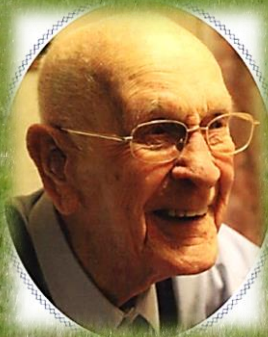


New Marksman

Issue 35 Funded by the Baily Thomas Provident Fund WINTER 2018



A CELEBRATION OF
SUCCESS; MANDORA'S
BERT DOPSON 1923-2017



Looking for fun? Get in Line!

Brewing's back in Mansfield -
Marksman visits



visit the **BAILY THOMAS PROVIDENT FUND'S WEBSITE**

www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

Email: enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk



The Baily Thomas Provident Fund Office

The office is open Monday to Thursday every week [except holidays] and is staffed by Denise Wilson and Alison Whitmore who are the interface between the beneficiaries and the trustees. John Else works on a consultancy basis for the Trust and can be contacted via the office. Contact details are as follows:

Tel: 01623 473290

Baily Thomas Provident Fund
Chadburn House
Weighbridge Road Littleworth,
Mansfield.NG18 1AH

The New Marksman Magazine

This magazine aims to give news and information about the activities of the former employees of Mansfield Brewery and the existing Sports and Social opportunities available for all former employees. Please send information to:

Roy Bainton

13 West Hill Avenue

Mansfield Notts NG18 1PQ

Telephone 01623 646070 07712973872

Email – roybainton@hotmail.com

Any information, articles or photographs not included in this issue will be used in forthcoming editions of the New Marksman

Next Issue Closing Date: 31st March 2017

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Dinner Dance

24th March 2018

at the

John Fretwell Sporting Complex

Invitations will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.



Mansfield Brewery Walking Group

The walks are held on the second Sunday of each month, commencing at 10.30 a.m and normally finish around 2.30 p.m. They are generally easy walks between 5 and 6 miles.
For information contact Barbara Brown on 01623 481488

Mansfield Brewery Members' Association

The Members' Association is open to all former employees of the Mansfield Brewery Group of Companies. The Association's monthly meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Debdale Sports Club, Mansfield Woodhouse commencing at 10.00 a.m.

The Committee organises monthly coach excursions which are open to all members and friends. The excursions depart from the Debdale Sports Club, Mansfield Woodhouse where there is easy car parking.

If you wish to join any excursion please contact Graham Cooling on 01623 632620

What's in your
Winter 2018
new **marksman**

Bert Dopson - A Life Well Spent.



Loads of MBC Nostalgia with
Those Were the Days



**Remembering
Hull Brewery**

Line Dancing Marathon



Who's got Talent?
Proud Parents of the Next
Generation celebrate

Emily Lord,

Callum

and Dan McKechnie



**All this and much
more -**

Don't forget we'd like to hear from you, too; those special occasions, family events, memories, pictures, either call me on **01623 646070**, or e-mail

roybainton@hotmail.com

or by post to
13 West Hill Ave.,
Mansfield NG18 1PQ

*This edition's cover
photo by Barbara Brown*



A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR EDITOR



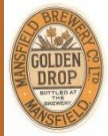
Happy New Year to you all. I apologise to all that I've not been seen much out in the MBC field as I ought to have, but 2017 was a tricky year which kicked off on New Year's Eve with yours truly downing too many sherbets, falling down stairs and breaking my left arm. The bone involved was incongruously named the humerus. By September it wasn't 'humerus' at all as it refused to mend, so now I'm bionic with a titanium bracket and 6 screws. Of course, that all resulted in 11 frustrating months being unable to drive. Thankfully, after changing our car for an automatic, I'm back on the road again and if there's no repetition of the deadly flu my wife and I have experienced during December, I'll become a more regular feature at Debdale and other events. Every year I volunteer for various charities as Santa Claus (that's me in the terrifying picture) so next Yuletide, if I'm fit and you need a bit of Kris Kringle, get in touch. I must offer my thanks to Marksman's previous editor, 'Scoop' Boucher, for keeping me on the rails this past year, and for the generosity of John Else in ferrying me around when required. I've rarely known such a nice bunch of people at the MBC former employees - so I'm grateful for all your patience.



