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STUART BRADFORD DISPELS RUMOURS... HE AIMS TO RETAIN HIS COUNTY COUNCIL ROLE

Rumours that Stuart Bradford, Conservative County Councillor for Duffield and Belper South for the past four years was retiring from local politics has caused him to take the unusual step of standing in his own name at the local elections on May 4th.

The rumours led to an unusually low attendance at an initial nomination meeting and Cllr. Bradford lost by the narrowest of margins - believed to be one vote.

He had no idea where the rumours started but added: "Despite being discarded by local party activists, I remain

a committed Conservative. "Those who voted for me previously know that.

"I will be offering myself again for re-election on 4th May.

"With my experience and contacts I am best placed to be a strong voice representing local residents on Derbyshire County Council."

Currently, Stuart Bradford (see pic) is the elected Conservative Councillor for Duffield and Belper South which also embraces Quarndon and other local villages. He is also a past Leader of the Amber Valley Borough Council creating a

vast knowledge of the area, the needs of the people who live here and how best to help them. He has a proven reputation for getting things done.

This is evidenced by the many positive testimonials received from local residents in recent years and, during this same period he has also authorised some £50,000 from discretionary community budgets under his control, to be spent on a number of local initiatives and improvements within his division...children's play facilities, new bus shelters, community transport, CCTV to name a few.



The last day for the receipt of nominations and consent to them is April 4th with a deadline of 4pm.



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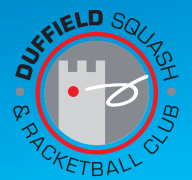


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SILVER LEAVES

April 4th: Easter Bonnet competition

April 18th: Lynn Smithard - Music

All events held at the Methodist Schoolroom, King Street, Duffield 7-9pm. All welcome.

DUFFIELD

GARDENING CLUB

10am at the Weston Centre.

Saturday, 1st April

Our Speaker will be Don Witton "Once seen, never forgotten." - All welcome, non-members £2.

Saturday, 6th May

We will have a short talk by Bob McCracken followed by our AGM. Members only for this meeting.

MUSIC FOR HOLY WEEK

Derwent Singers with Deidre Bencsik - cello. **8th April** at 8.00pm. St. Mary's Church, Bridge Gate, Derby DE1 3AU. Tickets £10.00. www.derwentsingers.org.uk.

Village Jottings

COME AND SING MOZART REQUIEM D minor

An opportunity to spend a day exploring this well-loved work. **Saturday 29th April**, 9.30am to 5.00pm. Strutts Centre, Derby Road, Belper, DE56 1UU. www.derwentsingers.org.uk.



MEADOWS SCHOOL PTFA DUCK RACE

Sunday 14 May at 3pm on the River Ecclesbourne. Next to Gray's Recreation Ground, Snake Lane, Duffield. Ducks on the day, prizes, refreshments and a tombola.

Annual Good Friday Charity Football Match & Prize Draw Married v Singles

In aid of Headway - the brain injury association. Match to be played on **14th April** at Eyes Meadow, Duffield. Kick Off 10.30am. Draw to be made at 1.30pm on Good Friday at Duffield Cricket Club. 1st Prize TV and 30+ other prizes.

POLICE SURGERIES

meet PCSO Paula Bennett

PCSO Paula Bennett is again running police surgeries in Duffield and the surrounding areas to meet residents. Between 9 and 9:30am on the dates below, Paula will be available in Duffield (Ecclesbourne Close) where residents can discuss their concerns.

Monday 10th April

Tuesday 2nd May

Monday 5th June

Friday 7th July

Tuesday 7th August

S137 GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE

Apply for funding now, Duffield community groups told. The Parish Council is again seeking Duffield-based community groups or charities to claim S137 grant funding by the end of April.

There are now two rounds of funding each year, the last funding round that took place in November 2016 saw grants totalling £1050 given to Duffield Scouts, Duffield Rangers, and Massive Youth Club. Grants are awarded to groups where the use can be shown to be of benefit to the Parish or residents of the Parish. To find out more about funding and download a form, visit the Parish Council website: www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-grants.html.

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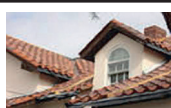
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FOULING IS BLIGHTING VILLAGE!

The Parish Council continues to receive many complaints of dog fouling around the village. Despite lots of new signs around Duffield requesting that dog waste is disposed of the problem is not getting any better. Dog owners who responsibly dispose of their dog's waste are clearly annoyed at those who don't, and have been telling them. That's why they are running

a campaign to identify who the offenders are - if you see someone who hasn't disposed of their dog's waste let us know. The Parish Council has ordered four new Dog Waste bins which will be placed around the village where they are most needed. There are also new signs along the notorious dog fouling black spots - look out for them - and help us get this foul problem sorted. www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk.



COCKPIT LANE RESURFACING



The Parish Council has consulted at length with residents, and is now able to proceed with the resurfacing of Cockpit Lane, the footpath that runs from Town Street alongside Appletree Medical Practice leading to Eyes Meadow. The lane will be closed while the resurfacing is being carried out, the Council would like to apologise for any

inconvenience. Please check the Parish Council website (www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk) for updates. The section of the path being resurfaced initially is the first 140 metres closest to Town Street. The work is being jointly funded by the Parish Council and the Environment Agency.



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Celebrating Easter in Duffield



David Bowie, Muhammad Ali, Victoria Wood, Jimmy Young. Just a few of the well known people to have died this year. With each passing, we hear from family, friends and fans talking about the person's life and achievements; funny stories and fond memories. The conclusion is often along the lines of: "it's a sad day for music/sport/comedy/broadcasting."

Yet Christians call the day that Jesus died, "Good Friday". We might expect "Good Sunday" when we mark the resurrection, but why "Good Friday"? The answer lies in the fact that Jesus' death was no accident, or tragic waste of life. He came to die. For us. In the Bible, Jesus explained that he had come, "to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark, chapter 10 verse 45).

The 5 churches in Duffield would like to extend a warm invitation to you to join us this Easter to reflect on the cross, the resurrection and the life changing claims of Jesus.

Joint Good Friday Service (14th April)

The 5 churches in the village put on a joint event for Good Friday. A 'Walk of Witness' leaves from St Alkmund's at 10am, and arrives at Trinity Methodist Church for a service at 10:30am. You are welcome to join us for the walk or to turn up directly at the Methodist Church.



