

PREVENTING CRIME

For many people the image of a typical country village in bygone years is that of a rural paradise where neighbours got on well with each other, the trusting householder might leave his door unlocked whenever he left the premises and cottages had roses growing around the door as shown in this picture.¹



Unfortunately, human nature being what it is, the Chaddesden resident of past centuries might well have encountered crime in one form or another, whether this was the theft of farm animals, crops, vandalism or maybe even physical assault.

Just to give a couple of examples, the *Derby Mercury* newspaper of 13 March 1772 reported that Hannah Stafford, the servant of Mr. Rowland of Chaddesden, was charged with the theft of '*Wearing Apparel, and 3 Pounds in Money*' from her Master; she was sentenced to be transported for seven years. On 1 May 1778 the name newspaper noted that Robert Holbrook, a Chaddesden framework-knitter, had suffered the theft of various pieces of cloth and thread; that same evening seven hens were stolen from the premises of John Taft, a farmer in the village.

The proximity of Chaddesden to Derby, its much larger neighbour two miles to the west, meant that strangers could often be seen in and around the village, most of whom of course had legitimate reasons for their presence, but a small minority were always on the lookout for an opportunity to acquire someone else's property. The Derby Canal ran through the southern part of the parish and its towpath provided a quick and easy way for anyone to access the village, a fact probably not lost on William White, who in later years farmed Meadow Farm, which backed onto the south bank of the canal.²

In theory, it was the duty of the village's parish constable to apprehend offenders wherever possible and secure them in the Chaddesden lock-up until their court appearance before the local magistrates. It should be noted however, that the parish (or petty) constable was most definitely not the equivalent of the later police constable. The parish constable was simply a local resident who had probably filled this position unwillingly on a rota basis and had a whole range of unpaid and diverse other duties to attend to, for which he got little or no training.³ The only remuneration he received for his work as constable was in the form of allowances given for undertaking specific elements of his duty; a few examples from 1836 provide some idea of what he might have claimed:⁴

For taking the oath of office ... £0 1s 0d

For serving of any warrant at the instance of the parish (if served in the parish) ... £0 1s 0d

For attending the bench of justices at their petty sessions ... £0 1s 6d

Attending the coroner with notice of a death ... £0 4s 6d

Summoning a jury, and attending the inquisition ... £0 6s 8d

Making out a list of persons to serve in the Militia, or any other military force ... £1 1s 0d

Service of any poor's rate summons ... £0 0s 4d

Although the parish constable was well-placed to identify malefactors within his own immediate community, locking them up in the village stocks in the north-west corner of St. Mary's churchyard for a few hours as an incentive not to offend again, the fact he had no other resources to call upon severely curtailed his abilities to detect crime perpetrated by outsiders, even assuming he had the time to spare!

The increasing popularity of provincial newspapers in the eighteenth century, provided the opportunity for property owners who had sustained losses by theft to place advertisements in their local paper, offering a reward to anyone providing information leading to a successful conviction. In this example, taken from the *Derby Mercury* of 16 December 1790, it seems one of Sir Robert Mead Wilmot's swans had been stolen, although there was a suggestion it might have strayed.

STOLEN or STRAY'D,

IN the Night of the 10th of December Instant, from the Water in the Paddock, belonging to Sir ROBERT MEAD WILMOT, Baronet, at Chaddesden,

A MALE SWAN.

If stolen, any Person who will give Information of the Offenders, so that they may be apprehended and convicted, shall, on such Conviction, receive a Reward of TWO GUINEAS, from Mr. HARRISON, Attorney, Derby.

If strayed, any Person who may happen to find him, shall, on delivering him safe at Chaddesden Hall, be handsomely rewarded by Sir ROBERT MEAD WILMOT.

With no effective police force to assist them, the responsibility for pursuing and then prosecuting criminals was, by and large, left to the unfortunate victims themselves! Having first suffered some form of loss the victims now had to pay for advertisements like this and then, if someone was detained and convicted as a result, pay the informant's reward as well as all the costly court fees, whilst handling the complexities and protocols of a court system that was

never intended for use by a layman. Even after doing all this, there was no guarantee the victim would ever recover more than perhaps a small portion of any costs awarded by the court. Of course in 1790 this did not matter greatly to Sir Robert Mead Wilmot, the village's wealthiest landowner whose solicitor was dealing with matters concerning the theft of the swan on his behalf, but an ordinary farmer or smallholder when faced with the theft of his property might well conclude that it would be uneconomic for him to pursue matters further, even when the criminal was known!

