



DUFFIELD SCENE

FEBRUARY 2019

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DUFFIELD VILLAGERS "HAVE THEIR SAY"

Anti-social behaviour is the biggest concern for the people of Duffield – by far.

In a recent survey this was the residents' number one important local issue. Local Borough and Parish Councillor, Steven Evanson, was involved in hand-delivering the survey to every home in Duffield. Residents were invited to "have their say" and send in their concerns by reply-paid post. The survey was repeated in other Amber Valley wards but the number of responses from Duffield was by far the biggest in the borough; clearly showing



Duffield people's involvement in our own village life. Over 60% indicated that anti-social behaviour was the most important issue. 10% said protecting the countryside and wildlife, and a similar number quoted improving the local

infrastructure. When asked about the local infrastructure 65% wanted to see urgent improvements in traffic congestion and parking in the village. 36% want improvements in community facilities, with a similar

number wanting investment in green spaces.

When asked to quote two specific local issues, parking was of most concern (32%) followed by almost equal numbers stating litter; housing ... continued on page 3.



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From the cover...

planning; potholes; support for local shops; and speeding. Quite a number of respondents detailed their specific concerns and personal replies have been delivered by Cllr Evanson. For the general concerns he said "There are no quick fixes for these issues. The local council is aware and some plans are in hand. Lighting and CCTV at Wirksworth Corner are being improved and the private security patrols introduced last year will be continued. Our local PSCO is coordination a new Community SpeedWatch programme. All the residents' survey returns are going to help to form plans for the future. Thanks to everyone who took the time and effort to reply."

For further information about the Duffield residents survey please contact Local Borough and Parish Councillor, Steven Evanson on 01332 842333.

MUSIC AT DUFFIELD - OLIVER WASS

Oliver Wass has won International Competitions in Italy, Hungary and the UK, and he is the first harpist ever to win the Guildhall Gold Medal, the Guildhall's most prestigious prize. His Wigmore Hall debut was praised for its "tremendous dynamism" and "remarkable range of timbres and warmth of tone" (Seen and Heard International). He will make his concerto debut with the Philharmonia Orchestra in November 2018.

Supported by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust. Programme on Friday 15 February 2019 to include:
 J S Bach: Suite No. 1 BWV 996
 Ravel: Jeux d'eau.
 de Falla: Spanish Dance No. 1 from La Vida Breve
 Posse: The Carnival of Venice.

This concert is 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 on Friday 15 February and all seats are unreserved.

Individual tickets: Adult £15, Concession £14, Student £7,

available at the door and online at www.musicatduffield.com.

Upcoming concerts include: Saturday 13 April: A4 Brass Quartet. Saturday 11 May 2019: Beate Toyka (piano).

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DUFFIELD ARTIST UNVEILS HUGE MURAL OF AGATHA CHRISTIE

Artist Iona Rowland was commissioned by the Seven Dials district near Covent Garden to produce a mural celebrating the 90th anniversary of the release of Agatha Christie's *The Seven Dials Mystery*.

The four-metre mural sits above the Birkenstock Store on Short Gardens. It comprises multiple layers of acrylic, spray paint and silk screen prints and gives a colourful new look to a 1926 photo of the author, which subtly shifts with the viewer's perspective. Although she now lives and works in London, the former Ecclesbourne School student still has a studio in Duffield where she retreats to work on large-scale pieces.

The mural will be on display until March when it will be auctioned for charity as part of Seven Dials' International Women's Day celebrations.

See more of Iona's work at ionarowlandart.com or @ionarowlandart on Instagram.



The Evolution of Agatha Christie by Iona Rowland

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ECCLESBOURNE VALLEY RAILWAY EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

Start your new hobby today! Ecclesbourne Valley Railway are holding a 'Join the Team' Volunteering Day on Saturday 16th February 2019, 10:00am - 3:30pm.

Our railway is continually growing and we need your help. All departments on the railway rely on the hard work and dedication of volunteers to continue to operate. From driving to trackwork and guarding to restoration work, there are many different roles which need to be filled. Our current volunteers will be on hand to chat to about various different roles and give personal accounts of their involvement. Without our volunteers, the railway could not operate.