You are also warmly invited to the various Easter services and events in our churches:

Trinity Methodist Church

www.duffieldmethodistchurch.org.uk; 01332 557320

Sun 16th April 10:30am Easter Communion

Duffield Baptist Church

www.debc.org.uk; 01332 986255

Thurs 13th April 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Communion

Sun 16th April 10:45am Easter Day Celebration

St Alkmund's Church

www.stalkmundsduffield.co.uk; 01332 840536

Wed 12th April 6pm Holy Week Service

Thurs 13th April 1-4pm (drop in) Family Easter Hunt, Activities & Refreshments

Thurs 13th April 6pm Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

Fri 14th April 2pm Reflections at the Cross

Sun 16th April 10am Family Communion
6:30pm Easter Celebration

Emmanuel Community Church

www.emmanuelduffield.org; 01332 841386

Sun 9th April 1:30pm - 4:30pm Easter Fun

Thurs 13th April 12 noon Community Lunch
840821 to book

Sun 16th April 10:30am Easter Family Celebration

Tues 18th April 10am - 1pm Easter Messy Church

St Margaret Clitherow Roman Catholic Church

www.cpbd.co.uk; 01773 822182

Thurs 13th April 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (Our Lady's, Belper)

Fri 14th April 3pm Good Friday - Solemn Liturgy (Our Lady's, Belper)

Sat 15th April 9pm Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter (Our Lady's, Belper)

Sun 16th April 9am Mass (St Margaret Clitherow's, Duffield);
11am Mass (Our Lady's)

GRAY RECREATION GROUND SURVEY – THE RESULTS ARE IN!

Duffield Parish Council asked what you would like to see in terms of new leisure equipment on Gray Recreation Ground alongside Snake Lane – and nearly 200 of you replied, via the survey on the Parish Council website, the library and in February's edition of the Duffield Scene. We would like to thank all who responded. A report was made to the Recreation Committee on the 22nd March.

The great majority of the responses were in favour of new equipment. The "trim trail", an outdoor training area with "assault course"-style equipment (pictured) was given as the top option, with 37% of the respondents who made a first choice opting for this. The other options, a skate park, zip wire play facility and a basketball / football multizone play area, were about equally preferred as top choices (21% each). Of these, the multizone play area and the zip wire came in equally



The "trim trail", the preferred choice of the majority

as the second preferred choice, with the multizone play area additionally coming out top in a survey of pupils at Ecclesbourne School. The skate park was the most likely to divide opinion, with as many residents not wanting it at all (over 22% of responses), as gave it as their top choice. There were some great suggestions for other additions at Gray Rec. Those that were suggested more than once

include a shelter for older children, picnic benches, outdoor gym equipment, climbing wall or net, path around the park for bikes and scooters, large circular swing, bigger slide and an astro turf area.

A few respondents requested that Gray Rec be left as it is now. These respondents mentioned the desire to avoid further anti-social behaviour and vandalism at the park,

parking issues, noise and litter problems.

To find out more about the responses, including a selection of comments from the forms, visit the Parish Council website: www.duffieldparishcouncil.co.uk Duffield Parish Council will now consider the responses in greater detail and a decision will be made at a future Recreational Committee meeting.



CCTV SURVEILLANCE AT GRAY RECREATION GROUND

Visitors to Gray Rec playground may have spotted the signs that have been put up on the playground gate. Now that our playground has opened again at Gray Recreation Ground, the Parish Council wants to do what it can to protect it from any further vandalism. Following discussions with the Neighbourhood Team at Amber Valley Borough

Council the Parish Clerk, Kath Gruber, has arranged for CCTV surveillance to be installed. Amber Valley Neighbourhood Warden, Andy Kavanagh, was very impressed with the playground facility and fully supported the Council's wish to keep it free from further vandalism so that local children can have a safe and available place to play.



CHEVIN PREPARES FOR SUMMER SEASON WITH OPEN DAYS

Now that Spring has well and truly arrived much work is being done at Chevin to prepare for the coming season. Green staff have been busy clearing dead scrub and clearing the course ready for summer growth, and work is being carried out to get the greens in tip top condition for the start of the season.

Team Captains are getting their teams together for forthcoming matches. The club teams will be led by Captain Neil Armstrong, and the Ladies teams by Ladies Captain Janet Thomas and Vice Captain Rachel Clarke. Our seniors Team will be led this year by Nigel Brooks and the A Team by Andy Cumming. Ben Small will Captain the Scratch Team.

We have been delighted to welcome a number of new members this year already,

and we hope they are enjoying their time with us at the club. We are also planning 3 Open days in April and May this year and would be delighted to welcome any visitors to join us at any of those days. (See our advertisement for dates and times)

We will be pleased to welcome any one who has played golf before and wishes to join a vibrant and active club or those who would like to try the game.

We have memberships to suit all ages and abilities, and this year we have revamped our membership rates for golfers in the intermediate age categories (21 to 35). Discounts are available on first year subscriptions for 6 & 7 day members joining in groups of 4 to 8.

On the Social Scene we have already had a number of successful events, being Quiz Nights, Rod Stewart Tribute

Night, Captain's Dine In, with many more events planned throughout the year. Mixed social Golf has continued throughout the winter. And will also carry on throughout the summer season.

Ladies Captain Janet Thomas is planning to hold an "Afternoon Tea" in aid of her Charity this year which is the

Brain Tumour Charity. Lady members have tickets to sell. We are also looking forward to welcoming the "Grey White Band" on Saturday 22nd April. They will be playing in the clubhouse that evening and all are welcome to join us. All in all a busy time ahead as we look forward to another successful year.

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MUSIC AT DUFFIELD - PIANO QUARTET

The Derby Piano Quartet, founded in 2001 by local pianist, Beate Toyka, and now with new member Jane Ford, returns to Music at Duffield to explore the strange and wonderful repertoire of music for 8 hands on 2 pianos.

Saturday 6 May 2017

Programme

If you would like to find out what Hänsel told Gretel, after meeting Ruslan and Ludmila, then Saint-Saens will tell you, and we will round off the evening's proceedings with some bubbles in a Champagne Toccata. Tonight let the Derby Piano Quartet entertain you!

Music at Duffield concerts are held in the Main Hall at the Ecclesbourne School, Duffield, Derbyshire DE56 4GS. The venue is suitable for the disabled and there is a large

free car park in the school grounds. Please note that the doors will open at 7.00pm and all seats are unreserved.

