

MAY 1938
A FANCY DRESS PARADE AND GALA
IN SUPPORT OF SWANNINGTON,
COLEORTON, PEGG'S GREEN AND
GRIFFYDAM NURSING ASSOCIATION

THE LOCAL DISTRICT NURSES AT
THIS TIME WERE -
NURSE KINNELL AND
NURSE INGLESON

SAMUEL T STEWART - MARCH 2026

PREFACE

District nursing began in **1859** in Liverpool, England, when philanthropist William Rathbone employed Mary Robinson to provide nursing care to the poor in their homes following the death of his wife. This initiative, supported by Florence Nightingale, established formal, organized community nursing. Based on historical archives, 1938 was a key year for district nursing in the UK, with many nurses relying on bicycles to visit patients in rural and urban areas. Pictures from around 1938 often show nurses in full-length, layered cotton uniforms and hats, navigating their communities on bicycles.



Photograph of a typical district nurse on her rounds in 1938



**District nurses on bicycles in 1938
(Photo East Sussex Record Office)**

The Following was recorded in the Coalville Times in May 1938 and has been edited by the author

PEGG'S GREEN PARADE A SUCCESSFULL EVENT

Glorious weather favoured the Pegg's Green and District fancy dress parade and gala on Saturday last when a most successful effort was made in support of the Swannington, Coleorton, Pegg's Green and Gelsmoor 'Nursing Association.' **Little did the people know that WWII would break out 4 months after this auspicious event took place.**

Amongst the prize winning competitors in the various classes were 'the Creche' which took first prize. This comprised a beautiful group of babies with dolls organised by Nurse Kinnell and Nurse Ingleson. Second was 'The Wedding' by Mr. Morley and partners which included Mr. J. Hall as the chimney sweep.

In the undecorated or Tradesmen's turnouts, Mr. Mason of Ticknall won first prize, with Mr. Jordan of Coleorton coming second.

The Pegg's Green 'Comic Band' won first in its section, great credit being due to its leader Mr. C. Edwards and indeed to all its members for their diligence in becoming so efficient.

Mr. Hutchinson of Whitwick, and Master Hough of Swannington won first and second prizes respectively for decorated cycles, while Mr. Billie Bird won an easy first with his splendid impersonation of 'Father Time'. Sarah Croson was second as a 'Nurse Maid' in the same class. In the comic characters, Mr. Griffin of Hugglescote won first as 'Doubleman'. Mr. Walker as Charlie Chaplin came in second, while Miss F. Berkin as 'Mother Hubbard, and Miss. Bott as 'Gipsy', won first and second in their respective classes. Master Frances as 'A Pierot' won first in the school children's section, while Miss Maria Read and Edwin Read won second prize as 'Robinson Crusoe' and 'Man Friday' with Master Stones coming third as 'A Miner.'

In the children's class for girls, Miss Lewis of Bagworth won first as a 'Gipsy' while W. Stacey of Coleorton won second prize as 'Rags and Bones'; Miss Kilby, a 'Draper', came third.

Coleorton girl guides formed a very smart troupe under the leadership of Misses Fewkes and Walker and gained a special prize.

The procession, skilfully piloted by P.C. Drury and Mr. Walden wended their way through Swannington and Coleorton, led by the 'Coalville Coronation Band, who rendered splendid service both on parade and afterwards at the Gala for selections and dancing.

The most successful collectors on parade, were Miss. W. Holland and Mr. Reid (Joint), Miss A. Walker being second.

On the return of the party, the prizes were given by the following judges who judged the various classes of the parade programme:- Mrs. T. Atkins, Mr. Wm. Baldwin, Mr. G. Walker (Swannington), Mrs. Cuthbert, Mrs Greensmith & Mrs. Knighton (Coleorton), Mr. Measures, Mr. Danvers & Miss. Trussell (Griffydam), Mr. A. Briers, Mr. Ashcroft, Miss Bourne and Mr. Price (Whitwick), Mr. and Mrs. J. Richards (Swannington).

Mrs. T. Atkins on declaring the winners made a splendid little speech on the local nurses and their great work. Everyone present felt proud, when Mrs. Atkins spoke of the nurses (Kinnell and Ingleson) as two of England's most noble women.

The Treasure hunt which Mr. Baldwin so very kindly and ably organised was won by Mr. Cleaver of Swannington with the final clue being:-

*He or she who finds this clue
Take straight with carefull measure
To Nurse Kinnell who will exchange
This last clue for the 'treasure'*

This being genuine, Nurse Kinnell gave the 10/- note to the lucky finder

Another interesting item in the Gala was Prof. Edwards of Leicester, the conjurer magical of modern times, who fascinated his audience with his very clever sleight of hand tricks etc.

Spot Veleta prizes were won by Mr. Brookes and Miss Treif. Williams.

The Pig so kindly given by Mr. W.Hutchinson (Walter) of Pegg's Green to the funds, was won by Mr.Danvers of Shepshed with ticket 3759, he being able to produce the same on the field. The Pig - a fine black speciman of his kind-weighed 7 scores. Mrs. Wilson of Ravenstone won 10/- by guessing the correct weight.

In the blouse competition, organised by Mrs. A. Robinson and Mrs. W. Saddington (nee. Stewart ,aunty of the author) of Swannington, the winning number was 572, the owner of which up to the present remains unknown.

A curious incident occurred in the cushion cover competition when Mrs. Gilliver, the giver of the cushion, having herself purchased the winning number 1099, and so the winner proved to be the giver.

Thanks in great measure are due to the able assistance given by the Swannington and Coleorton buffalo lodges, their splendid regalia lending quite a brilliancy to the procession.

The following committee were congratulated upon the excellent work done, and splendid effort made by them in bringing a most memorable event in the annals of the history of Pegg's Green.

Mr. Geo Wilton (president)
Mrs. C. W. Smith (secretary
Mr. J.Saddington (Treasurer)
Mr & Mrs Hutchinson
Mr. White
Mrs. Bradley
Mrs. Harvey
Mrs. Harrison
Mr. C.W. Smith
Mr George Walsen
Mr. E.Hodges
Mr. H. Reid
Mr.S.Johnson
Mr. H. Johnson
Mr. Walter Hutchinson
Mr.Wm. Hutchinson junr
Nurse Kinnell
Nurse Ingleson
Mr & Mrs. Wardle
Mr. Croson
Mr. Wilford
Mr. Shepherd
Mr. J. Leech
Mr. Davis
Miss. Robinson
Mrs. Saddington
Mrs. A. Robinson
Mrs. Eagle
Mrs. J.Irons
Mrs. J.Walker
Mrs. N. Hall
Mrs. J. Wilton
Mrs. Holland
Mr. Beastall
Mrs .J. Wardle
Mrs. Wright
Mrs. Webster
Mrs. Bonser