

# TREACLE

MILFORD'S COMMUNITY  
NEWSPAPER

# CITY

No.7 May 1984

## MAY CELEBRATIONS

### SUNDAY 6TH MAY

THE MAY PROCESSION WILL START AT 2 PM  
OUTSIDE THE NEW INN AND FINISH  
AT APPROX 3.45 PM AT MILFORD  
SCHOOL WHERE THERE WILL BE  
AN AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENTS  
INCLUDING MAY DANCING  
AND MUSIC WITH  
REFRESHMENTS.



# EDUCATIONAL PRESENCE ?

Cllr. Revell's recent press release - stating that there would continue to be an 'educational presence' at Milford and Ambergate could mean anything or, more probably, nothing. The options for the working party as far as Milford was concerned seemed, earlier, to be - 1. No school. 2. First school (if Belper keeps the 3-tier system). 3. Primary school (if the 2-tier system is reintroduced). Clear enough? Not for the working party. Persistent rumours (leaks?) talk of the establishment of infant schools. The 3-tier system is dead: long live the 3-tier system.

A sympathetic (to the working party) interpretation of the evasive phrase 'educational presence' could be that the 3 - tier versus 2 - tier argument had not yet been settled. I discount this for two reasons: one - the word 'school' would have done very well instead: and two - it was clear from the start of the issue that the 3 - tier system was doomed; the Education Authority were determined to get rid of it, and whatever parents and staff might say in its defence, a working party report recommending its retention would be rejected.

Cllr. Revell claims that his press release was intended to reassure parents (it didn't do much for morale at Hazelwood or the Fleet - they weren't mentioned). Milford parents would feel more reassurance if we had been told we could at least keep what we have.

So, stupid as the idea might seem, I am reluctantly forced to the conclusion that at the meeting on May 2nd Cllr. Revell and his Committee will offer us half a school. We must turn this offer down, for the simple and overwhelming reason that it means the death of Milford School is only postponed for a year or two.

Our School was proposed for closure because it is too large (lavish according to Cllr. Revell), if they halve the number of children, how much too large will it be then? If we settle for an infants' school, it'll be closed within five years, on the same economic grounds as were used to try and close the first school. It may be thought that an infants school is better than no school for Milford. The strong probability is that an infant school would be no school very soon. Those wishing to close Milford School will be thinking that down-grading it would make later infant closure easier because 1. residents would be reluctant to start the struggle all over again 2. present 'stropky' parents might no longer have children at the school. 3. Fewer parents would be involved 4. the numbers versus size argument would be stronger. The May 2nd meeting with the working party is an open meeting - any interested resident is entitled to attend, and as many as possible should; and we should tell the working party that we are not interested in anything less than what we have now; that in a 2 - tier system we want a primary school, and that we shall fight for it until we get it. Even if readers don't agree with my conclusion, it is clear that the working party is trying to pull a fast one; a meeting similar to the one called at Milford for May 2nd has been called for Ambergate the week previous, that is, during the holidays, when the local teacher and many of the parents will be on holiday. THEY HAVE REFUSED TO POSTPONE THIS MEETING UNTIL TERM-TIME, although it suited them well enough to hold two meetings on the same day.

# milford playgroup

A Jumble Sale was recently held in the church hall to raise funds for Milford Playgroup. The sale was very well attended and over £70 was raised. The Committee would like to thank all the people who helped towards this venture, and to all the villagers who through buying from the stalls have contributed to the finances of the playgroup. We are hoping to have a stall on Ripley Market on Saturday 26th May in order to raise more money to provide equipment for Milfords under 5's.

This year sees the 10th Anniversary of the playgroup and in those 10 years there have been numerous occasions when the future of the playgroup has been in some doubt. The importance of a pre-school playgroup in Milford is unquestionable, but to maintain it requires continued help and support to the playgroup committee from as many people as possible. If there are any parents of children not yet old enough to attend the playgroup, but would like to visit, or learn more about it, especially help out at any of our functions they are more than welcome to contact any member of the committee. There is plenty of scope for fathers to attend too.....

