

KEELE PARISH NEWS

January/February 1988

Vol 2 no 4



"Thank heavens I had the Keele Tourist Map with me"

A tourist leaflet is to be produced by Keele Parish Council, before the Summer. It will include a detailed map of the village showing it as an 'estate village' and highlighting the buildings of historical interest. The Parish map will show interesting walks around Keele Parish, including the Village and the University. It is hoped that it will be of interest to students wishing to come to Keele, conference visitors and holiday makers who stay at the University. Two potters' artists have agreed to undertake the art-work. They are Karen Gunter and Paul Butler who were both trained at the Slade School of Art. They were excited by the project although they have undertaken 'community art projects' in the past. The sub-committee set up to work on the project comprises three people - Angela Drakakis-Smith, John Naylor and Chris Harrison who are hoping to bring the project to fruition by May/June. Nevertheless, there is no truth in the rumour that the three were holed up in the Geography Department lift from Saturday until Monday morning - or the Black Swan either!

KEELE PARISH COUNCIL WISHES ALL PARISHIONERS A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Parish News is published every two months. Editorial by Angela Drakakis-Smith and Margaret Capper with assistance from Christine Wilcox. Printed by Keele Students' Union. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

N.B.

The 2nd Victorian lamp has finally been erected in Quarry Bank Road. Parish dogs please take note.

By-Pass



"I'm waiting for the by-pass"

It looks now as though the by-pass may not begin until October 1988, rather than January as was previously suggested by local Councillors. Chins up everyone.

Buses

The District Bus Manager (Newcastle), Mr. A. Davies attended the November Parish Council meeting at the Parish Council's request to speak about P.M.T. buses in Keele. It is clear that the bus Company abhors the behaviour of some of its drivers in not allowing passengers to board at the Whitmore Road. If any parishioners have any further complaints they should contact Mr. Davies direct on 616235.

Lorries from Podmore Hall Pit

The Parish Council is in agreement with Borough Councillors in opposing plans to increase the operating hours, by two hours a day, of lorries using Podmore Hall Pit, Leycett.



"And that what's tha gets for speeding in Pepper Street, Sir."

Speeding along Pepper Street

After a letter of complaint about speeding along Pepper Street, the local police force carried out observations in the area, which in the words of a Chief Inspector were "inconclusive". He went on to say "the matter was referred to the Northern Traffic Group at Hanley who operate radar equipment... checks have been carried out on that particular stretch of road in October ... when the average speed of vehicles using it was assessed to be 32 mph... they do not have the resources available to carry out protracted checks on a particular area. The indication in this particular case is that although there may well be occasional speeding offences on that stretch of road the majority of drivers are observing the speed limit."



"Well, dye won't run through Kettle's field but our boats will."

Drains

Dye testing in Mr. Kettle's culvert was carried out. However, it was reported that the dye did not 'show'. Further investigations are to be carried out. It has been suggested that the local drain expert, Mr. H. Lafford, be called in to resolve the matter.

Speeding along Quarry Bank Road

Complaints have been received about speeding along Quarry Bank Road. Lorries have also been observed using the school entrance as a turning point. The situation is not helped these days by parents parking outside the New Vicarage on the narrowest part of the road. The parking situation has been exacerbated by all children leaving school at the end of the day at more or less the same time, and the fact that with more students and conferences at the Hawthorns, there are fewer spaces in the car park. It has been suggested that ramps be installed along Quarry Bank Road and that yellow lines be extended past the New Vicarage. A letter is to be sent to the Warden re: students speeding along the road.

Trash and Treasure

The Parish Council has approached the Borough Council re: setting up a paper bank. There are bottle banks in the Hawthorns and on the University campus and it appears that metal drinks cans fetch 1p each if collected. Is there any charitable group interested in collecting?



"I'm going to love being a conservation area"

Keele Conservation Area

A meeting was held with Mr. Berman of the Borough Council to discuss the Conservation in Keele. Mr. Berman was very impressed with the new wall of the church and felt

that given the amount of dry stone-walling in this lowland village, the Borough Council would consider restoring all the dry stone walls in the parish at some stage, should Keele become a conservation area. He also proposed that the village green could be landscaped and entrances to farms could be improved with choice planting of trees, especially as some of the limes are in need of replacement in the near future. It is envisaged that by April of next year Keele could be a conservation area and the boundary of the conservation area worked out.

Wombles



Many thanks to Miss Melanie Willingham for her efforts to keep Keele Parish tidy during the past year. Miss Sam Riches has now taken over the task and we wish her success.

Wanted....

Anyone seen dumping rubbish along Lymes Road, dead or alive. A citizen's arrest can be made of anyone seen dumping.

"And we are tightening up the thumb-screws & oiling the stocks for those found dumping in Lymes Road"



Wanted....

A new seat on the village green. For those in despair who used the seat before it was cannibalised by a car (not all vandals have 2 legs) lift up your hearts. The Parish Council is to replace the seat with another as soon as the insurance has been worked out. Parishioners are requested not to remove any of the pieces for firewood since the insurance company will need to see the 'seat' in situ. The pieces will be raffled thereafter.

Wanted....

controlled a travelling chip van selling chips after 2.00 am on campus. The noise and litter has occasioned complaints from residents.

Wanted....

Kind, energetic parishioner to deliver the Parish News to Leycett. Fitness and fresh air guaranteed.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17th February 1988 at 7.00 pm in the village hall.

Best Kept Village



"Well if we're going to win the Best Kept Village competition this year, you're going to have to pull your finger out."

