

# KEELE PARISH NEWS

October 1990

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Ha, one, two, three, four, ...

"Ere we are, ere we are, ere we are again!"

School's back and on September 18th the Parish Council was raring to go and in fighting form to meet the challenge of the new year.

The first challenge was that of finding a new Clerk to replace Mrs Wilcox. This was met in September when Mrs Susan Barnard of Hough was duly appointed (or as some may put it - drew the short straw) and began duties at the meeting on 18th September. We wish her well and hope that she will be happy with us and find the work fun - well ... interesting, at least!

At the meeting on 18th September, the Parish Council decided to hold an open forum at the end of meetings for a specified length of time. Parishioners have always been welcome in the past to contact or write to Parish Councillors if they wanted to raise a particular issue. Parishioners are still welcome to use this approach in addition to the new system. Should people wish to raise matters at these forums, it would be useful and discussion would be more profitable if advance notice, preferably in writing, could be given to the Clerk, Chairman or any other member of the Council. It is hoped that the open forum will act as a means of sorting out matters quickly and effectively rather than allowing them to irritate.

The other momentous change in the Parish which took place in the Summer was the face-lift to the Sneyd Arms. Well - bowl us over with a pint of bitter! Parishioners and others were invited to pre-view the opening in August, by Ansells (the brewery) eager to show off their baby to the community. Would the regulars like it? That was the burning question. Would they be able to take the washed walls, new chintzy curtains and plush? Well, it's pleasing to report that they took it all in their stride. Several claimed they liked it and that it was a great improvement, and so it is. I have also been reliably informed that the tenor of the conversation in the public bar has been raised considerably by the new decor. Long may it continue!



Well, I think the new decor's champion. Even my dog thinks it's great.

#### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ...

The drains in Keele continue to exhaust us. Although work has been carried out under the bridge in Station Road, water still collects there, causing a traffic hazard. The Borough Council have undertaken some remedial work here but to no avail.

They are asking that the matter be left until the bypass is built. However, the Parish Councillors felt that the matter should not be left until the bypass - no-one knows when this work is to be carried out - thus the Borough Council is to be contacted again. Keep floating!

#### Hedging

Although hedgecutting has taken place along some of the footways in Keele, the stretch from Madeley Heath to the village sign needs attention, especially around the bus stop sign and bus shelter in Station Road, i.e., those parts where the cutting machine did not reach.

#### Sheltering

The mysterious bus shelter, the one that suddenly appeared from somewhere, sited in Station Road is causing some concern. Some parishioners have contacted the Parish Council to say that they think it is in the wrong place. It is certainly poorly sited. The Parish Council, therefore, will send a letter to all those who are likely to use or do not use this shelter, asking their opinion about the site and whether or not they use it.

#### Way Marking

The way marking between Keele and Madeley has almost been finished. Some nice new gates have been erected. However, Dr Naylor has pointed out that the gate at Keele is a bit narrow for him and his filly to get through (we trust he meant his horse and not his wife!). It also needs digging out because it doesn't open properly. This Dr Naylor has volunteered to do.

#### Signing

It appears that one of the speed restriction signs has been erected upside down. The black stripe veres to the left whereas it should vere to the right. It was pointed out that we are a labour borough, after all. Nevertheless the Borough Council is to be asked to put it in the right way and cease this subtle form of political bias.

The Keele Parish sign is lorst and gorn (again). Would whoever removed it please return it.



### Planning

Planning permission has been granted by the Parish Council for the following:-

Phase 2 of the Keele University Science Park.

Car parking spaces behind the Chemistry building, on the grassed area between Chancellor's Building and the Computer Centre and also at the side of the Walter Mobberly Hall have been approved by the Parish Council provided that replanting and landscaping takes place and that existing trees are protected.

Planning permission was refused for the vehicular access to the Golf Course; the granny annexe to Cherry Cottage and the residential development at Station Drive.

### Mining

Castle Claysales had informed the Parish Council that clay from the reserves at Pepper Street was of an excellent quality but, for reasons that they were unwilling to disclose, it was unlikely that any extraction plans would go ahead. A letter had recently been received by the Parish Council stating that "...there are no current consents for marl extraction. Should any interested party wish to commence extraction then a planning application would have to be submitted for determination and the Parish Council would automatically be consulted."

### Listing



Parish councillor: "Can I list your building, Sir."

Parishioner: Don't worry old boy we're already in the telephone directory."

The Borough Council has 'updated' their list of listed buildings. However, their list did not contain all the buildings in Keele that the Parish Council deemed worthy of listing. Therefore, a sub-committee was set up to look at all buildings in the parish that came within the criteria laid down for 'listed' buildings.

