

MP unveils village's Dick Turpin

NORTHALL'S new village sign was unveiled by John Bercow MP on Saturday, October 1.

It was EDaN Beautification Team's second pictorial village sign in the area, the first being installed on Edlesborough green at last year's Mayday celebrations.

Dagnall will be next to benefit from one of the signs, made by Signs of the Times in Tebworth.

The Northall one depicts the notorious Dick Turpin on board his beloved Black Bess holding up the coach near his lair – Butlers Manor in Northall. The Swan and Pratt's Farm are also depicted.

A EDaN spokesman said: "There was a slight technical hitch with the unveiling of the sign, but the 'long arm of the law' came to Mr Bercow's assistance and the beauty of the sign was soon revealed for all to see.

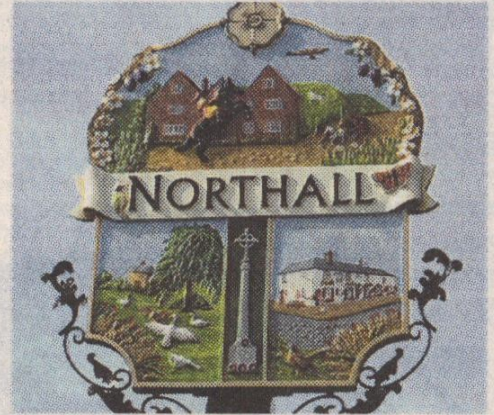
"We have planted a small flower meadow in the attached garden, this soon to benefit from benches and cycle racks for weary travellers to sit and enjoy the garden and sign.

"Edlesborough Parish Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council have been of great assistance to us progressing this project and we were very grateful to Mr Bercow for finding the time to come to Northall for this event, his sincerity and quick wit put everyone at their ease and an enjoyable afternoon followed."

Following the unveiling, Mr Bercow went on to open the extended children's playground at Northall Village Hall, where a BBQ and cream teas were enjoyed by all.

The Vale MP took great delight in trying each piece of play equipment at the launch.

Alan Tipper, chairman of the village hall management



committee, said: "Costing approximately £60,000, the playground extension provides much needed equipment for the village's older children and complements the playground for the under eights which was opened in 2008."

The new playground was

funded by grants from Big Lottery Fund Community Spaces, WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd), Aylesbury Vale District Council, and Northall Village Hall Management Committee. Mr Bercow was presented with flowers by Isabel Dorrance, Henry Dorrance and Eloise O'Sullivan.