



GALA WEEKEND 5 AND 6 JULY

The Village Gala will be held on Saturday 5 July and will be opened at 12:30, followed by the blessing of the Well Dressing at 13:45. Timings may be altered to accommodate the BBMF flypast. See posters for latest information.

As ever, we will have a full programme of entertainment including a display of classic cars and all the usual stalls and games. Once again, we welcome the children from Lenthall Infants School, who have promised another display of May Pole dancing. The Gala will also include a series of children's races, which are always entered with great enthusiasm by younger visitors. Our latest news is that we are to have a fly-past by an aircraft of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, so make sure you don't miss it!

It is sure to be a fun-day out and we look forward to welcoming you.

In the evening we have a Gala concert, when we welcome back our local Beatles tribute band, Johnny & the Moondogs.

On Sunday 6 July the Village Hall will be the venue for an Arts and Crafts Exhibition, including work by the Royle Art Group and by the Norton Wood Carvers. In addition, we will once again have our display covering the history of Coal Aston Aerodrome. Entry is free and light refreshments will be available.



CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

As we enter Spring, life at The Village Hall continues at a pace.

Over recent months the Village Hall Management Committee have been able to approve significant expenditure, as a result of which our users are now enjoying a fully refurbished Main Hall. The parquet dance floor has been restored to as-new condition, all walls and paintwork redecorated, and all the curtains and stage drapes subject to dry cleaning. The toilets, both public and 'backstage', have also been refurbished with the installation of new sink units and automatic, energy efficient taps to the basins, and general improvements in decor.

So we continue to be able to offer what must be amongst the very best of Village Halls in this part of the country. We have many local groups who continue to enjoy the facilities and we are experiencing a significant improvement in hiring levels from further afield, with the Hall being used for a huge variety of purposes. Our regular concerts continue with success across many musical genres, and the Norton Players have become acknowledged for their tri-annual excellent theatrical productions. Furthermore, we continue to offer what many in Coal Aston regard as an annual highlight, The Village Gala, this year to be held on Saturday 5th July.

One of the notable improvements has been an increase in parents booking the hall for their children's birthday parties. The cost is relatively low for a weekend afternoon hire, and the size and layout of the hall allows children to let off steam in a safe and easily supervised environment.

We're always pleased to see new faces at our regular events and would welcome anyone who might be interested in taking a role within our Management Committee. Whilst we have a serious responsibility for our activities, we do try and keep a good element of fun in everything we do.

Peter Gray

Monday

Ladies Keep Fit 18.45 and 19.45 hours

Tuesday

A Star Leisure; Cheer Leaders

17.15 – 18.45 hours

St John's Marching Band 18.45 - 19.45 hours

Yoga Class 19.15 – 20.45 hours

Short Mat Bowling Club 19.45 - 22.00 hours

Wednesday

Yoga Class 17.45 – 19.15 hours

Fitsteps Dance Fitness 18.15 – 19.15

Norton Players 19.30 - 22.00 hours;

For information telephone 0114 2746124

WI meets on the second Wednesday 19.15 hours

For information telephone 0114 2745317

Thursday

Pilates 18.45 – 21.15 hours

For information telephone 0114 2747059

Ladies Keep Fit in the Main Hall

18.45 - 19.45 hours

Friday

Rooms available for private hire

Saturday

Rooms available for private hire

Sunday

Rooms available for private hire

Norton Players 19.30 - 22.00 hours

Stamp Fair: Third Sunday of each month

See notice in foyer for confirmation of dates.

Image courtesy of Canadian Dept of National Defence



Coal Aston Aerodrome

Last year, during Gala Weekend, we held a small but interesting display about Coal Aston aerodrome. This year we would like to expand it, especially in view of the 100th anniversary of World War 1. Do you have any photographs or memorabilia that we could borrow, or stories that we might record about the Aerodrome? These might include its activities during the war, its later use for Cobham's Flying Circus, for holding the Great Yorkshire Show in the 1930's, or areas nearby such as "Painted Fabrics". As the very generous people who lent us items last year can tell you, any loans are locked away securely when not on view and will be returned safely after the weekend. If you do have anything of interest or stories to tell we would love to hear from you, either by phone on 01246 415033, or email to andrewjbradbury@aol.com

Village Voice Briefs

Changes in the Management Committee

At a recent Management Committee meeting Philip Bradburn stood down as Secretary, after serving more than thirty-five years in the post, and Steve Barnett was appointed as his replacement. More recently, at the Annual General Meeting, by a unanimous decision, Philip was invited to become our next President.

Coal Aston WI

The Coal Aston WI meets at the Village Hall on the second Wednesday each month and would extend a warm welcome to new members. For further information, telephone 0114 2745317.