Individual tickets: Adult £15, Concession £14, Student £7 available at the door or from

John Norreys (tel: 01332 841503) and also online at www.musicatduffield.com.

School children under the age of 19 will be offered free entry if accompanied by a fee-paying adult. Members

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ITS LOOKING BRIGHTER AT THE RJ WESTON CENTRE

After many years of providing a day centre for the elderly and retired people of Duffield, the main hall has become somewhat tired and dated. The Trustees of the RJ Weston Centre have therefore decided to undertake a staged programme of decorating and refurbishment which will include new lighting and furniture.

Thanks to Councillor Stuart Bradford, and a £1000 grant from The Member Community Leadership Fund, the first phase of installing new lighting can begin.

The objective is to maintain an attractive facility for our current users, and one which will hopefully attract new people in the future. It is also critical to present the facility as a welcoming community

venue. The Parish Office is based at the Centre and increased activity in the Parish Action Plan of 'Outreach to the isolated and lonely' of Duffield, means a comfortable centre point becomes even more essential.

In brief, the centre is staffed by a dedicated team of volunteers who serve tea, coffee and biscuits at a nominal charge between 10am and noon

every weekday morning. Each Monday another group of volunteers provides lunch for about 20 elderly people who are brought from their homes by community transport. Other activities include a Friday morning chairrobics class, which is always popular, various local groups comprising mainly of senior citizens continue to meet at the Centre on a regular basis, and a chiropodist continues to visit on a monthly basis. **New visitors to the Centre / Coffee Mornings / Activities will always be made welcome.**

Should you feel able to volunteer a little time to help with catering or basic committee administration please contact Richard Knibbs on 07859 235081.

The Centre is also available for hire at reasonable rates, more may be seen at www.westoncentre.org.uk.



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A TASTE OF THE KEDLESTON



By Joe Wood, Head Chef

While Rhubarb is now available all year round, April marks the start of the rhubarb season, and is greeted with great excitement in our kitchen.

Technically a vegetable rather than a fruit, rhubarb is a member of the Knotweed family, it is related to sorrel, although unlike sorrel, the leaves of the rhubarb plant contain Oxalic Acid, which is highly poisonous.

The use of rhubarb dates back to 2700BC, originally for medicinal purposes. It reached Europe in the 14th century, with prices extortionate, it was bracketed as a commodity along with silk, diamonds and rubies, with a price tag to match. As a result, attempts to cultivate it in the UK were made, however the variety grown did not contain the medicinal properties of its imported counterpart. Somewhere along the line, someone realised it tasted pretty good, and so its culinary use spread, increasing in popularity as the price of sugar came down.

Brighter in colour, and tenderer than its outdoor sibling, which arrives later in the year, 'forced' rhubarb is grown indoors in the dark. It can be very lightly poached, and requires very little cooking at all, and works well both as a desert, and with white fish. This month's recipe is a Rhubarb and Custard Crumble Soufflé, served with English Custard, and a Vanilla Ice Cream.



Wine Match: *Brachetto D'Aqui Rosa Regale 2015 Castello Banfi*

As a fantastic wine match with this soufflé, try a Brachetto D'Aqui Rosa Regale 2015 Castello Banfi. A lightly sparkling pink wine from Piedmont, Italy, legend has it Julius Caesar gave Cleopatra a precursor to this wine 'vinum acquense', due to its aphrodisiac qualities. While not endorsing the dubious morality of this tale (the soufflé alone should more than suffice....), the strawberry and rose flavours of this wine compliment the rhubarb in this dessert perfectly, but is also a great, refreshing wine for just sitting in the garden on a warm summers day. And everybody loves a bit of fizz...



Rhubarb and Custard Crumble Soufflé:

makes 6–8 souffles

4–6 sticks (500g) rhubarb, cut into 1–2 cm pieces
150g caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling
150g fresh or thawed frozen blackberries
½ lemon, zest finely grated
1 tbsp. cornflour mixed with
1 tsp. water

4 egg whites
 Vanilla ice cream, to serve
 Double thick cream, to serve
 Crumble topping
75g plain flour
100g softened butter
50g brown or white sugar
50g rolled oats
⅓ cup roasted hazelnuts, finely chopped

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180°C.
2. Place rhubarb in a saucepan with 75g of the caster sugar and 1/4 cup water. Cover and place over medium heat and cook for 5–10 minutes until softened. Add blackberries and lemon zest and cook, uncovered, for 5 minutes until softened. Add 1/2 of the cornflour mixture and stir for 3–4 minutes until thickened, then cook for a further minute to cook out the cornflour. Set aside in a bowl to cool to room temperature for at least 5 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, to make the crumble topping, combine flour, 50g of the butter, sugar and a pinch of salt in a bowl, mixing with your fingers until combined and the butter is in pea-sized lumps. Add the oats and hazelnuts and toss gently to combine.
4. Place the crumble mixture on a lined baking tray and bake for 5 minutes until golden brown. Remove from the oven and set aside. Increase oven temperature to 200°C.
5. Grease 125ml soufflé moulds with remaining butter that has been slightly softened. Butter base and sides with a pastry brush, then brush up the sides *you want an even coating of butter*. Refrigerate for 5 minutes to set the butter, then repeat the process - for the second buttering, be a bit more generous with the butter. Sprinkle sugar into each mould and roll ramekin around so the sugar coats the butter, tipping out any excess. This forms a lubricated crust so the soufflé can rise easily.
6. Place egg whites in a large, clean, dry bowl with 1 tablespoon of the remaining sugar and beat with a hand beater on high until soft peaks. Gradually sprinkle in the remaining sugar and beat for about 30 seconds - 1 minute until you have shiny, soft peaks.
7. Mix an equal amount of beaten egg white with cooled fruit puree until combined, then add the same amount of egg white again and fold through gently, turning the bowl, then lifting and folding the mixture to keep as much air in the mixture as possible. Spoon into buttered, sugared moulds, taking care to avoid getting any mixture on the side of the ramekins until the moulds are full. Scrape the mixture off the top with a palette knife so you have a really smooth surface, then run your thumb around the very inside of the rim so you have a clean rim.
8. Bake for 6–7 minutes until risen about 1 cm above the rim. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of the crumble topping over the top and return to the oven for another 3 minutes until they have risen another centimetre.

