

Hadnall's News - December '81

Editorial:

We're gratified.

Why?

Because you have shown that it is possible to produce a newspaper without all the work being thrown on to the shoulders of a few.

You have donated funds. You have poured in articles and news & advertisements. You have shown that you really want a newspaper.

Thank You.

What is now quite obvious from the information we receive is that we do have a vibrant community. Within it there are many organisations donating funds to others in need. Help is always being made available.

In short, we have a hard working, giving community.

And what more appropriate time is there to realise this generosity than at Christmas when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, God's gift to us?

Let us not forget that gift. And remember that our churches need funds also. Neither the Church of England or the Mission ask for funds through these pages, yet both are in need, we're sure.

Give generously, please. And have a very Merry Christmas.

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DIARY DATES:

8th December	W.I. Meeting.	7.15.	4th Jan.	Coffe Evening Lottery Draw.
10th	"	Parish Council Meeting.	7.30.	15th " Whist Drive.
16th	"	Dinner, Wednesday Club.	16th	" Cheese & Wine.
16th	"	Toddler's Party.	5th Feb.	Pyjama Party Disco.
18th	"	Children's Disco.	22nd March.	M.E.B. Choir.
18th	"	Whist Drive.	7.30.	3rd April. The April Fool's challenge Run.
20th	"	Carol Service.	3 p.m.	
21st	"	Women's Club. Get-together.		
26th	"	Jolly Holly Jog.		
31st	"	New Year's Eve Party.		

LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS.

When this issue of the Hadnall News is in your hands, we shall all be looking forward to and busily preparing for Christmas.

For many hundreds of years, Christmas Day - the Annual remembrance of the birth of Jesus Christ - has been kept on December 25th. But most historians say that, although we know the place and the year in which Jesus Christ was born, nobody can say with any certainty the exact month or day on which He was born. Some historians say that the reason why the Church decided to fix December 25th as the birthday of Jesus Christ was that in most of Europe, December 25th had been the day on which a great heathen festival had been held, and even after they had become Christians, a lot of the people were still attached to their old religion and its great festival. So, in order to wean the people away from this old heathen festival and to make them forget it, the Church fixed this great and important festival - the Birthday of Jesus Christ - Christmas Day, on December 25th.

It's interesting to note that a large proportion of Christians in the world - those belonging to the Eastern Orthodox Churches in Greece, Yugoslavia, Rumanian, Russia etc. keep Christmas Day, not on December 25th but on the 6th of January, which is the Feast of Epiphany.

But whichever is the right date, the important thing is that in our preparation for Christmas, we should think about the real meaning of Christmas Day and why it has always been a wonderful and happy festival. It is so because at Christmas we remember the most wonderful thing that has ever happened in history - the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem, how God sent His son to be born on this day as a human child to show His love for us, and to bring us all new Life and hope.

Our Christmas celebrations in Hadnall Church will include a Special Carol Service on Sunday, December 20th at 3 p.m., to which we hope you will all come.

There will also be a Midnight Communion service with Carols on Christmas Eve at 11.45 p.m. and a service on Christmas morning at 11 a.m. to which you are all welcomed.

Rev'd. D.D. Price.

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A request to all Village Organisations:

Please can you supply the Name, Address and telephone number of your current Secretary, to the Editor.

Hadnall News Receives Generous Donations.

We have already mentioned in this issue the help received by some organisations to keep Hadnall News alive.

Donations have been received from all the following for this issue:-

Mr. R. A. Lewis, Village Hall Committee, Youth Club, Whist Club, Hadnall Mission, and Ladies Keep Fit.

In addition we thank those for their contributions in the collection boxes: £3.80 was raised.

Beginning in December, the collection boxes and further copies of Hadnall News will be in the Village Shop, the Farm Shop, the New Inn and the Saracen's Head for two weeks.

