



DUFFIELD SCENE

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In response to requests from members of the community, we're excited to announce that Duffield's Memory Cafe at the Weston Centre is now OPEN.

A key aim of the group is to provide a friendly, safe space where people living with Dementia and their caregivers can have fun, make friends, network and share information and experiences.

Held bi weekly on Friday afternoons, 2-4 p.m. at the Weston Centre; anyone living with Dementia and their caregivers can attend, meet



others, chat over a cuppa (and of course cake!), socialise and choose to participate in

(and design) any activities on offer they're interested in.

Initial dates for your diary:

(All Fridays 2-4 p.m.) -

April: 21st. May: 5th, 19th

June: 2nd, 16th. July: 7th, 21st.

The team is really looking forward to meeting you. Just turn up, but if you'd like further information, to chat to someone about attending and ask any/all your questions, please email : nicola.memorycafe@westoncentre.org.uk or emma.admin@westoncentre.org.uk.

Phone: 01332 840349 -

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AWARD WINNING GREENGROCERS



Duffield greengrocers, Kale and Corn, have just become our latest Plastic-Free Champions.

Dave Wells, seen here presenting Megan Corne and Benn Caley with their Plastic-Free Business Champion certificate and plaque, says "We now have six Plastic-Free businesses in Duffield. Each of these businesses have removed at least three Single-Use Plastic items, helping us move closer to becoming a Plastic-Free Community."

Megan and Benn set up a pop-up just over a year ago. It soon became clear that the people of

Duffield wanted to buy plastic-free fruit and veg, and they opened their shop last year on 16th September.

"We are very happy to do something for the village," says Megan. "It's so good to see the community coming together to support Plastic Free Duffield."

As well as buying fruit and veg you can take your own containers to their refill counter to buy a range of dried goods, for example, rice, pasta, lentils. Kale and Corn are also supporting local producers by selling bread from the Loaf at Crich, honey and eggs. So many plastic-free goods to try!

MYTHS, LEGENDS & FAIRY TALES

Daffodils, lambs in the fields and lighter nights - it can only mean one thing... yes, it's time to start thinking about the 2023 Duffield Scarecrow Trail! This is the seventh Scarecrow Trail we've held in the village, and every year it just gets bigger and better. We'd love to make this year's Trail the biggest and best yet!

Our theme for 2023 is Myths, Legends, and Fairy Tales.

The Scarecrow Trail will run from Wednesday 13th September to Sunday 17th September. It's never too early to



start planning ahead and thinking about what your scarecrow might be. There are hundreds of myths, legends and fairy tales to choose from, so if you'd like to be part of this fantastic community event we'd love you to get in touch and let us know. You can register via our website www.duffieldartsfestival.com - just click on the 'Register' link and fill out the registration form. Or email us at scarecrows@duffieldartsfestival.com and let us know what scarecrow you're planning to make and where it's going to be. We look forward to hearing from you!



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SWIFTS, WASPS, MOLES, BLOSSOM AND FROGSPAWN

The sound of buzzing and the regular tap, tap, tap on the window pane was familiar and it did not take me long to spot the queen wasp that had been awoken by the strong sunshine coming through the glass - disturbing her long winter hibernation in the curtain tops. I let her out, hoping that the fine weather held.

It doesn't take long for the longer day length and the warmth to make a difference to the natural world. The blackthorn bushes look as though snow has fallen yet again as their white blossom lights up the edge of the pond against the black branches. Flies and early bees are visitors to this nectar source. Earthworms are still abundant under the meadow areas and molehills are a good sign that their engineers have plenty to eat. Remarkably resilient, these seldom seen burrowers are part of the natural ecosystem that has established itself on the reserve.

The wetland is the most richly diverse habitat and the ponds were restocked with fish during the last flood. Full of minnows and small roach fry the main pond is proving to be the preferred dining spot for one of the local kingfishers. One of the smaller ponds is home to frogs and toads who lay their spawn once the days lengthen and the temperature warms.

These balls and strings of jelly containing the eggs nestle in amongst the roots of the bullrushes and fragmites - some will be eaten by fish, some by birds and some will be stranded before it hatches with changes in the water levels.