150 YEARS OF DUFFIELD TO WIRKSWORTH

The Ecclesbourne Valley Railway (EVR), known to many as The Duffield to Wirksworth Branch has launched a year-long series of celebrations under the title Ecclesbourne 150 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the line's opening in 1867.

To support the celebrations, the EVR will operate steam-hauled services on no fewer than 28 days throughout this summer, commencing with the late May Bank Holiday - when children will travel for free - and running through to the 1950s-weekend held over the August Bank Holiday.

2017 brings with it four other anniversaries. Seventy years ago, in June 1947, the last scheduled passenger train ran (until services resumed in 2011), fifty years ago, in



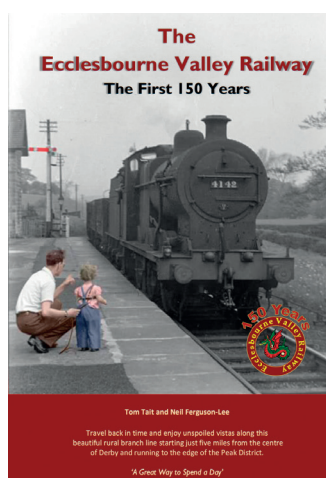
1967, closure of the Cromford & High Peak Railway led to the Wirksworth Branch being dedicated as a mineral line for the area's quarries, while in 1992 and 1997, WyvernRail and the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway Association - the partner organisations

who have restored the line and operate the line - were founded.

A series of special events will take place, including a commemoration of the line's closure to passenger services over the weekend of 17th June. Full details can be

found on a special website created for the anniversaries: www.ecclesbourne150.org.

The EVR has also published a commemorative book, The Ecclesbourne Valley Railway - The First 150 Years, available from the EVR and local bookshops for £4.95.



Ecclesbourne 150 Book Launch

Sat 1st Apr 10:00am - 1:00pm. Memorial Hall, St John's St, Wirksworth, Matlock DE4 4DS. Ecclesbourne 150 is proud to be part of the 2017 Wirksworth Book Festival. Launching the new book: The Ecclesbourne Valley Railway: The First 150 Years. There will also be an exhibition of railway books and literature.

Evening Steam Hauled Jazz and Real Ale on Rails

Sat 29th Apr 7:00pm - 10:00pm. The EVR's new Bar Car, Wirksworth

Railway Station, Coldwell St, Wirksworth DE4 4FB.

Join us in our steam-hauled train including our newly-restored bar car for an evening of jazz with real ale and other beverages! £19 per person

Four Railways Walk and Ride

Sun 30th Apr 9:00am - 4:00pm, Wirksworth Station, Coldwell St, Wirksworth DE4 4FB. To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the closure of the Cromford & High Peak Railway. You will discover the history and delights of four railways and, what's more, it's 50 years to the day since the closure of the C&HPR. You will ride on the Steeple Grange Light Railway, Derwent Valley and Ecclesbourne Valley Railway. It is a real 'feet and seat' experience walking to, and riding on the operating railways, Walk approx. 4 miles. Bring a packed lunch. Cost: Walk is FREE but donations to Mayor's charity and Middleton Top and Leawood Pump Group gratefully received plus cost of each railway's admission.

Meet: Wirksworth Station. Location: OS ref SK 290 541. Sat Nav DE4 4FB. Information and booking: Middleton Top 01629 533298.

Cromford & High Peak Slideshow and Talk

Fri 12th May 7:00pm - 8:45pm Derbyshire Eco Centre, Porter Ln, Middleton, Matlock DE4 4LS. It is 50 years since the closure of this historic and unique railway and this slide talk will delight you with the locos, tracks, inclines and stories of the workers. You'll also be brought up to date with the route and its use as the High Peak Trail. Join Andy Pollock and Rick Jillings for this not to be missed evening.

Closure Anniversary Weekend - Steam Hauled

Fri 16th Jun - Sun 18th. The last booked passenger service for 23,309 days ran from Wirksworth to Duffield at 6:07pm on Saturday 14th June 1947. We are commemorating this sad event and celebrating the railway's rebirth over this weekend with a series of events on each day.

Closure Anniversary Steam Trains and New Mills Brass Band

Sat 17th Jun. We will be running a regular steam service between Duffield and Wirksworth, while the famous New Mills Band will be entertaining travellers during the day.

Closure Anniversary Steam Trains and Pomegranate Youth Theatre

Sun 18th Jun. For the last day of the closure anniversary weekend, Chesterfield's Pomegranate Youth Theatre will re-enact events from the life of the railway at both Wirksworth and Duffield stations.

Kids Go Free Spring Bank Holiday Weekend

Sat 27th May - Mon 29th. Enjoy the late May Bank Holiday on the railway! Bring the whole family because kids up to the age of 15 will get free travel on the Duffield line across this weekend.

For a full list of events visit: www.ecclesbourne150.org.

THE 'ECCLESBOURNE 150' ANNIVERSARIES

Wirksworth Station taken 50 years after the line's opening



For a railway to celebrate 150 years of operation is noteworthy but not especially unique. However, for a railway to celebrate 150 years of operation, be in near-original condition and be able to celebrate four other significant anniversaries in the same year is worth more than a second glance. This is Ecclesbourne 150: a celebration of five anniversaries in 2017 that in themselves tell the story of the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway.

Anniversary 1: 1867

To begin, the big celebration is the 150th anniversary of the line's opening on 1st October 1867. Built as no more than a commercial tactic in a game of power between two railway companies, the line to Wirksworth very nearly became the main line to Manchester: in the end, it

became a branch line with an uncertain future that morphed into a successful line for agricultural and mineral traffic. However, even today there is much evidence to show the Wirksworth Branch's intended role as a main line railway.

Anniversary 2: 1947

The second anniversary is the 70th anniversary of passenger services being suspended by the London Midland and Scottish Railway during a

period of post-war austerity and coal shortages. The last train ran on 14th June 1947 and apart from occasional excursions and enthusiasts' special trains, many thought this would be the end. As things turned out, the railway wasn't dead to passengers, just sleeping – for 64 years.

Anniversary 3: 1967

The third anniversary was indirectly related to the Wirksworth Branch but served to secure the line's future at a time when branch lines were disappearing fast. On 30th April 1967, the Cromford & High Peak Railway, itself an early pioneer opening as early as 1825, closed between Friden and Cromford. Famous for its steep inclines and virtual isolation from the main line network, the line's closure led to the Wirksworth Branch becoming the principal conduit for limestone traffic out of the southern White Peak.

