

“Beside me lies a dingle deep
With shaggy banks abrupt and steep
Through vistas wild my course I bend
Till daylight opens at the end
Where from intoxicating height
Bursts the wide prospect on my sight
The terrace bold on which I stand
Steps broad and forward on the land
Rude hills compose the sidelong scene
With crofts and cottages between
The various landscape onward spreads
O'er cultured plains and verdant meads
And seats and towns and hamlets rise
Where yon smoke curls into skies
And spires that pierce thro' tufted trees
Till faintly fading by degrees
Beyond in wild confusion tost
The hills' blue tops in clouds are lost.”

Francis Mundy

The Book of NEWBOROUGH



Compiled & written by :

J. Ellis - 1976

J. Austin - 1994

**Newborough Parish Council
Centenary Year
1994**

A Foreword . . .

Over a period of four years, Mrs Joy Ellis researched and wrote a book which she called *“Country Ramblings in and around Newborough, Staffordshire”*. This was 20 years ago.

This year is the centenary of the Parish Council and the councillors thought that it would be fitting that we ask Mrs Ellis if we could re-publish her much loved book, with an update section, to which she agreed.

Because some of the walks were no longer feasible, it was decided to write a nearly-new account of the village. This would incorporate Mrs Ellis’ research and words into the history and background of the village and the points of interest on her walks into a tour along the four roads of Newborough.

We asked people, who were involved, to write their own accounts of village activities and the response to this request was very gratifying. This edition therefore is a combined effort and really is a “Newborough Book”.

So where is Newborough?

It is a village in Staffordshire and if you take the B5234 out of Burton upon Trent and climb Henhurst to open country, you find yourself on a plateau above the Vale of Trent. It seems nearly a land on its own of wide fields and scattered woodland.

Crossing the A515 at Mitre cross roads (see the mitre on the cottage there?), you climb again, turn a left-hand bend and there before you, nestling along the banks of a volatile little stream called the ‘River’ Swarbourn, is Newborough - set in its very own wooded valley and enclosed by rounded green hills. You couldn't find a better spot!

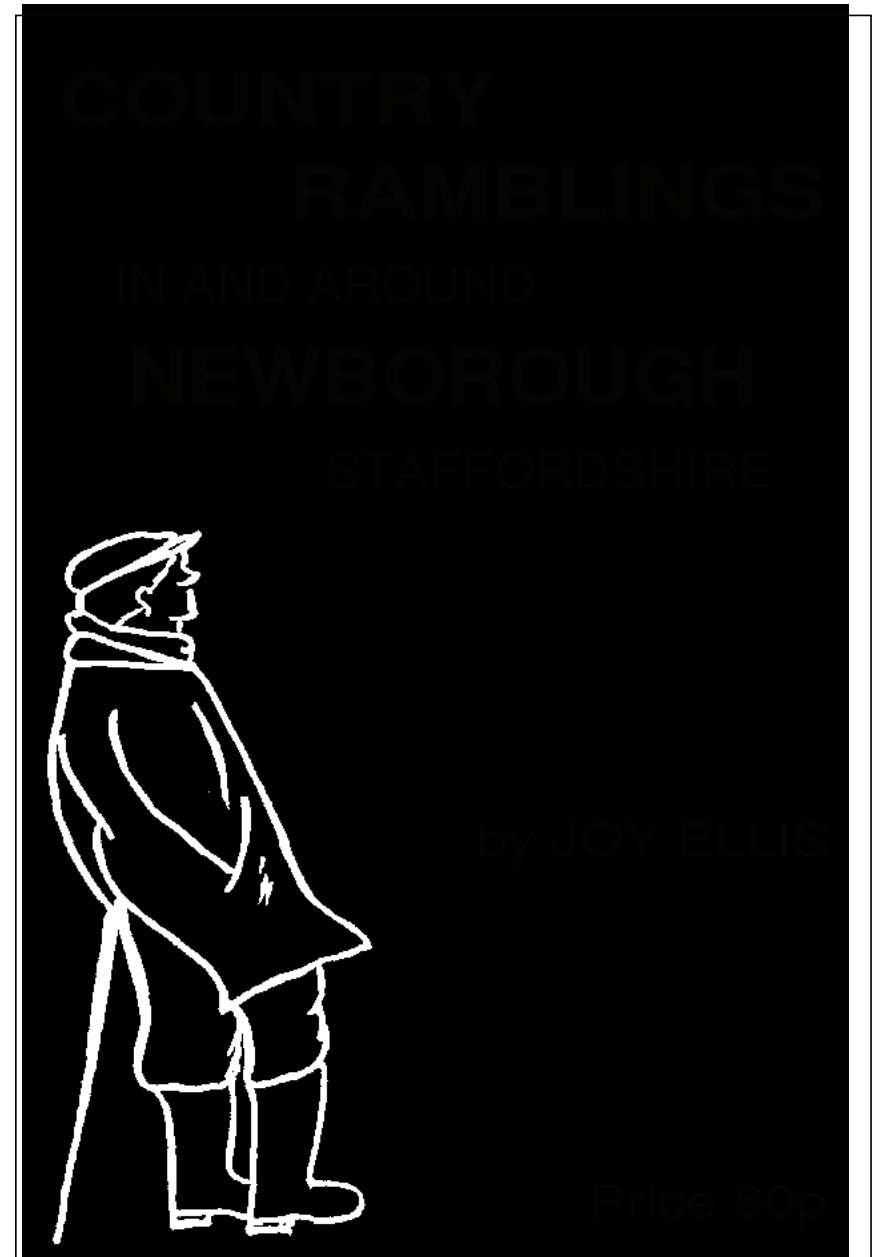
“Country Ramblings in and around Newborough” ended thus :

“Over to You”

“The snips of information within these pages are the culmination of many hours of research and reading, which to date has taken nigh on four years. I have treated it as a hobby which eventually resulted in my making an 8mm cine film (*now a video - Ed*).

“All the facts and figures be they true or not, can be found by

The cover of Joy Ellis’ book published in 1976



anyone who wishes to spend time in the local libraries and chatting to the senior residents of the village. I am most grateful for all the help given by everyone concerned and a handwritten book, published by the W.I. in 1950, was of immense value to me.

“My family and I are now to return to our ‘Home County’ which is Yorkshire, but we shall take with us happy memories of this pretty village and our many friends. I feel, as our village is beginning to grow once again and new people join the village community, with a history such as ours, which to me has been most interesting, someone, sometime will retread my steps to the libraries if I don’t set down my findings.

“This is only a base, for I know that there are many more tales and stories with which to embroider the years gone past. I tell of how Robert de Ferrers’ “new borough of Agardsley” came to be and leave the speculating and tales to you.”

Joy Ellis 1976.

We took up the challenge and what follows is the result. We took Mrs Ellis’ History as she wrote it and with the help of the ladies of the W.I., we brought our own ‘history’ up to date.

We wrote a tour of Newborough and mentioned some of the out-lying farms and houses, using Mrs Ellis’ research again, together with a few newer items of interest about the village.

Finally we have some walks for you that you can explore when you spend a little more time in Newborough.

Jean Austin 1994.

So may we introduce ourselves with “Our History”

Once long ago . . .

3000 BC There is evidence of early men in Staffordshire in the caves of Manifold Valley.

2000 BC Middle Stone Age man was in Cannock Wood.

**2000 -
1800 BC** Bronze Age in the Weaver Hills.

500 BC Iron Age. Celtic immigrants with their tools came and they built hill forts of which Castle Ring on Cannock Chase and Berry Ring near Stafford are examples.

55 BC Julius Caesar came to England but not to Staffordshire.

43 AD Emperor Claudius came with his Romans up the Fosse Way and in . . .

48 AD . . . the Romans came to Staffordshire.

Approx.

653 AD Anglo Saxons penetrated Staffordshire possibly via the Trent and it became part of Mercia (border area). Independence came in the 7th century when Tamworth was made the seat of Mercian government and Offa, king of Mercia, had a palace at Tamworth.

King Wulfhere made Chad bishop of Mercians.

Wulfhere and his family built religious foundations in the county, including a nunnery at Hanbury where his daughter, Werburgh, became abbess and was buried there in 700 AD.

874 AD The Danes came, destroying Tamworth and making their base at Repton. Their advance was checked at this point. They were traders and used the rivers for their commercial expeditions.

11th Century

1002 AD Many Danes were massacred in the Marchington area when they renewed their attacks on the Mercians.

11th Century (cont)

- 1016 AD** Canute took Mercia and all England. He made Leofivine, an Englishman, Earl of Mercia, then Leofric, his son, after him.
- 1057 AD** Leofric died at Kings Bromley.
- 1066 AD** Battle of Hastings when the Normans came to England.
- 1069 AD** Staffordshire joined a rebellion against William, the new king, and there was a battle at Stafford where the rebels were defeated.
- 1070 AD** William came again to Staffordshire to stamp out rebels, destroying the countryside on his way, and a castle was built at Stafford to deter more rebels.
- 1071 AD** Edwin, Earl of Mercia, died in the course of a revolt against the Normans.
- William now had his crown and so he gave four of his followers, of whom Henry de Ferrers was one, land in the region, Henry owned the castle at Tutbury and made this his headquarters.
- The town grew around the castle and by 1086 it was a market town. He founded a Benedictine Priory at Tutbury in 1080. Robert de Ferrers was Henry's son.
- 1086 AD** A survey of William's kingdom was carried out, resulting in the Domesday Book. 3,100 heads of household were listed in Staffordshire.
- Domesday describes the manor of Edgareslege (later to become Newborough) as being owned by a Saxon named Uluric.
- Edgareslege or Edarslei is thought to have been land belonging to Edgar and the Saxon suffixes 'lege', 'lee' and 'lei' all mean 'pasture'. At a later date the name became 'Agardsley' and this is still preserved to this day.

Newborough's origins & the Forest of Needwood

"The word 'forest' did not necessarily mean trees, but rough country used for royal hunting ground. **Needwood** was a private chase until the Duke of Lancaster became king of England as Henry IV in 1399, when it then became a forest with its own special laws. Poaching within the forest was not allowed and officials were employed to look after these areas. Each forest had a head forester or warden, a ranger, a surveyor who kept the axe, a knave who blew the horn, lieutenants and keepers.

"The deer for hunting were kept within enclosed parks. In Needwood forest there were ten parks : Castle, Stockley, Barton, Agardsley, Hanbury, Rowley, Rolleston, Castle Hay, Shireholt and Highlands.

"Needwood was divided into four wards : Tutbury, Barton, Yoxall and Marchington, each having its own lodge : Byrkley Lodge, Sherholt Lodge, Yoxall Lodge and Elands Lodge respectively.

"The ten parks had twenty gates : Callingwood, Tatenhill, Dunstall, Barton, Blakenhall, Wood Lane, Wood Mill, Hadley End, Mustard Maker's Lane, Raven's Nest, Dole Foot, Moat Lane, Duffy Lane, Tomlinson's, Buttermilk Hill, Stubby Lane, Draycott, Hanbury, Woodend, Blackbrook and Anslow.

"In 1798 Shaw wrote that the forest was 9,220 acres and in 1851 Wm. White lists 9,437 acres. Lots of holly (which was used for winter feed for the deer) and oak trees grew in the area.

"If a person could build a hearth in one day, they were able to claim squatter's rights in years gone by. Forest law was distinct from other Parliamentary law of the land, as all forests belonged to the king. Within the forests were villages and pastures, land which people had claimed in this way.

"Therefore, as the site of **Newborough**, Agardsley, was within the forest, it came under forest law, with the forest enclosures which people had claimed known as 'assarts'. The Royal Forest offered the peasant pasture for their cattle and swine, and timber for building and fuel. All the local settlements of this area used the forest and in the 12th century, the making of new cultivated land became the fashion. These encroachments were permitted in return for rents or fines.

"Farming in this period was frequently co-operative. The lands of individual farmers were intermixed with each other, in small parcels of often no more than half an acre. Varying types of tenants had various bonds to the landowner. In the 12th and 13th centuries the landowners, to increase the prosperity of their estates, marked out several areas of the borough to encourage tradesmen to settle.

"It was in the early 12th century that Robert de Ferrers formed his "New Borough of Agardsley". A charter, in which he called it his "free borough of Agardsley", granted parcels of land for building and development to 101 burgesses. Robert at this time also created the boroughs of **Uttoxeter** and **Tutbury**.

"The burgesses were given liberties of common pasture, 'pannage' (acorns and beechmast for swine feed) and 'estovers' (allowances of wood in the forest). They were to be free of all tolls, and might have four roads through the borough of uniform width - other roads are thought to have originated as forest tracks.

"They could grind their corn at the lord's mill and had permission to have an oven in which to bake their own bread. In return, each burgess had to pay an annual rent of eightpence and for hay and enclosures, for every ox, one penny, and the same for each horse, payable at the feast of St. Michael.

"The burgesses were now free men and appear to have been mainly engaged in the weaving of linen, the River Swarbourn being favourable for bleaching.

"The ambitious scheme of Robert de Ferrers developed into a flourishing place and so **Newborough** was born as such."

Joy Ellis

History of Our Village . . . cont

12th Century

1120 AD Old records give reference to the de Ferrers and to flax growing and weaving at Newborough.

12th Century (cont)

1121 AD There is mention of Tutbury Priory and the hermits at Agardsley.

1139 AD The founder of the village of Newborough died.

1141 AD Robert, son of Robert de Ferrers, gave all the tithes of Newborough to Tutbury Priory.

13th Century

1265 AD This was the time of the deforestation and forest charter in the reign of Henry III, so the de Ferrers rounded up some of the wild cattle of the Needwood area and enclosed them, making the foundations of the famous Chartley herd.

The de Ferrers lost their land about this time, joining as they did with Simon de Montfort against the king.

1272 AD Edward I was now king and the estates were returned to his son Edmund, Earl of Lancaster. It was Edmund's son, Thomas, who set about rebuilding the castle at Tutbury.

1278 - 1279 AD Alienora, widow of Robert de Ferrers, sued Edmund in court for a third of the land in the Staffordshire estates - including Newborough - as her dower, which she claimed he held only in pledge. She later withdrew her claim.

14th Century

1307 - 1327 AD Reign of Edward II. First mention of a 'Chapel of Ease' at Hanbury.

1309 - 1310 AD Record of land being reclaimed at Newborough, on the grounds that the service due to the land had not been performed for over two years.

1311 AD Tutbury estates were leased to Robert de Whitfield.

1322 AD Thomas, Edmund's son, quarrelled with the king, Edward II, and joined the Scots. He planned a confrontation with the king at Burton Bridge, but the king outwitted him by fording the river at Walton.

1322 AD . . Thomas was caught and executed, but the money that he had left with the prior with which to pay his soldiers was missing. There was a considerable scandal as it was found that other items were unaccounted for (see 1831 for the end of this tale!).

It is believed that the lands then passed to Humphrey, Thomas's son.

1324 AD Walter Waldeschef recovered seven and a half acres of land from sixteen tenants in Newborough as services due had not been performed.

1327 AD Subsidy Roll - when eighteen names appeared on the roll for Neuburgh, this being the common spelling of Newborough at the time.

1327 - 1377 AD Reign of Edward III. The manor of Agardsley passed, along with the village of Newborough, to Peter de Pole. Peter's forefathers came over with William the Conqueror and had lived at first in Derbyshire at Hartington.

He married Elizabeth, heiress of the Chandos family, and thus he became Lord Radbourne. The family home then became Chandos Pole and they owned several properties in Newborough - one of which was Moat Hall.

1332 AD Subsidy Roll - with fourteen names listed for Newborough.

1346 AD French Roll - Mention of a Thomas de Neuburgh.

1337 AD John de Pole granted land to several people.

1379 - 1386 AD Reference of military service performed by knights with letters of attorney in the name of John de Pole of Newborough.

1385 AD Tutbury records give references to the chapel of Newborough.

1399 AD The Duke of Lancaster became Henry IV and Needwood then became a royal forest.

15th Century

1406 AD Sir Nicholas Montgomery was Woodmaster in Needwood and also the Agardsley Parker.

1413 AD The abbot of Burton sued Thomas Talbot of Newborough for cutting down trees at Bromley to the value of 100 shillings.

1420 AD A Julian Walker of Newborough was sued for uprooting trees, and there is reference to three men sued for depasturising sheep and cutting down trees.

1492 AD Henry VII prohibited hunting in the Forest of Needwood as excessive hunting and poaching had reduced the quantity of game.

16th Century

1500 - 1600 AD There are many records of dwelling houses and land in Newborough changing hands.

1509 - 1547 AD Reign of Henry VIII. Sir William Holls, who was the Lord Mayor of London, held land here. 2762 acres of land, 770 inhabitants and 158 houses are recorded. The manor then passed to the family of Tranhorne.

1539 AD Muster roll called by Henry VIII on the threat of action by France. Newborough is listed as having :

- 38 able men;
- 16 pikes;
- 4 bows and 4 sheaths of arrows;
- 5 horses and a few bits of armour.

1585 AD Queen Mary* set out from Chartley on the trip to Fotheringay where in 1586 she was executed. It is believed that on the journey, the party rested at Abbots Bromley in Pagets House before continuing on via Burton to Ashby. Did she pass through our village?

(* Mary, Queen of Scots, had been imprisoned in Tutbury Castle, one of many houses of confinement. Never an easy guest for her gaolers, here she complained

1585 AD . . bitterly about the damp and her rheumatics. Could she then have ridden out in the forest?).

17th Century

1603 AD About this time there are many records of christenings and marriages here at Newborough.

1608 AD George Agard of Newborough died.

1616 AD Sir Walter Bagot, owner of a glassworks in Bagot's Wood, Abbots Bromley, complained of the effects of the glass monopoly on his business.

1632 AD Quarter Sessions - Henry Acton of Newborough, alehouse keeper, was in trouble on four counts : for drunkenness, gambling, fighting and roughness going on in his house. The alehouse was closed.

1638 AD Humphrey Watson and his family were turned out of their house by Sir Charles Egerton for they were destitute.

At this time a meeting was held about the rate assessments, which were too high. Villagers complained about these rates which were all paid to the church.

1640 AD Muster - Only three names appear on the Muster for Newborough and Hoar Cross.

1642 AD Petitions re paupers' houses on waste ground. After much discussion, the houses were pulled down and the inhabitants turned out.

Civil War broke out. Houses near Uttoxeter, of people who refused to join the Royal army, were burned down.

1645 AD Uttoxeter and Burton were in the hands of the royalist forces. Local villages at this time were constantly involved with supplies and payment towards the support of the army.

