



Cheadle Civic Society Newsletter



Autumn 2020

Cheadle Civic Society was formed in 1964 with the following aims:

To encourage high standards of architecture and town planning in Cheadle, Cheshire. To stimulate public interest in, and care for, the beauty and improvement of features of general public amenity, or historic interest. To pursue these ends by means of public meetings, exhibitions, lectures, publications, other forms of Instruction and publicity and promotion of schemes of a charitable nature.

Your Committee 2020/21

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On the Cover:

Charles. J. Large Cycle Depot
Cheadle 1906.

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Society Views:

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Cheadle Matters

A comprehensive round up of news from Cheadle.

Society News:

The Chairman and Committee sincerely hope that this newsletter finds you all in good health. It has certainly been a year like no other. Whilst lock-down has meant the Committee has not been able to hold regular monthly meetings, that hasn't stopped all activities in the community, that the Society takes great pride in providing.



The Green has received the usual care and attention, along with the Ockleston Memorial and War Memorial, by the Society's gardener, who has once again given much of his time freely, for which the Society is truly grateful. The Makers Market resumed, albeit on a smaller scale, and continues to be very popular with the community. On a more frustrating note, during the period of lockdown, the Green was targeted by those in the community who think it is acceptable to meet in a group, consume alcohol,

along with other substances, act unsociable, and cause criminal damage. This kind of activity has no place in the community, and certainly not on Cheadle Green. Other areas in the village were also targeted and following a public campaign on social media by the Society Chairman, this has seems to have ceased. It is the view of the Committee, that any instances in the future, will be reported to the Police and relevant authorities.

The Ancient Mulberry Tree:

We have some sad news to report. During August, the ancient Mulberry tree, that had stood on the Green for centuries, broke in two and fell down. It is not clear what caused this to happen, Council officers who attended, have suggested that it is simply down to the age of the tree, and the way it had grown over the years. The good news is, that there is a good chance of it surviving. A temporary fence has been erected around the tree to protect it from further damage.



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Art On The Green:

The summer may have been quiet on the events front, but that hasn't stopped Society Secretary Natalie Kaciubskij from bringing her usual brand of magic alive on the Green. This year, in place of her large scale events, Picnic in the Park and Cinema on the Green, Natalie has shared her passion for painting by holding small art groups on the Green.



The Massie St Charity Bins:

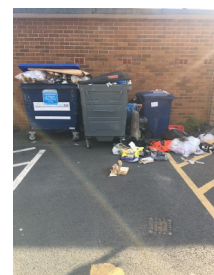
During the period of lockdown, there has been an increase of fly-tipping in the village. A popular place for those who have no morals, or pride in their community, has been the clothing charity bins, on the Massie St car park. This matter was raised with the Council and the area was cleared.

It is understood that the Council are maintaining a close eye on these bins, which haven't been emptied by the respective Charities as often as usual. This is understandable under the current measures. However, the issue of fly-tipping presents the question of health and safety to the public, and continued illegal tipping may result in the permanent removal of the donation bins.



Above: Charity donation bins on Massie St Car Park.

Right: Other areas of the village have also suffered from fly tipping. Most noticeably the area around the public toilets in the Massie St car park.



Cheadle's Towns Fund Bid:

As reported in the Spring newsletter, Cheadle Village Partnership have been working very closely with Stockport Council, and other community groups, putting together a bid for the Governments Towns Fund. With a possible £25 million at stake, the first action taken has been to survey the community, and gain a clearer idea on what improvements they would like to see in the village. High on the agenda is the building of a railway station, which would see Cheadle once again becoming more connected to other areas. However, there so much more that could be achieved with this pot of money. One suggestion has been the continued development of the BT window as a community information point, possibly with an interactive screen providing local information at the touch of a button. The bid is currently being finalised and readied for submission in November.

Cheadle Matters

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In addition to the Towns fund bid, Cheadle has been awarded a further £500,000 interim grant for investment in the community.

Chair of Cheadle Village Partnership, and Society Committee Member, Reverend Rob Munro was delighted to share this news with the Community. Read his letter on **page 6**.



Above: The BT Window advertising the Cheadle Village Survey.

Cheadle FM:



During the months of May and June this year, Cheadle was treated to our own community radio station. Cheadle FM hit the airwaves under a special broadcasting licence. This was issued by Ofcom, for the strict purpose of connecting communities during lock-down. The Committee was approached with a request for funding and were happy to support this great community project with a donation of £400. **Read more on this story on page 19.**

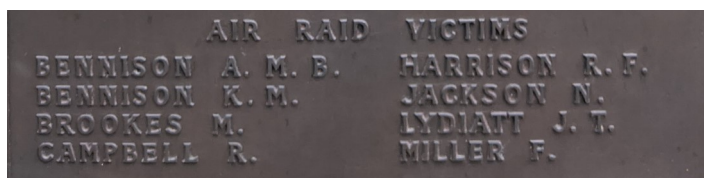
Remembrance Sunday:

This year's service of remembrance, which has seen unprecedented numbers in attendance over recent years, took place under the current restrictions of the second national lock-down.



The service, which was attended by representatives of different faith groups, was broadcast live to the community via a video link. In the year when we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the end of WW2, it was important that we remembered those who fought and died. Special mention was made during the

service, of the eight civilians who died during air raids over Cheadle.



Halloween on the Green:

Natalie Kaciubskij once again created a Halloween on the Green to remember! The event which is sponsored by the Society, and is in its 6th year went ahead. Due to restrictions this year's event was a scaled down version. None of that however, stopped Natalie from creating what proved to be a fantastic event.



A market, showcasing local traders, and a giant game along the lines of Cluedo, was mapped out within the footprint of Cheadle Hall.

Cheadle Matters

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GREAT NEWS! New Funding Award for Cheadle!



