CIVIC NEWS

134th NEWSLETTER

of the

DROITWICH SPA CIVIC SOCIETY

‘working for a better town’

New Signs for Old
See pages 4 & 5 for more information.

AUTUMN 2009
DROITWICH SPA CIVIC SOCIETY

Founded 1974
Registered with the Civic Trust
Charity Reg No 503272

Officers:

President  Donald Fletcher  01905 794039
Chairman  Stuart Haywood  01905 770553
Vice-Chairman  Richard Taylor  01905 779688
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Website:  www.droitwichspa.com  (click on Header ‘Civic Society’)

The Droitwich Spa Civic Society was founded in 1974, as a response to the rapid development of the town.
The Civic Society provides a meeting place for all who have an interest in the enhancement and preservation of Droitwich Spa, as a town with a unique heritage and facilities in which to live, to work and to find a stimulating environment.

DROITWICH SPA CIVIC SOCIETY

cares what happens in and around Droitwich Spa

- by stimulating public interest in the town of Droitwich Spa and its surrounding area
- by promoting high environmental standards in this same area
- by securing the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic and public interest in this same area
FOREWARD - AUTUMN 2009

Firstly, apologies for the poor quality of the photographs in the previous newsletter: ambition ran ahead of experience and capacity.

Development Plan

The process of devising a development plan continues, albeit now with a later completion date. The latest round of consultation is on the identification of smaller sites within the town for development. Possibilities flagged up include the site at the end of Vines Lane suggested by the Civic Society. So some of our suggestions are taken up! The deadline for comment is 8th January 2010.

Our sources tell us that outline planning applications are likely in the new year for development in the Copcut area and Yew Tree Hill, larger sites previously identified. As you know the Committee (in conjunction with the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust) has pressed the case for a wider and more sustainable green corridor/amenity in Copcut, should development be agreed.

It seems we have set the agenda. The developer and council officials (with whom we have had face to face meetings) express understanding for the proposals, so we remain cautiously optimistic about the success of our ‘damage limitation’ strategy. The experience to date underlines the merits of preparing contingency plans in case unwelcome developments materialise.

Town Centre

Janet Yates, the Town Centre Manager, is trying to improve the appearance of the town centre. The Civic Society Committee is keen to help. We are focussing in the near future on improving and standardising signage (including removing unnecessary clutter), information and interpretation boards. Janet Yates shares her thinking with us in this newsletter. If members have suggestions, please direct them to George Leech, Richard Taylor or myself.

Hothouse Project

A small local project on energy conservation, conducted by the Spa Housing Association, supported by the Local Strategic Partnership Group, has pointed up the greater savings and lower carbon footprint of air sourced heat pumps compared with solar panels. It also underlined the savings from greater energy awareness. A copy of this report is lodged with Helen Prew should members want to read it.

Brine Baths

So, our original information on the closure of the Brine Baths was correct. It is tempting to pick over the pieces of previous decisions that have led to this sad state of affairs. However, it is not going to solve the problem. The committee will keep an eye on Wychavon District Council’s promise/hope of a replacement ‘brine experience’, and give what support we can.

Roger Peberdy has provided background material later in the newsletter.

M5 Noise

We have written to DEFRA as part of a consultation on ‘first priority’ sites for investigation and further details appear on pages 10 and 11.

Have a good Christmas

Stuart Haywood
DROITWICH SPA - Improving the Visitor Welcome

It has long been recognised that Droitwich Spa has much to offer the visitor – a fascinating history, interesting buildings, the Lido, parks and a good range of independent shops and cafes. The restoration and re-opening of the canal will see a significant increase in the number of visitors with estimates of 322,000 visitor days spending £2.75m in the local economy.

