

FANCY DRESS ON PARADE



The Carnival attracts the Queens and other floats from neighbouring carnivals and lots of pedestrian entrants from the three villages add to the excitement and colour of the day.



No Carnival is complete without its royalty and pictured here (right) are the Carnival Queen and attendants circa 1933: Grace Gratton, Lillian Bacon, Marie Wardle, Annie Roper and Joan Marsden.

A dray from a 1960's Youlgrave Carnival (pictured left) shows locals getting into the spirit of the occasion, all dressed up . . . with somewhere to go.

Over the years the people of the three villages have shown how capable they are of providing entertainment, not only for themselves but also for people from far and wide.

YOULGRAVE CARNIVAL WEEK

Youlgrave's summer calendar has more than just the Welldressings to bring visitors to the village - there's also the grand spectacle of the Carnival.

The Carnival was started by Youlgrave Bowls Club in 1932. The present committee, Youlgrave Community Group, took the reins in 1982.

The committee organises a week of activities culminating in the Parade on Saturday during the day and a disco and live band in the marquee on the playing field in the evening.



YOULGRAVE SILVER BAND (below)

Youlgrave Band was founded over a hundred years ago and is still going strong. It plays outdoor concerts sponsored by Derbyshire Dales District Council in various villages in the summer, Youlgrave Welldressings and Carnival parades and indoor concerts and services in Youlgrave in winter.

The Band provides children of all ages with an introduction to music. Youlgrave Silver Band has instruments and will offer free tuition to adults and children alike.



POMMIE'S FINEST PLAYERS (above)

Pictured above is the Youlgrave Silver Band c 1880, resplendent in fine uniforms and showing off the brand new instruments that were bought through the newly-formed Co-operative Society.

One story goes that the Band were walking along the road with their new instruments unable to play any tunes and resorting to a 'Pom, Pom, Pom'. And so it is that the village was nicknamed 'Pommie'. Could these be the very instruments and bandsmen responsible?



And on stage . . .

GANG SHOWS (right)

Youlgrave Scouts put on several Gang Shows in the early 1950's.

The shows were written and produced by Nick Mercer, who kept the village Post Office.

Note Tom Rhodes, Harry Goodwin and Doug Wardle, among others on the back row.

Michael Wragg makes a gorgeous brunette in the middle and Lawrie Tabbenor and Tony Hadfield are amongst the little angels at the front.



YOULGRAVE PANTOMIME

Youlgrave has, through the years, enjoyed a wealth of performances from its aspiring artists. As well as the Gang Shows, there have also been the Village Pantomimes and plays by the Holywell Players.

The Panto is perhaps the widest attended and longest running. The performances began in 1927, when the then manager of the Village Hall, Major Mockett, started his run of six shows with 'Dick Whittington'.

In 1962 this wonderful much-loved spectacle began its present run, when Norman Wilson produced 'Babes in the Wood'. Norman produced five pantomimes, and was followed by Martin Brooke-Taylor (2), Stephen Walker (1), Margaret Fell (2) and John Roper (3).



JUNIOR CHORUS
Mother Goose 1970

The Junior Chorus 'Mother Goose' 1970 - spot frequent Principal Boy, Mary Froggatt, second from the right on the front row.



Queen of Hearts 1980

(Above) The Junior Chorus 'Queen of Hearts' 1980 - spot the Editor of 'The Bugle' as the Mad Hatter.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS AND COUNTING

Jan Wilson became Musical Director for John Roper's 1976 production of 'Babes in the Wood', and when he returned to the boards the next year, she succeeded him as producer of the show.

Jan added to her impressive service when she returned to produce the year 2000 show, 'Jack and the Beanstalk', after two years off, in which 'Archers' writers Louise Page and Chris Hawes took the reins.



JIM EVANS AND TOM RHODES
Puss in Boots 1971

(Above) Jim Evans as Cornelius Kreep, a rascally lawyer, and Tom Rhodes as 'Queen Clot Hilda', a royal curd, in 'Puss in Boots' 1971.



Sinbad 1990

(Above) Mick Patterson with no less than five Shimwells among his admirers in 'Sinbad' 1990.