Dear Village Partnership Members

Our main Towns Fund bid for a new station continues well, the formal application for which is being submitted in November. But as I mentioned at the last CVP meeting, because of the application we qualified to apply for a further grant in addition to this. I am delighted to pass on the exciting news that Cheadle has been awarded an additional £500,000 'accelerated funding' – which is for capital expenditure only and is required to be fully spent by the end of March 2021, hence not anything requiring much by way of planning consents. Feasibility work is being done by the council to deliver the following areas (below) by March:

Cycling & Walking - Early Access Measures

New cycle track at Ashfield Road to provide an important link through to Cheadle Village Centre and possible additional improvements to Park Road - £200k

Cheadle Primary School Streets Pilot

Delivery of package of measures to pilot a 'School Street' scheme - £40k

Cheadle High Street Parklet

Installation of parklet on or around Cheadle High Street to deliver improved cycle parking and increase dwell time on the high street. - £80k

Community High Street Information Hub

Repurposing an empty window on the high street to create a new community information hub to support engagement and covid-19 economic recovery.

To include a highly visible and interactive screen on the high street that can be easily updated remotely. To be operated by the Cheadle Village Partnership (CVP). - £10k

Councillor Lane improvements

Early measures to improve the appearance and functionality of the public realm in front of this long shopping parade. Including cycle and parking arrangements. - £30k

Abney Hall Park Wildlife Improvements

Wildlife and ecological improvements to all ponds in the park - £10k

Diamond Jubilee Park Improvements

Improvements to Diamond Jubilee Park to encourage active lifestyles and improve the resilience of the park. To include:

- Flood mitigation/ SUDS scheme
- Path Improvements
- Fitness equipment improvements - £110k

Learn to Ride Area

Installation of British Cycling standard practice cycle track in Diamond Jubilee Park or Abney Hall Park to encourage cycling amongst young people in the area. - £20k

TOTAL = £500k

In addition, there are some possible grants to help vacant shops or upstairs convert to useful economic units – but that discussion is in the early stages, and if it develops I will suggest an extra CVP meeting where it can be discussed.

All this is good news for our community, and has been facilitated by the string results from our local survey; so thanks for your support and help.

Rev Dr Rob Munro

Chair of Cheadle Village Partnership



A Tudor Tale of Marriage-Murder and Execution.

By Andrew Frazer.

When you visit St Mary's Church in Cheadle you might be struck by the magnificent chapels within, both built in the 16th century. The Savage Chapel on the north aisle, and the Brereton Chapel on the south aisle, both have a story to tell, and both are connected through 'A Tale of Tudor Marriage-Murder and Execution.'

Following the death of Roger de Cheadle in 1321, the manorial rights were left to his wife Matilda. When Matilda died in 1327, and following an inquisition, it was ruled that their two daughters, Clemence, the wife of William de Bagulegh and Agnes, wife of Sir Richard de Bulklegh should inherit the Manor. The lands were divided, creating two townships. The northern half to Sir Richard de Bulklegh was known as Cheadle Bulkeley. The southern half went to William de Baguley his wife Clemence, and was known as Cheadle Holme. Their daughter Isobel married Sir Thomas Danyers of Bradley and Appleton, who greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Cressy in 1346, by rescuing the Royal Standard of the Black Prince, and capturing the Chamberlain of France. For this service, the Black Prince granted him an annuity, charged on his Royal Manor of Frodsham.

Sir Thomas and Lady Isobel had a daughter, Margaret, who married Sir John Savage in 1357. She received, as her dowry, her mother's lands, and so began the Savage's manorial ownership of Cheadle Holme which was to last for the next 300 years.

Whilst it might be assumed that as Lord and Lady of the Manor of Cheadle Holme, the Savages would have lived in Cheadle.

This is not the case. The ancestral seat of the Savage family was at Old Hall, Clifton, Cheshire. There are no official records of a Savage Hall in Cheadle. It is thought that there could have been a manor house situated near to the bottom of Schools Hill, on Wilmslow Rd. The 19th century historian Fletcher Moss surmises in his work 'A History of the Old Parish of Cheadle in Cheshire', that the centre part of Brookside Farm on Wilmslow Rd, to have been the original manor house of the Savage family in Cheadle.

The story of the Savage family can be a little confusing. This is due to the long succession of the name 'John', from one generation to the next. There were no fewer than 9 Sir John Savages in two centuries, and often there were more than one John Savage alive at the same time.

The Savage family was a well-established name. They had prospered in the many royal courts since the time of Henry V. By the time of Henry VIII's ascension to the throne in 1509, mainly through the Knightly endeavours of his ancestors, the then Sir John Savage VI held at court the position of 'Groom of the Privy'.

A relative of John Savage Snr, an uncle named Thomas Savage, had also risen high in the royal court, although the path he had taken was of a Godlier one.

Thomas Savage was appointed rector of Davenham, Cheshire in 1470, Rector of the monks of Risborough, Buckinghamshire, in 1484, and Rector of Rostherne, Cheshire. Such positions provided him with a source of income, whilst he pursued his diplomatic activities abroad.

He served as English ambassador to Castile and

Portugal in 1488, and then to France in 1490. On 3rd December 1492, Thomas Savage was nominated as Bishop of Rochester, being consecrated on 28 April 1493. He held this post until 1496, when he was appointed as Bishop of London. Thomas Savage served as President of the Council Attendant on the King, and Dean of the Household Chapel of Henry VII, before being appointed on 18 January 1501, as Archbishop of York, which post he held until his death.

For John Savage VI, the importance of securing the families future, and the Savage name at the court of the King, was of the highest importance. He had, through connections at court, along with the help of his uncle, Thomas Savage, the then Archbishop of York, secured a promise of marriage for Sir John Savage VII. The bride was Elizabeth Somerset, daughter of the powerful Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester. This marriage, and Sir John Savage VI's position of Sheriff of Worcester, went a long way in securing that future. This also allowed considerable autonomy over the lands they held. Sir John Savage VII, and Lady Elizabeth Somerset wed in 1512, securing a payment of £400 pounds for the family, and the position of Groom of the Privy, at the court of Henry VIII, for Sir John Savage VII.