Someone mentioned a "Bazaar" I believe that this was held in the present Village Hall to celebrate the opening in 1910. I well remember that I spent the day in bed with measles and Miss Hare, who was also mentioned, brought me a book and read to me. She was the school mistress for many years. She taught an average 100 children in the old school with the help of one teacher and a student. The numbers were put up each day at around 75 to 120.

These children often walked miles e.g. Albrighton, Broad Oak, Flex etc. and she often made them cocoa, took off their wet shoes and stockings and dried them. No school dinners but she would walkround during the dinner hour and if she spotted someone short of food, she would take them into her house (next door) and give them something.

She organised knitting socks etc. for soldiers in the First War, every child was expected to bring an egg each week for hospitals and she spent her last four years here with us at No. 24.

They don't make them like her any more, or do they?

A.B.

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'200 club' draw members.

The '200 Club', those who have bought Lottery tickets, has got off to a good start. At the draw for numbers on the 19th of November, there were already 212 members. At the initial target of 200, with six prizes each month, the chances of winning a prize over the year were better than one in three - maybe not so big as Littlewoods but a lot better odds.

The Village Hall Committee, and especially Mrs. M. Williams and David, her son, have worked hard to get this lottery going, and I think deserve our support. The more members we get for the lottery, meaning more or bigger prizes, the nearer will come the day for the new Hall.

The first Lottery Draw will be held at the Women's Club Coffee Evening on 4th January.

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The menu for Success.

The P.T.A. Supper Evening in the Village Hall in November certainly crushed the old myth that Friday, 13th is unlucky.

Guests enjoyed turkey fricassee, jacket potatoes with lashings of butter, and peas. The bar provided a wide selection of drinks, thanks to John Law at the Saracen's Head.

And while the guests made merry, they were entertained with an almost continuous and highly varied selection of songs from Roger Hotchkiss.

Thanks to the generosity of people giving draw prizes and free food, £67 was raised to swell the P.T.A. Funds and to help pay for the Children's Disco being held on the 18th of December.

Pantomime Sells Out.

"No more Seats"

That's the news from the P.T.A. following the organising of a pantomime trip for the children.

No sooner had the trip to Theatre Clwyd been announced than all the tickets were sold. So off the children go on the 12th December to see "Dick Whittington".

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FASHION

Re: New Village Hall.

Fashion is a funny thing,
Attacking humans in the Spring.
Bosoms tremble on the brink,
While necklines plunge
And hemlines shrink.

But fashion built the things that last:
Her moments they bedeck the past.
Crescents of Bath, and Castles prim
All have satisfied someone's whim.
So what we hand down, as so we should,
Please Dame Fashion, let it be good!

A.B.

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Major Success for "Wednesday Club".

In an outstanding Mini Fair, held in the Village Hall on 21st November, £212.00 was raised.

Obviously such success did not come easily. It took dedication, a lot of hard work and quite some skill. One had only to look at the handicraft work on sale to see that we have a village of highly talented people.

The funds are being used for the Annual Christmas Dinner. This will be on the 16th of December at the "Elephant and Castle" Grinshill.

So, if you are over sixty, and are not already a member, come and join us.

Alan Hughes.

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KEEP FIT SUPPORTS "NEWS".

"Hadnall News" has received a generous donation from the ladies "Keep Fit" club.

For those 'fighting the flab' and wishing for the blood to go coursing through the arteries once again, why not join them?

The Club meets every Tuesday, with the exception of the 2nd Tuesday in the month, in the Village Hall.

Mother and Toddler Group Celebrate Birthday.

Hadnall Mother and Toddler Group have again enjoyed a busy session during the past two months. The highlight of October, was the making of Witches and Wizards for a Halloween Party to celebrate the birthday of the group's 'Twins'. It was a very lively occasion, complete with delicious 'eats' and the usual amount of noise and excitement.

November saw the group organising a "Bring and Buy" Coffee Morning, and toy party which was well attended. The proceeds are to go towards the Christmas Party which is the next event the children will all look forward to in our December calendar.

