

# Local History Cafe



Sir John Moore Foundation, Appleby Magna

## Hello Heritage ...

Appleby Magna puts its historic roots on display ...

2020 will forever go down as the year of change, and none more so in Appleby Magna. Instead of our normal Open Heritage weekend at the Sir John Moore Foundation, we were able to partner with North West Leicestershire District Council to create Hello Heritage boards that celebrate Appleby's heritage. There were eight boards altogether, with the base map sited by the Recreation playground. Each board was designed to tell the



© Heather Griffin

story of a particular building or area of the village. A good deal of research had to be completed to ensure details were concise and accurate. Further delving into the photographic

archive of the village allowed the boards to show historic images for direct comparison to the present day. Some of the images were unique to the Hello Heritage Project. There are more images and comments on pages 5 and 6. Further information is still available at [www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/helloheritage](http://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/helloheritage)

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### HISTORY MYSTERY

Last months image was a vinaigrette. For more information ... Page 3

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### 100 NOT OUT

Appleby's War Memorial is 100 years old ... Page 4

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### UP COMING DATES

History Cafe Meetings  
20th October \*



### Bumpy Nights

The word **Halloween** or Hallowe'en dates to about 1745



### The mouse ran up where ?

Jean Turnbull, a current LHC member, tells of rodent mayhem .. Page 4.

The Gas House providing the light.



Page 4

## “Whats happening on Whats App ...”

What's been online this month

After a quiet time on the Whats App Group, this month saw a plethora of topics that led to all sorts of discussions. One particular thread was started off by an old photograph of petrol pumps being used in the 1960's, and this led to memories of even older pumps that were hand cranked. The conversation morphed into some of us recalling childhood toys such as spinning tops and Duncan telling the group of how he made tops both out of wood and metal.

We discussed writing lines at school and Jackie Magazine. Other threads included The Janet & John reading books, Jean's desire to drive an excavator and despite its popularity at the time, not many members really like Fry's Chocolate, preferring instead Caramac.



© alamy stock photographs

## School Spuds...

Appleby School children lend a hand in the Autumn fields ...

In years gone by Appleby Magna, October was the month that the village had its annual Wakes Week. Records from the Boys School log-book kept by Mr S C Robinson (headmaster between 1925-27), show that the boys had a holiday – a half day or a whole day - for 'Appleby Wake'. In 1919



there was a whole week: 'Oct 10th, Closed the School today for the usual week's holiday for the Wake and potato picking'. During and immediately following the First World War there was clearly a need for the children's labour to help get in the potato harvest.

The original meaning of Appleby Wake was one of abstinence from sleep or of watching, practised as a religious observance and was often coupled with fasting.

## History mystery ???

This delightful little object was made by Tiffany around 1900. Any ideas as to its use?

The answer will be in our November Newsletter



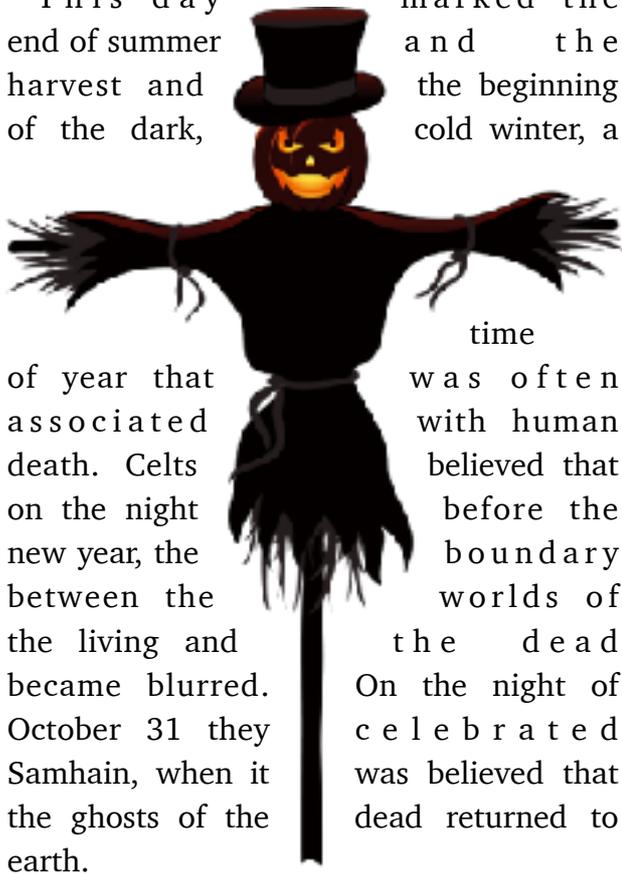
# All Hallows' Eve...

Appleby continues this autumn tradition ...

Throughout Britain and no doubt in Appleby Magna, Halloween has traditionally been celebrated by children's games such as bobbing for apples in containers full of water, telling ghost stories and the carving of faces into hollowed-out vegetables such as swedes and turnips. These faces would usually be illuminated from within by a candle, the lanterns displayed on window sills to ward off any evil spirits.

This day marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a

time of year that was often associated with human death. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31 they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth.



# Facebook Snippets ...

Local History Cafe Online

If you are not already aware Local History Cafe Online has a photograph of the week every Saturday. On the 5th of September Kate



© Erewash Museum Collection

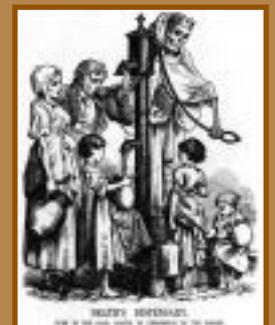
posted this image from The Erewash Museum Collection. It is an image of coal mining at Shipley Colliery around 1930 and certainly in the days before Health and Safety had made mining a safer occupation.