1646 AD Tutbury, Lichfield and Dudley garrisons surrendered to the Parliamentary army, who ordered Tutbury castle to be pulled down. Local villages helped with this work and those who refused were fined.

17th Century (cont)

1651 AD Charles II invaded with his Scottish army, but was defeated and thought to have fled through this area.

(This was the battle of Worcester, so geographically it is doubtful that Charles would come this way. It could have been one of the many 'red herrings' that led the Roundheads away from the true 'trail').

1657 AD Isobel, widow of Henry Langford of Newborough - a Royalist Lieutenant - asked for help.

1666 AD Date* inscribed on the oldest of the church bells.
(* ? in celebration of the Restoration).

1670 AD Hearth Tax - For Newborough, Hoar Cross and Hamstall Ridware - 117 houses were taxed, but of these 47 people were too poor to pay.

18th Century

1778 AD An attempt was made to close down the forest.

1787 AD The date on one of the church bells.

1797 AD The manor had by this time passed to Earl Talbot, who married into the Ingestre family of Chetwynd. The Chetwynd-Talbots were in possession for many years.

1798 AD Shaw, the historian, wrote that a factory at Tamworth employed many hands at Newborough to the bleaching and weaving of linens.

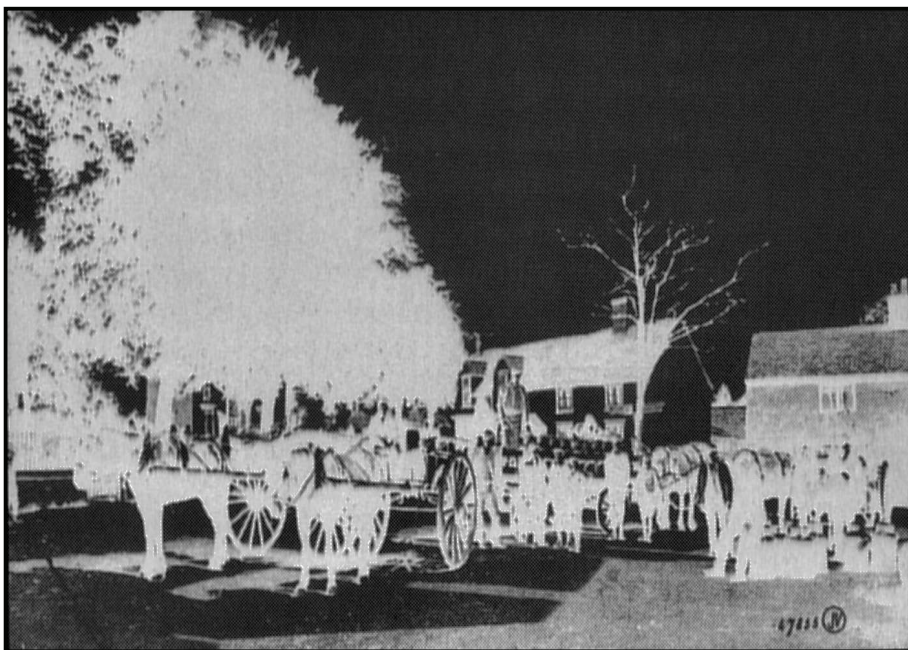
19th Century

1801 AD Inclosures Act or the dividing of the Forest of Needwood.

1818 AD William White's directory of Staffordshire.

1831 AD Money lost in 1333 found in the mill race at Tutbury.

1834 AD William White's directory mentions Earl Talbot's manor of Agardsley of which Mr Thomas Kirkpatrick Hall is the lessee.



Milk Market - The Green - circa 1900



The Village in the 1990s

- 1837 AD** The old church was enlarged and repaired.
- 1838 AD** The tithe map of Newborough mentions Whitenings Yard and Winking Nannys.
- 1851 AD** William White's History and Gazetteer.
Methodist Chapel built at Newborough.
- 1857 AD** The date on one of the church bells.
- 1861 AD** A population of 788.
- 1862 AD** Newborough Parish formed.
- 1865 AD** Mr Thomas Kirkpatrick Hall died. His son, Lorenzo Kirkpatrick Hall, acquired the land from the Lords of Ingestre and he became squire of the village.
An organ which was built for the Kirkpatrick Hall family of Hollybush Hall is now in the present church at Newborough.
- 1868 AD** Population now 750 and area of 2970 acres - thought not to include Brick Kiln and Thorney Lanes.
- 1874 AD** Mary Ann Kidd of Newborough was murdered at Lower Hoar Cross, whilst walking to Yoxall to purchase lace with which to trim a christening gown that she was making. Her grave is to be found in the graveyard.
- 1876 AD** The girls' and the boys' schools joined.
- 1885 AD** Eight small children were rescued when the premises of Mr C Merry caught fire. Three horse-driven brigades raced to the village.
- 1891 AD** The new school house was built.
- 1894 AD** The first Parish Council was formed.
- 1899 AD** The foundation stone of the present church was laid.

20th Century

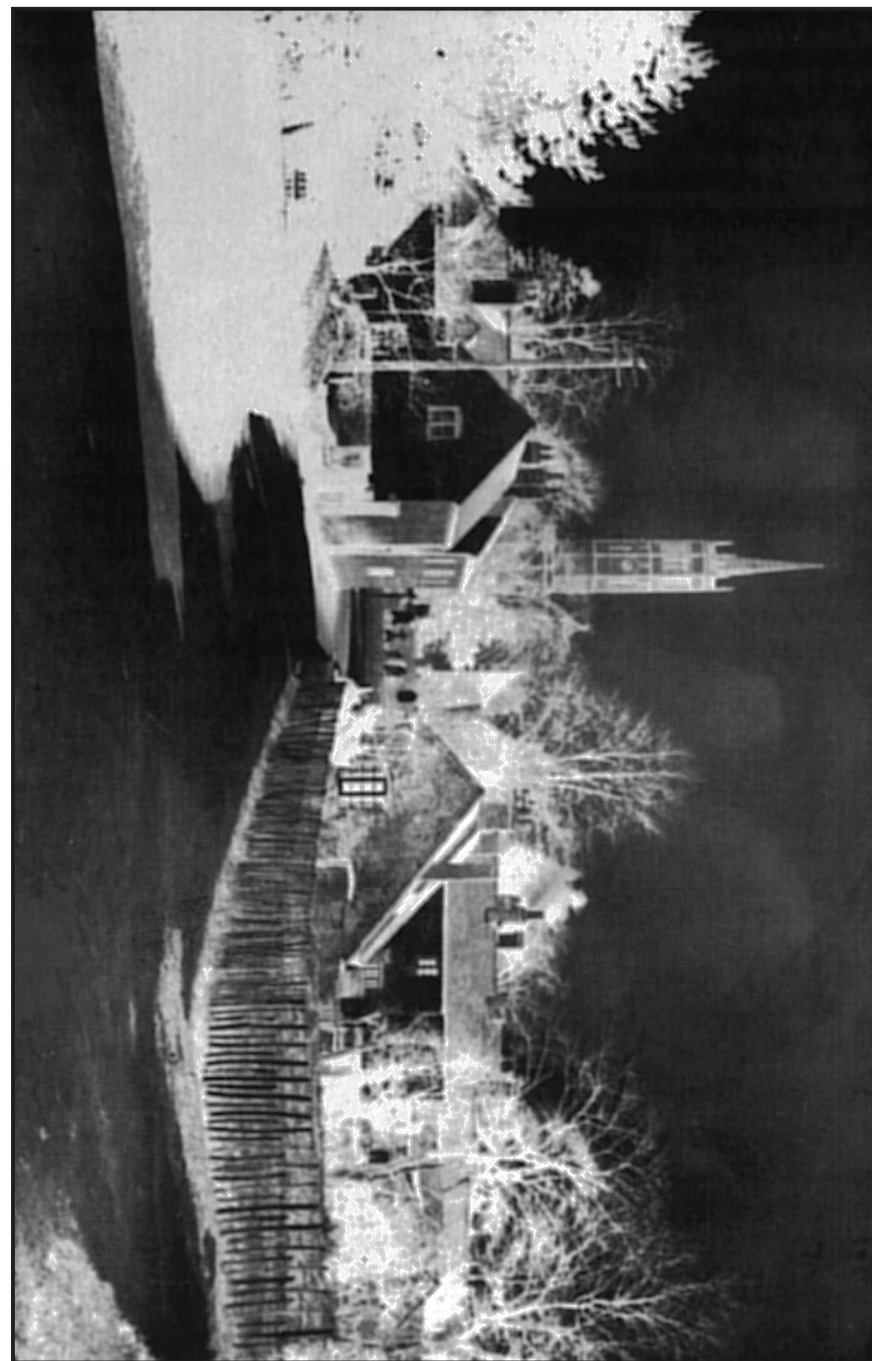
- 1901 AD** The present church was opened. Sir Arthur Sullivan is reputed to have played the organ in 1910.
Population of 566.

20th Century (cont)

- 1910 AD** Charles John Claythe, the last squire of Newborough, died and many of the estate farms and cottages were sold by auction.
- 1914 - 1918 AD** The Great War - when nine men of this parish lost their lives.
- 1923 AD** A cloudburst caused great storm damage to several villages in the area including Newborough.
- 1938 AD** At about this time both water and electricity were laid to the village.
- 1939 - 1945 AD** The Second World War - several men from this village went to defend their country. One lost his life and one was reported missing.
- 1944 AD** The Hanbury Explosion - A mine and reinforced concrete explosives store beneath the earth, to where death and destruction came.
- The explosion occurred under Castle Hays, destroying the farm there and killing the farmer, his wife and a delivery driver. Many men and women from the district were also killed while working in the store and around about above ground. A number of Italian prisoners of war also perished.
- 1947 AD** Land purchased for the site of the British Legion Hut, the scene of many plays and dances until 1965 when it was demolished.
- 1965 AD** The new Youth Centre opened.
- 1966 AD** About this time, the pinnacles were removed from the church spire.
- 1971 AD** The W.I. formed in Newborough.
- 1973 AD** A population of 420 and an area of 3399 acres.

This takes us to the time of Joy Ellis' book . . .

Duffy Lane - Newborough - around 1900



The Village in 1973 - from Joy Ellis' book

"In 1973, **Newborough** was recorded as having 3,399 acres with a population of 420. No evidence of the old weavers can be found in the village today and of the three new boroughs that Robert founded, **Newborough** appears to have been left behind.

"**Uttoxeter** became a large market town and the coming of the dairy industry brought large factories and work for the people. At one time there were plans to extend the railway to the rich dairy areas, making milk collection much easier. Newborough was to have been included but these plans never materialised.

"**Tutbury** grew also - a market town with many merchants and the Castle made this the centre of the local area.

"Presumably with the coming of the machinery and steam age, large factories grew in the Midlands, making the weaving of linen by hand very outdated. Did the weavers of **Newborough** leave to seek employment in the factories?

"**Newborough's** other occupation - farming - had continued over the years and the majority of the acreage of the village is still agricultural today. Several small fields have been made into large areas for today's modern methods of farming. The old shire horses have gone and with them, many farmhands, having to seek employment outside the village in neighbouring towns.

"Villagers had become very intermarried in the years gone by. Now 'new blood' is coming into the village, with the business men who are coming to live here with their families. At this point in time, the percentage of all occupations in the village is very varied, none outnumbering the other.

"So Robert de Ferrers' scheme to make **Newborough** a flourishing place could really be said to have failed as such. Instead we have a compact, picturesque village, standing in a pleasant valley, which is still well wooded and through which runs the River Swarbourn.

"The junction of our roads is the centre of the village, from where 'All Saints' church dominates the scene and its tall spire is visible from all approaches to the village.

"Travel facilities to both Burton and Uttoxeter are still available, if you pick your times, for the coming of the modern motor car has diminished the public bus services.

"The three village wells have fallen into disuse since the main services of the village now include water and electricity but as yet not sewage. The one village shop fulfills our grocery requests and is also the Post Office (*see village update - Ed*). The Red Lion, the Buffalo and the Meynell Ingram Arms are our three public houses. But today - apart from farming - our only other business activities within the village are a woodyard and a 'Pets' Holiday Home'.

"Most families of the village support one or more organisations which are held in the Youth and Community Centre. Here the Youth Club, Happy Circle, Womens' Institute, Red Cross and Play Group meet regularly. During the summer months, the cricket field opposite Newborough Hall Farm is used by the Meynell Cricket Club.

"The Parish Council paved the way for several council houses to be built and these have toned in with the surroundings very well. Old cottages are being demolished or renovated, a few new private houses are on the way to being completed - with plans for more in the future - and it is felt that our village must increase a little to keep the population at a steady rate.

"Thatched cottages have become tiled and a few gaps have appeared here and there, or numbers have diminished but, on the whole, the face of Newborough has changed very little over the years."

Joy Ellis

Into Modern Times . . .

1974-75 • The Education Authority attempted to close the school. After much protest in the village by parents and all concerned, the matter was dropped - for the moment.

1976-77 • With the Queen's Silver Jubilee approaching, the village felt that it would really like to do something special, so they spent the year of 1976 fund raising. Whist drives, raffles, dances - you name it, the village had fun!

1976-77. . So when Jubilee Day came, everyone was invited, by kind permission of the Meynell family, up to Hollybush Park.

All day long there was something to do and something to entertain. There were teams for 'It's A Knock Out' - remember that? - every child had a new 5p piece, and in the evening, the highlight was the Cancan of the cabaret, like the day, never to be forgotten!

1978 • As a result of all the above, the 'Well Dressing' was dreamed up.

Among other decorations in the village, the well was charmingly festooned, and so good did it look, that it was agreed that it could rival those of Derbyshire. From there it was a short jump to the actual idea of a 'Well Dressing' in May.

The form that it took was organised under the guidance of the then headmistress, Miss Shallcross, and ever since - bar one notable year - Staffordshire has had its own Well Dressing on May Day Bank Holiday Monday.

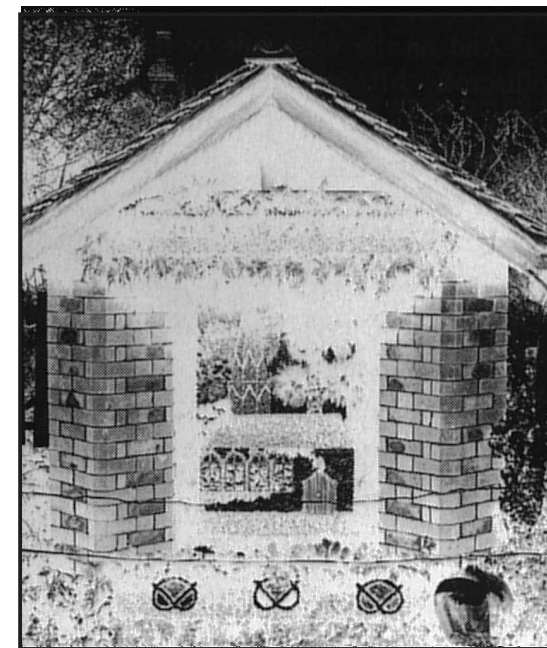
1982 • The cottages on Duffy Lane were demolished.
• The Queen visited some of her Duchy of Lancaster properties.

1984-85 • In 1984 the spectre of the closure of the school raised its grisly head again, but this time, a compromise came about, to the detriment of two other villages.

Two schools closed in Hoar Cross and Hanbury and their pupils bussed to Newborough, so rescuing that building but at a cost.

At the same time the school's status changed and its name, after some controversy, became 'Needwood'. Mr Wynn from Hanbury was headmaster.

1986 • This was the year that the Sewer arrived! Prior to this the houses of Newborough depended on their individual forms of sanitation, now modernisation came upon us with a vengeance.



The First Village Well Dressing

1986 (cont) . . . For months, it seemed, there were enormous holes and canyons in the roads, drills clattered and engines smoked and roared.

It was a hazard coming home in the dark and outside the Red Lion - well! If some poor unfortunate inebriate had fallen down the sewer, it would have been just his hard luck! Fortunately it did not happen. But the Well Dressing had to be cancelled!

• The Parish Council bought the Duffield site.

1987 • In this year we lost our Post Ladies. For many years Mrs Bettle, or always, with affection, Kate, did a sixteen mile round on her bicycle come rain, come shine!

At Christmas, she would disappear behind a mountain of parcels on her carrier. She must have had built-in radar! She did a service in so many ways to our village and outlying farms.

1987 (cont) . . . And on the west side of the village so did Mrs Woolliscroft, Jill, among all her other activities and interests.

But the Post Office had other ideas and decided that it was more economical to run the rounds by 'van from Burton. The service by no means improved!

On the 21st of August, after their morning's round, Kate and Jill cycled down Yoxall Road towards the Green, where they were met by the entire village it seemed, who wanted to express with flowers and gifts their appreciation of the years of service and their regret for the loss.

- On August 23rd, heavy rain across the county culminated in severe flooding. The Swarbourn rose but did not seem to be in any danger of leaving its banks when, suddenly, the hills and fields above could no longer cope with the load of water and it poured off the land, racing through hillside houses, down the lanes and swelling the river until it spread out and rose to the highest level since 1923.

All around, roads were cut and buildings marooned. Two houses - Swarbourne House and Brookside Cottage - were sixteen inches deep in brown water. But further downstream, Yoxall was endangered by its sewers.

The help that was given on all sides in Newborough was typical of the village in time of trouble.

1990 • The Village Shop reopened on a new site and with new owners in Hollybush Road on 26th November.

1993 • Newborough won two awards in the 'Best Kept Village' competition.

1994 • The centenary of the Parish Council. Various events are to be held monthly.
• Population now 322 (1992 Electoral Roll - 322).

and today . . .

So how has the village changed since Joy wrote about it in 1973?

Our electoral roll now gives us 322 inhabitants entitled to vote. We still have our farms and new blood continues to come to the village, although in common with all localities in modern times, ever-changing. The balance is much the same - those who join and those who do not.

The public transport system leaves much to be desired and most people use their cars. We are very, very thankful for the services provided by our shop and to the family that bravely maintained our newspaper round when the old shop closed in 1989.

The two remaining wells, wet and dry, have come back into their own. The inns still function, though their trade has changed and at times is uncertain.