Once the tad and toad poles are swimming they too will be at the mercy of predators like the heron who visits daily.

Mallards have already built their nest hidden away amongst the reeds and the pair can be seen preening and cleaning their feathers on the big pond. The startled call of the coot suggests competition for space. In amongst the reed tops the various warblers are already out singing each other and the small birds in the copses are calling loudly - goldfinches, bluetits, robins, goldfinches, siskins, great tits, long tailed tits with competing blackbirds trilling away. Suddenly, there is a different sound.

A screaming that heralds the return of the swifts!

Looking up, these scimitar winged birds race across the sky as they return from Africa hoping to nest in same place as last year or at

least to find a suitable hole in an old building, under the eaves of a north facing wall in a tall house. These wonderful birds have been in existence for over a million

years and make the annual migration to our shores from Africa - way beyond the Sahara desert. Their eyes are protected from the sun by bristles around the eyes.

They are the fastest bird on earth in level flight - 69 m.p.h. - and once they crawl out of the nest they remain in flight *without landing for 3 years*. They eat, sleep and mate on the wing - "snoozing" one half of their brain at a time to remain airborne. They have short legs but very strong feet with which to cling onto the edge of a hole in a cliff or onto

the hole edge of a nestbox. Each foot has two sets of two toes, all facing sideways with which to grip.

Young birds do wing "press ups" in the nest to strengthen their muscles before they launch themselves into the air. Their parents will have fed them with balls of up to 1000 insects at a time.

Adults are long lived - 9 years on average - although one ringed one was recorded as 18 years old. This longevity contributes to their need to come back to a familiar nest site. Our need to repair our houses and the general decline in tall, old farm buildings has removed many usual useful holes - lockdown saw a flurry of building repairs. There is a campaign to make new building have customised swift bricks incorporated in their design.

by **Di Hancock**
(Chair; Duffield Millennium Conservation Trust)
07522 230 320



BIRTHDAY THANK YOU!

Hello everyone
I have just celebrated my 80th birthday, trying to forget the number.

I would just like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages on Facebook - it was quite overwhelming. The flowers and the plants were beautiful and gave me a lot

of pleasure-as did the bottles!
Special thanks to the D.C.A and the W.I. ladies.

My family made everything very special for me. I loved every minute. A big thank you to my village for making it special too.

Lots of love to you all
Judy Clough

YOUR GREEN COUNCILLORS IN DUFFIELD

We hope you have enjoyed the spring bulbs that have been flowering around the village; the Green Team certainly have. They're some of the many things provided by Duffield Community Association which make the village such a great place to live.

Local Policing. Many people ask our advice on reporting non-emergency incidents, such as anti-social behaviour and dangerous driving. The police confirm that they do want residents to report these incidents to help them to build up a picture of what's going on, and to deploy resources effectively.

Your Green County Councillor, Gez Kinsella has asked residents to report incidents on the Police Non-Emergency Incident Line **101** or via the 'Report' section of their website www.derbyshire.police.uk. Also reporting incidents to Derbyshire County Council on 01629 533190 or to contactcentre@derbyshire.gov.

uk helps Gez gather the data to allow better traffic management around schools.

Green candidate Eva Long recently visited the mobile police station when it came to Quarndon, and councillors Dave Wells and Alison McDermott bumped into retired Duffield policeman Larry Smith when it was on Town Street. The police are keen to build relationships with residents, so Alison put PCSO Jenny Lorimer in touch with Duffield Community Association to help with carnival week.

Thankyou! We'd like to say a huge thank you to Chris Johnson, who has just stepped down after 15 years chairing the Duffield Community Association. Gez, Dave, Alison and Eva have all worked with the DCA on numerous projects, so know how much work goes into all the village events. Thankyou Chris, for all that you have contributed in your 25 years with the DCA.