Wirksworth. The fate of the Duffield-Wirksworth branch was effectively settled at the beginning of November when Tarmac announced that the 250-year-old Middle Peak Quarry is to be mothballed at the end of the year with little prospect of re-opening. It is therefore also unlikely that BR will allow the track to remain in situ.

Anniversary 4: 1992

On 1st October 1992, within a few weeks of this depressing snippet in 'Rail' Magazine, a company called WyvernRail Limited was incorporated. Founded by two former directors of Peak Rail, the company was formed to explore using Wirksworth as the base for the operation of a train service taking advantage of opportunities arising from the then forthcoming privatisation of the railways. It took another eight years for the plans to begin to bear fruit and in a form quite different to what had first been envisaged.

Anniversary 5: 1997

The final anniversary is a mere twenty years old, commemorating the evening of 2nd October 1997 when a public meeting was held to promote what was then called the Derby and Wirksworth Railway Association. In its current guise as the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway Association, it acts as the partner to WyvernRail in restoring, maintaining and operating the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway.



The last LMS passenger train in June 1947

LMS 'JINTY' FOR 'ECCLESBOURNE 150' CELEBRATIONS

LMS 'Jinty' No. 47406 is to help the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway celebrate a long list of anniversaries this year, when the 0-6-0T visits for the summer season. With the sponsorship of the EVR Association, the Loughborough-based Fowler '3F' tank will run for 28 days on the Wirksworth branch, starting with the May Bank Holiday weekend (May 27-29), followed by each weekend in June and July, and August 5-6 and 26-28.

No. 47406 is the first Midland-derived locomotive on the EVR in preservation, and thought to be the first 'Jinty' ever to run on the branch; Johnson 0-4-4Ts were the regular motive power on passenger trains, latterly superseded by Ivatt '2MT' 2-6-2Ts. With newly acquired Mk 1 BSK No. 35006 expected to return from contract overhaul by Easter, the EVR should be able to make up a four-coach set for the 'Jinty'.



ILLNESS'S PREVENTED BY VACCINATING DOGS AND CATS

Vaccinating your pet can prevent a number of diseases, some of which can be life threatening. Below is a brief description of the diseases commonly vaccinated against.

Dogs

Parvo virus - can be fatal especially in young puppies
This causes severe vomiting and diarrhoea.

Leptospirosis - can be fatal.
Causes damage to the liver and kidneys.

Infectious Canine hepatitis - can often be fatal.

Can cause damage to the liver, kidneys and eyes often they have a fever.

Distemper - Can often be fatal.
Can cause vomiting, diarrhoea, respiratory problems and nervous system changes.

Kennel Cough

Kennel cough is a mixture of viral and bacterial infections. It causes a dry harsh hacking cough, it is usually self-limiting but rarely can

progress to pneumonia.

Cats

Feline herpes virus

Can cause an upper respiratory disease and eye problems. Some cats can become latently infected the problem reoccurring multiple times later in life.

Feline calicivirus

Can cause upper respiratory

disease, long term gum problems, and painful joints.

Feline Leukaemia virus - fatal
Can cause a suppressed immune system and anaemia. The virus will often cause a fatal cancer.

Feline panleukopenia virus - can be fatal often in kittens
Some animals can pass away with no symptoms except lethargy and fever. Others

can have severe vomiting and diarrhoea. If a cat is infected while carrying kittens the kittens can be born with poor brain development.

Vaccination is still one of the most important things you can do to keep your pet healthy. If you have any concerns about vaccinating your pet, please speak to your vet.



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The Meadows Hidden Gems – Fungi

For something different this month I thought I would leave the insects behind. Some of the most important organisms on our planet are the fungi. Without them the possibility is that there may not be any life on Earth at all. Up until as late as 1969 they were classified as part of the plant kingdom. More recently, using cell structure and DNA sequences, it has been found that they are more closely related to animals than to plants! Unlike plants, which make their own food, fungi feed by releasing enzymes outside of their bodies which break down nutrients into pieces small enough for them to absorb. Most fungi are made up of a mass of tiny filaments known as mycelium. Some of these form complex structures that we know as mushrooms. There are other types of fruiting bodies two of which I will describe later. They can be found in many habitats from Antarctica to the Gobi desert. They can even be found on or in humans. They have adapted to almost any conditions on Earth which is not surprising as they have been around for over a billion years. The main part of the organism is underground and is not often seen. The “Fairy Ring”, which is sometimes seen on lawns, is just the fruiting bodies. The underground part of the fungi can grow to a huge size. One such “Fairy Ring” on the American prairies was photographed from space and found to be over 6 miles across. This makes it the largest living organisms on Earth!

Before I describe the two species I’ve chosen it is important to stress that both of these are NOT EDIBLE.



Do not eat any fungi unless you are 100% certain of the identification!!

The first species for this month is the Common Eyelash Fungus (*Scutellinia scutellata*). The scientific name means “like a small shield”. The fruiting body is a shallow disc shape 0.2 to 1cm (0.1 to 0.4 inches) in diameter. The inner surface, which is the spore bearing surface, is bright orange-red while the outer sterile surface is pale brown. The outer surface is covered in

dark hairs. It is the hairs on the margin of the cup which gives it its name as they resemble eyelashes. This species does not have a stem. It is normally found on rotting wood or damp soil and is frequently overlooked as it is often obscured by moss.

The second species is the Purple Jellydisc (*Ascocoryne sarcoides*). The species name is from the Greek meaning “flesh-like”. It is characterised by a fruiting body with a

pinkish-purple colour and a gelatinous consistency. This is 0.5 to 1.5cm in diameter. It starts roughly spherical then eventually flattens out to form a shallow cup-shape with a wavy edge and smooth upper surface. The discs sometimes have a rudimentary stem. It derives its nutrients from decaying organic matter and can be found on dead deciduous trees, especially Beech.

Mick Ball (The Bugman)



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NATURE REVEALING ITS SPLENDOUR ON OUR OWN NATURE RESERVE

It does not take much sunshine to encourage me to abandon any thoughts of housework and to spend time outside instead. My whole weekend was taken up with helping my next door neighbour clear some her 'jungle' and after first checking the site for hedgehogs, we had two wonderful bonfires helped by her young visitors - with the mandatory toasted marshmallows on the end of sharpened sticks to finish. Spurred on by this, the next two days were spent in my own garden, clearing the bushes back and the ground ready for planting my veg garden which was much appreciated by the little Robin that followed my every forkful of soil looking for worms and grubs.