The Day

- Displays and curiosities about the railway and the work our volunteers do.
- Chat to our volunteers about their hobby.
- Tours around Wirksworth Station and Yard.
- Take our service train between Wirksworth and Duffield - discounted fare of £5.00 return for visitors who wish to volunteer (by joining the EVRA).

Departments on display include Booking Office and Station, Train Crew, Catering, EVRA Shop, Steam and Diesel Motive Power Groups, Vegetation and Fencing, Miniature Railway and more...

Volunteering

Volunteering can be very rewarding. The amount of time you put in is really up to you but the more you put in the more you will get out. There's a great social base in all departments and many of the tasks are enjoyable and even fun! See our Volunteering page for full details on working for our railway.



NEW FOR 2019 - Ghosts in the Valley Evening, Saturday 23rd February 2019 - 18:30.

Starting our journey at Duffield, ride on one of our heritage trains and take in the sights and sounds of the valley by night. As we pause at the stations along the line, professional ghost hunters Haunted Heritage will tell the historical stories of the

area and see if there is any paranormal activity present. Will anything be found?

This unusual evening can be enjoyed by believers and sceptics alike but is not recommended for persons under 16 years of age.

The Evening

- Begin with a welcome and scene setting at Duffield at 18:30 by professional paranormal investigators Haunted Heritage.
- Calls at Idridgehay, Shottle and Wirksworth for historical stories and paranormal investigation where guests will be able to get off the train to listen and participate.
- Returns to Duffield by approx. 21:30 (as a guide). Refreshments available at Duffield or trolley on board (not included). Tickets are priced at £20.00. Bookings will close at 16:00 on the day. Visit: www.e-v-r.com or call 01629 823076, Tuesday - Sunday: 09:30 - 17:00.



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THE CHANGING SEASONS ON THE MEADOW

It is getting lighter each day. Today, a red and pink sunrise gave way to golden skies and the low winter sunshine illuminated silver birch trees, the grey/ green lichen covered elders and on the horizon, a rainbow appeared against the black bank of cloud in the distance.

There was little warmth in the sun and the digger removing some of the bulrushes in the wetland was working alongside very cold water-piling the pulled plants and their mud onto the edges of the two ponds to allow any surprised creatures the chance to migrate back into the water. The plants will grow back over the next few years but if this pulling was not done, there would soon be no water to be seen - bulrushes grow sideways across the surface of the water. Soon the frogs and toads will be spawning – relying on night and day temperatures above 5C to do so.

Birdsong followed us as we worked. A loud protesting wren sat low in a blackthorn bush and there were two great tits flitting through the trees with their characteristic see saw calls ringing out. There were some blue tits methodically quartering the birch tree branches looking for tidbits but few berry-eating birds in evidence. Not surprising when looking round at the dearth of fruit on the holly, hawthorn and

mountain ash. They have been stripped of their bounty weeks ago by our native thrushes and pigeons as well as by the visiting migrant redwings, fieldfares and waxwings. These will be thinking of returning to Europe very soon – once the cold weather there has eased - making way here for those summer migrants coming from Africa and the Mediterranean later in the year.

How birds manage to find their way on these massive migrations has been the source of much research over the past 50 years. It is now thought that migratory birds have “vision-based magneto reception” which enables them to see magnetic fields.

The earth has an outer core made of molten iron alloys that are moved around by the heat from the solid inner core coupled with the rotation of the earth. This motion and the iron’s ability to conduct electricity creates a dynamo and the earth acts like a giant bar magnet with giant arcing magnetic fields between the positive north pole and negative south pole. Birds that migrate align themselves with this magnetism and “see” which way to go. Scientist

fitted clear and then frosted goggles to European Robins and discovered that the right eye seems to be key to this ability – the left eye seems to take no part. They have suggested that there is a chemical reaction in the bird’s eye in response to light that also produces a darker or lighter pattern on everything they see making a sort of map for them to follow.

However, it still does not explain how an unaccompanied fledgling can find its way to migrate from here to its home resting place - which could be as far away as Africa.