Bert serves the top
brass some
mouthwatering
Mandora...

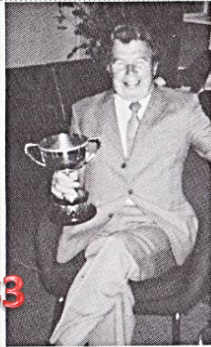
FULL STORY
PAGES 7-9

Those Were The Days!



CAN YOU REMEMBER THIS HAPPY DAY? Were you on the float? This fine picture was sent to us by Denis Hales, and that's Denis driving the MBC wagon accompanied by his wife Jean.

MBC GOLFING SOCIETY AUTUMN MEET



1983

Mrs Dorothy Chadburn, President of Mansfield Brewery Golfing Society, claps her hands in glee as Harry Battersby, Free Trade Sales Manager, holds up the booby prize she presented to him after the Club's Autumn meeting at Matlock Golf Club on Wednesday 23rd September. Mrs Chadburn herself won the Special Hole prize by scoring the only birdie of the day at the Fourth hole.

Seated is Arthur Tomlinson of the Estates Department winner of the Autumn Cup. Jack Brown, The Willow Tree, Pilsley, was runner-up. Winner of the Second Division Cup was Sandy Pate, Portland Arms, Mansfield, and Barry Briggs, Railway Inn, Selston, was nearest the hole at the second. A good day with ideal weather!



1983: TECHNOLOGY STRIKES!

Finance Department. Alec Welham - Financial Controller (left), Ted Taylor and Pat Duckmanton.

Celebrating a Successful 2017 walking year!



Members of the MBWG at Forest Lodge

The very popular Mansfield Brewery walking group have stepped it out through a really successful year in 2017 and nearly 60 happy members left their boots at home to attend a Christmas celebration lunch at Forest Lodge Restaurant in Edwinstowe. After a 3 course lunch and a table raffle, Graham Cooling, the walking group chairman, thanked Barbara Brown for her hard work in organising the walking group activities. Here's to plenty of happy miles to cover in 2018!



WHAT A WET NIGHT OUT THAT WAS!

It's 1968 and this photo from the CHAD archives is part of a series captioned 'FLOOD'. Does anyone know which pub this is? Recognise the poor blokes having to mop up?



EMILY LORD:

BSc in Maths
University of York



Proud Parents Celebrate their Childrens' Successes

We would like to thank the Baily Thomas Provident fund for the financial support given to Emily Lord whilst studying for her degree in Maths. She is the daughter of Clifford and Angela Lord. Clifford, a Mansfield Brewery employee since 1983 continues to work for Marstons. Emily recently graduated from the University of York with a BSc in Maths and she is now a Student Teacher at University of Sheffield and hoping to start a full time teaching career in September 2018.



CALLUM McKECHNIE

First Class Honours Degree in Business
Management. University of Nottingham



My name is Carole McKechnie (née Morton) and I worked in Wines and Spirits at Mansfield Brewery from 1980 until 1991. I married Steve McKechnie (Free Trade) who worked for Mansfield Brewery from 1988 until the takeover by W&D and Marston, to 2009. Here's our youngest son Callum McKechnie who graduated in July from The University of Nottingham with a First Class Honours Degree in Business Management. Callum secured a job with EY, a multinational professional services firm based in London. EY is one of the largest professional services firms in the world and is one of the "Big Four" accounting firms. We are so very proud of him and wish him every success in his new life in London.



What's *your* talent? Are you a musician, do you write, paint, or dance the tango? Do you have a passion for collecting? Are your family members achieving something special?