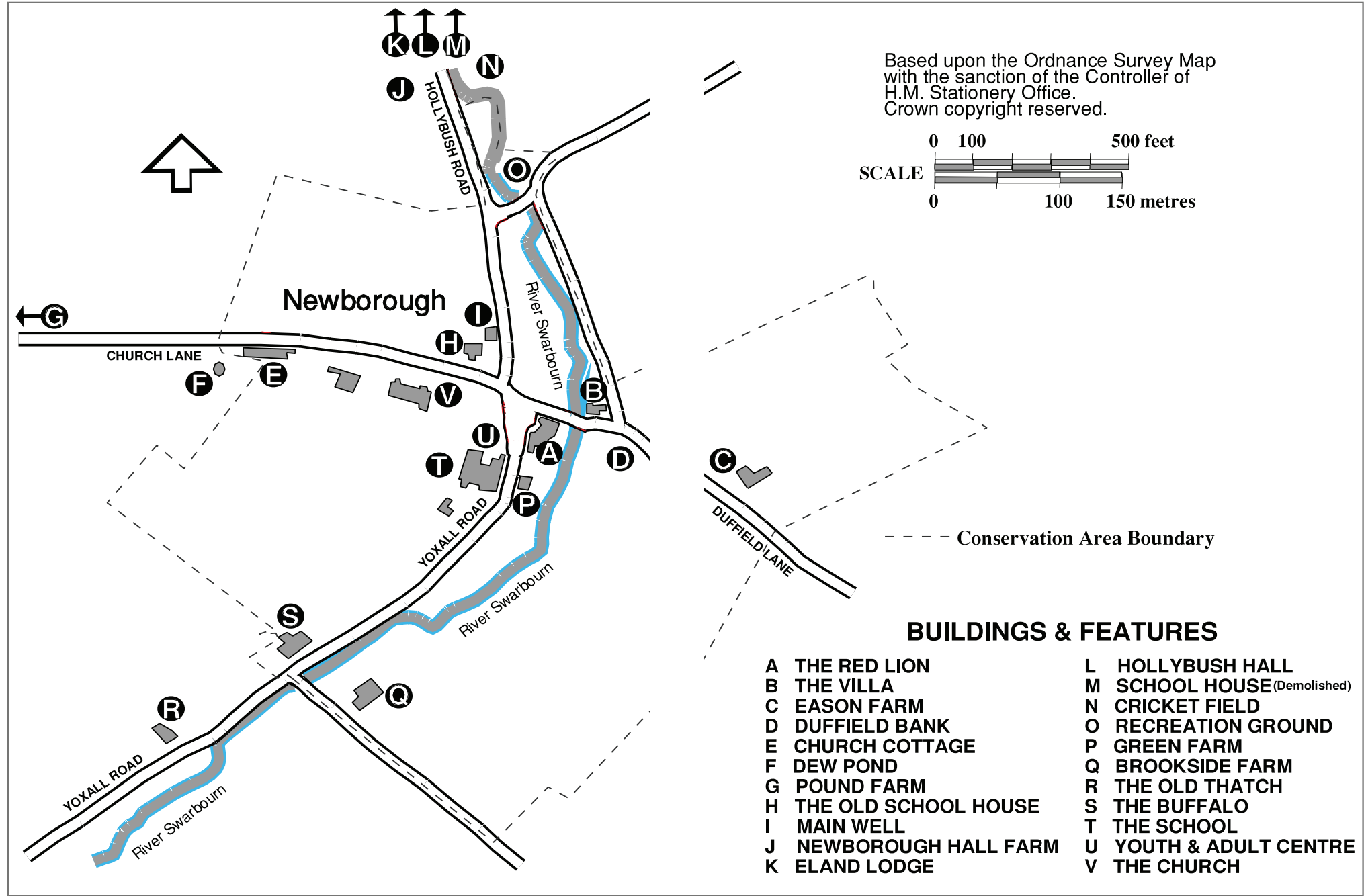
Our village industries have not altered to any extent - the woodyard and Pet's Holiday Home still flourish, and the Piano Workshop is an unusual and popular business - restoring and providing old and new instruments. Some people work from home and two women took their 'City and Guilds' and have their own floral art businesses.

We have lost the Youth Club, for our young people are in too diverse an age group and leaders have been hard to find, although recently the possibility of 'travelling youth leaders' has been offered. Unfortunately the Red Cross is also now reduced to just a yearly collection.

The Parish Council has held a housing survey in the village, for we badly need to keep our young people and to encourage others to settle here, but it proved perhaps too expensive and cheap land was hard to find. An estate of twelve houses is in the pipeline, but these may be beyond the means of many of our young folk.

While we want to see our village grow, we would like to see it go in the right direction, so that it does not become the dormitory to some big town, but retains the charm, friendliness and character of a real Staffordshire village -

Our Newborough!



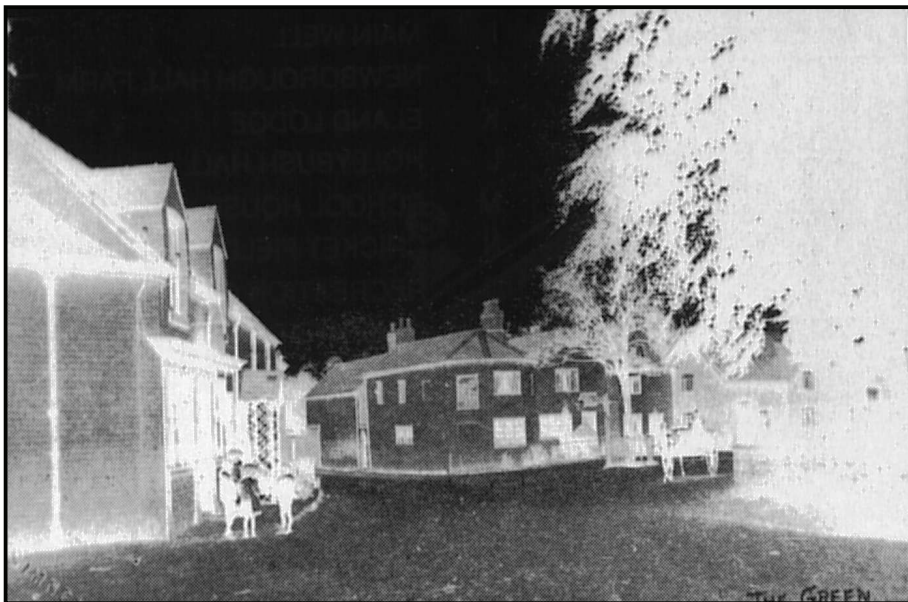
Around The Village

*(Eds. note : Those sections marked with double quotes and (1973) are by Mrs.Ellis. The walker will be led down our lanes **first on the left then back by the right.**)*

“It appears that the village grew round the junction of four roads, in the centre of which once was an acacia tree enclosed by railings. Here also stood the finger post.” (1973)

Our village has a focal point and four roads lead to it. Two are really one, the B5234, Burton to Abbots Bromley, but we have two names, Church Lane and Duffield Lane, or more anciently, Duffy Lane, one to the west and the other to the east of our focal point, **the Green**. To the north is Hollybush Road, surely harking back to the old Needwood Forest, and to the south, Yoxall Road - self explanatory.

At the Green lies the nucleus of the village, the church, the school, the pub and long ago, the forge. Once the shop was there too - a shop that had a bakehouse, a grainstore, petrol pumps and was our post office. Next to the pub, the Red Lion, is **Old Forge House**, where in living memory the blacksmith did carry out his trade.



The Green - circa 1900

Newborough once had three shops or more, and the Red Lion more-buildings, but times and villages move on and our shop and post office are now in Hollybush Road and our industries scattered from the centre.

Directions to anywhere in the village tend to start, at the focal point of our focal point, so shall we start there too, namely **The Red Lion**.



“In the early 1880’s this Inn was recorded as being called the ‘Golden Lion’. Buildings including the ‘Clubroom’, were built onto the back of the inn in the 1830’s, and now these have gone to make way for the car park, but it was in this Clubroom that the ‘Oddfellows’ Association’ met.

“In the days before the N.H.S. this association looked after its members and their families during illness. Once a year the Oddfellows had their tour around the village with the band and banners flying, always ending the day in the croft next to Eason Farm. Here on that day, there was always a fairground for the children.

“In 1899 Sidney Evershed Ltd. purchased the Red Lion from Mr. Wm. Loverock and in 1905 Eversheds joined Marston’s Brewery, the present owners. Did it change from the Golden to the Red at the time of the Wars of the Roses, when much land and property here was owned by the king?” (1973)



Newborough from Duffield Lane

A. Usher

The Red Lion has seen many changes in the past twenty years and has recently been yet again refurbished.

With the Red Lion on our right, we turn right into Duffield Lane, cross the bridge over the Swarbourn, and here we see our first house, standing on a site of interest, **The Villa**.



“This is the site of what is believed to have been the school for ‘Young Ladies’ and pupils paid two-pence per week for their education. Miss Townsend was the teacher and she lived with her sister in the thatched cottage which adjoined the school. Miss Townsend’s grave can be found in the churchyard. The present Tudor style house was built about 1905 and be it the site of the ‘young ladies’ or not, the garden is still full of school relics and treasures for the present owners.” (1973)

The narrow lane now approached is Elton Close, leading to Chapel Lane, where once there was a Methodist Chapel, still in existence but serving another purpose. Here we find much of the new development in the village. Leaving the entrance to Elton Close we continue up **Turnpike Road**.

“Though this is now called Duffy Lane, or if we want to be posh, Duffield Lane, the deeds of Swarbourne House verify that this road in 1866 was known as Turnpike Road. **Hillcot**, the house at the top of the road - could this be the old **Toll House**?” (1973)

Three properties above Elton Close is **Eason Farm**, possibly one of the oldest buildings remaining in Newborough. Of it Mrs. Ellis tells us:- "In 1815 William White listed John Eason as the local carrier."

At this point we would leave the village proper, so turning, we re-trace the way. Opposite Eason Farm is a stile which is the field start to Walk No. 2. Mrs. Ellis included this route on one of her rambles about Newborough and in so doing, listed the fields traversed.

These are shown on the field map and it would be a pity if these evocative names should be completely forgotten - Crabtree's Piece, Broad Leasow, Boggy Meadow and still on Duffy Lane - **The Exits**.

"On the side of the road an old trough can be found into which runs a spring -

*"Aqua Pura Nequa Dura
Omnibus Satis Atque Gratis"*

which means - "Pure water, not hard, enough for all and free".

"This Latin inscription was once written on an old notice board which stood next to the trough. It was from here that some people drew their water and, although the old inscription and board have long gone, the words are still known.

"Charles II is believed to have fled, whilst escaping from the Roundheads in 1651, through a group of fields here called 'the Exits'. Did he quench his thirst with our 'Aqua Pura'?" (1973)

Whether this actual spring still flows is uncertain, but a flow of water from the fields behind Eason Farm certainly runs through the lower property's garden and is culverted under the road to Duffield Bank. Here, in a deep ditch, it continues downhill, under Swarbourne House drive and so into the Swarbourn. At time of high flood risk, the water has actually raced across the public road itself, adding to the flood hazard of the river below.

The open grassed space here is called **Duffield Bank** and it belongs to the village as a 'park'. Originally two cottages, hard to the road, stood on the bank, their gardens being well kept and productive. They were, however, demolished in the late 1970's - early 1980's as being a visibility hazard for motorists - now a moot point. The Parish Council eventually bought the land and now maintain it. The W.I. planted a walnut tree in the remaining flower bed and have offered to cultivate this piece.

Swarbourne House, also an older building, stands back from the road, resting right on the edge of the Swarbourn, a lovely setting and an ideal base for spotting kingfishers.

Crossing our focal point, the **Green**, and having the church on our left, we enter Church Lane, climbing out of the village towards Abbots Bromley. The old **Vicarage** is here and **Church Cottage**, half buried by trees and an overhanging bank, presents a charming picture. Built around 1825, it has many interesting internal features.

Above Church Cottage is a field named **Handkerchief Close**.

"In the corner of this field is the remains of the 'dew pond', which I understand was man made, being clay-lined. Are these relics of the weaving of linen and checks?" (1973)

The lane now ascends steeply between high banks, heavily wooded, and once this must have been a sunken lane, dusty and rutted by carts and cattle driven to market. At the top is 'Piccadilly' - so called by the villagers. One cannot help but wonder how and why. At the cross roads, where Thorney Lanes bridges the road is **Pound Farm**. "This was the site of an old 'pound' where stray animals were impounded, but no evidence remains today." (1973)





The Green - The Old Shop



Hollybush Road - Old Bakehouse on the right



The Green - Old Forge House



Restoration of the Village Well (Cllrs. Shaw & Spencer)

Returning to the Green and standing on the corner, facing north, we face **Hollybush Road**.



Hollybush Road - 1896

To the left is the **Old School House**, a well restored Victorian building. This once was the school-master's abode. Sadly, as the years passed, it was no longer suitable for its original purpose and so was sold by the Parochial Council, the monies going into a village charity - the Parochial Club.

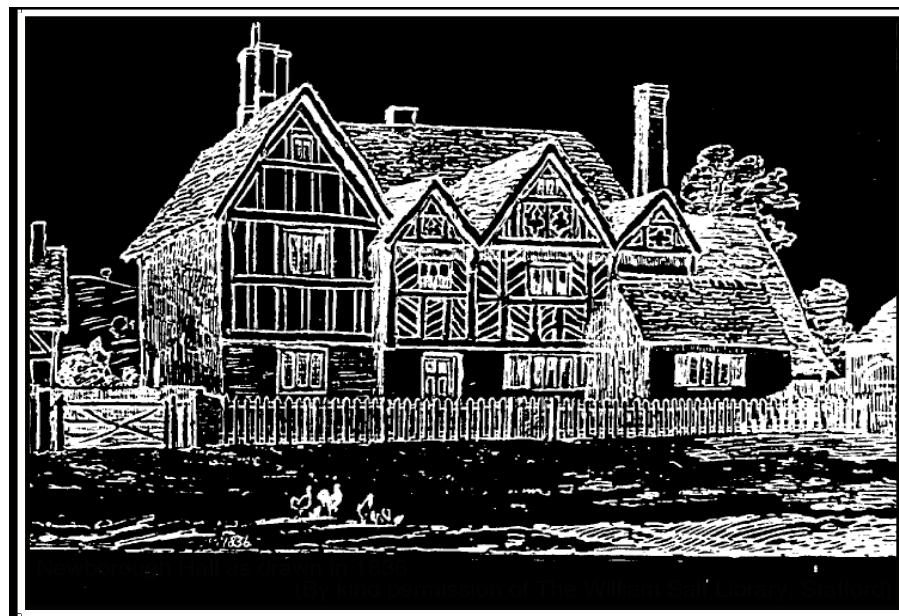
By the School House garden is **the Well** and, although not now used as such, a most important point in the village still. There must always have been a spring here for village use. (see "*Well Dressing*")

There are two dates on the structure - 1859 on the metal casting, and 1891 on the outer brick frame. It is said that in 1859, the well stood on the corner, then in 1891, the new school house being built, the well was moved to its present position and embellished - there now being some shelter for those drawing their water from this source, which must have been done to some extent until 'main's' water was introduced into the village. Now it can be convenient for other purposes. Car washing? This is the main well decorated at Well Dressing and can look really magnificent. In 1993, Cllrs. Spencer

Continuing up Hollybush Road, we approach a row of solid houses, some the original Council houses mentioned by Mrs. Ellis. A number of these have been bought by their tenants, reducing the number available to rent. As these are not directly applicable to local people, few of our younger families can settle in the village.

It is here that you will find our **Shop** and **Post Office**. The owners bravely undertook to provide this service some time after the original shop had to close and we will be eternally grateful to them, for every village desperately needs their shop. Its bright appearance and the service given cannot be faulted.

The last house in the village proper was the old **Police House**. In common with most rural communities, a local 'Bobby' is now too expensive an item on the police authorities' accounts and we rely on Barton-under-Needwood police station and our own Neighbourhood Watch.

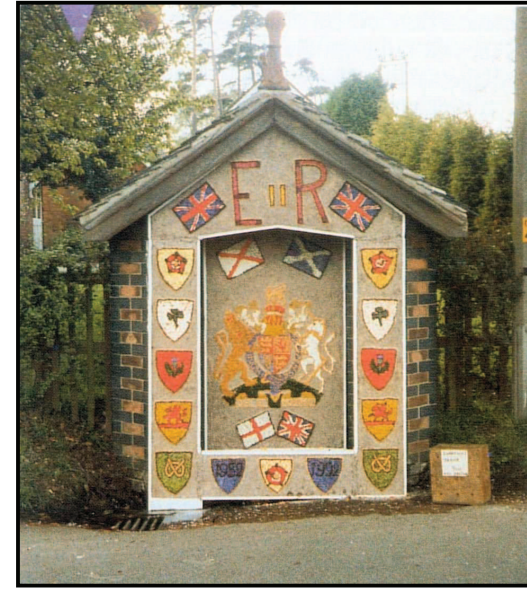


We are now out in the country and yet again cross the Swarbourn, smaller between its banks. The extensive farm on our left is **Newborough Hall Farm**.

"Originally this was once a moated homestead and part of the moat remains today. Salt's Records mention an Elizabethan house, whilst



Floods - Yoxall Road - August 1987



A Decorated Well Board



Best Kept Village Award - 1993
(Newborough Parish Council with the Mayor & Presentation Committee)



A Well Board in Clay

the present house was built in 1895 in the black and white Tudor style. One of the old farm buildings is referred to by the senior citizens of the village as the 'Market Hall'. It was here at Newborough Hall that the Hollybush Estate woodyard was sited, using a water-wheel in the moat as a source of power. Today, Newborough Hall is a farm owned by the Duchy of Lancaster." (1973)

The moat, mentioned above, is now designated as an Ancient Monument and the area above Newborough Hall is generally considered to be the site of the old village - **Agardsley** - for it is here that the name remains today. Here also is **Eland Lodge**.

"Needwood Forest was divided into four 'wards' and each had its own lodge. Eland Lodge was built on the NW of the forest, from where the occupants kept watch over the king's forest. Each 'ward' was divided into 'parks'. Agardsley Park was found close to this lodge and it was here that the king's herd of deer was kept, at the time of the Restoration in 1660." (1973)

Turning on our track, we walk back towards Newborough and we are now beside the grounds of **Hollybush Hall**.