In 1516 Sir John Savage Snr, and Sir John Savage Jnr, became embroiled in a feud with a Worcestershire gentleman, John Pauncefote.

John Pauncefote had started as a Gentleman Usher in the courts. In 1504 he became a Justice of the Peace for Gloucestershire. In 1510 he joined the Commission for Herefordshire, and in 1515, that for Worcestershire. He became a wealthy and a respected member of the county. There was not a history of bad feeling between himself and the Savages, In fact ,he had, in 1507, acted on behalf of the Savage family in matters of the crown. What may have caused a measure of bad feeling, was the rise of John Pauncefote within Worcestershire, the principal county of the Savage family. Sir John Snr, watched as this Gentleman Usher rose to a standing in life that could pose a threat to his own position. A plan to dispose of Pauncefote was hatched.

On the morning of 31st March 1516, John Pauncefote was due to attend the Quarter Sessions at Cirencester. As he travelled the road ,he was set upon and killed at Haw,in the Parish of Tirley, by John Savage Jnr, and a band of his men.

John Savage Snr, took no part in this action. However, it was undoubtedly on his orders that Pauncefote was dealt with.

It is thought that John Pauncefote was intending to give evidence against the Savages, in connection with an incident of poaching against the fishponds of one William Leyceter. A trivial reason for murder, but there were other reasons why the Savages would want to keep news of their wrong doings quiet .

A year before the killing, John Grimesdale, a Savage charge from Cheshire, had assaulted a lady in Great Malvern Church. When John Savage Snr was summoned to appear before the Justices of the Peace, to explain the action of his man, he refused to go, and in doing so was deemed to be showing 'contempt to the rule of the King'. Robbery was common. As far back as 1511, Savage followers often helped themselves to other people's grain, money, and worldly belongings.

Three weeks after the Pauncefote murder, Sir John Savage Jnr had led his men to seize a large sum of money from his victim's estate. This was all done under the watchful eye of the Sheriff of Worcestershire, Sir John Savage Snr.

It was not the murder of John Pauncefote itself, that so frustrated the crown, rather the contempt displayed for royal authority, by the Savages.

On the 2nd May 1516, a large and ceremonious gathering of the Royal Council, in the presence of the King, saw Cardinal Wolsey reveal his "Law and Order" campaign.

The first demonstration of this new policy, was the public humiliation of the Earl of Northumberland, for numerous contempts against the realm. The King, following prompting from Wolsey, had vowed to "Root out the wrong doings," usually exercised in his realm.

This was only a month after the Pauncefote killing, so it was likely that Sir John Savage Snr, and Jnr, would be appearing high on Wolsey's agenda. Sir John Savage Snr, stood tall and faced the allegations brought against him. His son, Sir John Savage Jnr, fled, and took sanctuary in the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, in Clerkwel.

On the 20th June, Sir John Savage Jnr, was removed by force, and taken to the Tower, to join his father, who had been incarcerated there a few days earlier, by order of the King's Council.

The next day, both men appeared before the Kings Bench. Sir John Snr, once again protested his innocence, and pleaded not guilty. Sir John Jnr, also pleaded not guilty, but also challenged the legality of his removal from the sanctuary of St. John's, and called for the Prior to attest his immunity.

In his defence, Sir John Savage Jnr, quoted the Priory's title to sanctuary, by edict issued by the Pope, and by Royal confirmation and allowance, under the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII. The following year Sir John Savage Jnr, changed his plea to guilty.

Despite this, the crown pursued the case, and on the 10th November 1519, in a session of the Star Chamber, at which the King himself presided, Cardinal Wolsey and two chief justices argued the rights of the Priory. Henry stated during the session that 'Sanctuary had never been to serve voluntary murder, and vowed to change the privilege to the original plan intended by its founders.

The case for murder was not pursued by the crown. It was, in fact, left for John Pauncefote's widow, Bridget, who appealed through the courts for justice for her husband.

The two men spent a total of four years incarcerated in the Tower, whilst deliberations in court carried on. Eventually, Sir John Savage Snr, changed his plea to guilty, and in doing so, he and Sir John Savage Jnr, received a Royal pardon, receiving harsh penalties. Sir John Savage Snr, lost all his offices in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire. There were financial penalties levied against both men. A fine of four thousand marks was to be paid to the King, and one thousand marks to be paid to the wife and children, of John Pauncefote. One final condition placed upon them was a restriction of movement. Neither of them should ever step foot inside the counties of Cheshire or Worcestershire, without Royal permission. Sir John Savage Snr, never set foot in either county again and died in 1527. Sir John Savage Jnr, had his banishment removed after four years, and was free to roam where he liked.

When John Savage Snr died in 1527, John Savage Jnr, succeeded his father's titles, or rather, what was left of them. In 1528 John Savage Jnr, died at Ruthin Castle North Wales, leaving his son John Savage, aged three years, as his heir.



**Above: Brookside Farm,
possible site of Savage Hall**

One of Sir John Savage Jnr's final acts was the building of the Savage Chapel in St. Mary's church, Cheadle, completed in 1529, possibly to once again raise the Savage name amongst the parish.

Widowed, and with four children, Lady Elizabeth was left facing a bleak future. Most of the Savage fortune had been lost through years of mismanagement. Her son and heir to the Savage name, John Savage being three years old at the time of his father's death, meant all the family titles and lands were to be made a ward of the crown, until he reached a certain age.

Acting on behalf of the crown in this matter was Sir William Brereton. With the Savage lands under his charge, Sir William Brereton married Lady Elizabeth. Whether this was through mutual attraction, or as a marriage beneficial to both parties, can only be speculated upon. Certainly, the marriage would have done no harm to Sir William Brereton, in consolidating his position in Cheshire, the seat of his family, and in the court of the King. For Lady Elizabeth, this union of marriage would have provided much needed security for her and her children's futures.

