted over 1000 visitors including many from outside the county. It is hoped the competitions for the best kept garden and rolling the barrel up the hill will become an annual event. Many local people hope that the community spirit found at the many tea parties, the parade and the craft exhibitions can be rekindled by events held every three years.



Wildlife

Navins Wildflower Meadow

The Meadow has moved through the colours of spring and is now a sea of Ox-Eye Daisies with splashes of colour from the Knapweed. The Yellow Rattle is proving its worth knocking back the more vigorous and invasive grasses in the centre of the meadow and we will be encouraging it around the edges. There are still odd pockets of Bindweed and Bramble and we will continue to minimise them by selective weeding.



Wildflower Meadow

12th June 2022

Orchids

Group Member, John Oldham reports finding some Common Spotted Orchids whilst out walking in the village. This is a welcome find as with the closure of the Buddon Wood Farm path due to the planned quarry expansion we have lost the Bee Orchids that were there.



Willow Ermine Moth

A recent walk up river and through Cossington Meadows revealed masses of the silken webs of the Willow Ermine Moth in the willow trees alongside the river. The webs contain the larvae and then the caterpillars of the moth and allows them to feed safely on the leaves of the willows. The webs are present during May through to June with the moth then flying in July and August.



*Willow Ermine Moth webs and Caterpillars
at Cossington Meadows*

*Willow Ermine Moth—Photo © Nature-
Spot*



Once Upon A Time In Mountsorrel – July

14th July 1806 The Sun (London)

A few days since, a Gentleman from London, on a visit to Mr. Tebbutt, of Mountsorrel, in Leicestershire, took him, with another, in an open carriage, to a neighbouring village, where they partook liberally of the festivity of the wake; on their return, the Gentleman who sat in the dicky fell between the horses, in consequence of the foot-board giving way; the other jumped out, and both were left upon the road seriously injured. Mr Tebbutt remained in the carriage, and the horses, with the reins about their heels, ran, with great speed, into Mountsorrel, where a man attempted to stop them without effect, when turning up towards the Green, Mr Tebbutt, by a sudden jerk, was thrown out, and killed on the spot.

Notes:

Ralph Tebbutt was a wealthy business man and landowner who resided at what is now Mountsorrel Hall opposite St Peter's Church where he was also a Chapel Warden (St Peter's was at that time still an out chapel of Holy Trinity Barrow upon Soar) and a large memorial plaque to his memory is on the inner north wall of the church.

23rd July 1823 – Derby Mercury

Pleasure Boats – To be sold by auction by Mr. Brearey. In the Corn Market, Derby, on Thursday the 24th July, 1823, precisely at 12 o'clock; Four beautiful pleasure boats, made by John Kirk, Boat Builder, Mountsorrel Dock, Leicestershire.

23rd July 1830 Nottingham Review and General Advertiser for the Midland Counties

Mark Noble and W. Whittle, on four charges of throwing gates off their hinges, between Rothley and Mountsorrel, were convicted, the former in 5s. and the latter in 10s. penalty for each offence.

Mary Hunt of Mountsorrel, having illegally removed her goods to defraud her landlord of the power of distraint for rent due to him, was convicted in the usual penalty of double the value.

John Cooper was committed to the house of correction for one month, for indecently exposing his person at Mountsorrel.

13th July 1832 Nottingham Review and General Advertiser for the Midland Counties

Committed for one month to the House of Correction, Jane Blower, of Mountsorrel, for not completing her work at a lace piece entrusted to her by Mr John Hurst, of Nottingham.

14th July 1838 Leicestershire Mercury

A woolcomber named John Foreman, residing in Braunstone-gate, appeared under the following circumstances; - About three weeks ago he injured his hand, and on Monday last, finding he was still unable to work, and being in want of subsistence he went to his parish, (Mountsorrel), to see Mr. Padmore, Relieving Officer to the Barrow Union, who, however, refused to relieve him (though there was no doubt of his belonging to Mountsorrel) unless he was regularly removed by orders, adding, however, that If he had lived in Mr. Thornton's district instead of Alston's, he would have entered into an arrangement by which he would have received relief. Accordingly, the poor fellow came back to Leicester, but he was still unable to obtain relief, he then came before the Magistrates. The Mayor strongly reprehended the conduct of Mr. Padmore, remarking that he had clearly abused the law in a most wanton manner, in which opinion Mr Stokes cordially coincided. Mr. Thornton said that the Barrow Union invariably behaved with the greatest courtesy towards the Leicester Authorities; but with all his anxiety to defend Mr. Padmore, he was compelled to admit that it would have been better had he written to Mr. Alston in the first instance, promising to repay the Leicester Union for any relief afforded him. It is understood that the poor fellow will see Mr. Padmore on Saturday and tell him what had Passed at the Exchange.

17th July 1841 Leicestershire Mercury

On Monday about 125 brethren and friends of the Lodge of Oddfellows, meeting at the Crown Inn, held the anniversary, by walking in procession to church, with a band, flags and regalia, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. T. Pruine, and afterwards dined together. The chair was taken by Mr. Atherley, surgeon, and great enjoyment, and good social feeling prevailed all the day.

On Tuesday, the anniversary of the Ancient Druids meeting at the White Swan was held, and a procession made to church with a band, etc, where Mr. Pruine again preached. About 60 sat down to dinner, and a few social meetings have taken place where more brotherly feeling and harmless mirth have existed.

9th July 1842 Leicestershire Mercury

Mountsorrel – Fatal Accident – An inquest was held at Mountsorrel, on Friday week, on the body of Richard Rodwell, a labourer employed in the stone quarries of Mr. C. W. Wood of the same place, who met his death under the following circumstances. It appeared that on the day before, the deceased and another man were employed in preparing to blow up a portion of rock, and after the charge had been put in, the deceased lighted the touchpaper, and they went away. They waited about ten minutes, but the touchpaper not igniting the powder, the deceased returned, and was in the act of striking a light, when the powder suddenly exploded, and blew the unfortunate man three or four feet in the air. In a short time the deceased was found at the bottom of the pit, with both legs severely fractured, and otherwise much injured. He survived only a very short time – Verdict, Accidental Death.

1st July 1854 Leicester Chronicle

Marriages - On the 13th ult., at the Old Church, Mountsorrel, by the Rev. T. Pruen MA, Henry, youngest son of Mr. John Statham, Mountsorrel to Sarah, second daughter of Mr George Duncan, innkeeper of the same place.

8th July 1950 – Leicester Evening Mail

“Silverlink”, Linkfield Rd., Mountsorrel. Under instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. G.H. Haddon, Messrs. Garton will sell by auction on the premises, on Saturday, July 15th. The useful household furniture and effects including: 6 valuable Barrel Organs, namely, 2 Tremuic Mandolin, 2 Banjo and 2 Pipe organs. Sale to commence at 2 o'clock sharp. On view morning of sale. Auctioneers Offices: Cattle Market, Loughborough, Tel. 2461 -2.