We again extend a welcome to all mothers of pre-school children who would like to join us on a Wednesday morning in the Village Hall between ten and twelve.

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W.I. News:

The Annual General meeting was held on Tuesday, 13th October, when the past year's activities were summed up in the Committee's report. One outstanding event was the Basket Whist Drive held at the home of the President in February, we have also had some interesting speakers and pleasant outings.

After the election of the Committee for the coming year, the business of the meeting was concluded and members were entertained with colourful slides of a holiday in Norway.

The evening ended with a hot supper prepared and served by the Committee.

A Rummage Sale, held on November 7th, resulted in the splendid sum of £72 being donated to the "Talking Newspaper for the Blind". Many thanks to all who came to the sale to support this worthy cause.

We were very pleased to welcome a large number of visitors to our meeting on November 10th for a demonstration by the Chef from Cholmondeley Castle. Mr. Horne prepared a 3-course meal, whilst entertaining us with a succession of amusing stories.

After the demonstration quite a number of lucky draw winners were able to taste these culinary delights which the chef portioned on plates for immediate consumption.

This month our speaker will be Mrs. Canham with "Ideas for last minute Christmas Gifts". Please come along and join us.

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Youth Club gives generously.

For those who sometimes wonder what the Youth of today get up to, we've an answer.

They give their support. On this occasion they have made a generous donation to 'Hadnall News'.

Thanks girls and boys. How about sending your newspaper some news, or writing a poem or article? If you're worried about your ability to write or what to write about, ring the Editor, he'll help you along the way.

Events for all - with the H.W.C.

HADNALL WOMEN'S CLUB members had an enjoyable evening out on 16 November and will be attending the Carol Service at St. George's Church, Shrewsbury, arranged by the Shropshire Association of Women's Clubs, on 8 December.

Hadnall member, Mrs. Diane Clarke, will be giving a reading of her own choice during the Service.

Miss Evelyn Thomas was the speaker at the meeting on 30 November when the subject was "Christmas Customs".

On 21 December, members are encouraged to bring home-made Christmas decorations to the Vicarage and demonstrate their making at a Yuletide Get-Together.

The first meeting of the New Year will be on 4 January at 8 p.m. when all are welcome to join in a Coffee Evening with Bingo and a Bring and Buy stall for Club members. This will also be the event at which the first Lottery Draw will take place.

THERE WILL BE ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL AGES ON MONDAY 22 MARCH 1982 WHEN THE M.E.B. MALE VOICE CHOIR VISIT HADNALL, SO PLEASE MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARIES.

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Parish Council Notes.

The Parish Council met on October 15th. The meeting was attended by six Councillors plus Cllr. Mrs. S. Lewis, the District Councillor.

The Clerk reported that repairs to the manhole covers and stopcocks on the A.49 were either completed or in hand and Cllr. Davey said that the Village Newsletter had sufficient funds in hand to cover the next edition and the Council was unanimous in it's praise for the first edition.

It was decided to ask MANWEB to proceed with re-positioning the street lamp adjacent to Hall Farm with the aim of improving the street lighting between the Village Hall and Ladymas Road, also to extend the hours during which the street lighting was switched on. Cllr. Hughes said improved lighting was required in Ladymas Lane and it was decided to inspect the lighting before getting an estimate for the necessary work.

Cllr. Mrs. Lewis said a site meeting would be held on the Old Farm Road site after new plans had been received by the District Council.

Finally a note on Parish Council meeting may be useful. Parish Council meetings are held about every two months. These are open to the public and members of the public may speak at these meetings on the invitation of the Chairman of the meeting. The Annual Parish Meeting must be held between the 1st March and 1st June, when the Parish Council reports to the electors on its activities throughout the previous year, and electors may raise and vote on any matter they wish to raise. A Parish meeting can be convened by the Council Chairman, any two Councillors or any six electors of the Parish.