Whatever it is, we'd love to hear from you. Contact roybainton@hotmail.com 01623 646070



**DANIEL
McKECHNIE**

MA, BA (with hon).



What A talented family! Two Graduates in a year - so 2017 will be a year to remember. Steve and Carole have much to be proud of in their other son, Dan McKechnie - he's gained an MA, BA (with hon.). He passed his Masters in Diplomacy with flying colours. He is now applying to join the Civil Service and his graduation was on 13th December -congratulations, Dan!

HOW MANSFIELD MET THE EXPANSION CHALLENGE

At your service...



More
Back
Pages:
July
1992



THE EIGHT girls in telesales are proud to say they're managing to make around 20 more calls each day - and they are as accurate as ever!

The team are responsible for taking more than £10million of orders each week. Deliveries are made within 48 hours. And the telesales team are very aware of the key role they play.

Monday and Tuesday were

TELESALES

devoted to freetrade with Thursday and Friday spent contacting brewery pubs.

"But we've spread the new pubs out over the week so both we and distribution can cope. Each girl has to make about four extra calls a day - and each call

takes eight or nine minutes," said telesales supervisor Brenda Schofield.

She added: "We're having to work flat out. But we're pulling it in - and we're enjoying it."

In Brenda's telesales team pictured from left are Helen Smith, Margot Shaw, Maggie Godfrey, Brenda (supervisor), Sheila Morrel, and Lorna Godfrey. Also in the team are Dawn Brown and Beryl Swainstone.





Didn't we have
a Lovely time!



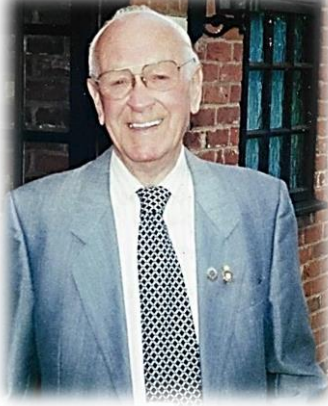
MBC's Walking Group enjoys Bank Holiday

*BARBARA BROWN
REPORTS:*

This was the August 27 Bank Holiday when the walking Group enjoyed a Sunday day out to Belvoir Castle. It was a really beautiful day as you can see and the views from the ramparts are absolutely stunning.

We were welcomed with tea or coffee and homemade biscuits, followed by a thoroughly enjoyable guided tour of the Castle, then tucked into a delicious lunch before spending time exploring the grounds.





A Sparkling Career-

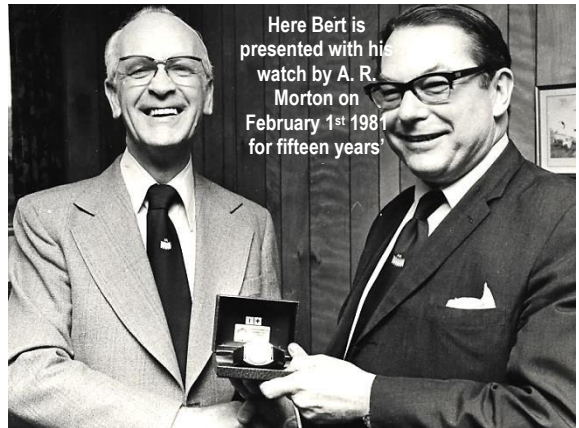
Marksman celebrates the life of Mandora's Sales Manager, Bert Dopson 1923-2017

Everyone who worked for MBC and its subsidiaries carry with them many happy memories of a unique life at work for a company which, looking back, was vastly more benevolent towards employees than many UK corporate bodies. Some suggest that as we were selling pleasure - in a word, beer - that gave the job an extra dimension.

