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MEETINGS: Are held at 7.30 p.m. on the last Friday of each month at Cressy Fields,
Cressy Rd. Alfreton. (except during July and August when outings may be arranged)

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Become payable on joining the Society and thereafter annually on JANUARY 1st

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	£3.00
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	£4.50 (one magazine to one address)
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All cheques and postal orders are to be made payable to: Derbyshire Family History Society

MEMBERSHIP entitles you to attend all meetings, visits and activities of the Society.
Receive a copy of each quarterly magazine issued by the Society. Use all the facilities
of the Society provided for its members, together with any external facilities the
Committee may arrange. Members may introduce non-members to meetings and be accompanied
by friends on any visits organised by the Committee.

QUERIES: Members may place a query under HELP WANTED free of charge.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Members and non-members may place an advertisement in "Branch News"
at the rate of 50p per line (85 characters per line). Frame 50p extra.

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EDITORIAL

Now that the long winter evenings are with us once more our thoughts turn to the completing of our 'Field Work' within the comfort of our homes. Indexing of Monumental Inscriptions can be completed by the fireside. The more hardy among us continue recording through the winter, see 'Branch News' no. 16, p.11/12, "The Pleasures Of Winter M.I. Copying." by Heather Eaton. Another amusing incident is told by one of our newest members, B.M. Wall, in this issue. This reminded me of one of my own experiences whilst examining gravestones. I was busily recording the inscriptions on ALLSOP gravestones in Hartington churchyard when I found myself being butted (gently I may add) by goats tethered there to graze! Wherever there was a gravestone in which I was interested there was a goat tethered within reaching distance! Afterwards, on settling myself in the car, my husband who had been sitting waiting for me asked "What's that smell?! It was aroma of goat! We travelled home with the car windows wide open!

Don't let these incidences put you off, The pleasures of recording monumental inscriptions outweigh the discomforts. Many pleasant hours can be spent in the peace of a churchyard, especially a country one. We cannot stress too strongly the importance of this work which needs to be done before erosion, progress and vandalism take their toll. Recently, Heanor church, rebuilt except for the 15th century tower, in 1868, has had to be partly demolished owing to death watch beetle and subsidence. The tower, built on the bedrock still remains. A smaller church is being built on the original bedrock which formed the foundation of the medieval church. Four years ago, and before the full extent of the damage to the church was known, I recorded the M.I.s both inside the church and in the churchyard. The memorials from the inside have been carefully stored and will be re-installed in the new building, but, what will happen to the gravestones outside? Practically all these had already been moved from their original positions in the early years of this century owing to road widening. (A new cemetery having been built). How thankful we are that they have already been recorded.

Again I should like to say how pleased members of the committee are to have been able to meet distant members during the summer months, some of whom have been able to join us at meetings. And again, I thank those members and friends who have sent in articles of such interest for inclusion in "Branch News".

With every good wish,
W.E.W.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS: December 18th (Note change of date.) - Social Evening.
January 29th 1982. - Mr. Robinson on the Mormons and Genealogy.
February 26th " - Members' Evening and Question Time.
March 26th 1982. Mr. R. Storer with the N.C.B. film on Coalmining.
April 30th " A.G.M. For rules see Constitution sent to you on joining the Society.

SALES: Members' Interests - Supplement No. 2 Sept. 1981 - 80p. (by post £1.00)
Supplement No. 1 Sept. 1980 - 80p. (by post £1.00)
Members' Interests March 1979 now out of print.
Library Contents - 30p. by post 50p Monumental Inscriptions: Those listed as completed in "Branch News" no. 16 are now printed and for sale. Please contact Heather for details. Address on opposite page. (NOT Ilkeston Cemetery, Errwood Hall or Melbourne)