Birds and their movement have been fascinating people for thousands of years and given rise to many myths and legends. The Romans use to divine the future from birds and coined the phrase “**auspicy**” – hence “*auspicious*”. The augur would stand in a sacred spot, facing east, then wait to see which way the birds flew. Birds flying to the right meant good vibes, while those flying to the left encouraged caution. A bird flying toward the diviner meant good luck, while one flying away meant

opportunities would be hard to come by. The higher the birds flew, the better the future, while low-flying birds were a sign of bad things to come [source: Webster]. Birds migrating to and from the countryside would have been a good indication of the seasons (as it is today)– the flocks of geese which spend their winters in our relatively warmer climes are an indication of the severe conditions in their northern homes and the possible weather to come; the arrival of the swallows, house martins and swifts from the south in our early summer confirms the season change here with weather warm enough to provide them with the insects they need.

We still have winter weather to come but spring is not far away. Hazel catkins are in full bloom, pussy willow flowers are out and soon the frogs and toads will be spawning. Please ensure to keep your dogs OUT of the ponds. They disturb wildlife above and below the water and poison it with droppings and urine. Meanwhile, let me know if you have a garden pond and when you see frogspawn in it. We can then begin to map its arrival over the village year on year.

by **Di Hancock**
Millenium Meadow Chair
07511230320
di.2013.hancock@gmail.com.



WEEKLY EVENTS

MON

Babies and Bouncers*
10.00am - Parish Hall

Rotary Club of Belper & Duffield
6.30pm for 7.00pm, The Lion Hotel, Belper. John Horwood 01773 853813

TUE

Traditional Prayer Service
9.15am - St Alkmunds Church

Seedlings Toddler Group*
9.30am - 11.30am
Emmanuel Community Church

Boys Brigade & Girls Association*
6.15 - 7.30pm, New members welcome.
£2.00. Ages 5-11. Baptist Church Hall.
01773 689983

CHAT (Come and Have Afternoon Tea)
Baptist Church 2.00 - 4.00pm
Various activities for all age groups.
Come and join us for tea and a chat!
Keith Powney 841736

Yoga Class
1pm - 2.15pm, £4.50.
Bring a mat and a blanket.
Julie 07817147167 or 01332 841661.
Methodist Church Hall, King Street

WED

Duffield Baby & Toddler Group*
10.00-11.30am
£3 per child & £1.50 for under 1s.
Methodist Church Hall, King Street

Bingo, Tea & Biscuits
2.00pm, Good Company.
Ecclesbourne Close Community Centre.

FRI

Duffield Singers
7.45 - 9.45pm
St. Margaret's Church, Hall Farm Road.

Twistin' Tots*
10.00-11.00am
Music and movement for under 5s.
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4.00 - 6.30pm (years 7-9)
7.00 - 9.30pm (years 10-13)
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MON-FRI

Coffee Morning
10.00am - 12noon
The Weston Centre. Coffee, tea and biscuits 50p, (refill 20p). Volunteers will ensure you are made welcome.

*term time only

MONTHLY CALENDAR FEBRUARY

3 Salt Café - 5.30pm at St Alkmunds Church Hall. For anybody at secondary school: chill with Pizza!
'Modern Idols' - 6.30pm at St Alkmunds Church
This month's subject is 'Leisure'. All welcome.
Messy Church - 10.30 - 11.15 Methodist Church Hall. Craft, Bible stories and lots of fun.

4 Songs of Praise.
Parish Hall from 2.00 - 2.30 pm
Followed by refreshments.

6 Appletree Carers' Forum
Duffield Surgery 1.00 - 2.30pm.
Computer Self-help Group
Methodist Church Hall, King Street 7.30pm
Mick Hardwick at mick@hardwickclan.co.uk.

8 Amber Painting Group
Demonstration of landscape painting in watercolours by Tim Rose. All welcome: £4 for non-members. 1.30 - 3.30 pm. Methodist Church Hall, King Street. jfraw364@gmail.com.

9 Family Fun Race Night - Duffield Parish Hall, St Alkmund's Church. The local Conservatives Group is arranging the races, the betting, the bar, and the Fish & Chip Supper. Contact Chris Short 07970741483 derbyshiresports11@virginmedia.com.
'Who Let the Dads Out'
Quality time for Dads with children 5 and under. Toys, crafts, stories, games, bacon butties, coffee, etc. 9.00am - 10.30am at the Baptist Church. £2.00.

11 Cards and Crafts
'Cards of Chocolates and Roses to Take Away' or do your own thing. Help and materials provided. No charge. Refreshments and a 'Thought for the Evening'. 7.15 - 9.15pm. The Baptist Church. For more information 01773 689983.