But Mandora gave equal pleasure in the soft drinks market. Written in Bert's neat handwriting on the back of the photo (above) are these words: *Bert Dopson, born 1923, Brentford, London. Field Sales Manager with 22 reps, Mandora/Mansfield Brewery. Retired at 61, married to Blanche; brought up 3 boys. Wife passed away 1984. Served in the Army 1940-46 Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Light Infantry, now the Anglian Regiment. Always considered Mandora and Mansfield Brewery two of the VERY BEST COMPANIES IN THE BUSINESS.*



A man of many talents

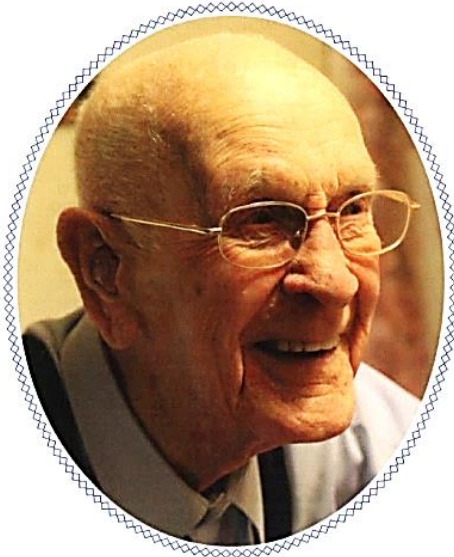


As a Sales Manager Bert always knew the best events for maximum Mandora publicity. The company featured, for example, regularly at the World Cycling Championships - and here he is no doubt recommending some cool Mandora to the champ in 1976.

BERT DOPSON: CELEBRATING A LIFE OF 94 YEARS.¹

He served with the company from 1969 to 1984. He was a Salesman for R. L. Jones subsequently becoming Sales Manager. R L Jones was taken over by Mansfield Brewery in September 1977 so Albert, as Sales Manager for Mandora would then have transferred to Mansfield Brewery and became an employee from 1977 and 1984 when his employment ended. He was 61 in 1984 when he stopped working. He lost his wife of 41 years around that time and had three boys to look after, all under working age. We dedicate these pages to his memory.

In Loving Memory Of



Albert Robert Dopson
'Grandad Bert'

8/7/1923 - 9/10/2017

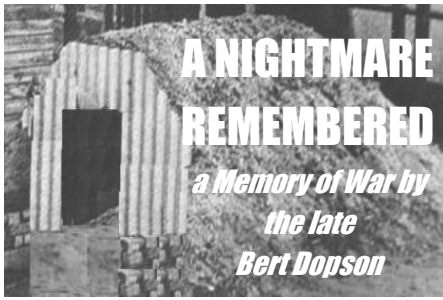
Grandad Bert's Poem

*There was once a cockney Robin
That was flying o'er our land
It decided to rest in a beautiful town
That was built on fine red sand
It whistled and sang
When suddenly then
His whistles were answered
By a fine Red Hen
They fell in love, built a beautiful nest
Reared 3 chicks, full of love, full of zest
Then sadly it all ended after 41 long years
The loving hen died, and left all in tears
Now the old Cock Robin
Keeps his promises true
To watch o'er those chicks
And their loving hens too
He no longer fly's o'er that land
But lives with his memories
In that town, that's built on fine red sand*



BERT'S PROUD SON, JOHN DOPSON





Bert Dopson's generation are sadly fading away now. It is easy to overlook the fact that he and his contemporaries actually served during World War 2. One of the items Marksman has received from his family is this well-written memory of that time. As it is longer than most contributions, we are serialising this in two episodes, with part two in our next edition.