As I surveyed the scene with a large mug of tea in my hand, the birdsong was deafening as a whole tree full of goldfinches chattered away and oblivious to me, the little hedge sparrows flew backwards and forwards from in amongst the bushes, only just missing my nose in the process!

Down the meadow similar activity is underway. All creatures are emerging from winter into the warm spring sunshine and beginning their search for mates and safe places to rear their young.

Frogs appeared some weeks ago from the muddy bottom of the ponds, mated and the rafts

of frogspawn have hatched into tadpoles. Another sort of frog, the common toad, followed - making their way through the damp grass back to where they were reared and sometimes travelling quite long distances ignoring roads and other man made obstacles. They have laid their double strings of egg-studded jelly in amongst the reeds that have become the tadpoles with darker, larger heads.

The numbers that breed are impressive and it is hard to remember that these creatures found the ponds themselves along with the common newts, dragonflies, pond skaters and other aquatic insects. None of them were introduced and to be fair - when the wetland was first dug 14 years ago, it looked highly unlikely that anything would want to colonise such a desolate looking spot. Gradually the ponds filled with water and plants began to grow around the margins. Nature usually takes over and once the conditions are right, animals and insects find their way - even if it is on the feet of visiting birds.

Following the arrival of these small creatures came those

who feed on them.

The growing trees also added to the wealth of food species on the Reserve and if you are lucky, you may see the smallest bird in Britain - the Goldcrest - in amongst the birch and pine trees or one of our largest - the magnificent, elegant Grey Heron - standing at the edge of the water or slowly flapping and gliding its large wings ready to land.

The **Goldcrest** is 8.5 - 9.5 cm long feeds on tiny insects and spiders it finds in the crevices in the bark of trees. Weighing in at 4.5 - 7.0g it is, nevertheless, known as the King of Birds due its gold crest. In contrast, the **Grey Heron** stands up to a metre tall, is 84-102 cm long, has a wingspan of 155-195 cm. and can weigh up to 2 kg. When flying, the heron retracts its neck into an "S" shape and trails its feet behind so cannot be confused with spoonbill, stork or crane. Its elegance has featured in history with the Ancient Romans thought it a bird of divination.

This beautiful bird stands motionless at the edge of the ponds waiting for a fish to

swim within range or a hapless toad or frog. Its grey blue feathers act like camouflage as its prey will be looking through the water to a sky composed of the same tones and the heron does not move until ready to strike. It uses its long, strong sharp beak to stab the prey - swallows fish whole headfirst or bashes the frog on the shore. Herons do not seem to mind the poisonous skin of toads and do not feed exclusively on things in water - they have been known to take ducklings, small rodents and insects evident from the regurgitated pellets of indigestible bones or fur (from small mammals). The heron that regularly visits our wetland can usually be seen in the early mornings patrolling the ponds' edges and enjoying the bounty that has now appeared with spring. The nesting mallards will be keeping a wary eye on the tall predating bird - as will the latest addition to the species that appreciate the habitat on the wetland - a pair of **Water rails** (*rallus aquaticus*). These elusive birds are usually heard before they are seen as their call is a series of grunts and squeals that resemble that of a pig. The birds tip toe in and out of the reeds using their laterally flattened bodies and are well camouflaged with brown upper parts and blue grey plumage underneath. They have a slim curved beak and are omnivorous with a diet composed largely of small insects and berries; they have been known to stab small birds to eat in extreme conditions. Meanwhile, the blackthorn blossom looks like snow on the hedgerows, the pink crab apple blossom is waiting for a bit more warmth and the cowslips and bluebells will soon be out. As the clocks have sprung forward and the days have lengthened, keep your eyes and ears open as you enjoy a slow wander around the reserve.



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PLENTY GOING ON AT THE LIBRARY FOR YOUNGSTERS

Please note we will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday. We are open as normal on Saturday 15 April.

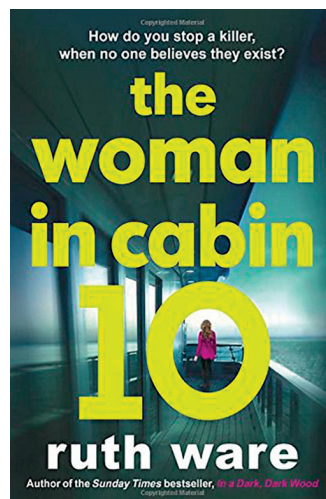
Our children's craft sessions continue on Saturday 1 April at 10.30am for craft and stories around a different theme each month. The theme for April will be Easter. There is no need to book, just call in if your or your child is interested. The Chatterbooks reading group for children aged 7-11 will be meeting on Wednesday 12 April from 4.30pm until 5.15pm, if you love reading why not join us?

Our usual story time sessions continue on Fridays at the usual time of 11am for half an hour of stories for pre-school children and their carers. Just call in, no pre-booking is required. The craft group continue to meet on Mondays at 10am for a couple of hours to work on craft projects, so please come along if you are interested. If anyone has any spare craft items, fabric or

wool for example they would like to donate to the group then please drop it off at the library. Many thanks.

The library continues to be a donation point for the Hope for Belper charity, a local volunteer run food-bank helping our neighbours in Belper and surrounding areas. We have a food crate in the library where non-perishable food can be donated.

New books in the library this month include a paperback copy of the latest Hamish Macbeth mystery, Death of a Nurse, this series of books are a delight and amazingly true to the real Highlands; a hardback copy of Swimming Lessons by Claire Fuller, a mystery examining a troubled marriage and human failings; described as smoothly and beautifully written, this novel is a fabulous little book. Non-fiction titles include Mamma: Reflections on the Food that Makes Us by Mina Holland,



a collection of culinary writing examining the role of food in our lives and how recipes provide histories of who we are. Adventurer Levison Wood has written a companion book to his latest adventures, Walking the Americas, chronicling his 1,800 mile trek along the spine of the Americas, and also new in is Happy Mum Happy Baby; My Adventures in Motherhood by Giovanna Fletcher, described as an

honest, upbeat and incredibly personal account of her own experience of having a family. As part of his monthly recommended read promotion Steve intends to read a Dickens novel in May and has asked for suggestions of titles for him to read. We will run the poll for April with a shortlist of a number of titles. He promises to read the title with the most votes.