Sir William Brereton was highly regarded at the court of Henry VIII, as a groom of the bedchamber and a trusted member of the King's inner circle. In reward for his work for the King, Brereton received several royal grants in Cheshire and the Welsh Marches (an un-defined area along the border between England and Wales.) These eventually brought him more than £10,000 a year, a vast amount of money for that period. However, he wielded power ruthlessly, and had a reputation of being harsh when passing judgement on his tenants for the smallest affray. The close relationship he had with Henry VIII had opened many doors to him. Henry had trusted Brereton enough to be a witness at his secret marriage to Anne Boleyn

in January 1533. Brereton's name was also on the list of those who attended Anne's coronation celebrations. Brereton's friendship with the King is shown also by the fact that he accompanied the King on many hunting expeditions.

Brereton was also connected with the Duke of Richmond (Henry Fitzroy, the illegitimate son of Henry VIII), and by being so, "exercised virtually autonomous territorial power in Cheshire and North Wales", serving as Richmond's deputy. Brereton also enjoyed the patronage of the Duke of Norfolk. He too, was a favoured and influential man within the court of Henry VIII.

The one man in the King's court that Sir William Brereton didn't favour was Thomas Cromwell. There had been a history of mistrust between the two men. Cromwell was the King's first Minister, the son of a blacksmith, he had risen to the highest political office, through nothing more than dogged determination and guile. He was a keen reformist, and had been a driving force behind the King's acts of reformation. He intended to bring in hand the unruly lands of the Welsh Marches. It is possible that Cromwell viewed Sir William Brereton as an obstacle to his plans. When in 1536, the charge of adultery was brought against Anne Boleyn, Cromwell seized the opportunity, and brought charges against Sir William Brereton, as one of those suspected of carrying out liaisons with the Queen.

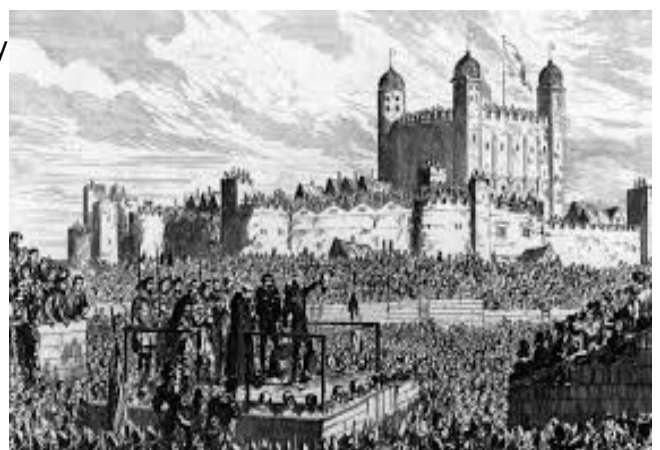
On Thursday 4 May 1536, Brereton was arrested with Sir Francis Weston of the privy chamber, taken to the Tower, and held there along with his co-accused, Henry Norris, Sir Francis Weston, Mark Smeaton, and George Boleyn, Anne's brother. All were indicted on Wednesday 10 May for adultery. It was charged, that on the 16 November 1533, Ann Boleyn had solicited Sir William Brereton, and that on the 27th November an act of adultery took place between the two of them. When Sir William, and three of his co-defendants were tried in Westminster Hall, on Friday 12 May, he pleaded not guilty. Like the rest, he was condemned, and sentenced to be hung, drawn and quartered. Three days later, Anne and her brother were also found guilty.

On 17 May, William Brereton, George Boleyn, Viscount Rochford, Henry Norris, Sir Francis Weston and Mark Smeaton were led from the Tower to a scaffold on Tower Hill. The King, in a moment of clemency, had changed their sentence to a beheading. An eyewitness to their executions recorded Sir William Brereton's last words. "The cause whereof I die, judge not. But if you judge, judge the best."



Above: Anne Boleyn.

For Sir William Brereton's widow, Lady Elizabeth, the loss of her husband was devastating. She had believed in her husband's innocence and now faced an uncertain future. The loss of Sir William's titles and lands would undoubtedly cause much hardship. The lands and titles of Sir William were given to his younger brother, Sir Urian Brereton. With the co-operation of Thomas Cromwell, she was able to secure, firstly, the Savage lands and on the 30th June, she was granted all the goods, chattels, rents, and annuities belonging to Sir William at the time of his execution.



Above: The Scaffold on Tower Hill, London.

Sir Urian Brereton was also a Groom of the Privy Chamber to King Henry VIII. In 1526 he was appointed Ranger of Delamere Forest and Escheator of Cheshire. Urian Brereton had a close personal relationship with Anne Boleyn, to the extent that she may have named one of her lap dogs after him. Despite both the Queen's, and his brother's execution, he continued to enjoy the King's favour.

In 1562, Sir Urian Brereton was responsible for the construction of Handforth Hall. It was about this time that he paid for the construction of the Brereton Chapel in St Mary's Church. It is thought to be in memoriam to his elder brother Sir William. Sir Urian died on 19 March 1577 and was buried in St Mary's Church, Cheadle.



Sir John Savage and Lady Elizabeth are buried together in the Savage Chapel in St Michael's Church Macclesfield.



Above: All that remains of Clifton Old Hall today. Left: 19th century engraving of Clifton Hall then known as 'Rocksavage.'



Above: The Savage Chapel St Mary's Cheadle. Above: The Brereton Chapel St Mary's Cheadle.

Lockdown Archaeology.

