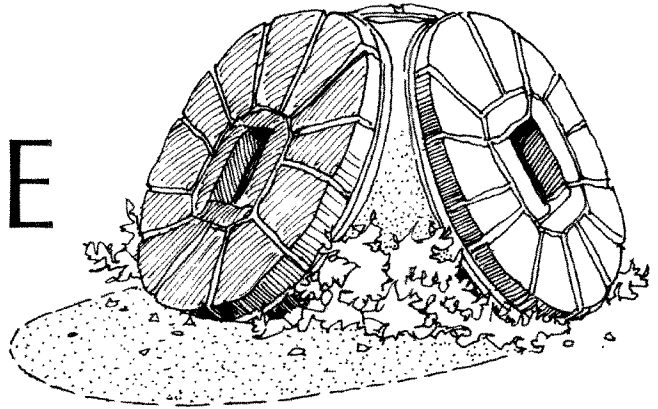


DEAN VILLAGE NEWS



No.88

Summer 1987

THE DEAN VILLAGE FAYRE

A HISTORICAL DAY OUT

SATURDAY 6th JUNE

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

followed by an

OPEN-AIR CEILIDH

IN WELL COURT

8.00 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.

Tickets for Ceilidh - £2.50 (less for residents in Well Court)
from Liz Lumsden, 33 Well Court (226 3945) and other Committee Members

DO COME AND BRING AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE.

IT WILL BE A MEMORABLE OCCASION.

THE DEAN VILLAGE FAYRE

For a few hours the clocks are turned back - and once more a blacksmith works at the smiddy on Bell's Brae, whilst a spinner's nimble fingers tease out wool on the site of the old fellmongery. The wee sweetie shop by the bridge opens its door again, to sell toffee doddles, soor plooms and Coutar's candy. Across the bridge look out for sellers of cockles and mussels - a baxter kneading his dough - a lady passing in her brougham, viewing the stalls: herbs, pottery, books, bric-a-brac, to mention only a few - orange and balloon sellers adding colour - an artist by the river recording the scene - the sound of a fairground organ - pipers announcing children's plays, pageantry and dancers - circus boys on trick cycles - and stained-glass artist and sculptor demonstrating their skills - while, to

refresh the body, home-made scones and cakes, freshly brewed tea and coffee, and seasonal strawberries are served, to the airs of a serenading fiddler.

NOTE FOR CAR OWNERS

The road through the village will be closed to traffic from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday June 6. So - no moving cars.

But it would be nice to have no parked cars either during the Fayre, on Bell's Brae, the old parts of Damside or the lower part of Dean Path. Would you be so good as to move yours away before 10.00 a.m.?

Exceptionally, you may park in the new side of Damside, but anyone wishing to use their cars during the day should move them, to the top of Dean Path, for example, before the roads are closed.

HELP WELCOMED

Can you offer ... ?

Home baking and help with teas -

Plants for house or garden -

Bric-a-brac

Second-hand books and paperbacks

Bottles and jars for bottle stall/tombola -

To be a steward during the day -

To help at the Ceilidh -

Bright Ideas

General Help

General Enquiries

Lily Lee, 50 Well Court (226 3289)

Len Jackson, 25 Sunbury Place (225 4359)

Barbara Mackay, 8 Damside (226 2512)

Gill Situnayake, 1/2 The School (225 4899)

Alasdair Fergusson, 22 Sunbury Place (225 2046)

Liz Lumsden, 33 Well Court (226 3945)

Betty Boyd, 10 Randolph Cliff (225 3289)

Have we any musicians in our midst (accordionists, jazz players ...?) 225 3289

Car Boot Sale Enquiries to Vicky Brunton, 5 Maybury Road (339 2460)

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Belford Mews (Nos 11-11A): An application to turn a garage into a kitchen, living room and bathroom seems to amount to the creation of an additional dwelling. So instead of a flat with a garage there would be two flats with two more cars in the street. We hope that consent will be refused as in a somewhat similar case near by.

Holy Trinity Church, Dean Bridge: Application has been made for permission to make a restaurant in the basement, an art gallery on the ground floor and offices or studios above.

Dragonara Hotel: Consent has been granted for the extension and additional parking. There are conditions regarding noise, landscaping, materials and the design of an "observation lift", which was not on the plans we saw.

45-49 Belford Road: A block of 26 flats is under construction near the Post Office. It will have a basement car park. The contractor has been allowed to occupy temporarily an adjoining area which is the property of the District Council, as is the whole of High Green.

Glen Henderson's garage etc: Planning consent has been granted for a wholesale clothing warehouse. We objected unsuccessfully to the insertion of a new vehicle access at the back, in Belford Mews, for we feared congestion, obstruction, and danger to small children.

"In the interests of amenity, loading and unloading shall be restricted to between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday to Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday." That condition does not allay our anxieties.

The flat(s) or flats above will be brought back into use.

Glen Henderson also owned two shops within the adjoining tenement. We have raised no objection to the change of use of No.54 to an office, and of No.52 ("Remus") to a flat, for there is no effective demand for shops there.