The next Council meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10th at 7.30 p.m. in the School.

"HISTORICAL CLASSIFIED"

The following sad news appeared in "The Chronicle" on the 4th of March 1893 under "DEATHS"

"Sutton - on 20th ult., at Home Farm, Hadnall, Salop.
Elizabeth (Betsey) Sutton, wife of John Sutton, late
of Little Neston, Cheshire, aged 60 years".

Does this snippet spark off any good memories or stories?

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.. RUN FOR YOUR MONEY.

On Boxing Day, our Editor, John Davidson, is hoping to run the 4.2 miles of the "Jolly Holly Jog" in Wolverhampton.

The object is to raise money for the New Village Hall.

John's application is in, but it is not known if it has yet been accepted. If it is he will be providing a sweatshirt for sponserers to write their name on and the amount they will donate towards the new Village Hall fund. He is threatening not to run if the sweatshirt isn't filled with names. So it's up to you.

The run starts at 11.30 a.m. at Tettenhall Green, Wolverhampton.

If his application is successful and the sweatshirt is filled with names, John will donate it to the Village Hall Committee (after it has been washed) for them to do with as they wish. Could it be raffled or auctioned? What will people bid for this unique, monogrammed item of sartorial running gear?

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LORD HILL'S LEGACY TO HADNALL

Do you know that Lord Hill (in whose honour the great column near the Shirehall in Shrewsbury was erected), is buried beneath the tower of Hadnall Church? General Rowland Hill, as he originally was, owned the Hardwick Estate and lived with his two sisters at Hardwick Grange, Hadnall. After the Peninsular War and the Battle of Waterloo (in which he was the Duke of Wellington's second in command) he was made a peer - the first Lord Hill - and he retired to his estate in Hadnall. About 1830, he decided to build a tower for Hadnall Church (previously the centuries old church had only a wooden turret) and it is said that he carried out the work at his own expense, using the stones from what remained of the ruins of the old Hadnall Hall. When Lord Hill died in 1842 plans had been made for his burial in Westminster Abbey, but in accordance with his own wishes, expressed in his will, he was buried under the tower of Hadnall Church. You can see the memorial to him inside the church - a very interesting piece of sculpture.

The site of the medieval Hadnall Hall can still be seen in the field opposite the Village Shop and the moat which surrounded it, is still intact. It is believed that the Pool was in some way connected with the moat. D.D.P.

Re-open HADNALL'S PRIDE.

Hadnall Railway Station, which was closed some years ago, under the Beeching "Axe" was well known as the best kept station in the Crewe and Shrewsbury Area of British Rail. In the time of the last Stationmaster - Mr. Hollingsworth, the station won the championship shield for several years in succession and so wonderful were the flower gardens and floral decorations, at the station, that people used to come from all parts of Shropshire to see them. In view of the poor bus service and transport facilities in Hadnall, perhaps we ought to start agitating for the station to be re-opened - even if only as a halt! D.D.P.

HADNALL CHAPEL IN THE NEWS.

Services on Sundays continue to be held at 3 p.m. Numbers have not been large, but we have been able to welcome some each week from the village, and hope, that in due course more will join us in worship.

One thing that was lacking was recently provided, when we were presented with a hymn board and numerals, the gift of Mr. N. Hayward.

Arrangements are in hand for Carol Services before Christmas, but are not yet finalised. Details will be announced in good time.

Though not wishing to intrude, Mr. Pletts is always ready to visit at home, or in hospital or anywhere where there is a need, or just for a chat. Ring him on Shrewsbury 64393, or slip a note under the Chapel door - there's a big enough gap!

Footnote: Villagers must be delighted to hear that Janet Timmis, wife of the former minister Stephen Timmis, is expecting. News is - it could be twins!!

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HOLIDAY MEMORIES. by Mary Jones:

In June 1980 Cecil and I went to Canada to visit some of the family who live in Calgary, Alberta.