From a comprehensive list the following buildings were deemed to come within the DoE guidelines: Top Farm, the Sneyd Arms, Keele Farm House, The Workhouse, Home Farm buildings, The University Chapel, The Summer house and wrought iron gates at Larchwood. It was recommended that all owners of buildings should be contacted. The list is to be submitted to the Listings Authority for consideration.

### Rubbishing



Quick, quick tell everyone the rubbish cart's arrived.

Just when we had ingrained rubbish-collection days into our regular routine of life, falling over the cat on dark, windswept, soggy nights to fill our rubbish bins with plastic bags when SPLAT! the day changes with hardly a word from anyone. Thrown into confusion some people rang up the Borough Council to find out what was going on, when SPLOSH! our dearly beloved Chairman amongst others reports that he is told it's nothing to do with him by an overworked and possibly underpaid person

at the end of a telephone at the Borough Council Offices. You could have knocked him over with the gnawed lamb bone he was clutching - whilst wondering where he should deposit it. Now did he pay his poll-tax or didn't he.?

#### Stopping

The leaning bus stop signs are, apparently, the responsibility of the bus company, i.e., Cros-ville that was now Midland Red and they have to replace them in the upright position - hopefully before they fall on a casual passer-by.

#### Wearing

Whilst the Parish Council are deciding on the type of surface to surround the war memorial, the area around it and the church car park are being worn away by wheels. It has been reported that this area is being used regularly now as a turning space. Miss Holder is to be asked to remind students that the war memorial is not a roundabout. The Vicar, Churchwardens and a member of the Berachah House Trust Committee will attend an emergency meeting in the near future to discuss the cordoning off of one of the entrances to the car park to stop this practice.

#### SCHOOL NEWS ...

A recent jumble sale at the school raised £101 for the PTA fund.

Sale of seconds - ladies quality (M & S, Dorothy Perkins) at 7.00 pm, October 4th, at the school (this event may have passed by the time we get into print!).

Raffle tickets will be on sale soon, drawn near to Christmas. Fabulous prizes to be won. Tickets, and books of tickets, from the school or children.

The school is collecting aluminium cans and tin foil for recycling. The money raised is for the school fund. Bring your contributions to the school.

#### PARISH NEWS ...

##### W I News

During the Summer months the WI has not slumbered or slackened its pace in the hot summer sun. In July, Mrs Horrocks gave a talk on the charity MIND and how she became involved with its activities. She also pointed out how attitudes towards mental illness have changed over the years. The acting Archaeologist of Stafford Castle took the floor for the August meeting. He traced the history of the castle from its inception in Norman times to the present day. Excavations are continuing. The WI hopes to organise a visit to the site in the near future. The history of the Potteries was the subject matter of September's meeting, with Hanley being the town spot-lighted. The slides were a fascinating record of the changing history of the town.

The 11th September was an exciting day for the WI because it marked its 75th Anniversary. A celebratory tea was held in the Village Hall and between 6 - 7 pm the church bells were rung to mark the occasion. The bell ringing team rang a quarter peal of Stedman doubles (well-done team!). A certificate is to be presented to the WI archives.

##### Best Kept Village

This year a record of 66 villages entered the competition. The winner of the small village section was Maer and the winner of the large village section was Whittington. We await, breathlessly, the judges comments on our chez nous, to be printed in FULL in the next issue.

##### Classes in the Parish Hall

A varied programme of daytime and evening courses are to be run at Keele as part of the Adult Education programme. Most courses begin in mid-September and are held on the campus. However, one is to be held in the village hall this year - entitled "Keele and the Sneyds" This course will study the Sneyd family, their servants and the estate.



The sessions will be given by an MA student in the History Department who is about to complete her thesis on the Sneyds of Keele. Further information can be obtained from Angela Boon, Adult Education Department, Tel. 625116.



"... ee and I'm that excited. They've asked me to be the live model for the art classes in the village 'all."

#### UNIVERSITY NEWS ...

##### Back in Time

From 13 October - 24 November there will be an exhibition in the Chancellor's Building Gallery showing 'Everyday Life in Ancient Egypt' using everyday artefacts. The exhibition has been devised by the West Midlands Area Museum Service. A comprehensive catalogue will be on sale and a school pack is available.

Joanne Webb, weaver, and Erica Brook, painter, will be displaying their work in the Chancellor's Building foyer during the same period.

##### 40 Years on

Although there has been a summer recess, Keele's 40th year celebrations continue until the end of the year.

An advance notice of the Christmas musical - it is to be West-Side Story - not to be missed!