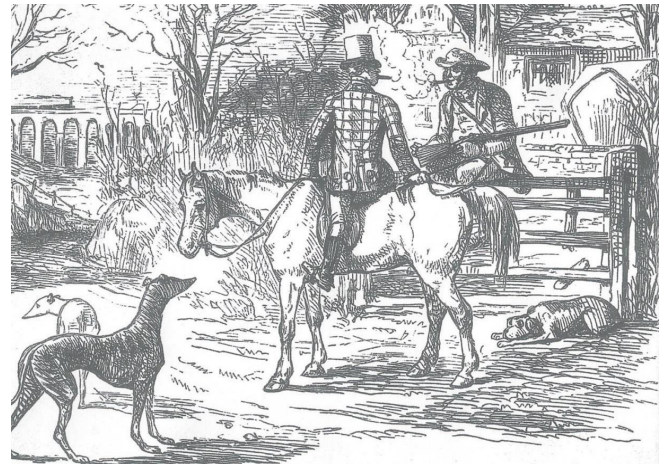
How one mans garden renovations lead to an interesting archaeological find.

By Peter Briggs

The 5-month period of 1st March 2020 to 1st August 2020 has been unprecedented and traumatic for most people during the global pandemic of Covid-19. On 3rd March it was predicted that this new virus might infect 80% of people in the UK and the Government issued strict guidelines based on advice from the country's scientific experts on how to mitigate the impact of the virus on the population, especially for elderly people. On Monday 23rd March 2020, the UK Government ordered all people of 70 years (and above) to stay in their homes and gardens; the national lockdown had begun. It was understood that the virus would not spread easily outdoors and so people were encouraged to exercise in parks and other open-spaces. As a keen gardener I welcomed these guidelines and took every opportunity to enjoy some spring sunshine and to tackle a host of tasks in my garden in Cheadle.

As part of some re-planning of a major bed in the garden that required some new shrubs, this was the time to spread a well-matured compost heap from the bottom of the garden. I moved half of the compost and, in so-doing, discovered some interesting stones that appeared to form a man-made structure (75mm to 200mm below the level of the lawn). My archaeological interests were aroused; thanks to sunny dry spells in April and May, a trench (approx. 1m x 1m in area and 200mm deep) was carefully developed.

My house and garden was built in 1957 as part of a suburban development based on a reuse of the Brook Field land that formed part of Orrish Meres Farm. The builders cleared a substantial area that was bounded by the Micker Brook and Demmings Bleach Works (north) and by Cheadle Road (south and west). Many large trees (beech, sycamore, chestnut and willow) in the vicinity of the Micker Brook and Old Wool Lane (now bordering Cheadle Golf Course, which was founded in 1885) survived the clearance but most of the meres were filled in. Andrew Bryant's map of Cheshire of 1831 (ref.1) shows the Micker Brook with the agricultural Brook Field (south of the Brook) and Demmings Print Works (established in 1789 north of the Brook). The Print Works continued until 1885 and the site was then converted to the Demmings Bleach and Dye Works.



Above: An engraving by John Leech in 1851 showing squire and farmer.

There was one bridge across the Micker Brook that connected Demmings Works with Brook Field (including Orrish Meres Farm). Ordnance Survey data of 2014 shows the new bridge connecting Queens Road and Demmings Road; it crosses the Micker Brook in the vicinity of Pickmere Gardens. The garden of my house borders Queens Road, Pickmere Gardens and Old Wool Lane. We also have a short view towards Demmings Cottages, which are next to the old bridge across the Micker Brook. Prior to the development of Orrishmere Estate, the land of my garden would be adjacent to Brook Field and be close to a duck pond of Orrish Meres Farm. After removing the top 75mm of soil and grass from the trench-site, the flat stone structure (held together with mortar) appeared to be the corner of a building. As the dig progressed, 2 red bricks connected at their ends with mortar were discovered. These were well-worn on their top surfaces and were only crudely fixed with broken brick wedges at right angles to the main flat-stone structure. The area adjacent to the flat-stone structure on the opposite side to the 2 bricks was composed of random stones that roughly formed a surface at the same level as the main flat-stone structure and the top surface of the 2 bricks. A variety of non-connected building materials were found during the dig. The different types and the fact that most were broken supports the context that the garden land formerly had farm buildings on it before it was cleared by the building contractors.

The singular flat-stone and brick structure indicates that it might have been constructed from recycled materials after the farm land had been cleared.



The proximity to the Micker Brook and to one of the Orrish Meres on Brook Field suggests a reason for the purpose of the discovered stone-structure. The design of this structure and its location would fit its use for game or wildfowl gun-shooting (especially rabbits, pheasants or ducks). The dimensions of the stone-work would fit its use as a low seat (such as in a hide or amongst reeds). The 2 side bricks are suitably arranged to act as a shotgun rest and the random stone assembly on the left of the seat could function as a holding surface for the hunter's snacks, drinks and his gunshot cartridges. The discovery of a corroded gunshot cartridge next to this seat supports this use. The seat faces the site of a natural pond and of several large trees in this local landscape. As documented by Pat Seddon when Cheadle was chiefly agricultural it was scattered with marlponds and meres; these are evident today in Bruntwood Park. Iris and crocosmia flowers thrive abundantly in these areas as can be seen today in my garden. The reed-like nature of these flowers also helps to understand why wildfowlers would choose to construct a hunting seat at ground level with the iris forming a natural hide.

Right: Particularly interesting with respect to the use of this site was the discovery of a corroded gun cartridge (approx. 50mm long) filled with grey gunpowder.

Game-shooting was popular in 18th, 19th and early 20th century Victorian England and Wales. This period was difficult for families in the textile-finishing industry around Cheadle and Stockport; local historians and archaeologists have documented the period 1789 to 1926. The proximity of a wildfowl gun-shooting hide near to the Brook Field and to Demmings Works would be attractive to both sportsmen and to factory workers seeking to provide extra food for their families. There was a huge upheaval in English farming during the 18th century and this went on in the 19th century. These changes were nearly all in favour of the large farmer.

