THE CARNIVALS OF RUARDEAN
1906 – 1987

Extracts from “Bygone Carnivals of Ruardean” by Jayne Wallace

August 1906

Appears to be the first documented Ruardean & District Flower Show.

There were 330 Exhibits, more than there was room to show. It was hoped to get as many exhibits the following year but spread over many more exhibitors.

Soft fruit, vegetables & flowers were among the 89 classes shown.

The Committee was able to offer £30 in Prizes, but it was expected that as much again would be needed to cover expenses.

Parish Council offered 3 prizes for the best-kept allotments.

In the Begonia Class the prize value was offered in manure, by Withs Chemical Manure Co. of Hereford.

The Committee: President, Otto Shaw
Treasurer, Mr I.V Baldwin
Secretary, Mr L W High

August 1909

The 4th annual exhibition of flowers, fruit & vegetables held at Ruardean.

53 exhibitors produced 700 exhibits

Classes included;

- Collection of vegetables grown with artificial manures purchased from Mr T W Lewis
- Collection of vegetables grown from seeds supplied by Mr F Knight, Ruardean Grocer
- Collection of vegetables given by Mr J P Evens to his milk customers
- 4lb loaf of bread for Cottagers residing in Ruardean
- 4lb loaf of bread for bakers

Prizes were awarded to; F Meek; F Knight & F Duberley.

Drybrook Brass band were in attendance & played for the dance held in the evening.

August 1914

The last Annual Flower show for a while (presumably WW1) was held on 4th August & was well attended.

There were 400-500 exhibits from 27 exhibitors including children displaying wild flowers

An honoury exhibit was entered by Mr Hill for Messrs. Bussell & Pike, of Ross.

The boys from Ruardean Hill Council School entered an exhibit consisting of 6 distinct types of vegetables, & were awarded a Highly Commended by the judges.

Mr I W Baldwin, President of the Society opened the Show

Miss Gee distributed prizes.

Credit was given to Messrs. W Dunkley & Hy Reid (Secretaries) for their tireless efforts in making the show a success.

Mitcheldean Brass Band provided the entertainment for the day.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
DISCHARGED AND DEMOBILISED
SAILORS AND SOLDIERS

RUARDEAN BRANCH
****
ATHLETIC SPORTS
(To be held in a field kindly lent by Mr. T Thompson)

ON THURSDAY, SEPT 4th 1919
****
Proceeds for providing Headquarters, also a Memorial tablet for the Fallen
**********.
EVENTS

120 yard Handicap. Ent. Fee 2s 6d.
1st Prize £3, 2nd £2, 3rd £1.

440 yard Handicap. Ent. Fee 2s 6d.
1st Prize £3. 2nd £2, 3rd £1.

220 yard Handicap. Ent Fee 2s 6d.
1st Prize £3, 2nd £2, 3rd £1.

Ladies Egg and Spoon Race 50 yards

100 yards Scratch (Fancy Dress) Open to Members of the Nat. Fed. Of D.D.S.S.

1 mile Bicycle Handicap.

Sack Race 100 yards

Tug of War. Open to teams of 8 men belonging to the Nat. Fed. Of D.D.S.S.

Tilting the Bucket. Ent. On field 3d.

Pillow Fight. Ent. On field 6d.

Bowling Competition.
****
DANCING ON THE GROUND AFTER THE SPORTS

Roundabouts, Side Shows and other attractions.

Advert reproduced from the "Dean Forest Mercury"

September 1923

In an effort to raise funds for the newly acquired Recreation Ground for the Village (under the Miners Welfare Scheme) a Carnival procession wound its way around the village to the new grounds on Saturday September 1st.

The weather was fairly good, but a little windy.

The strong Welfare Committee in Ruardean held the Carnival under the auspices of the Ladies section of the Committee, the sports being held under the auspices of the men.

A programme of field sports had been arranged for the afternoon, which provided great entertainment for the spectators.

Ruardean Brass Band headed the parade.

Fancy Dress prizes were awarded to

Vehicles – The Wedding (Miss P Miles & Party)
The Daily Mirror Glider (Mr W Arkell & Co)

Miss Queenie Watkins – Victorian Dress
Marjorie Bowers – England Glory
Tom Harper – Dick Whittington
Leslie Hale – Vim
Mrs J Roberts, Ruardean – Kruschen Salts
Mr Howson, Cinderford – Vim
Miss Ivy Drew, Ruardean – Twink

June 1929

Following the completion of the Dilke Hospital in 1923, the villagers of Ruardean were most enthusiastic in the good cause of assisting the local hospitals.

Each year they held an outdoor event & Church parade to raise funds for the Dilke & Gloucester Royal Infirmary.

On June 8th favourable weather & large crowds made for a successful day.

Mrs D J Vaughan, wife of the Member of Parliament for the Forest & Mrs O Wintle, judged this year's carnival procession.

The large crowd were entertained with feats of strength, including weight lifting performed by Joe Price of Gloucester who was the champion Farrier & Weight Lifter of England & who's elder brother had once been a constable at Ruardean.

Ernie Walker a future young hopeful was also a crowd pleaser.
Rustic Sports were held throughout the afternoon.

Fancy Dress prizes were awarded to

Vehicle – Country Life (A group of ladies)
Darby & Joan (J & G Whittington & N Russell)

Decorated house on procession route - Mrs Malsom, Crossways

Mr Sid Mills & a number of lads – Tarzan & his apes
4 Malsom children – Wedding Group
Mrs Roberts – Twink
Miss Wilks – Wedding Cake
Arthur Howells – Chinese Man
Miss Lizzie Harper – Dick Whittington
Miss V Hale & Miss D Penn – Red Indians
Miss Griffiths & Miss Williams – Fairies
The Misses Hale – Wedding Couple
Derek Skinner – Departed Spirits
J Hale – Scarecrow

A net profit of £30 10s 5d was shown from the day's events.

June 1930

Ruardean "Hospital Day" Carnival was held on Whit Monday, 9th June. The beautiful summer weather was ideal for the open-air event.

The strong representative committee of Village residents had worked hard to ensure the day was a success. Unfortunately at the last moment the amusement caterer who had agreed to attend with "all the fun of the fair" didn't turn up.

Ruardean Brass Band headed the Carnival

The judges for the day were Mrs Jones – Park Farm. Mrs Pownall. Mr & Mrs Ford – St Helens.

A special attraction was the engagement of circus performers Roza & Rowley, who also kept the audience entertained with displays of juggling, balancing & manipulation.

Captain Waring & his untameable "animals" & Bimpo & his "circus" were also great crowd pleasers.

