



## KEYWORTH & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

For more information visit our website: [www.keyworthhistory.org.uk](http://www.keyworthhistory.org.uk)

or our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/KeyworthHistory/>

### THE E NEWS LETTER

#### Welcome to issue 107e the THIRD e-News Letter of KDLHS

It is proposed to send a more frequent e-news sheet out – at no cost to you if you read it on your screen, at no cost to the Society as we are not able to print our usual format at present.

There are less images in this e.newsletter than you usually find in our A5 booklet – Including more pictures in an email may make it difficult to send and for you to receive. You may notice that the headings are simplified, so that if you wish to print this edition, it is more likely to be compatible with your operating system. Let the editor know if you have any issues.

If increasing the size on your computer screen does not help I can send a large print version

Please acknowledge receipt, and let the editor know if you or others would like to receive future editions by email: Sheila Barton: [sheilakingdom@gmail.com](mailto:sheilakingdom@gmail.com)

#### Please circulate to friends and family who may be interested

Contributions to the e-News Letter are welcomed from Society and non-Society members.

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Items can be submitted as a typed or manuscript document; pictures, drawings or diagrams are welcome and are copyright to the authors of articles and illustrations; no part may be reproduced in any form without prior permission of the editor and authors. Any opinions are those of the author, and not necessarily those of the Editor or KDLHS Committee members. Your contribution can be sent to the News Letter Editor (Sheila Barton): 1 Parkside, Keyworth NG12 5HF or by email (in Word, please): [sheilakingdom@gmail.com](mailto:sheilakingdom@gmail.com)

Further amendments to the KDLHS PROGRAMME will be circulated in due course  
[See issue 105e for KDLHS Committee 2020 – 2021 contact details]

Keep safe, keep well, keep busy, keep in touch

## CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Dave Clarke

June Adcock has recently had a fall at home and is at Lings Bar Hospital as she recovers. John is unable to visit but can phone her daily. Chris has sent a card on behalf of the Society to wish her well. If you might like to post a card to her, the address is **Lings Bar Hospital**, Becksides, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6PR

Keyworth Parish Council have been working hard to ensure that no one in the village is left without some contact and we have been fortunate that so many people have come forward to offer help. What a lovely community we live in! Hope you are coping okay and able to enjoy the beautiful weather". [Rebecca Finch, co-ordinator].

If you need help, see the back page, or the centre of the May edition of Keyworth News

There are regular updates on the KPC website: <https://www.keyworthparishcouncil.org/>

KPC has also donated the use of its facilities for the production of face shields for the NHS and key workers: Claire Giles contacted KPC in a desperate need for more space so they kindly donated the use Village Hall facilities for the production of face shields for the NHS and key workers. The project is run entirely on donations; to support Claire and her team, visit her facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/nottsshieldsnhs>

## EDITORIAL

Sheila Barton

Is the novelty wearing off a bit? John Adcock has sent a timely item: "Quick to learn..."; the University of Nottingham is offering free online learning (see below), and Dave has found some reports of earlier Society meetings which may entertain or inform you: Further to the brief mention of the event commemorating the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Parish Councils last November, the report of Dr Erl Annesley's presentation to the Society on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2004 will perhaps be of interest, particularly to recent members or newcomers to the village....

In case you do not know, there is a quantity of material in our archives which might inform you, should you be following a story (such as the Crime & Punishment series which seems to have evolved...). Scroll through the archives Website: [www.keyworthhistory.org.uk](http://www.keyworthhistory.org.uk) contact the archivist, Dave Clarke: [archivist@keyworthhistory.org.uk](mailto:archivist@keyworthhistory.org.uk) Dave is regularly updating these records. If you want to access to our village archives or have material to add, use this email address: [archivist@keyworthhistory.org.uk](mailto:archivist@keyworthhistory.org.uk) Messages specific to the archive is stored permanently, contributing to the history of the Society.

when we can get together again we are looking forward to our public events when we can offer to photograph, photocopy and scan for the archive record, and return your documents promptly and safely. Additional material from Keyworth Parish Council is to be catalogued and scanned before being sent to the NAO for long term storage. Any volunteers offering to help update the archive catalogue will be welcome, so that it can be posted on the website, and a hard copy can be made available on request. A winter project, perhaps.....

