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CEMETERY WILD FLOWER PLANTING BONANZA!

Robert Reid was inspired by wonderful wildflowers he had seen locally at Kedleston and further afield when he made the suggestion to create a new wildflower bed in our cemetery - having identified the large, mown grassed area near the road that is not designated for burials.

He and I made a proposal to the Parish Council and Councillor Short kindly offered to donate money for the project from his DCC grant for local community projects.

We are aware that there was an attempt at re-wilding an area in the Cemetery some



time ago that was not 100% successful; it became more and more overgrown, there was little variety as more rampant plants took over and there were no colourful flowers. Following

complaints that it was “too messy” it was discontinued.

This new project will remove areas of mown grass. Wildflower seed will be planted as well as plug plants to create a haven

for pollinators including bees, wasps, moths, and butterflies. Flowers such as cowslips, foxgloves, lady's bedstraw, salad burnet, musk mallow, field scabious, kidney vetch, native poppies and agrimony should provide beautiful colourful, self-perpetuating areas as the annual and perennial plants drop their seeds.

It will take a couple of years to become fully established and will be monitored and looked after by volunteers. We hope it will encourage everyone to put aside an area in their own gardens to do the same!

Di Hancock

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DUFFIELD'S CHRISTMAS WINDOWS 2020



In 2017 and 2018 the village created its own 'living advent calendar' throughout the days of December. This involved a new window being 'opened/revealed' each evening in December and remaining on display between 4pm and 9pm each night until the 5th January. This year, bright, festive windows will be created again, but instead of revealing one or two each day, all will be lit up from December 1st in order to truly brighten up the village and spread some Christmas

cheer this year. If you would like to take part, please email music.with.mrs.h@gmail.com by the 20th November with details of your address. This will ensure that your house is included in our trail map which will be printed in the December issue of Duffield Scene. There is also a Facebook group which you can join: 'Duffield's Christmas Windows 2020'. In the meantime, here are some of the fabulous Christmas windows created in previous years.



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DUFFIELD & DISTRICT HERITAGE FEATURES - RAILWAYS



George and Robert Stevenson

Barely 15 years after the first steam trains ran on the first railway line from Stockton to Darlington, 'railwaymania' made its impact on Duffield. Through an Act of Parliament the North Midland Railway was constructed between 1836 and 1840, to the designs of 'the father of railways' George Stevenson, assisted by his son Robert.

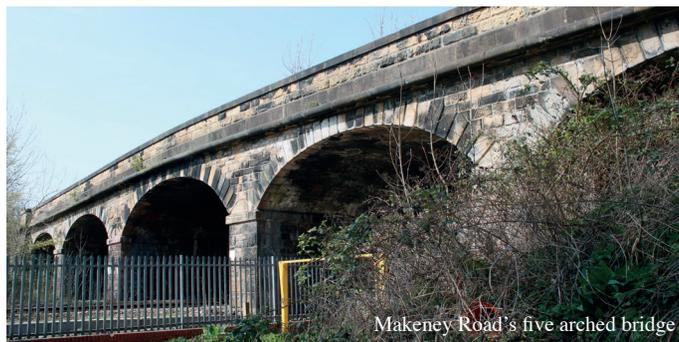
Along with Isambard Kingdom Brunel the Stevenson's were the most influential engineers of this pioneering phase of railway development. They were ably assisted by Frederick Swanwick, the company's resident engineer, while architect Francis Thompson designed many picturesque stations.

This line that ran for 73 miles from Derby to Chesterfield and onwards to Rotherham (Masborough) and Leeds was the first rail link between the north and London, and is considered among the best-preserved examples of railway construction in England. In less than five years however

the unprofitability of the line led to the merger of the North Midland, Midland Counties and Birmingham & Derby Junction Railways into the **Midland Railway**, constituting the first large scale railway amalgamation.

The route was designed to have gradients no greater than 1 in 350 to suit the low power of contemporary steam locomotives. Although Stevenson would have preferred to follow the Derwent Valley through Milford's narrow 'gorge' the local landowners the Strutt family, one of whom lived at Milford House, whose relatively new factory would have been seriously affected, dictated otherwise. Tunnelling under the Chevin became an imperative.

