



Sedgley's

Diamond 60

*Sixty years, sixty people,
sixty stories about village life
since 1952.*

1960

All Saints' Youth Club in the 60s by Jane Hartshorne

The youth club at All Saints' was extremely active in the 1960s. I joined when I was about 12, with my friend Sheila Oliver; I was the treasurer for most of the time I was in the club. It was a very enterprising club, arranging trips to Blackpool and other places around the country; on two occasions that I can remember, the club went abroad, to France and Italy.

Club activities began at 7.30pm, when we were allowed to play half an hour's table tennis. Then from 8-9pm we had to do a 'serious' activity such as photography or drama. The drama group began when we were around 13 with a man called Mr Coppin. He entered us in drama festivals, we had public speaking competitions, and were very successful as a group. From 9-10pm we did ballroom dancing.

Another popular youth club activity was the Church Football Team who used to play at a pitch in Turls Hill Road, by Whites Drive. They played on Saturday afternoons, just friendlies against other local teams - they weren't in a league. The girls used to go down there and support the lads. That's me in the top picture in my duffle coat with a supporter's rattle!

By the time we were 18 or 19 we left the youth club but some of us continued by joining the senior drama group. One of the last productions we did was Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in 1969. I was married by then - I must have been around 26.

Some enthusiastic people within the drama group then developed it into what is now SECGA theatre company, which is still going strong 40 years on, based at Tettenhall College; they put on productions 3-4 times a year.



Saturday football at Turls Hill Road



Trip to Italy, 1963



The Drama Group's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'



Another drama production 1960/61 (Parish Hall)



Youth Club trip to Blackpool in the early 60s



Fundraising at an Easter Fair