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KEY UP MI DuCS – TIME TO PULL TOGETHER

Duffield is a village with a strong spirit of community, and that spirit will be needed as the coronavirus pandemic develops. Many people will be isolated at home, and the village is gearing up to help them.

The government has issued recommendations about self-isolation and social distancing. The aim is to protect the vulnerable, and to protect us all by ensuring that the NHS is not overwhelmed. It is important that Duffield residents do not break their isolation in order to meet their needs.



Most help will need to come from friends and neighbours. Many clubs will seek to find new ways to stay in touch with

their members. Some streets are ringing round regularly to check their neighbours are OK. Some are posting cards to

their neighbours offering help. These are wonderful things to do, because contact from a friend is easy and problems can be best sorted out that way.

However some older people only have friends of their own age. The Weston Centre* exists to protect older people from the effects of isolation. It has a strong interest in ensuring that a safety net is in place in these difficult times. Many other organisations in the village have offered their support in building that safety net. ... continued on page 5.

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NEWS FROM CHRIS SHORT LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Derbyshire Climate Change
Derbyshire County Council (D.C.C.) held a conference at its headquarters recently entitled "Tackling Climate Change Together". It was attended by a large selection of interested parties including groups from industry, politicians, a large range of community groups including younger members of society.

The intention of the daylong event was to bring active partners and interested groups together to hear about current climate reduction strategies at D.C.C. and to contribute their own thoughts and suggestions in a suitable forum.

D.C.C. took the responsibility of the lead partner in this meeting because of their widely acclaimed CO2 reduction strategy which is being used as a base to reduce emissions in our County and recently had 4 million pounds approved to support its progress.

D.C.C. displayed its new fleet of electric vehicles including cars and bikes and a market place was available for attendees to visit during the day to

discuss new innovation and opportunities for CO2 reduction with manufacturers directly.

The Leader of D.C.C., Councillor Barry Lewis gave a forward thinking and positive statement about Derbyshire's Climate Future and has decided that as a result of a proposal from myself he would like to carry out a series of roadshows around Derbyshire detailing how climate change is evolving as a result of D.C.C.'s strategy. I was delighted to hear that the first of the roadshows, the meeting for Amber Valley, would take place in Duffield in recognition of my active role in this matter.

Finally, I would just like to mention the junior speakers at the conference who were exceptional. One of whom, Alex McDermott, a pupil from Ecclesbourne School, held a room full of over 300 people enthralled with his statements.

Amber Valley Borough Council Financial Shortfalls

I understand many of you are concerned about stories you have heard from numerous sources including newspapers and radio that A.V.B.C. are



D.C.C. Leader Barry Lewis, Alex McDermott & Cllr Chris Short

facing bankruptcy. I would just like to clarify the situation.

On the 2nd March a full council meeting was held at A.V.B.C. One of the items discussed was 10a) The General Fund Revenue Budget Requirement 20/21.

In the report 2020/23 the following is declared in paragraph 6.5 in the report Adequacy of Reserves that based upon the proposal. The projected revenue budget for the three years 20/21, 21/22 and 22/23 show that the 5% minimum General Fund Reserve can only be achieved for one of the three years.

It should be noted that Conservative members did not support this proposal. However Labour did support the proposal and although your Green

Councillor Dave Wells stated he had problems with the financial strategy, especially a 20% reduction in the Environment budget, he supported Labour's vote.

Duffield Defibrillator Cheque

I am pleased to announce that I have obtained the funding for £1700 for another defibrillator and I will hand it to Duffield Community Association shortly.

Statement Clarification

Further to my article in the last edition, I would like to correct two of the points. It was not Labour's request that the waste contract discussions and vote take place behind closed doors, this was on the recommendation of officers and approved by the council because there was a likelihood of disclosing confidential business information. I have also been assured by officers that the correct tendering process was followed.

by **Chris Short**

Duffield Village Resident
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EY UP MI DuCS – TIME TO PULL TOGETHER

From the cover...

Duffield Coronavirus Support (DuCS) is the result of that collaboration.

The first fruit of that collaboration is the DuCS Facebook group. This is a private group, so you have to apply to join, but that is easy to do. The main aim of the group is to understand needs and allow others in the village to offer their support directly. Its use is general, not just for older people.

