

BRADWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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Up-coming events

For our September talk on the 17th of the month we welcome back Tim Knebel who is a fount of knowledge on the history of the Peak. This time he will be telling us of the 'The Peak District's Pauper Past'. Tim has written 'Discover the fascinating lives of paupers of the Peak District's past, as we lift the lid on the old church 'parish chest' and reveal a wealth of under-used 'settlement and removal' records created following the 'Old Poor Law' Act of 1601. We also look at surviving workhouse records, created by the 'New Poor Law' of 1834, which lead to the establishment of the dreaded 'Union Workhouse' system.'

As usual our meeting will take place in the Methodist Hall at 8 pm in the evening.

Carnival Day

Once again we would like to say a big thank you to both members and non-members for the success on Bacca Plac on the 3rd of August. Our best selling publication was the reprint of The Jabez Bradwell Diary. This was sold from our stall on the field and by Cheryl in S & F Stores. The challenge to stick a pin in a map of the Isle of Man was greatly helped by the stewarding of Frank Cooper and his neighbour Alan. For this all 120 pins were sold at 2 pins for £1. The Bradwell resident chosen for the challenge who lived in Bradwell in the 1870's was Walter Graham the Primitive Methodist minister. Walter's previous ministry had been in the Isle of Man based in Castletown where the correct pin was stuck by one of our members who was Jill Salisbury. All together from the sales and our pin sticking challenge we raised £124.

Terry Wakelin's Collection

A feature of carnival week of long standing has been the display in the Chapel of photographs collected over the years by Terry Wakelin and his helpers. Terry gave me permission to photograph several of his collection of particular historical interest and we reproduce here. There is a rare photograph of Nellie Bradwell of ice cream fame standing by the waterwheel in the Brook (the cap of husband Hedley is just visible!)



Nellie Bradwell with Hedley Bradwell in the background.



A Percy Fischer sketch looking from Town Bottom in 1930s



The Bridge Inn in the hands Michael Hall until 1896. Previously he had kept the Green Dragon and was then known as Micah Hall.



Looking up Hollowgate with the White Hart on the right and houses that are long gone on the left. One was the surgery of Dr J. H. Joseph Bradwell's first registered medical practitioner. Dr Houlbrook was another practitioner who was based there. He served the village in WWI before moving to Hathersage



About this photograph Bill Fletcher has written on Facebook: This is the first workshop in Bradwell of John Fletcher and Sons (see Bradwell

shops on our Website – bradwellhistoricalsociety.org.uk) before moving the Netherside. The ‘sons’ were Cheetham and Jack who trained as joiners and Colin who concentrated on painting and decorating. Their main work at this workshop was as wheelwrights. Jack would tell me how two of them would walk to Peak Forest with a large chunk of wood for the wheel hub. The wood turner there would then set up the piece on the lathe while Jack and brother would go upstairs to the turning poles, they would then walk round the room pushing the machine arms, the turner would shout ‘faster’ as he got nearer to finishing the hub, requiring them to run. Then they walked back home to Bradwell.