



TREACLE CITY

MILFORD'S COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER

No 3 DEC.83 / JAN.84

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

TREACLE CITY

According to my grandfather who was born in 1839 there used to be a small shop against the Old Royal Oak pub (on the bend up Sunnyhill). It sold anything from ladies' hairpins to vinegar, parafin and household goods, and-you've guessed it!-treacle. It was delivered by horse and dray in two barrels, light and dark, and the customer had to take a container for the amount wanted. Once the dray man who took it in the shop forgot to make one safe and it rolled off and burst in the grate at the bottom of the hill spilling treacle all over the Market Place. Since then the name has stuck.

ANY MORE IDEAS!

TREACLE CITY

A good many years ago, when my husband's mother was alive, she told us that the origin of the name, came from when Milford Mill was in full work, Mr.Strutt, earlier one than the present ones, found that the workers were suffering from throat troubles and coughs. The cause was found to be fluff from the cotton entering the mouth.

So he ordered every worker to take a certain amount of Treacle when commencing to work. A barrel being kept there, for that purpose.

My husband's Father who was joiner, and electrician for Makeney House, normally not going into the mill, unless he was sent for, to give any advice etc., also would have to have his dose of treacle.

My husband's mother came to Makeney in 1895.

MRS. N. MERRIFIELD

"Cameo" meet every Monday in Milford School canteen at 2.30. until 3.30, it is for young and old alike, parents, friends and anyone that feels they would like to get out for a chat and a cup of tea in friendly surroundings.

The charge is very small being 10p for tea and biscuits, occasionally we are given demonstrations by various people, which include silk flower making, flower arranging, cake making etc. Any profit which is made after expenses is given to the school fund.

Why not come along you will be made to feel very welcome.

2 LETTERS.....

MILFORD TOWER

Milford Tower was built between 1830 and 1840, about the same time as the tunnel and the four 'chimneys', which were built on raised ground to cause an air current which cleared the tunnel of train smoke. The tower had, I believe, 3 rooms, and although the floors have collapsed the fireplaces are still there. Two rooms used to be for accommodation and the top room for the purpose of spotting trains as they came down the line. A beam of light was then shown from the tower to give the all-clear for the train to go through the tunnel.

The tower keeper was also responsible for walking through the tunnel each day to see that nothing had been placed on the line and that the tunnel was not damaged. Just as today there were saboteurs who did not agree with train transport as it would take away their living, or so they believed.

When about 11 years of age I went up the first two floors by a large wooden stairway but it was very unsafe then (and did I get in trouble with my parents for doing so !!!!!).

THE TOWER

From the same source of information, and also a very old book of Railway History, of my husband's, which I don't now have, as he sent it to our son in Australia.

The Tower was built for a Look Out Tower to observe the men working on the laying of the Line, when there was fighting between the rival gangs of navvies and nailers. Then afterwards for the building and surveillance of the Tunnel.

Years ago there were steps up inside to the top of the Tower, and local young boys used to climb them. My husband did.

I think I am right in saying that once a year the Gate had to be opened or closed, I forget which, to comply with some old Statute or Law.

The same applied to the Milford Rec., the gate was closed and locked on New Year's Day.

MRS. N. MERRIFIELD

A resident of Milford for over 70 years, whose father and grandparents were born in the village, sheds some light on village history.

THE LARGE MORTAR CRUSHER

DO OLD RESIDENTS REMEMBER...

- *the large mortar crusher with its great stone wheels about 5ft diameter and 2ft thick which crushed the stone into ready coloured mortar "down the estate yard" ?
- *the swing bridge which made you feel queer when you walked on it ?
- *the willow trees in the Strutt Arms garden which is now a car park-they were trained to grow like a marquee, and in it was a long wooden table with long seats each side where you could sit with your family and have a pint of mild for 5 old pennies and 10 Woodbines for threepence-halfpenny ?
- *Johnny Brooks shop which has now been demolished ? (they used to say Johnny would split a raisin to give the correct weight!)
- *the old iron bridge from the cotton mill to the silk mill, which was demolished to make it safe for the open-air topped double decker?
- *the village prison, and the seat inside they used to strap you to and keep you till they you could take you to Belper ? (a chap called Lupino used to use it as a hairdresser's when it was closed as a prison)