"At the end of the 18th century Lord Bagot had Hollybush Hall built as a shooting box. It later became the seat of the old squires. Standing within its own grounds of Hollybush Park, it has a beautiful setting, with a small man-made lake on the east of the house. As the name implies, a great number of hollybushes are to be found here." (1973)

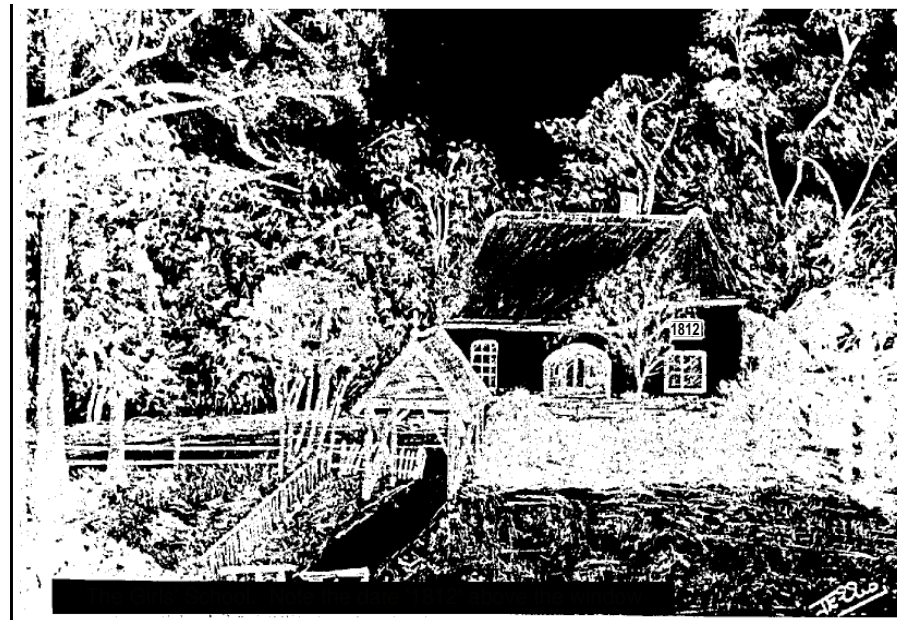
Also in the grounds, Mrs. Ellis mentions **Ice House Hill**. "In the grounds of Hollybush Park adjacent to the road at this point, was an ice-house." (1973)

Incidentally, many of the outbuildings of the Hall, including the Old Coach House, have been renovated and sold as 'desirable residences' - which they certainly appear to be.

Not far from the drive into the Park, stood **The Girls' School**.

"Now commonly known as Mr. Sawley's cottage, it is understood that here once was the girls' school, to which the squire's wife gave her support. If this fact is true, the present cottage has undergone structural change from that which was built in 1812.

"The girls' school had its own water supply in the form of a spring on the opposite side of the road. True enough, today a spring on that side of the road makes the land very boggy, marshy and dangerous at the start of one of the public rights of way. Listed on the tithe map as a 'school with pleasure gardens to the front and rear', the cottage and garden today are in a sad state." (1973)



The cottage has since been demolished and a new house erected in its place.

The fields on the left are still part of Hollybush Park, but you will see that there is a cricket field here, wide and pleasant, surrounded by open country, a good place to laze on a hot summer afternoon, smell the grasses and listen peacefully to the sound of bat on ball and the cries of of player and umpire - with the hope of tea to come! This is, of course **The Meynell Cricket Club**.

"The Meynell Cricket Club was founded in 1972 upon the demise of the former Newborough and Hoar Cross Cricket Club, who had played their fixtures on the same Hollybush Road ground as is used today - courtesy of Mr David Meynell.

A band of local enthusiasts held an initial meeting in the Meynell

Ingram Arms and the first match was played against Longdon, who remain welcome visitors, on 20 May 1972.

As with the earlier club, playing membership is largely drawn from the villages of Hoar Cross, Newchurch and Newborough, and benefits today from the abilities of second generation sons of founder members.

Since 1972 the club has prospered steadily. Last season witnessed a further extension of fixtures whilst the playing membership exceeded forty.

The highlight of recent seasons has been a short tour of the Vale of Belvoir, a cricket evening in November and the traditional Ladies' Evening to give appreciation for that most enjoyable of meals - the cricket tea!

Approaches to enter the presently fashionable league cricket structure have been resisted: hence the club preserves the traditional friendly fixture, desiring to play to the best of their ability, to accept victory with modesty and defeat with good grace.

*"For when the Great Player
Comes to write against your name,
He'll write not if you won or lost
But how you played the game."*

The future prosperity of the Meynell Cricket Club seems assured."

Douglas Treacher

As we now approach the Hollybush entrance to Chapel Lane, if we go down to the bridge over the 'brook', the playing field can be seen on the left, surrounded by bushes and damson trees. There are swings, a seesaw and a slide for the pleasure of the village children.

"The **Playing Field** was originally leased for the use of the village children from the Meynell estate. Records show that in 1953, Newborough and Hoar Cross Playing Field Committee paid £1.00 per annum rent to Col. H. Meynell and later, £1.00 to his estate. In turn, Newborough Parish Council gave the committee a £1.00 grant.

This ceased in 1960 and, in 1956, planning permission was given for use as a playground and in 1957 it was officially opened by Mrs. H. Meynell on 15th April. East Staffordshire District Council bought the

land in 1976 from the Meynell family of Hollybush Hall and set a rent of £45 per annum. Finally, in 1984, the Parish Council obtained a loan and bought the playing field for the village, since when it has maintained it - the equipment being restored in 1993."

(from Parish Council Records)

"This playing field is partly supported by the **Newborough Playground Group** which was started in 1973, and the first deposit was £4.33. The village now has a Playground Group associated with the Parish Council and money is raised towards the maintenance of the field and supply of equipment, by having tombola prize games in the Youth and Adult Centre. Our two wheelchair friends and pensioners especially enjoy these evenings once a fortnight."

Joyce Whitebrook

New and old houses and cottages line the road back to the Green, on the corner of which is **The Old Bakehouse**.

This was once part of the old shop until, perhaps unfortunately for succeeding shopkeepers, it was converted to a separate house some years ago - much of storage space for the shop thus being lost - and is now in private hands.

But, in its day, the bakehouse had a fine reputation, particularly for its hot cross buns, and the aromas floating on the village air must have been very tempting! The Robinson family founded the old shop and ran it very successfully until their retirement.

We now take the **Yoxall Road** to the south out of the village, and you could say that this was our longest road - leading as it does to Newborough End and then Hoar Cross. Still keeping to our left, the Old Forge has been mentioned previously and the next property of any interest is what is considered by some to be 'the best house in the village' namely **Green Farm**.

"As the centre of the village in the old days was known as 'The Green', we believe that when this farmhouse was built in 1856, it took its name for that reason." (1973)



The lane bears right on the bend, past a smallholding and bungalow, to open space and yet another bridge over the Swarbourn, to a drive going to an attractive brick farmhouse, perched in its meadows some-way from the main road. The farm outbuildings have become, in part, **'The Piano Workshop'**, where old becomes new and from where, in the quiet of a warm evening, come the gentle notes of a quietly played piano.

The brook joins the road here, sometimes literally, and flows through the fields of **Brookside Farm**.

"Here once stood 'Saw Pits Square', the name given to the village woodyard, associated in the latter years with the family of Venables. The shed on the left-hand side over the bridge was once open sided, with a huge pit in the ground. One man stood in the pit to work one end of the saw, whilst another stood above. Across the track, where Brooklyn is today (Waterside), were three cottages that housed the workmen, who were wheelwrights by trade." (1973)

Until recently, Brookside Farm was farmed by 'Rupert', one of the few remaining older villagers and was a real village farm, having all its older features. In keeping with modern development, the farm has now been very well 'updated' and presents a most pleasant aspect.

The common bridge here has become part of the access to Walk No. 2, the path climbing through a green lane to fields, one of which is known as 'Tink's Croft', which was left to the village so that its due rent could be divided among the older villagers. The Swarbourn continues to run by the roadside, harnessed by a substantial concrete bank, falling in descent to open country.

The next bridge belongs to a large house which grew out of a very small cottage! I have been told that about here lived a Canadian gentleman of some character, this during the last war. He was reputed to keep pigs at a time when everything was severely controlled and restricted - in fact, in no way could you slaughter your own livestock without permission or use the meat for your own consumption.

However - the said gentleman did slaughter his own pig and was duly pursued by 'the inspector', who found no trace of any pig! He found only his human quarry in the Red Lion, smoking a peaceful pipe with his pint. The disgruntled inspector now settled down with his own pipe and pint, leaning comfortably back against a cupboard door. This was much to the delight of the locals, for he was not a popular man, and the pig was in the cupboard!

There are no more buildings on this side of the road although there have been in the past. Flooding has always been a hazard along the



The Old Buffalo Inn

Swarbourn and probably these cottages became untenable. If we once again turn on our tracks at the foot of Dark Lane, to pass several new or restored houses, we come to the only cottage of its kind left in the village **The Old Thatch**.

“Though recently modernised, this thatched cottage is typical of the type of cottage built about the village in years gone by. Opposite here is a field which the tithe map of 1893 lists as ‘Whitening Yard’. Another one was on the plot on the bend in Duffy Lane, next to Swarbourne House. Are these remnants of the bleaching trade of the River Swarbourn?” (1973)

Another row of Council built houses comes next, each with a long typical garden, fronting the road, and then **The Buffalo**.

“Once there were no less than six ‘Beerhouses’ or Inns in the village. These it is believed were : The White Hart (site of the present church); Snooker’s Nook (Chantree Cottage); The Mutton (the bottom of Moat Lane); The Shoulder of Mutton (the Meynell Ingram Arms); the cottage in Whitening Yard and the Buffalo.

“The earliest deeds of the Buffalo are dated 1822 and this is a conveyance of a plot of land known as ‘Tutman’s Croft’, between John Abberley, Yeoman at Hanbury, and James Sherwin, Shopkeeper at Newborough. Four dwelling houses were built, and it is thought that one of these houses became a ‘Beerhouse’, whilst another became a shop. In 1859, the four dwelling houses were sold to George Taylor, a publican of Newborough, and in 1875 to John Bindley, a brewer of Burton. This time it was recorded as ‘a Public House known as the Buffalo Inn’.” (1973)

We walk past the final group of ‘council’ houses, the fields ‘under offer’ and come to the **New Vicarage**, no longer the residence of a Newborough vicar as such. It was sold when Newborough, Draycott and Hanbury set their centre in the original parish of Hanbury. Now the house is called ‘Hollycross’ - surely an appropriate play on words (can you see why?).

Now we approach the foundation, next to the church, most important to the village **The School**.

“Newborough in 1834 had a population of 760 and it is thought that at this time there were three schools. One built in 1812, a free school

for 30 girls. Mrs. Kirkpatrick Hall, wife of the squire who lived at Hollybush Hall, generously supported this school, providing each pupil with a dinner every Sunday and a new dress at Easter.

“The school for ‘young ladies’ was for approx. 34 daughters of villagers who could afford to pay for their girls’ education. A Church school for boys, which was built by subscription, had provision also made for twelve free scholars. It is this school that our village children attend today.

“The schoolmaster lived in a thatched cottage next to the school, but in 1891 the new school house was built and it is generally thought that the village well was moved at the same time, to allow space for the new school house. The boys joined with the girls in September 1876, and since that time many structural alterations have taken place. Now it is the County Primary for the village children.” (1973)



In the 1970’s this school was threatened with closure so that in 1974-75, parents and villagers were very active in protesting against the Education authorities’ summary action. Eventually, by dint of closing Hoar Cross and Hanbury Schools in 1984-85 and bussing their pupils to Newborough, our All Saints school was saved - but by two villages’ loss. The name of the school also changed and, after some controversy, it became **Needwood C.E. (A) Primary School**.

“The school occupies a rural setting at the centre of the village, conveniently next to the church. It serves a number of local villages, and many of the children attend by being brought in by ‘bus.

The 1994 number on roll is 45, with an equal mix of boys and girls, and children in all age groups from 4+ to 11 years. The pupils are organised into 3 classes and 7 year groups.

The school maintains a high standard of discipline from all the pupils, and a happy, yet industrious atmosphere pervades the school during term time. Children learn all the National Curriculum subjects in this well equipped primary school, but they also take part in Community activities and services in the local church.

The school is currently staffed by two full-time and one part-time teacher. The ethos of the school is Christian, and everyone who belongs here is expected to maintain high standards of courtesy and thought for others - qualities which do not always seem to be so important in many larger institutions.

We are pleased to welcome interested parents to visit school if they are considering a place for their children. The school booklet, giving full details, is easily available from the office, or by calling in.”

Mrs. I. Davies (Headteacher)

Within the school grounds stands **The Youth and Adult Centre** (commonly known as ‘the Hut’).

This was built by Staffordshire Council for the then flourishing Youth Club and it was opened on 20th October 1965. At this time the British Legion ‘hut’, situated near Swarbourne House, was still in use for dances, whist drives, plays and most of the social events of the village. I have been told that it housed a large ‘pool’ table - “. . . which we had to dance round”.

When the village lost the British Legion venue, the Youth Centre eventually took over, at a price, for rental has to be paid to the relevant authority - the defunct Youth Club being exempt. The ‘Hut’ now became the ‘Youth and Adult Centre’ - the focus really of village life.

We cannot afford to lose our ‘Hut’, for we have no other readily available hall in which to hold our functions. The Parish Council

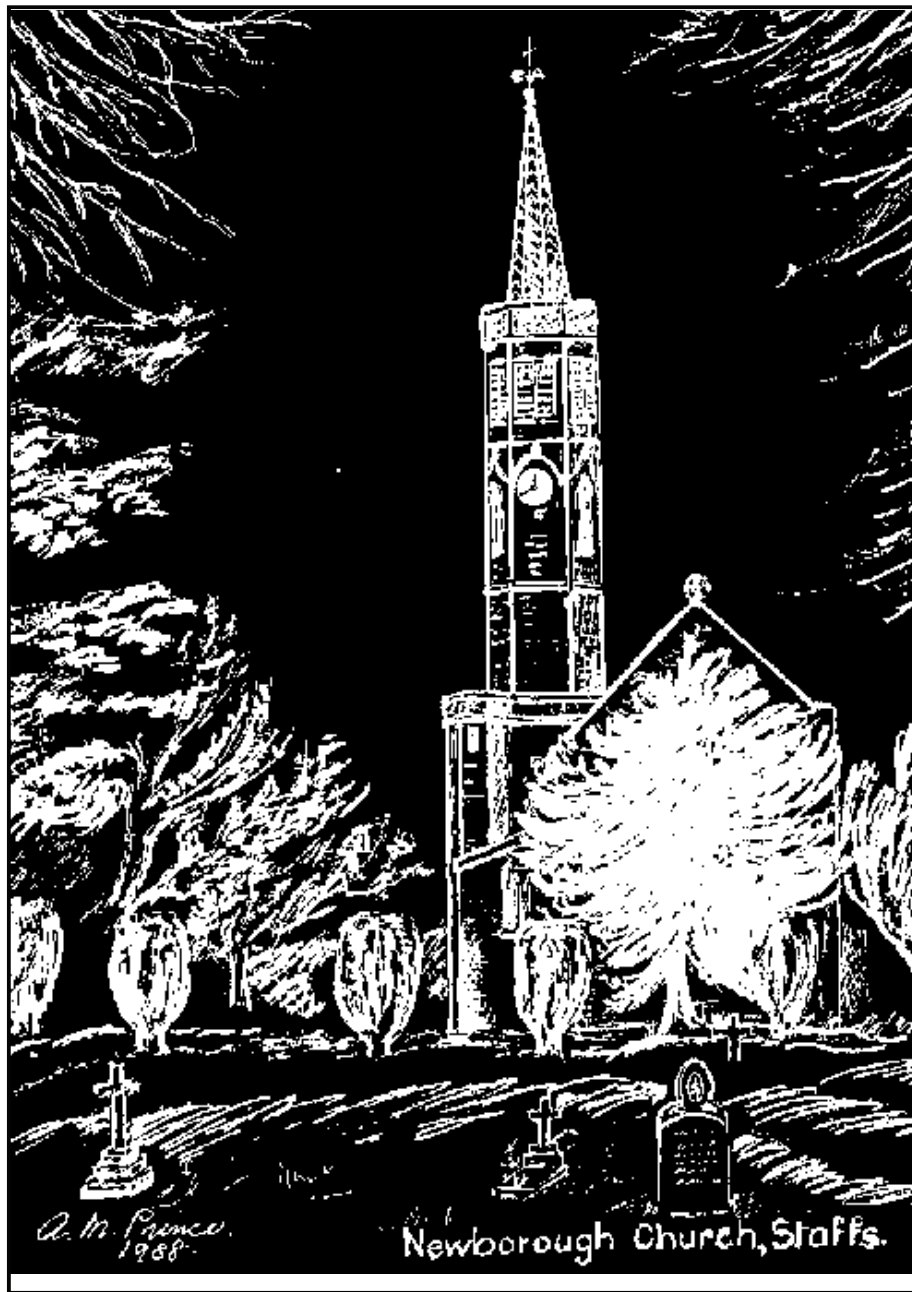
meets here monthly, the W.I. also monthly and the Happy Circle weekly. Of these and others there are indeed almost too many to list, and so we thought - ‘Why not ask those closely involved with each activity to tell us something about it?’. They have done so, and you can read their contributions elsewhere throughout this book.

We have now finally returned to the Green. One last major enclosure to see, but en route we must mention that even the **Bus Shelter** has importance for us, not so much for buses, but “Janet” leaves the papers here for collection, notices go up on its board, it is the rallying point for coach trips and the Newborough Ramblers meet here to ‘bravely go where they’ve never been before’. “See you at the Bus Shelter”!

Seriously, behind the railings and the Parish notice boards and Newborough’s tribute to the Silver Jubilee and this year, the **1993 Best Kept Village** ‘totem’, lies the beech-enshrouded churchyard where so many of our old friends and forebears rest and where the path meanders up the hill to **The Church**.