Significantly the latter half of the eighteenth century and first half of the nineteenth coincided with huge changes to English society. As the Industrial Revolution gathered pace, many people abandoned traditional rural occupations and moved into increasingly overcrowded towns and cities looking for more lucrative employment. Land ownership and agriculture right across the country were impacted as enclosure by either parliamentary or private acts gathered pace. This meant that once a village had been enclosed, all its former commons, meadows and waste grounds were neatly parcelled up, allocated to new owners and then bounded by quickset hedges or fences. Thus the small cottager with no land of his own who had previously kept a cow on a patch of waste ground and gathered brushwood for his fire from the common whilst snaring a couple of rabbits there to feed his family, found these benefits had vanished almost overnight and, should he attempt to return to the same locations again, he would have to enter private property and be judged as a thief or trespasser! The opening years of the 1830s also witnessed two significant uprisings: the 'Swing' Riots as people protested against falling agricultural wages and the increased use of mechanisation in farming leading, so it was claimed, to extreme hardship, and the Reform Riots brought about when the House of Lords unexpectedly rejected the Reform Bill, which would have extended the parliamentary franchise to more individuals

Fearful of the impact crime might have on their rural communities, many voluntary prosecution associations were created right across the country in this period, offering mutual financial support to members. Typically covering one or more neighbouring parishes, local farmers, smallholders and other inhabitants would be invited to join upon payment of an annual membership fee; the revenue gathered in this way then being used to finance rewards for information identifying the perpetrators of crimes against the members, and assisting with the cost and complexities of the resultant court case too. Down the years, Chaddesden residents are known to have supported three such associations:

- ▶ The Heanor Association for Prosecuting Felons
- ▶ The Spondon, Chaddesden, Locko, Ockbrook & Borrowash Association for Prosecuting Felons
- ▶ The Chaddesden & District Association for the Prosecution of Felons

This advertisement in the *Derby Mercury* newspaper of 11 May 1786 marked the beginning of the Heanor Association. John Harrison became its first solicitor and treasurer.

THE INHABITANTS of the Parishes of HEANOR, ILKESTON, STANLEY, CHADDSDEN, MORLEY, BREADSALL, KIRK-HALLAM, WEST-HALLAM, HORSLEY, and DENBY, and of the several HAMLETS within the same, are desired to meet at the KING'S-HEAD in HEANOR, on Monday the 5th Day of June next, at Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon, in order to consider of a Plan of an ASSOCIATION for prosecuting Offenders committing Felonies within those Parishes.

The response to the advertisement was evidently satisfactory, for another meeting of the Heanor Association was set for 3 July 1786, when those wishing to become members were asked to attend and pay their annual subscriptions of 5s each. There had been some changes to the villages, which now included Ilkeston, Heanor, Spondon, Chaddesden, Stanley, Morley, Smalley, Kirk Hallam, Mapperley, West Hallam, Horsley, Horsley Woodhouse, Kilburn, Denby, Codnor, Loscoe and Shipley⁵

Just a couple of years later in July 1788, the association noted a resolution had been passed to the effect 'That the following Gentlemen, or any five of them, shall be a Committee for directing Prosecutions and settling the other Business of this Association'. A list of 13 members followed including Sir Robert Mead Wilmot of Chaddesden Hall, his son Robert and cousin Rev. Robert Wilmot of Morley, Edward Miller Mundy of Shipley and Edward Sacheverel Sitwell of Stainsby.⁶ These five men were all related, and no doubt underscored the local squirearchy's concern to cut down on crime, especially whenever it might affect them or their properties – hardly surprising considering they owned many of the estates that either had recently undergone, or would soon undergo, enclosure, with all the various agricultural and societal changes that might bring.

In the table of rewards listed in the same publication, it is worth noting that with the exception of the largest reward (£5 5s 0d) to be offered in cases of 'Murder, Burglary, or Highway Robbery', the other incentives offered by the Heanor Association for providing information leading to a conviction related mainly to agricultural crimes such as, 'Stealing any Horse, Mare, Gelding, Bull, Ox, Cow, Sheep, Lamb, or Pig' (£3 3s 0d); and 'Stealing, cutting, breaking down, or destroying any Tree, Hedge, Gate, Stile, Post, Rail, or any other Kind of Fence' (£0 10s 6d).

