

**KING GEORGE V SILVER JUBILEE
CELEBRATIONS AT GELSMOOR ON THE
(NEW LOUNT COLLIERY ATHLETICS
GROUND) - A JOINT GRIFFYDAM,
NEWBOLD, GELSMOOR & PEGG'S GREEN
EFFORT**



BY SAMUEL T STEWART - MARCH 2026

PREFACE

King George V was the first British Monarch to celebrate a Silver Jubilee to mark his 25 years on the throne. Previously, British Monarchs had only ever celebrated Jubilees ever 50 years. Celebrations occurred far and wide on the 6th of May 1935 with street parties being prevalent. This local joint Griffydam, Newbold, Gelsmoor & Pegg's Green celebration was actually filmed, but the whereabouts of the film is unknown even if it still exists.

Due to Worthington deciding to have their Royal Jubilee celebrations entirely on their own, it meant that Griffydam, Newbold, Gelsmoor and Pegg's Green amalgamated to hold their own combined celebration.

As several local names are mentioned in the publication, it is hoped that this may bring back memories for someone.

COMPLIMENTARY READING

The following are free to download and read on the author's website samuelstewart.com

Frank Hodges - A respected Businessman and Benefactor to Newbold appears under subsection 'PEOPLE'

Local Fund Raising Events for Loughborough Hospital 1931-1939 which appears under subsection 'MISCELLANEOUS'

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As a result of a decision by Worthington to hold their own celebrations to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George V and Her Majesty Queen Mary, it appears from the following transcribed newspaper report that Newbold, Griffydham, Gelsmoor and Pegg's Green came together to organize their own event on **the New Lount Colliery Athletics Ground**. The author believes that it was out of this successful joint effort that the "Newbold and District Hospital Society" was formed confirmed by the fact that £66 was donated to Loughborough hospital in 1935. The newspaper reports state that Loughborough, Derby, Leicester and Ashby de la Zouch would benefit from the profits. A total of £1,150 was donated over 4 years from 1935 to 1939.

New Lount Colliery employees also donated £187 to Loughborough in 1935 and the 1940 accounts record that £209 was donated.

JOINT JUBILEE

NEWBOLD, GRIFFYDAM AND GELSMOOR

Owing to the Worthington village having decided to have their own Jubilee celebrations, Newbold, Griffydham, Pegg's Green and Gelsmoor have had to amalgamate, and in this connection meetings have recently been held.

It has been decided to call in all the people in the three villages to a free meat tea. The children under 14 years of age will be presented with a Jubilee china cup and saucer.

*Proceedings will open on Jubilee Day at 1p.m. with a service in **the New Lount Colliery athletic field** and children's sports will commence. There will be a tea for the children in the Newbold Schools and afterwards the children will be entertained to a picture show at the New Hall, Newbold, kindly loaned by Mr. E. Martin.*

Tea for the elderly people will follow the children's tea. There will be sports for the adults and a dance.

The committee would welcome offers to help at the tea. Names should be given in at the general committee meeting, held every Tuesday night at seven o'clock in the New Hall, Newbold.

Transcribed from the Coalville times- Friday May 10th 1935.

A DAY EVER TO BE REMEMBERED

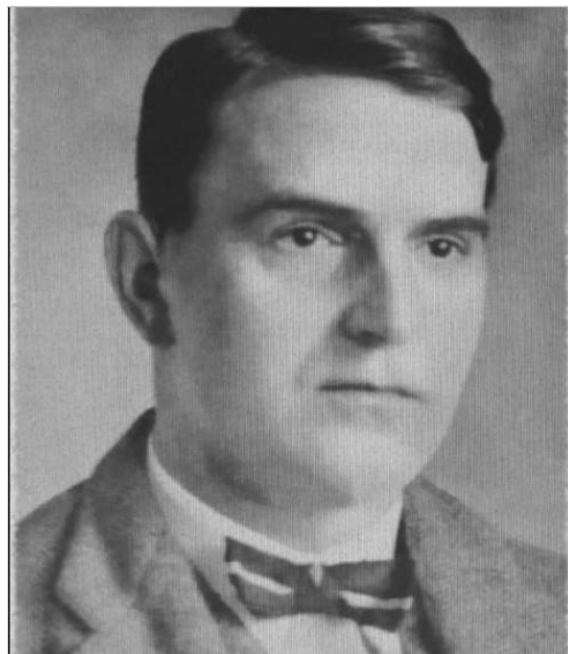
'A day ever to be remembered' was the general opinion of the celebrations held at Gelsmoor.

Processions from the Griffydham and Newbold schools wended their way to the New Lount Colliery Athletics Ground, where a short open air service, at which a microphone and speakers were brought into use, was conducted by the Rev. H.R. J. Canham, ably assisted by Mr. J. Pargeter.

Nearly 1,000 people were present, and were led in the singing by members of the church choir, augmented by the Newbold Male Voice Choir.

In his sermon on 'Jubilee Day' the Vicar remarked that Queen Victoria was known as 'Victoria the beloved', and King Edward the Peacemaker', and it would be pleasing to know in what light the future generation would regard our present King and Queen who had withstood a very troublesome time during their reign and who were held in such high esteem by their subjects.

At the close of the service Mr. Frank Hodges J.P., made an announcement to the effect, that in July, probably on the same site, a united effort by the three villages Griffydam, Newbold & Gelsmoor, would be made on behalf of four hospitals, namely, Leicester, Loughborough, Derby and Ashby, and that amongst the attractions there would be the ancient custom of '**Ox Roasting**', and he hoped in this manner a very substantial sum would be raised for a rather empty purse.



Frank Hodges



Ox Roasting on The New Lount Colliery Athletics Ground referred to by Frank Hodges

Children's races were then commenced, the winners being: **Walking Backwards**, Maureen Richards; **Girls Skipping**, Beryl Edwards & Hetty Knight; **Flat Races**, J.Wilton, T.Williams, Mary Croson, Reg. Walker, C. Knight, Annie Croson, Rex Fowkes; **Sack Race**, Reg. Walker; **Egg & Spoon race**, Ethel Johnson; **Three Legged Race**, J Hodges, W. Fairbrother; **Wheel Barrow Race**, Tony martin, J. Hodges, Fred Hodges, Eric Shaw.

The prizes consisting of Jubilee half-crowns, were presented on behalf of the committee by Mr. Frank Hodges, and he was rather surprised when one young competitor, rather dissatisfied with having one prize only, also asked for a kiss, which on being given was greeted with loud applause.

Senior Sports including a blindfold wheel barrow race, walking football, tug-o'-war, & pillow fights etc., then took place, prizes being given at the end of each event.

Music was supplied by means of a powerful radio-gram, and a film of the proceedings was taken - to be shown at a later date

One of the chief features of the day, however, was the tea, which all the inhabitants had been invited, and about 900 persons (including the children) sat down to a very tasty and appetising meal.

A cinema show, the broadcasting of the King's speech at 8 o'clock, the lighting of the bonfire at 10 o'clock and a jubilee dance, gradually brought to a close a very happy and glorious day.