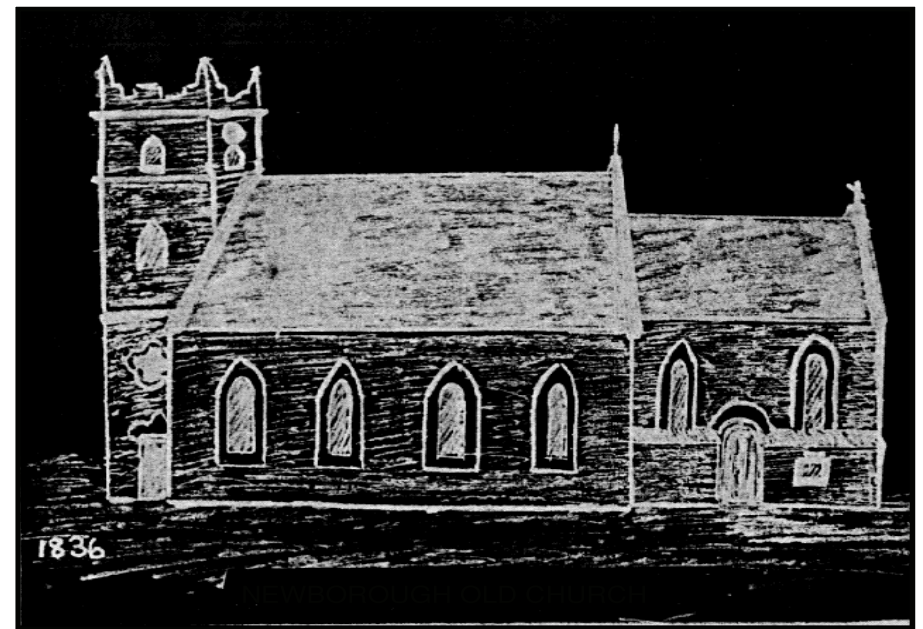
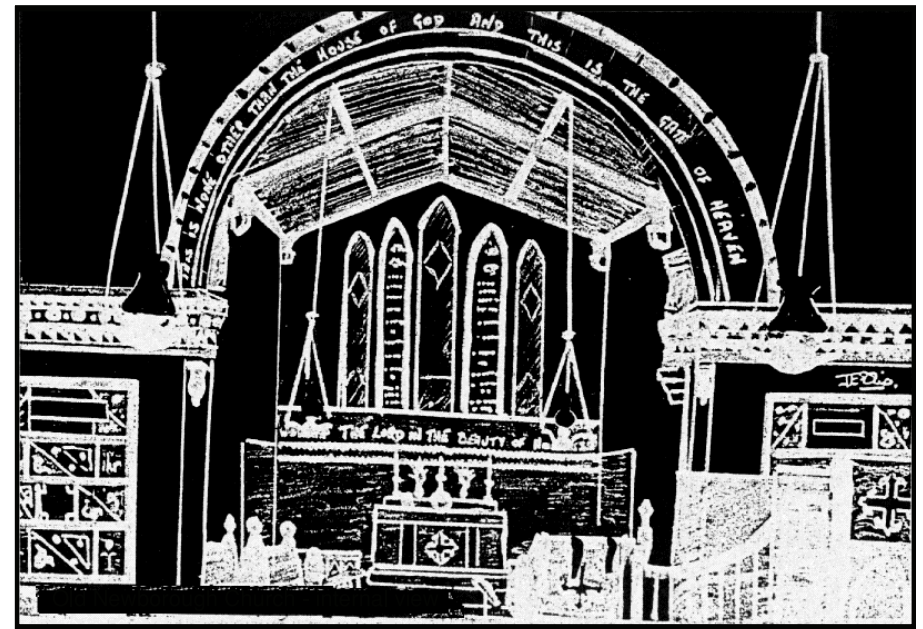


“The first mention of a church at Newborough is as a ‘Chapel of Ease’ to the Mother Church at Hanbury. This was at the time of Edward II 1307-1327 It is thought that this was replaced during the



Newborough Church - 1988

A. M. Prince



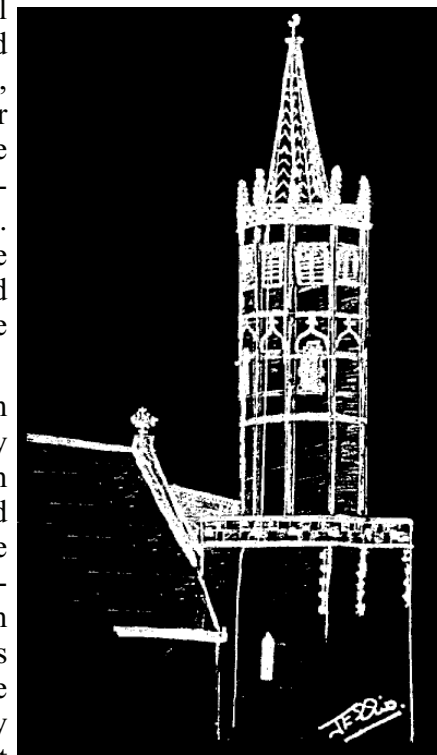
17th century, for Rev. Erdeswick, the historian, who died in 1701 described 'a small new fabric which contains no monuments or inscriptions as they mostly or always bury their dead in the Mother Church at Hanbury'. William White records in the early 19th century that it was a whitewashed building with a tower erected about a century ago. As early as 1603 there are records of christenings and of marriages at Newborough but none of burials. It is a fact that tombstones of Newborough families can be found in Hanbury, some as late as 1889. The belief that the funeral processions followed the footpath up Elton Lane and then on to Hanbury (Walk No.1) could well be correct. Not until 1862 did Newborough become a separate parish and then burials started here.

The second church, as photographs show, was a picturesque ivy-clad building. It had four bells of which three had the dates 1666, 1787 and 1857. But this beautiful church was structurally unsound, as it is thought that over the years major alterations had resulted in damage to the foundations. So the site of the old White Hart Inn was kept vacant for almost 15 years, and in 1899 the foundation stone of the present church was laid. In a bottle under this stone were placed a newspaper, photographs of the old church and a few copper coins.



Due to the indefatigable work of the Rev. Spinney (Vicar of the parish at the time) and financial aid of the Clay family, the new church was opened and dedicated to All Saints in April, 1901. The four old bells were recast and a fifth added, the old font was used and the choir stalls came from Rangemore church. Many items were presented in memory of loved ones, e.g. the east window, the pulpit, the chancel screen, the Cross and candle-sticks, the reredos and the fine three manual organ.

The grey stone of which the church is built was brought from Pately Bridge and the red stone from Hollington. The tiles of the old church were used on the new, the old bricks were used in the foundations, the white stonework from round the windows and doors was reused in the new vestry. The tower and spire together are a very striking feature and total a height of 112 feet. Ornamental projecting crockets on the tower had to be removed about 1966 as they had become dangerous.



The present Church Tower with the pinnacles.

Foundation stone laid 28 Sept 1899 by C. J. Clay of Hollybush Hall.

Church consecrated - Friday, 19th April 1901 by Bishop Legge.

Architect - Mr. J. Oldrid Scott.

Builder - Mr. T. B. Lowe, Burton on Trent.

Vicar - The Rev. T. H. Spinney, M.A., F.R.C.O.

It is interesting to note that the architect of our church was the uncle of the architect of Liverpool Cathedral. It was with regret that the

villagers of Newborough accepted the advice of the architect that the structural condition was so poor that - 'Nothing short of total rebuilding would be of any permanent value'.

William White, writing in the 19th century, had described it as 'A neat, whitewashed building, with a tower, erected about a century ago'. It was apparently quite a picturesque building (of which there is a small photograph in the present vestry), with a gallery and high backed pews.

The present building has the village's most striking feature. The tower, with square lower stages, leads through an octagonal upper part, which is very tall in proportion, and which is surmounted by a lofty, lead covered spire.

When passing through the main doors, one faces a window which the Rev. Spinney tells us "Was built on the day when General Cronje was taken prisoner during the South African War". Looking eastward, the third window on the south wall was built when Ladysmith was relieved, and the chancel principal was being raised as Mafeking was relieved in the Boer War. On the wall behind the font is a memorial to those connected with the parish who fell in the 1914-18 war and also a memorial to the victims of the 1939-45 war.

Originally it was planned to make the thirty-six pews and panelling from pine, but just before work commenced, Mr. C. J. Clay of Hollybush Hall, offered to meet the additional cost of oak. Much of the oak used came from the surrounding Forest of Needwood. Also of oak are the fine reredos, dedicated to the Rev. Spinney and his wife, and the pulpit.

There are photographs of Newborough Free School for Girls, built in 1812 and now a private home, and also of the 'old' church and Charles Clay.

The organ is a Tree manual organ with twenty-one speaking stops, additional couplers and toe pistons. It was built in 1865. It was refurbished and brought from Hollybush in 1913, in memory of Charles John Clay and Lorenzo Kirkpatrick Hall. It was rebuilt and enlarged later to a design of the Rev. Spinney. It has been played by Dr. Stainer, organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, Sir George Elvey, organist of St. George's Chapel, Windsor and by Sir Arthur Sullivan."

Ken Thacker

The Church today.

Vicar - Rev. D. Felix

The Vicarage, Hanbury.

Church Wardens - 1. Mrs. S. M. R. Whitebrook

Chantry Cottage, Newborough.

2. Mr. M. K. J. Thacker

The Old Bakehouse, Newborough.

Secretary of the P. C. C. - Mrs. B. Charles

Vicars Hill Farm, Newborough.

Services - 1st, 2nd Sundays - Family Communion at 10 a.m.

3rd. Sunday - Family Communion at 11.15 a.m.

4th. Sunday - Mattins at 10 a.m.

5th. Sunday - Family Communion at 11.15 a.m.

(if applicable)

We will always be pleased to see you at any of our services.

Bell Ringing.

Teams of ringers wishing to ring our fine bells will be very welcome.

Please contact: Mrs. E. Kemp, 4, Yoxall Road, Newborough.

Outlying Newborough and Hoar Cross

(Eds. note : Those sections marked with double quotes and (1973) are by Mrs. Ellis.)

Having completed a round of the village, there remain only a number of outlying farms and cottages of note previously described by Mrs. Ellis.

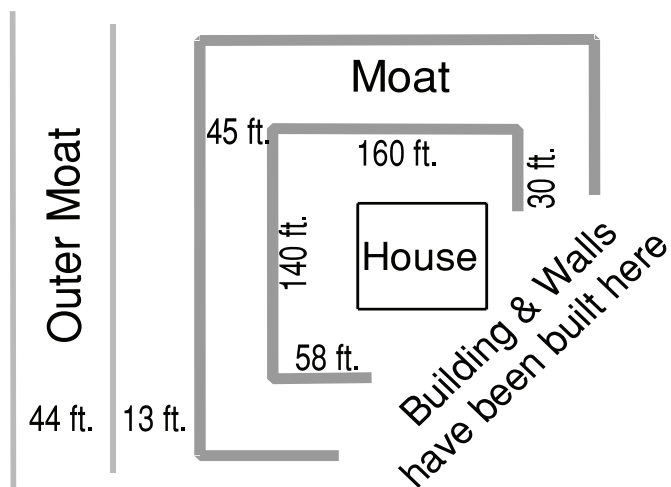
Two stand off Yoxall Road. First, at the top of **Dark Lane**, one of the loveliest lanes in the village, where the trees overhang the hilly way and once primroses grew and children built their dens, is

Gospel Oak.

"This cottage was once the home of the village miller - the mill stood opposite. In the garden of the cottage stands a huge oak tree and the name 'Gospel Oak' arose because services were held there on Rogation Sundays when the Vicar and the churchgoers 'Beat the Bounds'. Here also at one time was a brick-yard." (1973)

Still on the way to Yoxall, if you turn into Moat Lane at the next cross-roads and struggle up the hill, at the summit on the right is **Moat Hall**.

“This is a good example of a homestead with a moat, believed to have been built originally as an outpost of Tutbury Castle sometime prior to 1263. Standing about 350 ft above sea level, it commands a wonderful view. Parts of the moat have now been filled in, but on the south side of the house the shape of the moat is clearly evident. Owned, along with the adjoining farm, until early this century by the Chandos Pole family, Moat Hall is now a farmhouse.” (1973)



The moat as it was at Moat Hall - 1950

To walk the rest of Moat Lane is to enjoy one of the finest vistas in the region, overlooking as it does the woodland of Jackson's Bank and, far away, the spires of Lichfield Cathedral. This is a gliding area and many a time we have been startled by the sudden swish of a soaring aircraft.

At the lane junction we merge with Brick Hill Lane, which has come from Duffy Lane. To the left of this junction was **Brick Kiln**.

“Originally a small hamlet. As the name implies this was the site for one of the brick kilns at which bricks were made for the building of the houses in this area.” (1973)

Instead of walking to Brick Kiln, you go right and drop down to

Dolesfoot Lane - you are now marking the border between Newborough and Hoar Cross parishes. In fact, at the end of Dolesfoot to the west, you are practically in Hoar Cross. To the right at the end of the lane is Newborough End, a small enclave of farms and cottages and opposite **Jinny Buck's Field**.

“An event which took place many years ago gave this field its name and it is this : Jinny lived in the cottage at the front of the field, the local hunt shot a buck, only wounding it, and it made its way to the field behind Jinny's, where it died. She brought the buck into the cottage and hid it. The hunt arrived and - needless to say - were unable to find their deer.” (1973)

Two accounts are given of places of interest in Hoar Cross itself :-

The Meynell Ingram Arms.

“The ‘Shoulder of Mutton’ or the ‘Blacksmith's’ are just two of the names which this old Inn has had over the years. In 1790 it became the property of the Meynell family and, for a time, the ‘People's Refreshment Association’ rented it. Cycle parties and Pony and Trap Clubs came from miles around to have ‘tea’ - usually gammon and eggs. At this time there was also a shop attached that sold groceries.” (1973)



Hoar Cross Hall.

“The Meynell family have been associated with Hoar Cross for over two centuries. In 1782, Hugo Meynell married Elizabeth Ingram Shepherd, and their son took the name Hugo Charles Meynell-Ingram and it was their grandson that married Emily in 1863.

“When visiting the estate, the early generations occupied the Elizabethan Old Hall, but Hugo and Emily had the new hall built between 1862 and 1871. Hugo died in 1871 and Emily had the Church of Holy Angels built in the grounds of the Hall in his memory.

“Emily’s younger brother came to live at the Hall with her and, as she had no family, her brother succeeded to the estate on condition that he took the name of Meynell. His grandson, Col. Hugo Meynell, was the last of the family to live at the Hall when, in 1952, they moved to Hollybush Park.

Hoar Cross Hall . . .

“In 1970, Mr. Bickerton Jones and family bought the Hall and now (1976) they are restoring it and have several collections including armour, dresses and furnishings on public view.” (1973)

- Now in 1993, Hoar Cross Hall is a Health Spa.

The Fields of Newborough.

In pointing out the places of interest in and around Newborough, we have tended to omit the fields of Newborough. Some we have mentioned - around Duffy Lane and into Walk No. 2 - but there are some more. Incidentally, the Duchy fields have only numbers.

On Walk No.1, on the way back to Elton Lane, you will skirt a pond which edges a field called ‘Nottingham’ and that adjoins the ‘Windmill Field’.

A walk that can meet with the No.1 Walk starts behind the ‘Buffalo’ for you cross the stile there into ‘Long Field’. Where this meets the main road, you cross into ‘Betty Upton’s’, from there to ‘Sandpits’, ‘Dunghills’ or ‘Dunswell’ and finally, ‘Mill Meadow’ is our last



Newborough Parish Council 1894 - 1994

Previous to the formation of the Parish Councils (Civil bodies), the affairs of the local communities were handled by the Vestry Meetings. These were often held in the parish church and they saw to the needs of the poor and the upkeep of the roads as well as the Church itself. At one time, they even appointed the village constable.

In 1834 The Poor Law Act took the care of the poor from the Vestry Meeting and Guardians of the Poor were appointed instead. The 1894 Local Government Act brought a complete split of Church and State, with public elections for councillors, and the setting up of District, Urban and Parish Councils.

The Minutes of the first Parish meeting record that on the 4th December 1894, at 7 pm, the following were elected - Charles John Clay Esq, Holly Bush; William Johnson, Newborough; Albert Loverock, Cross Plains; John Sherratt, Newborough; John Townsend, Hoar Cross; George Waltho, Daisy Bank; George Kidd, Newborough, with chairman, the Rev T. H. Spinney. The first Clerk was Henry Wakelin, and the first meeting was held in The National School, but later meetings in the Reading Room (believed to have been in the Vicarage).

The first four items of business were

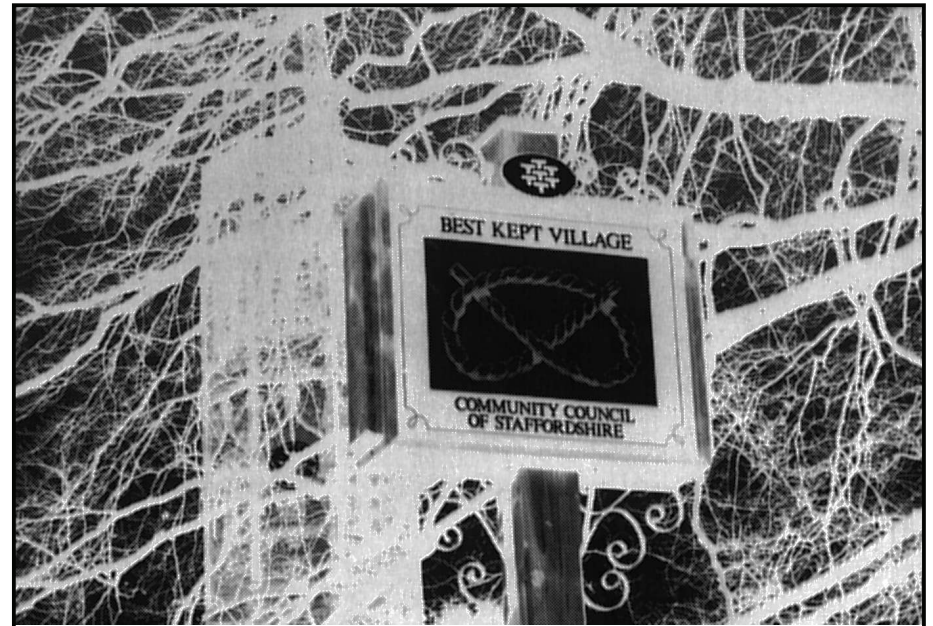
1. Appointing a Treasurer at the Union Bank in Uttoxeter.
2. Contacting landlords asking them to put in order the stiles on their property.
3. Ordering a survey of parish owned property, and
4. Allowing the Clerk to 'procure certain necessary stationery'.

The one hundred years since then have been recorded in several volumes of Parish Minute Books, and make fascinating reading, (and even more fascinating is reading between the lines! Always the various Clerks have been most careful in their choice of words). Recorded here are disputes of one sort and another, over rights of way, and dilapidated stiles and bridges etc. At one time objections were made to the erection of a 'privy' on a public footpath.

Poor road conditions, especially in Thorney Lanes and at Newborough End are repeatedly noted. Eventually the 'new' road was built higher up at Newborough End, above the river level, but not before a lot of negotiating with neighbouring Hoar Cross. An approach was to be made to the London and North Western Railway

Company, urging for a line between Lichfield and Uttoxeter, to be of service to Newborough people.

The Council objects to 'the breaking up of new land' for building by the District Council, they urge for lighting, a better water supply, and improved postal services. They complain about poor roads and the roadman not doing an honest job. (The present Clerk writes very similar minutes in the 1990's). In more recent times recorded are the fight against the threat of the closure of the village school, and for a speed limit, and mains drainage, etc. etc.