The Game Act 1831 was passed in England and Wales to protect game (especially grouse, pheasant, partridge and hares) by establishing open seasons when they could be legally taken; this Act still covers the protection of game birds to the present day. Hunting with shotguns began in the 17th century. The practice of waterfowl hunting for ducks and geese (often known as wildfowling) was extremely popular in England in the 19th century; it was both a pastime and a means of earning a living. Waterfowl can be hunted in farm fields where they feed or more frequently on or near to areas of water such as rivers, ponds or lakes. William Johnston sums up social interactions in his history book 'If the farming men now and then mix with the landowners in their field sports, it is upon a footing of understood inferiority, and the association exists only out of doors, or in the public room of an inn after a cattle-show or an election. The difference in manners of the two classes does not admit of anything like social and family intercourse.' The class differences are also evident in Leech's engraving of 1851.

Further investigations and research continues in to this story which will be continued in the spring 2021 newsletter.



Cheadle and the Jacobite Rising of 1745.

by Andrew Frazer

Ask the people of Cheadle what they know of Cheadle's history, and many will tell you that Bonnie Prince Charlie once passed through, on his retreat from the pursuing armies of King George II, during the Jacobite rebellion of 1745. Some say that he spent the night at Cheadle Moseley Old Hall. It is more likely that he stayed at Handforth Hall. Whilst I was recently researching a completely separate story, I happened to chance across a newspaper article published in the Derby Mercury, dated December 1745. The article gives a clear account of the days events dated Dec 4th and Dec 5th, as the Young Pretender advance southward towards London.

Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie).

Charles Edward Stuart, was known as "Bonnie Prince Charlie" or simply "The Bonnie Prince." The Young Pretender began plotting an invasion of Great Britain in 1743. England had recently become embroiled in a global conflict known today as the War of the Austrian Succession. British forces were deployed on the European continent, and throughout the colonies, where many natives had taken up arms in North America, the Caribbean and the Indian subcontinent. It was with this conflict in mind, the Bonnie Prince reasoned, they would never expect an uprising at home. In his eyes, the time was right for rebellion. Charles had lived in exile his entire life, but still had strong ties to the country, especially in the Highlands of Scotland. He also enjoyed some support from England's Catholic nobility. In July 1745, the ship carrying Charles, took anchor on the Isle of Eriskay, in the Sottish Highlands. From here, he was able to rally up more support from the clan chieftains. By August, he travelled to Glenfinnan in the Highlands, where he raised the Jacobite standard. The rebellion had begun.

On September 15th, the Jacobite army marched into Edinburgh. The army, is said to have been greeted by 20,000 cheering supporters. It was here that Charles declared, The Old Pretender King James VIII, as King of Scotland, and began planning his invasion of England.



The insurrection had not gone unnoticed by the British Government, and a £30,000 bounty was put on the Young Pretender's head. Despite the many battles on all fronts that Great Britain was facing at that time, the rebellion had to be defeated. King George II recalled his brother, the Duke of Cumberland, from the front lines in France to quell the rebellion. The Jacobite invasion of England began in early November, when the Bonnie Prince led his army into northern England. Charles laid siege to Carlisle in mid-November, and entered the city with 5,000 infantry, and 500 cavalry troops. After gathering all the ammunition, arms, and horses they could from Carlisle, they marched south. Charles then took Manchester with apparent ease, and with each victory the morale within the Jacobite ranks rose. The English throne seemed within grasp.

The English, however, would not go down without a fight. With ample men and resources, the Duke of Cumberland pursued the Jacobite invaders.

It is at this point in the story when we refer to the recently discovered news article, dated 4th/5th December. The Jacobite army had taken Manchester with ease mainly because the majority supported the restoration of the Stuarts to the throne. The 'English Regiment' was re-named the 'Manchester Regiment,' apparently to please the population. The article then goes on to tell of the movement of rebels in the area and the advancement south.

From The London Gazette Extraordinary, Dec. 5. Whitehall, December 4.

Letters from Lancashire, Cheshire and Staffordshire, on the 30th past, bring accounts, that about 100 of the Rebels had that day come to a pass three miles from Manchester leading to Knutsford, and had made a sort of Bridge over the River by filling it with Trees and that they had felled, and had advanced to Altringham. That 55 had the same day crossed the River at Gatley Ford to Cheadle, two Miles from Stockport, and had returned directly after to Manchester by Cheadle Ford, that Ten had crossed the Ford at Stockport that afternoon, stayed there about half an hour, gave out that they should bring a large Body of forces to Stockport that night, and that they had enlisted great numbers of men at Manchester, to which place they returned. They had 16 pieces of Cannon at Manchester, great numbers of covered Wagons, and near a hundred Horses laden. They talked differently about the Route they intended to take, some giving out they should march forth to Chester, and others into Derbyshire. The same day 200 were at Warrington; two of whom, who had crossed the river, were seized by the Liverpool Soldiers, hand-cuffed and sent to Chester.

Letters of the 1st instant say that several Parties of the Rebels had crossed the Mersey at different places upon the 30th (November) at night, and early in the morning of the 1st instant, and were marching by different routes towards Macclesfield. The Horses and Artillery failed at Cheadle Ford. The Bridge were of trees (chiefly poplars) felled for that purpose and planks laid across; and all the county people that could be found were compelled to assist in it. They pressed, or rather took away all their Horses they could meet with about Manchester, before they crossed the Mersey, and obliged several Gentlemen who had sent their Horses out of the way, to send for them back. By break of day, upon the 1st, a party of Horses came to Altringham, bespoke Quarters for a body of foot, which arrived there about ten, and then set out for Macclesfield with a guide. The party which lay at Altringham were very solicitous to know what number of the King's forces there was at Knutsford. At eleven o'clock about 100 horses came into Macclesfield and ordered the Bellman to prepare quarters for 5000 men, who came in there about two o'clock with the Artillery and the Pretender's Son, who lay there for the night. The Van Guard, which consisted of about 100 men, and which had orders to be in readiness to march at eleven at night, was quartered at Broken Cross on the Congleton side of Macclesfield. All that evening they were very busy scaling their pieces, firing them, and putting them into order. They had given out that they should call at Knutsford; and that they did not, seems to be owing to their having heard, that there were 1000 of the King's troops in that place. In the middle of the night 40 of them were at Buckley Hill in pursuit of two deserters. By Letters of the 2d there are advices, that the party which lay at Altringham the night before, marched early that morning towards Macclesfield, from which place about 2000 horse and foot paced by Gawsworth at Ten: That 2000 Horse and Foot came in to Congleton between Three and Four in the afternoon, who gave out, that the Pretender, with the remainder of the Troops would be there in the evening. A small party of about 30 were detached to a place called Ashbury, two or three miles on the Newcastle side of Congleton. Their horses are small, lean and of different colours.

