

Biddulph & District Genealogy & Historical Society

Newsletter - March 2017

Meetings commence at 7 p.m. in Biddulph Library. Admission is free for society members and £2 for non-members.

Spring / Summer 2017 Programme

Monday 20th March: AGM .

There will be a number of short films, Biddulph slide shows and Mike Dawson's book stall.

Monday 24th April: Mr John Berry:
'From Fishing to Flyover - The story of Norton Bridge'

Monday 15th May: Mr Tony Bonson:
'The History of the Macclesfield Canal'

The Biddulph & District Genealogy & Historical Society is pleased to announce that the re-published version of Mr. Gordon Lomas's "Brindley Ford" is now available.

Gordon describes growing up in Brindley Ford, the people of the village, the local dialect of the people and miners, the Churches and Chapels, the Victoria and Chatterley Whitfield Collieries and the beginning of Primitive Methodism in the area.

DJO



Above: One of the new pictures added to the original copy in this edition.

BOOK LAUNCH - BOOK LAUNCH



A book sale, organised by David Outhwaite, was held in the library on the 18th February and proved very popular

Arnold Bennett: A Celebration of his Birth 150 years ago

2017 sees the 150th anniversary of the birth of Enoch Arnold Bennett.

Bennett is the most famous writer that our local area has produced. To celebrate his birth many events are planned throughout 2017.

A statue has been commissioned by the Arnold Bennett Society and this will be unveiled on the author's birthday of May 27 at noon. The statue will be positioned near to the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery and will be positioned to face down Broad Street. A quotation from one of his most popular novels "The Card" will be included on the statue.

Bennett was born in Hanley and lived in Burslem before heading off to London to seek work at the age of 21.

Other events planned for this year include a new production of Anna of the Five Towns adapted by Theresa Heskins for the New Vic Theatre running from the 26 May to the 19 June. Several screenings of film adaptations of his work from Piccadilly, Holy Matrimony (Buried Alive), Dear Mr Prohak will be shown at various locations including one at Biddulph Town Hall on 23 July of Piccadilly.

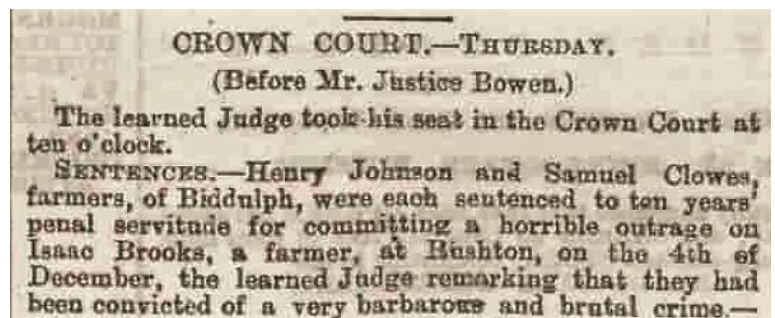
Biddulph History group member Bill Ridgway will see his play "Bennett and Marguerite" performed at the Middleport Pottery on 14 July.

An exhibition Arnold Bennett: In Life and Art will be held at the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery from 18 February to 2 July. This will include materials, watercolours and artefacts which have not previously been on display.