### Recording the pandemic for the Village Archives & Nottinghamshire Archives:

Please send any electronic contribution you might wish to submit (documents or photographs) for the archive record in the Village and the County Archives to either

Sheila Barton (News Letter editor) [sheilakingdom@gmail.com](mailto:sheilakingdom@gmail.com) or  
Dave Clarke (Village Archivist) [archivist@keyworthhistory.org.uk](mailto:archivist@keyworthhistory.org.uk)

[see the attached "Isolation Journal Guidance" from Judith Mills, FONA sent with this email]

You may have heard, a few weeks ago, that a herd of 120 Kashmiri goats left their usual home on the Great Orme to wander freely among the deserted streets of nearby Llandudno. The goats had learned – and quickly it seems – that the coronavirus lockdown had emptied the town's streets of human beings enabling them safely to roam where they liked, when they liked, and eat what they liked: flowers, plants, bushes and carefully-tended vegetables. But the idea that such animals could learn so rapidly seemed a bit far-fetched to me until two closely-related incidents made me think again.

On Wednesday of last week, in mid-afternoon, all was silent and still as I sat in the garden wondering whether to mow the lawn. Having decided not to I sat on and saw, barely six yards away, a fine, fully-grown, handsome heron standing tall on the summerhouse roof. For ten minutes it remained uncannily motionless while it watched both me and the array of fish in our neighbour's pond. And then, in a flash, it swooped down to the pond, instantly decided there was no fish within reach, and flew away: but leisurely and almost arrogantly this time, on its slowly-flapping widespread wings. On those rare occasions when I've been up before seven I've sometimes seen a heron on the wing eyeing local ponds, but at three in the afternoon on a sunny April day? Never!

Then, at noon next day, I looked outside and was amazed to see, sitting on a bench of our picnic table, and barely four feet from the kitchen window, a monstrous, evil-looking bird. I thought it was a peregrine falcon but, from my description, my daughter assured me it was much more likely to have been a female sparrow hawk although it seemed much *much* bigger than that to me! While I have to admit it was a truly fine sight in itself, the cruelty emanating from its eyes, beak and talons clouded the picture. The what-ever sort of hawk, just as the heron had done, remained motionless for several minutes before deciding that, as there was nothing to its taste in our garden, it would say 'thank you for nothing' and fly to another hunting ground. Meanwhile, I too sat still for some time further and began to believe not only in the Llandudno story but to wonder what would arrive next in our small Keyworth garden: a proud and defiant golden eagle? A life-threatening northern cassowary, or a prancing ostrich claiming our lawn as its own? Who knows!



The next NLHA eNews Letter will be available from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April

The format has been changed (as so many events are cancelled): It includes a short article by Richard Gaunt on George IV, a review of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, and a piece on historical mapping. There is also some information on free on-line courses which may be of interest to you (see below, Ed). In order to access the eNewsletter [no charge] go to the NLHA website:

<https://nlha.org.uk/> (click on the image of the newsletter) or

go to NEWS; select either the **newsletter option** or **NLHA Newsletter Subscribers** option

You will get an email notification and a link to download the newsletter themselves.

John Parker, NLHA NewsLetter Editor: email: [newsletter@nlha.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@nlha.org.uk)

## THE ISOLATION

If you **are** writing a journal in a jotter, keeping a scrapbook, choosing to paint, sew, quilt, knit, crochet, pot or sculpt....or using any other means of documenting these strange times, please.... bring your contributions to the joint KDLHS & CAAG Census which will coincide with the National Census 2021 (date in the spring, t.b.c).