It is particularly relevant in the 10th Anniversary year to ensure that what is now well established in Milford should thrive and grow. There is a very grave threat to the playgroup which is almost a nursery class of Milford First School. I refer of course to the proposed closure of the school. This would also cause the death of the playgroup by virtue of the fact that young mothers would not be able to take their children to Belper and to Milford playgroup.

There is better news with regard to the school, however this is as yet undefined. There is a further meeting with the Working Party on Wednesday 2nd May at the school and it is ESSENTIAL that as many villagers as possible turn out in force to ensure that the school and the playgroup survive for future generations of Milford children.

## GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR FOR THE BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION.

The Derby branch of the BDA meets every month at the Postgraduate Centre, D.R.I.

We aim to help and educate diabetics and their families and always have a good audience to come and listen to our various speakers.

We have had some interesting talks and videos this year including Harry Secombe (on video) talking about his diabetes, a consultant talking about Hypo's (low blood sugars) and a

dietician talking about new ideas for diet. If anyone is interested please contact me on Belper 6309 (evenings).

By the way, this year being Golden Jubilee Year, the Derby branch will be having a grand raffle with 50 prizes drawn on the 16th May. If anyone would like to buy tickets or donate a prize, please let me know.

S.O'Brien.  
15 Hopping Hill

## "MOTHER & BABY CLUB"

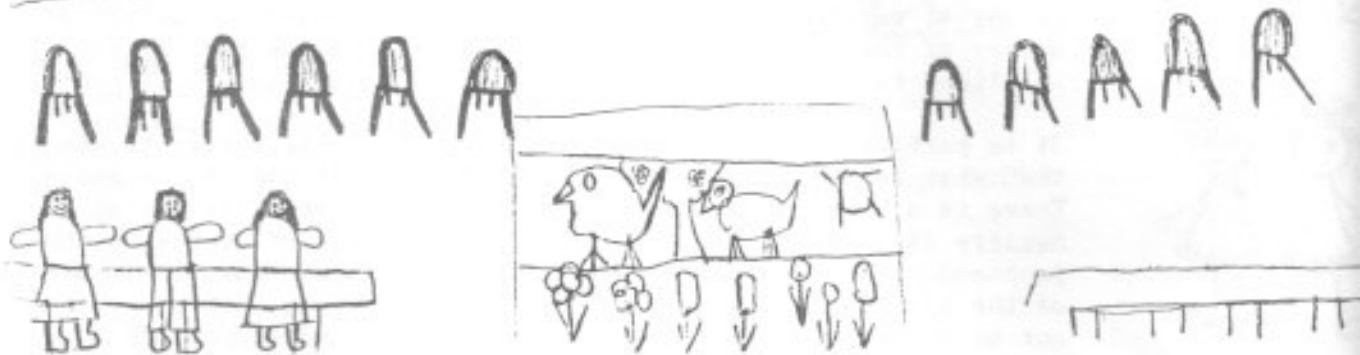
If anyone is interested in joining a "Mother & Baby Club" at Milford school, would you please attend a meeting on Wednesday 2nd May at 2.30pm in school, where we hope the club will be reformed.



# MILFORD SCHOOL

On Monday the mayor came to School to see us work and do our Easter concert. and lot of people <sup>came</sup> and I had to sing on my own and we sung lots of songs we sung Lord of the dance and Daisy Daisy and lots of other songs and poems

Laura Gentle



10th April

Lee Jackson

The Mayor's Visit.

The Mayor and the Mayoress came to school. They came at two o'clock. They stayed for our concert. We sang hymns and recited poems. Then we went out to play then we had a drink of orange and a cake. Then we went into the infants the Mayor let us have a look at the chain. On the chain there was a church on the chain there were a shuttle and two nails. The Mayoress had a necklace too. The Mayor's chain had all names of the past Mayors.