May 1932

The annual Hospital Day Carnival was held on Monday May 16th

The event had been well planned & advertised, but a failure to attract sufficient entries for the sporting events & the wretched weather meant that the event was doomed. The result of all the hard work & effort was an actual financial loss.

However the fancy dress carnival did proceed through the Village at mid-day, led by the Lydbrook Onward Silver band.

150-yard race for whippets, a pony race & a flat handicap for men were the main events held on the Village Recreation Ground this year.

The band played at intervals throughout the afternoon. Coconut shies & a small fun fair provided entertainment for the youngsters.

Although the day resulted in a net loss, the committee were able to make a donation to the local hospitals from their fund raising efforts during the winter months.

June 1933

The Hospital Day committee were favoured with ideal weather for their annual event. There was a satisfactory attendance at the sports meeting on the recreation ground despite rivalling counter attractions at neighbouring places.

The programme for the day comprised of The Carnival Procession & field sports.

The judges for the day were Mr & Mrs Wellington of Littledean & Mr G H Rowlinson JP presented the prizes.

The Committee honoury secretary was Mr Stanley Davies.

The main events in the sports programme were a whippet handicap & a horse handicap race.

Side Show attractions included a guess the weight of a load of firewood competition – the wood was kindly donated by the Lydney & Crump Meadow Colliery Company. Four people were successful & shared the prize.

Judging the weight of an iced cake was won by Mr John Hiatt, the cake was a gift from Mr Frank Knight.

The Carnival Winners were

Miss Margaret Hale – Flanders Poppy.
Mrs L Mason, Brierley – Red Queen.
Miss M Tippins – Nippy.

Miss Violet Davies – Rinso.
E Whittington & T Blanch – Monks.
S Edwards – Baker's Boy

Tradesmen's Turnout - Messrs Marshall, The Pludds.

The Cinderford Town Band led the Carnival & played throughout the afternoon & evening.

A profit of £19 10s was made on the day & divided between Gloucester Royal (£10) & The Dilke (£9 10s).

The "Kestrel Boys" Dance Band played at the evening dance which was held in the Hall at the Central Garage, kindly loaned for the night by Mr H Lewis.

May 1934

This years Carnival & Sports Day in aid of local hospitals was held at the Village Recreation Ground & aroused much interest owing to the special features of there being for the first time a Carnival Queen & that the "Lord Maior" & "Corporation" were to lead the procession.

The Carnival Queen was Miss Gwennie Harper who was crowned by Mrs Gwynne Holford, Chairman of the Gloucester League of Personal Service.

The Carnival Committee was;

Chairman – Mr R Pownall
Treasurer – Mrs Pownall
Secretary – Sergeant Major Jones
Sports Secretary – Mr Stan Davies.

Ruardean Brass Band led the carnival parade & played selections during the sports events & into the evening.

Ladies dressed as nurses accompanied the parade & collected a good harvest from the crowd.

The "Lord Maior" bestowed the Freedom of the Citie to Mrs Holford

The main events on the sports programme were two whippet handicaps & flat races for men & boys.

July 1935

Glorious hot summer weather prevailed at the Hospitals Carnival & Sports Day. A large crowd lined the Village streets as the Fancy Dress Carnival wound its way to the Recreation Ground.

Ruardean Brass Band headed the parade & it was led by the "Lord Maior" & "Corporation".

Miss Molly Malsom was crowned Queen by Mrs Gwynne Holford O.B.E.

The Queens attendants were. Mavis Knight, D Griffiths, B Morgan, G Davies, Betty Fisher & Marion Knight. Gerald Watkins, Malcolm Weaver, Dennys Pownall, & Robert Williams.

The Queens dress was white petal satin, with a train of maroon velvet edged with gold braid. The crown was of maroon velvet to match that of a royal design & decorated with pearls & brilliants.

The Maids of Honour wore dresses of pastel shades in floral voile, with headdresses of pink rose wreaths, they carried posies of roses & sweet pea.

The Queens dress was made & designed by Mrs A Dunkley.

The Maids of Honour dresses & the Queens train were made & designed by Mrs T Wilkes, a member of the Hospital Committee.

The ex-queen Miss Gwennie Harper wore a white satin dress with a gold coronet.

The "Lord Maior" conferred the "Freedom of the Citie of Ruardean" on two distinguished visitors, Mr W D Meredith & Captain Rowlinson.

Fancy Dress winners were

Tradesman's Turnout – Milk is Best (Mr T Thompson)

Decorated Cycle – Speed Cop (Winifred Brain)
Cecil Griffiths

G Partridge & J Meek, Lydbrook – Cannibals
Mrs Mills – Chinese Mandarin
Miss Evelyn Hale – Cherry Blossom Polish
Doreen Knight – Red Riding Hood
Muriel Knight – Private Secretary
Mollie Davies – Fairy
Eva Johnson – Belisha Beacon
Eric & Robert Knight – Bakers
Clifford Skinner – Departed Spirits

July 1936

Stormy weather prevailed for the annual Carnival & Sports day promoted by Ruardean Hospital Committee.

The carnival commenced with a piece of well-staged comedy – the inspection of the "Lord Maior's" bodyguard by the M.C. Mr S T Mills. A fanfare sounded by trumpeter Mr V Harper heralded the appearance of the Maior, dressed in new robes of office & accompanied by the "Town Clerk" Mr J Harper, bearing the mace. The "Aldermenne" & "Towne Councillors" followed & the cavalcade headed by the "Master at Arms" Mr W G Jones & led by the Lydbrook Onward Band proceeded to the Square to head the Carnival proper. Two "High Sheriffs" Messrs C Harris & E Meek accompanied the "Maior".

Mr R Pownall, Chairman of the Committee introduced Sir Lance & Lady Crawley-Boevey.

The Carnival Queen – Miss Gwennie Griffiths & her attendants occupied the central place in the Carnival Parade. The Queen was dressed in satin marocain beaute. Her attendants wore pink & white satin dresses.

The Queens attendants were - Mavis Knight, Marion Knight, Phyllis Davis, Myrtle Pritchard, Dulcie Griffiths & Betty Fisher.

Crown bearer – Gerald Watkins
Sceptre bearer – Malcolm Weaver
Pageboys – Dennys Pownall & Leslie Penn

All the boy attendants wore suits of blue velvet knickers, satin blouses & shoulder capes, three-cornered white felt hats with blue feathers & white shoes & stockings.

Popular events on the field were whippet racing, sheep dog trials, bowling for a live pig- won by Cyril Bayliss & a competition for a Wye Salmon & fruit cake.