**Speaking of learning:** from Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2020; Registration open; no fee.

**The University of Nottingham Free Online Adult Education Programme for Coronavirus Emergency:** over 30 one-hour online sessions on a range of topics, some sessions are related to the epidemic, some are more general, intended to be of interest especially to the communities of Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands

Details: <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/education/events/2019-20/adult-education.aspx>.

CONSERVATION AREA ADVISORY GROUP (CAAG) and KEYWORTH & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY (KDLHS)

## CONSERVATION MATTERS

Further changes to our environment and lifestyle is in the offing... can you help record the changes we shall see when the work starts again.....?

## THE EDGE OF THE VILLAGE



Platt Lane Cottages September 2018 taken when pre-development archaeology was taking place in the field between Platt Lane and Station Road, the area now advertised as "Spinners Croft".

If you are taking your "daily exercise", walking your dog, jogging or strolling, take your phone or a camera and send us pictures. [Contact Dave or Sheila]

CONSERVATION AREA ADVISORY GROUP (CAAG) and KEYWORTH & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY (KDLHS)

## CBA East Midlands news flash.....

The CBA team (York) has put together an Archaeology Resources Hub

see: <http://blog.archaeologyuk.org/2020/03/24/archaeology-resources-hub/>.

You may find something to take your interest while stuck indoors over the next few weeks/months. There's a list on there of archaeological sites across the UK that are usually open to the public which have launched survival appeals to help them get through the current crisis. There's a very real danger that some might be forced to close permanently without the money from gate receipts that they usually rely upon, including sites within our region such as Creswell Crags.

If there are any other such organisations that have also launched appeals then please let Dave Clarke know, who will inform David Ingham (Secretary and Publicity Officer CBA East Midlands) who will ask the CBA to add them to its website. Thanks.

## From our Archive [Nov 2004] "**Keyworth's Village Hall**" Erl Annesley

The November meeting of the Keyworth & District Local History Society was held on 5th November 2004 in the Centenary Lounge, Keyworth. Our guest speaker for the evening, Erl Annesley, was well known to many of his audience as he used to be a local General Practitioner here in Keyworth. Indeed, he began by saying how nice it was to see so many old, familiar faces in the audience, many of whom he knew intimately, though not well!! Erl Annesley's subject for the evening was the Village Hall, for which he was largely instrumental in getting built. Once again the meeting was extremely well attended, Erl's reputation as a speaker no doubt having a significant part to play. Dr Annesley began by giving us a brief personal history explaining how it was that a Belfast boy should find himself residing in Keyworth.

After qualifying as a doctor in Belfast, (and regaling the audience with some lurid tales of life as a Medical Student) he came over to England in 1960 and began to practice as a G.P. in Mickleover, near Derby. His debut was something of a clouded affair. One of his first calls was to a lady in her late eighties who had been ill for some weeks. When Erl visited the lady in question she appeared to be fast asleep in bed with several of her relatives around her. The lady didn't look at all well and Erl, in his blissful ignorance, commented on the fact, whereupon he was informed by one of the relatives that it was not surprising as the lady had been dead for half an hour!!

