

Hatfield This Century

Hatfield People Explore their history from 1900

No. 14

Newsletter

September 1994

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Following upon the AGM in May your committee met on the 19th July and the following appointments were proposed and agreed:

Brian Lawrence will be your chairman for the next year with Dennis Jenner as secretary. Isobel Cox will be treasurer and membership secretary. Pat Sherrard will continue as minute secretary and the vacant place on the committee will be filled by your Newsletter editor, Frank Cox.

Mrs. Livermore's Anagrams

Considerable interest was shown at the Museum exhibition but no submissions had been received following the last Newsletter. The answers were as follows:

SWAIL MILL	WILLIAMS	GROCERS
TO ASH	TASHO	HAIRDRESSER
SATINU	AUSTIN	HAIRDRESSER
SHIN KAN	HANKINS	MENS' OUTFITTER
STEIN YG	TINGEYS	GROCCER
ROLL ME IDO	DOLLIMORE	GREENGROCER
SABLE SUE	BLUE SEAS	FISHMONGER
SANE BRAIN S	NINA BARNES	CHEMIST
ILLCEE	ELLICE	?
BREW SET	WEBSTER	BUTCHER
MISS M NO	SIMMONS	BAKER
RUBLET	BUTLER	BUTCHER
GRONMA	MORGAN	RADIO & TV
LEVOLL	LOVELL	ELECTRICAL/BLACKSMITH
RETSAW	WATERS	GARAGE
LOLSHIRE	HOLLIERS	DAIRY
SCRAVER	CARVERS	GROCERY & PROVISIONS
RELMAP	PALMER	GENERAL STORE
BLUE ROW M	RUMBELOW	ELECTRICAL
PHAST ROTS	SPARSHOTT	GREENGROCER
X TIN BOTH SUM	BUXTON-SMITH	PHOTOGRAPHER
REST SNORE OR GEE	ROE GREEN STORES	GENERAL STORES
RATH	HART	GENERAL PROVISIONS
CLLU	CULL	CONFECTIONER

Congratulations if you got them all right. Can somebody fill in the missing trade for Ellice? And where was it located?

Thanks to those people who wrote in to confirm the mounting of anti-personnel bombs on Tiger Moths during the invasion threat of 1940. Some 1500 sets of racks were produced to carry up to eight bombs. Release was manually operated by steel cable! The racks were made from light section steel angle in the Plant workshop.

The committee was sorry that David Gammage was not able to undertake the Railway project but he has promised to hand over the material he has collected. Should any other member feel that this is a subject he or she would be prepared to research, the committee would be pleased to hear from them and to support the activity. Meanwhile any memories of the working of the railway and its social activities in Hatfield together with photographs and reminiscences would be appreciated to add to the collection

Perverting the course of Justice

Janet Crichton tells an anecdote of her grandmother, Alice Blakeley landlady of the White Lion pub.

On one occasion a man, already under the influence of drink came into the bar. Grandmother plied him with more beer and before long they were singing together. At closing time the man staggered off only to collapse in a drunken stupor where the police found him. Grandmother was taken to court and the fear of losing her livelihood prompted her to offer £1 each to ten of her 'regulars' to swear that she had refused to serve the man and had asked him to leave. In the 1920's this was an expensive bribe but she kept her license as a result of it!

Oddfellows

A Roll of Honour of the Loyal Excelsior Lodge, Manchester Unity, Independent Order of Oddfellows has been donated to the Museum. This lists 72 names of members who served in the 1914-1918 war. The list covers initials A-L only. The date of the roll is 1919 and was found in the Hatfield Estate carpenters shop in 1994. It was reframed in 1992 by Joe Taylor at BAe Aero Jig and Tool Shop. Obviously a second roll listing initials M onwards is missing. The Oddfellows used to meet at the "One Bell" in Hatfield. Were you a member of this Friendly Society and can you help locate the missing roll? Any information regarding the Loyal Excelsior Lodge would be appreciated.

Newtown Reading Room and Social Club

Miss Dorothy Larkin has loaned us some extracts from the Parish Magazine reporting on the Reading Room which was erected by the Marchioness of Salisbury to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. It was established as a working mens' club with evil speaking, lying and slander being strictly prohibited.

to be continued....

Members' Evening

Another open meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 18th October at the Cranborne Rooms, Red Lion, Great North Road, Hatfield. Mr. Routledge of MacMullen Brewery has kindly agreed to talk on "Pubs in Hertfordshire". Members and their guests will be admitted free from 7.30 and a bar will be open to allow you to try the brews before the talk starts at 8p.m.

Subscriptions

Would those members who have inadvertently overlooked paying their subscriptions for 1994 please send their cheques, made payable to "Hatfield This Century", to our new treasurer Mrs. I. Cox, 23 Home Meadow, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 3BA.