# 'What a whiff ...'

A 'vinaigrette' would have been carried by the delicate people of Appleby. Both men and women would use them.



The silver object would contain vinegar and maybe herbs that could be held up to the nose to block out the offending odours that came from the unspeakable filth and stench that accompanied 18th and 19th century living.



Not as bad as London's "Big Stink", Appleby's streets would have been strewn with rotting waste.



# Appleby War Memorial ...

This year is the 100 year anniversary of its dedication ...

It was on a cold day in October 1920, that the Appleby War Memorial was unveiled. The 9 foot Celtic cross had been paid for by public subscription. During a service led by the Rev. C T Moore, a large Union Flag was used to unveil the stone edifice by Colonel Bryon of the Leicestershire Yeomanry. He urged those gathered to carry them torch of duty' on behalf of those that were commemorated.

## In this month

**1066** ... Harold II, England's last Anglo Saxon King was killed at the Battle of Hastings.

**1632** ...Birth of English architect Sir Christopher Wren

Many patriotic hymns were sung including 'O Valiant Hearts' and the service concluded with a muffled peal from the church bells and the sounding of the "Last Post." Many floral tributes were placed around the memorial which had been designed and carved by Mr Charlie Mitchell of Tamworth.



From Tamworth Herald October 1920 Northcliffe Media Ltd

# Harvest Mouse ..

Jean Turnbull tells of mice and stockings!

At my grandparents' smallholding, near Corby in Northamptonshire, Dad always scythed a small paddock of grass for hay for the goats in winter. We had a makeshift sledge made of corrugated tin which we used to drag the hay to a barn, then in my teens, we always went bean picking and potato gathering in the autumn - £1 a day - thought we were rich.

Harvest Festival in church was always an important date on the church calendar. I loved the church all decorated with produce which was sold off the evening after in the village hall. My friend and I sang in the church choir and on one occasion, we spotted a mouse., attracted in by all the produce. During the sermon, my friend could feel something going up her leg and looked panic stricken - fortunately, it was a ladder in her stocking which she could feel running up her leg!



[www.sirjohnmoore.org.uk](http://www.sirjohnmoore.org.uk)

SirJohn Moore Foundation Heritage Centre

The Local History Cafe Extended meets every third Tuesday of the month

## NEXT ISSUE

Bonfire Night  
Village Shops

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# Peelings ...

The Gas House in Appleby is where the gas for the hall was produced. However most of the villagers only had paraffin lamps and candles at that time ...

# Hello Heritage



Appleby Magna September 2020



Welcome to our Special Section looking at Hello Heritage in Appleby Magna.

We have included pictures of all eight of the sites around the village along with the 'Vox Populi' of visitors and villagers who enjoyed them during September.

From Appleby Magna Village Chat Group ...

"I don't know who's responsible for the Hello Heritage signs around the village but I love them. Great Idea!"

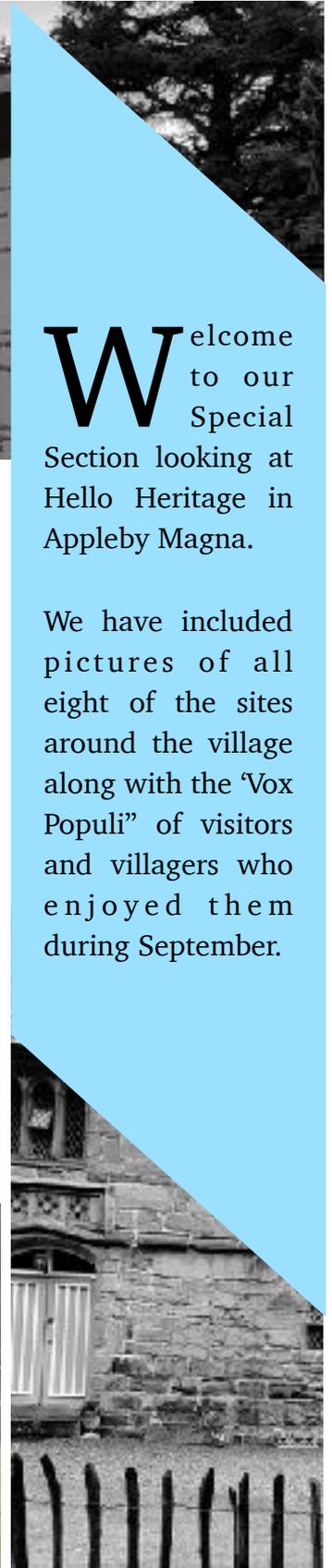
"They are great. Thank you so much ... Shame they are not a permanent feature"

Elly Berrill



"What a wonderful idea, particularly for newcomers to the village ... Thank you"

Alison





Out of the mouths of babes.

On seeing the Hello Heritage Boards, 6 year old Ruben told his mum "This is SUCH a good idea! It's great we can see the village in the olden times". His mum replied "It just proves how it's interesting kids too. We love it!"

8th September 2020

"Brilliant. Well done our SJM Heritage Team"

"My cousin and I are on the almshouse photo. 😊"

Mary Hatwell



"Well done SJMF team, this is brilliant! We've really enjoyed searching them all out and learnt loads about the village, thank you"

8th September 2020