I have finished reading The Woman in Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware. A mystery set on a luxury cruise ship heading to see the Northern Lights, Lo Blacklock witnesses a terrifying nightmare: a woman being thrown overboard from cabin 10. No one is missing so the ship sails on as if nothing happened, something has gone terribly wrong..... a terrific read soon to be made into a film.

Happy Reading
Carole-Ann and the team



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DUFFIELD PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2016-17

This year has been an extremely busy year with many events and exciting developments in the village.

A Fond Farewell and Welcome

Duffield bid a fond farewell to Parish Clerk Liz Page who was a great asset to the village over the last three years. The Parish Council wished her well in her new job and welcomed a new Parish Clerk, Kath Gruber, in September 2016.

Celebration of the Queen's Birthday

In April Duffield Parish Council was very proud to light an official "Birthday Beacon" in celebration of the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

Annual Fireworks and Bonfire Night

The display was very successful with a record number of people attending. Many thanks to the volunteers from the DCA and members of the Explorer Scouts who helped on the night; without them this event would simply not be possible.



Cockpit Lane

Having consulted at length with residents the Parish Council has proceeded with the resurfacing of Cockpit Lane, the footpath that runs from Town Street alongside Appletree Medical Practice leading to Eyes Meadow.

Gray Recreation Ground

Duffield Parish Council asked what you would like to see in terms of new recreation facilities for older children, teenagers and adults on Gray Recreation Ground alongside Snake Lane. You replied in your hundreds with the great majority in favour of new equipment and the Council will be making a decision based on your feedback and seeking to source funding in 2017/2018.

Duffield Arts Festival

The Parish Council was delighted to support Duffield's first-ever arts festival in September 2016 organised by Jonathan Leach. It was very well attended and jam-packed with events including a scarecrow trail; photography and writing competitions; exhibitions; live music; arts and crafts for all the family to enjoy. The festival will be run again in September 2017.



The DCA Carnival

The Council continues to support the hugely successful Duffield Community Association carnival. Last summer's theme 'Around the World' was fabulous and saw lots of creativity and a record attendance.

Bradshaw Stone and Plaque

To commemorate Anthony Bradshaw, the Parish Council erected a plaque on the railings in front of Duffield Hall to point out the Bradshaw Stone, which used to be the stone above the door of the Almshouse. The stone was reset in the wall of the boundary of Duffield Hall.

Grants

The Parish Council supported local activities and initiatives throughout the year awarding grants to Derbyshire Wildlife Trust; Duffield Scouts; Massive; Derwent Walkways and Duffield Rangers.

CCTV On Wirksworth Corner

Duffield's Millennium flower garden, war memorial and seating area on the corner of Wirksworth Road continues to be a beautiful focal point of the village thanks to the hard work of the Duffield Community Association. To keep it this way, Duffield Parish Council installed a CCTV camera to keep watch on the area.



The Eyes Have It Music Festival

The Parish Council was proud to support the music festival in July 2016. It was a fantastic weekend of rock, pop & blues organised by Simon Clark. The Council has agreed that Eyes Meadow will play host to "The Eyes Have It" music festival for the third time in 2017.

Keeping Our Village Beautiful

During this year the number of complaints the Parish Council received regarding dog fouling around the village has increased. The Council has put up new signs asking people to keep our village beautiful and to pick up after their dogs in addition to increasing the number of dog waste bins around the village.

THANKS.....

To everyone in Duffield who continues to support the objectives of the Council.

Particular thanks go to the Council staff:

Liz Page, the outgoing Parish Clerk, for her service to the village for the past 3 years.

Kath Gruber, the new Parish Clerk, for hitting the ground running and showing her propensity for hard work, energy and commitment.

Chris Carter, Assistant Clerk, for his dedication and efficient control of our finances.

Jackie Clements, Admin Assistant, for her dedication and enthusiasm for improved communications, web and social media.

Chris Read, Cemetery Superintendent, for the maintenance of a village asset that we are all proud of.

Michael Forkin, Village Warden, who ensures that our village continues to look its best.

Councillors – for ensuring that the right decisions are made and implemented.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - A TIME FOR REVIEW

The earliest date on Watch documents for its start is 1989 when three people, on behalf of the Parish Council and the Duffield Community Association (and all living in the central village area), applied to Derbyshire County Council for the erection of signs telling visitors that they were entering a settlement covered by a Neighbourhood Watch. The signs remain; what has happened to the Watch?

Many of the original team of Street Coordinators continue. Most streets in the geographically lower part of the village are 'watched'; in the 'upper', none. Has anything changed? A more dispersed population has grown but the nature and volume of crime continue to give Duffield a low place in Derbyshire's crime rankings. Incidents peak and trough at random, with related concerns. Police patrols continue in response to reported incidents (as at present), and the regular but seldom visited van -calls by Paula Bennett our PCSO provide us with up-to-date information and the chance to ask questions. This week she had two visitors. Severe cuts in funding police force make the case for local vigilance even more important.

What are the Watch's resources? There are three, at least.

Watch Coordinators also have a social function using 'word of mouth' and 'face to face' communications. Heavy recent recruitment in Kilburn and Denby had a social not preventative purpose, we are told. We all like to know what is going on but information is passed to and held by the Police in confidence.

Local incidents include a disturbance among neighbours, and the delivery

of an unexpected parcel followed by a visit to collect. Both were reported to the Police. A third related to dog fouling, recorded on a private CCTV and taken up by the Local Authority. Following police intervention the evening banging on windows has stopped. An attempted break-in at a main street premises was reported.

The second source is the District Neighbourhood Watch, in our case Chesterfield though Duffield is attached to and our PCSO based at, Belper. If you have questions or comments contact Joye Dobbs will help on 0300 122 8626, email chesterfelddistrictnhw@hotmail.co.uk or visit www.ourwatch.org.uk.

Regular Alerts are sent providing information at county level. These items show the width of topics covered:

- Identity marking kit
- Changes in fines caught phoning while driving
- The Police Crime Commissioners' planned tour of Derbyshire
- Identity theft – phishing using false identities
- Changes in the status of drugs from 'legal high' to Class B
- The search for the next Police Chief Constable
- Dating fraud and the transfer of money
- Invitation to become an Independent Custody Visitor
- Radio links between shops in Heanor and Ripley with the Police
- A monthly Alert Neighbour Newsletter
- PCC grants for special projects
- Training for Rural Crime Offices to deal with thefts from farms

**IT PAYS TO TAKE TIME
TAKE FIVE TO STOP
AND THINK**



TO STOP FRAUD™

- Improvements in response times to 101 calls.