Being interested in football Erl came to watch Nottingham Forest play the famous Tottenham Hotspurs double-winning side at the City Ground, Nottingham. After the match a friend introduced him to the Spurs Captain, Danny Blanchflower, (a fellow Irishman). The friend's name was Dr Bell and he had medical connections with Keyworth. Dr Bell asked Erl if he would like to come over to Keyworth to work,. He came over to have a look at the place and over forty years later he's still here. Erl Annesley moved to Keyworth in 1961 when the village was much smaller - none of the large estates had been completed at that time and the village retained much of its old character and charm. Typical of this was the tale of how Erl had an apple tree in his garden, next door to the village shop. He would exchange his apples for bags of sugar, and thus help to supplement the income of a struggling young G.P. Erl's early days in Keyworth were exceptionally busy: the population of the village had begun to expand rapidly, and so did his number of patients. However, the medical facilities available in the village did not grow at the same pace. Thus his patient list increased from 4,500 to nearly 10,000 people. Many young families were moving in to the estates; it was not uncommon for Erl to be delivering four babies a week (at a time when home deliveries were still commonplace). This could, and did, lead to difficulties in organizing ones social life. On one occasion Erl was all decked out in his best bib and tucker ready for a dinner dance when his attendance at a delivery was urgently required. Not having time to change he went in his best dress suit and the mother-to-be was somewhat surprised at the manner of his dress. She assured him that such a formal approach to her new infant's debut into the world was not really necessary, though appreciated!! After the delivery Erl went on to attend his dinner dance. Whilst the population of Keyworth was burgeoning the facilities available in the village were still very meagre. One thing which the village lacked, which was felt to be an essential amenity, was a Village Hall. To address this need Erl managed to acquire an old football pavilion, this was renovated as well as could be and turned into a youth club. However, it fell far short of what was really wanted. The only local body that could provide the necessary impetus to initiate moves for a new and suitable building was the Parish Council. Their initial attitude was fairly luke-warm. So it was that Erl managed to get himself elected to the Parish Council and try to change opinions from the "inside".

A public meeting was called in the old school building on Selby Lane, and the idea floated to try and ascertain if there was indeed sufficient interest in the proposal to justify going ahead with the scheme. One initial obstacle was the planned site for the new building. It was felt that the most suitable location for the Hall would be on the playing fields near the village centre. There was a problem - the Parish Church held a Covenant on the Nottingham Road half of the field. The Church could, effectively, stipulate what the land could or could not be used for.

Fortunately the Church was very fair-minded about the plans and gave the necessary permission for the scheme to go ahead. Rough details were outlined, and a proposal for a pre-fabricated structure to be erected at a proposed cost of £12,000 was given the green light. The next problem was that of funding and this particular problem fell into the lap of the Parish Council. Their initial solution to the funding problem was to put an extra 1d, (old penny), on the rates. This was not at all popular with certain sections of the village electorate.

In all three public meetings were held before the scheme was actually adopted. Even then some of the votes in favour of it had been very close. One bone of contention occurred when the question of who was eligible to vote on the scheme reared its ugly head. In order to vote you needed to be on the Electoral Roll as at 20th March 1965. A good many of the newcomers in the village were not yet on the Roll and in consequence were not eligible to vote. This lack of democracy in the issue did not go down well. Another group of villagers who were none too keen were a group of about 500 pensioners, Keyworth's senior citizens. They argued, perhaps not too unreasonably, that it was unfair to them to have to pay an extra 30/- per year for a facility that many of them would not use but that a large number of the younger villagers would. Erl was beginning to think that he had been handed the legendary poisoned chalice when he agreed to be the guiding light in the new village hall scheme. However, the final ballot on the scheme was organized.

Ballot papers were issued, the vote took place on one Saturday afternoon. The results were disappointing to say the least. Only 10% of the electorate bothered to vote and the result was far from conclusive. The final score was 144 in favour of the scheme with 122 against it. The buck was passed back to the Parish Council and they decided to go ahead with the proposed plans.

By now three years and three public meetings had come and gone since the scheme was first suggested; proposed costs were increasing too. The planned costs had now increased from £12,000 to £16,000. Permission had only been granted for the lower figure. Where to find the extra £4,000? This was another problem that Erl would rather not have had. It was decided that the only realistic option was to go cap in hand back to the County Council and beg for more. Talk in the Nottingham newspapers of the day was all about "A Village Rift" in Keyworth. The scheme had certainly been a source of much argument, debate and friction.

However, by February 1967 all that was history when the necessary funding was approved and the business of putting the contract out to tender was begun. Ordinarily, according to Council rules the tender had to go to the lowest bidder. A problem arose when the preferred bidder and local business Middleton's Builders presented the second lowest bid. Their bid was on £64/- higher than the lowest tender and the Parish Council agreed to bend the rules in order that the work might go to a local concern. Work began almost immediately. By June 1968 the village had its new hall. There was a grand opening and special events planned to mark the auspicious occasion. Four local ladies had plans to make a Bayeux type tapestry showing scenes from village life that was to adorn the hall. Unfortunately the scheme proved to be a little over ambitious and a series on montages of village life were completed instead. They can still to be seen in the hall. When the hall did open there were more than enough bookings to justify its construction and the building has become an important asset for the social life of the community.