*From the London Gazette Extraordinary, Dec. 5.
Whitehall, December 4.*

LETTERS from Lancashire, Cheshire, and Staffordshire, of the 30th past, bring Accounts, that about 100 of the Rebels had that Day come to a Pass three Miles from Manchester leading to Knutsford, and had made a Sort of Bridge over the River by filling it with Trees that they had felled, and had advanced to Altringham: That 55 had the same Day crossed the River at Gatley Ford to Cheadle, two Miles from Stockport, and had returned directly after to Manchester by Cheadle Ford; that Ten had crossed the Ford at Stockport that Afternoon, stay'd there about half an Hour, gave out that they should bring a large Body of Forces to Stockport that Night, and that they had enlisted great Numbers of Men at Manchester, to which Place they returned. They had 16 Pieces of Cannon at Manchester, great Numbers of cover'd Waggon's, and near an hundred Horses laden. They talked differently about the Route they intended to take, some giving out they should march forth to Chester, and others into Derbyshire. The same Day 200 were at Warrington; two of whom, who had crossed the River, were seiz'd by the Liverpool Soldiers, hand-cuffed, and sent to Chester.

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The army of Field Marshal George Wade, who joined the pursuit from the Midlands, aided the Duke's forces. Charles, who had recently taken Derby, found himself being converged upon by two armies. The Bonnie Prince decided to flee north to the safety of Scotland. Pursuing English soldiers harried Charles and his troops all the way back to Scotland. The Jacobite army reached Glasgow on Christmas Day. Once re-provisioned and rearmed, they were able to defeat a British army at the Battle of Falkirk Muir. Yet the British pursuit continued. The Duke of Cumberland and his army landed in Edinburgh in January 1746 and marched on the Jacobites. An already exhausted Jacobite army was forced to retreat into the Highlands towards Inverness. The Jacobites made their last stand at Culloden Moor on April 16th. Superior British artillery battered the Jacobite lines for nearly an hour. The Bonnie Prince ordered one last desperate charge, and his Jacobite clansmen—armed with flintlock muskets, blades and daggers—were cut down.



Above: The Duke of Cumberland recalled from the war in France to quash the rebellion.

Below: The Battle of Culloden, the Jacobite's made their last stand.



The Following Passage is taken from :

The Manchester Rebels

of The Fatal '45

BY WILLIAM HARRISON AINSWORTH.

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BOOK III.

**THE MARCH TO DERBY, AND THE
RETREAT.**

CHAPTER I.

AN OLD JACOBITE DAME.

Next morning the prince quitted Manchester, marching on foot at the head of two regiments of infantry which formed the advanced guard. The main body of the army, with the cavalry and artillery, was to follow at a later hour. As the two regiments in question, which were composed of remarkably fine men, marched up Market Street Lane, preceded by a dozen pipers, they were accompanied by a vast concourse of people, who came to witness the prince's departure, and shouted lustily as he came forth from his head-quarters, attended by Sir Thomas Sheridan and Colonel Ker. Designing to make Macclesfield the limit of his first day's march, Charles took the road to Cheadle, and several hundred persons walked, or rather ran, by the side of the Highlanders for a mile or two, when they dropped off and returned, being unable to keep up with the active mountaineers. Parties of men had been sent on previously to make a temporary bridge across the Mersey by felling trees; but the bridge not being completed on his arrival,

the prince forded the river at the head of his troops. On the opposite bank of the Mersey, several Cheshire gentlemen of good family were waiting to greet him, and wish him success in his enterprise. Among them was an aged dame, Mrs. Skyring, who, being very infirm, was led forward by a Roman Catholic priest. Kneeling before the prince, she pressed his hand to her lips. Much impressed by her venerable looks, Charles immediately raised her, and on learning her name, told her he had often heard of her as a devoted adherent of his house. "Give ear to me for a few moments, I pray you, most gracious prince," she said, in faltering accents. "Eighty-five years ago, when an infant, I was lifted up in my mother's arms to see the happy landing at Dover of your great uncle, King Charles the Second. My father was a staunch Cavalier, served in the Civil Wars, and fought at Worcester. My mother was equally attached to the House of Stuart. I inherited their loyalty and devotion. When your grandsire, King James the Second, was driven from the throne, I prayed daily for his restoration." "You did more than pray, madam," said the prince. "I am quite aware that you remitted half your income to our family; and this you have done for more than fifty years. I thank you in my grandsire's name—in my father's name—and in my own." Sobs checked the old lady's utterance for a moment, but at length she went on:

"When I learnt that you were marching on England at the head of an army, determined to drive out the Hanoverian usurper, and regain your crown, I was filled with despair that I could not assist you; but I sold my plate, my jewels, and every trinket I possessed. They did not produce much—not half so much as I hoped—but all they produced is in this purse. I pray your royal highness to accept it as an earnest of my devotion." While uttering these words, which greatly touched Charles, she again bent before him, and placed the purse in his hands. "Pain me not by a refusal, I implore you, most gracious prince," she said. "And think not you are depriving me of aught. I cannot live long, and I have no children. 'Tis the last assistance I shall be able to render your royal house—for which I have lived, and for which I would die." "I accept the gift, madam," replied Charles, with unaffected emotion, "with as much gratitude as if you had placed a large sum at my disposal. You are, indeed, a noble dame; and our family may well be proud of a servant so loyal! If I succeed in my enterprise, I will recompense you a hundred fold." "I am fully recompensed by these gracious words, prince," she rejoined. "Nay, madam," he cried, pressing her hand to his lips; "mere thanks are not enough. You have not confined yourself to words." "My eyes are very dim, prince," said the old dame; "and what you say to me will not make me see more clearly. Yet let me look upon your face, and I will tell you what I think of you. I am too old to flatter." "You will not offend me by plain speaking," said Charles, smiling. "You are a true Stuart," she continued, trying to peruse his features. "But there are some lines in your comely countenance that bode——" "Not misfortune, I trust?" said Charles, finding she hesitated. She regarded him anxiously, and made an effort to reply, but could not.



Handforth Hall

"What ails you, madam?" cried the prince, greatly alarmed by the deathly hue that overspread her features. Her strength was gone, and she would have fallen, if he had not caught her in his arms. Her friends, who were standing near, rushed forward to her assistance. "Alas, all is over!" exclaimed Charles, mournfully, as he consigned her inanimate frame to them. "She is scarcely to be pitied, prince," said the Romish priest. "'Tis thus she desired to die. May the angels receive her soul, and present it before the Lord!" "The sum she has bestowed upon me shall buy masses for the repose of her soul," said Charles. "Nay, prince," rejoined the priest. "Her soul is already at rest. Employ the money, I beseech you, as she requested." Much affected by this incident, Charles continued his march through a fine champaign country, well-timbered and richly cultivated, containing numerous homesteads, and here and there an old hall of the true Cheshire type, and comprehending views of Bowden Downs and Dunham Park on the left, with Norbury and Lyme Park on the right. At Handforth Hall he halted with his body-guard, and claimed the hospitality of its owner; while his troops marched on to Wilmslow, and forced the inhabitants of that pretty little village to supply their wants. From Wilmslow the prince's march was continued to Macclesfield, where he fixed his quarters at an old mansion near the Chester Gate.



What have two vicars, two local councillors, a retired solicitor and a site manager got in common? We are all directors of Cheadle FM Community Interest Company. Cheadle FM broadcast on FM and on-line into and around the community of Cheadle at the height of the lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The idea started when the Rev Mike Newman and Councillor David Meller, got together with a number of other people including Nick Hall, who became the technical manager, Rob Kates, who was studio manager and host of the flagship morning show, David Pugh, who did so much in production behind the scenes, and Andrew Frazer, who is involved in so many of our community organisations. This group had heard that Ofcom were offering temporary FM licences for local radio stations to operate during the lockdown period, to keep their community connected.

Following this meeting, Rev Paul Cummings was approached to join the group, together with myself with charity and legal experience, and Councillor Tom Morrison, to assist with the publicity. Usually it takes 6 – 12 months to set up a local radio station, but on 23rd May, less than one month from the inaugural meeting, Cheadle FM launched live on air.

This was achieved by some amazing hard work on the part of Nick and his technical team, David Meller and his brief to apply for the licence, Rob Kates and his team of producers, and Tom Morrison and his publicity team. Thanks must go to Janet Tysoe, who helped us with the grant applications and especial thanks to Brookfield Shiers Family Trust, who funded the licence application.

During the launch programme, we had messages from many well-wishers, including our local MP Mary Robinson, and then we were off. Rob Kates did an amazing job with his live morning show, and cheered us all up each morning with his banter,

up beat music and his informative guests, including Dr Mehta from the Cheadle GP practice. There were a wide range of programmes, contributed by many people from our community, with diverse musical interests. Featured were football, Divas up North, and the faith programmes on Sunday from the local churches, Cheadle Mosque, and the Yeshurun Synagogue

One idea, which involved people of all ages and backgrounds, was the recording of the “All Mine” programmes. Individuals had the opportunity to share some of their favourite music, whilst talking about their experience of the lockdown and the pandemic.

As the country began to open up, we explored the idea of extending the licence period, but decided this was too expensive. Our volunteer base was beginning to shrink as “normal” life resumed, and people who had been on furlough, had to get back to their real jobs.



Studio Manager Rob Kates in full flow

Sadly Cheadle FM went off air on 30th June 2020, but we had a wonderful time keeping the community connected, developing the skills of people within that community, and listening to some brilliant music. We have an excellent archive of people’s thoughts and opinions, from a unique time in history, and we have built connections with different groups and individuals, which we hope will continue long into the future.

Cheadle FM Community Interest Company still exists. If there are any people interested in continuing to broadcast to our community, and building on the contacts and connections already made, do get in touch.

Trish Wells

Director Cheadle FM

Civic Society Corporate Donors

The Civic Society is an entirely voluntary organisation which has no public funding and relies on the generous support of local individuals and companies to undertake its important work.

While all donations are greatly appreciated, we are particularly grateful to the companies listed below for the very generous support they have provided in funds and kind over the past 12 months.



The George and Dragon.



The Saleh Clinic



YOUR CIVIC SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!!!

Join The Cheadle Civic Society Today and Help Make A Real Difference to This Wonderful Village!!

If you are not yet a member of the Cheadle Civic Society and would like to join, please send a cheque for £10 with your name and address to: Honorary Treasurer, Phillip Gould-Bourn, 19 Mornington Road, Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 1NJ or you can join online at: www.cheadlecivicsociety.org

Benefits of membership include your own copy of the Society's newsletter mailed to you and free admission to the Society's AGM and any other event.

Your contribution will also help the Society maintain its efforts to make Cheadle a Better and Safer Place.