Spondon, Chaddesden, Locko, Ockbrooke, and Burrowash
ASSOCIATION.

THE principal Inhabitants of the several Townships or Liberties above named, having entered into an Association for apprehending and effectually prosecuting any Person or Persons who shall commit, attempt to commit, or be suspected of having committed, any Murder, Burglary, grand or petit Larceny, or other Felony, Depredation, or Misdemeanor of any Kind whatsoever, upon any of their Persons or Property; and also the Aiders, Abettors, and Accessories of such Offenders, have agreed, that the Persons by whose Information or Evidence any such Offender shall be convicted, shall within one Month next after such Conviction, be entitled to receive from Mr. HARRISON, Attorney in Derby, the Solicitor and Treasurer to the Association (above what is allowed by Act of Parliament) the following Rewards, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
For every Person convicted of Murder, Burglary, Highway Robbery, or wilfully setting Fire to any Buildings or Effects, the Sum of	5	5	0
For every Person convicted of stealing or maiming any Horse, Mare, or Gelding, Ox, Cow, Sheep, Lamb, Calf or Pig, the Sum of	3	3	0
For every Person convicted of stealing any Kind of Poultry (except Game Cocks) the Sum of	1	1	0
For every Person convicted of stealing, cutting, breaking down or destroying any Tree, Hedge, Gate, Post, Rail, Stile, Fleak, or any other Kind of Fence, or of stealing or damaging any Kind of Implements or Utensils of Husbandry, the Sum of	0	10	6
For every Person convicted of stealing Peas, Beans, Potatoes, Turnips, Cabbages, Grass, Hay, Clover, Corn, or any other Sort of Grain, if committed in the Night the Sum of	1	1	0
If in the Day Time the Sum of	0	10	6
For every Person convicted of stealing any Kind of Fruit, if in the Night Time the Sum of	0	10	6
If in the Day Time the Sum of	0	5	0
For every Person convicted of any Larceny not within the above Descriptions, the Sum of	0	10	6

Any Person residing in any of the above-named Townships or Liberties may be admitted an Associate on paying 5s. into the Hands of Mr. JOHN HARRISON, at the Sign of the Malt Shovel in Spondon, or of Mr. WILLIAM WHITE, Schoolmaster in Chaddesden, on or before the 18th of December instant; after which Time no Person can be admitted into the Association for the Year now ensuing, as the Names of the Members are intended to be published in the next Week's Paper.

By order,
JOHN HARRISON,
Solicitor and Treasurer.

Derby, 11th Dec. 1792.

Just how successful was the Heanor Association at prosecuting offenders and preventing crime? Although it continued to function for many more years,⁷ some of the parishes it originally covered set up new, smaller organisations of their own,⁸ perhaps suggesting that its defined area of operation was simply too large with not enough attention paid to individual localities.

So it was then that just six years after the Heanor Association began its operations, the *Derby Mercury* of 13 December 1792 carried this notice from a new prosecution association styled the Spondon, Chaddesden, Locko, Ockbrook & Borrowash Association for the Prosecution of Felons, setting out the rewards for anyone providing information leading to a conviction and inviting subscriptions (once again priced at 5s 0d) from residents of the five named villages.

Not only were the rewards on offer identical to those previously published by the Heanor Association, but this new association also had John Harrison as solicitor and treasurer. This initial advertisement advised readers that a list of members would be printed in the following week's paper and a roll-call of 44 names was duly published in the *Derby Mercury* of 20 December 1792 (see next page). How many of these men had been former members of the Heanor Association is not known.

Spondon, Chaddesden, Locko, Ockbrook & Borrowwash Association
for the Prosecution of Felons – The Names of the present Members.