Indeed, it was not to be too many years before an extension was constructed in the form of the Centenary Lounge (erected 1984 to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the existence of Parish Councils) where History Society members hold our monthly meetings.

All in all it was a very beneficial day when Erl decided to settle in Keyworth, the village owes him a great debt of gratitude for his services as a doctor and also, no less, for the driving force which he provided in ensuring that Keyworth acquired a Village Hall that was so sorely needed. It being Bonfire Night the whole of Erl's presentation was interspersed with booms, bangs, flashes and screams as firework after firework went off in the village. The show put on by Erl was more than a match for the show outside and the audience were highly entertained by his very distinctive delivery, (though how many of his many anecdotes were true and how many merely a touch of the Blarney only Erl knows).

[Footnote: Dr (Samuel) Erl Annesley campaigned for improved health care and frequently wrote about his role as a family doctor in the 1960s. He died 27th September 2017].

## **BOOKCASE**

**KDLHS Publications** currently in progress

**"Two Centuries of Farming & Conservation in Keyworth 1800-2020"** Margret Wright

I have really enjoyed helping Margaret to edit this book, and when it is launched (a.s.a.p.) I know it will be well received. We are awaiting the resumption of what we like to think of as "normal services" so that as soon as we can practically arrange printing and collection of this book, you will know about it!

## BOOKCASE

### Book Reviews

Book Reviews are always welcome for the News Letter – just contact the editor

Apologies for the continuing downbeat theme in the absence of any other material – but if you have recently read something heartening, do please let the editor know!

“**Pandemic 1918**” the story of the deadliest influenza in history; Charlotte Arnold. Published by Michael O’Mara Books Ltd. [358 pp including a comprehensive index]

ISBN 978-1-78243-809-0; an ebook format is available: ISBN 978-1-78243-810-6

This timely book was published in 2018, and the author gave a fascinating presentation to FONa in the early part of this year, before The Isolation was necessary. I had gone to the talk as I am interested in the development of nursing and medicine during and after WWI, before the discovery of antibiotics. It is a useful, fascinating addition to my collection of WWI related books and ephemera. “Spanish Flu” suddenly overwhelmed the globe in the last months of WWI, killing up to 100 million - the most devastating natural disasters in world history.

“Published 100 years after Influenza burned its way across the globe, Pandemic 1918 also looks to our future and what we still need to learn to stop it from happening again”. The front cover states “A coherent, well researched and sanitary reminder that another pandemic could be just around the corner - Sir Tony Robinson”. The word perhaps should have been ‘salutary’, but sanitary will suffice.

Now wash your hands, again! SMB

### “**Nottinghamshire Settlers & Locations in The Eastern Cape of Good Hope, 1820**” Bicentennial Edition, 2020

Rob Smith. 639 pp

Now available, self-published in PDF format only

a hard copy will not be made available.

If we think we are having it tough.....

Review, anyone?

Mention is made of several Keyworth residents .... interesting reading!!.

Please contact SMB if you would like an electronic copy sending to you by email.



### UPDATES:

You will have received your colourful May copy of **Keyworth News** and will see that Mark is intending to continue production and distribution of a printed copy for as long as possible, ensuring that all households are informed, particularly of support available in the current Covid19 crisis. There is a double page spread of ‘Keyworth life amid coronavirus lockdown’; Contributions are invited.

A web-accessible version is also now available : [www.keyworthnews.com](http://www.keyworthnews.com)

and facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/keyworthnews> (click on the links).