The Judges' remarks concerning their verdict of Keele village, entered for the Best Kept Village are as follows:-

"No BKV publicity seen on either visit. Litter problem on the first visit but improved on later visit. Baskets in need of emptying. Telephone boxes obviously a problem on busy main road - could perhaps

encourage tidiness with BKV publicity and children's posters. General improvement in difficult area in tidiness of church and chapel surrounds. Car parks good and village hall very good. War memorial surrounds in need of weeding. Open spaces - much improved on second visit. Trees - good. Private gardens and surrounds - very good. Map - very poor - very little effort made to indicate features and entry form not ticked to give judges necessary guidance. Communal effort - could doubtless be improved by additional publicity." Unfortunately not a glowing report. Nevertheless, the Parish Council have decided to enter Keele again this year. If there is an enthusiastic parishioner who would like to take on the task of promoting and coordinating the Best KEPT Village competition, please come forward - contact Parish Clerk via the Post Office for further details.

Register

The Draft Register of Electors (for the 12 months commencing on 16th February 1988) is now in the Post Office and University.

The Parish Clerk's appointment has been confirmed by the Parish Council. Congratulations to Christine Wilcox the Parish Clerk.

E.E.C. Food



E.E.C. Food (contd)

It is likely that free E.E.C. food will be available again this year. The Parish Council did attempt to gather names of those eligible in the Parish. If anyone has not given in their name but now wishes to do so, it can be left at the Post Office.

Mixed-up Mail



"All mixed up, just like our mail."

Complaints about misdirected mail, especially on the campus, have reached the ears of the Northern Area Delivery Manager. Any further complaints should be made to Mr. Heywood at the Newcastle Delivery Office, Newcastle Post Office. Complainants are advised to keep the envelope and send it free post. The Northern Area Delivery Manager is to attend a meeting of the Parish Council to discuss the matter.

Gravel in them there hills

The Maer Hills Action Group are asking for support to beat off Readymix Concrete who are threatening to dig up the Maer Hills close to their homes. Keele Parish Council has written to the planning departments at Newcastle Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council. Letters of objection had to be sent before 26th January.

Precept

The Parish Council has precepted £3,250 for next year's expenditure.

SCHOOL NEWS...

The University Music Department have organised a concert for school children on 5th February. Classes 2, 3 and 4 will be able to attend.

Half-term this year will be 22nd February to Friday, 26th February.

Madeley Police have asked if parents wish to continue to use parts of the College for community use i.e. the swimming pool, then they should write to Mr. Fitzgerald, Berkeley & Hayhill Investments PLC, Newstead House, Newstead Trading Estate, Longton Road, Trentham. After February, guaranteed use of the college will end. However, the new owners are listening to people who have asked if the community can continue to use parts of the college after this date. All parents of school children have been circulated with this message.

Get well soon

Mrs. Bagnall has been ill for some time and away from school. We wish her well for a speedy recovery.

VILLAGE NEWS...

Garden Guild

The Guild held an enjoyable Christmas Party on 14th December. The food was provided by Mrs. Isaacs and Mrs. Talbot and Dr. and Mrs. Studd were guests. Mrs. Locker entertained everyone with a monologue and carol singing, accompanied by Mr. Cope on piano.

The January meeting invited Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Green to speak on their visits to Switzerland. The talk was illustrated with slides and accompanied by music and a commentary by Mr. Green. Once again, the Guild was amazed by the Greens' enthusiasm for their subject.

The Annual General Meeting of the Guild will be held on Monday, 8th February 1988.

The Guild wishes Mrs. Connie Downs a speedy recovery from her illness.

The National Garden Festival Plate was awarded to Mrs. Richards at the Annual Members' Show and not to Mrs. Capper as stated in the last issue. Apologies to Mrs. Richards.

W.I.



"EEE! That WI party were right champion."

The W.I. held its Christmas Party on December 2nd. The Committee prepared festive food and the entertainment of the evening was a demonstration of Clog dancing. Rachel and Catherine exhibited the various steps used in this type of dance and members were invited to 'have a go'. The evening ended with sherry, mince pies and carol singing.

UNIVERSITY NEWS ...



Concerts

On February 8th Paul Tortelier (cello) and Geoffrey Pratley (piano) will perform works composed by Saint Saens, Debussy, Tortelier

and Brahms. The Concert will take place in the University Chapel at 8.00 pm. On 22nd February an evening of Madrigals for voices and instruments by Schütz, Monteverdi, John Ward and Henry Lawes will be held in the University Chapel at 8.00 pm.

The Music Society will also be holding a 20's evening of music and dance in the Hawthorns on 29th February. For further details contact the Music Department.

Exhibitions

"It's called
Modern Art, Doris."



From 31st January to 28th February there will be an exhibition of contemporary work by the Eagle Works, a Wolverhampton Artists' Group. This will be shown in the Gallery.

An exhibition on the History of Nursing will take place in the Concourse from 13th February to 14th March.

Recording Historical Monuments

An exhibition from the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England and Wales will be on display in the Chancellor's Building Art Gallery from 28th February to 27th March. This exhibition is currently touring Ireland and England and should be of particular interest to historians, archaeologists and artists, although its appeal will extend beyond those departments.

CHURCH NEWS ...

Dr. Chris Harrison's "at Home" - Keele Lodge Saturday, 13th February 11 am - 1 pm wine & pâté, coffee & biscuits tickets 50 pence or pay on entry. Proceeds to church funds.

Stafford Recorder Ensemble & Youth Choir March 18th 7.30 pm in Walter Mobberley Hall interval-refreshments retiring donation approx. adult:£2, children, students, o.a.p.s & unemployed:£1 cars to transport to campus from village Proceeds to church organ fund. Dr. Phil Gay - organiser

The next issue of Keele Parish News will be in March.