

### **1. Coleorton Heritage Group.**

The group is looking for additional local residents to interview as part of a project to record memories of life in Coleorton. The group has also been given a small number of documents in which individuals have recorded their memories of the village. The current project is now focused on constructing a recent history of the village, based on these memories together with other sources of information. If you are aware of any local residents who would like to take part in these interviews, or have records of their memories of the village please do get in touch.

The heritage trail leaflet is progressing well and we are now looking at the introduction and other ancillary information to complete the leaflet. We also have a few photographs and illustration to collect before the leaflet can be completed.

The group is also mapping interesting species found in the parish, and some of this information may be contained in the heritage leaflet. If you are aware of particular species of either animals or plants found within the parish please do let us know.

We are also very pleased to report that we now have residents from Coleorton Hall who have joined the group.

***The next meeting of the group is Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, at 8.00p.m., If you would like to join us please let the Heritage Wardens know.***

### **2. Progress on Coleorton Wood.**

The Parish Council has now agreed the purchase of Coleorton Wood with LCC and the purchase is progressing. The Heritage Group has had discussions with the Park Rangers who have been managing Coleorton Wood and will continue to manage New Lount Reserve, with a view to understanding how the group may be able to assist in enhancing the wildlife value of these two local reserves. We have agreed to try and form a group of local volunteers under the LCC 's V.I.P. scheme and a meeting has been held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October to talk to prospective volunteers. There is more information on this meeting elsewhere on this site.

**New Lount Reserve.** We have been informed that LCC will retain ownership of this site. The local volunteers will assist the park rangers with the management of this site, provided we can get sufficient volunteers.

### **3. Working with Ashby Museum on John Crocker material and research into the history of Coleorton.**

Cataloguing is progressing well, although it will take a long time to complete.

The material has a great deal of information on:-

Coleorton

The Beaumonts

The Coleorton Estate

The development of the Coal Industry in Coleorton

And much more.

Those interested in researching the material should contact the museum.

<http://www.ashbydelazouchmuseum.org.uk/>

4. **War Memorial Project.**

I am continuing to collect biographical information on those individuals listed on the war memorial; if anyone has any information relating to any of the individuals on the war memorial please do contact the heritage wardens. I am particularly interested in:-

*Private David Walker of 14<sup>th</sup> Black Watch (Royal Highlanders). He was killed in action on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918 (aged 27). He was born in Montrose in Scotland, his parents lived in Dundee, but he enlisted in Coalville. He is one of those listed on the war memorial; does anyone know what his connection with Coleorton was?*

**WW2 Names:-**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Surname</i>	<i>Regiment</i>	<i>Date of death</i>
<i>Stoker</i>	<i>K W</i>	<i>Bettison</i>	<i>HMS Submarine Triad</i>	<i>16/10/1940</i>
<i>PTE</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>Granger</i>	<i>Army Catering Corps</i>	<i>06/10/1945</i>
<i>FUS</i>	<i>E P</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>2 Royal Enniskillen Fusiliers</i>	<i>15/10/1943</i>
<i>PTE</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>Topham</i>	<i>Pioneer Corps</i>	<i>16/03/1943</i>
<i>PTE</i>	<i>G H</i>	<i>Turner</i>	<i>2/3 Leicestershire Reg.</i>	<i>22/02/1942</i>

*As these are more recent I am hoping that some relatives will have details and perhaps photographs of these individuals.*

**Repairs.**

The War memorial has now been repaired, cleaned and all the wording specially treated. The stonemason has made an excellent job; the memorial looks very impressive and it is now possible to read all of the names. The Heritage Group is looking at ways of maintaining the war memorial in its current clean condition.

5. **Viscount Beaumont School.**

The school has recently obtained funding to carryout a project based on:- 'What is special about Coleorton?' where children at the school will invite local community members to share their thoughts and memories about Coleorton. This could be a very interesting project and the Heritage Group are assisting the school with a list of local residents that should have something to contribute.

6. **Other Areas of Interest.**

I am particularly interested in researching the history of Coleorton Pottery, which was operational from 1835 to 1935. If anyone has any information, photographs or examples of the pottery please contact the heritage wardens. I am also interested in the history of Lount Pipe Yard so would appreciate any information on this as well.

**John Macdonald (October 2010)**