

# Diary

## Markyate Local History Society Dates

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2006

Informal talk by the Fire Service, including items on the Buncefield Oil Depot fire, and Home Safety.

At the Baptist Hall, Buckwood Road, Markyate at 8:00pm.

Meeting Subscription 50p (includes tea/coffee and biscuits)

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007

A Markyate Slide-show by Richard Hogg. Pictures from several collections will be shown.

At the Baptist Hall, Buckwood Road, Markyate at 8:00pm.

Meeting Subscription 50p (includes tea/coffee and biscuits)

### **DON'T THROW IT AWAY**

We are always pleased to accept items for the Society's Collection.

If you have any items of interest – Books, Leaflets, Brochures, Photographs, Postcards, etc., please contact us.

# The Gate

## The Newsletter of the Markyate Local History Society



South High Street, Winter 1960/61.

**Number 50**

**December 2006**

## Committee

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## Website

Our website is at:

[www.hoggie.demon.co.uk/markyate/index.htm](http://www.hoggie.demon.co.uk/markyate/index.htm)

## Markyate's Past number 16

We are now planning articles for Markyate's Past, the society's journal. If you have an article for MP16, whether it's on Local History or Family History, we will be pleased to include it.

## Rex Merry's Dissertation on Markyate

When Rex Merry was a university student, he did a dissertation on Markyate. He produced this in 1960/61 and has now donated it to the society.

There are many topics covered in the work, plus maps, and some photographs he took at the time. We will show the photographs at our February meeting. One of the photographs is shown on the cover of this newsletter.

## Markyate Articles from the Luton News 1906

**4<sup>th</sup> October – STATUTE FAIR** – The annual statute fair was held on Friday, Saturday and Monday evenings, and was larger than some

years past. It drew a number of visitors to the village, and although the crowd was very noisy, proceedings on the whole were orderly. The Rev. E. Packer, pastor of the Baptist Chapel, conducted a service amongst the shows and caravans on Sunday at 5:30, and was listened to with a very fair amount of attention by the show people present.

**22<sup>nd</sup> November – CRUELTY TO A HORSE** – At the Hemel Hempstead Petty Sessions last week, Owen Butterfield, of Markyate, was summoned for working a horse whilst in an unfit state on November 5<sup>th</sup>, and Jesse Butterfield answered a summons for causing the cruelty. - P.c. Turner said about 11.30 on the morning of the day in question he was on duty at Great Gaddesden and saw a brown mare drawing a load of bricks. Witness followed the animal, and stopped it. On the nearest shoulder witness found a wound about half the size of half a crown, the scab, having come off on the collar. Blood and matter were running down and matter was also running from wounds on other parts of the body. The animal had drawn the load of bricks from Kinsbourne Green – a distance of about nine miles. It was in a very poor condition and “trembled like a leaf”. - Inspector Ellis, who saw the horse the same evening, also gave evidence. The mare was totally unfit for work and was in a poor condition. The morning following the occurrence, the mare, when walking, swayed from side to side of the road. - The Bench characterised the case as being a very bad one and fined the defendants 30s. each.

**6<sup>th</sup> December – THE WATER SUPPLY** – At the meeting of the Hemel Hempstead Rural District Council last week, the Clerk read the report of the County Council upon the recent enquiry into the drainage and water supply of Markyate, stating that unless something was done by the Council before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1907, the County Council would take into consideration the question of representing to the Local Government Board that the Public Health Act had not been properly carried out. The Chairman: Have any samples of water been taken lately? - The Inspector: Not since the inquiry, I am afraid to say. For some of those found bad there is no remedy. - The Chairman: You had better take some. If that blessed old river keeps dry we can go on with the water question; as that is the more important, I think. - The Inspector was instructed to take two samples of water from different parts of the village and get them analysed.