## NEXT EVENTS.....

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May** the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day can still be celebrated with a  
**“Stay at Home Street Party” 1pm – 3pm**



**Hang out your flags!  
unravel your bunting!!  
have a picnic in your front garden!!!  
(whilst respecting social distancing  
guidelines)  
maybe join in with Vera Lynn at 3pm?  
Please take some pictures for the  
village archive and send them to Dave,  
Sheila and/or to Keyworth News**

**Keyworth Show will return on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2021, put it in your diary now!**

**Heritage Open Days Festival 11<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/about>

Have a look at the website, sign up for a newsletter, see the press releases, previous events in the gallery and see how this year might be shaping up with their Covid19 statement.....

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together over 2,000 organisations, 5,500 events and 46,000 volunteers. Every year in September, places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – and it's all FREE. Last year HODs celebrated 25 years.

Heritage Open Days continues to flourish with more events every year, reflecting the rich and diverse cultural heritage of England and its communities. Spanning the public, private and voluntary sectors, the festival is a unique and powerful partnership. Working with organisations and individuals across England, HODs is our national local festival. There are always new stories to tell and new places to open. It's a chance for communities nationwide to come together to learn, explore and have fun by sharing the treasures on their doorstep.

“Heritage Open Days is all about celebrating community and local stories, which feels more important than ever in these strange times. So we're determined that HODs will happen... in some form. Your health and wellbeing is our first priority so we're keeping a close eye on government advice, listening to our organisers (who are, as ever, proving an absolute inspiration at the moment) and adapting our planning as we go. As always though, your HODs team are here to support you so do get in touch with any queries and watch this space for updates.

The national team is reduced as we took up the government offer of furloughing to support the long term future of the festival. Please be assured we remain committed to supporting you all and making something happen this autumn. During this period we will keep registration open but will not be processing entries”. Watch this space.....



## CRIME AND PUNISHMENT: Inquests

In the last edition, it was mentioned that The Plough, Wysall “was the scene of the Inquest”. **Inquests** in England and Wales are held into sudden or unexplained deaths and also into the circumstances of and discovery of a certain class of valuable artefacts known as “treasure trove”. A coroner [an independent judicial office holder] is appointed and paid for by the local authority. The appointee now operates under the jurisdiction of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009. The Ministry of Justice, headed by the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice has the responsibility for the coronial law and policy only, but no operational responsibility. In some circumstances where an inquest cannot view or hear all the evidence, it may be suspended and a public inquiry held with the consent of the Home Secretary. [Wikipedia]. Historically, all inquests were once conducted with a jury. They determined whether a person should be committed to trial in connection with a death. Such a jury was made up of up to 23 men, and required the votes of 12 to render a decision. Similar to a grand jury, a coroner's jury merely accused, it did not [convict](#). Since 1927, coroner's juries have rarely been used in England. The qualifications to sit on a coroner's jury are the same as those to sit on a jury in the [Crown Court](#), the [High Court](#), and the [County Court](#).

Additionally, a coroner's jury only determines the cause of death, its ruling does not commit a person to trial. While grand juries, which did have the power to indict, were abolished in the United Kingdom by 1948 (after being effectively stopped in 1933), coroner's juries retained those powers until the [Criminal Law Act 1977](#). This change came about after [Lord Lucan](#) was charged in 1975 by a coroner's jury in the death of Sandra Rivett, his children's nanny.

Previously, Inquests were often held in public houses... Coincidentally, Richard Pincott emailed to say that “the saddest article we came across today was the one featured in the book ‘Viewing the lifeless body’ (Bernard V. Heathcote – 2005) p46”: He went on to quote

### **Young man killed while oiling the machinery at Keyworth windmill**

‘An inquest was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1835 at the Salutation, Keyworth, relative to the death of John Allsop, aged 18 years. It appears that on the previous day, while the rest of the family was in the hay field, he was attending the windmill. Unfortunately while he was oiling the mechanism he slipped and he became entangled in the cog-wheels crushing his neck, face and his right hand. He languished until the evening when he died from the injuries so received. Verdict: Accidental death with a deodand of 6d. on the machinery’.