PART 1: SIGNING UP

The year is 1939 and I am 16 years old, the IRA have just tried to blow up a bridge crossing over the North Circular Road. The bridge is called Seven Arches and was the one that carried the Grand Union Canal through the centre of London. This was my first experience of an exploding bomb and it shook the whole house and everybody nearby. The war with Germany was about to be declared by Neville Chamberlain. Anderson shelters were being delivered to anyone who had a garden, ration books and national service call-up papers were now beginning to be sent out. Nothing much else was happening - Hitler and the Nazi army were advancing all over the place with little resistance. The British Expeditionary Force (BEF) was sent to the continent and organized mainly along the Belgian and French borders. The BEF did not meet any hostilities until the invasion of France on 10 May 1940. After the commencement of battle they were driven back through France in full retreat and were trapped at Dunkirk. 330,000 troops were rescued but thousands more were taken prisoner and all equipment was lost. A crowd of us lads were waiting at one of the only two houses on our street that had a wireless and we were listening to the BBC news. It was here that we got our daily update of news and to-day it was that France had fallen to the Germans who were now going to invade England.

Within weeks hordes of German bombers began to blitz London day and night. It was complete and utter madness. Police bells, ambulance bells, fire engine bells clanging day and night. Guns in the park or on waste ground were blasting away while thousands of bombs were blowing up whole streets and factories. Daytime dog fights added to the danger, fighter planes attacking the bombers, all machine guns firing plus shrapnel from the guns and bombs could be heard hitting the houses and roads. Many people were hit; the ARP "air raid wardens" and police fire services were pleased to get help in rescuing casualties as there were never enough people to cope. My pals and I helped to pull casualties out of the rubble. It was estimated that thousands of people were being killed each week.

After one hell of a night rescuing survivors, covering up dead bodies and searching empty bombed houses etc. I decided to have a go at joining the army. Quite a few of the gang had gone to join and none had come back so I guessed they had been accepted. They were aged 16 to 18 but all claimed to be 19 years old, the age required to join.

The recruiting centre was at Burnt Oak in north London and what an experience it was to see dozens of cockney lads who had lost their homes, and in some cases their parents. These kids were living in the slums, under bridges, in park shelters, anywhere really. Their patched up clothes, ditched dirty faces and foul language was something you never forget. An army sergeant, with his peaked cap 1" from his nose and with a stick under his arm, tried without success to control them. After an hour I was pushed into a large hall area. Here there were at least six doctors examining lads like a production line. Teeth eyes, limbs, private parts and every other part of the body were examined and questions were being asked all the time. But I was never asked for my birth certificate, my parents' address, or proof of anything. I said that I was 19, not 17, and everybody who was fit enough was accepted. I eventually finished up in a smaller room and had to swear allegiance to King and Country. I was paid four shillings (20 pence), given some papers and told to report to an army depot just outside London at Hemel Hempstead.

TO BE CONTINUED ...



Manning the pumps, hero of the hops DAVE VANN



The Tanks of Impeccable Taste

Mansfield's New Alternative Brew!

Where can you taste traditional English ale, USA style IPA's and the finest Mediterranean Cerveza, all on one bar, whilst looking down on a working Micro Brewery? Well, your thirsty editor went to find out, and where else would you go for good ale than Mansfield? Tucked away in Unit 21 on Mansfield's Old Mill Lane Industrial Estate you'll find a beer aficionado's oasis. Prior's Mill Brewery is run by two local lads - Dave Vann, a former MBC Inns manager and Phil Scotney, who have set out on a passionate mission to brew great beer with the best ingredients, resulting in superior quality. Once they'd bought the equipment, they learned about brewing from scratch, and judging by the pint of Priory Gold I tasted, they've learned well. Housed in a purpose built building, the equipment benefited from being completely re-piped and modified to ensure Dave and Phil's dream was achievable. In the brewery, a mezzanine level has been installed where there is a cosy Victorian bar open to the public, where Dave and Phil's beers can be enjoyed. They realise that any group of friends may include some individuals who prefer other products, so to this end they also sell Estrella Damm and cider. History might have kicked us in the teeth when brewing came to an end at Littleworth, but when it comes to brewing, Mansfield's hopped back to its feet at Prior's Well. So next time it'll be a taxi so I can work my way across those pumps on the bar. This is quality our town can be duly proud of - all's well at Prior's Well! There's even tea and coffee for drivers.