The line retains many original structures including **bridges, tunnels,** and prodigious **stone cuttings.** Notable in Duffield are the two magnificent stone bridges spanning the railway on Makeney Road with five arches and Milford Road with three; the latter crossing the railway at an acute angle. The



Makeney Road's five arched bridge

railway effectively truncated the road to the church (now Church Walk) and saw the demolition of the vicarage. The re-routing of the Turnpike road fronting Castle Orchard required a major slice of ground to be removed from the eastern slope of the then, as yet, undiscovered Duffield castle mound.

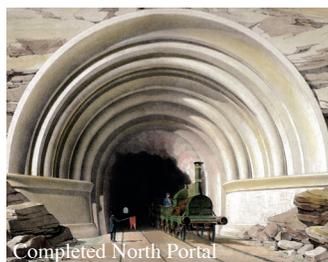
At 856 yards (783 metres) **Milford Tunnel** was the second-longest tunnel on the line with the bore running through the steep gritstone hillside of The Chevin although when built it was the longest railway tunnel in the country! The tunnel **portals** are of gritstone ashlar surrounded by rubble-work walling acquired from local quarries. The most prodigious is the North Portal illustrated here showing a Robert Stephenson Type 2-2-2 locomotive - capable of speeds over 30mph! The most ambitious and elegant on the whole line, this portal was built by contract to a tender price of £93,122 and is likely to have been given special architectural treatment because it faced land owned by the Strutts'. Its solidity

would almost certainly have impressed the early business passengers en route to London. It can be readily appreciated from the railway bridge on Chevin Road, Milford. The **South Portal** is the standard North Midland Railway design.

Directly above the tunnel on top of The Chevin there is a stone **tower** and four circular brick **ventilation shafts.** The 48ft (15m) high coursed stone 'sighting' tower, visible from afar, has raised questions about its original purpose. However, Peter Billson writing in the 1988 New Year edition of *The Wyvern* concluded that its function was perhaps twofold; for surveying and signalling. The building is of four stories, square in plan, with one opening on each floor. Currently roofless it originally had a squat slate-covered pyramidal roof. Inside is a substantial stone plinth, about twelve feet high onto which was attached a survey instrument, probably a **transit theodolite**, made by Stanley, of London. This fixed the alignment of the tunnel. Since two miles of line, including Duffield and Belper



North Portal under construction



Completed North Portal



South Portal



North Portal Today



Chevin 'sighting' tower & ventilation shaft



Stephenson 2-2-2 Locomotive

DUFFIELD & DISTRICT HERITAGE FEATURES - RAILWAYS



Transit Theodolite

stations, were visible from the tower it seems clear that it was subsequently used to operate early semaphore arm signals, at least until the development of the telegraph.

Michael Portillo, referring to his Bradshaw's Guide, would most likely emphasise that "the coming of the railway would indeed have had a profound effect on Duffield, both immediately and in the long term". No doubt the initial impact on Duffield would have been the huge influx of the

somewhat unruly itinerant labourers, or navigators; better known as 'navvies'.

Some 10,000 men worked the line and apparently wild 'goings-on' were commonplace. It is recorded that one night these hard drinkers drained the Belper pubs of ale (no mean feat in those days) whereupon the local hard bitten nail-makers, known as 'nailers', fell upon them. This resulted in their encampment being relocated to Ambergate out of harms' way. One lucky navy working between Belper and Duffield received a message that an elderly relative had died leaving him property and money. He immediately

dropped his pick, left all his belongings and took off for home!

To celebrate opening the line all navvies in the area marched to Duffield for a great feast; each man provided with a 2lb loaf, roast beef and ale.

The greatest impact on Duffield however was the dramatic change to the landscape followed by a period of sustained building, throughout the Victorian and Edwardian eras, providing housing for railway workers within walking distance of the station. Station Terrace was built for employees while managers and Directors occupied the larger houses on Hazlewood Road and Avenue Road. My

late mother-in-law could recall seeing the 'bowler hatted brigade' alighting from the trains! The age of the Duffield commuter had arrived.

A station at Duffield was opened in 1841 but was replaced in 1867 by another associated with the Wirksworth branch junction; of which more anon.

So, next time you board a train from Duffield station think of the pioneering design and sheer hard graft that went into this early example of Victorian engineering 180 years ago, and which now provides us with links to the whole of the UK.