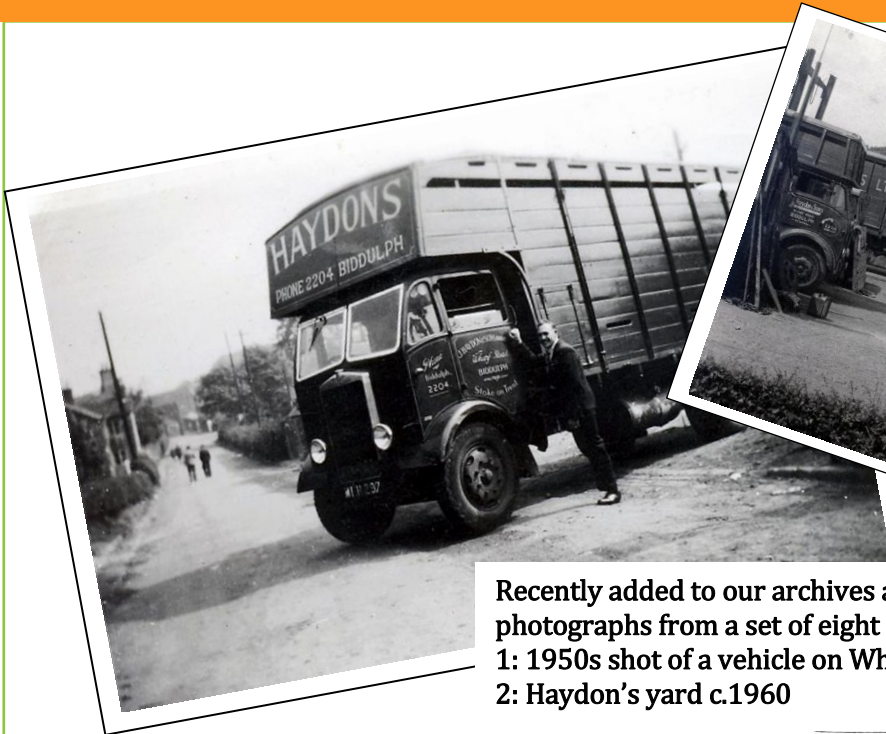
Further information is available from the Arnold Bennett website www.arnoldbennettsociety.org.uk

I am sure most of our members will have read or seen one of Bennett's novels performed but if you haven't then make 2017 the year that you do.

Kath Walton



The above appeared in the local press on **January 30th 1880**. Can anyone shed any light on the trial of Johnson and Clowes? They were each sentenced to 10 years penal servitude. Where were they sent to and does anyone know what became of them?



Recently added to our archives and available to see on the website are these photographs from a set of eight provided by M P Winterton.

- 1: 1950s shot of a vehicle on Wharf Road. No identification of the driver.
- 2: Haydon's yard c.1960

RECENT ACQUISITION TO ARCHIVES:

Extensive notes on Greenway Bank have been deposited by Barry Milner. It is the work of his daughter and completed for academic study. There is a treasure trove of information here. If anyone would like to see it please ask Elaine Heathcote. Right: From 1919 sale catalogue

The Gardeners Arms at Brown Lees

The copy of a photograph of the Gardeners Arms at Brown Lees, circa 1898, was given to me by Mr. Cyril Copeland who was brought up in Brown Lees and whose relatives are pictured in front of the public house. They are as follows ...

Left – right: Eliot & Annie Elizabeth Copeland, Albert John Copeland and Mary Ann Copeland (nee Jones).

Cyril told me that the old pub had been demolished and that a new pub had been built in its place and had been named the 'The Gardeners' Arms'; and he also said that the front entrance is in the exact place as it was in the old pub. NB. Albert Copeland was the landlord of the pub and was a councillor on the Biddulph Urban District Council.

Cyril also told me of another pub in Brown Lees – 'The Travellers' Rest', it was also known by the nickname 'The Corner Pin' and was on Brook Street on the opposite side of the road from the Brown Lees chapel. It still stands on a corner where a rough road leads to the rear of some houses and is now what looks like a shop of some kind. The publican may have been a Peter Copeland and he may have been succeeded by his wife, Alice.

Eric Walley Right: Photograph of the Gardeners Arms

By Direction of Robert Heath, Esq.

Staffs. and Cheshire Borders

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In the Parishes of Biddulph, Horton and Norton in the Moors, and extending to about

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22 Capital Dairy Farms

of from 20 to 150 Acres, with Substantial Houses and Homesteads.

Numerous Attractive Small Holdings

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Valuable Woodlands

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Knypersley Mill with House and 28 Acres.

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The Fully-Licensed Biddulph Arms Hotel.

Accommodation Lands and Several Superior Cottages.