HERE'S THE BEERS!



SILVER CHALICE 4.2% ABV

Lager malt gives this ale a light straw colour, USA and New Zealand hops give a balanced hop flavour with a good bitterness. Orange peel and coriander give another layer of flavour resulting in a refreshing moreish ale.

PRIORY GOLD 4.7% ABV Pale gold in colour with a citrus tones and aroma from USA hops culminate in an ale with an intense bitter finish.

RESURRECTED 4.7% ABV Dark Ruby in colour, almost brown ale nutty overtones with smooth classic English ale flavours married to a pleasant dry bitter finish make this a popular easy drinking dark ale

PRIOR'S PALE 4.8% ABV A Pale ale, again benefiting from USA hops, full flavoured, citrusy, quite dry making this the ultimate thirst buster.

WOLFCATCHER 4.8% ABV Similar to Prior's Pale, but flavours and aroma are emphasised by generous dry hopping resulting in intense citrus/grapefruit notes

BLACK WOLF 5% a black A.P.A. and a lighter version, **BABY WOLF 4%**

DIRTY HABIT 5.8% ABV A full on American style IPA, deceptively easy to drink for its strength. A blend of Cascade, Chinook and Summit ramp up the hop profile and then dry hopped to give that all important citrus hit. Maris Otter Pale Malt supplies a pleasant background maltness

Seasonal and special ales are produced periodically

Bar opening hours: Thursday: 14.30 - 19.30

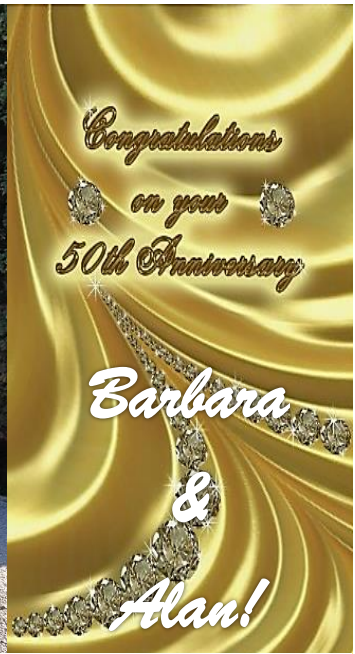
Friday: 14.30 - until interest dies or 19.30

Last Sunday of every month: 11.00 - 15.00

Saturday and Sunday by arrangement for private parties, brewery tours etc.

To organise a party or tour, call 07970 885204

Check them out at www.priorswellbrewery.co.uk/ or at [www.facebook.com/PriorsWellBrewery /](https://www.facebook.com/PriorsWellBrewery/)



Barbara and Alan Brown celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 30th September 2017. They flew away to Tuscany for an eight day holiday. This photo (above) was taken on one of the wine tasting days, actually on their Anniversary date 30th September.



“Before we went away however, on the September Walk around Kelham, we were totally surprised and amazed when Graham Cooling presented us with a beautiful card, handmade by Val Moss and a cheque from our fellow walkers, we are so lucky to call these people our friends!”(See photo, left.)

italian delights - BARBARA REPORTS!

We then flew to Pisa, transferring to a hotel for 7 nights in Montecatini Terme, which is only 50 minutes by train from Florence. It is a Roman spa town with some lovely old buildings and a Funicular Railway that takes you up to Montecatini Alto, another beautiful ancient place.

Our tour was called “A Taste of Tuscany” and included visits to Florence, Siena, Lucca, Pisa, San Gimignano, Radda and Castellini in Chianti. It also included two very pleasant wine tastings! On our two free days we took ourselves off to Prato, the second largest city to Florence and to Viareggio which is a seaside town, part of the Italian Riviera and had a paddle in the sea as the temperature never dropped below 24 degrees!

