

Bonfire effort for Community Centre, Hagley

About 500 people are expected on Tuesday at bonfire and barbecue which has been organised by the Hagley Community Association to raise funds for the village's proposed community centre.

The event will take place on the Hagley Playing Fields. Besides the mammoth bonfire, there will be a firework display, and refreshments will be available.

Since it was formed in February, the Community Association has raised about £400 towards the building fund. The movement behind the Association's formation began towards the end of last year, when a number of local residents realised the need for an effort in Hagley to improve the amenities of the village and provide facilities for social welfare and recreation. The Parish Council agreed and after a committee's fact finding report had been received, the association was constituted in February, with Viscount Cobham as patron.

20 ORGANISATIONS

An invitation was sent to all local organisations asking them for their support and offering them seats on the Community Association council for two representatives from each organisation. To date 20 organisations are represented; there were only two refusals. A circular was distributed to each house asking for individual members. So far, there are approximately 300 individual members, who are also represented on the association's council.

The association's two aims have been the arranging of social functions and the raising of money for the building fund. Its activities have included a garden party, a bring-and-buy sale, a village dance, a grand raffle, a hallowe'en dance, several successful whist drives, and dances for teenagers.

A monthly news-letter brings the association's activities to the notice of the residents and gives local organisations the opportunity to publicise their forthcoming events. The first edition of the news-letter—The Hagley News—was in May, and there have now been six further editions. About 1,500 copies are distributed free each month.

The association has assisted in the Hagley "Freedom from Hunger" Campaign, and at local events arranged by other organisations. Forthcoming events include a jumble sale at the Church Hall to-day, and plans are being made for carol singing, a Christmas dance, and another dinner-dance.