12 Duffield Cumberhills WI
Committee 'Caribbean Evening'. 7.30pm in the Sixth Form Centre, Ecclesbourne School, Park Road. Visitors welcome (call 840947 if interested).

15 Music at Duffield
7.30pm at Ecclesbourne School. See page 3.

18 Chevin Probus Club - 10.00am for 10.45. Lion Hotel Belper. Vernon Barns on 'Travelling Fairgrounds' followed by lunch in the bar. Further info. From Peter Robinson on 705554.

19 Duffield Afternoon WI - 1.30pm - 3.30pm
St Margaret's Church, Hall Farm Road, DE56 4FS.
'Life as a Traffic Cop'. For more information call Chris Jordan 882442, chrisinaddis@yahoo.co.uk.
Local Area Coordinator Nicky Mount
10.00am-noon, every third Tuesday. Drop in session at the Western Centre.

28 Community Lunch - 12.30pm
Emmanuel Community Church.
Transport is available - to book, call Lynda on 840821. All welcome. No charge.
Mid-Week Praise - 1.30 - 2.30pm
Emmanuel Community Church, Chapel Street.
All ages are welcome. Transport can be provided - call the ECC Church office on 841386.

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DUFFIELD PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT PARISH CLERK

A vacancy for an Assistant Parish Clerk has become available. The Council envisages the successful person will receive sufficient training so that they could develop into a qualified and professional Clerk.

Duffield Parish Council is responsible for maintaining the village Cemetery, Eyes Meadow and Gray Recreation Ground. The Council is committed to improving the lives of the residents of the Parish.

The Assistant Clerk will provide support to the Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer in carrying out all the functions required by law of a local authority's Proper Officer.

The Assistant Clerk's duties include:

- Assisting Parish Clerk with day to day management of the Parish Council's services, facilities and accounts.
- Keeping accurate records, including accounts, burial records, risk assessments, policies and procedures.
- Assisting with organising council events.

Closing Date: 5pm Monday 25 February 2019

Successful applicants will be shortlisted and invited for an interview in March.

Kath Gruber, Parish Clerk, Parish Office, Weston Centre, Tamworth Street, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 4ER,
Tel: 01332 842740, Mobile: 07595515154

The successful candidate should have:

- Good communication skills both written and verbal.
- Good IT skills
- An understanding of basic accounting processes.
- An ability to understand and interpret local government law.
- Ability to work alone and be self motivated.
- A relevant qualification (CiLCA) or the willingness to work towards achieving this.
- Knowledge of the area would also be an advantage.

The Assistant Clerk will be required to work 16 hours a week from the Parish Office. The Council hold their meetings on Wednesday evenings and the Assistant Clerk will be asked to attend as and when necessary. Training will be offered as appropriate and remuneration will be based on experience, but within the NALC Scale LC1/2 SCP 23 – 25: £11.275 per hour – £12.01 per hour. Pro-rata Holidays and pension scheme available.

For more information and application pack please download from the Council Website:

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Duffield Parish Council

Newsletter February 2019

Vacancy - Assistant Parish Clerk

The Parish Council is seeking an Assistant Parish Clerk (16 hours/week). The Council envisages the successful person will receive sufficient training so that they could develop into a qualified and professional Clerk.

To apply, please see the advert in this issue of the Duffield Scene or visit our website www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk for more information. The closing date for applications is 25 Feb 2019.

Litter Picking

The Parish Council would like to sincerely thank all those groups and individuals in the village who carry out litter picking on a voluntary basis. Your hard work is very much appreciated! We would like to remind residents that there is a small supply of litter pickers available at the Weston Centre for anyone who would like one.



Cockpit Lane Resurfacing

The Parish Council has agreed to continue with the resurfacing of Cockpit Lane (the path that runs from Town Street alongside the Doctors Surgery to Eyes Meadow). Part of the path nearest Town St was resurfaced last year. This work will begin as soon as possible and the Council hopes it will be completed by the end of February.



Commonwealth War Grave – Plaque

Thanks to the Commonwealth War Grave Commission, and the work of Duffield resident, David Zydzenowski, a plaque will be mounted at Duffield Cemetery to mark the nine Commonwealth War graves of local men who died in the World Wars. Four graves can be found in the Cemetery from WWI and five from WWII.

