

STOCKSBRIDGE & DISTRICT

HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER SPRING 1992

No.1

EDITORS REMARKS

Welcome to this the first [but hopefully not the last] Stocksbridge & District History Society Newsletter.

This publication is **YOURS**. It's success will depend on **YOU**, articles and features will only appear if **YOU** are prepared to write them. I am looking for any short articles that will be of interest to the membership, Personal reminiscences, historical snippets, in short, anything that **YOU** want to share with others.

Don't worry about style and presentation, I am willing to discuss these with you. You definitely won't have to type anything!

Articles and ideas can be delivered to me care of the library. If you want to discuss anything with me, telephone the library on 882576 and leave a message.

If the newsletter takes off publication will be quarterly, which means that I will need a steady stream of ideas for publication - **OVER TO YOU !!!**

Mike Spick.

-oOo-

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Dear Members,

Our second anniversary has passed and we have much to be pleased about. Of course the old Kenworthy Fellowship was much older and for many years was prosperous, with Jack Branston as secretary. The prosperous days passed but Jack kept the Fellowship going, always willing and able to stand in when a speaker wasn't available. The active membership fell slowly and when Jack's health failed the Fellowship was in a critical state. The remaining funds were insufficient to pay room rents for future meetings - enter Mike Spick. Mike offered free use of the library, a new committee was formed, a new name adopted and the old Fellowship laid to rest.

The new Society has good membership numbers, healthy funds, good attendances at meetings and a full programme for the next year. However we must not become complacent.

The present committee is primarily the same one as 2 years ago. We've managed quite well but we don't have a monopoly on ideas. If you have suggestions regarding the society - **then voice them!** I can't promise that all your ideas will be taken up, but they will certainly be considered

The committee should not be taken for granted. By the next A.G.M. we will all have been in office for 3 years. It is unhealthy for the society that the same committee should go on and on. **We need an active committee - the Fellowship's committee wasn't active.**

Now, at the next meeting look around you - we're not getting any younger! don't get me wrong - older people have a wealth of information, but if it's not passed on to younger people, it's lost. We should all be encouraging new members, especially young ones. Hopefully the Jack Branston Prize will attract some young people - he would have liked that. **We need members of all ages - the Fellowship didn't have this.**

If we learn only one thing from history, it should be to learn from history.

The Fellowship was a good society but it failed - I've highlighted just two facts that contributed to that. If we don't become complacent, we can become as good as the Fellowship was in its heyday. **I think we could make Jack proud of OUR Society.**

There you have it, you may agree or disagree - perhaps I won't be asked to contribute again, but hopefully **YOU** won't need to be asked, if you've got an inkling to be in print have a word with Mike.

Graham Norton.

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50 YEARS AGO

PENISTONE ALMANACK 1942

Stocksbridge War Weapons week raised £100,000.

The old mill at Deepcar was demolished, an old corn mill dating back to 1575.

Stocksbridge UDC rate was set at 8/- in the pound.

Do these bring back memories?

VISIT TO BRADFIELD
ADVANCE WARNING

The Society meeting on **Thursday June 11th.** will be an evening trip to Bradfield. We will be travelling in members cars to the Village Hall - arriving there at **7.00pm.** Once there, we will be divided into two groups - one to go on the reservoir walk, the other to visit High Bradfield Church. Don't worry if you aren't up to either of these - Bradfield History Society will make you welcome at the Village Hall, for a historical chinwag, Refreshments will be served in the Village Hall at the end of the visits. To ensure that the event is a success early booking is advisable - names to Brenda Duffield as soon as possible. Details of pick-up points etc. will be advised nearer the date.

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PROGRAMME 1992

April 9th.
W. E. Spencer
Hunshelf Parish II

May 14th.
Marjorie Dunne
From Slum to Sunshine

June 11th.
Bradfield Visit
{See above}

July 9th.
U.E.S. 150th Anniversary
Works Visit

{This is still provisional - further details to follow}

August
NO MEETING

September 10th.
Basil Spooner
Great Central Railway

October 8th.
Ken Hawley
Tools

Saturday October 10th
Local History Fair

November 12th.
Doug Walton
Stocksbridge By-pass II

December 10th
Christmas Carol Cracker

JACK BRANSTON MEMORIAL COLLECTION

The material which Jack bequeathed to the library has now been sorted. Jack's material has been incorporated into the existing local history reference collection. This is now in the process of being fully catalogued.

The collection is available for public use, ask the staff on the library counter who will be pleased to help you.

Photographs.

We have been overwhelmed by the number of donations of photographs made during last summer, amounting to over 500 prints. This has presented us with a problem in that funding to make display copies has run out. There is unlikely to be any money available during the next financial year.

To try to get round the problem we are seeking to provide photocopies of the photographs. We accept that these will be of inferior quality to 'proper' photographic prints, but the originals will be available for serious researchers. The photocopies will be displayed in albums as the copy photographs are now.

It is hoped that occasional exhibitions of photographs will be mounted, and of course we will try to do something special for the history fair.

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Stocksbridge & District History Society.
Chairman:

Graham Norton Tel.885512

Deputy Chairman & Publicity Officer:

Basil Spooner Tel.884456

Treasurer:

Mary Hepworth Tel.885295

Secretary:

Brenda Duffield Tel.882349

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, at the library Manchester Road, Stocksbridge. at 7.00pm.

Annual subscription £2.00 (£1.00 to OAP & Unemployed)

Non members 50p per meeting.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Will be scheduled for publication in June. Articles and letters for publication should reach me at the library by **Friday 15th. May,** as I will be unavailable for two weeks following this date.
