

Kyleburn Historical Society

Kyleburn Historical Society was formed in 1994 and has enjoyed continuing success for over 13 years. Under the chairmanship of Keith Cresswell, the society was formed by a few dedicated local villagers who had helped to publish a book entitled Kilbourne in Morleston.

The publication was collaboration between John Flamsteed School and the Kilburn Parish Council in celebration of the council's centenary.

A great deal of research was done on buildings and characters from the village and the Kilburn Centennial Group set about compiling lots of historical data, memories of local people and a great deal of anecdotal information.

The final result was a 40-page booklet, a copy of which was put through the letterbox of every household in the parish with the compliments of the parish council.

A leading contributor and mining historian Terry Judge cajoled editorial secretary Pauline Oldrini to keep the momentum going by starting a Historical Society, and Pauline was to be a founder member and serve as Honorary Secretary for 13 years.

Terry Judge was the speaker at the society's first meeting at the Station Hotel, Rawson Green his subject being, The Clay Cross Calamities, and the society has met eleven times annually ever since.

Years ago there was a toll house at the junction of the Kilburn/Belper and Ripley/Derby roads and the society decided that this would be their logo (pictured), and if you look carefully when driving from Kilburn to the cross roads, you can see the old toll post which bears a plaque in the memory of their first chairman.

Unfortunately Keith Cresswell's tenure was to be a short one as he sadly passed away just over a year after the society's inception, whereupon Nigel Oldrini took the chair until January this year with Gerald Hazlewood as his deputy.

Keith Staley assumed the role of chairman for 2008 together with the position of Programme Coordinator. In an attempt to boost attendances and interest a move closer to the village was made and for many years the function room of the Hunters Arms was their home, but when the opportunity arose to have use of the Baptist Hall, the society once again uprooted and

are now happily operating here.

Membership steadily rose, and at one point there were over seventy people enrolled – a tremendous achievement for a 'small' village organisation.

Over 130 varied talks have been heard since the start and there is usually an interesting visit arranged in July, with past excursions including Repton School and Heage Windmill.

The society meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm and all are welcome. Forthcoming talks/visits:

June 19

THE 1816 TAMBORA VOLCANIC ERUPTION & THE YEAR WITHOUT SUMMER by Bruce Durham

July 17

** VISIT - NOTTINGHAM'S CAVES with Margaret Harrison

September 18

LIFE IN MEDIEVAL TIMES by Derek Harley

October 16

A MANLY RACE by Anne Batchelor

November 20

MEDIEVAL GLASS IN DERBYSHIRE by Peter Shelton

December 11

DERBYSHIRE DISASTERS by John Hughes