Parish Council meetings are open to the public to attend to listen or address the Council on any Parish issues. Correspondence from Parishioners is also reported to the meetings.

The next Parish Council **Full Council Meeting** will take place on **Wednesday 6th February** at 7:00pm at the Weston Centre. There is also a Cemetery committee meeting at the Hazelwood Road Cemetery (postponed from January) on the 13th February beginning at 7:00pm.

Agendas, Committee Reports and Minutes can be viewed on line at

www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Contacts

The Parish Office

The Weston Centre, Tamworth Street, Duffield, DE56 4ER.
Opening hours for public enquiries 10:30am - 12:30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Telephone 01332 842740. Email - clerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Cemetery

43 Hazelwood Road, Duffield.
For all Cemetery enquiries please email or telephone the Clerk on the number above or 07595 515154.

Borough Councillors

Chris Short - 01332 843781 and Steven Evanson - 01332 842333

County Councillor

Chris Short - 01332 843781. Email - chris.short@derbyshire.gov.uk



@DuffieldParCoun



Duffield Parish Council



www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

DUFFIELD & DISTRICT HERITAGE FEATURES – Weathervanes



Look up at the village skyline and you'll notice a whole range of weathervanes; some of whose origins may well surprise you. More accurately called wind-vanes they're probably the first instruments to provide some sense of wind direction; an important element in predicting the weather. However, without meteorological information people relied on their experience of the seasons, tradition and country wisdom for their best guess. Used since ancient times weathervanes have graced the steeples of grand cathedrals and the roofs of rustic barns; often as status symbols.

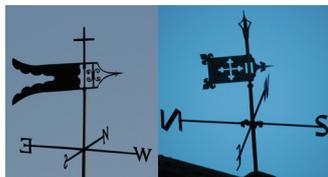
Wind direction has been important to merchant shipping fleets, armies, fishermen, farmers and the navy. So that senior officers were always aware of the wind direction when they met, the Admiralty had an early example of a 'remote' wind indicator in its boardroom! A similar indicator is contained within an ornate marble fireplace at Longleat in Wiltshire.

The oldest written reference from China, in 139 BC, describes "a wind-observing fan". Andronicus, a Greek astronomer built the first recorded weather vane for his **Horologium** (timepiece) known as the 'Tower of the Winds' in Athens; taking the form of a **bronze** Triton. Erected in 48 BC, this hexagonal marble tower stands below the Acropolis, although a version of it can be seen at Shugborough Hall (NT) in Staffordshire; built in

the 18thC. Bronze quadrant weather vanes, surmounted by an animal or creature from Norse fable, have been found among 9thC Viking ships' remains. Being malleable **copper** became the metal of choice for their construction, but also iron, steel and aluminium. Vanes fall into two categories; heraldic and representational.

Simple vanes consist of a rotating horizontal **arrow**, with its point, long shaft and 'fletching' (feathering) mounted on a rod, with letters indicating the **cardinal** points of the compass. Local examples are at Moscow Farm and Kirkstyles (pictured) on Wirksworth Road.

The word **vane** derives from Old English "fane", meaning "flag." In the middle-ages sailors fastened cloths to masts and archers used fabric pennant flags to gauge wind speed and direction. These inspired weathervane design for many years. An example of a '**pennant**' **banner** vane, with scrolls, stands above 'Old Walls' on Wirksworth Road; saved by the late Dr Bruzard when stables to the adjoining Gervase House were demolished in the 1960's. A '**heraldic**' **banner** vane with fleur-de-lys surmounts a cottage on Eaton Bank.



In the 9th Century a **Papal Decree**, by Pope Nicholas I, stated that every church in Christendom must display, at its highest point, the emblem of St Peter, the cockerel; recalling Peter's betrayal of Christ, and a symbol of vigilance. It became a popular icon in the belief that a weathercock watching over a graveyard would keep the ghosts of the dead contained! The oldest surviving weathercock, made in 820, is in the Museum di Santa Giulia in Brescia, Lombardy. The Bayeux Tapestry shows

a weathercock being placed on the newly constructed Westminster Abbey.