CHADDESSEN: Sir Robert Mead Wilmot, bart., Richard Holland, William White, jun., John Goodwin, Joseph Rowland, Robert Smedley. **SPONDON:** The Rev. J. Cade, Thomas Brentnall, James Johnson, William Antill, William Barlow, John Parker, William Osborne, John Harrison, John Wright, Samuel Richardson, Matthew Hancock, Ann Osborne, Robert Holbrooke, William Carrington, William Jebbett, Peter Coxon, John Kerry, Joseph Elson, Joseph Peat, William Morley, Henry Holbrooke, Thomas Ashby, John Chambers, Robert Hind, W. Richardson, sen., Samuel Stenson, William Hancock. **LOCKO:** W. Drury Lowe, Esq., Richard Ross, William Byfield, John Hornbuckle, Edward Williams, Timothy Hand. **OCKBROOK:** Joseph Howton. **BORROWASH:** Mark Porter, Samuel Salt, John Tomlinson, George Lomax.

By order, JOHN HARRISON, Solicitor and Treasurer, Derby, 11th Dec. 1792

Chaddesden residents continued to be involved with this association for many more years, and a notice placed by its treasurer, James Cade, in the *Derby Mercury* of 9 November 1825 once again listed all the members; this time 41 in total – Spondon (24), Locko (2), Chaddesden (9), Borrowwash (5), and Ockbrook (1), and also outlined the rewards then on offer – which were still identical to those in the 1792 advertisement shown above.⁹ Interestingly, many of the surnames of the members in the

1792 list were repeated 33 years later, suggesting a marked family loyalty to the association. On a personal note, my own gt-gt-gt-grandfather Robert Cholerton was one of the Chaddesden members in 1825. His membership was obviously timely, for the very next year he suffered a theft and placed this advertisement in the *Derby Mercury* of 18 January 1826, though whether the culprit was eventually apprehended is not known.

STOLEN

FROM the Farm Yard of Mr. ROBERT CHOLERTON,
of Chaddesden, near Derby, on Sunday night the 13th
January, 1826, or early on Monday morning the 16th,
FIVE GEESE.

Also from the Farm Yard of Mr. THOMAS HARVEY, of Chad-
desden aforesaid,
TWO GEESE.

A Reward of One Guinea will be given on conviction of the
offender or offenders, over and above what is allowed by the
Spondon, &c. Association for the prosecution of felons.

A far more serious incident, believed to have been arson, occurred in the summer of 1849 when, in the words of an advertisement placed in the *Derby Mercury* of 6 June, ‘... early on Sunday Morning last, the 3rd of June instant, a Fire was discovered in the Brick-yard of Mr. THOMAS BENNETT, at Spondon, in the County of Derby, whereby a portion of the roof of a BRICK SHED was partly consumed, and other injury done to newly-made Bricks therein. And whereas, it is supposed that such was WANTONLY SET ON FIRE.’ In this instance, the substantial rewards on offer to ‘any person who will give information, so that the Offender or Offenders may be brought to justice, and convicted thereof’ totalled a little over £60 as follows:

- ▶ £50 from the Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Fire Insurance Company
- ▶ 5 guineas from Mr. Thomas Bennett himself
- ▶ 5 guineas from the Spondon, Chaddesden & Ockbrook Association for the Prosecution of Felons

The advertisement stressed that if ‘if any one will impeach his or her accomplice or accomplices, so that it may lead to a conviction, he or she shall be entitled to the like Reward, and every means used to obtain his or her pardon.’ Once again, it is frustrating not to know the outcome of this case, since no further details appear to have been deemed noteworthy by the press.

The creation of the Derbyshire Constabulary in March 1857¹⁰ seems to have brought about the demise of the Spondon, Chaddesden, Locko, Ockbrook & Borrowwash Association for Prosecuting Felons.¹¹ Now the new county police force would have the job of apprehending and prosecuting criminals across Derbyshire, many voluntary mutual prosecution associations like this would no doubt have concluded their work was done and disbanded within a few years. Others decided to continue,

sometimes supporting their local police constable in his work. As the initial strength of the Derbyshire Constabulary in those early days was just 156 men, it was inevitable that with such a large county to police their resources were going to be stretched; indeed as far as Chaddesden was concerned, it was the 1881 Census which first recorded the presence of a resident policeman, who lived here with his wife and young children.¹²

As we have already seen, arson was a particularly feared crime with the potential to completely destroy a property and its contents, and in March 1877 it was thought to be the cause of major damage to a thatched cottage belonging to Sir Henry Wilmot, called Locko Lodge. Although two suspects were apprehended, they were later found not guilty at Derby Crown Court in April the next year.¹³ The absence of any local representative of the police actually living in the village at that point in time perhaps influenced the thinking of local people who decided a new anti-crime association might well be a useful asset, and so, in 1878, the Chaddesden & District Association for the Prosecution of Felons was formed.