"Tickets please!" Oh, these train conductors – you've got to hand it to them.....

by **Robert Reid**



The second Duffield Station c1867



Platforms and waiting rooms

ASHLEY'S 15TH DUFFIELD CALENDAR FOR 2021

Ashley Franklin has been publishing a Duffield Calendar since 2007 and hopes, with his 2021 calendar, that it will spread some optimism after a difficult year.

As Ashley says: 'This wretched virus has made 2020 a year to forget and we are fervently wishing for a better 2021. So, come the New Year I hope that every time someone opens the page on a fresh month, it will show them what a lovely, heart-warming place they live in.' Ashley feels the March page will be especially poignant. As he explains: 'Back in March, only weeks before lockdown, Angelo's and the King's Head held a fund-raiser for the children of Helen Hancock and raised over £30,000. The March montage will remind us of Duffield's wonderful community spirit.'

Although the annual Duffield Carnival didn't take place back in June, Ashley has chosen

to fill the June page with a montage of his favourite carnival faces from 2012 to 2019. As Ashley says: 'Again, this is a calendar page that will remind us of what a great community we have here and let's hope that when the June page is opened, life and leisure activities will be back to normal and we can celebrate carnival week... with added gusto!'

April's page is the one reminder of the 2020 pandemic but, as Ashley points out, it depicts one of the silver linings to the Covid cloud: 'As soon as I saw the "Thank you all key workers" display on the corner of Wirksworth Road, I knew I had to get a picture of local resident Gerard Varin posing in front of his creation.'

Other pages show: a montage of Town Street businesses who have come through lockdown and are working hard to keep the local economy going; a summery scene beside the



River Derwent; shire horses grazing in the fields of Farnah House Farm, home of Croots Farm Shop; rich autumn colours on Broadway; and The White Hart lit up for Christmas.

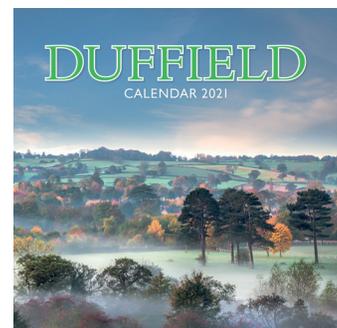
'I think I'm more proud of this calendar than any other' says Ashley.

'Ok, I know I say that every year' smiles Ashley, 'but I really believe I have eclipsed all my previous calendars.'

Ashley's Duffield Calendar

is on sale at Duffield News, Duffield Post Office and Croots Farm Shop, priced at £9.95.

www.ashleyfranklin.co.uk



PHOTOGRAPHY BY ASHLEY FRANKLIN



Duffield Parish Council



Remembrance in November

As the Parade could not take place this year due to Covid restrictions, the Parish Council is planning a simple act of remembrance, including a roll call and the placing of wreaths. We ask that residents do not attend to watch this in person but visit our Facebook page where we hope to live-stream this event, and subsequently upload it to our website and YouTube page.



Gray Rec Playground

The seesaw in Gray Rec playground that was damaged has now been repaired. The Outdoor Management & Development Committee met in October and have agreed to replace the roundabout as a priority, this will be carried out as soon as possible.

Traffic Management – More Volunteers Needed

Following our request in the September Scene, the Parish Council is still seeking village residents who would be interested in joining a 'speed watch' group in the village. Volunteers will be given training in use of a radar speed gun for monitoring purposes. To find out more, contact Jane via email: clerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk Our thanks to those who have already volunteered to be part of this group.



Footpath Advisors

The Parish Council is looking for volunteers to increase our small team of local footpath advisors, to check and report on the state of our local footpaths and to assist with an accessibility audit of the urban footpaths to make sure that they are accessible for wheelchair/buggy/mobility scooters. If you are able to help please contact Jane: clerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

S137 Grants

S137 grants are awarded twice yearly to local community groups. Recent awards were granted to the 2nd Duffield Brownies for a new programme which enable the girls aged between 7-10 to work towards different theme badges alongside the usual interest badges.

A grant was also provided for a 're-wilding' project at the cemetery – work has started to seed this area during October and an identification board will be installed in Spring 2021. Funding spans two years so that top up planting can take place in Spring 2022.



Cemetery Chapel

All Saints Chapel at the Cemetery has been re-opened for services with a reduced capacity to allow for social distancing. Please contact St Alkmunds Church to find out more.

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: **Full Council Meetings** on **4th November** and **2nd December**; **Finance & Management Committee** on **18th November**.