A weathercock at Ottery St Mary's Church in Devon is thought to be the oldest in England. Dating from about 1340, its tail had to be restored after Cromwell's troops used it for target practice! Locally, the cockerel on St Oswald's Church in Ashbourne shows similar musket damage. Moreover, Ottery's was once a '**whistling**' weathercock with two tube-like holes, so the stronger the wind blew the louder it whistled, thereby creating a crowing effect! For the sanity of the villagers the holes are now blocked off. St Alkmund's Church has a splendid example of a gilded weathercock installed in 1719 by the famous Derby ironsmith **Robert Bakewell**.



Varying the representational theme, the Scales of Justice on Courthouse Farm provide evidence of that location for enforcing relevant forest laws within Duffield Frith, while the owl on a cottage at Church Walk should help keep the vermin down!



The cat and mouse at The Park on Tamworth Street is a popular subject, and given the release of the new Mary

Poppins film, the recent installation of this whimsical vane is timely. It can be seen from the footpath between The Glen and Holloway Road.



Friends of the owner of a house on Tamworth Street, sporting this fox and weasel vane, actually refer to each other as weasels; quaintly in terms both of affection and derision!



When the owner of 125 Hazelwood Road announced ambitious plans for extending his home the unanimous observation was, "*pigs might fly*"; the project completed successfully his response is now 'flying' above his clock tower.



Someone at Peckwash Mill clearly supports Derby County, while a huntsman can be seen on the footpath from Wirksworth Road to Cumberhills. Visible from Duffield Castle on a summerhouse is our own sailing ship weathervane, made in Norfolk by a handyman-entirely from reclaimed plumbing materials! No prizes for guessing where to locate the men in baggy plus-fours; once the height of golfing fashion.



Three weathervanes claim to be the world's largest. One is a schooner (48ft tall, 14 ft. long, weighing 2 tons) in Montague's, Michigan,

USA, one a Douglas DC-3 airplane erected at the Yukon Transportation Museum in Canada, while the Tío Pepe wind vane in Jerez holds

the Guinness world record for the largest wind vane that works. It seems the jury is out! England's largest is Guildford's Angel. Gilded and measuring 15ft tall it weighs nearly a ton, but perhaps the most famous is that of 'Father Time' at Lords Cricket Ground.

running fox on Avenue Road, and on Hazelwood Road a cockerel, an arrow and even a shoe (associated with footwear retailing)! Belper's North Mill visitor centre has a curvaceous leg-shaped vane from a former hosiery factory, while the Strutt's Community Centre displays a knight's helmet.

So, next time you're out and about, look up. You'll also see a horse on Wirksworth Road, a cat on Duffield Bank, a squirrel on Sunny Hill, a Gloster Javelin jet below the Chevin, a

Apparently the term weathervane is also American slang for a politician who has frequent changes of opinion!

by **Robert Reid**



DUFFIELD LIBRARY NEWS FOR FEBRUARY

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.

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.

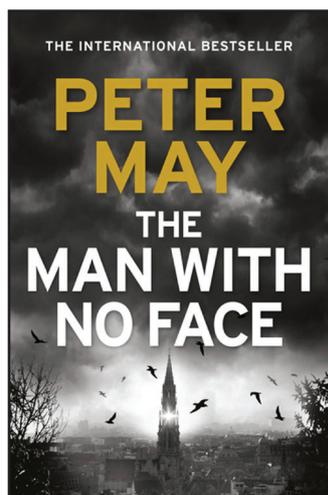
Our usual **storytime** sessions continue on **Fridays** at the usual time of **11am** for half an hour of stories and simple crafts for pre-school children and their carers. Just call in, no pre-booking is required. Steve is relaunching our monthly craft sessions on Saturday mornings which begin on **2 February** at 10.30am with crafts on a Chinese theme. As before, these are drop in and suitable for families.

We also have a free stories and craft session on **Monday 18 February** at **2.30pm**, again on a theme of the Chinese New Year of the Pig. This is a bookable session, please call in or phone the library on **01629 533919** to book a place.

Jessie's monthly themes are vegan cooking and wellbeing and finding joy in life. Please call in to have a look and all books in the displays are available to take out.