Since many people do not use Facebook, DuCS has also started to distribute leaflets in some parts of the village offering support.

The DuCS logo pictured here is designed to build a clear identity for the organisation so that people know that they can trust the volunteers. DuCS volunteers need to operate in a consistent and predictable manner to build that trust.

Obviously the users of the centre are now isolated, so the Centre has arranged a number that they can ring for a chat and to talk through their concerns. That number is 01773 297046. The Centre will arrange for a local volunteer or one of their normal hosts to be

on that line every morning between 9 and 12.

As of 23rd March, when this was written, DuCS had just tested a shopping service for older people which has two contact numbers, 01332 840349 and 07730 518121. Initially those phones are being staffed on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 9 and 12. The future of this service will depend on need, government restrictions, and availability of supplies. The intent is just to deliver urgent requirements, but even if orders cannot be completed, simply understanding the need will be useful.

For most of us, the first choice should be to arrange delivery by a local business. There may however be some needs that can't be met that way. The telephone volunteers will try to understand the need and other volunteers will seek to meet it.

A significant issue for any service provided to an older person is that they are rightly afraid of strangers. It takes time to build trust, but it can be destroyed very quickly. DuCS therefore needs to ensure that its volunteers operate to a

consistent standard. A major focus is to develop simple operating rules that will protect everyone from risk and build trust.

The team are looking into options that will avoid payment up front, since that can build suspicion and brings a risk of virus transfer. Some people may run out of cash, since they can't get to the Post Office or ATM. Others may be in financial difficulties. DuCS may set up a fund so that they have the option of buying food stocks and distributing them without demanding immediate payment.

Given the nature of this crisis it is hard to plan precisely, but volunteers will almost certainly be required. At present the Weston Centre is trying to understand what skills volunteers can offer. Sarah Brooksby at the Weston Centre is generating that list of volunteers. To join go to the Weston Centre website or, in case of problems email sarah.sdm@westoncentre.org.uk

The more volunteers we have, the greater our ability to address issues quickly. If you volunteer be patient. This crisis has a long way to go.



The Weston Centre

New requirements will almost certainly arise. Many volunteers will need to self-isolate at some point. So if you are not needed at once please don't feel dispirited. The Trustees of the Weston Centre and everyone involved in DuCS are very grateful for your offer.

* The RJ Weston Duffield Charity operates the Weston Centre.

The cover picture was taken at the Weston Centre in better times. Some in the picture are volunteers who have for many years provided lunches for older people at the Centre. Others are users of the Centre and are now isolated.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT DUFFIELD?

This was the question asked many weeks ago to the children of Duffield Meadows Primary school by the Headteacher Mrs Novak-Lemmings in preparation for their participation in 'Good Neighbour' week which had to be cancelled due to coronavirus. I had considered my views for the 'library event' and included four features of community life. Carol-Ann Howard and her team (as of the time of writing) richly deserve merit for meeting the needs of all library users. The Ecclesbourne Valley Railway, something of a tourist attraction, succeeds due to volunteer dedication and 'Carols on the Train' is a good example of a special event that is well supported. Whether



it is reference to local media coverage or guides and 'league tables' of performance, local schools are highly commended which justifies inclusion. I refer to the 'Scarecrow Trail', finally, as it offers much pleasure to all generations, and how excellent many of those scarecrows have been! School pupils Robyn Preston,