Whilst the increase in visitor numbers will clearly benefit the town, what sort of welcome can these visitors expect? We know they can expect a good welcome and service in the local shops – the recent Skillsmart Retail survey ranked the town 15th in the UK for the mystery shopping exercise, which was higher than 50 other towns. But what about the other aspects of the visitor welcome – public realm such as benches and bins, state of the pavements, signage, maps and interpretation? The Civic Society along with the 3 local councils are mindful there is scope for improvement and for this reason have put plans in place to start addressing these issues.

Representatives from Droitwich Spa Town Council, Wychavon District Council and Worcestershire County Council have started a programme of town walkabouts to review the state of public realm and follow up on issues raised by the local community. Each council is tasked with following up actions for their respective area of responsibility. Whilst it cannot be guaranteed every task will be addressed, the co-ordinated approach along with an action plan does at least mean there is a way of recording what needs to be done, and monitoring progress.

The more significant programme concerns improving town signage and maps. A working group comprising of representatives from the Civic Society, Town and District Councils has recently met to start what will clearly be a mammoth task. An audit of signage and maps has shown there is much to be done – there is only 1 map in the town, pedestrian signage is in need of repair or replacement and there are not enough visitor information points about the town’s heritage and buildings. The working group has identified 5 main areas to focus on:

- Pedestrian Signage
- Maps and information boards
- Interpretation panels
DROITWICH SPA - Improving the Visitor Welcome

- Historic plaques
- Other eg gateway to High Street from Worcester Road, designated route from the railway station, underpasses, Tower Hill pumping station

The aim is to have a masterplan setting out aspects such as colour and style, use of finials, locations and a work programme.

The working group is currently undertaking research in each key location in the town to identify what is already in place, whether this should be re-used or removed and what is required. The group is also looking at the different options for signs, boards and panels; what permissions are required; and how much the programme will cost.

The group will meet again at end of November to review progress and agree next steps. The working group recognises the scope of the task and the need to prioritise work in relation to the resources and budgets available. It will not be a quick exercise but at least the work has started towards improving an important aspect of our visitor welcome.

Janet Yates
Droitwich Spa Area Partnership Manager
Wychavon District Council

Changes are being made to www.droitwichspa.com web site to incorporate a link to the latest issue of Civic News.

By rearranging the Civic Society’s entry on the web site in this way it will ensure that up to date information is on display without the need to keep updating the events calendar and other useful information.

E-mails can be sent regarding issues affecting the Society by using droitwichspacivicsociety@hotmail.co.uk
**THE BRINE CURE**

Those who have only ever known the late lamented 1984 Brine Bath can have no idea of the true extent and variety of Spa treatments which were once available in Droitwich.

Brine treatment, which began in earnest with the first Droitwich Saline Baths in 1836 and continued with the Royal Baths (closed 1940) and the several times expanded St. Andrew’s Baths (closed 1970), consisted of far more than just exercises in warm salt water in a ‘swimming pool’.

Right from the start a variety of special brine treatments were offered, reclining baths using the natural Droitwich brine (amongst the strongest in the world) at various dilutions and temperatures, together with brine douche and shower baths were the commonest alternatives to the ‘plunge bath’.

The Royal Baths offered all of these and more, and when the town centre St. Andrew’s Baths was in its prime there were two ‘remedial pools’ (one for gentlemen and one for ladies) in which exercise could be taken under the guidance of a skilled hydro-therapist, in addition to the substantial ‘Big Swim’ Pool. It was only this, the largest of the brine pools, which remained open after the St. Andrew’s Baths closed in 1970, finally being lost to us in 1975.

Droitwich remained as a centre for the treatment of arthritis and rheumatic diseases for a few more years, but all services were transferred to Highfield Hospital (itself now gone and replaced by housing) and with the scientists having decided that Droitwich brine had no specific medicinal value, a new plain water hydrotherapy pool was built there to supplement the drug based, surgical and physiotherapy treatments which were what the NHS chose to provide.

The ‘Big Swim’ was the only form of brine bathing at Droitwich which was ever directly open to the public as true brine spa treatment was always carefully and individually prescribed and taken only under medical supervision.