A few months ago *Forty Autumns* by Nina Willner was recommended to me as a good read. As we don't have a copy in Duffield I requested it into the library which arrived shortly after Christmas. This story tells of three generations of one family-mothers, sisters, daughters and cousins-separated at the end of World War 2 by forty years of Soviet rule and reunited after the fall of the Berlin Wall. The family history was fascinating and vividly brought to life many accounts of courage and survival. I thought the telling of their story within the framework of history was an interesting way to set out the book and this was emphasised by family photographs interspersed with historical photos. If this period of history interests you then I recommend this book. I have kept the copy in our library.

New books arriving in the library this month include *The*



Man with No Face by Peter May. A revision of a novel originally written in 1979, this story is still relevant today. Journalist Neil Bannerman is despatched to Brussels to find 'some good stuff on the EEC...Corruption, fraud, political back-stabbing', while there becomes embroiled in a double murder and conspiracy. Described as a prescient thriller played out against the backdrop of a city and a continent on the cusp of political chaos, this novel is entertaining, tense and suspenseful. It's definitely on my reading list for this month. In non-fiction format we have

received paperback copies of *When to Jump* by Mike Lewis, described as a must read of anyone seeking not only to succeed but thrive, this book will help you make your jump to changing your career and life. *A Good Face for Radio* by Eddie Mair, is a very amusing set of anecdotal observations on life, taken from his Radio Times diaries and make for an entertaining read. We have also received a copy of *As I Walked out One Midsummer Morning*, by Laurie Lee, recounting his travels to Spain in 1934. A beautifully written book and can be found in our classic section. In fiction we have received paper back copies of *Girl on Fire* by Tony Parsons, described as a tense and brilliant novel with eye-widening twists, this is the latest in the series featuring DC Max Wolfe. *The Ice House* by Laura Lee Smith is a multifaceted family drama centred on a family in crisis and described as a steadily engrossing and truly memorable story of self-discovery.

Happy Reading
Carole-Ann and the team

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE VILLAGE

The Duffield Community Association is currently communicating with existing Household members and Affiliate Organisations to renew their subscriptions for 2019. At the same time, we are looking for **new members** to support the village by way of an annual subscription.

We need more members to get actively involved with the DCA; to come along to our meetings with new ideas; or to volunteer to help at the Duffield Carnival; with the Christmas decorations; planting of bulbs. For yet another year, subscriptions remain unchanged at: Individuals £3.00, Senior Citizen Households £3.00, Families £5.00 and Affiliate Organisations £9.00. To subscribe, fill in the form on the right, or contact Sally on 840334.

So what are your subscriptions used for?

Here are some examples:

- We of course host the

well established **Duffield Carnival**. Largely self-funded but very much dependant on the goodwill of volunteers.

- We maintain **Wirksworth Road Corner** and in 2019, along with the Parish Council, are further upgrading the area with the objectives of improving it further and of tackling Anti Social Behaviour which is spoiling this lovely feature of our village.
- Our volunteers work hard decorating the village with **Christmas trees and lights**
- We pay for the provision and maintenance of **plants and flowers** in the village. In 2019 we plan to plant more bulbs in the grass verges; and in conjunction with the Parish Council to introduce planters at strategic points.
- We are in the process of developing **Chapel Street Corner**, to include a **village information board**. We are looking for additional



funding for this so your membership fees really do matter.

- We support organisations that together, provide **activities for Duffield residents of all ages and interests**.

In 2018, our donations included: to Silver Leaves supporting their Christmas lunch for the elderly; to Ecclesbourne Rangers, for a tent for the outbound activities for teenage girls; to the Arts Festival, which successfully provides activities for all ages;

to the EVR which brings visitors to Duffield and in turn boosts the businesses on the high street.

In 2019, we are already hoping to support: Duffield pre-school and therefore the youngest members of our community; the Baptist Church in improving its facilities used by a number of village organisations; and Music at Duffield for the music lovers in the village.

Please support our work by returning the form and becoming a member of the DCA.

DCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Individuals: £3 a year

Senior Citizen households: £3 a year

Families: £5 a year

Organisations: £9 a year

Name:

Address:

.....

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Please make cheques payable to Duffield Community Association and return with the form above to: Sally Lloyd, 3 Duck Island, Duffield. DE56 4EZ.