Meetings begin at 7pm and will be held remotely – please see our website for 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 assistantclerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Borough Councillors Chris Short - 07970 741483 and Dave Wells - 01773 821982

County Councillor Chris Short - 07970 741483. Email - chris.short@derbyshire.gov.uk



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Duffield Parish Council



www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT

Coronavirus infection rates are rising again, and the government has just announced another lockdown from November 5th. Some older people in the village may once again find themselves isolated with no local family or friends.

They may have problems doing their shopping, especially as the weather worsens through the winter. Duffield Coronavirus Support (DuCS) remains ready to help. Please call 07730 518 121 on Tuesday or Thursday mornings between 9 and 12.



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RUTH ELEY INTERIOR DESIGN IN DUFFIELD

If there's one thing that's been a positive in this year of unprecedented uncertainty, it's that we all have a renewed love and appreciation for our homes. Beautiful and orderly surroundings make us feel happy and safe and it's one area where we can be in control.

Duffield based interior designer Ruth Eley has experienced a rise in business this year reflecting this desire to focus on hearth and home. "It's been a busy time since the lockdown was lifted and we now have projects leading us into next year. Many people have taken advantage of the stamp duty holiday to move or some are getting on with improving the homes they are in, and we are happy to help them achieve their new goals."

With 15 years experience working in Duffield Ruth has developed a robust business working on projects large and small for clients all over Derbyshire, the Cotswolds, Norfolk, Devon and, prior to the flight ban, was helping

with the refurbishment of a brownstone property in Boston, USA.

Ruth has built up a large pattern library and grown her list of suppliers of fabrics, wallpapers, paints, poles, flooring, lighting, accessories and furniture, including cabinetry and upholstered furniture. Along with a tried and trusted team of reliable and talented makers and fitters she can provide a comprehensive interior design service, which includes quality curtain making, reupholstery, supply of carpets and rugs, kitchen and bathroom design. As well as project management her services also include consultation and assessment of architectural plans at the early stages of property development. "A pair of fresh eyes can often produce some surprising results," she explains.

"Everyone is different and although some people can be unsure about what they do and don't love, I listen and work

very hard to show different options and help them explore new ideas. My aim is to reach the point where everyone feels connected to their choices and the final design. This, I'm sure, has stood me in good stead. Most of my customers have been coming back to me for many years."

Some people may assume that using an interior designer is expensive but Ruth says it can be a way to avoid costly mistakes and get the best possible results. "We have products in all price brackets and over the years we've worked on projects of every size, from a new pair of curtains to a whole house refurbishment. We always manage to get great results within customers' budgets."

Ruth offers an initial consultation from her showroom on Town Street or in customers' own homes. "Much of what I do is about effective communication and confidence that you're in good hands, so I understand my



customers' need to meet and chat first. "I wanted to remind people that they have this resource right on their doorstep."

Contact Ruth on 07786468107 or email at ruthleyinteriordesign@outlook.com



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DUFFIELD LIBRARY NEWS FOR NOVEMBER

It is great to be back up and running. I have missed being in the library so much it is wonderful to be open and offering a service again. However, there are a few changes.

As part of our phased reopening we are reinstating reservations for customers, and from Monday 19 October customers will be able to request books from other libraries. All standard fees and loans will be applied from this date.

There is no need to book an appointment, but you may need to wait because there are restrictions on the amount of borrowers allowed in at one time. Also, when visiting a library you will be asked to wear a face covering, as you would in a shop, unless you are in one of the exempt groups

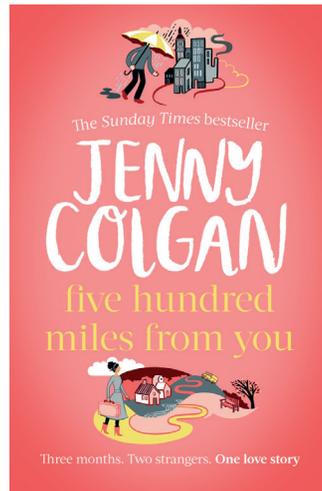
Library services currently available

The following services are now available.

Lending

- All standard fees and loans will be applied from Monday 19 October
- Browsing will be available in all libraries.