An improvement in weather by the afternoon, a funfair & music played by the band drew people to the field.

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicle – A Japanese Garden (Ruardean W I)

Tradesman's Turnout – Dairy (Mr Thompson, Warfield Farm)

Best Decorated house on Carnival route- Mrs Griffiths, The Crossways

Mrs F Brain, Ruardean Woodside
Mrs A Brain, Ruardean Woodside
Hilda Simms. Drybrook
Doreen Knight

G Whittington
R Simms, Drybrook
Wilfred Brain, Ruardean Woodside – Decorated Cycle

July 1937

24th July was Hospitals Day at Ruardean, although the weather was cool & showery, crowds assembled in the streets to watch the "Lord Maior's" Show & Carnival procession.

Proceedings commenced with the "Inspection of the Guard" outside the Angel House Inn. The Master of Ceremonies, Sgt. S T Mills put the Guard through its paces to the great amusement of the onlookers.

The "Lord Maior" & "Towne Clerk" with the Guard & led by Ruardean Brass Band, with battleaxes & the "Citie Councillors" with swords proceeded through the Village.

Major C J Vaughan of Courtfield, Lord of the Manor of Ruardean, performed the crowning ceremony. He held the inherited Lordship of the Manor, which he said was not of much value nowadays, but that he was very proud to have it.

This years Queen was Miss Enid Knight.

Her Court - Muriel Knight, Mavis Malsom, Ruby Knight & Molly Whittington

Fancy Dress winners were

Tradesman's Turnout – Dairy (Mr T Thompson)

Mr Harris – Knight of the Road
J Bowkett – Summer
J Boughton – Gipsy Dancer
Doreen Knight – Little Dutch Maid
Jackie Hale – Indian
Ralph Tyler – Match boy
Alfred Hale – Charlie Chaplin

July 1938

The Carnival Queen – Miss Dulcie Griffiths & her entourage arrived in the Square at 3pm

The Queens Attendants were - Hazel Miles, Myrtle Pritchard, Joan Miles & Elsie Davies.

Pageboys were - Ashley Jones & John Whittington

Crown bearer – James Whittington

Sceptre bearer – Cyril Miles

The Princess - little Doreen Knight

The Lydbrook Arthur & Edward Band led the procession

The main events on the field were sheepdog trials, sports for boys & girls, guessing the weight of a cheese & guessing the weight of a sheep.

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicles – Punch & Judy (Ruardean W I)
Bed & Breakfast (Master Clive Thompson; Misses Peggy & Betty Davies; . Marion & Iris Blanch; Peggy Miles; Myra Jones & Lillian Skinner).

Mrs N Hale, Ruardean
Eileen Nelmes – Crystal Gazer
Patty Gardiner – Japanese Lady
Desmond Symonds – Cowboy
Lawrence Wilce – John Bull
Alfred Hale – Indian.

July 1939

Although Miss Megan Duberley was chosen as Carnival Queen, the event to be held on Saturday 22nd July had to be cancelled because of inclement weather.

After the deluge on Friday & the continual rain during the night, it was decided that the ground was unfit to hold the sporting events & for the crowning. The event was postponed until September.

A large crowd did attend the dance held in the Social Centre in the evening. Bert Brain's band played for the dancing.

THERE IS NO RECORD OF RUARDEAN CARNIVAL BEING HELD FOR THE NEXT 5 YEARS BECAUSE OF THE WAR EFFORT.

August 1945

The revival after the war of the Ruardean Hospital Committee Carnival & Sports was met with wet weather.

The procession went ahead, led by the Ruardean Band, but the sports programme & baby show had to be cancelled. Refreshments were served in the marquee.

Lady Crawley-Boevey crowned Miss Janet Boughton as Queen

The Carnival Princess was Miss Jean Bloomfield

The Queens attendants were
Mavis Harper, Nora Hale, Molly Duberley, Mary Gibbs, H Bloomfield, Myra Jones, Elsie Davies, Ruby Knight, P Meek & Iris Blanche.

Pageboys – R Hathday (Crown bearer)
Terry Davies (Sceptre bearer)

The Princess's attendants were
Shirley?, Sheila Lewis, J Mountjoy, D Lewis, J Gibbs, P Gardiner, M Blanch, I Brammer & K Watkins.

The evening dance went ahead in the Social Centre.

August 1946

The Committee were very appreciative to those who made the Sheepdog trials so successful especially Messrs Smart Bros, for the loan of the sheep & Mr Pashley for the Salmon. George Jones of Ruardean won the event.

The Drybrook Band led the Carnival through the Village

The Carnival Queen – Miss Mavis Harper was crowned by Col. C J Vaughan.

The Princess, Miss Jean Bloomfield

Miss Sheila Lewis presented Col. Vaughan with a buttonhole

Mr Buffin's Metronomes Band supplied music for the evening dance, which was well attended.

Fancy Dress winners were

Milson Vaughan & F Harris – 1 &2 & Mill & Phil
Mrs Jones – Land girl
A Lewis – Spanish Lady

N Whittington – Crinoline Lady
John Gweneth & Leighton Rocyn-Jones – Medical Group
M Bloomfield & I Brammer – Children's Allowance
G Jones – Chinaman
D Howells – Indian
? Weaver – Cowboy
Elizabeth Scott & Joan Weaver – Little Bo-Peep
Bessie Griffiths – Ices
Daphne Probnert – Persian Girl

July 1948

Fine weather favoured the successful carnival & fete for the Ruardean War Memorial Playing Fields. The event was held on Saturday 10th July in the Rectory field & garden.

Mr W Scott was Carnival secretary.

Ruardean Bass Band led the procession, conducted by Mr J L Jones.

A vehicle carrying the retiring Queen, the elected Queen Miss Doreen Knight & the Princess Miss Dorothy Lewis proceeded to the field, where Ald. R E Westaway performed the crowning ceremony.

The Royal Forest of Dean School of Ballet gave a performance

Ruardean Girl Guides under the captaincy of Mrs L Penn gave a Physical Training exhibition

Mr K Parsons & Mr E Parry tied for the guessing the weight of a sheep (202lbs)

Fancy Dress winners were

Elizabeth Scott – Lavender Lady
Jean Brazington – Orange Lady
Susan Scott – Fairy
John Rocyn-Jones – Mad Hatter
Mervyn Jones – Dick Whittington
Trevor Jones – Chinese Boy

1949

The Carnival was held in the Church meadow that was kindly lent by Mr D Edwards.