A proliferation of smaller rooms within the St. Andrew’s Baths complex provided aeration baths (both arm and leg varieties), needle shower baths, Aix douche baths, Neuheim baths, chair baths, vapour baths, full and half-body recline baths, brine mud-packs, electrical treatments, massages and gymnasium exercises etc. all of which the consulting physician could prescribe. In addition X-ray facilities and some laboratory services were available.

Droitwich brine may not have any ‘medicinal value’ but during the 140 years that it was prescribed it brought great relief from pain to very many people, enabling some to regain independent movement and quite literally ‘throw away their crutches’ at least on a temporary basis. Many people continued to gain relief even from simple brine bathing in the 1984 baths and it will be greatly missed.

The proposed ‘Brine experience’ can never be anything but a memorial to a once thriving and valued therapy which brought relief to thousands, and those who wish now to enjoy the benefits of ‘the Brine Cure’ have to travel abroad to where such things are still appreciated and visit such brine spas as Salsomaggiore in Italy, Rheinfelden in Switzerland, Schonebeck/Bad Salzelmen in Germany - or even the Dead Sea!

R.M. Peberdy (2009)
Letter To Droitwich Advertiser
14th October 2009 by Roger M Peberdy

Once the medical value of Droitwich Brine ceased to be accepted by the ‘scientific’ medical community and the NHS, and the old St. Andrew’s Baths was lost and not immediately replaced, the long term continuation of Droitwich as a Spa town was doomed.

Unless the use of the brine was properly developed and marketed as a leisure and holistic ‘well-being’ facility here could be no real future in it.

I am afraid that our councillors made a series of fateful mistakes some years ago that ensured a short and not very profitable life for the new Brine Baths.

Those mistakes were:-

1) Linking a Private Hospital with the Brine Baths when it is obvious that a company which is experienced in, and good at, running the former would have no skill or experience in running the latter (which, although it does have therapeutic uses and is an extremely good physio/hydrotherapy medium, is only going to pay for itself by its use as a leisure facility). Such a company is unlikely to have any great interest in running the Baths long-term, whatever lip-service they might pay to such a commitment.

2) Allowing the Brine Baths operators to provide merely a brine ‘swimming’ pool without any of the ancillary facilities such as aeration and douche baths and a full range of spa treatments (such as were available at the old St. Andrew’s Brine Baths) and also relaxation areas, restaurant, bar etc. such as are usually found in the more successful spas, both at home and abroad.

3) Allowing the extremely short sighted idea of linking a 100+ year lease on the hospital site with a commitment to operate and maintain the Brine Baths for only one quarter of that time.

4) Not insisting that the operation of the Brine Baths must include a full ongoing maintenance and repair programme to keep the whole thing ‘up to scratch’.

5) Setting a ‘penalty payment’ clause at such a level that it would obviously be cheaper for the operators to allow the baths to run down (saving on maintenance costs) towards the end of the 25 years commitment and then pay up, than to finance proper ongoing continuous upgrades and repairs and marketing the facilities properly.

I only hope that in ‘revenge’ the site operators can be prevented from demolishing the Brine Bath and extending their hospital on its site.

Maybe they should be required to provide a small garden of remembrance to the Spa Ideal with a statue of John Corbett who really put the town on the map as a spa!

Roger M Peberdy
(the last of the ‘brine doctors’ still living in Droitwich Spa)
IF THEY CAN DO IT IN ALCESTER!

Why not in Droitwich Spa?

In a continuing quest to establish best practise I am always looking around for interesting and practical solutions to street improvements and a recent trip into Alcester was able to demonstrate that Warwickshire County Council has taken some ideas from a Government Traffic Advisory Note and applied them to Alcester High Street with some apparent success.

In particular two road crossing points have been created, made up of block paving, which clearly contrasts with the normal road surface. These crossings seem to give priority to pedestrians without the need for any warning signs, traffic lights or any additional road markings etc.