*In case you were wondering.....*

A **deodand** is a thing forfeited or given to God, specifically, in law, an object or instrument that becomes forfeited because it has caused a person's death. The English [common law](#) of deodands traces back to the C11th and was applied, on and off, until Parliament abolished it in 1846. Under this law, a [chattel](#) (i.e. some personal property, such as a horse or a haystack) was considered a deodand whenever a [coroner's jury](#) decided that it had caused the death of a human being.

In theory, deodands were forfeited to the crown, which was supposed to sell the chattel and then apply the profits to some pious use. The term deodand derives from the [Latin](#) phrase “deo dandum”, which means “to be given to God.” In reality, the juries who decided that a particular animal or object was a deodand also appraised its value, and the owners were expected to pay a fine equal to the value of the deodand. If the owner could not pay the deodand, his township was held responsible.

Before 1066, animals and objects causing serious damage or even death were called *banes* and were handed over directly to the victim in a practice known as [noxal surrender](#). Early legislation directed people to pay specific sums of money, called [wergild](#), as compensation for actions that resulted in someone else's death.

*In case you are interested...*

The transition from “bane” to “deodand” remains obscure. By the second half of the 13th century the coroner's rolls were replete with references to vats, tubs, horses, carts, boats, stones, trees, etc.

The rules on which they depended were not easily explained by the old commentators.

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The law distinguished, for instance, between a thing in motion and a thing standing still. If a horse or other animal in motion killed a person, whether infant or adult, or if a cart ran over him, it was forfeited as a deodand. On the other hand, if death were caused by falling from a cart or a horse at rest, the law made the chattel a deodand if the person killed were an adult, but not if he were below 'the years of discretion'.

Deodands were still being forfeited throughout the C16th and C17th, although not as frequently as before. Some scholars think the practice died out completely in the C18th. Others speculated that deodands had become nominal assessments that were routinely levied. Another possibility is that the practice was receiving less official attention because the profits were no longer going into royal coffers. By then, the crown had long sold off the rights to deodands from most jurisdictions to lords, townships and corporations.

During the 1830s the [rapid development of the railways](#) saw an "epidemic" of railway deaths. The indifferent attitudes of the railway companies caused increasing public hostility. Under the [common law](#) of England and Wales, compensation could only be paid for physical damage to the claimant or their property.

The families of fatal accident victims had no claim for purely emotional and [economic loss](#). As a result, [coroner's juries](#) started to award deodands as a way of penalising the railways. On Christmas Eve 1841, in an accident on the [Great Western Railway](#), a [train ran into a landslip in Sonning Cutting](#) - 8 passengers were killed. The [inquest](#) jury assigned a deodand value of £1,000 to the train. Subsequently, a [Board of Trade](#) inspector exonerated the company from blame and the deodand was quashed on [appeal](#), on technicalities. This alerted legislators, in particular [Lord Campbell](#) and the [Select committee](#) on Railway Labourers (1846). In the face of railway opposition, Campbell introduced a bill in 1845 to compensate victims, which led to the [Fatal Accidents Act 1846](#), also known as "Lord Campbell's Act". Campbell also introduced a bill to abolish deodands. The latter proposal, which became law as the [Deodands Act 1846](#), to some extent mitigated railway hostility.

SMB [from Wikipedia]

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## **SAFETY GUIDANCE: Coronavirus – Covid19**

If you need any help maintaining your self-isolation (picking up shopping, posting mail, a friendly phone call, urgent supplies) contact Keyworth Parish Council

Telephone: 0115 937 4811 or email [COVID-19@keyworthparishcouncil.org](mailto:COVID-19@keyworthparishcouncil.org)

Regular updates are also to be found on the KPC website:

<https://www.keyworthparishcouncil.org/>

For more information Visit [www.nottsc.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nottsc.gov.uk/coronavirus)

All the latest information for Rushcliffe residents is available at [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus) or phone 0115 981 99 11

Click on the links below for more information about staying safely at home:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/coronavirus/>

**wash your hands**

**Keep safe, keep well, keep busy**

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