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Duffield Parish Council



Coronation Weekend – May 2023

The King's Coronation has been set for 6th May 2023. As part of the weekend, the "Big Lunch" is being organised on Sunday 7th May, where neighbours and communities across the United Kingdom are invited to share food and fun together. During the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022, the Parish Council offered the opportunity for local community groups to apply for small grants of £50 to hold street parties or other localised celebrations in the village and it is proposed to repeat this in 2023. Keep an eye on the Parish Council website for more details and if you would like to apply for a grant, see www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-grants.html - to find out more about the "Big Lunch" visit www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch.



Parish and Borough Council Elections 2023

At the time of writing (provided the election is contested), there is set to be a Parish Council as well as a Borough Council election on Thursday 4th May 2023. The list of candidates will be published on 5th April. Don't miss out on your vote – ensure that you are registered by 14th April; should you wish to vote by post, you should apply by 18th April latest. On polling day, don't forget you will now need photo ID to vote. To find out more about any of the above, visit Amber Valley's website: www.ambervalley.gov.uk/councillors-and-elections/elections/elections-4-may-2023



Illyria Outdoor Theatre "Robin Hood" at Eyes Meadow – 25th June 2023

Following last year's successful outdoor theatre event at Eyes Meadow, we have again booked Illyria Theatre group who will be bringing "Robin Hood" to Duffield on Sunday 25th June. The Theatre event will form part of Carnival week with the Carnival to be held on the 24th June.

Potholes – Report them to Derbyshire County Council 'My Derbyshire' Online

Following the winter months potholes are likely to have appeared in local streets and footpaths. Don't forget that these and many other faults can be reported online to Derbyshire County Council simply by visiting the "My Derbyshire" page on their website; <https://my.derbyshire.gov.uk> selecting 'Services' and following the prompts.

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 – The next **Full Council** meeting and the **Annual Council Meeting** will be held on Wednesday 17th May 2023 at the Weston Centre.

The following **Committee Meetings** will be held at the Cemetery Lodge office in April: Finance and Management Committee on 5th April; Outdoor Management & Development Committee on 19th April (note change of date - previously 26th).

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

The Parish Office

Cemetery Lodge, 43 Hazelwood Road, Duffield, Belper DE56 4DQ.
Telephone 01332 842740.

Contact the Clerk

clerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 07719 103015 (emergency contact).

Cemetery Enquiries

contact the Assistant Clerk at assistantclerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 07514 871801.



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Duffield Parish Council



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WEEKLY EVENTS

- MON** **Coffee Morning**
10.00am - 12noon, Emmanuel Church
Opening so people have a warm place to go for free coffee, cake and a chat.
- TUE** **Walking for Health**
Meet at 9.45am, The Weston Centre for supervised walk 10.00 – 11.30, round Duffield and beyond. All welcome.
Chris - 07977 140415.
- Boys Brigade & Girls Association***
6.15 - 7.30pm, New members welcome.
£2.00. Ages 5-11. Baptist Church Hall.
01773 689983
- WED** **Ignition Youth Group***
7.30- 9pm.
St. Alkmunds Church Hall.
School years 10-13. Relaxing with a hot drink and cake, games and thinking through a section of the bible.
- Duffield Singers**
7.45 - 9.45pm
St. Margaret's Church, Hall Farm Road.
theduffieldsingers@gmail.com
www.duffieldsingers.org
- FRI** **Time Out for Toddlers and carers (TOTS)**
10.00am - 12 noon
St Alkmund's Church Hall
A new free group. Come along to play, chat, join in the fun and make new friends.
Snacks; coffee and tea on tap.
- Chairobics**
Lunchtime, The Weston Centre.
Suzanne, a practising physiotherapist, runs a friendly chair-based exercise class. Why not join her to get fit, have fun and make friends. Book with Suzanne 07810 023 743.
- Amber Painting Group**
1.30-3.30pm - Methodist Church Hall.
amberpaintinggroup@yahoo.co.uk
www.fb.me/amberpainters
- Massive***
4.00 - 6.00pm (years 7-9)
7.00 - 9.30pm (years 10-13)
Emmanuel Community Church
- TUE-FRI** **Coffee Morning**
10.00am - 12noon
The Weston Centre, Tamworth Street.
Coffee, tea and biscuits. £1 for a bottomless cup. Volunteers will ensure you are made welcome.