The Queen was June Smith
The Princess - Gillian James
Carnival Fairy - Janice Miles

The darts, shooting range & billiards table all proved very popular as did the fortune telling.

Mr H Trigg, Mr C Gardiner Mr N Russell & Mr Ellis all tied with 9 in the skittling for a pig competition.

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicles – Women's' Institute can do it – W.I.
Princess Garden Scene – St. John the Baptist Kindergarten

Sheila Lewis – Mary & her Little Lamb
Janet Brazington – Chinese Lady
G Watkins & D Howells – Robinson Crusoe & Man Friday
F Hall – Scarecrow

July 1950

The first annual Carnival & Fete was held on the prospective Playing Fields, which the Committee hoped to have in a fit state to play on by the following summer.

There were record entries for the Carnival, which assembled in the Square & was led by the Ruardean Silver Band, the Lord Mayor & his Officers.

Mr M Phillips-Price M.P. who also opened the Fete crowned Heather Watkins as this years Queen

A display was given by the Hilldene Jazz Band & amusing play "The Family Group" was performed by the "Ruardean Players"

The ankle competition created great amusement especially for the men. The eventual winners were Mrs C Humphries & Mr C Watkins.

Mr Percy Drew of Cinderford acted as M.C at the evenings dance at the Social Centre, music was supplied by the Sonny Matthews Orchestra.

1951

The weather was fine for the parade through Ruardean led by the Hilldenians Band.

Mrs Davey of Beckford Manor crowned Miss Pamela Smith as Queen.

The Ruardean Drama Group – produced by Mrs G Duberley, performed a humorous one-act play.

The evening dance at the Social Centre had music supplied by the Ambassadors Dance Band.

Fancy Dress winners were

Richard ? – Chelsea Pensioner
Trevor Jones – Prince Charlie
John Rocyn-Jones – Ruardean Ghost
Jennifer Brammer – Hawaiian Girl
Maureen Hill – Witch
P Watkins – Brasso

Groups
Tennis through the ages – E Trigg, W Duberley, & C Holloway
Night & Day – Elizabeth & Susan Scott
Flower Girls – Gwenneth Rocyn-Jones, & Margaret Duberley

Best Turnout
Playing Fields – Ruardean W.I.
Old Woman in her Shoe – Mrs A Howell & Sunday School Scholars

July 1952

The Lydbrook Onward Band led the parade, which started at the "Jubilee Tree". At the Recreation Ground, Major C P Ackers of Huntley Manor crowned Miss Kathleen Watkins Queen.

Ruardean Drama Team presented 2 most enjoyable plays & the evening concluded with a "Lord Mayor's Court" – the case was adjourned for further evidence to be produced.

Fancy Dress winners were;

Velda Platt – Bridesmaid
Richard Shanahan – 101 Winners
Elizabeth & Susan Scott, Gwynneth Jones & Wendy Watkins – Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter
Mrs Lane & Mrs Sterry – Farmer Giles & his Wife

July 1953

The official opening of the War Memorial Playing Field by Mr A T Voyce was marred by bad weather.

Just as the parade assembled at Townsend, the rain began to fall.

Many well thought out tableaux groups & characters depicting the Coronation, TV, Topical, Historical & comical events wended their way to the field, whir Mr Voyce unlocked the gates & declared the field open.

When the days Queen – Miss Peggy Baldwin, the outgoing Queen Miss K Watkins & their attendants were assembled on stage, Mr B Knight (Chairman) welcomed & introduced Mr Voyce who replied by saying how honoured he was at opening the field. He said that Ruardean must feel proud to be the possessors of such a fine field, which when further equipped would take some beating. He hoped that it would be fully appreciated & used to its capacity. He then crowned the Queen, & was the presented with a buttonhole by the fairy attendant Wendy Watkins.

Fancy Dress winners were – *no individual names were listed*

Tableaux – Fairy Scene
Mothers Night Out
Coronation
Groups – The Farmers; The Nursery; Andy Pandy
Best Woman – Bacon Ration
Best Man – Jack
Boys – Chinese Boy; Ice Creams; Robinson's Marmalade
Girls – Buttons & Bows; Bo-Peep; Miss Muffitt

July 1954

Despite lowering skies & menacing rain clouds, the weather remained fine for this years annual Carnival.

Promoted by the Village Hall & Playing Fields Committee, led by Mr Bland & Mr Scott, whose enthusiasm must be credited for the day's success.

Miss Marjorie Bloomfield was crowned Queen for the day

The Cup for the most outstanding entry in the Carnival went to the "Rose Queen" tableau.

"The Mayor of the Loyal & Ancient Citie of Ruardean" – Alderman F Miles judged the winner of the ladies ankle competition as Mrs Humphries.

Other events were: rustic sports for children & adults, 2 displays of dancing by the children of Ruardean C of E School, a comic football match – Men v Women and a slow cycle race.

1955

Perfect weather was the order of the day. Colonel Hoffman – Chairman of the Gloucestershire Industrial Playing Fields Association & Mrs Hoffman of Painswick, opened the Carnival.

The Queen was Miss Sylvia Watkins who was attended by Daphne Meek & Bessie Griffiths

Fancy Dress winners were – *no individual names were listed*

The Sheik; Lily Pond.
Group – Number 137; Ray of Sunshine
Adults – Blackmoor; Gypsy; Farmer Brown
Girls – Queen of Hearts; Red Riding Hood
Boys – Walter Gabriel; Mad Hatter

Baby Show winners were

1-9 months, Keith Jones; Kevin Duberley
9-18 months, Linda Griffiths; Eric Knight

Events on the field included a display of PT & Country Dancing by the Ruardean C of E School & a talent spotting competition.

The comic football match Ladies v Gents, was won by the Ladies

Mr Tony Reed & Brinley Hiatt, The Pludds were the winners of the motorcycle gymkhana.

The day concluded with a dance at the Social Centre where Harry Tooze's Band provided the music.

June 1956

The new Village Hall was opened on June 8th; the ceremony was the culmination of determined hard work on the part of the people of Ruardean.

A large number gathered at the War Memorial Playing Fields where Rev RC Stebbing conducted a short service.

Mr Shambrook, a Director of Gloucester Aircraft Company (GAC), who had given the Village a great deal of help with the project, opened the Hall door with a silver key & was introduced by Mr R Bland, Chairman of the New Hall Fund Committee.

At the dinner that followed Mr Bland welcomed visitors including guests from GAC as well as representatives from most of the social organisations in the Village.