The leading edges of the crossing points, which are built out from the normal kerblines and marked by bollards also seem to have a calming affect on vehicular speeds without the need for the ‘sleeping policeman’ type of construction.

When I wanted to cross the road it was quite surprising to find that approaching vehicles were prepared to stop for me. They did not have to, there was no highway sign or order requiring drivers to stop. The photographs show what these crossings look like.

I hope that some of our readers will venture to Alcester to see these things for themselves and perhaps let me know of the location of any similar highway items that could be used in Droitwich Spa as part of the Society’s initiatives to reduce street clutter and improve the environment of our streets.

I can also recommend the excellent new Alcester Town Museum and its display of Roman Alcester and the artwork on the outside wall facing the street. Definitely an improvement on the Waitrose facade facing the Saltway in Droitwich Spa.

Richard Taylor November 2009
One of our founding members, who recently went to live in Dorset, wrote to us with the following verse. It’s nice to know that the more light hearted is appreciated along with the more serious matters. Any other members who would like to express comment or opinion for inclusion in our newsletter are very welcome.

“Descamsado”! What does it mean?
To me it means poems that scan.
It means that the Civic Society has a very intelligent man
He’s a wizard with words and with rhymes that can awe us,
A genius with the Roget’s Thesaurus.

I look forward with pleasure to getting “The News”
To reading at leisure the letters and views
But the part that is best most amusing by far
Is Descamisado – The Bard of the Spa

Sylvia Bayliss

Descamisado felt he would like to reply … and did so as follows:

You are kind in your comment on my feeble verse
There are some who might think that it could not be worse
Closer to doggerel, or perhaps Edward Lear
Not really poetic and not worth a cheer
Yet still I endeavour to fulfil as required
Comment on topics – each local inspired
Semi-serious and yet with a whimsical twist
For each “News” edition I am asked to persist
In writing the lines that will cover a page
And on every occasion I puzzle and rage
To think of a matter that might well be aired
And so I proceed, though perpetually scared
That my personal opinion “This is rubbishy stuff”
Will be echoed by Helen agreeing it’s rough
A request comes along and I ask myself why
Do they want to continue, this serious crowd
With a laughable entry, for crying out loud!
It’s just wordy nonsense for most of the time
And yet, like yourself, they must like the rhyme
So bless you and thank you for your very kind word
To an uplifted, grateful, unpoetic nerd.

Descamisado
A Letter To Defra Concerning M5 Road Noise

The following letter has been sent in response to the article in the Droitwich Advertiser of Wednesday, 28th October 2009 in an effort to bring the problem of M5 road noise to an early stage of investigation and consideration for mitigation. A period of public consultation on draft noise action plans has been started and this has presented an opportunity to press home our case for action. Some details of the process are set out on page 11.

Droitwich Spa Civic Society

Founded Nineteen Seventy Four
Registered with the Civic Trust
Charity Registration No. 503272

Date: 1st November 2009

DEFRA
Noise and Nuisance Team, Area 2a
Nobel House, 17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

Dear Sirs,

M5 Road Noise – Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire

This letter is being sent in response to the proposals under the new EU directive, highlighting the responsibility of governments to manage and control traffic noise and proposals to look at ‘first priority locations’.

We understand that Droitwich and nearby Wychbold, have both been indentified as sites of ‘first priority’ to be investigated further to determine if anything can be done to reduce the problems of excessive traffic noise and we urge you to ensure that these sites are included in the first round of investigations.

During 2006 the problem of M5 traffic noise was discussed at several public meetings held in Droitwich, at which there were representatives of the Highways Agency, and the outcome was that resurfacing of the appropriate lengths of motorway could be considered in 2010/11.

For your information on the strength of feeling and the intolerability of the noise pollution a copy of the report of those meetings is attached.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Taylor,
Vice-chairman, Droitwich Spa Civic Society.