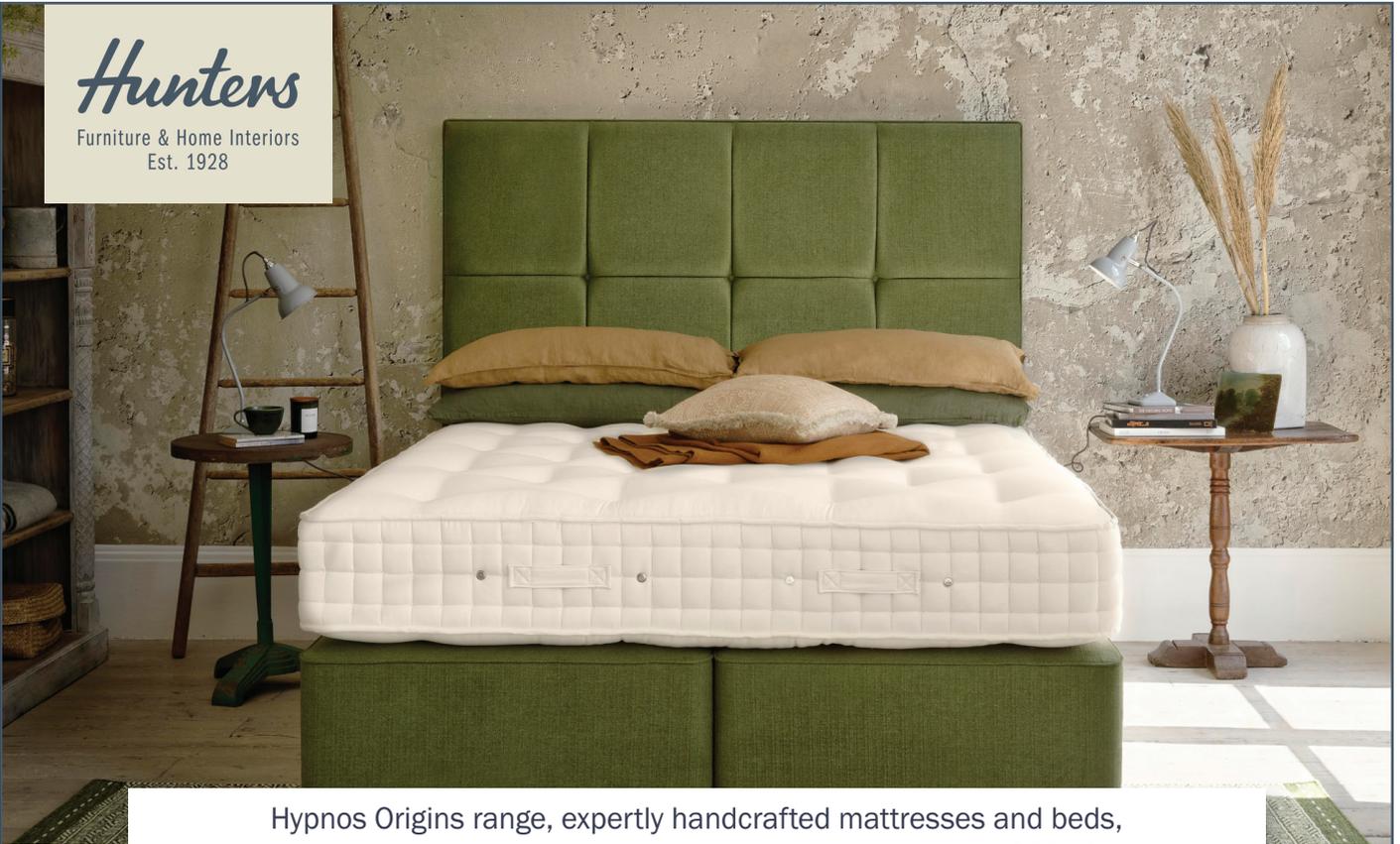
Lily Henman, Ava Ford and James Singleton had their own ideas conveyed in poems and prose. They were impressed by Godfrey's ('particularly for coffee and pancakes'), award-winning Croots Farm Shop and Café offered fine lunches ('food of high quality and homemade'). Further the recreation facilities and play

areas satisfied out-door pursuits ('even when broken they were mended quickly') and the Duffield Carnival was always most enjoyable ('something to look forward to'). Whilst reflecting on what is good in Duffield, we all agreed that residents really value one aspect of their life outside the village. To celebrate this notion we sang 'Summer Holiday', first released in June 1963 by Sir Cliff Richard and the Shadows. So Duffield has many qualities but equally, for the majority of people, there is a strong desire to go 'where the sun shines brightly' and 'the sea is blue.'

Pictured are Mrs Novak-Lemmings, Paul Wiggins and pupils from Duffield Meadows Primary School.