Once home, we were surprised again by close family members, at an unexpected meal out at The Foxglove, (see photo, left) organised by our Son Paul and Granddaughters, Leigh and Hannah. A delicious cake made by Leigh was devoured on the night, especially by our 2 year old Great Granddaughter Ellena.

All in all a lovely start to our Golden Year!



Our Christmas Dinner!



On Tuesday December 5th This popular event was once again held at the Boundary Inn, South Normanton. Members travelled by coach and after visiting a festive garden centre everyone enjoyed a traditional four course Christmas lunch. After lunch entertainment was provided by a Big Bopper Tribute act and the rendering of many old favourite rock'roll tunes soon encouraged members and friends on to dance floor to trip the light fantastic and work off the extra calories.

Thanks to Ian Boucher for pictures and reports.

The Brewery traditionally hosted a Christmas party in the cellar bar which was much enjoyed. Over the years MBMA have replicated the party spirit of comradeship and friendship by organising such an event. It is a very popular venue open to all former employees and this year was no exception with over 80 people attending. The tasty buffet was organised by the Debdale Park club catering staff. The party captured the atmosphere of yesteryear which was boosted by complementary bar facilities.

And a Christmas Party!



Does anyone remember this far back? These pictures record the very first helicopter landing in Mansfield in 1953. Article: *Promotion for R. L. Jones & Co. Ltd.* by Trish Jones courtesy of www.mynottinghamshire
"The pilot in the photograph is my father: Robert Lisle Rockley Jones, 3rd generation of Jones's at R. L. Jones. He is presenting the bouquet, but I don't know any of the other people in the photograph. I believe the photograph was taken by Mansfield CHAD"



LINE DANCE MARATHON BY THE GFORCE LINE DANCE CLASS

The wonderful, generous Mansfield Brewery people who were at the Debdale meeting in October donated a total of £70 to a collection held for The Nottinghamshire & Lincolnshire Air Ambulance. Sue Yates and Barbara Brown took part in the above on Friday 27th October.

It consisted of 45 dances back to back, culminating in 37,000 steps. Held at The Pretty Polly Club on Unwin Road from 2pm until 5pm the marathon began with a dance that had been specially choreographed by our teacher Gaye Teather and was followed by a series of old and new dances, selected to match the number of steps required. Approximately 60 people attended the event.

Following the dancing, the afternoon ended with a raffle and a buffet and a great time was had by all!

The total raised altogether, including earlier raffles and donations, is expected to reach £600!

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR GIVING YOUR SUPPORT TO SUCH A WORTHY CAUSE!
Sue, Barbara and Gaye

OUR BACK PAGES: 1992



What Became of The Hoedowners?

In these austere, less-talented days it's nice to look back to a time before the abysmal X-Factor when live music in pubs was often a real bonus with your pint. So here's a fine example of home-grown talent - are you still out there, Hoedowners?



STRAIGHT FROM THE HART

THE licensees and bar staff at the White Hart pub, Brigg have got together to form a skiffle group.

They're so popular that they also play at other local pubs and clubs. And they've even been featured on TV.

Licensees Malcolm and Maureen Halsall and three of their bar staff are playing wash boards and tea chests.

Their eight-piece band - the

Hoedowners - play every Wednesday night, at the Humber-side pub to a packed house.

Malcolm said: "It all started when I taught myself the banjo.

Confident

"When I got more confident I used to bring it with me to the bar and play hillbilly to the punters.

"Eventually my wife and bar staff joined in to form the Hoedowners.

"We have generated so much interest locally that we play gigs in other local pubs and clubs and have even appeared on local TV."

■ Pictured front row, from left, are licensee Maureen Halsall; barmaids Louise Hulley and Maureen France. Middle, from left, are barman Tommy Simms; licensee Malcolm Halsall and his brother-in-law John Stevenson. Back are pub regulars Irvin Blundell and Stuart Smith.