Fortunately local newspapers quite often provided useful reports about this new association, giving details as to membership, cases dealt with, rewards offered, etc., thereby making up to some degree for the apparent lack of any surviving formal minute books. One of its early annual meetings was held at the Union Inn, Spondon, in June 1882. The newspaper reporter commented with some feeling that a noticeable feature was Sir Henry Wilmot's '*rather long speech*', in which he remarked that the association now had over 60 members. The attendance that day was good with some 50 people present who enjoyed a '*most excellent dinner*'.¹⁴ The annual dinner held on the same day as the annual meeting would continue to be a feature in subsequent years.

The annual meeting and dinner of the association held at the Three Horse Shoes, Morley, in June 1884 was attended by some 40 members, who heard the association was in a '*prosperous condition*' with nearly 60 members and a balance in hand of £3 2s 0d. The past year had seen three cases of prosecution – wilfully damaging a tree, stealing turnips, and robbing an orchard; in each instance a reward of 10s 6d was paid to witnesses giving evidence to convict the offenders.¹⁵

In the early 1890s the association amended its name, perhaps reflecting a minor change to its *modus operandi*. From then on it was no longer known as the Chaddesden & District Association for the Prosecution of Felons, but rather the Chaddesden & District Association for the Prevention of Crime, a fact commented upon by Mr. Alexander Ogden in 1911 (see below).

The White Swan Inn at Spondon was the setting for the June 1896 annual dinner and meeting, with members present from Chaddesden, Breadsall, Morley, Stanley, West Hallam and Spondon. In the absence of the president, Sir Henry Wilmot, Mr. Alexander Ogden of Stanley occupied the chair. Mr. Edward Willetts, the secretary, noted, '*The association had 65 members and a good balance. They had conducted one prosecution during the year, a case of clover stealing, and in two other cases reward bills had been issued, but in these they had not been successful in detecting the offenders*'.¹⁶

Surely one of the most unusual prosecutions ever funded by the association was that of a case of wilful damage to a rabbit warren to the amount of £2. This incident took place at Ockbrook in June 1899 on Richard Bailey's property – the warren having been set on fire, together with a neighbouring hedge. Mr. Bailey managed to get the fire under control but not before the damage had been done. The association was represented in court by their solicitor, Mr. J. T. Wykes, and both defendants were fined 40s plus costs and the damage, or a month with hard labour each.¹⁷ The firm of Wykes and Francis also successfully represented the association in other, more conventional cases, such as damage to fences at Breadsall (1902), trespass and theft of ducks at Chaddesden (1905), theft of apples at Breadsall (1905), damage to mowing grass at Spondon (1907), and damage to fences at Chaddesden (1908).¹⁸

A surviving Rule Book dating perhaps from 1900 or thereabouts notes that an entrance fee of 2s 6d had to be paid by everyone joining the association and that its affairs were to be managed by a committee elected each year at the annual dinner. If necessary the committee had the right to make

'great honour to be president of such a helpful and extensive association, which covered an area of one hundred square miles ...' Mr. Alexander Ogden, J.P. of Stanley said he was 'one of the few survivors of those who established the association in 1878', and gave a graphic illustration of its progression.²⁵

The First World War put paid to many of the association's activities during its duration. A committee meeting held at the Wilmot Arms, Chaddesden, on 18 May 1916 noted there would be no annual dinner because of the scarcity of farm labour. The association was still prosperous with a bank balance of £29 12s 4d and during the past year a reward of one guinea (£1 1s 0d) was handed to someone giving evidence in a case of sheep-worrying at West Hallam; part of a post-and-rail fence had been stolen from Spondon and a reward offered.²⁶

Trespassing was a perennial problem encountered by many farmers, and in an effort to combat this the association produced notices that members could display on their property. Typically, a notice would carry the association's name at the top, followed by the warning that on or after a specified date, anyone found trespassing or damaging land in the occupation of Mr. ____ (the member's name) would be prosecuted as the law directed. After being signed and dated by someone on behalf of the association (usually the secretary or treasurer), one or more of the notices could then be fixed to posts in prominent positions – how effective they were is another matter!