*term time only

MONTHLY CALENDAR APRIL

- 4** **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 01335 372153.
- 6** **Film Screening**
2:00pm, 'The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel'
The Weston Centre, Tamworth Street.
We ask for a donation of £3.00 which includes a cup of tea or coffee. Phone Sandra on 01332 928577.
- 9-10** **Dinosaur Experiences at EVR**
You can get up close and interact with a selection of life-like dinosaurs from giant to tiny at Wirksworth Station between 10:00 and 16:00. Advance Day Tickets: Adult £25.00, Concession £22.50, Child £15.00. Family Platform Only Ticket £10.00 from Ticket Office. 01629 20823076. www.e-v-r.com/dinosaurs/
- 15-16** **Twin Peaks Diesel Gala at EVR**
The every first joint diesel gala between Ecclesbourne Valley Railway and Peak Rail. Streamlined ticketing is available for this event which covers both railways plus the interconnecting heritage bus service. Advance Day Rover Tickets Adults £35, Children - £16.
01629 20823076. www.e-v-r.com
- 17** **Holbrook Gardening Group**
Moor Methodist Church, Moorside Lane, Holbrook DE56 0TW, 7.30pm. Welcome to Spring - Justin Harrison. Justin has suggestions of what to plant for Spring with plants for sale. 01773 824446.
- Chevin Probus Club**
Lion Hotel, Belper. 10.15am. Robert Reid with a presentation entitled 'A Canadian Affair'. No charge.
Peter Robinson - 01332 705554.
- 29** **A Taste of Faulty Towers at EVR**
Theatrical dining experience - 13:00 Matinee, 18:00.
Become part of the action as Basil, Sybil and Manuel serve up mayhem on a plate alongside a 3-course meal and two hours of non-stop laughter.
Tickets - two £160, three £240, four £320.
01629 20823076. www.e-v-r.com

MAY

- 2** **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 01335 372153.
- 4** **Parish and Borough Council Elections**
See page 7.
- 6** **Film Screening**
2:00pm, 'Florence Foster Jenkins'
The Weston Centre, Tamworth Street.
We ask for a donation of £3.00 which includes a cup of tea or coffee. Phone Sandra on 01332 928577.

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SJP Approved 06/03/2023

THIS GIRL CAN... PLAY CRICKET

Clare Connor CBE, former English cricketer and captain, is a passionate advocate of the 'This Girl Can...Play Cricket' campaign and champions the role sport can play in driving equality. One of her objectives has been and continues to be the promotion of cricket as a fun, social game that women and girls can play with their friends and without fear of judgment. There's been a significant increase in the number of girls taking up cricket in recent years, mainly due to the rise in the visibility of the women's game. Television coverage has helped promote enjoyment and Bryan Henderson, Sky TV's director of cricket, described interest in the broadcaster's recent coverage of the 2023 ICC Women's T20 World Cup as 'healthy.' Duffield Cricket Club (DCC) founded in 1878, has a thriving girls and women's section and both girls and boys can play in a climate of dignity and respect. A softball team was introduced around three years ago and a hardball team in 2022, the first since 1935. This newly created team of eight players competed in the East Midlands Women's Cricket League and, as a result of their abilities and determination, won all the games they played finishing top of the league. A remarkable achievement! I hope their success continues with the newly-formed team for the 11-a-side league. This season the club will have some 30 girls regularly playing competitive cricket from April for junior and senior teams, and has justifiably been recognised by the Derbyshire Cricket Foundation as supporting the biggest girls' participation in the county. Since the start of the year there has been support for the winter nets programme at Kirk Hallam Community Academy School which has kept players of all ages (from the DCC) occupied during the winter, and fostered opportunities for practising existing skills and learning new ones. I contacted keen adult cricketers, Kerry Mason and

Lucinda Holmes, to gain their responses of questions about women's cricket and the Duffield Cricket Club.

PW - Paul Wiggins
LH - Lucinda Holmes
KM - Kerry Mason

PW - Why do you play and enjoy cricket and prioritise time for this hobby over and above other interests?