DOGS

I quite liked them, but dog-owners, there's another matter. Do they really appreciate when they take them "walkies" in the postage stamp park that Milford boasts as a recreation ground, how much disease and distress they are causing? Do I hear laughter? I'm sure you'd laugh if your children went blind or mad from chewing leaves or grass like we did when we were kids. That's what can and has happened to a lot of children and yet despite numerous warnings in the local press the Derby Road "rec" is still used as a dog bog. The tragic thing is that the vast majority of dog owners use it like that to avoid soiling their own gardens. If they would like to give their names and addresses to the editor I will be happy to deliver what their dogs have left direct to their dustbins to avoid them so much distress.

Janis Kaye.

THE POINTS OF VIEW EXPRESSED IN
TREACLE CITY ARE NOT NECESSARILY
THOSE OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

MILFORD GARDENING CLUB

3

Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, in the Church Room; meetings start at 7.30 p.m.

15th Dec. - Christmas Social.
Buffet - Members & partners 50p
Visitors £1.

19th Jan. - Chrysanthemums.
Mr. Smith Holbrook

16th Feb. - Dahlias (We hope)

15th Mar. - A.G.M. + Slides.

The club now has 40 members, if we could double this we could provide many more benefits and services. If you are interested in gardening of any sort why not join? It will only cost you £2, at the most, and for this you get:-

- (1) Monthly meetings with talks on a variety of gardening topics.
- (2) Visits to Gardens etc.
- (3) Discounts on plants, seeds, fertilizers, etc.

If you spend twenty pounds a year on your garden the discount will pay for your membership.

You can attend as many or a few meetings as you wish; even if you only attend half of them they are still only costing you 35p each!

It has been suggested that there may be some people in the village who would like to come to the club but cannot do so because it is too far for them to walk. If this applies to you then please contact our Secretary, Jill Hogg on Belper 5400, and we will arrange for someone to collect you and bring you to meeting.

Councillor Cox seemed suprised that a visitor to the area had referred to it as 'Filthy Milford'. I certainly agree with her comments, Milford is filthy. And although the council are'nt exactly overcome with enthusiasm for keeping the place clean and tidy, most of the blame lies on the irresponsible dog-owners who seem to think it is their divine right to allow, even encourage their pets to do their anti-social little habits on every footpath in the village. And it's not just the footpaths, there's the childrens playground, the recreation ground and generally anywhere that responsible people and children have to walk. Shaw Lane is a particular obstacle course, the fallen leaves at the side of the road are so deep that you either take the risk of walking in them and getting your shoes caked in dog-dirt, or walking up the middle of the road and getting run-over. The allotment area off Bridge View is another well-established dog toilet, where owners habitually walk their dogs with little thought for the gardeners who have to use the path to get to and from their gardens. As for Hopping Hill and the A.6, the pavements are so well-used by dogs, I should think every dog in the village has it's own particular spot. If there is a law against this irresponsible dog-owners favourite pastime (as the notices briefly displayed in the childrens playground would have us believe) why is it never enforced? To be made an example of by way of a fine might encourage dog-owners to let their pets use their own gardens and back-yards instead of public places. Perhaps when we have our P.C. on the beat, he will eventually get fed-up of scraping his size 12's and take some possitive action against these irresponsible dog-owners who give responsible dog-owners (and their dogs) a bad name.

C. Smith.



MILFORD VILLAGE CALENDAR

Milford is not really big enough to support two events on the same day. Avoid date clashes by notifying you event to The Calendar Keeper. He will tell you if there are any other events planned for that day and if necessary suggest alternative dates.

IT'S A GOOD IDEA
BUT IT WILL ONLY WORK IF
EVERYONE CO-OPERATES

Ring Mike O'Neill
DERBY 840742



4 MILFORD SCHOOL

The timing of the meeting for the election of parent governor at Milford School, was influenced by several factors and the facts are as follows:-

It was not until the 1st. September the Thursday prior to the commencement of the Autumn Term, when on visiting school to deal with correspondence that I discovered a letter from the Education Authority informing me that the re-election of Parent Governor was due.

