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COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Held at Cressy Fields on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

MEETINGS: Held at Cressy Fields, Alfreton on the last Friday of each month (until January see page 4) at 7.30 p.m. Speaker to begin at 7.45 to allow time for returning magazines.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP £3.00
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP £4.50 (one magazine to one address)
STUDENTS, RETIREMENT PENSIONERS and DISABLED PERSONS £2.00.
OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIP: If sent in British Currency or Bankers Draft in London - £4.00; If you wish "Branch News" to be sent by Air Mail please add £1.00 extra. If sent in dollars or other currency please add £1.00 equivalent to your above specified amount, for currency exchange charge.

All cheques and postal orders 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.

"WHAT IS CRESSY FIELDS?" several members have asked. It is the Derbyshire County Council Home for Disabled People, where, thanks to the good offices of our first Chairman, Ken Davis, himself disabled, we have been able to hold our meetings ever since the inauguration of the Society.

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARIES: It is up to you to contact your Correspondence Secretary if you need any help or advice. They will do their best to help you from the information we have available in our Reference Section. Please remember that they are voluntary helpers and this is as much a hobby to them as it is to you. Do not forget that all important stamped and addressed envelope.

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

Recently I had a welcome visit from one our oldest members, Mr. Charles Goodwin, 86 years young, of Kimberley. He told me that his grandfather had been among those who subscribed in aid of the formation of the railway, known to us as the 'Midland Railway', the 'birth' of which is said to have been at the 'Sun Inn', Eastwood, on 16th August 1832. During his search for details of his ancestors, Mr. Goodwin had been told by officials of the railways that the 'Sun Inn' was in fact the 'birthplace' of the Midland Counties Railway, the forerunner of the Midland Railway. Mr. Goodwin had not been able to find proof of this in print. He had now come to right place. Although my interests do not extend to the railways, years ago I had been given a book called The Midland Railway, printed in 1878 and this I fetched out for Mr. Goodwin to see. The opening chapter of the book begins, "A little group of plain practical men were, on the morning of the 16th of August, 1832, sitting round the parlour table of a village inn in Nottinghamshire. They were coalmasters - deep in mines, in council, and in pocket." They were discussing a cheaper way of getting their coal to Leicester than by canal, and they decided to lay a railway from their collieries to Leicester. "Such was the origin of the Midland Counties Railway, and the 'Sun Inn', at Eastwood, was thus the birthplace of the earliest of those lines which afterwards became united into what is now known as the Midland Railway." Mr. Goodwin's quest was over, he had now seen it in 'black and white' and as an added bonus, there was his grandfather's name listed among the subscribers.

Have you a book which might help a member with research? Are you willing to show the book to a member, or are you willing to search the book for details they may be looking for? See 'Personal File Index', page 5 and please fill in those slips. Someone may help you.

I am sorry to have to announce the resignation from the committee of Anne Burnham. Ann has been Librarian and recently Strays Co-ordinator, but now finds that a full time job leaves her little time to devote to the running of the Society, so regretfully she has relinquished her position. We thank Anne for the work she has done for the Society and we know she will continue to attend our monthly meetings.

All Good Wishes

W.E.W.

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARIES.

Owing to moving into Lincolnshire, Mr. R. Hoad has found it necessary to resign from his position of Correspondence Secretary as he will be unable to attend our meetings and use the Reference Library. We thank him for the help he has given to the Society in many ways. Will members with surnames beginning with G and R please note that their new Correspondence Secretary is Mrs. M. Stumbles, 13 Iveagh Walk, Riddings, Derbys.

Mr. Barry Burley has also found it increasingly difficult to attend to correspondence as he would like owing to business commitments and therefore hands the position of Correspondence Secretary for those members whose names begin with W.T.Y.Z. to Mr. Garry Smith, 24 High St. Alfreton, Derbys. Our thanks too, to Barry for all his help, we know he will continue to help in many ways.

A list of Correspondence Secretaries along with the letters of the alphabet they deal with and an explanation was published in 'Branch News' no. 18. As a reminder, a list will be found on page 4 of this issue. Also, please read 'Correspondence Secretaries' on facing page.