Attachment - Extract from Civic News – Winter 2007
Public Consultation on Draft Noise Action Plans

The consultation on draft noise action plans was launched on 15 July 2009. The consultation seeks views on draft noise action plans for agglomerations, major roads (outside agglomerations) and major railways (outside agglomerations), which fulfils obligations under the Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC) and the Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Background to Production of Noise Action Plans

The Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC (END) and the Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to:

· Prepare strategic noise maps for large urban areas (referred to as agglomerations in the Directive), major roads, major railways and major airports.
· Prepare action plans based on the results of the noise mapping with the intention that these plans will aim to manage and reduce, where necessary, environmental noise, and preserve environmental noise quality where it is good in agglomerations (so-called ‘quiet areas’).
· Make information available to the public and facilitate public participation in the process.

Noise Action Plans

Following the publication of strategic noise maps in 2008, Defra has been developing draft noise action plans. The purpose of these draft noise action plans is to assist the management of environmental noise in the context of sustainable development and will apply in particular to important areas identified by the maps. Early drafts of the noise action plans were published in March 2009 with the aim of providing people with an opportunity to give their initial feedback and help shape the noise action plans. Various comments were received on those documents and many of these have been taken into account in the draft noise action plans.

Consultation on Draft Noise Action Plans

The consultation package contains the following documents:

· List of consultees;
· Consultation letter;
· This consultation document;
· Draft Noise Action Plan template for agglomerations;
· The supporting data document for the Agglomeration template;
· Draft Noise Action Plan for Major Roads (outside agglomerations);
· Draft Noise Action Plan for Major Railways (outside agglomerations);
· Maps identifying first priority locations and
· The associated Impact Assessment

Technical Note

The identification of the first priority locations and Important Areas has been based, as required by the Directive and the Regulations, on the results of the noise mapping. Although noise mapping is a very complex process, we are satisfied that the results, overall, do give a very good indication of those places that are exposed to the highest levels of noise. However, we are aware that at some specific locations, the modelling process has caused some anomalies to occur. At this stage, we have not tried to screen out these anomalies. Instead, they will be addressed during the process described in the draft noise action plans.
At the October meeting of the Civic Society a neighbour of mine told me it was time I wrote another article for our magazine on “The Park”. You may remember that I last wrote about it in August 2008 after Shefali had given our park regional recognition on BBC’s Midlands Today, when she visited the crowded Lido and the forecasts were good. Unfortunately we remember 2008 as a summer of heavy rainfalls and floods, and for many weeks the Lido had only a few swimmers braving the elements.

This summer the Lido opened in glorious weather and the forecast was for a heat wave during the summer: “a staycation - barbeque summer” - it started well but deteriorated until late August and into September when the sun came out again.

Fortunately this late summer weather encouraged the crowds back again to the Lido and a good time was had by all. The good news was that the Lido had a better summer financially than the previous year. We hope that we have a lengthy heatwave next spring and summer when the Lido pool is open. As you know our outdoor, “sea bathing” lido is heated very well so an early start in the fresh air to your next year’s swimming season is encouraged. You can get some training in at our excellent indoor swimming pool at the Leisure Centre during the cold winter months - I will be doing a sponsored 20 length swim at the indoor pool to celebrate my 75th birthday in November for the Severn Freewheelers Charity.

The park looks magnificent at the moment, between the showers, with the beautiful autumn colours. The changing colours of the oak trees and the red berries on the rowan trees are a particular feature this time in the year. Wychavon Council has recently erected a strong wooden duck feeding platform partly over the water at Bishop’s Pool - it has already proved to be an attraction to young children and their parents. The ducks and moorhens clearly approve.

The Council has also undertaken some drainage work diverting underground springs to reduce flooding in some of the grassed areas where people exercise their dogs and youngsters play football. Many of the Council’s recently planted beds are beginning to thrive - I think that may be one actual benefit of the rain we have had this summer!