Broadband installed in the Village Hall

WiFi and Broadband are available in the Village Hall. The system consists of a single router which can give access to the internet using wired or wireless connections. To provide reliable coverage across all the rooms in the Hall, we can offer extended access by using Powerline Adapters and/or a 300Mbps Wireless extension via Powerline.

Defibrillator

We now have a Defibrillator in the Village Hall, located inside the Main Entrance on the right-hand wall. The intention is that this life saving equipment should not be restricted to persons using the Village Hall. It is available for use by anyone in an emergency.

Toilets

As part of the general on-going improvements to the Village Hall the toilets have been upgraded.

Town Twinning

The Town Twinning Federation is hosting a visit for visitors from Sindelfingen in May including a social evening in the Village Hall on Friday 9 May.

C A Methodist Church lectures

The Methodist Church has organised a series of lectures, which have been very popular. For further information pick up a handbill or telephone 01246 414847.

Tickets cost £3.50. May to July dates are:-

May 16 "The Bronte Connection with Hathersage" by R A Hobson

June 6 "Great Houses of South Yorkshire" by Pat McLaughlin

July 25 "Alaska, its beauty and its birds" by Dr John Revill

C A Methodist Church Open Gardens

Saturday 12 July at Coal Aston Methodist Church: Flower Festival and Arts and Crafts exhibition, admission free. 10am until 6pm. Light lunches will be served from 12pm until 2pm, tea/coffee and cakes served all day.

Sunday 13 July at Coal Aston Methodist Church: Flower Festival and Arts and Crafts exhibition, admission free. 12:30pm until 5pm. Tea/coffee and cakes served all day. (no lunches). Open Gardens in the village from 1pm until 5pm. Programmes available from the participating gardens, from the Church, David Fruits Barnard Avenue and Steel's Chesterfield Road. Price £3-50. Ukelele Band "The Jumpin Fleas" will play during the afternoon and evening at the "Cross" outside the Cross Daggers, kindly arranged by the landlord Anthony.



Gala Classic Cars

As usual we will be having a varied selection of classic and unusual cars at the Gala. Hopefully we will again be raffling off rides in those cars with willing owners, to help raise money for a suitable local cause, which in the past has been Coal Aston's new War Memorial. If you would like to bring your car please let me know by phoning 01246 415033. We don't have a lot of space, so please don't turn up without booking as we can't guarantee there will be room.

Coal Aston Folk

It seems rather late to be reporting on the Scuppered Christmas Show, but suffice to say that once more we enjoyed incredible support from our community for what must surely be at the top of Coal Aston's annual social calendar. We always try and put variety at the top of the agenda for this event, and December 2013 saw just that with music from Scuppered, Cartwheel, The Shambolics and The Barbers.

Needless to say Cartwheel once again gave a stunning performance covering their massive back catalogue of traditionally based folk songs. Nick Gibbons, Geoff Heppell and the irrepressible Tony Wood delivered their 3 part harmonies to a wonderfully high standard and took us through songs of battles from Old England, Jacobite Scottish rebellion, industrial strife and proud working men's history. All accompanied by solid guitar, mandolin and banjo with a delightful comedic way of introduction.

The Shambolics, local men and Village Hall stalwarts John, Brian and Steve did a ruthless and highly skilled job of taking the &%^\$ (censored) out of Cartwheel and Scuppered. Clever writing and hilarious choreography from the guys - Christmas wouldn't be the same without them!

The Barbers are twin sisters from Ashbourne, who although only 17 are writing and performing the most incredible violin music, or fiddle as we say in folk circles. They gave a terrific performance worthy of musicians with many more years behind them; brilliant and they will become famous - for sure!

Scuppered well what can we say. Probably the highlight this time was the back-projected video performance of Bob Dylan's 'Must Be Santa'. Great fun for the band and hopefully the audience.

In January we held another annual event, Dave Berry and The Cruisers. As always, Dave gave a terrific performance across his 60's repertoire, and the capacity crowd revelled to his words and songs. A new feature was young Dan Martin on lead guitar giving Dave a break by taking centre stage for a Shadows set. Dan is also working with Bruce Welch and was note perfect in his role as Hank Marvin. Filmed from the sound desk, you can check his set out on Youtube via: Dan Martin, Dave Berry's Cruisers - Shadows set.

In April we featured the highly talented Steve Tilston and his trio. Steve played a solo evening at The Village Hall a few years ago so it was a delight to welcome him back with the trio. Steve, Stuart and Keith gave a fabulous and well-received performance covering Steve's songs from over the years. Once more we were able to offer a spot to The Barbers who stunned once more with their fiddle playing. On Youtube again check out Steve Tilston Trio 'Fisher Lad Of Whitby' and The Barbers at Coal Aston Village Hall.

Check out the diary of events for our future concerts and please come along; we're always pleased to welcome new people and are pretty sure you'll enjoy the evening. We have a licensed bar with hand pulled real ale courtesy of Anthony Hutchinson of The Royal Oak.