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THE CHANGING SEASONS ON THE MEADOW

I cannot stop scratching once it has happened. It itches and itches and I seem to attract the little blighters to bite me over and over again. One night when I was in Thailand, I accidentally trapped a mosquito in my otherwise carefully done up shirt and had a pattern of over 20 raised bumps across my shoulder the following day which itched and itched - and which I scratched and scratched. The ones that bite on the eyebrow are the worst - the swelling means you are constantly aware of where you scratched without realizing it in the night!

Even though the insect is much smaller, midge bites are also bad for me. Like mosquitos they home in on sources of CO2 and our warm breath is very attractive as it indicates a food source - namely us and our blood.

So are we safe from these histamine reactions in the winter in the UK? Mostly we are, as the biting insects are usually around in warmer weather - unlike the winter flying gnat that fortunately feeds on decaying organic matter.

Glistening in the crisp, low sunshine on a clear winters day you will see flies dancing around like nocturnal will'o-the-wisps. *Winter gnats* or winter craneflies are the long legged, swarm forming, flies of the cold.

This is a small family, formally called *Trichoceridae*, with only 10 species occurring in the UK from just two genera (although it is thought that there maybe up to 14 species). They very much resemble delicate craneflies, but these species have the advantage of having ocelli. These are the very small simple 'eyes' (ocelli means simple eyes) on the apex of the head that are very sensitive to light, presumably being very helpful in the dark days of winter.

Another distinctive feature

are the groups of bristles that occur across the head The females are generally larger than the males, a rather common phenomenon as she has to have enough reserves to produce eggs, but the average body length is fairly small, reaching lengths of just 5 to 8mm.

Most common is *T. Annulata* and as with all of the species, swarms consist mostly of males; easily recognisable by a pair of forceps at the end of the abdomen - all the better for grabbing onto the female - whereas she has a tapered abdomen with a rather splendid curved ovipositor (her egg laying tube). The adults can be short lived - some adults have been noted to live only five days - that's a lot of pressure on them to find a mate and produce offspring!

The females of this species

can endure quite hardy conditions; females have been observed crunching across the surface of snow, and the larvae and pupae can happily survive snuggled under the surface of this snow blanket.

There are four larval stages called instars and they feed on decaying organic material.

Relieved not to have to fear this small swarm of dancing flies, the sunshine threw tree shadows throughout the undergrowth in the copses and highlighted the beautiful bracket fungus on the small dead oak tree. Clothed in small, beautifully coloured frills from top to bottom, they merited a closer look, as the rings of colour are only really obvious in close up.

Trametes versicolor is a common polypore mushroom whose name refers to "of

several colours" and is commonly known as *Turkey Tail*. There are concentric zones of different colours - brown, purple and green due to algae - and the fungi grow in tiled layers - with a range of sizes from tiny young specimens to the larger, almost triangular more mature ones that are a few mm thick with flat, mature caps approximately 8x5 cm across. They are eaten by some caterpillars and also by the maggots of the *Platypezid* fly and the fungus gnat *Mycetophila luctuosa*.

These beautiful growths are one reason why we leave dead standing wood wherever we can in the copses and why it is important to go SLOWLY around the reserve if possible and to look closely. When examined carefully, many seemingly common and straightforward things reveal a beauty and complexity of which we are mostly unaware in the rush and bustle of our everyday life.

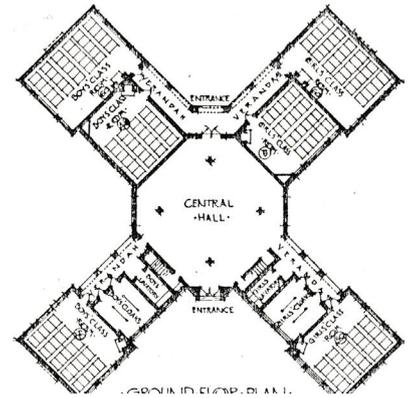
Please take note of the new nest and bat boxes made for us by a local scout and his troop with wood provided free by Hingleys wood yard. The birds are certainly seeking out nesting sites and we hope these might find favour - thanks to Rhys and his friends. We are all worried about the coronavirus so why not make the most of any dry days by going for a gentle stroll around the Meadow where you can see friends and neighbours safely away from crowded places. I will wave to you from a distance - I am in self-isolation/ social distancing myself to protect my vulnerable husband.