After a week touring around the area, we took a Greyhound Bus to Vancouver, some 700 miles away. What a wonderful trip, starting at 8.a.m. and arriving in Vancouver at 11.30 p.m.

We travelled through the Rockies where the scenery was most beautiful. In Vancouver we visited more of our family.

One day we took the ferry to Vancouver Island, landing at Victoria. Mr. Michael Needham had given us the address of Mrs. Sybil Fulton, who lives on the Island. She was, as some of the Hadnall people would know her, Sybil Munro who lived at "The Laurels", Station Road.

On arriving in Victoria we found Sybil's telephone number, and rang her up, and when Cecil said to her "This is Cecil Jones from Hadnall", she was absolutely dumbfounded. (This was the first time he had spoken to her for more than 26 years). She eventually said "where are you?" and Cecil replied "We're here, on Vancouver Island".

Sybil, her daughter Jancis and family came and met us and took us back to their home and gave us a truly friendly welcome. During an enjoyable lunch we talked over old times and told them of the many changes in the village. In the afternoon Sybil took us in her car to show us some of the sights of Victoria and on to see her husband Dennis at the Law Courts. After a really enjoyable day we had to say "Good Bye" in time to catch the ferry back to Vancouver.

After a week we returned to Calgary by the Greyhound Bus in time for the Calgary Stampede. It's an event I wouldn't have missed, everyone joining in the carnival atmosphere.

We arrived back home on July 7th with many memories.

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Whist Drives give cheer to the elderly.

The Whist Drives are held in the Village Hall on alternate Fridays at 7.30 p.m. Mr. T. Law is M.C. and admission is 30p which includes refreshments.

Any profit made is used to send gifts to the elderly residents of the village who are either in hospital or residential homes.

contd/ All are welcome to join us and the next Whist Drives are on December 18th and January 15th. NOT ON NEW YEAR'S NIGHT.

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FIRE SWEEPS VILLAGE.

Hadnall, or in earlier times, Hadnal Ease, and situated on the then turn pike road from Shrewsbury to Chester is steeped in history of the past. Thomas Banaster had an estate and seat at Hadnall as early as the time of William the Conqueror. The Hall, a spacious mansion, occupied the site near the Church and the moat may still be traced adjoining the turnpike road. Hadnall Hall, it is believed, was the place where the Duke of Buckingham was betrayed by Humphrey Banaster in 1483. He was taken to Shrewsbury and beheaded by command of Richard III. Thomas Banaster was Sheriff of the County in 1403.

Providence Grove was the residence of Mr. Charles Hulbert, author and publisher of the history of the County and numerous other publications. On the 7th of January 1839 a destructive fire occurred, and so rapid was the progress of the devouring element, that all the valuable property consisting of a library of over 3,000 volumes, manuscripts, paintings etc, the whole of the house and adjoining buildings were burnt down.

The age of the Saracen's Head cannot be traced on account of this fire burning the early history, but in 1756 the then licensee, a Mrs. Ann Walton, was granted a £1 a year from the Dame Mary Hill trust.

Between the Church and the Shop used to a stagnant, six feet wide, ditch called the Horse-wash, reputed to be the place where the horses were washed down while the army was on the way to the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. Many are the school children I remember who have fallen in while trying the strength of the ice in the winter.

The now Garage opposite the Saracen's Head used to be the stables and sleeping quarters of the travellers who stayed the night at the Inn; it was fronted by a large cobbled yard and by a four foot wall and a large iron gate.

A Hughes.

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HADNALL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT.

The Hall Committee has continued to work hard to raise money for the new Village Hall: a great asset for Hadnall.

However, it needs the active support of all. This support includes the attendance at functions at the OLD VILLAGE HALL. We know it is not the ideal (that is why we are trying to raise money to build a new one), but there are many groups within the Village who use it every week and who need your support.

Recent fund-raising events included:

Hallowe'en Disco.	30 October.	Profit £102.
Bonfire Party.	5 November.	" £26.50.