Best Kept Village - "Totem Pole"

To record the Council of 1994 - the Chairman is Mr. William Prince, and the Councillors are Mrs. Jean Austin, Mrs. Brenda Skipper, Mr. Michael Craven, Mr. Lawrence Shaw, and Mr. Charles Spencer (there is at the time of writing a vacancy). The Clerk is Mrs. Elizabeth Ford.

For those with an interest (and time) the Parish records are deposited with the County Record Office, in Eastgate Street, Stafford and are available for public study.

Elizabeth Ford (Parish Clerk)

The Well Dressing

Clean water is essential to life and any such source has always been looked upon as almost sacred. Long ago our ancestors thought their springs and wells were the dwelling places of spirits, who guarded their rights jealously. Tributes were made of flowers, food and wine.

When the Plague came to Derbyshire in the 17th century, clean water and much self discipline helped to keep the menace at bay. Then the villagers expressed their gratitude to God and His gift of water by decorating their wells and springs with flowers and growing plants. This was, and is, known as 'Well Dressing'.

Since 1979 Newborough has 'dressed' three wells, not often in a religious theme, but as seemed suitable to the occasion - the Armada anniversary year was one theme used.

Always held on May Bank Holiday, the Well Dressing opens the village to all sorts of activities. There are many differing stalls, refreshments, bouncing castles, marching bands, Morris dancers etc. It is a good day out and all monies cleared go to charities.

The Well Dressing Committee publish a full programme every year, giving an account of the actual event and the activities involved.

Jean Austin

"Today's Women Working For Tomorrow"

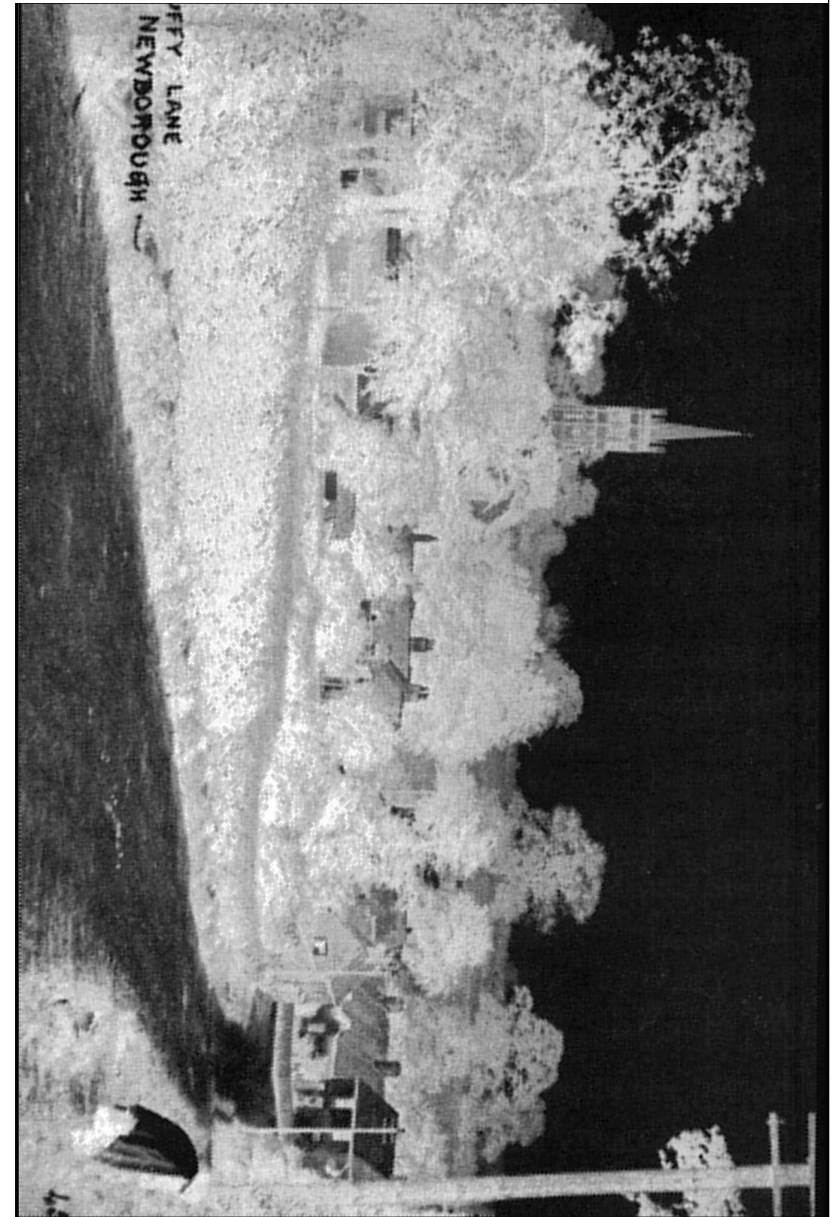
A History of the WI in Newborough. 1948 - 1962 & 1971 - 1993 and on.

The Women's Institute movement has had two bites at the cherry in Newborough. The first was an afternoon meeting formed in 1948. On February 20 1948 "a meeting was held to discuss the formation of a Women's Institute in Newborough. 37 ladies were present and Mrs. B P Thorley was asked to take the chair."

March 16. "A meeting of the newly-formed WI was held in the Hut (the British Legion hut which was situated near the River Swarbourn on the Duffield site until it was demolished in 1962.) The Secretary read the WI rules which were duly passed and signed.... Mrs. Black-Roberts, the demonstrator, gave a very enjoyable talk on leather glove making....

(continued on page 60)

Duffy Lane - Newborough - circa 1900



Newborough Well Dressing Themes since 1978

Year	Well	Theme	Designer
1978	Main Well	"Newborough Welcomes All"	Frank Pointon
1979	Main Well	"Year of the Child"	Joint design
	School Well	"Man at MayDay Festivities"	Sadie Mosedale
1980	Main Well	"Taken out of the Water" (Moses in Bullrushes)	Elizabeth Ford
	School	"May Queen"	Kate Pointon
	Youth Club	"Service not Self" (Youth Club Activities)	
1981	Main Well	"Thy faith hath made thee whole" (Year of the Disabled)	Lois Webster
	School	"May Queen"	Helen Brandrick
	Youth Club	"Year of the Disabled"	
1982	Main Well	"Behold I make all things new"	Lois Webster
	School	"Whosoever believeth in me let him drink"	Hayley Ridgeway
	Youth Club	"Year of the Scout"	June Sedgewick
1983	Main Well	"To be simple is to be great" (St.Francis of Assisi)	Charles Spencer & Elizabeth Ford
	School	"All Creatures Great & Small"	
	Youth Club	"Beautiful Britain"	Elizabeth Ford
1984	Main Well	"Jesus Loves Me"	Charles Spencer & Elizabeth Ford
	School	"All Saints School"	Richard Simnet
	Youth Club	"Youth Club - Wheelie"	Elizabeth Ford
1985	Main Well	"Spring"	Charles Spencer & Elizabeth Ford
	School	?	
	Youth Club	"International Year for Youth"	
1986		"The Sewer Cometh!"	

Year	Well	Theme	Designer
1987	Main Well	"Our Village"	
	School	"Needwood Forest Deer" (Children's Well)	Stanley Wynn
	Youth Club	"Burton Brewers & Cooper"	Y.C. Members
1988	Main Well	"Armada '88"	Elizabeth Ford
	School	"Maypole"	
	Youth Club	"Dogs in Our Community"	Y.C. Members
1989	Main Well	"British Food & Farming"	Elizabeth Ford
	School	"God's Universe"	
	Youth Club	"Food & Farming"	Charles Spencer
1990	Main Well	"Jesus and the Fisherman"	Charles Spencer
	School	"Moses"	
	*Duffield	"Noah's Ark"	Elizabeth Ford
1991	Main Well	"Mary, Mary"	Charles Spencer
	School	"Hickory, Dickory, Dock"	
	Duffield	"Humpty Dumpty"	Elizabeth Ford
1992	Main Well	"E II R - Royal Coat of Arms" (Queen's 40th Anniversary)	Elizabeth Ford
	School	"God Save Our Queen" (Palace Guardsman)	
	Duffield	"Loyal Greetings"	Charles Spencer
1993	Main Well	"The Good Samaritan"	Charles Spencer
	School	"Joseph"	
	Duffield	"The Shepherd & the Lost Sheep"	Charles Spencer

* Footnote : The Youth Club board was moved to the new Duffield site in 1990.

(continued from page 58).....A ballot was taken on lectures and demonstrations to be had during the year. The following were chosen: Posy Buttonholes, Home Upholstery, Talk on Local Devils, Ghosts, Saints and Witches, Ministry of Information film on Fruit Bottling, Inexpensive Christmas Gifts, Smocking, Quilting, Basket Making, Country Dancing, Slipper and Sandal Making”.

On April 20 when 28 members were present Social time was “guessing the contents of the parcel”. Since no-one guessed that it was envelopes and stamps the parcel was auctioned and bought by Mrs. Lichfield for 3/- The parcel raised 2/7d for the funds. At the May meeting “tea was served and, during this, Mrs. Thorley asked members if they would ‘bring a little less food as we have such a large amount being brought each week.’!”

There was a Roll Call each month and some of the subjects covered were: “My favourite food”, “Sewing hints”, “A Pleasant recollection”. “My favourite person” proved the popularity of Winston Churchill.. Each month had a motto - one that particularly appealed was: “Do not speak of what you are going to do. Do it!”

In September a letter from Mr. Percival was read “giving his permission for the WI notice board to be placed on his Garage door. He suggested that 7/6 be paid each year as rental...” At that time Mr. Percival lived at The Villa, so the garage door was in a central position in the village.

That month the Competition was for “The Best Laundered Pillow Case” and was won by Mrs. W. Prince. The prize was Savings Stamps.

The first Annual Meeting was held in November 1948. Those elected were:

President: Mrs R Prince

Vice-Presidents: Mrs Thorley and Miss Sadler

Secretary: Mrs F Leedham

Treasurer: Mrs G Bennet.

On the Committee were Mesdames Brough, Lichfield, Williams, Swetnam and Rowntree.

At that meeting it was suggested that the National Anthem should be sung in honour of the baby Prince who had just been born.

In February 1949 Mrs. Bennet offered to compile a book on the history of Newborough. This was later submitted for a Staffordshire “Our Village” competition. In a report on the village in August 1949 the main improvement suggested was for “the cleaning of the brook”! In September of that year a food permit was obtained “making it possible to purchase sugar, tea, margarine and butter for use at monthly teas.” How quickly we forget! It was suggested that the Institute might buy a Bottling Machine as someone had a contact who could supply one cheaply. In the event there was not enough interest and the idea was dropped.

In October two members were requested from the WI “to help form a Village Committee - the first matter for discussion to be playing fields for the children.”

Although the Institute flourished for a few years the number of members gradually declined until at the meeting in September 1961 only four members attended and those present were asked to consider its future. At the meeting on January 18 1962 Mrs E A Boulton announced that it had been decided to suspend the Institute - at that time with 14 members “who attended irregularly” - for fourteen months “hoping that during that time the WI would be missed in the village and more members would be forthcoming. The meeting then closed with the singing of Jerusalem and Auld Lang Syne.”

A note added later by Mrs Prince to the WI “Book of our Village” says “In 1962 the Newborough WI was closed. Because some houses were condemned and demolished some families left the district. About the same time a bus service came to the village to take people to work and back. Around 1967 the Rural District Council made plans to build (a row of) Council Houses and old people’s bungalows and a number of larger houses were built so there was at last a chance to increase its population.”

In fact, it was not until 1971 that a new WI was formed. It was a new Institute because, under the rules of the Constitution, any WI which has been suspended for a period of three years is deemed to be closed and, if an Institute is opened at a later date, even though it has the same name, it is an entirely new formation.

On Tuesday 6 July 1971 a Preliminary meeting was held at the Youth and Adult Centre to see what interest there was in the village

and on Thursday 29 July the Inaugural meeting was held when Mrs. Joy Ellis was elected President. Secretary was Mrs G. Davison and Treasurer Mrs J. Tomlinson. It was decided then that the meeting should be held in the evening on the third Tuesday of every month and so it has remained ever since.

An extract from a long article printed in the Burton Observer and Chronicle on 18 November 1971 reads: "For ten years until last August Newborough did not have its own Women's Institute. This has been remedied by Mrs. Joy Ellis, the new President, Mrs Vale Mosedale, vice-President, and the 36 new members.

'So far, things are going well,' Mrs. Mosedale told me....The previous Institute closed down when several of its main supporters left the area in the early 1960s, but not before the ladies had accomplished much good - notably the book already alluded to, which won fourth place in Staffordshire's "Our Village" competition in 1950." (This excellent record of the village, which for many years has been in the care of Mrs. Audrey Prince, is now kept with the treasured scrapbooks and Record books of Newborough WI.) It is interesting to note that the new committee of eight consisted of seven newcomers to the village and only one long-term resident.

It may seem to some that the Women's Institute has outgrown its use in these days of television, when most families have their own car to take them further afield and a great many women are working and taking advantage of the considerable Further Education which is offered, but there is still no substitute for the sympathetic, non-threatening atmosphere of your own WI where you find the friendship and support of people you know and which still provides education and training in a very gentle way for its members to take advantage of as they choose.

The National Statement of Purpose sums it up very well: "The WI offers opportunities for all women to enjoy friendship, to learn, to widen their horizons and together to influence local, national and international affairs."

May it long be so and may the WI in Newborough flourish and continue to remind us that, whatever happens in our lives, we will always be grateful for the mutual support of good friends.

Isabel Davies

Newborough Village Produce Show

In November 1980, instead of having a social time at the Womens' Institute, members discussed the idea of having a Produce Show.

In September 1981, the first Show was launched in the Youth and Adult Centre, named a "Fun & Fancy Produce Show". With seventeen classes, it was open to W.I. members only and in 1982 a small shield was awarded to the overall winner.

The following year it was renamed "Our Village Produce Show" and was then open to W.I. members and families and parishioners. Classes were increased to forty-three and several trophies and special prizes were donated. Entry fees were 10p per class and a first prize of 25p was awarded.

By 1984 there were seven trophies and thirty-six classes; childrens' classes having been dropped owing to lack of support.

In 1986 Newborough School supported the Show and have continued to the present day. The Show was renamed "Newborough Village Produce Show" in 1991.

In 1993 the Womens' Institute decided to hand over the running of the Show to the village although they would continue to give it their full support. The Show was opened to the general public and forty-one classes were competed for, Mr Charles Spencer being chairman - ably supported by his committee.

It is hoped that the Show will continue for many years to come and there are now classes for vegetables, fruit, flowers, arts and crafts, cookery, wine, floral art and photography.

In the past ten years, trophies have been won by :

Mrs E Ford	Mrs E Hudson	Mrs B Charles
Mrs J Spencer	Mrs J Woolliscroft	Miss L Barks
Mr N Duff	Mrs N Roberts	Mrs J Whitebrook
Mrs M Hopley	Mrs A Prince	Mr M Whitebrook
Mrs I Davies	Mrs S Welch	Mrs A Ridgeway
Mrs E Kemp	Mrs J Austin	Mrs S Daly
Mrs J Tomlinson	Mrs H Wells	Mr W Woolliscroft
Mrs G Shaw	Mrs S Treacher	Mrs M Critchley
Mr A Usher	Mrs J Showell	Lorna Thompson
Christopher Shaw	Mr L Shaw	Jill Woolliscroft

Newborough Pre-School Playgroup

Newborough Pre-School Playgroup opened its doors to five children in January 1975. The original idea of a playgroup was thought up by Ann Shaw and I was duly roped in to run it with help from various people over the years - to name a few : Janet Barks, Vale Mosedale, Sue Treacher, Cath Cadman and Laura Ray.

With the aid of various grants and a lot of fund raising through the years, we bought our equipment for the children.

We celebrated the Queen's Silver Jubilee, we took part in displays for the Well Dressing and we went on trips to the Fire Station, the Zoo, on a canal barge and to the pantomime.

In 1985 we celebrated our tenth birthday with a *huge* party, inviting all past children - one hundred and ten in all - to be entertained and fed!

After twelve years I 'retired', to be succeeded by Sue Sheard, who carried on the good work until 1993. In September of that year Mrs B. Lightfoot very kindly offered to take over.

Jenny Thackham

Today the new Childrens' Act has had a big impact on playgroups and new guidelines have been set by the Social Services. The supervisor and fifty percent of staff must be qualified and equipment is expected to help children develop in all areas.

With this in mind on taking the playgroup over in September - after taking my diploma in playgroup practice - my main aim was to improve and update the equipment. Each month there has been some equipment purchased. My goal, when I first started, was to purchase a water tray. This month has seen that goal achieved!

At present there are sixteen children attending the playgroup throughout the week. Their ages range from 2½ years to school age. The children are all well settled and enjoy their timetable, where the sessions are split into different parts. The parents are supportive when fund raising is needed.

Mrs B. Lightfoot

The Happy Circle

The Happy Circle was formed after a dinner which was held for Newborough's Senior Citizens in 1966 and it started to fill a gap in the community. The Club is self supporting and raises all its own funds by the efforts of its members. Fund raisers are held during the year and include the Bring & Buy Sales, Whist Drives and an Autumn Fayre.

The Christmas Dinner takes place in December. Sometimes we go out to eat, or, at other times, the younger members and others prepare a meal in 'The Hut'.

This year was our 27th birthday and we held an evening party, ending with a good sing-song, and our 1993 Summer Outing took us as far as Weston-super-Mare - a lovely day but we will not forget the wind in a hurry!

Our meetings are held at 2.30pm on the first Tuesday of each month, except in January and August. These meetings are very informal with a good chat and discussion on all and everything. We usually hold our meeting, then play Bingo, take tea and have a raffle.