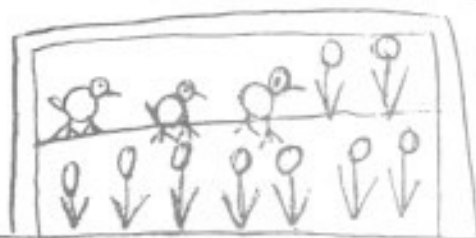
Our S

Sally



Meeting with the  
Wed. 2nd May at  
the proposed

on Monday the mayor came and the  
 Cameo Club came we saw the mayors chain  
 later we had a concert the mums came to see it  
 the Juniors and Infants sang songs and poems



Corinne



Sally Hartnell

al Monday

bell



On Monday the mayor and the mayoress  
 came to school. They asked us what we  
 were doing? Then most of us recited  
 a poem or song. The mayor listened to  
 us. My mum wasn't there because she  
 was at work. Then we went out to  
 play. After play we went inside. We had  
 a drink of orange squash and a cake.  
 After we had eaten and drank the mayor  
 talked to us about his chain. The first  
 man to be mayor of Belper was Mr  
 Fraggart. There are 30 mums on the  
 chain. Their names are Mr and Mrs  
 Bailly. There are ten spaces for the  
 next ten mayors. When the next mayor  
 comes Mr Bailly's name will go on the  
 chain in one of the empty spaces. In  
 the play Leon and me sang a song  
 called Daisy Daisy. At the end I rode  
 the bike round the corner with  
 Leon walking behind me. Rachle play-  
 ed the bicycle bell every now and  
 then.

king party at 7.15pm  
 school to discuss  
 re.



# church news

YOU ARE INVITED ...

## Never Before...Never Again

could well have been Jacquie Martin's reaction to our recent exhibition of how we all spend our spare time.

I'm sure everybody who went to the Parish Church on 31st March really enjoyed what they saw and must have been amazed at some of the talents of their neighbours.

Jacquie became not only an efficient and cheerful organiser, but a well-established voice on Radio Derby. So to Jacquie (and to Dudley for lending her to the village)

**Thanks** from us all ! and our reaction was that it was well

## worth repeating

Our thanks and congratulations too to all our exhibitors, guides, sellers, porters, advertisers etc.

More than £250 was given to Church funds in the 5 hours we were open to the public - so thank YOU very much.

### THE STREET

When the stranger entered the street it was a busy street. May evenings meant time for gardening, car maintenance, or just pottering about before darkness fell. Children noisily made the most of the light to delay bedtime for as long as possible.

It was a lived-in street - until the stranger asked his question at the first house, then a feeling of unease descended upon it.

By the time he had asked the question three or four times... cars were being abandoned, dripping wet and unpolished, lawns were being left half-mown, children were being hustled indoors to go quietly to bed. A stillness crept down the street before him.

Some people answered the question happily, others were reluctant or unwilling, some appeared to be so afraid to answer that they cowered in unlit rooms rather than acknowledge the stranger's knock.

What was the question that caused the transformation?

"I'm collecting for Christian Aid, would you like to help?"



at 3 Derby Road, Milford,  
(Dudley & Jacquie Martin)

Bring & Buy, Coffee, Cakes, Raffle etc.

... YOU ARE INVITED

## Christian Aid Week

May 14-19



Did you know that you can hear the latest news of Christian Aid's work around the world by dialling 01-733 0562 and listening to their weekly news bulletin.

## Christian Aid

PO Box No1, London SW9 8BH



### SOMEONE FORGOT

A hungry child in a city slum once prayed very hard for some food and some toys, but nothing happened.

She told this to a cynical friend who said: "What happened to this God of yours? Why did He not answer you?"

The little child replied: "Oh I'm sure He did. He told someone to bring me the food, but I guess they just forgot."

WHO WAS SAINT GEORGE ? from a sermon preached at the local Civic Service by Geoffrey Marshall, Vicar of Milford.