There are also talks and lectures which are open to the public throughout next term. Professor Drakakis-Smith will give his inaugural lecture on November 8th at 8-30 pm in the FY Lecture Theatre, entitled "40 years on is there a Third World?"

Sir Roy Strong will give a talk on "Britain's Vanished Treasures" in the Salvin Room, Keele Hall at 7-30 pm on 25th October.

On 13th October, Dr Keith Goodway will host a "Study Day at Biddulph Grange on the subject of "Biddulph Grange, a Victorian Garden Restored". For further information contact Adult & Continuing Education.

Remember the 4th of November - Bonfire Night Party at the Students Union.

Mr Duke Kent-Brown, South African Embassy, will talk on "South Africa in the Future" in Room 26 of the Chancellor's Building at 7.30 pm. This is one lecture in the World Affairs series of lectures. ~~November 1st 1990.~~

##### Going, Going, Gone

The more observant parishioners, and indeed even the less observant could not have failed to notice the demolition process at the site of Madeley College. The college site was sold to developers a while ago to build houses. The parishioners at Madeley put up quite a struggle against the development, but this summer saw the razing of the teaching blocks, swimming pool and gymnasium, and student hostel blocks. Eat your heart out Keele University! This site could have solved most of the university accomodation problems.

UNIVERSITY NEWS cont.



University official worn to a shadow in attempt to raise funds:  
"Are you sweet charity?"

Pert, well-heeled Government official: "No, I'm a member of the UFC +  
you'll get no small change out of me!"

CHURCH NEWS ...

Although work has begun on the church, the spire appeal is still open, and throughout the year a number of events have been organised to raise funds.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17th October, at 7.0 pm.

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



St. John the Baptist Parish Church, Keele.

Dear Friend of St. Johns.

The Parochial Church Council has decided to hold a special Thanksgiving Service to mark the magnificent response so far achieved for the Spire Appeal Fund.

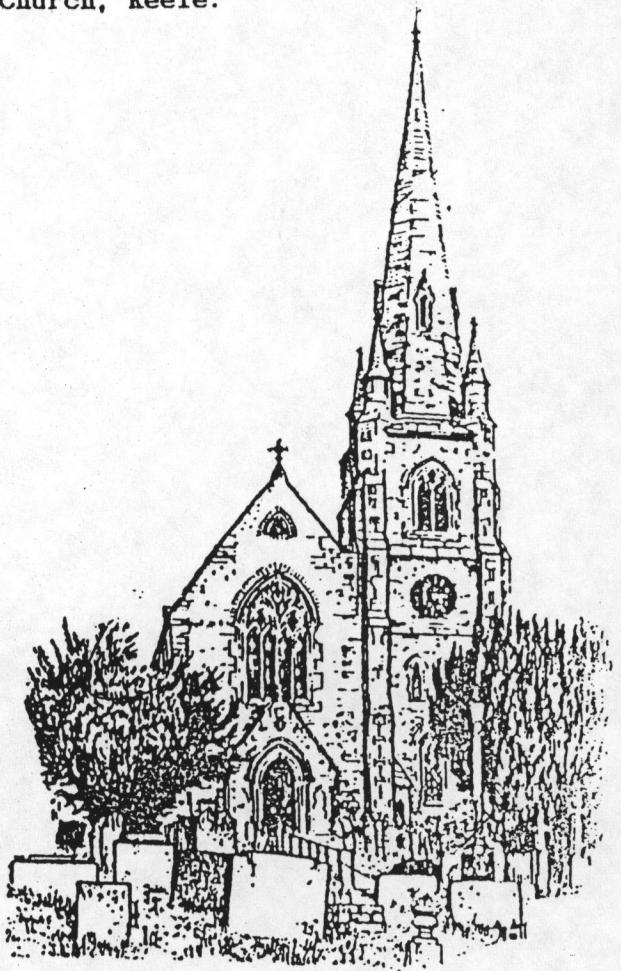
Continued support for the appeal is essential to enable other important work to be completed and the loan, which enabled work on the spire to commence promptly, to be repaid as quickly as possible.

The Thanksgiving Service will take the form of 'Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving' and will be held at 6.30 pm on Sunday, 21st October.

A warm welcome to attend this service is extended to all. If you have a favourite hymn which you would like included in the programme, please complete the attached form and return to:

Alan Taylor  
3 Queens Court  
The Brampton  
Newcastle  
ST5 1ST

BEFORE the 15th October.



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First Line of Hymn ...

Number if Known \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for your choice or name of person  
to whom dedicated.

Name ..... (Please Print)