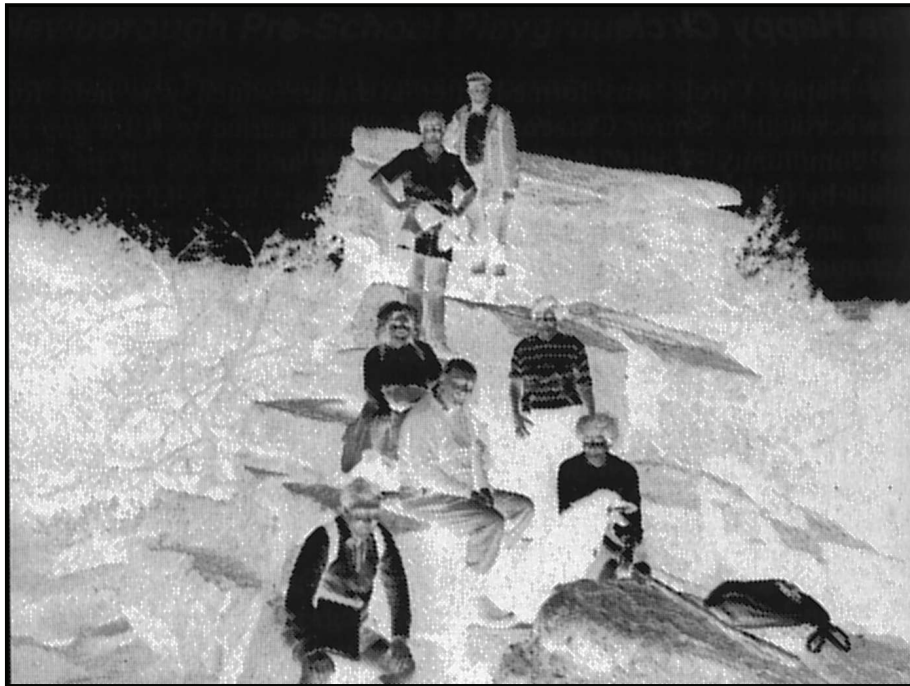
Anyone from the age of 55 is very welcome to join us. Just come along to the Youth and Adult Centre, or contact our chairman - Mrs Nancy Leedham - who will give you information.

Evelyn Kemp

The Newborough Ramblers

Suggested by the W.I. some years ago, a loosely organised Ramblers' 'Club' was set up to walk on the third Saturday in the month - anyone is welcome to come along. Usually we meet at 9.30 in the morning of the day in question outside the bus shelter in the Green.

Walks vary in mileage - the longest that we have attempted was ten miles round the outskirts of Lichfield, but more often we manage between six and eight miles, finishing for lunch in some adjacent hostelry. We can go quite far afield, having walked near Wildboardclough, and we share transport in these events.



Some of the Newborough Ramblers

Our Parish Council Footpaths' Officer, Mr. L. Shaw, has opened two - nearly three - local walks for us around Newborough, as you will see, and these have always entailed an inaugural expedition.

For some years now we have held a winter walk, latterly on New Year's Day, when lunch has been provided in a member's home. Mrs. Ford was the first to arrange this and the last two years have seen us at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. Welch.

A notice should appear every month on the W.I. board advising walkers of the time, distance and venue of the latest outing. It usually includes the Inn for lunch too! So really you have NO excuse not to join us!

Jean Austin

The Newborough Footpaths

Although the plan had been discussed at an earlier date, it was not until the beginning of the 1990's that Staffordshire County Council offered to help Parish Councils finance the restoration of local footpaths. This included the insertion of stiles, erection of bridges, the posting of finger signs and the printing of leaflets. Newborough Parish Council decided to accept this offer and Cllr. L. Shaw became Footpaths' Officer.

To date Mr. Shaw has routed, organised and supervised three walks around Newborough. As we live in a conservation area, this has required much careful attention to detail. Mr. Shaw is a perfectionist, and his work to improve the access to paths, the location and use of stiles has been outstanding. The published leaflets have been works of art - clear and concise in content. Each walk has had an inauguration (*see illustration*) held by the Newborough Ramblers and friends.

Mr. Shaw has spent many hours on these projects, had quite a few 'hassles', written many letters and made not a few 'phone calls - all on our behalf, so we thought that it was only fitting that he should give his own account of his activities.

"The Jottings of a Footpaths' Officer"

by Lawrence Shaw



We, in this country have, as a unique part of our English heritage, a network of public footpaths and bridleways that extend over more than 120,000 miles. Many paths have been linked together to form long distance paths of which The Pennine Way, The Coast to Coast Walk and Offa's Dyke Path are some of the better known examples whilst passing through the varied scenery of our delightful own county is the 92 mile long Staffordshire Way.

The routes of these walks are shown on maps made by Ordnance Survey who, in their turn, refer to the relevant definitive map which is a legal record of the public's right of way. These definitive maps can be inspected at local council offices.

Closer to home here in Newborough, we have 45 footpaths within the Parish over which public rights of way exist as at 30 September 1989. Some of these have suffered from neglect, which is a great pity because unlike city dwellers, who have parks and recreational facilities available to them on their doorstep, those living in rural areas lack these amenities and need to turn to walking their local footpaths.

Opening up a disused footpath should not be difficult, indeed the co-operation of land owners, tenant farmers and County Council Officers has made my work relatively easy and enjoyable - if nevertheless time consuming.

By now, I know some of the footpaths very well but it is to the farmers I turn for interesting snippets about the surrounding countryside. How else would I learn that an insignificant bit of brickwork, just off the line of a footpath, was the remains of an old wind pump? It used to pump water from the brook to supply the nearby farm. When it fell into disrepair, it was replaced by an electric pump until mains water was later installed.

Seemingly straightforward negotiations to improve access to a path have, on one recent and rare occasion, unearthed surprisingly fascinating facts.

For example, who in Newborough, until footpath access enquiries were made, was aware that less than ½ mile from the village square, there is a 'Scheduled Ancient Monument'? This is a classification given by English Heritage only when the monument is recognised as being of national importance and the scheduling of it is to preserve it for the future and to protect it from damage, destruction or any unnecessary interference.

The Monument is Newborough Hall Moated Site where, although no trace of the building that existed around the year 1300 remains, the Moat and fish ponds can be seen from the public footpath that passes through the site. The nearby Newborough Hall Farm is late Victorian and has no connection with the Monument.

Consent for the erection of 4 stiles necessitated an application to English Heritage and National Heritage with a detailed drawing of the oak stiles to be used; notification to the landowner and tenant farmer; on receipt of planning consent, the giving of 4 weeks written notice of the commencement of the work; arranging for an archaeologist to be present when holes were being dug for the stiles and taking a set of 4 photographs at the start and after completion of the works.

All eyes were on the holes dug for the stiles as the archaeologist scraped away with his trowel, but to our disappointment nothing remarkable was found!



Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.

Take your litter home.

Help to keep all water clean.

Protect wildlife, plants and trees.

Take special care on country roads.

Make no unnecessary noise.

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.

Guard against all risk of fire.

Fasten all gates.

Keep your dogs under close control.

Keep to public paths across farmland.

Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.

**TAKE NOTHING BUT PHOTOGRAPHS,
LEAVE NOTHING BUT FOOTPRINTS.**

You may find the following maps useful :-

O.S. Pathfinder Sheet : SK02/12

O.S. Landranger Sheet : 128



Newborough Parish Council - Walk No. 1

Walk Description : The 5 mile route starts from the village church and takes you on a walk of approximately 2 hours exploring the northern half of Newborough Parish and offers fine views across varied countryside and parkland finishing back at the church.

The walk follows public rights of way throughout and the paths are well waymarked, however you may find the Ordnance Survey Pathfinder map (Sheet No. SK02/12) useful. It can be muddy and strong footwear is recommended. Cars may be parked at the Red Lion where walkers are welcome. Please keep dogs under close control and follow the Country Code.

Route Instructions : From the church in the village square, take care crossing over the busy B5234 Abbots Bromley to Burton road and go along Holly-bush Road. Pass the shop and in 20 yds. take Elton Lane *on the right*, over the River Swarbourn and *turn left* up the farm track with high hedges on either side to Elton Covert farm. Note the Duchy of Lancaster stone plaque set into the wall of a building, then climb the stile by the gate, from here you have a fine view to the left of Hollybush and its lake. The path is *straight ahead* for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile hugging the edge of Elton Covert. Easy level walking through 5 fields with footpath signposts and stiles along the way, the path deviates from a straight line just once when it passes round a seasonal pond. Just beyond the edge of the woodland cross over the fence using a stile on your left, then continue in the same direction as before, keeping a thin hedge on your right until you reach the footpath signpost on the A515.

The footpath then *doubles back* towards the corner of the woodland you have just left along the faint line of an ancient ditch to 2 old gateposts. *Turn right* and go down the field keeping the remains of a straggly hedge on your right. Just before the brook you will see on your right the brick base remains of an old windpump. At one time it pumped water from a spring to a reservoir situated above Eland Lodge and provided the farm with its water supply.

Climb the stile, cross the bridge over Eland Brook then another stile all in a few yards and follow the hedgeside on your right up to a footpath sign and stile. Climb the stile and *go left* on the track away from the farm then over the stile by a gate and follow the track to meet Hollybush Road where you *turn left*.

The walk may be shortened at this point by following the road back to the village $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles away but the Newborough Circuit goes left on the road for 150 yds. only, then *forks right* at two cottages, *straight over* minor crossroads then ahead down a private road to Agardsley Park.

Where the track turns right in front of the house, *go left* over a cattle grid with a footpath sign. Other footpaths meet at this point but the Newborough Circuit is signed by a new finger post with white lettering and goes to the right parallel to the field hedge and on the line of a well defined hard core tractor track across the field. Over another cattle grid into the next field with a pond just off to the left. The track becomes less distinct and curves right to a stile next to a gate. Over the stile and the footpath is *straight ahead* to the distant right hand field corner where hedgerows meet and a stile with a white-topped hand post.

Climb the stile and in the centre of the field beyond there is a clump of trees surrounding a pond. Go forward, *left of the trees* to the gateway in the hedge. Cross into the next field and with properties in Thorney Lanes coming into view, aim ahead to the farm buildings to the right of the white house (Daisy Bank) in the middle distance and as you reach the hedgerow which comes into view on the right, follow it down, keeping it on your right to pass through a gate set back from the lane.

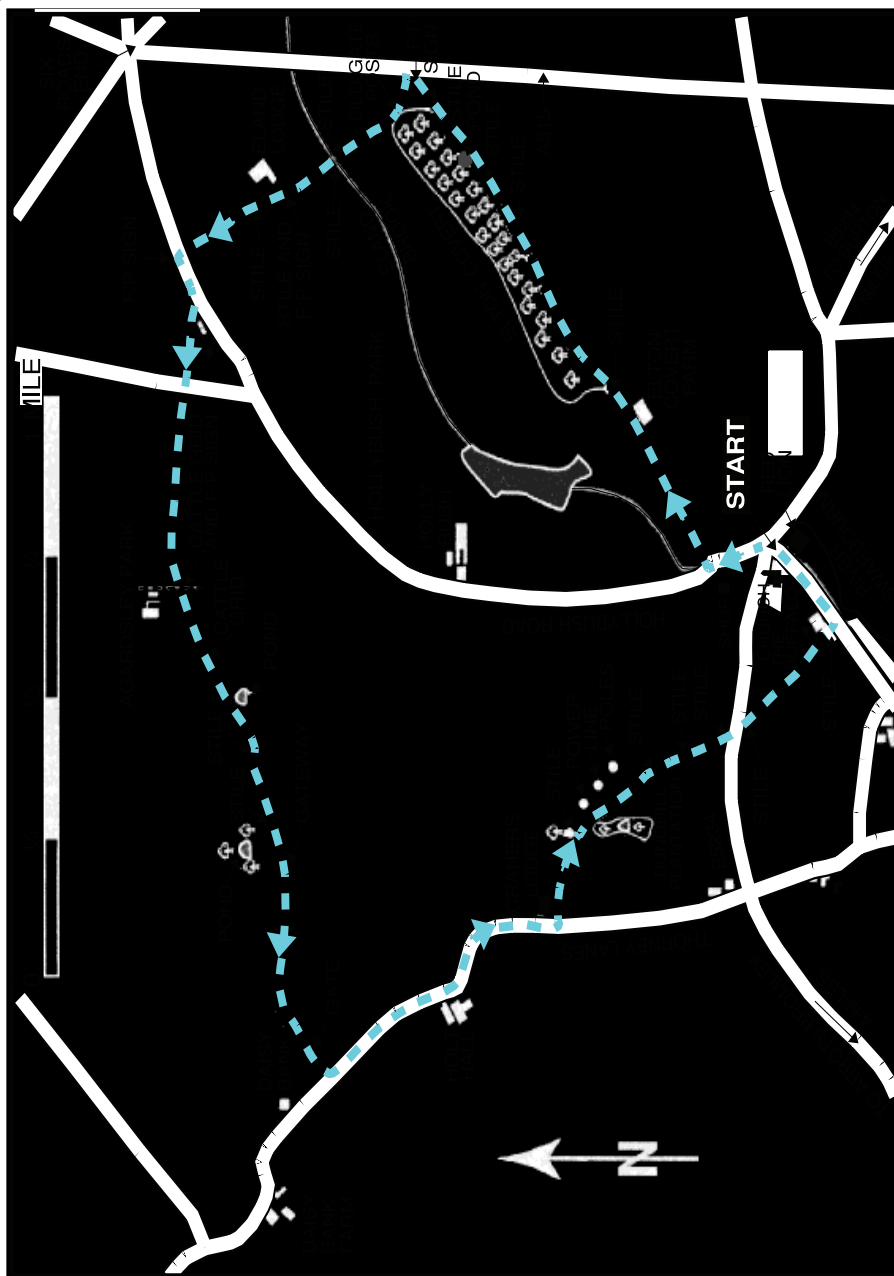
Turn left on the lane, up Holt Hill then after $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, just after Craners Lodge on the left, enter a field on the left through a metal gate. Follow the hedge for 25 yards, then as it begins to curve to the left *bear right* across the field making for a solitary oak tree to the left of the woodland. At the field corner next to the oak tree, climb the stile next to the gate.

Go *diagonally right* between the corner of Dunghill Plantation and the first of the line of 3 electricity power poles and continue forward on rising ground making for the field corner over the brow. Cross the stile to the left of a gate and follow the hedge around to the right with the spire of All Saints Church coming into view away on the left. At the field corner climb the stile and make for the top of the rise and the stile to cross over the B5234.

Here climb a half-hidden stile and keep the hedge on your left, as you walk down the field to a stile behind The Buffalo. *Turn left* into Yoxall Road to complete the 5 miles back to the village square.

Lawrence Shaw, Footpaths Officer, Newborough Parish Council.

Newborough Parish Council Walk No.1



Newborough Parish Council Walk No.2

Walk Description : The 4½ mile circular walk from the centre of Newborough explores the southern half of the parish, and the walk makes a convenient extension to that described in the first walk leaflet - the 5 mile Newborough Circuit. It is an area of public footpaths across farmland and quietish lanes which connect with the neighbouring parish of Hoar Cross. The route takes in gently rolling hills and valley slopes as well as attractive tracks through Jackson's Bank which is a woodland area owned by the Duchy of Lancaster and kindly opened to the public and where picnic tables are available. Numbers in the text relate to points on the map. Allow 2 hours.

The walk follows waymarked public rights of way and permissive tracks through Jackson's Bank, however you may find the Ordnance Survey Pathfinder map Sheet No. SK02/12 useful. It can be muddy and strong footwear is recommended. Cars may be parked at The Red Lion or The Buffalo, where walkers are welcome. Please keep dogs under close control and follow the Country Code.

Route Instructions : From the Red Lion, take the B5234 towards Burton for 150 yds. then climb a stile at a finger post on the right and go *diagonally left* across the field to a stile to the left of a gate. Over the stile and *follow the hedgerow on your left* to where it drops down and there is a water trough in the hedge, then *turn half right* and up to a stile in the hedge. (1)

Over the stile and, *maintaining direction, go diagonally right* (the bearing is 160°) across a very large arable field known locally as The Exits. The path heads across this field for 700 yds. to near the junction of Brickhill Lane and Moat Lane. The first 100 yds. or so are on rising ground and then when you are over the brow your objective is the furthestmost corner and just visible, the cream wall, roof and chimney of a cottage. Aim 100 yds. left of it to the tallest tree in the short hedgerow then with the hedgerow on your left follow it to the stile and out on to Moat Lane to the right of the cottage. *Turn right* on the lane for 500 yds. to the finger post on your left just before the farm buildings of Moat Hall (2).

Moat Hall enjoys wonderful views and dates from around the 13th century. The Chandos Pole family owned it until early this century and today it is a farm house. In this next section of the walk the right of way goes diagonally across both ends of a grass airstrip used by light aircraft and walkers must keep to the prescribed route and keep a look out when crossing the runway. The finger post and yellow waymark indicate the line of the footpath - *across the field* to a prominent oak tree situated in the hedgerow. With the hedge on your right *go forward* for 125 yds. until the hedge zig-zags and then finally it bends sharply right.

At this point *bear slightly left* across the field in the direction of the houses on the skyline to a stile with a white-topped hand post right of a gate. Over the stile, keeping the hedge on your right and down past farm buildings to the stile leading onto Dolesfoot Lane. Straight over the lane and cross the stile to the left of the gate and you are now into the parish of Hoar Cross.

Follow the hedge on your left and, where the hedge turns left, *keep straight on*. Mare Brook is soon nearby on the left and you follow it with the hedge curving right to the rear of private houses. The tower of the church at Hoar Cross can be seen away to the right then unexpectedly, just before the white house, a stile appears in the hedge. Cross it and it leads across the left edge of a neat lawn and behind the conifers for a few yds. before bringing you to another stile then out onto the lane at the bridge over the brook. (3)

Left up the hill and enter Jackson's Bank at the car park on the left. This is a private car park to be used solely by persons enjoying the permissive access to the wood. With the exception of one public footpath, the wood is open by permission of the Duchy of Lancaster who reserve the right to close Jackson's Bank on one day a year. A prominent track leads ahead. Follow it for 250 yds. then *go right* where it forks and follow this undulating track to a Y junction. Turn right here to a T junction with a pool ahead where you *turn left* and onto a field path with a gappy hedge on the left and down to a foot bridge back over Mare Brook. (4)

Left on the lane for 50 yds. then *right up the hill* and *right* at the fork. Past Ivy Bank Lodge on the right and in 150 yds. leave the lane at the finger post and *turn left* into the field gateway this side of the hedge.