Many thanks to all those who supported these functions and to the organisers.

At present, a Lottery is being organised with a monthly top prize of £20 plus other prizes, to be won. Details are available from Mrs. M. Williams, The Manse; Mrs. B. Bebb at the Village Shop; or any other Committee member. We have 212 participants so far. The December draw will take place at the New Year's Eve Party in the Village Hall.

In 1982, a full programme of events and social evenings will be held. This will be published at a later date.

Forthcoming events already planned:

New Year's Eve Party.

Wine and Cheese Evening. 16 January.

M.E.B. Male Voice Choir. 22 March.

The Building Fund has just passed the £1,000 mark.

REMEMBER OUR TARGET IS £15,000.

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The walk-jog-run-craft show - The April Fool's Challenge.

A simple challenge and a good idea have joined hands and blossomed into a major event for Hadnall.

The Newspaper Committee Editor, John Davidson, challenged any member of the Village Hall Committee to a race from the village hall to the top of Grinshill.

Bill Cruickshank suggested a craft show in the village hall.

Both the events were to raise money for both organisations.

Now we have a big all-in-one afternoon on Saturday, April 3rd, in the Village Hall.

There is to be an exhibition of craft work by local individuals, craftsmen and traders. At the same time there will be a sponsored walk jog, or run (individuals to choose) from the village hall, round a circuit, returning back to the village hall.

We want to show people that we are not just a collection of houses around the A.49, but a community with a wealth of talent. And we're fit.

Can you paint, knit, make clothes, dolls, cook good food, brew fine wine? Whatever your talent contact Bill Cruickshank for details. You can sell your wares or simply have them on display.

If you wish to walk, jog or run to raise funds, John Davidson is the man to contact.

So now the challenge is to the School, the Youth Club, (their young and fit) and the Ladies Keep Fit Club (Now's your time to prove it ladies). And if you're insulted because you haven't been mentioned, use your adrenalin on one of the circuits. They will range from approximately 3-5 miles, there probably being a choice of three routes.

Remember, contact Bill Cruickshank for information about the craft stalls and John Davidson for the walk-jog-run. There will be more details next issue.

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BEAT THE THIEF.

"Watch out, there's a thief about" is even more true at Christmas when people often have larger sums of money and presents of some value in the house. Try to be sure no thief spoils your Christmas, and to help us the police give the following tips:

If you are out at night, leave a light on in a downstairs room. Make sure windows have catches which are fastened, and doors are locked.

If you are alone in the house, have a chain on the door, and do not open it unless you know who is there, and do not, under any circumstances, let a stranger into your house, however charming and plausible he or she may be.

At Monkmoor Police Station there is a permanent exhibition of locks, bolts and catches and the police will be pleased to explain which are the best to fit to make your house secure. So be as sure as you can to have a happy Christmas.

We are able to advertise any produce of service throughout the community providing, of course that it does not offend.

Commercial Rate: 50p.

Private Rate: 25p.

For Sale:

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Hadnall 533.

Mr J. Davidson, (Editor), 1 Pool Road, Astley Lane, Hadnall 220.

Mr. N. F. Davey, (Treasurer) 1 Old Farm Road, Astley Lane, Hadnall 412.

Mr. W. G. Cruickshank (Advertising) 8 Station Road, Hadnall 411.

Mrs. E. Cadwallader, 10 Old Farm Road, Hadnall 376.

Mrs. D. Clarke, "Stag Cottage", Plex Road, Hadnall 534.

Mrs. V. Good, Lyndale Nook Farm, Weston-under-Redcastle, Whitchurch 840779.

Mr & Mrs. S. J. Ratcliffe, 1 Braidway Court, Upper Battlefield, Hadnall 218.

Mr. A. Hughes, "Ash View" Shrewsbury Road, Hadnall 338.

NEXT ISSUE:

Last date for adverts, news etc.

23rd of January 1982.