Please state your name, address and which membership option you are applying for. Thank you in advance ☺



INCREASE YOUR PROPERTY RENTAL INCOME

Top Tips to Increase the Rental Income From Your Property Investment...

Once you become a Landlord (whether intentionally or by default), you will want to get the very best return from your investment.

1. AM I BUYING IN THE BEST LOCATION

Buying cheaper properties is always appealing – we have all seen Homes Under the Hammer and many of us have drooled at local auctions but not been quite brave enough to raise a hand! The value of a property can be driven by demand as well as supply. Buying a one bedroom apartment in an area such as Duffield may not be the best idea. Most tenant enquiries we receive are from families wanting to educate their children at the popular village schools. I would always recommend buying at least a two bedroom property ... if you can stretch to a three/ four bedroom – you'll have

a queue of potential tenants wanting to view.

2. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

This can be tricky when you do not live close to your investment. This is when a good property management company can be invaluable. Ensure that you have a repairing obligation put into your tenancy agreement and regularly visits are agreed. If you employ a property management company - they will conduct the quarterly visits to your tenants on your behalf. If you are looking after the property yourself – you should diarise quarterly visits and evidence them with a report noting down any issues and ensure it is signed by yourself and your tenants. A regularly maintained property will help you to keep your tenants for longer.

3. PROFESSIONAL GARDENER INCLUDED IN THE RENT

If your investment property has a large or complex garden, you might want to consider employing a gardener to keep it in check. Your tenant may be delighted but you can't expect a tenant to enjoy maintaining the garden as if it were their own. Employing a regular gardener will help to keep your property in a good state and also make the property more enjoyable to live in. Many tenants will be willing to pay a little extra for a garden that is well maintained without the need for them to buy a lawn mower, a rake and fertiliser for the roses!

4. MAINTAIN A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR TENANT

The biggest cost to any Landlord is usually rental voids. An empty property will still need to be maintained, managed and insured (shortly followed by the council tax!) Maintaining a good relationship with your tenant will enable you to have sensible



conversations with them about rent reviews, quarterly visits and maintenance visits. A happy long-term tenant means retaining and maximising rental income.

At Derbyshire Relocations, we manage properties on behalf of our clients, taking away a large part of the hassle and ensuring that all your legal obligations are properly met. We also operate a tenant-find service and are able to help if you are looking to sell your home.

Contact us on **07941 583804** for an informal chat or email us at hello@derbyshirerelocationsonline.co.uk. We are here to help.



Chevin Golf Club Golf Lane, Duffield

No joining fee at present

<i>Full Member 7 Day</i>	<i>£1136</i>
<i>Full Member 6 Day</i>	<i>£970</i>
<i>Intermediate aged 31-35</i>	<i>£612</i>
<i>Intermediate aged 26-30</i>	<i>£425</i>
<i>Intermediate aged 22-25</i>	<i>£284</i>
<i>Intermediate aged 19-21</i>	<i>£120</i>
<i>Junior 15 - 18</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>Junior up to 14</i>	<i>£66</i>
<i>Sunday Only</i>	<i>£353</i>
<i>Social</i>	<i>£52</i>



MILLIE'S BOSTON SQUASH WIN



World number 25 Millie Tomlinson won an unprecedented fifth consecutive Boston Open title at Boston Squash and Racketball Club in December, a feat only matched by Lincolnshire's former world #4 Tania Bailey. In November Millie beat world #12 and eight-time world champion Nicol David in Hong Kong - probably the biggest win of her career. She was joined as a champion by fellow top seed and world 49 Nathan Lake. Nathan

won 13/11, 11/5, 11/5 in 39 minutes to win his first Boston Open title. The women's final was the most competitive since 2015. Haley Mendez can count herself hard done by not to have taken at least a set, after losing a cracking and constantly close first game 19/17 despite having multiple gameballs herself. Losing such an extraordinary first set appeared to take the wind out of the American's sails as Millie went on to win 19/17, 11/3, 11/3 in 36 minutes.

Springwood House Residential Care Home

Duffield Bank, Duffield, Derbyshire DE56 4BG



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email: springwoodhouse@gmail.com

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Bluebird Care



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Email the Bluebird Care team to find out more about our home care service:
ambervalley@bluebirdcare.co.uk
or call us on 01773 880055

bluebirdcare.co.uk/amber-valley