Mr V Scott, who thanked the Gloucester friends for their help, toasted guests. In reply for the visitors Mr A K Laverton the architect, said that he was amazes at the speed of the work & praised the builder N J Hale of The Pludds.

Dr D Rocyn-Jones told funny stories, speeches were made by Mr Shambrook & Mr B Knight, Chairman of the War Memorial Committee of which the New Hall Fund Committee is as offshoot.

Bouquets were presented to Mrs Shambrook & Mrs Laverton.

Ruardean Primary School provided entertainment.

The total cost of the Hall was £2,800 of which £875 was a grant from the Ministry of Education.

August 1958

The Ruardean Horticultural Show, which ceased with the outbreak of WW1 on the 4th August 1914, was revived with great success with a splendid Carnival & Horticultural Show that attracted 450 entries.

There were people in the Village who remembered the last Horticultural Show & the dance, which followed the arrival of the Sergeant Major to call out members of the Territorial Army.

After a break of 44 years the energetic Hall & Playing Field Committee decided to revive the old fixture & was rewarded with a fine day for their effort.

The "War Memorial Fete & Gymkhana" was arranged by the Committee:

President – Mr Bernard Knight
Chairman & Treasurer – Mr R Bland
Secretary - Mr W T Penn
Vice Chairman – Mrs Andrew Hart.

Mr Bernard Knight pointed out that £324 was still needed to liquidate the debt of the cost of the splendid Village Hall.

Mrs Lane who attended with her husband the Mayor of Tewksbury crowned Yvonne Meek as Queen.

Gladys Symonds & Peggy Wilce of Drybrook attended the Queen.
Janet Pritchard & Elaine Lewis - trainbearers.
Jeffrey Hale & Robert Pritchard – pageboys

Drybrook Band, conducted by Mr J Welch & The Colefordian Jazz Band, led the procession through the Village.

Fancy Dress winners were;

Vehicles – "Nautilus" with the Naughty Boys; The Cave.
Ladies – Fairyland
Groups – The Ambridge Marrow – Mrs W Yemm & Mrs G Jones
Ascot – Maureen & Gillian Brain
English Summer – Gwenda Pritchard

Jean Brain – Mrs Mopp
Diane Hodges – Little Witch
Roberta Knight – My Fayre Lady
Alan Bowkett – Commercial TV
Laddie Watkins – The Day Mother went out
Peter Faulkener – Golliwog

The pony gymkhana & whippet races were the popular features in the sports program

The spirit of the Carnival prevailed at the evening dance, when the Hall was filled & dancing was enjoyed to the sounds of Peter Tilley's Band.

August 1959

The Carnival attracted a large entry & was led through the Village once again by the Drybrook Band & The Colefordian Jazz Band.

Mr Bland, Committee Secretary stated that for along time there had been talk of a tennis court & bowling green & these were the next projects. He reminded the spending public that only £195 was needed to finalise outstanding payment on the Hall & Playing Field.

Mr H Burroughs, Chairman of the Gloucester Aircraft Company, opened the Carnival.

Miss Pat Turner was this years Queen & she was attended by Barbara Jones, Madeline Brain, Elaine Lewis & Joy Marshall. Pageboys were Michael Lewis & Geoffrey Hale.

Jack Denney's Band played at the evenings dance.

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicles – The Nursery; Wagon Train; No Hat No Belt too Hot to Handle.

M Bradley – Chip off the Old Block
G Knight – Emergency Ward 10
Derek Freeman – Trooping the Colour
Derek Yemm – 100 Days Shopping to Christmas
Andrew Griffin – Jockey
Jacqueline Griffiths – Flower Girl
J Turner – Printers Ink

August 1960

Heavy storms caused the cancellation of the Parade.

Mr Charles Loughlin MP & Mrs Loughlin judged the Carnival & crowned the Queen – Miss Margaret Meek

The Queen's attendants were Josie Knight, Jane Freeman, Brenda Pritchard & Grace Hicks

Michael Clowes & Roger Jones were pageboys.

The Flower show received 250 entries

Major events on the field were the baby show & dog show.

The West Bennett Orchestra played at the well-attended dance in the evening.

Fancy Dress winners were – *no individual names were listed*

Vehicles – Peace among Nations
Ruardean to Rome
England's Last Hope

Groups – Roch and Roll; Rain Stopped Play; Snake Charmer.
Ladies – Gay Nineties; Native Girl; Egyptian Lady
Girls – Departed Spirits; Mobile Shop; No Flies on Me
Boys – Fair Cop; Andy Pandy; Dogs Dinner

1961

The well-used Village Hall & Recreation Ground was now debt free.

The Queen Miss Pauline Salmon, her attendants, Josie Knight, Carol Hart, Vilma Ruck & Jill Marshall with pageboys Roger Yemm & Keith Bradley were led through the Village by Drybrook & District Silver Band, to the strains of the 'Ruardean March'.

There were many attractions, including a baby show, dog show, go-cart racing, skittles & sideshows.

The dog show attracted 94 entries, it was organised by Mr & Mrs T Mills of Painswick & judged by Mr Herbert Essan of Shropshire. The winners came from far & wide.

The principle winners in the Horticultural Show were Mrs E Weaver, Mr D Peaper & Mr A Harper.

Fancy Dress winners were

Cheryl Davies – Andy Pandy
Gwynneth James – Jack-of-all-Trades
Margaret Bennett - Mexican
Nick Duberley –Ancient Briton
Grantley Ruck – Witch
M Bradley – Going to the Dogs
R Davies – Holiday Town Parade
Tom Knight – Lady
Groups – Bride & Groom; Andy Capp & Florrie
Vehicles – Ruardean Beatnicks (Carol Sleeman & V Clowes)

1962

The Scottish Pipe Band that led the Parade through the Village also entertained during the evening.

Judith Simmonds (Pludds) was crowned Queen. Her attendants were Linda Brace, Sandra Malsom, Pauline Salmon & Jane Duberley. Phillip Lane & Melville Brace were pageboys.

Mr W T Penn & Mr R Hawkins were The Carnival secretaries.

Much admired in the show tent was a bird display, loaned for the exhibition by Mr E Cooper (Parkend), Mr E Wadley (Joys Green), Mr A E Bennett (Pludds) & Mr R Webb (Ruardean).

There were 300 entries in the horticultural show; Mr R Keyse (Blaisdon) won 8 of the special awards, which included the Banksian Medal for the largest total of prize money in the horticultural section & the Blue Ribbon.