Enjoy the blossom appearing on the trees and the longer and hopefully, warmer days. Look after each other everyone.

by **Di Hancock**
Chair; Duffield Millennium
Meadow Conservation Trust
07511230320



HERITAGE FEATURES – ARTS & CRAFTS BUILDINGS



Early in the 20th Century a pioneering architect lived for 19 years in a house of his own design on Hazelwood Road. This was George Henry Widdows whose sons Bernard and Wystan also became architects and whose grandson David, formerly a Chartered Quantity Surveyor, currently resides in the village. George Widdows became Derbyshire's County Architect from 1910 and by the time he retired in 1936, he had designed over sixty elementary and seventeen secondary schools; many now 'Listed' as of Architectural and Historic Interest.

George Widdows (1871-1946) is renowned for his ground-breaking work on

school building design, being a leading exponent of the 'Healthy Schools Crusade' from 1902-14. This eventually persuaded the Board of Education of the need for greater hygiene including improved natural light, heating and ventilation. Out went the old style Victorian Board School with 'central hall' plan in favour of a 'pavilion' style, already widely used in hospital design based on guidelines advocated by Florence Nightingale. A prime example is this 'cruciform' design seen, here in plan form and bird's-eye view, at Wirksworth Primary School built in 1912. Personally, I can vouch for the quality of his architecture having attended Long Row Primary School in Belper where the boys 'wing' nestling

below the great East Mill was classic 'Widdows'. His revolutionary innovations ensured classrooms were naturally well lit from extensive glazing, cross-ventilated by hopper-type windows, warmed by under floor heating and some with open verandahs; useful for fresh air even in inclement weather.

Since these schools were designed during the height of the British Empire some had corridors running the length of the school and known as 'marching corridors'. At 13ft wide these, and verandahs, were just wide enough to enable two boys, side by side, to perform extended drill without knocking the walls or one another's knuckles. My only experience of marching was along the verandah into the headmaster's office to be reprimanded for fighting in the playground!

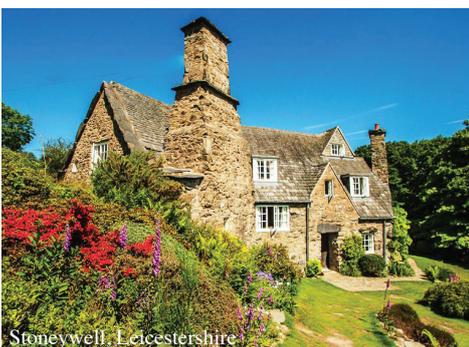
Widdows' architecture had clearly been influenced by the design movement that became known as Arts and Crafts (A&C) begun in the late 19thC; a style that urged for a return to craftsmanship and spurned industrialisation. It was an influential movement which attempted to re-establish those skills threatened by mass production and extended into

the decorative arts of ceramics, textiles, metalwork, furniture and wallpaper.

Its founding father was designer-cum-poet, William Morris who was inspired by the art critic John Ruskin who decried the monotony of factory production and the deskilling of the individual worker, which destroyed any natural creativity. The movement was also influenced by the 'Gothic revival' work of Augustus Welby Pugin. The solution lay in medieval architecture with its rich variety of ornament, embodying individual craft skills lost through the copying of standard forms, and in 1861 Morris set out to promote these ideals.

A&C had a significant impact on **architecture** and leading exponents included Philip Webb, Charles Voysey, William Lethaby and the great Edwin Lutyens. An A&C building is defined by clarity of form and structure, a variety of local materials, asymmetry, traditional architectural detailing and decoration. Simplicity of design, loving craftsmanship and artisans schooled in tradition was the order of the day.

An outstanding example built in 1899 is *Stoneywell* in Ulverscroft,





Leicestershire (NT) by Ernest Gimson; described by art critic Nikolaus Pevsner as “the greatest of the English architect-designers”. The house is well worth visiting and contains original furniture and detailing like this wooden door latch utilising a simple pull-cord.