On Monday 5th. September the first day back at school I attempted to contact the Clerk to the Governors to seek his advice on the matter as this was the first time that I had personally been involved with the procedure for election. It was not until Wednesday 7th. September that I made contact, and was informed that the election would have to be made before the first Governors Meeting for the new school year, which was scheduled for 19th. September (This date having been fixed the previous June). I was simultaneously informed by the Clerk that he would be commencing his holidays the following day 8th. September and would be returning on 18th. September.

At my request I suggested that the election of Parent Governor should precede the main meeting of Governors. As this was my first experience of chairing a meeting for the election of Parent Governor, I felt that on this occasion the presence of the Clerk was absolutely essential.

The timing of the Clerks return from holiday coincided closely with the date arranged for the Governors meeting and to conform to the requirements of the procedure for the election of Parent Governor, there was no other time that could have been arranged other than the time chosen.

Mr. Glew Chairman of the Governors was aware of the arrangements and was in full agreement.

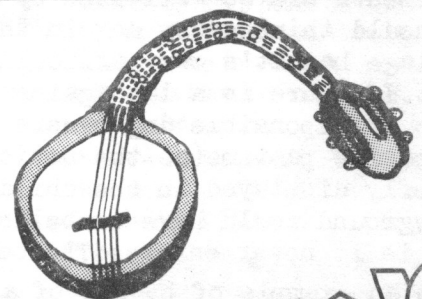
Mrs. P. Evans.

Acting Head.

Rain

I like the rain as it goes splish splosh
upon my yellow mackintosh
I love it as it gently beats
upon the pavements in the streets
The wind blows hard, the rain pours down
trees are swaying all around
I feel so happy and so gay
people watch me as I play
I really love to hear the rain
beating on my window pane
It makes me smile and say hurray
whenever its a rainy day.

Rachel Gentle.



ROARING
JELLY

CHRISTMAS SHOW
THURSDAY 22ND DEC. 7-45 PM

THE
ASSEMBLY
ROOMS, DERBY

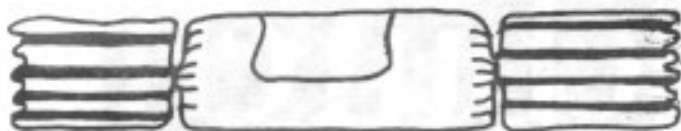
TICKETS £3.50. £3. £2.50

On Sunday, 18th December at 2.30 p.m. our children will enact their Nativity Play and they will receive their Sunday School prizes for 1983, when Mr Watson of Derby will officiate.

Members of our Church are aiming to raise money for the Belper branch of MENCAP and with this in mind they will be carol singing round the village on Monday, 19th December at 6.30 p.m. We would very much like local people to join us on this occasion and if you are able to lend your support, please contact either Mrs Carol Riley on Derby 841842 or Mrs Marjorie Jones on Derby 841960.

DON'T FORGET

Milford School concert and carol service will be held in school on Tuesday, 13th December at 2 p.m.
EVERYONE WELCOME



O.A.P.s CHRISTMAS PARTY

Preparations are under way for another OAP's Christmas Party on December 10th.

If anyone is willing to bake cakes, sausage rolls or bread rolls, or would like to help on the day, please contact Sue Gentle on Derby 842052.

Help with transport would also be welcome. If you are able to help us with our 'Taxi Service' please contact Eric Green on Belper 3788.

Any pensioner in the village who has not got a form for the party can get one from the Post Office or from 15 Chevin Road, forms should be returned as soon as possible so we know how many to cater for.



Some years ago, the Residents' Association suggested to the County Surveyor's Office that the trees beside the small recreation ground should be trimmed so that the various road signs, hidden by overhanging branches for most of the year, could be seen by drivers unfamiliar with the sharp bend in the road by the William IV. We were told it was unnecessary. Luckily for Milford Bonfire Night, the County Surveyor changed his mind at the end of October and a large quantity of trimmings was available for collection by the Fleet van.

The result was a very good bonfire topped with another of those excellent Guys, though this, unfortunately, took an early dive. No one seemed too upset by this to enjoy the rest of the evening, with an impressive display to fireworks thanks to The Fleet and good hot food and drink available (thanks to the Playgroup).