Winners of the baby show were

Up to 9 months – Nigel Moore & Martyn Brown

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicles – Emergency Ward 13 (C Knight & M Thompson)
All is Safely Gathered Inn (Mrs R Brace & Mrs K Duberley)
Cleopatra (Carol Sleeman, Pam Meek, Valerie Clowes & Jean Hart)

Gerry Knight – Turkish Delight
Judy Sleeman – Tulips from Amsterdam
Pam Weaver – Doll Lux
Andrew Griffin – Terry Downes
Derek Freeman – Scarecrow
David Thompson & Co – Toy Soldiers

Groups; Wedding Group - Jane & Anne Whittington
Daz - Brian Davies
Going to Ascot – Julie & Janet Harper

August 1963

The rain did its best to spoil Ruardean's Annual Carnival, which was opened by Mr & Mrs Wickstead.

Miss Sheila Perkins was this years Queen & she was attended by Jackie Griffiths, Jennifer Brammer, Linda Brace, Jennifer Bannister & Colin Watkins.

The horticultural show, this year held open championships & Ruardean Cottagers classes.

Entry for each class except Class 1 was 6d with prize money being mainly 5/-; 3/- & 2/-.

Class 1, a collection of 6 vegetables, had prize money of 30/-; 20/- & 10/- for an entry fee of 1/-.

Among the 59 classes shown were vegetables, fruit, cookery flowers, preserves & handicrafts.

August 1964

At the annual horticultural show & Carnival the Queen was Miss Jacqueline Knight.

The Queens attendants - Julie Hawker & Marion Taylor
Trainbearers – Jacqueline Griffiths & Cheryl Davies
Pageboys – Grantley Ruck & S Davies

Motorcycle racing organised by the west Gloucester & Dean Forest Auto Club was an added attraction on the field.

The Hereford T.A Group under the leadership of Lt R Fields gave an interesting display of mortar bombing.

The Cinderford Civil Defence section was also on view.

August 1965

Disappointment was felt in Ruardean when it was thought that this years Carnival had fallen through. But along came the inhabitants of Ruardean & the Pludds & over £86 was raised.

The Carnival paraded from Townsend to the Playing Field, led by the Ruardean Women's Jazz Band.

Carnival judges were D & Mrs Sager & the Rev Julian Lloyd escorted by Mrs D Sollars

The evening ended with a short concert by the Drybrook Male Voice Choir followed by a barbecue in the Village Hall

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicle – Sing a Song of Sixpence (Ruardean Brownies)

Group – Women's Jazz Band

Mrs E Duberley & Mrs D Whittington – Mary & her Lamb
Mr Ronnie Davies – Wimbledon Tennis Star
Kim Meek – Scarecrow
Vilma Ruck – Spanish Lady
Melvyn Brace – The Pretty Thing
Lyn & Tina Gardiner – The Beekeepers

July 1966

The famous Ruardean Jazz Band under the leadership of Mrs D Weaver led the Carnival procession through the Village

Susan Powell, Geraldine Clowes, Marilyn Davies & C Carpenter attended the Queen Miss Joan Beard.

Pageboys were Barry Lewis, Christopher Clowes, Clive Nelmes & Andrew Griffin

This Carnival was voted the best for many years & was judged by Mr & Mrs Wrigley (Monmouth) & Dr & Mrs Sagar (Ruardean)

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicle – Hill Billies (Brownies)
Shot Gun Wedding (Ranks)

Group – Batman, Onion Man & Welsh Maid

Mrs Elsie Yemm – Mexican Footballer
Mrs R Duberley – Mary Quant
Nicky Cornwall – Organ Grinder
Ruth Williams – Mary Poppins

1967

Ruardean & Pludds Old Folks Christmas Cheer Fund held their annual Carnival at the War Memorial Hall & Playing Field

Berry Hill Band led the procession

Miss Susan Powell (Joys Green) was crowned Queen

Attendants- Wendy Bennett, Geraldine Clowes, Allison Jones, Susan Stevens, Cheryl Davies & Susan Meek

Pageboys – Martyn Jones, Grantley Ruck & Paul Weaver.
Cinderford & District Boxing Club arranged a number of contests during the day for the entertainment of spectators.

The evening's dance at the Village Hall was well attended; The Blue Ribbon Roll Band supplied music.

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicle – Flower Power (Pludds Children)

Group – Lord Boothby does it Again (R Duberley & Sister)
King & Queen of Poland (D Weaver & Mrs H Ruck)

Mrs E Yemm – Wee Willie Winkle
Miss Gwynne – Nell Gwynne
Mr M Meek – Bunny Girl

August 1968

Ruardean Parish Christmas Cheer Fund under the Presidency of Dr John Rocyn-Jones held their Carnival on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Secretary & Chairman was Mr Jim Whittington

Berry Hill Band led the procession through the Village

Miss Linda Jones (Gloucester) was crowned Queen & she was attended by Brenda Brain, Gillian Marshall, Sally Weaver, Susan Meek, Hilary Marfell & Sandra Taylor.

Pageboys were Robert Brown, Martyn Jones, Jeremy & Christopher Lewis

Cinderford Boxing Club gave a display

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicle – Mrs R Duberley, who won the William Thomas Trophy

Group – Dr Doolittle (Misses L Sollers, M Lane, J Sleeman & Master C Skinner)

Mrs Skinner – Lost in Space

August 1970

The first entertainment of the day was a pram race through the Village, won by Mr Barry Lewis & friend

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The Queen – Elaine Lewis was attended by Ann Trigg, Sharon Brain, Julie Sleeman, Margaret Lane, Julie Lewis & Jackie Smith. The pageboys were Jeremy & Christopher Lewis, Robert Brown & Martyn Jones.

Attraction on the field included a comic football match, an Army recruiting caravan & a Glamorous Grandmother competition.

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicle – Over the Rainbow (Ruardean Playgroup)
Droopy Draws (Mrs N Hawkins & Children)
Drop Outs (Mrs I Griffiths & Company)

Miss N Hawkins – Absent Minded Professor
Mrs J Burston – Vice Captain St Trinians
Mr C Duberley – Got Behind
Miss J Taylor – Home Pride
Miss J Duberley - Night & Day

August 1971

Held on a 50/50 basis with the Ruardean Parish Christmas Cheer Fund and the Village Hall & Playing Field, the Carnival was another great success.

Mr Jim Whittington was the hard working organiser.

A pram race through the Village started the Carnival & was won by Mr K Harper with his “charge” Mr B Davis.

Miss Helen Brain was crowned Queen by Mrs Ormond of Cardiff, her attendants were Vilma Ruck, Ann Trigg, Beverley Marfell, Sharon Sadler, Clare Gardiner & Jackie Whitby. Pageboys were C & J Lewis and R & K Brown

.

