

Once more the Society took part in Adult Learners' Week in association with Knowle Library. On May 19th members of the public heard Elaine Warner give *The Old Village (Part 1)* talk, which covers the south end of the village.

As usual we shall take a stall at both Knowle Festival in the Park on June 19th and at Barston Fete on August Bank Holiday Monday (August 30th). This year we are very pleased to have been invited to Springfield House Summer Fayre on July 3rd. *The Horseless Carriage*, will be on show at all three events.

Until now we have borrowed a gazebo belonging to Sylvia and Peter Moody, for which we are very grateful. However, it is coming to the end of its waterproof life, which is vital when photographs are on show. After very careful thought we have decided that now is the right moment to acquire a new one. It is the same size and good quality.

The next outside talk is *A Thousand Years of Knowle* for Solihull Central U3A at Solihull Methodist Church Hall on August 19th (change of date from August 26th)



Practising with a new gazebo

PROJECTS GROUP & EXHIBITIONS GROUP

Members of the group are still busy looking into the history of Middlefield, and will be for some time to come, as this is a major subject to research. John Johnson has almost completed his war time memories. We are now considering setting up an Exhibitions Group, which needs slightly different skills. Anyone interested in joining either group please ring John on 01564 773457, Elaine Warner on 01564 775887 or e-mail us at knowlehistory@yahoo.co.uk.

WEB SITE

With the increasing numbers of enquiries we receive by e-mail, we are thinking about expanding the web site towards the end of the year.

ADMINISTRATION

Most members have now renewed their subscriptions, although, as one would expect a few have decided not to or let it go by default - mostly people from outside Knowle. We are sad to say that two members have died. Membership now stands at 130. In the last newsletter we mentioned that we urgently need a new treasurer, but so far no-one has volunteered. This is very simple for anyone who can handle Microsoft Excel at an elementary level (or is willing to learn). Please think about it.

We hope you enjoy your membership of the Society and look forward to seeing you soon.

The next newsletter will be circulated in September 2010.



KNOWLE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Making History Live

Newsletter

Volume 3 No. 1
June 2010

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

You will find two inserts with this newsletter, including the next instalment of *Growing Up in Knowle*, edited by Roslyn Croft. This time it is summer memories. Autumn will follow in the September newsletter.

We have a busy programme for the summer, including two exhibitions and three fetes, before the autumn events start with another exhibition in September. Looking further ahead, we are suggesting some changes to the format of the 2011 programme to include more afternoon meetings.

When the Society was formed in 2007 it was always the intention to publish, as do many other local history societies. This not only boosts funds (exhibitions are expensive), it allows people to have a personal copy of our work. We use a very good printer, which specialises in local history booklets. You will see overleaf that *Springfield Hall, A Country House in Knowle* is now available.

As usual there have been several outside events since the last newsletter. We were particularly pleased to take part in Knowle C of E Primary School Local History Project and Adult Learners' Week. More details of all events overleaf.

Elaine S. Warner
01564 775887

Diary

Sat June 19th	Exhibition: <i>The Horseless Carriage</i> Knowle Festival in the Park
July 1st - July 17th	Exhibition: <i>Books in Knowle</i> at the Oxfam Bookshop
Sat July 3rd	Exhibition: <i>The Horseless Carriage</i> at Springfield House Fayre
Sun July 18th	Visit to the Lord Leycester Hospital, Warwick
Thurs Aug 19th 10 a.m.	Illustrated Talk: <i>1000 Years of Knowle</i> For Solihull Central U3A at Solihull Methodist Church Hall (Note change of date)
Mon Aug 30th	Exhibition: <i>The Horseless Carriage</i> at Barston Fete
Sep 6th to Sep 20th	Exhibition: <i>A Butcher's Shop in High Street</i> Knowle Library (downstairs) For Heritage Open Days.

www.knowlehistory.org.uk

e-mail: knowlehistory@yahoo.co.uk

BOOKLET: SPRINGFIELD HALL

Those of you who were at the March meeting may remember that after the talk on Springfield in January we were planning to publish a booklet. This is now available, with 28 pages and numerous photographs, price £3.50. It will be on sale on our stall at local summer fetes (see Diary Box) and from Knowle Library. One bonus has been that we have made contact with the Jackson family, who lived at Springfield from 1912 to 1941. We plan to publish more booklets as time and money permit.

TALKS & SOCIAL EVENTS

In March members enjoyed a talk on the history of Hampton-in-Arden by Mike Bryant. The speaker in May was the Master of the Lord Leicester Hospital at Warwick, Lt. Col. Gerald Lesinski, who gave an interesting and entertaining talk on the history of this wonderful medieval building. Colonel Lesinski is much in demand, and we were lucky that he was able to come. There will be an afternoon visit to the hospital, with tea, on July 18th, when Colonel Lesinski will give us a guided tour. The booking form is enclosed.



The Lord Leicester Hospital

PROGRAMME FOR 2011

In thinking about next year's programme we are mindful that some members prefer afternoon meetings. We therefore suggest that there should be four meetings: in the afternoon in February and November, and in the evening in May (when the evenings are light) and October, which of course is preceded by the AGM. The luncheon, which is in November this year, would be in March. Another additional benefit would be subscriptions and lunch bookings would not fall at the same time. The February and October talks would be given in house by one of our own members. It has been suggested to us that after a suitable interval we might repeat some of our own talks for those who missed them. The February newsletter would be transferred to January. Comments on these suggestions are very welcome.

EXHIBITIONS

This year's exhibition programme began with *Guiding in Knowle ~ The First Ninety Years*, which was on show at Knowle Library in May. It included both photographs and personal memories of Knowle Girl Guides in the past, and was prepared by Sylvia Moody and her daughter, Kate Powell, who is the Knowle Guide District Commissioner.



Cycling back from Berkswell, 1920

The exhibition programme continues with *The Horseless Carriage*, the last in our series of exhibitions on the transport theme. It starts with the transition from horse transport after the First World War and continues with bicycles, motor cycles, private cars, trade vehicles, tractors and other farm machinery, the local garages - and vintage cars. The exhibition will be on show for the first time at Knowle Festival in the Park as usual, at local fetes, finishing at Knowle Library in November.

Next is *Books in Knowle* at the Oxfam Bookshop in July to coincide with the Oxfam Book Fair (which is at Stratford this year). More recent Knowle residents may be interested to know that there was a 'Knowle Library' next to Chester House, which was a circulating library operating well before Knowle became big enough to warrant a local authority one. The exhibition will be on show at Knowle Library in January.

We have now registered *A Butcher's Shop in High Street* with English Heritage as our contribution to Heritage Open Days weekend in September. It will probably be on show when you receive the next newsletter, which will be circulated in mid-September.

All the exhibitions will be shown at Knowle Library (downstairs) at some point. See the Diary Box for exact dates of the earlier ones.

EXHIBITIONS AT SOLIHULL LIBRARY

We are now in a position to show our past exhibitions at Solihull Library, subject to the agreement of the Local History Librarian at Solihull. You may recall that the cabinets at Solihull are not a standard size, so we have had to make special boards, which Sylvia Moody has now finished. We shall think about a possible programme at the end of the summer.

OUTSIDE EVENTS

On March 19th about twenty members of the Society and others, all long standing Knowle residents, talked about their personal memories of the village to a delightful group of Year 6 pupils at Knowle C of E Primary School. The children gained a lot and both they and the adults enjoyed the afternoon. A well-earned cup of tea followed.



Tea after the interviews