

Burton Business Club News Release

Social Scene at the "Big Hole"

Every year in August, Burton Business Club members get together for a social event on the second Tuesday evening. This year for a change, members, friends and family went out for a memorable event on Sunday Morning on 6 August.

Picture the scene – a fine and warm Sunday morning in early August, birds singing, microdot glints of cars passing by on the A50 far below us in the Dove Valley, tinkling coffee cups and the buzz of conversation amongst friends. This was the scene at the annual summer social of the Burton Business Club at the start of their guided walk (well stroll really) to the local historical site known as the Fauld Crater.

Intrepid members accompanied by family and friends dragged themselves out of their warm beds blinking owlily in the bright sunlight to meet at the Cock Inn at Hanbury for refreshments prior to setting out on their walk. Richard Stone, guided them towards the site of one of the biggest calamities ever to befall this area. Richard told us of the largest ever man-made non-nuclear explosions in both world wars that occurred in November 1944 when some 3,500 tons of bombs (a fraction of the total) exploded with devastating force in the top-secret MoD bomb store at Fauld. The resulting crater was over 300 foot deep and over quarter of a mile across and some 70 souls including some Italian prisoners of war and workers in nearby gypsum mine were killed in the blast and the resulting tidal wave from the shattered reservoir dam. The blast was even detected on seismographs in Switzerland. The short walk was conducted over very pleasant countryside and ended back at the Cock Inn where members were treated to a sit-down lunch.

Club Chairman, Andy Luffman remarked that the event was a memorable success and one that would undoubtedly be repeated next year. He went on to thank Richard for such an interesting account of the disaster, Derek Liddle for organising a great social event and the Cock Inn for providing a great lunch.

The Burton Business Club meets at 7.30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month usually at the Burnt Gate Inn, Anslow and new members are always welcome. The next meeting however is at the Cross Keys at Tutbury on Tuesday, 12 September 2006 where Gareth Moss of East Staffordshire Borough Council will be telling members about its services to local business.

For further information about the club, its activities and how these can add value to your own business, please contact Club Chairman Andy Luffman on 01283 520042 or log onto the Website at www.burtonbusinessclub.co.uk

[Photograph \(Left - Right\):](#)

