

## October 2023 Edition

The villagers of Tissington celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III ‘ better late than never’ as the inhabitants of our small Peak District Village gathered under the stretch tent of Herbert’s Tearooms on the last Sunday in July after the completion of the annual St Mary’s Fete held in the grounds of Tissington Hall. Over £2500 was raised through the various stalls and then we all gathered at the tearooms to listen to the music of Alex and Dan Penfold and enjoy the pizzas and refreshments provided. The Tissington Parish Council organized the event in July as the relevant weekend in May was already taken by weddings booked several months ago at the Hall. Despite the rain the Village was able to congregate outside St Mary’s Church for a Coronation photograph and sing the National Anthem. God Save the King

I have not attended the Dovedale Sheepdog Trials for a number of years but this year we were invited by the President Robert Shields to his marquee for a sumptuous lunch as we gazed....uphill....at the competitors corralling their sheep into the various pens . The Trials moved from the Thorpe side of Dovedale a number of years ago and are now situated on the Okeover Estate at Blore pastures commanding panoramic views over to Wetton, Ilam and Dovedale itself. This year Robert was meticulous in asking all local farmers( indeed I gave over all our farming tenants ‘ names and addresses) which culminated in a very jolly afternoon sharing local gossip and banter. Oh , and the overall winner of the Trials was Richard Saxon and his dog Don from Blackshaw Moor. An afternoon well spent.

It has taken me a long time to find Betty’s in Ashbourne. The establishment, situated in Ashbourne Hall is a sewing, seamstress and tearooms emporium opposite the Rec on the northern side of town. The reason for my visit was to ask if my ‘Three Lions’ standard could be repaired since it was getting tatty and torn. I had no idea how old it was until Annie at Betty’s began to unravel it, replace the poppers and discovered a tag marked ‘M Brearly Derby’. A quick call to historian Max Craven revealed that ,according to the Derby Directory of 1898, a Miss Brearly was the proprietries of an 'ecclesiastical workshop & gallery at 22 Iron Gate, Derby. So this item had not been repaired for over 120 years and Annie had to take great care with the fabric to affect a satisfactory result. It looks super and sits by the fireplace in the Main Hall ready for a further 120 years as a symbol of our family crest.

Some might say that we may be either mad or unfortunate to have two Facebook pages. A simple trawl of the internet will find these two pages running concurrently. The trouble is that one is official and the other unofficial created by early morphs of AI (Artificial Intelligence).Numerous IT experts have advised me on how to regularise this situation so that we have one Tissington Hall Facebook page that the team and I control but to no avail! It seems absurd that the computers are taking over our lives... however, I think that I may have discovered a route to solve this scenario and I will have to visit Matlock to do it. Watch this space.

It is always a delight to visit BBC Radio Derby to air my thoughts on the Ian Skye Mid-Morning show in his ‘Your Say’ segment. Each session sees two ‘chatterboxes’ discuss the issues of the day and my latest appearance with Holly Hutchinson saw us debate gender neutral toilets and the worrying fact that many new potential drivers are failing their test multiple times.. a troubling statistic if we want safer roads. The hour always passes quickly and I am next booked for a Wednesday in

October. Who knows what the subject will be next day but I know it will produce comments from the listeners in Chaddesden, Alvaston and from all over the County. Follow us on BBC Sounds.

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