



Dr. Naomi Turner, president of Hagley Community Association, cuts the first sod on the site for a hall in the village. Mr. A. H. Chattin, the chairman, calls for applause on "an important moment."

Hagley Community Hall launched

12/4/69

Saturday was "an important day" for the villagers of Hagley, for it marked the beginning of construction work

on their £21,500 community centre. It is to be built on the North side of the playing field, and will afford a large hall with a stage and a kitchen and committee rooms.

The chairman of the Community Association (Mr. A. H. Chattin) welcomed a large crowd of villagers at a turf cutting ceremony, performed by the president (Dr. Naomi Turner).

Thanking the villagers for their support, Mr. Chattin said he never doubted that they would reach this important stage, nor was he disappointed by the length of time it had taken them to reach it. The association, he recalled, was formed in 1961, but it was not until two years

later that fund-raising was begun in earnest.

Since then they had raised a total of £9,000 mainly through the efforts of a loyal band of workers, and the assistance of other local organisations, tradespeople and individuals.

They had been given the assurance of a £10,000 grant from the Ministry with the promise of a further £500 from the County Council, leaving a balance of £2,100 still to be found.

Efforts, he said, to raise the remainder would include a house-to-house collection and a Summer fete.

They were also indebted to other local organisations who were to stage fund raising events. He added that it was a day to be proud, for it marked the completion of something which was begun nine years ago and the beginning of a plan which, it was hoped, would provide them with an excellent community centre in six months time.

In cutting the first sod, Dr.

Turner said it was a privilege and honour to be president of the association in such an important year, which would see the completion of an attractive building, catering for the needs of the community.