Ladycroft, frontage to Hazelwood Road Ladycroft, garden elevation ‘Ladycroft’, the house on Hazelwood Road that George Widdows designed for himself in 1905 shows the essence of A&C style with deeply recessed ‘cambered’ entrance porch, circular, mullioned, and ‘canted’ bay windows, gabled and flat roofed dormers and covered balcony.

The interior has references to medieval timber framing with baluster shafts to staircase and landing carved with a motif similar to the trade-mark of renowned Scottish architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Original leaded-light windows utilize ‘organic’ wrought (‘worked’) iron latches and

stays, while the front door has a pair of diamond ‘lozenge’ windows, nail heads and long iron strap hinges. George was a Christian lay preacher and what is now an upstairs bathroom was originally a chapel; a characteristic of all his three homes.

Whilst Windows’ schools and houses are pure A&C a number of dwellings in Duffield exhibit all the hallmarks of the style. Castle Hill House (c1890) on Vicarage Lane and Kirkstyles on Wirksworth Road show extensive areas of decorative clay tile-hanging, sculpted ridge tiles, and tall imposing brick chimney stacks; the latter with timber-framed gable and pyramidal roofed tower.

The movement declined in England after 1900 but the style remained popular for at least three decades including industrial worker’s estates at Bournville (Cadbury/chocolate) and Port Sunlight (Lever/soap) and was adopted for garden cities and suburbs. There are many examples of

A&C throughout Duffield from the late Victorian, through the Edwardian period and into the 20th Century. I’m almost spoilt for choice to select examples but perhaps the most evocative of this later style are a distinctive group of houses on Wirksworth Road built in the early 1920’s with steeply pitched low-slung red clay tiled roofs, white painted render, brick window ‘dressings’ and stained glass. The entrance detail and front door to North Lodge on Hazelwood Road is exquisitely detailed including the use of wrought iron bracket and stained glass, while at the corner of Avenue Road and Lime Avenue you’ll find a

terra cotta plaque. Although re-built in the mid to late 1930’s the Bridge Inn (formerly the Bull’s Head) and The White Hart exhibit similar A&C detailing including local stone, mullioned windows, and exceptionally tall chimneys – both designed by Bernard Widdows. The 1901 Strutt Arms in Milford shows a characteristic sloping buttress. Glimpses of the A&C movement continue even today so, in addition to the current trend for minimalist modern ‘boxes’, let’s hear it for more houses with the style and character of the Arts and Crafts era – with or without a chapel!

by Robert Reid

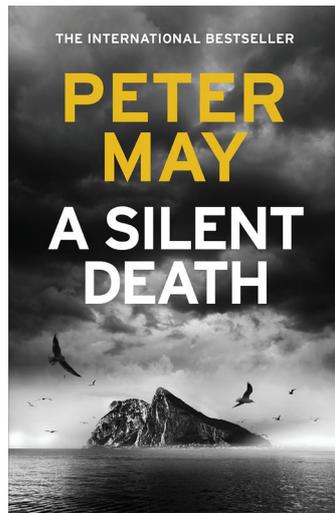


DUFFIELD LIBRARY NEWS FOR APRIL

The library is closed until further notice due to coronavirus. Staff are working in the building and can be reached by phone on 01629 533919 if we can help.

During the closure we continue 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.

I have recently read **A Silent Death** by Peter May, another of my favourite authors. Set in southern Spain this novel features ex-pat fugitive Jack Cleland who watches his girlfriend die, gunned down in a pursuit involving officer Cristina Sanchez Pradell. He promises to exact his revenge by destroying the policewoman. Cristina's aunt Ana has been deaf-blind for the entirety of her adult life:



the victim of a rare condition named Usher Syndrome. Ana is the centre of Cristina's world - and of Cleland's cruel plan. John Mackenzie - an ingenious yet irascible Glaswegian investigator - is seconded to aid the Spanish authorities in their manhunt. He alone can silence Cleland before the fugitive has the last, bloody, word.

A terrific thriller which will not disappoint.