Any enquiries please ring Pete 01246 410611 or John 01246 411526



OLD COAL ASTON

Coal Aston Church of England School

The village Church of England School (now a private residence) catered for the education of children from the age of five years to fourteen years. There were three teachers who appeared to have no difficulty in the teaching of literacy and numeracy.

In the evenings the school was used for Parish Council meetings, whist drives, dances etc..

A footpath, known as the jenal (sic), led from Town End (junction of Eckington Road and Dycbe Lane) to The Cross. It was at Town End where the village's first gas street lamp was provided and where the first public telephone kiosk was erected.

At Council and Parliamentary elections the school became the polling station. It is of interest to know that people living at Bowshaw, the Nag's Head (now the Toby Carvery) and at Povey Farm had to register their votes at Coal Aston because, although not living in the village, they did inhabit the Parish.

At the Annual Feast time, the last week in June, there were Sunday School Anniversaries, a procession of scholars, sports day in Stimson's Croft (a field opposite the Methodist Chapel) and Sunday School Bun Feasts.

To complete the celebrations, crowds assembled at the Town End to sing their favourite hymns, accompanied by Morris Reaney with his accordion. The day ended, invariably, with a very moving rendition of the hymn 'God be with you till we meet again'.

Our photograph was taken in July 1981 when the school finally closed. .

(This item is based upon a text provided by the late Walter Havenhand. Items such as this are welcomed for future publication.)

COAL ASTON VILLAGE HALL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 10 May

KELLY'S HEROES

We are delighted to welcome back this Nottingham based Band with their Celtic music and songs. Hosted and supported by Scuppered. Tickets £8

** See detail below. Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

5 and 6 July GALA WEEKEND

Saturday Village Gala formally opened at 12.30 hours

Blessing of the Well Dressing 13.45 hours
See posters for latest timings

Saturday GALA CONCERT with Johnny & the Moondogs

Our local Band playing Beatles favourites. Hosted and supported by Scuppered. Tickets £8 ** See detail below. Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

Sunday Arts and Crafts exhibition in the Village Hall

Entry is free and light refreshments will be available.

Saturday 6 September

OTHER ROADS

This fantastic 3-piece Liverpool Band is new to Coal Aston and their musicianship and humour is guaranteed to entertain you. Hosted and supported by Scuppered.

Tickets £8 ** See detail below. Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

Saturday 11 October

FAKE THACKRAY

Back by popular demand with this brilliant tribute to Jake Thackray.

Hosted and supported by Scuppered.

Tickets £8 ** See detail below. Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

Saturday 8 November

THE SWING COMMANDERS

Get your tickets early; a sell out is guaranteed.

Hosted and supported by Scuppered.

Tickets £10 ** See detail below. Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

Saturday 20 December

THE CHRISTMAS SHOW

Once again get your tickets early. Hosted and supported by Scuppered.

Tickets £6 ** See detail below. Doors open 19.30 for 20.00 hours.

STAMP FAIRS at the Village Hall on the third Sunday each month.

See the Foyer notice board for further details.

Coal Aston Village Hall is acknowledged as the district's most popular venue for live entertainment. There is always a big demand for tickets.

** To order CONCERT tickets contact
Petegray@scuppered.org
or Hodge358@btinternet.com.

A licensed bar is provided at Concerts

Remembrance Day 2013

Coal Aston's splendid new War Memorial was the focal point of the 2013 Remembrance Day event. The bright, crisp November morning saw many turn out to remember those killed in conflicts. Members of uniformed organisations and other groups laid wreaths at the foot of the hand-carved, three metre tall stone cross. The service was led by Muriel Stonehewer and the Last Post was played by Andy Firth.



ROOMS FOR HIRE

The Village Hall has three rooms available for hire at various times. In addition to the Main Hall, which is ideal for dances, parties and concerts, there are two meeting rooms able to accommodate up to 30 people, depending upon the layout. One of these rooms is ideal for serving a buffet or as a quiet room, for events in the Main Hall, whilst the other has a computer/video projector.

For more information contact a member of the Management Committee and for prices and availability telephone 01246 418573.

Norton Players present
their next family show

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Thursday 26 to Saturday 28 June
Tickets £7 include a buffet supper
for adults and tuck boxes for
younger audience

Tickets 0114 2372326

COAL ASTON VILLAGE VOICE, INCORPORATING THE VILLAGE HALL NEWSLETTER, IS PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE HALL

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Observations and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Sub-committee nor the Village Hall Management Committee.

We welcome your news, old photographs, views and items for publication in future issues. Send these to the sub-Committee at the Village Hall, using the post box outside the main door, by e-mailing john@coalastonhall.org.uk, or by post to Coal Aston Village Hall, Eckington Road, Coal Aston, S18 3AX.

Website: www.coalastonhall.org

Telephone and fax 01246 415630; Bookings only telephone 01246 418573