There may well have been bigger fires and more spectacular displays about on November 5th but how many were free?

Suggestions received for improvement of the event next year include: using some Residents' Association money to provide sparklers for the younger ones, providing some seats for the older ones, and siting the fire so as to make it possible to dance round it.....

6 church news

THANK YOU

Thankyou very much to all those who worked so hard and spent so much to make the parish church's annual autumn fayre such a success. Nearly £450 was raised for church funds by a very small band of workers. Lots of people remarked about how beautifully all the stalls were decorated and arranged. Too many people think that a fayre is only hard work on the day, but lots of people spend all their free time for weeks beforehand getting it ready. Thankyou to them, and thank-you to you for making their hard work pay dividends.



THE GOD WHO GREW UP

That God should have become a baby is remarkable. That He grew into a man is beyond understanding. For God to become a man is a notion that men have toyed with down the ages, but for God to become a man in the way of slow growth, hesitant experimenting and ripening is an idea so strange and so vulnerable that, having survived examination for nineteen centuries, it must be worth investigating.

... AND INTO 1984

In the Church diary straight after Christmas comes the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: January 18th to 25th. I wonder what this cartoon has to say to the so often disunited Christians of Milford.

CHRISTIAN UNITY is not just for the sake of Christians, but for the sake of the world.



CHRISTMAS

In addition to our columns in Treacle City the Church will be sending out its usual Christmas invitation to you all - please watch out for your coloured leaflet giving details of all our Christmas worship and other celebrations.

ENGULFED BY CHRISTMAS

It was still September when the choir-master began to talk of Christmas anthems. By October, the local supermarket, Asda, were piping carols through the P.A. system. By any commercial standards Christmas occupies the whole of December. Christmas steadily advances backwards as well as forwards!

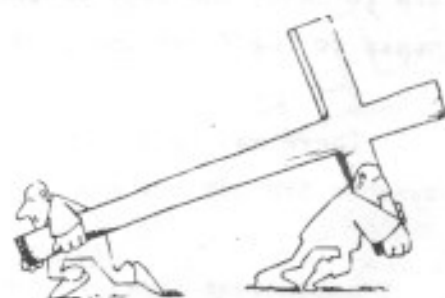
In the other direction it has linked up with the New Year to make a solid band of festivity from which most people don't recover until about 3rd January. In Church terms of course it doesn't end until 6th January (try telling them that at work when you first reappear on 7th January!) I have thought that somebody ought to write a new song "The 37 days

of Christmas" final verse: "*On the 37th day of Christmas my true love sent to me five Anadins, one overdraft and the last of the turkey*".

But consider the drain on your emotions. Remember the things you have to do at Christmas. Be nice to people, play with the children, visit aged relatives, give something for the down and outs, come to Church, keep peace on earth and show goodwill towards men. Could you really keep that up for 37 days? Worse still after that length of time could you get out of the habit?

What would happen if the whole thing just ran on and on and engulfed the whole year?

"On the 367th day of Christmas my true love sent to me, God's Kingdom Come, peace on earth and all men wise and free".



"Forward together!"





As I compile these notes I celebrate today (17th November) the 5th anniversary of my being made parish priest of Milford. I wonder if that is why the following note came my way this very morning:

TRIAL PERIOD

When the Vicar of a parish in Devon had served it for over 50 years, well past his 90th birthday, his Bishop sent what he hoped was a tactful note suggesting that the time might have come to consider retirement. Promptly came the reply, "When I accepted your Lordship's appointment I was not aware of the fact that it was intended to be a temporary one. Let me assure you that I am settling down well."

LATEST SCORE

FOOTBALL LEAGUE 1
ENGLAND (C. OF) 1.6

The past year has been a bumper one for church statistics. From the welter of facts made available it should soon be possible to calculate how many left-handed Methodists there are in Wales and we already know for a fact that the Isle of Wight is positively seething with Christianity; bad news for anyone plotting a little devil worship during Cowes week.

For those who like their statistics in an easily digestible form, however, at least one interesting fact emerges. To look at the back pages of the national press, let alone the TV news, one might judge that what occupied Britain's population most was league football.