When we reopen our new opening hours will be-
Monday 9.30-1

Wednesday 2-7

Friday 9.30-1 2-5

Saturday 9.30-12.30

Recently published titles include a paperback copy of **Gone** by Leona Deakin. Four strangers are missing with only a birthday card which reads: Your gift is the game. Dare to Play? The police aren't worried- it's just a game but the families are frantic. Private detective Dr Augusta Bloom delves into the lives of the missing people and finds something that binds them all and that something makes them very dangerous indeed. A real page turner with twists galore. Frances Fyfield's **Shadows on the Mirror**, the first story featuring Sarah Fortune has been republished. Sarah is bored to death-but

few know and less would guess. When she meets Charles Tysall, an important client, she is faced with a man with an implacable will. In non-fiction we have received a copy of **Between Charnwood and the Chevin** by Brenda Ray. This memoir of growing up in Derbyshire just after the Second World War is a delight full of warmth and humour as the author looks back occasionally in anger but more often in laughter. **Sword of Justice** by Christian Cameron is set in Europe in 1367 as the continent stands on the brink of war. Alliances are beginning to rupture and no state is immune. Sir William Gold has other problems as he attempts to capture Europe's most unassailable fortress. He must trust in hope and that he lands on the winning side.

Happy reading
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Duffield Parish Council

Newsletter April 2020

Coronavirus Information

The unprecedented Coronavirus/Covid-19 outbreak has meant changes have had to be made to Parish Council and other local activities and we hope that the following information will prove helpful. This information may have changed by the time of publication; we will issue updates via our website, duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk and social media (Facebook and Twitter) so please save them as your favourites if you can.

Office Closure: Parish Council staff will be working as usual, but please note that the office at Cemetery Lodge is currently closed for face-to-face public enquiries to help protect visitors and staff and that our office staff will be mainly working from home until government advice changes. To contact the Parish Council for now, call the Clerk, Kath Gruber on 07595 515154 or email clerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Council Meetings: The Clerk has initially set up a facility via Cisco Webex, where meetings will be held, but not as a public gathering. Members of the public can join the meeting too. The 1 April Full Council meeting is likely to be held this way. Please check our website to find out more details on how to join in.

Due to the timing of the publication of the Scene, the next Full Council meeting, held on 6 May, may still be held in the Weston Centre, but please check our website for venue details.

Duffield Coronavirus Support group (DuCS) has been formed to provide support to those elderly and vulnerable in the community who need it, and there has been a good response to a request for volunteers to help. For more information, if you need support or to add your name to the list of volunteers contact sarah.sdm@westoncentre.org.uk or follow Duffield Coronavirus Support (DuCS) on Facebook which will be posting regular updates.

Outdoor Theatre 22 July 2020

The theatre company who were to hold our first outdoor theatre event have cancelled this year's productions due to the Coronavirus outbreak. We hope to hold this in future years.

"Movies in the Meadow": Film night at Eyes Meadow 11th September 2020

At the moment this event will still take place. The Greatest Showman will be the film shown.

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.

Forthcoming meetings: **Annual General Meeting and Full Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6 May at 7pm. Please check our website for latest information on venue or remote access details.** All are welcome to attend.

Meeting Agendas and Minutes can be viewed online at www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Contacts

The Parish Office

Cemetery Lodge, 43 Hazelwood Road, Duffield, Belper DE56 4DQ.
Opening hours for public enquiries Monday & Tuesday 10:30am-12:30pm, Wednesday 2-4pm.
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 Dave Wells - 01773 821982

County Councillor

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



@DuffieldParCoun



Duffield Parish Council



www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

GOLF CLUB FASHION SHOW



Ladies Captain, Lynn Rumley held her Spring Coffee morning on March 4th in the club house. It was attended by about 60 ladies who enjoyed a fashion show given by Glenmuir, Manufacturers of high quality golf and leisure wear. Ladies Chairman Sue Cullen, and members Dawn Gray and Hilary Barton modelled some lovely outfits for golf and outfits suitable for leisure and holiday wear.

The aim of the morning besides showing some lovely outfits was to raise money for

Lynn's nominated charity this year, "Music Matters Appeal" on behalf of Alfreton Park Community Special School. The school is raising money to provide musical instruments for use by the children in their new outdoor sensory garden. As well as ticket sales a further £230 was raised on the day by selling raffle tickets; the first prize being a voucher donated by Glenmuir for £50. A very enjoyable morning was had by all who attended and importantly a good amount of money was raised for Lynn's Appeal.

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