The 1923 dinner and annual meeting held at the White Hart Inn at Stanley in May 1923 welcomed Charles Stanhope, Viscount Petersham (and, from 1928, 10th Earl of Harrington), as the association's new president in place of Mr. Joseph Harvey, who was standing down after 12 years. Mr. Harvey remarked that since its inception 45 years ago, the association had had only three presidents – the late Sir Henry Wilmot, the late Mr. Bostock of Spondon, and himself. Membership now stood at 105 and the committee had dealt with two cases: the first in respect of the theft of stone from Mr. Needham's quarry on Morley Moor for which a fine of £2 2s plus costs resulted, and the second for personal injury to Mr. Arthur Pares of Spondon, two men being fined £3 3s 0d and costs.²⁷

The ever-popular Malt Shovel at Spondon was the setting for the association's 48th annual meeting and dinner in May 1926, with some 50 members in attendance. The treasurer, Mr. T. Poyser of Chaddesden, was pleased to report a substantial credit balance to carry forward.²⁸

Jubilee celebrations were the order of the day in May 1928 when a well-attended gathering met at the White Hart Inn at Stanley to celebrate the association's 50th anniversary. Mr. M. L. Harvey, the secretary, said that during the past year there had been no offences committed on the person or property of any member, no-one had resigned and a number of new members enrolled. In addition to the President (Lord Petersham), vice-President (Mr. W. Peat), Treasurer (Mr. T. Poyser), and Secretary (Mr. M. L. Harvey), 13 committee members were elected representing: Breadsall (1), Chaddesden (3), Spondon (3), Stanley (3) and West Hallam (3).²⁹ A few weeks later, the *Derby Daily Telegraph* of 26 June 1928 ran this short article about prosecution associations in general:

Felons Foes – *Though they have outlived their day ... societies for the prosecution of felons and the general prevention of crime still survive in some parts of the country. In our own locality, Chaddesden and Repton furnish instances. That a luncheon should follow the recent annual meeting of the Chaddesden Society – its jubilee gathering by the way – was in keeping with a reputation these organisations once enjoyed for combining conviviality with the more serious business for which they existed. They were quite unofficial bodies set up in the early years of last century in consequence of a disturbing epidemic of burglaries and larcenies throughout the country. Members were required to pay, in addition to an entrance fee, a quarterly subscription, in return for which the society undertook to prosecute at its expense persons guilty of theft or damage to the property of its members.*

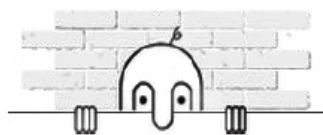
Was the newspaper feature correct in thinking the association was no longer needed in the more modern times of the late 1920s? Well, to all intents and purposes it appeared to be business as

usual and at the association's 51st annual meeting and dinner in May 1929 presided over by Lord Harrington, the secretary was able to report an increase in membership.³⁰ Unfortunately his Lordship died later that year, following a hunting accident, and at the June 1930 meeting held at the Punch Bowl Inn, West Hallam, Captain J. A. E. Drury Lowe, of Locko Park, was elected as president in his stead. The past year had seen the association take action only once, in the case of the theft of fowls at Chaddesden, the two offenders each being sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour. Once again, the secretary noted an increase in membership, with eight new members added.³¹

Accounts were adopted and officials duly elected as normal at the association's 55th annual meeting and dinner held at the Malt Shovel, Spondon, in June 1933. It was reported that no cases of depredations had needed to be dealt with in the past 12 months and the trespass notices issued to members had seemingly acted as a deterrent against damage. The chairman gave a talk on 'Trade and Agriculture' and the remainder of the time was spent listening to various musical items.³² Yet behind the scenes it appears that all was not well with the Chaddesden & District Association for the Prevention of Crime, for just two years later Mr. F. S. Ogden of Stanley received a postcard to remind him that the association's 57th annual dinner (priced 3s 6d) would take place at the Malt Shovel Inn, Spondon, at 6:45 pm on 13 June 1935, and on this he wrote, '*This was the last dinner prior to the dissolution of the Association.*'³³

What happened between 1933 and 1935 to bring about the demise of the association? Although local newspapers appear to be silent on this issue, I wonder if it was connected with the ever-increasing loss of agricultural land in both Chaddesden and Spondon as new housing developments began reducing the number of farms, and hence farmers, in both villages. For example, Guy Brighthouse writing in 1989 noted that ten Spondon farms and smallholdings had been lost to housing during his lifetime.³⁴ Then again, maybe it was because of higher and higher local authority charges, with members of the association resenting paying twice for anti-crime measures – once to the police via their rates and then a second time to the association. If the association's minute book has survived somewhere, it may one day provide the answer.