I mentioned the well maintained play areas and the band concerts in my article last year, these are still attracting lots of people who appreciate an outing with their families. Thanks to the Council for the additional benches recently provided facing the bandstand. The cricket pitch and the sports fields at the top end of St Peter’s Fields by the church appear to be very well used by young and old alike. The Norman St Peter’s Church and the mature trees around it make a magnificent backdrop to the cricket field.

I think the rowdyism late at night from a certain element of young people, in some areas of the park, has been reduced marginally but there is still room for improvement. The police appear to have dealt firmly with the late night revellers who had risked their own safety by breaking into the Lido during the summer. Perhaps the Community Policemen and Policewomen could visit the park to keep the peace late at night when these people are over influenced by excessive high spirits.

Apart from that one problem, the people of Droitwich Spa, the visitors and the Council are doing a good job in maintaining our park up to a good standard. The Council have appreciated the very special qualities of the landscape in the park as they gave it the status of a Conservation Area.

Don Walters, October 2009
FOOTSTEPS INTO LOCAL HISTORY
A New Guided Walking Route

Using local footpaths, members of the Dodderhill Parish Survey Project have created a new self-guided walk around the western part of the parish. The walk enters the part of the parish which borders Droitwich Spa town centre.

On Sunday 13th September, a group of walkers left the Robin Hood public house beside the A38 and close to Junction 5 of the M5, to walk with members of the Dodderhill Parish History Project who have created a Historical Footpath Walk.

The 5 ½ mile walk uses local footpaths and takes a circular route past a site where Mesolithic peat deposits have been found; goes along an ancient Ridgeway; crosses Roman roads; passes by a Roman fort and goes close to the site of a Roman villa.

Part of Dodderhill is now in Droitwich and it is there that the church founded in the Saxon period may be seen, and also remnants of the important heritage of the Salt Industry and the canal transport system.

The footpath route is available to download from the Resources section on the group’s website www.dodderhillhistory.org.uk or as folded leaflets from various outlets including, The Robin Hood; Droitwich Spa Tourist Information Office; and, St Augustine’s Church. Copies of the leaflet will also be available at our monthly meetings, and whenever the Society has a display stand.

A BIT OF HISTORY

A question was asked the other day concerning the naming of St. George’s Square and when this had come about.

A bit of research indicates that in 1786 the area was called the Cross.

By 1883 the name St. George’s Square had appeared on O. S. maps of the area.

The corner of St. George’s Square and Hanbury Street was occupied by a large inn and hotel, which had served the town for many years.

In 1900 this old building originally ‘The George Inn and Royal Hotel’ of 1836, later to be named ‘The Old Royal Hotel’ and then the ‘Royal George’, had been acquired by John Corbett and was demolished and replaced by a new building set back from the corner of Hanbury Street and St. George’s Square.

This new building ‘The Royal Hotel’ and later ‘The Royal Brine Baths Hotel’, the scene of nearly all the activities and festivities in the Borough until the 1920’s, had by 1938 become a clinic associated with The Royal Brine Baths. There were also offices of the Worcestershire County Council in use during the early stages of the redevelopment of Droitwich in the 1960’s.

Demolition came during the 1980’s and the area is now occupied by the housing of St George’s Crescent.
AGM
Friday 19th February 2010

Radio 4’s ‘Archer’ addicts will be delighted to hear that the speaker at our AGM in February will be Kathy Perks (Hedli Niklaus). Hedli is an extremely interesting speaker who will enthrall us with her talk. A brief synopsis of her part in the programme is as follows:-

Kathy came to Ambridge in 1983 and married the landlord of the Bull, Sid Perks in 1987. Unhappy and bored she had an affair with local policeman, Dave Barry, but the couple were reconciled and their son, Jamie, was born in 1995. Then Sid fell in love with Jolene Rogers and he and Kathy got divorced. Kathy now lives with Jamie in April Cottage, next door to the Grundys. She had a traumatic time in 2004 when she was raped by a man she befriended, Owen King, and it has taken her time to put her life back together. In this she has been aided with uncharacteristic patience by black sheep of the family, Kenton Archer. She is currently working at the Golf Club and is trying to steer Kenton away from turning his café, Jaxx, into something more ambitious.