The third source are agencies and businesses publishing their own safety advice. The Scene has commented on and shown Bank precautions. This article draws on the publication of the Take Five campaign advice led by Financial Fraud Action Ltd. (FFA UK) and more help is available at actionfraud.police.uk or on 0300123 2040. Copies of a briefing document copy were available at Nationwide. The General Advice suggests:

1. Never disclose security details such as your PIN or full banking password.
2. Don't assume an email or phone call is authentic.
3. Don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision.
4. Listen to your instincts.
5. Stay in control.

Being a Watch Coordinator is a privilege. It involves meeting many people in local organisations, appreciating the highly valuable work they do and leads to a better understanding of the community. In too many cases clubs and groups carry out their programmes with little apparent awareness of the links there are between and among them. And between younger and older people.

It is therefore doubly disappointing that regular appeals for recruiting new members and a drop of 200 booklets have evoked no response. Last week in a Coordinator-free area three house alarms were sprung within 30 minutes.

The more we change, the more we are the same, it seems.

John Raw
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ANOTHER LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR DUFFIELD DYNAMO HARRIERS



What a fantastic achievement. The Duffield Dynamo Harriers U16 side have won the Derby City League Saturday Division One title with two games left to play.

It's been a terrific season for the unbeaten 17-strong squad. Captained by Daniel Sanders, the players all attend Ecclesbourne School and the school team contains the majority of the DDFC players. The same team also won the U15's title last year.

Manager Mark Pearson said: "That is one of the secrets to our success.

POS		P	W	D	L
1	DUFFIELD DYNAMO HARRIERS	14	13	1	0
2	A.D.A.S.C.	11	7	2	2
3	GAD KHALSA SPORTS	11	7	1	3

"Lads that gel well, play well. Most of the team have been playing together now since the U9's and some further back than that.

"The team spirit is second to none and the desire to play good passing football has always been strong.

"Our defence is by far the best in the league, conceding only 10 goals in the course of winning the title.

"At the other end of the pitch our strikers are showing the league how it's done.

"Alex Bernard is yet again uncatchable in the top scorers league chart with 29 goals and Archie Pearson is joint-second on 12 goals so far.

"But again, the team is pivotal in helping to create those goals."

The Harriers also boasts five trained referees amongst

the squad, officiating at matches on Sundays, showing commitment and also a deep knowledge of the game they take part in.

Mark added: "The team is not just the players though. Gary Bowle and I would like to thank the parents who give the coaches and the players tremendous support, either through running the line or cheering the team on."

So well done to the Harriers and here's to next season and the step up to U18's!

Could it be a hat-trick of Championship titles?

Continued from back page... They all averaged between 20 and 28, there was no century and very few scores of 50 plus.

There are undoubted batting skills among them but rather more application is necessary for them to maximise their talents into runs.

Hopefully the young Australian will show them the way with the bat and if his medium place bowling is compatible with pitches here then he will be a useful addition to the pace of James Hardwick (30 wkts at 17.97 last season), Joe Wozniczak-Wells (39 wkts at 21) and the spin of Jono Clare (32 at 19) and Oliver Webb (17 wkts at 17).

Paul Bakel who has voluntarily dropped out of his 1st team batting place to skipper the 2nd XI this summer, is hoping to lead the way back up to Division

4 North after relegation last year.

Two newcomers to the Club, both of them 19, will be under his guidance.

Jack Finnegan a batsman from Allestree and from Belper Meadows Harry Trent, a medium pace bowler should give the team a stronger look and Paul is hoping some of the juniors will be pressing for places.

The batting will be stronger with Bakel himself added to Steve Muskett (276 runs at 30.67 last season), former skipper Russell King (29 at 26.73), Tim Williscroft (235 at 26.1) and Philip Jordan (191 at 23.88).

Only Philip (10 wkts at 38) and brother Richard Jordan (17 wkts at 23) reached 10 or more wickets last season.. so certainly room for improvement there and Bakel's years of experience skippering the 1st team for many years should

prove invaluable,

The 3rd XI in Division 9 North will be skippered by Keith Blake whose brief bowling figures (25.2-6-54-8) of last summer bodes well and the team will be strengthened as the new signings settle in further up the scale.

The all round skills of Will Clare, batting of the Burnham brothers Adam and Alex, the bowling of Ben Blenkinsop and Fergus Herron and,

OPPORTUNITIES GALORE FOR YOUNGSTERS

There will even more opportunities for younger players to get involved with cricket at the club this summer.

We will be running teams from U11 through to U17, as well as continuing to introduce younger players to cricket through soft-ball formats.

In May we will be launching a new All Stars Cricket programme which will have lots of fun activities for children in school years 1-3.

All Stars is part of an exciting

no doubt, the burgeoning improvement of some youngsters should give Keith better options than there were last year when the 3rds did well to avoid relegation.

With the whole of Duffield's envied square now totally bedded down, the standard of the pitches should be improved and all players are hoping for more bounce on the flood plain,

Have a good season guys.

new national programme and will compliment our successful Kwik cricket offer which will continue for those older primary-age children who aren't playing hard-ball cricket.

Both All Stars and Kwik will be running on Friday evenings this season, rather than Saturday morning, and we would love to see lots of new children, and their families and friends starting their weekends down at Eyes Meadow. Watch out for more information next month.

CRICKETING OPTIMISM AT EYES MEADOW

Duffield cricketers were in buoyant mood as they began outdoor practice in readiness for pre-season friendlies this month.

There's always speculation about how effective an overseas player will be as sight unseen he arrives but the reports from Australia are encouraging about Matt Clarke (19) a right handed opening batsman (see picture) who has already made scores in Grade Cricket in Brisbane, playing for Northern Districts. He is an attacking player with a decent strike rate and an official at Brisbane said he also bowls some useful medium pace and is a high class fielder.

Duffield's Cricket Chairman Paul Bakel, understands Matt is of the quality needed to work out how to play in the different conditions he will experience in Derbyshire.

The Australian will be playing under the re-elected Duffield first team captain Tom Roe



in the First Division of the Derbyshire County League. Roe and fellow batsmen Jack Clarke, David Whiteley, Peter Jenkins, Daniel Clark and Chris Sheldon all had their moments last season but lacked consistency. Continued page 23.



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