HIGH GREEN

The Council has again put up for sale the open ground between Belford Road and the river, including the area occupied temporarily by the builder of the new block of flats near the Post Office. There is a long history of abortive schemes for building on this difficult site. The one which came nearest to realisation was that of McTaggart & Mickel, who backed out at the last moment, in 1985. We then hoped that the area would remain as open ground, and a project for landscaping it was well under way. (see DVN 87)

Prospective purchasers are invited to submit offers by June 23, with plans of the proposed development.

From the Planning Brief: "The site is available primarily for residential development although a small shop, cafe or restaurant may be incorporated ... the layout should be

informal and incorporate views into and out of the village. Vehicular access should be restricted to the slip road from the west off Belford Road ... Built form should be concentrated at the top of the site as much as possible. A children's playground should be provided at the bottom of the site in the area of what was previously Hawthorn Terrace to the west of the footbridge ...

"A through pedestrian route must be incorporated to link with the Water of Leith footbridge and the south bank walkway. This route should allow access for emergency vehicles to Hawthornbank Lane.

"Developers are encouraged to produce imaginative designs and layouts ..."

A BABY ROOM?

We welcome new arrivals - two born on successive days to residents in West Mill and a second son for Mary Gattier of Well Court.

Pushers of prams will welcome the news that a ramp is to be provided for them at Lynedoch Place, as the result of a campaign by Jenny and Adam Zyw, supported by Councillor Ponton.

THE FONT

Mary Gattier's baby is going to be christened at the font in the garden of Well Court. The story of this was told in DVN 66, after the Association had rescued it from possible damage or destruction when Belford Church was being converted into a theatre. The congregation of Dean Free Church had occupied a building on the site adjoining Drumsheugh Baths from 1844 until they moved in 1889 into the new church at the foot of Douglas Gardens. It was designed by Sidney Mitchell (the architect of Well Court), but we do not know whether he also designed the font. The fine inscription on it says that it was given by the children of Dean Free Church. According to the minutes of the Deacons' Court (1884) the cost £15"3"8, of which the children contributed £12"6"0. It cost rather more to have it moved to Well Court in 1981. The expense was covered by donations from local architects and residents.

3 ROTHESAY TERRACE

The "new and interesting venue" for the AGM, which was hinted at in our last issue, was the splendid drawing-room of John Ritchie Findlay's house, where Sir William Fettes Douglas painted the view of the Village with which many of you are familiar. The house has external features which distinguish it from its neighbours, and a grand interior, rich with marble, brass and fine hardwoods. The architect was Sidney Mitchell, whom Findlay was soon to employ for Well Court.

The building got the name "Melvin House" when it was a residence for students of the College of Domestic Science. It is now used by the Scottish Health Service for residential courses in management.

Dr Gerald H. France gave us the benefit of his research in an account of Findlay's life from his earliest years in Arbroath (1824 ...) through his time as a young manager on his great-uncle's newspaper, "The Scotsman", his bachelor years at 2 Darnaway Street and his married life with Susan Leslie, from 1863, at various addresses before they settled in Rothesay Terrace in the 1880's. The initials S.L. as well as J.R.F. can be seen, carved or in stained glass, in their house, in Well Court and on Doulgas Gardens Mews.

SUMMER DIARY

Saturday June 6

FAYRE and CEILIDH

Sundays June 14 and 21

GUIDED WALKS from Dean Bridge at 2.15
TEAS in the garden of Well Court

Wednesday August 12

OUTING FOR PENSIONERS to Thirlestane Castle, Lauder, which also has a Country Life Exhibition. Departure 1.15 pm
Return by 7 pm. Those who come are asked to pay only for entrance (£1.50) and for their tea. Bookings to Mrs Peggy Valentine or Mrs Lily Lee.

DEAN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING APRIL 27

The Annual Report summarised the year's activities - action on planning and environmental matters, meetings for members - which have been announced or reported in Dean Village News throughout the year.

The Treasurer's Report showed a balance of £3008.59 on March 31, 1987, compared with £2939.25 a year earlier.

COMMITTEE 1987-88

Chairman:	Mrs Peggy Valentine, 31/2 Belford Road	(225 8942)
Vice-Chairman:	Ms Caroline Gerard, 6 Belford Mews	(225 6071)
Secretary:	Miss Dorothy Forrester, 13 Belford Road	(226 5843)
Treasurer:	Mrs Betty Boyd, 10 Randolph Cliff	(225 3289)
	Miss Amanda Mears*, 12 Hawthornbank Lane	(226 2376)
	and David Beresford-Jones, 12 Hawthornbank Lane	(226 2376)
	Alasdair Fergusson, 22 Sunbury Place	(225 2046)
	Ted Fisher, 29/1 Sunbury Place	(225 1123)
	Dr Alison Kerr*, 31 Well Court	(226 3406)
	Mrs Marjory Hendry, 44 Well Court	(226 7430)
	Mrs Lily Lee, 50 Well Court	(226 3289)
	Mrs Liz Lumsden, 33 Well Court	(226 3945)
	Mrs Barbara Mackay, 8 Damside	(226 2512)
	Miss Deirdre McClure, 85 Great King Street	(556 1904)
	* co-opted May 11	