George was born at Lydda, 23 miles west of Jerusalem - the site today of Tel Aviv's international airport. He followed his father into the Roman Army. He rose rapidly in the eyes of the Emperor Diocletian and became Tribune of the Imperial Guard. He held that high office in AD 298 when the Edicts against Christians were issued - these required all men in the imperial service to offer incense to the spirit of the Emperor, forbade Christians to assemble together, and led to the destruction of most churches and the burning of their service books and Bibles. For many, of course, discretion was the better part of faith when this final (for the Roman Empire anyway) persecution of Christians broke out. But George went straight to Diocletian, declaring "I am a Christian". When bribery failed to make him sacrifice to the Emperor, imprisonment, torture and death followed. George was beheaded on 23rd April (Good Friday) AD 304.

Within a very few years the Roman Empire was Christian, and the Emperor Constantine honoured the memory of George - who soon became known as a healer of lunatics, the patron of husbandry, the protector of youth, and the champion of the oppressed.

What about the DRAGON ? That story was added to the above historically provable facts in the 10th century. The story went that the city of Selena in Lybia was ravaged by a terrible dragon, which made its lair in a nearby swamp. The citizens fed it two sheep a day to keep it quiet. When they ran out of sheep they needed a human victim, and the lot fell on the king's daughter. She was rescued from the swamp before the dragon got to her by St. George - when the dragon approached him he showed it the sign of the Cross and pierced it with a lance; he took the princess's girdle, bound it round the dragon's neck, and led it meekly to the city.

Notice George did not kill the dragon - he overcame its power so that in future it served the city it had previously tormented. There is a parable here. The city is you or me; the king is our reason; the princess is our soul; the dragon is our natural instincts and desires out of control. If the instincts are not governed by reason (the mind of faith) the soul is threatened. At first it may be placated with small things (like sheep) but the concessions grow bigger - like an addict needing ever more cigarettes or drink or drugs. St. George symbolises the grace of God enabling the soul to master the instincts - which are then brought into their proper service of the person and his or her neighbours. The legend is a splendid illustration of man's life and destiny, his fall and his salvation.

England still needs St. George :-

- in an age of social and atheistic madness it needs the sanity of the healer of lunatics;
- in an age of greedy pollution and environmental suicide for short-term political gain it needs the patron of husbandry;
- in an age of pornography and media violence it needs the protector of youth;
- in an age of mass unemployment, hospital queues and flying pickets it needs the champion of the oppressed.

And England, just like the Roman Empire, constantly needs to be bound by the Church's girdle and led into the service of Christ and our fellow men.

## LETTERS.....

Dear Treacle City,

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH - HOBBIES WEEK-END MARCH 31/APRIL 1

Please express to the people of Milford, not forgetting the children, our grateful thanks for their splendid all-round support.

It was a truly memorable occasion and a real community effort raising over £250 of badly needed funds.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Hunt (Secretary)

Tower Cottage

## CAMEO NEWS

On Monday 14th May at 2pm  
Mrs Jill Davies of Allestree  
is giving a talk on  
"Wildlife", which I'm sure  
will be very interesting.

Please come and bring your  
friends - refreshments  
available.



**MILFORD**

**ALLOTMENTS!**



STILL A FEW UNCULTIVATED  
ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE (FIRST YEAR  
RENT FREE) Contact Mick Smith  
on BELPER 5872.....NOW !!!!!

## LANDSCAPING

and

ALL GARDEN WORK

UNDERTAKEN

SOIL TESTING AVAILABLE

FREE ESTIMATES FOR

ROTAVATING

TURFING, FENCING

GENERAL CLEARANCE &

TREE WORK.

TELEPHONE BELPER 5872

.....

Congratulations to Belper  
Lions on the fine work  
done in clearing the scrap  
of land at the end of  
Chevin Road opposite the  
Strutt Arms.



Copy date for the next issue  
of Treacle City is 16th May '84  
Send copy to 'Treacle City'  
c/o 6 Chevin Road, Milford.

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

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