On the field Ross Rifle Club were in charge of the clay pigeon shooting.

The Malt Shovel won the piano smashing competition.

A play area equipped with toys & supervised by Playgroup was well patronised by the younger members of the spectators.

Winners of the “Keep Britain Tidy” school children poster competition were 6-8 years Lyn Davis; 9-11 years Janet Knight

In the evening a boxing display was given by Cinderford Boxing Club

August 1972

Once again held on a 50/50 basis with the Christmas Cheer Fund and the Village Hall & Playing Field, the Carnival procession boasted 10 lorries, including those of the Queen & ex-queen’s.

Mr Gough of Hereford United FC crowned Miss Allison Lewis Queen.

Fancy Dress winners were

Vehicles – Circus (Ruardean Brownies)
Dracula (Julie Sleeman, M Lane, Sandra Taylor & friends)

Groups – Tarzan (Garry Taylor & Martyn Jones)
King & Queen of Poland (Mrs D Weaver & H Ruck)
Village Hippies (Tina Gardiner & Christine Brain)

Miss N Hawkins & Mrs R Russell – Siamese Twins
Jayne Morris – Milk Maid
Susan Tyler – Queen of Hearts
D Gardiner – Tinker
S Shitby – Chimney Sweep
Clare Gardiner – Hawaiian Girl
Lorraine Taylor – Miss World
Michelle Brain – Miss Wales
Garry Gardiner – Onion Seller
N Lewis – Scarecrow

Mrs Mary Pritchard & her friends won the cup for the most outstanding lorry – Dougal & Friends.

Today's events raised a total of £256

August 1973

The procession headed by Drybrook Band led nine splendidly decorated lorries plus 2 others – one carrying last years Queen & Court, the other Miss Ruardean 1973, Vilma Ruck & her court. There was also a large parade on foot.

Mrs & Dr J Rocyn-Jones judged the carnival & crowned the Queen.

A pet's corner & painting competition proved to be very popular.

A blanket knitted by Mrs I Medcroft & donated for a raffle was withheld so that the raffle could run for a month in the two local Public Houses & proceeds added to today's takings.

Miss J Sleeman & Company of Drybrook took 1st Prize of the lorries. Ruardean Brownies came second.

August 1976

The War Memorial & Playing Field Committee must have smiled ruefully when the day started with menacing clouds. Torrential rain overnight had flooded parts of the Village.

Drybrook Band led the procession.

The Forest of Dean Morris Dancers entertained spectators while Dr J Rocyn-Jones & Mr J Watkinson MP for Gloucester West conducted the judging.

The Princess – Miss Jackie Whitby was attended by Linda Wells, Jane Whittington, Kim Marfell & Hayley Marfell.

Pageboys were Clive Jones, Andrew Hall, Andrew Marfell & Gary Wells

Winnie & Pete Collett won the Wellie Wanging contest

The Gloucester Regiment gave a static display & had a recruitment drive.

To conclude the day a session of Bingo was played for those that wished to take part & an overall sum of £250 was raised towards the new extension of the Hall.

Fancy Dress winners were – *no individual names were listed*

Float – Digging for Water
Save Water
Nursery Rhyme

Groups – 2 Degrees; The Day Mother went Out; Jack & Jill

Ladies – Roller Maniac; City Gent
Boys- Rain Clouds; Still Pegging; Record Breaker
Girls – Double Diamond; Little Dutch Girl

August 1979

Forest Author Mr Harry Beddington was the guest of honour at this year Ruardean Carnival & Fete held on Bank Holiday Monday.

The Colefordian Jazz Band led the Parade

Mrs E Carter was Carnival Grandmother & Hayley Marfell the Princess

The 5th Artillery Regiment held a recruiting drive & performed a static display on the field.

Fancy Dress winners were

Float – Ruardean under Fives (Ruardean Playgroup)
Round the World Brownies (Ruardean Brownies)
Goblets (Residents of Highfield Road)

Helen Duberley & Deborah Price – Siamese Twins
Vanessa & Christopher Hale – Wurzel Gummidge & Aunt Sally
Lee Brown – I've gone to Seed
Craig Davies – Mohammed Ali
Richard Probert – Pirate
Mrs Iris Wells – Planet of Mars
Helen Brammer – Welsh Lady
Zoe Shanahan – Dad's Dream Come True
Elizabeth Duberley – Gypsy Rose, I'm Puzzled

August 1980

Don & Cindy of Lydbrook, the Country & Western Duo, opened the Carnival & later delighted the crowd with an informal program of songs.

The Breretonaires Jazz Band, from Rugeley, Staffordshire led the procession

The Carnival Princess - Miss Rachael Matthews was attended by Christine Wilce, Joy Whitby, Laura & Melissa Skelton, Mark Watkins & Nicky Stephens

The members of the Forest Heritage Museum project, featuring relics, maps & photographs of special interest to Ruardean people, arranged a stand,

Fancy Dress winners were

Floats – Irish Taxi (Mr T Barnett)
Sunday School (Ruardean Brownies)
Noahs Ark (Ruardean Under Fives)

Neil Wood – Honey Monster
Stephen Wilson – Litter Bug
Richard Probert – The Bear of Ruardean
Lorna Wood – Little Miss Muffitt
Joanne Watkins – The Sun
Sharon Brown – Incredible Hulk
Mrs Iris Wells – Elvis Fan
Mrs H Brammer – Roaring 20's
Hilda Ruck – Miss Piggy
Helen & Ruth Duberley – Yoghurts
Julie Harper, Vicky Meek & Alison Rawlings – We Shot JR
Christopher Hale & Stephen Rawlings – Sooty & Sweep

August 1981

The newly formed Ruardean Jazz Band made its first public appearance at the Carnival. The band that had only been in existence for 3 weeks took its place in the procession & also gave a display during the afternoon. There wee 30 members under the direction of Mrs Tessie Brain, Mrs Pearl Marfell & Mrs Susan Marfell.

The Royal Cintonians Jazz Band led the procession.

The Rev Pat Birt, who with his wife also undertook the judging, opened the Carnival

Dr John Rocyn-Jones was compere for the day.

The Princess was Teresa Thorne, who was attended by Lucinda & Sarah Jones, Sheridan Kempster, Tanya Shanahan and Nicholas & Matthew Jones.