LH - I have played many different sports over the years, but cricket has always been by far my favourite hobby. The fact that the game can come down to the last ball, and it does on many occasions makes this sport unpredictable and full of suspense. Regardless of what level of cricket you have watched or played, you will understand how the game can flip from agony to elation in a matter of minutes. Many of my friends who don't play cricket always ask, "who is winning?" and when I answer, "well no one in particular yet," their bemusement just shows me how much fun the game is and why I love the sport. Personally I always want to improve season after season and to ensure we have a women's team that is the envy throughout the county. Lastly, who doesn't love a sport that has food half way through the game?

PW - How would you 'sell' women's cricket and the Duffield Cricket Club to anyone with a desire to try a new activity, while being aware of self-development and life-long learning?

LH - There is definitely a new era for women's cricket and now is the time to get on board. There are so many more opportunities available to excel and progress to an international level than ever before and I am certain Duffield will see home grown talent playing for their country in future years. Our qualified coaches inspire the teams by helping develop the next generation's love of cricket, not only do they help protect the club's future



but make a difference in the community.

For anyone that has ever played at Eyes Meadow, you will know that whatever the weather you couldn't find a more picturesque setting in the heart of Derbyshire, and with the best facilities and committed volunteers, ensure the club is welcoming for family, friends and the opposition.

There are many transferable skills within cricket that can help with self development and even when forging a career; using strategy to win a game, leading successful teams on and off the field and mental strength to persevere through tough battles. With over 11 junior competitions and 7 senior teams across various formats of the sport, there is something for everyone.

If you would like to get involved and try a new hobby at a welcoming cricket club, get in touch.

PW - Are you seeing evidence that cricket is being promoted as a fun, social game that women and girls can play with their friends without fear of judgment?

KM - Yes, since the England Women's team won the cricket World Cup in 2017, this has helped to raise the profile of female cricket. At club level, women and girls at Duffield Cricket Club are welcomed to play in mixed teams, in addition to all female teams.

PW - How would you like the Duffield Cricket Club to develop with reference to the opportunities for women and girls?

KM - Over the past couple of years, Duffield Cricket Club has gone from strength to strength with the formation of junior girls teams, alongside a women's softball team, and a women's hardball team. We are also extremely fortunate to have 2 dedicated qualified female coaches, to help and support the development of all our female players.

If the comments of 10 year old, Jessica Pipe, are representative of children and young people's interest in the DCC, then this augurs well for their future participation. She told me, "I like the good coaches, the nets, being part of a team. I have made many friends and enjoy playing with them. I also like the clubhouse and the drinks and sweets." The club has invited former professional players to hold coaching sessions and last summer Lydia Greenway, who was one of the best outfielders in the women's game, was inspirational during her visit. The club's volunteers (in particular Alex Ford), are appreciated for giving their time in order to benefit others. Thanks to Alex, Lucinda, Kerry and Jessica for their help with this article.

Training for the new season begins from the 15th March and to any female readers, if you wish to join the Duffield Cricket Club, then email duffieldcc@gmail.com and, in time, it may be said of you...this girl can play cricket.

by **Paul Wiggins**

SWIFTS NEED OUR HELP



There has been a 53% decline in UK swift numbers between 1995 and 2016 and the species is now threatened.

Most swifts nest in roof spaces, but building repairs often mean that their usual nesting spaces are lost. Imagine travelling all the way from central Africa to find that your usual nesting space has been destroyed!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

'Save Our Swifts, Duffield' has a target of installing 200 boxes around the village by 2025. You can help us by:

- ✓ Joining 'Save Our Swifts, Duffield' on Facebook.
- ✓ Contacting us by Email: sosduffield@gmail.com to arrange a survey for a nest box.



A small charitable group has been set up to provide and install nesting boxes to suitable houses with the aim making Duffield a swift hub.

Boxes cost £25 each including free fitting. (Help may be available with costs.)

To see if your house is suitable email sosduffield@gmail.com or phone Mick Hardwick on 07824 026 808.

Let's ensure we have the wonderful sights and sounds of these birds screaming through our summer skies! Contact SOS(Duffield) today!

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