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Endnotes:

- 1 This illustration by an unknown artist comes from a 1932 catalogue of herbal remedies and is believed to be out of copyright.
- 2 For example, in September 1841 the *Derby Mercury* noted that three geese had been stolen from his farm and his fruit orchards were being robbed on a regular basis!
- 3 As outlined in W. E. Tate, *The Parish Chest* (3rd edn.), Chichester, 1983, pp.176–187.
- 4 *Report of the Commissioners for Inquiring into County Rates and other matters connected therewith*, Parliamentary Papers, Vol. 27, London, 1836, p.12.
- 5 *Derby Mercury*, 15 June 1786.
- 6 *Derby Mercury*, 10–17 July 1788.
- 7 The Heanor Association was still very much in existence on 13 October 1897, when the *Derby Mercury* reported on a prosecution.
- 8 For example, Smalley & Morley (1810), West Hallam, Stanley & Mapperley (1808). Details taken from: Janet Gilks, *A Study of the Derbyshire Associations for the Prosecution of Felons 1750–1860*, M.A. Thesis, University of Nottingham, 2003, pp.54–57.

- 9 The author of an article in the *Derby Daily Telegraph* of 11 November 1925 mistook this 1825 notice as marking the foundation of the Spondon, Chaddesden, Locko, Ockbrook & Borrowash Association for Prosecuting Felons since he incorrectly commented to its formation 'exactly one hundred years ago'.
- 10 The Derby Borough Police Force had been created two decades earlier in 1836.
- 11 The 1849 advertisement seems to have been one of the last appearances of this Association. Its funds may eventually have been transferred to another Spondon organisation, for the *Derbyshire Advertiser* of 30 October 1908, reporting on the annual dinner of the Spondon Allotment Holders' Association (founded 1895), noted that during the past year the name of the Prosecution of Felons account (£3 9s 6d in 1907) had been changed to the Protection of Allotments and now stood at £4 14s 10d.
- 12 Samuel Stanley (aged 30), his wife Mary Jane (31), and 4 children aged between 5 months and 6 years, the youngest baptised at Chaddesden on 28 November 1880.
- 13 *Derbyshire Advertiser*, 12 April 1878.
- 14 *Derby Mercury*, 28 June 1882.
- 15 *Derby Mercury*, 2 July 1884.
- 16 *Derby Mercury*, 24 June 1896.
- 17 *Derby Mercury*, 21 June 1899.
- 18 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 12 September 1902; *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 18 March 1905; *Nottingham Evening Post*, 8 September 1905; *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 17 July 1907; and *Derby and Chesterfield Reporter*, 29 May 1908.
- 19 The text of the Rule Book is reproduced in full in: P. F. Cholerton, 'Some Notes on the Chaddesden and District Association for the Prevention of Crime', in *Derbyshire Miscellany*, Vol. 11, Pt. 5, Spring 1988, pp.101–107. The article also contains a list of the association's members c.1903.
- 20 Mr. Willetts must have been a most energetic individual. Cook's *Derby & District Directory* for 1901 lists him as: Edward Willetts assistant overseer, clerk to Parish Council, tax collector and secretary to the Chaddesden and District Association for the Prevention of Crime, Ivy House.
- 21 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 15 June 1903.
- 22 *Derbyshire Times*, 15 June 1907.
- 23 *Belper News*, 16 June 1911.
- 24 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 18 June 1912.
- 25 *Derbyshire Advertiser*, 21 June 1913.
- 26 Derbyshire Record Office, DRO D331/1/62/2.
- 27 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 29 May 1923.
- 28 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 29 May 1926.
- 29 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 2 June 1928.
- 30 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 25 May 1929.
- 31 *Derby Daily Telegraph*, 14 June 1930; *Derbyshire Advertiser*, 20 June 1930.
- 32 *Derby Evening Telegraph*, 10 June 1933.
- 33 Derbyshire Record Office, D331/1/62/19.
- 34 Guy Brighouse, *Memories of Spondon*, Spondon, 1990, p.44.