Fancy Dress winners were

Floats – First Sighting (Brownies)
Second Wedding (Pat Symonds)
Chicken George (Varnister Road & Lane)

Allison Sollars & Sue Thompson – Wurzel Gummidge
Michael Wells & Adrian Nash – Laurel & Hardy
Mrs Griffin & friend – St Trinians Girls
Lorna Wood – Pick a Penguin

Kelly Hardy – Paddington Bear
Clare Griffin – Ruardean Aristocrat
Heidi Oakleigh – Punk Rocker
Rebecca Freeman – Princess Anne
Diana Beech – Mini Ha-Ha
Neil Wood – Dustbin
Shane Davis Punk Rocker
Stephen Skelton – Chip off the Old Block
Mark Watkins – I'm the Poor Sheik of the Family
Luke Freeman – In the News
Grantley Ruck – City Gentleman

August 1982

Ruardean Blues Jazz Band led the procession tho the Recreation Ground.

The local headmaster Mr Michael Elgar opened the Carnival & judged the event with his wife.

8-year-old Sarah Jones was the Carnival Princess.

The Princesses attendants were Nicola Roberts (8), Rebecca Brain (8), Laura Harris (7) & Charlotte Harris (5).

Fancy Dress winners were

Floats – Four Seasons (Brownies)
Gentlemen of the Road (Sue & Maureen Marfell and Jill Barnett)
Sing a Song of Sixpence (Ruardean Under Fives)

A Jenkins, A Griffin & G Henshaw – Third Degree Under
Sue Thompson, Ann Harris & Allison Sollars – Sunshine Seekers
Jennifer Beech & Sue Freeman – Saturday Night Fever
Diana Beech – Sports Reporter
Karen-Ann Roberts – Young Witch
Clare Griffin & Anna Henshaw – Dolls of the Valley
Alex & Francesca Boyd – Indians
Elizabeth Heddington & Fay Stenner – Cowboys
Claire Henshaw – The Fairy
Mrs H Brammer – The Oldest Swinger in Town
Jonathon Duberley – Gotto Lotto Bottle
Mark Watkins – A Match for any Striker
Matthew Sayce – Ruardean Prince William

August 1983

A smaller than usual procession, with only 4 floats was led by The Ruardean Highfield Blues Jazz Band.

The Princess Miss Julie Brown welcomed everyone including Don & Cindy, the folk duo & Mr Nigel Brown, the Deputy Head of Ruardean School, who compered the afternoon's entertainment.

The Princess was attended by Melissa Brown, Sharon Roberts, Tracy Davis & Joy Whitby.

A new feature of the show was a competition for members of Ruardean Flower Arranging Society, which complemented the traditional produce & handicraft exhibition.

Fancy Dress winners were

Floats – Alphabet in 3D (Brownies)
Romany Group (Mr A Skelton & friends)
Ruardean Under Fives (Playgroup)

Alex & Francesca Boyd
Andrew Griffin & Alan Jenkins – Tarzan & Jane
Philip Beech – Just Pegging Along
Angela Brain – Sorry I Missed the Garage
Julie Jenkins & Sue Griffin – A Couple of Good Sports
Mark Watkins – Indian
Diana Beech – Hickory Dickory Dock
Peter Meek, Dean Marfell & Paul Jenkins – Forest Miners
Maria Barnett – Black Dog

August 1984

The guitar singing duo, Jan & Charles Bayliss from Coleford were special guests at the Village Carnival held on Bank Holiday Monday.
They provided entertainment in the afternoon & judged the fancy dress.

The Forest Emeralds Jazz Band, from Drybrook led the procession through the Village to the Recreation Ground; they later gave a display.

The Queen was Miss Nicola Davis.

Attendants were Sharon Birch, Karen Taylor, Melissa Skelton, Cheryl Morgan & Hayley Kempster.

Ruardean Under Fives carried off the Presidents Cup & First Prize with their float.

The recently constructed BMX track provided cycle races enjoyed by the 38 competitors.

Fancy Dress winners were

Floats – There was an Old Man that lived in a shoe (Ruardean Under Fives)
Mac! Made us an Offer by Forest Miners (Ann Jones & friends)
Going for Gold at the 1984 Olympics (Brownies)

Joanne Meek & Catherine Brown – Stan & Hilda
Paul, Jonathon & Nicola Morgan – Punk Rockers
Ross James – Boy George.

Ross James was also awarded the S C Knight Cup for his entry.

August 1986

Squelching mud & soggy floats were the order of the day for the 1986 Carnival.

Despite the atrocious weather the event went ahead & spectators took refuge in the Village Hall. The only real casualty was the procession through the Village.

County Council Chairman, Mr Eric Radley opened the Carnival & Dr John Rocyn-Jones was compere for the day.

The two Princesses were Caroline Sollars & Amanda Skinner

Attendants this year were; Fay Stenner, Samantha Keith & Charmaine Hathaway.

Fancy Dress winners were

Floats – Winnie the Pooh (Ruardean Playgroup)
Eastern Promise (Brownies)
Joseph & his Many Coloured Coat (Ruardean Sunday School)

Muriel Skillern & Jason Baghurst – Tom & Jerry
John & Nicola Morgan – Dracula
Guy Rocyn-Jones – Arab
Leigh Powell – Mr Tappitt
Chris Skillern – Cowboy
Ross James – Pied Piper
Daniel Skillern – Rambo
Julie Reid – News at Ten
Sarah Whitmore & Julie Brown – Japanese Girls

Once again Ross James was awarded the S C Knight Cup.

August 1987

Villagers at Ruardean again enjoyed another successful Carnival on Bank Holiday Monday

For the last 15 years the Village Hall Committee has run the Carnival with much of the organisation being carried out by secretary Mrs Valerie Gardiner. But the Committee has decided that it is now time for some of the other Villagers to have a go.

Led by The Ruardean Jazz Band the Carnival paraded through the Village.

Rev Clifford Davies opened the Carnival & also crowned this years Princess, Anna Harper.

Mr & Mrs John Camell were the day's judges & prizes were presented by Rev Davies.

The Princesses attendants were Suzanne Watkins, Melissa Skelton, Sophie Miles, Charmaine Hathaway & Laura Skelton.

Fancy Dress winners were

Floats – Toy Box (Ruardean Young Church)
Battle of the Soaps (Malt Shovel)
Jolly Roger (Ruardean Under Fives)
Medieval Merriment (Brownies)

Mrs Katrina Hicks – Has Anybody Lost their Mummy
Mrs H Brammer – Norman Wisdom
Richard Skrivens – The Bear
Alan Gibson – Clown
Chris Wernham – Boxer
Kathryn Peglar & goat – Heidi
Lisa James – Ladybird
Vickie Bullock – News at Ten

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