Shortly after Christmas last year, sports writer PETER BLACKMAN was announce-

gates up

by Peter Blackman

one-million-spectators the Christmas boom span

ing the fact that after slipping attendances, in 3 days over the peak Christmas sports period, more than one million spectators attended league football matches. He judged that the favourable weather and absence of T/V coverage had something to do with the improved turnout.

Doubtless this was good news for soccer fans. We wish them well this year. But wait a minute. What's this? Our purveyors of statistics tell us that in the C of E alone at Christmas 1981 (we're not quite so up to date as the football head counters) there were 1,617,000 Christmas communicants and on any old average Sunday the C of E attendance, counting all services is about 1,242,000.



"Quotes"

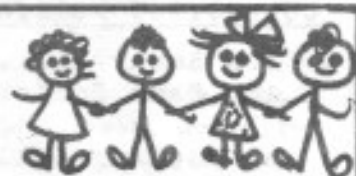
God is not as interested in your ability, as in your availability

It is better to fail in a cause that will ultimately succeed, than to succeed in a cause that will ultimately fail.

Only to the extent that men and women are put right will the country be put right.

Unfortunately the next time that many people appear in church after Christmas is not until MOTHERING SUNDAY. So in 1984 Mothering Sunday, in fact the whole weekend of March 30th to April 1st is going to be very special. We are hoping to have what is tentatively being called for the moment a HOBBIES WEEKEND - a celebration of what all the villagers get up to in their spare time, from catching fish to making music, from knitting sweaters to playing computer games, from painting pictures to building garden walls, from taking photographs to acting on stage. What else can you think of? What else to you get up to? If this idea grabs you please tell Jacquie Martin, 3 Derby Road (Tel. Belper 7438).

milford playgroup



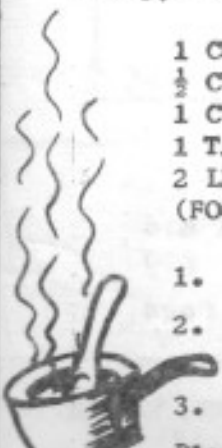
We thought the following recipe would be of interest to anyone who needs to occupy small children for a time, and it only costs 5p!

- 1 CUP FLOUR
- 1/2 CUP SALT
- 1 CUP WATER
- 1 TABLESPOON OIL
- 2 LEVEL TEASPOONS CREAM OF TARTAR
- (FOOD COLOURING - OPTIONAL)



1. In a saucepan mix together all ingredients to a smooth thick batter.
2. Cook gently, stirring all the time, until it thickens and forms a soft doughy ball.
3. It should keep indefinitely in an airtight container.

Playdough can be rolled out and cut like pastry or modelled like plasticine.



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PRIZES NEEDED URGENTLY !!!

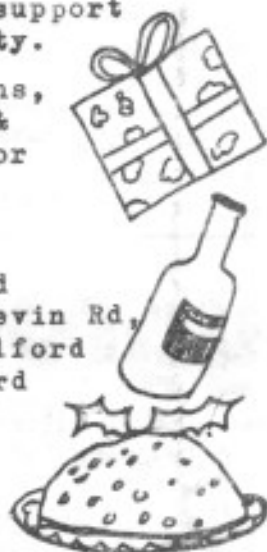
for Christmas Raffle to support
Senior Citizens Xmas Party.

e.g. Food for hamper; tins,
bottles, jars etc. &
new unwanted gifts or
donations.

COLLECTION POINTS:-

10A Sunny Hill, Milford
16, Bank Buildings, Chevin Rd,
Milford
67 Hopping Hill, Milford

We need Y O U R support



LANDSCAPING

AND
ALL GARDEN WORK
UNDERTAKEN

FREE ESTIMATES FOR
ROTAVATING,
TURFING, FENCING,
GENERAL CLEARANCE &
TREE WORK.

TELEPHONE BELPER 5872



COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE 16 JANUARY 1984
SEND TO TREACLE CITY care of
6 CHEVIN ROAD, MILFORD.

FOR SALE

Wooden Rocking Chair £16
Curtain Pole 4'7" £10

10A, Sunny Hill, Milford