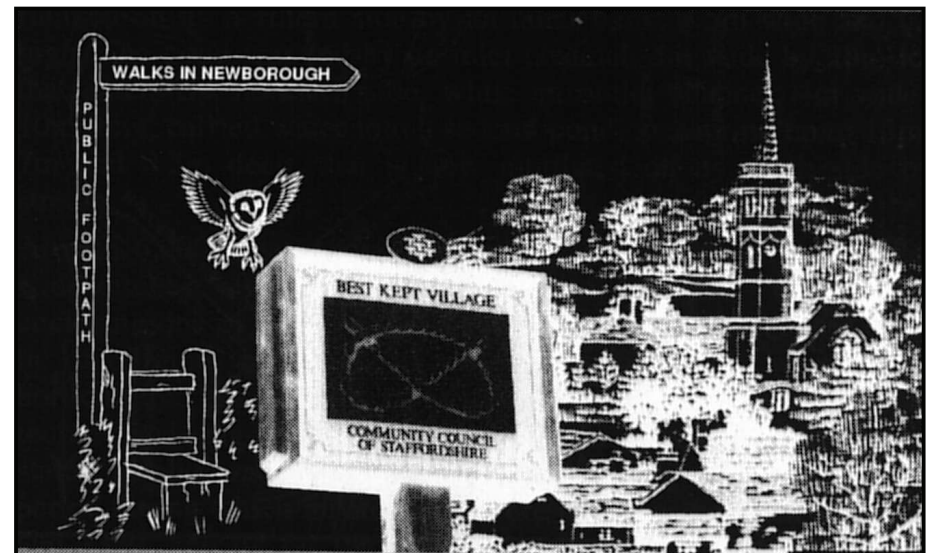
This is The Exits again. The short length of hedge on your right indicates the direction *straight across the field* (due west) to a stile with a white-topped post in the distant hedge. (5)

Over the stile into a springtime buttercup field and with the hedge on your right *go straight ahead* (a fine view of our award winning village may be seen from this point) and soon down into a narrow track between hedges and banks lined with cowslips in the spring and through a gate and over the bridge onto the lane opposite The Buffalo pub. *Turn right* and back into the village to complete the walk.

Alternative route from (5). The narrow track between banks can be very muddy after rain and walkers may prefer the alternative adjacent public footpath on higher ground alongside the hedge on the left of the track. It crosses 4 stiles and 3 small fields and rejoins the track just before the bridge and is shown by blue dots on the map.

For another walk - a short 1 mile stroll - follow the route as far as (1) and cross the stile then go directly to (5) a matter of 200 yds. with the hedge on your right. (This is another public footpath but for clarity it is not shown on this map) then follow the walk leaflet from (5) back into the village.

Lawrence Shaw, Footpaths Officer, Newborough Parish Council.



Newborough Parish Council Walk No.2



Newborough Parish Council - Walk No. 3

Walk Description : It is not generally known that less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Newborough village square there is an ancient monument. Even more notable, the fact that the monument has been scheduled in the records of National Heritage means that it is recognised as being of national importance and scheduling is to protect it from danger or destruction. It should be stressed to walkers, who may be hoping to see 700 year old ruins, that there are no such remains and the site is a grassy island surrounded by a waterlogged moat without trace of any building.

The monument is Newborough Hall moated site, a millpond, two fishponds and connecting channels. The moated site has a grassy island some 63m square which is surrounded by a moat, 10-20m wide by 1.8m deep, that is waterlogged on all sides except the north-east and a short length of the north-west arm close to the northern corner. An outer bank, about 8m wide by 1.3m high, flanks much of the south-east arm. Adjacent to the southern corner of the moat is a sub-rectangular waterlogged millpond, measuring some 42m by 32m, that is flanked on its north-east side by an outer bank, about 4m wide and 0.3m high.

A dry fishpond, measuring up to 25m by 10m and 0.5m deep, lies parallel to the moat's north-east arm some 20m to the east. It is flanked on its northern side by an outer bank, 4.5m wide and 0.2m high. The pond was fed by an inlet channel, 4m wide by 20m long, that enters the northern side, while an outlet channel, 4m wide by 10m long, carried water into a second pond, measuring up to 15m by 7m and 0.5m deep, that is now mutilated on its south side by a stream.

Around 6,000 moated sites are known in England. They consist of wide ditches, often or seasonally water-filled, partly or completely enclosing one or more islands of dry ground on which stood domestic or religious buildings. In some cases the islands were used for horticulture. The majority of moated sites served as prestigious aristocratic and seigniorial residences with the provision of a moat as a status symbol rather than a practical military defence. The peak period during which moated sites were built was between about 1250 and 1350, and by far the greatest concentration lies in central and

eastern parts of England. They form a significant class of mediaeval monument and are important for the understanding of the distribution of wealth and status in the countryside. Many examples provide conditions favourable to the survival of organic remains.

The monument is a well preserved moated site associated with a range of features that includes a millpond and two fishponds. The complexity of these remains demonstrates well the diversity which may be exhibited by this class of monument.

Please keep to the public footpaths and away from Newborough Hall Farm which is a late Victorian house.

There is sheep netting to the base of some stiles which will present difficulty to walkers with dogs. The walk follows public rights of way throughout and the paths are well waymarked, however, you may find the Ordnance Survey Pathfinder map (Sheet No. SK02/12) useful. Be prepared for muddy conditions - especially on the approach to the monument site.

Strong footwear is recommended. Cars may be parked at the Red Lion or the Buffalo, where walkers are welcome.

Please keep dogs under close control and follow the Country Code.

Route Instructions : From the village square, go past the school and down Yoxall Road. In $\frac{1}{4}$ mile *turn right* behind the Buffalo pub and over the stile into what is known locally as the 'Long Field'. Keep the hedge on your right and up to the stile at the busy B5234. Cross *straight over* to another stile and maintain direction with the hedge on your left to a stile in the field corner. *Straight ahead* again with hedge on left and over another stile leading into a field where the footpath goes between Dunghill Plantation on the left and a power line pole on the right. At the field corner, where there is a gate and a stile, do not cross over but *turn half right* and head across the field in the direction of a house with 4 dormer windows in the middle distance. Climb the stile in the field corner, follow the hedge curving left; one more stile ahead and then the stile against the iron fence which marks the boundary of the moated site.

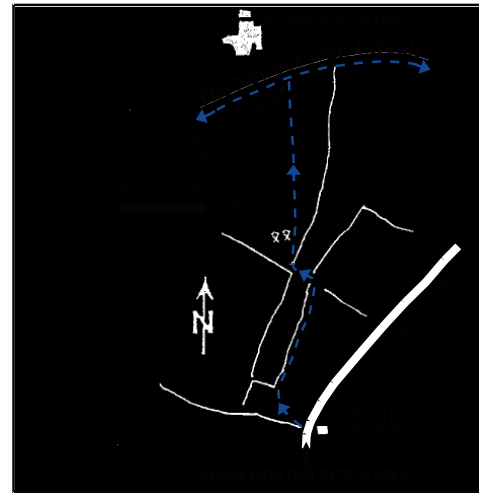
Over the stile, the path leading down for a few yards, to cross a stream and the moat at its narrowest neck, then up and over a stile through sheep netting into a grassy field where once stood a

mediaeval building. Keep strictly to the right of way. The farm house away to the right is late Victorian and unrelated to the moated site. Follow wire fence on left to stile through sheep netting in corner. *Cross farm track*, stile in hedgerow, forward into field with faint remains of the fishpond which marks the end of the ancient monument.

A new footbridge over the river Swarbourn leads to the final stile at Hollybush Road. *Turn right* here for less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to complete the 2 mile walk back into the village. But, if required, there is the opportunity of extending the walk by another $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Walk Extension : (see small map below)

Turn left up Hollybush Road for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Opposite Beech Cottage *go left* over stile at finger post and *turn half right* over the short rise and follow the hedge coming in on the left to a finger post near field corner. *Go left* over the stile, concrete bridge over the brook, stile right of the gate then *right over rails* at 2nd finger post and cross a sleeper bridge over another brook - all in a matter of 50 yds. *Go forward* right of the circle of trees and head for the finger post and gate at Agardsley Park which is on the line of the 'Newborough Circuit' - Walk No. 1.



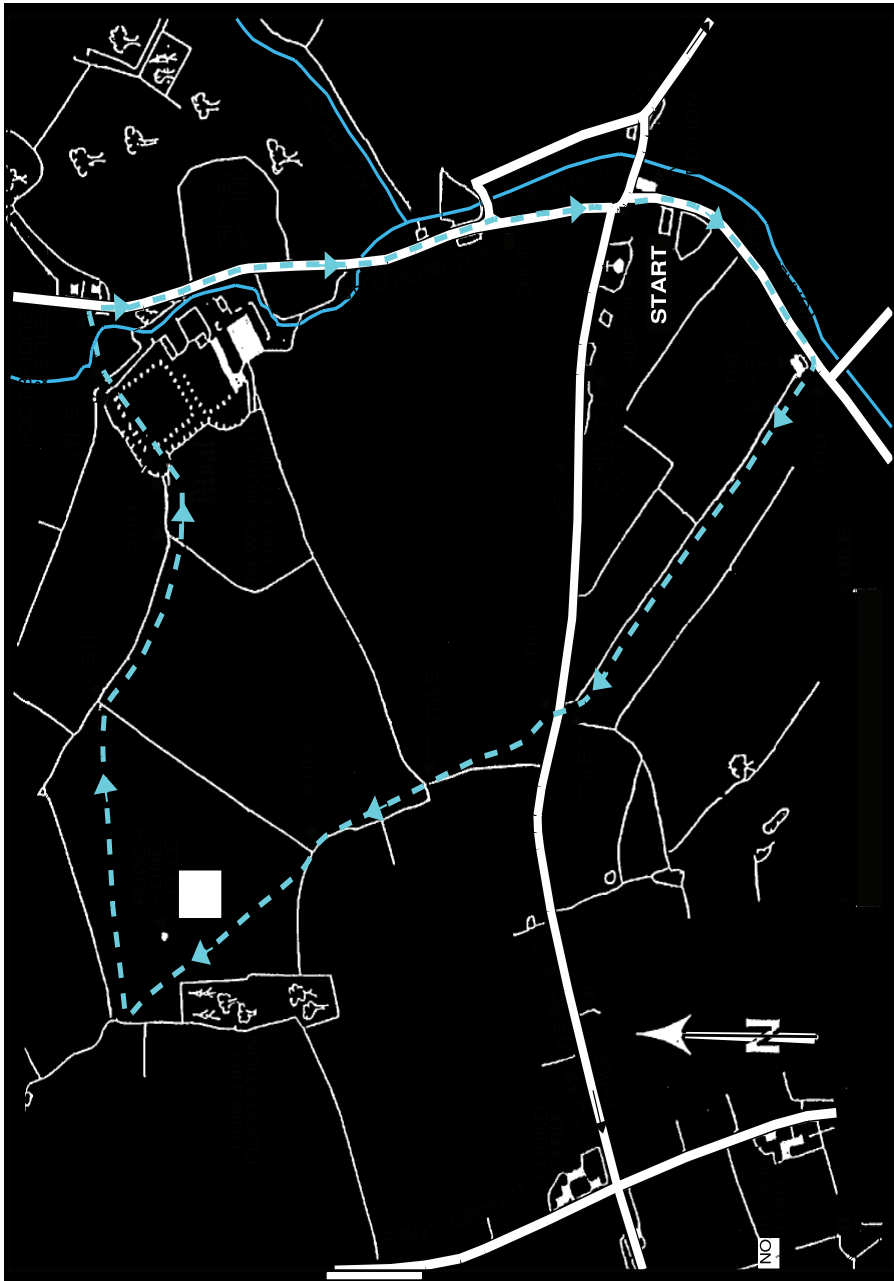
Option 1. *Turn left* here on the tractor track and follow the Walk No. 1 instructions back to Newborough, a matter of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles or :-

Option 2. *Turn right* over the cattle grid and up the road, also $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, back to the village.

In both cases the route is described in Walk No. 1 - The Newborough Circuit.

Lawrence Shaw, Footpaths Officer, Newborough Parish Council.

Newborough Parish Council - Walk No. 3



Acknowledgements - The Parish Council Walks



The landowners and farmers whose land is crossed by these paths :

The Duchy of Lancaster	Mr. G. C. Brandrick
Mr. W. J. Brandrick	Mr. M. J. J. Chappell
Mr. R. G. Emmott	Mr. E. Haddock
Mr. B. L. W. Hoyes	Mr. D. E. Leadbetter
Mr. J. C. Litchfield	Mr. J. E. Litchfield
Mr. O. R. Prince	Mr. R. W. W. Prince
Mr. T. Sale	Mr. G. R. Salmon
Mr. P. A. Slater	Mr. J. Wright

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Mr. R. Ryder - Senior Training Officer,
Work Activity Team, Staffs C. C.
Alice Coleman - Community Paths Initiative
Officer, Staffs C. C.

Support from Staffordshire County Council

Description of the District - 1891 Census

[illegible]

Name of Property	Name of Inhabitant
AGARDSLEY COTTAGE	JONATHAN ROBOTHAM
AGARDSLEY PARK	EMMA ROBOTHAM (widow)
AULTS COTTAGE	EDWARD HODGKINSON
BUFFALO INN	SAMUEL CAMPION
COLE HILL	JAMES RUSHDON
COLE HILL (named twice)	DAVID BARTRAM
DAISY BANK	GEORGE WALTHO
DUNSFIELD	CHARLES HOLLINGSWORTH
THE FIRS	THOMAS J. CARRINGTON
FOLLY HALL	THOMAS JONES
GOSPEL OAK	JEREMIAH EASTAUGH
HILL HALL (possibly now Holt Hall)	MARY WALTHO (daughter of farmer)
HOLLYBUSH	CHARLES JOHN CLAY
IVY BANK	JOHN CLEWS
MEYNELL INGRAM ARMS	MARY LOCKER (widow)
NEWBOROUGH HALL	JOHN SAMUEL SMITH
MITRE COTTAGE	JOSEPH MOUSLEY
MOAT HALL	THOMAS COTTRELL
NEWHALL FARM	GEORGE TUNNICLIFFE
RED LION	THOMAS DAWSON
SCHOOL HOUSE	HENRY WAKELIN
SHORTFIELD HOUSE	BENJAMIN CAWSER
VICARAGE	Rev. THOMAS H. SPINNEY

Deducting those which are now in Hoar Cross Parish, there were 134 inhabited houses, 10 uninhabited and 1 building.

The total population - similarly adjusted - was 519 (265 males and 254 females).

Elizabeth Ford

Wm. White in	1818	1834	1851
Gentlemen		John Abberley Jos. Abberley (Grinders)	John Abberley
Meynell		John Cotton (Wheelwright)	Wm. Collier
White Hart	Riddle	John Whyman (Painter)	Chs. Hancock (Saddler)
Red Lion	Sower (Joiner)	Ben Soars	Wm. Loverock (Butcher)
Beerhouses		J. Robinson Jas. Sherwin	Wm. Bradley Isaac Woodings
Wheelwrights	Gould Townsend	Gould Townsend	Wm. Gould Jos. Shipley Ellen Ward Hy. Townsend
Blacksmiths	Wilson	Wm. Hall Geo. Wilson	Wm. Wilson T. Whyman Geo. Wooley J. Shipley
Builder			John Rushton
Carrier		John Robinson John Eastoe	John Eason
Shoe Maker		Wm. Griffith Thom. Sherrett	Wm. Griffith Geo. Hallam John Clark
Hollybush	Hall	Hall	Hall
Linen Weavers		James Baker Fras. Woodings	James Baker
Shops	Sherwin (Grocer) Phillip (Grocer & Draper)	Griffith J. Robinson Jas. Sherwin Wm. Loverock James Lloyd (Tailor+Grocer)	Griffith Robinson John Lloyd Wm. Bradley Isaac Woodings Jas. Woodings

Wm. White in	1834	1851
Brickmaker		John Upton (Joiner)
Schools	Charlotte M. Clarke (Ladies) John Wakelin Hannah Wooley (Free)	Hannah Buck (Free) Geo. Wakelin
Huntsman		Jos. Leedham
Taylors	James Lloyd	Saml. Lindsey
Moat Hall	Chas. Ryley	D. Loverock
Newborough Hall		Wm. Littlewood
Miller	Danl. Rawlins	Danl. Rawlins
Farrier		Thom. Walker
Saddler	John Startin	
Butcher	Wm. Loverock	
Farmers	Thom. Swindall Josp. Swindall Thom. Cotton Benj. Dunn T. Hawkesworth Wm. Hollingsworth E. Ironmonger T. Littlewood Ed. Mellor John Potts Fr. Rawlings W. Townsend Cath. Wood J. Loverock	Thom. Cotton Wm. Garrett John Dean G. Mellor Wm. Turner John Robinson Jas. Sherwin John Swindall Fredk. Woodings John Meakin Wm. Mansfield Dan. Rawlins Ann Robotham Joseph Tetley Thom. Walker Ed. Ironmonger

Envoi . . .

So there it is - our Village Book. We hope that you have enjoyed the contents and learned a little about our community.

We will not say that we are a typical village - every village in England has its varying facets. These are some of ours and there must surely be more that remain hidden.

We thank those who did come forward and, like Joy in 1976 - "know that there are many more tales and stories with which to embroider the years gone past" - so that when these years become the past, someone will perhaps come along to recount the tales of today.

Then it will be once again - 'Over to You'.

"On this green unambitious brow
Fair mistress of the vale below
With sloping hills enclosed around
Their heads with oaks and hollies crowned
With lucky choice by happy hands
Plac'd in good hour, my dwelling stands
And draws the distant trav'ler's eye
Enamour'd of its scenery
Where all things give what all express
Content and rural happiness
Where far retir'd from life's dull form
Comes no intruder but the storm."

Francis Mundy (Near Hollybush)

Acknowledgements - Village History etc. in 1976

Extracts from *Domesday Book - Staffordshire*.
Survey of Staffordshire by Erdeswick.
History and Antiquities of Staffordshire by Shaw.
History of Staffordshire by W. White.
History of Staffordshire by W. Pitt.
The Story of Staffordshire by M. Hughes
Staffordshire by Charles Masfield.
Church Bells of the County of Staffordshire by C. Lynam.
Records of William Salt Archaeological Society.
The Radbourne Charters.
A History of Staffordshire by Greenslade and Stuart.
The King's England . . Staffordshire by Arthur Mee.
History of Tutbury and Rolleston by Underhill.
A Book of Our Village by Newborough W.I. (handwritten in 1950).
History of Tutbury by Mousley.
Duchy of Lancaster by R. Somerville.
Newborough and Hanbury Church Records.
Hoar Cross Hall Guide Book.

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The County Council.
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The Staff of the Staffordshire Records & William Salts Libraries.
Mr. Robinson (the Spinney family scrap-book).
- and many other residents of the village of Newborough.

Acknowledgements in 1994

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And last, but by no means least to :

Mrs. V. Hancox and the late **Miss F. Waltho** for their memories of an older Newborough.

And to all those whom it would take another book to list :

Those who live in our village.

Photographs lent by :

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Mr. J. Austin **Mrs. E. Kemp**
Front cover : Aerial picture of Newborough
taken by **Mr. L. Shaw**.

Jean Austin
for Newborough Parish Council