*********

Hedli graduated in drama from Manchester University. She started in the theatre, has worked extensively on the radio and been heard in countless voice-overs. Hedli has played two other parts in “The Archers” – Libby Jones, a milk recorder, and Eva Lenz, German au pair at Home Farm. She is co-author of “The Book of The Archers”, The Archers Annuals 2000 and 2001 and the “Archers Quiz Book”. Together with colleague Trevor Harrison (Eddie Grundy) Hedli has devised “Radio Matters”, an entertainment exploring the pitfalls and pleasures of working in radio!

She is married to actor Leon Tanner.

*********

As has become usual in recent years we will be providing a buffet supper with wine, and although members can obviously attend the short AGM at no cost, we have to make a charge of £9 per head for the speaker and supper.

An application slip is printed on the next page, and those wanting to attend should apply by the 31st January 2010, enclosing a cheque payable to ‘Droitwich Spa Civic Society’ and send it to our Treasurer, Fred Randall, Walnut Tree House, Ladywood, Droitwich Spa, WR9 OAL.
Talk by Hedli Niklaus on 19th February 2010

I wish to apply for ........ Member’s tickets at £9 each

I attach my cheque for £ ...............payable to Droitwich Spa Civic Society

Please add my name to the reserve list for ........ guest tickets. I understand that payment for guest tickets will not be required until it is known whether any are available.

Name ........................................................................................................................................

Address ....................................................................................................................................

Telephone No. ........................................... Post Code ................................

Please send this form with your cheque in favour of Droitwich Spa Civic Society to: The Treasurer, Mr F J Randall, Walnut Tree House, Ladywood, Droitwich Spa,

Programme
December 2009 - March 2010

Tuesday, 15th December ‘Living in Arizona and Travelling in Mexico’
An illustrated talk by Ed Shore
Seasonal Refreshments

Tuesday, 19th January ‘Chadwick Manor’
The History of this Manor House with George Gasgoyne

Friday, 19th February AGM with Buffet Supper and Wine
Speaker to be announced
Held in Sacred Heart Church Hall

Tuesday, 16th March ‘Fleas, Lice and Bedbugs’
A talk by David Hales
(a retired environmental health officer)

Unless otherwise stated, meetings are held in the Community Hall, Heritage Way, Droitwich Spa and start at 7.30 p.m. Admission £1 for members and £2 for visitors, to include tea/coffee. Society Membership is £5 per household per year (due April). Newsletters are published quarterly.
The Annual General Meeting will be held on  
Friday, 19th February 2010 at 7.30 pm  
at the Sacred Heart Church Hall, Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa  

After brief reports from the retiring Chairman and the Treasurer, the election of officers and committee members will take place. Anyone who would like to join the committee will be very welcome.

Although most nominations will be received in advance of the meeting, it is possible to enter further nominations on the night provided:-

- The proposer and seconder are both members of the Civic Society.
- They are both present at the meeting, and
- The nominee is present and indicates his/her willingness to serve.

If you wish to make any nominations in advance of the meeting you can use the form printed below and send it to:

Mrs. Helen Prew (Hon. Secretary)  
Droitwich Spa Civic Society  
121 The Holloway  
Droitwich Spa WR9 7AJ

**Droitwich Spa Civic Society**  
**Election of Officers and Committee 2010/2011**

I wish to nominate..........................................................  

For the position of committee member  

Signed..........................................................  

I second this nomination..................................................  

I confirm that I am willing to serve ..................................  

Obviously admission to the AGM is free but hopefully members will stay to hear the talk, and enjoy light refreshments and wine to complete the evening. For this there will be a charge of £9.