- No appointment will be necessary.
- You may have to queue outside if the building is at capacity.
- Initially, there will be a 15 minute dwell time per customer.
- We will request details for track and trace.
- Please use hand sanitiser on entering the library.
- You will be asked to wear a face covering, as you would in a shop, unless you are in one of the exempt groups.
- Returned items will be quarantined for 72 hours.
- Self-service will be in use where available.
- Requests from other libraries.
- **Using the public computers**
- **Ring or email the library** if you want to book a computer.
- You will be given a date and time to use the computer.
- Only one person per computer will be permitted.
- A maximum of 45 minutes per session will be allocated.
- Staff assistance will be unavailable during this period.
- Normal print charges will apply



New books are starting to arrive in the library again which is great to see. In our local history section we have a copy of Lost Derby by Maxwell Craven, a portrait of a city and a way of life that has radically changed or disappeared. This photographic history of lost Derby shows the industries, buildings, people and street scenes and will appeal to all who live in the city and to those who remember it from previous decades. A real treat. We also have a new paperback copy of Born to Trouble by Rita Bradshaw, first published in 2008, this novel tells the story of Pearl Croft, born in Sunderland's filthy and crime

ridden East End, if you like gritty rags-to-riches Northern sagas then this is one for you. Armada Boy by Kate Ellis tells the story of archaeologist Neil Watson who is researching a group of Spaniards killed by locals as they limped from the wrecks of the Armada. He finds the body of a veteran of the D-Day landings in the ruins of an old Devon chapel, four hundred years apart, these two strangers are linked by a violent death in a foreign land. Time is running out to find the motive. Stephen King has a new novella collection titled, If it Bleeds. These stories display his range with grace, humour, horror and suspense. And followed by a fascinating Author's Note which give an insight into the origin of each story and his unparalleled imagination.

I've read 500 miles from you by Jenny Colgan and thoroughly enjoyed it

All about escaping to the Scottish Highlands....there's an idea

Happy Reading
Carole-Ann

SCOUT CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY SERVICE

After nearly 40 years of service to local communities, 2020 was going to be the last Christmas ever for the Scouts' "Stamp and Deliver" annual Christmas card delivery scheme.

Sadly, in view of the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic restrictions, the decision has now been made to cancel this year's Stamp & Deliver Scheme - sooner than any of us would have wished.

Over the course of the scheme's operation, more than £145,000 was donated to local charities. In addition, the scheme supported thousands of young people in participating Scout Groups across the Derby and



District area. 1st Duffield Scout Group itself benefited by over £13,000. Stamp and Deliver could not have been such a resounding success without the coordinating efforts of Bob Swain and Alan Hudson,

along with the army of volunteers both young and old who collected, sorted and posted the many thousands of cards over the years.

1st Duffield Scout Group would like to thank the shops and individuals who sold

stamps, and all those who have used and supported the scheme.

We couldn't have done it without you!

Wei Crowson
Chair, 1st Duffield Scout Group

ENTANGLED IN THE WOODWIDE WEB

One teaspoon of soil is estimated to contain more living organisms than there are people on the earth. This ranges from millions of bacteria, up to 100,000 protozoa that feed on bacteria and **the web of fungal mycelia** that connects plants to each other.

On the meadow, the reappearance of the shaggy ink cap toadstools in the same place they have for the past 17 years is always a pleasant surprise. The fact that the visible fruiting body is only a small part of the overall plant is also intriguing.

We used to think we humans were the only animals that had developed language and communication systems. Nowadays, it is clear that most creatures have developed this ability to communicate ranging from whales to chimpanzees, bees to owls, and ants to elephants. Not all of this is via sound or “speaking”. Often it is via chemical signals such as scent marking (e.g. big cats, bears and mice), pheromones (butterflies) or body attitude (raised claws in crabs or wolves being submissive to the pack leader). What is clear is that most organisms – even microscopically small ones - have some means of relating messages.

Imagine the world under the ground. Dark – so visual signaling would not be of much use. Scent marking would make sense. But do not think of large creatures – worms, ants and such – but more

the most complex and sophisticated system expressed by **mycelia** – the mat like meshes of threadlike fungi that connect the world of trees and plant roots together under our feet.

Each plant has its own “garden” around its roots called a **mycorrhiza** composed of these mycelia. Scientists refer to these fungal networks as the “**Wood wide web**” and studies have revealed that the **hyphae** (thread like structures that form the mycelia) – have formed a mutually beneficial relationship whereby the plants release 20% of its carbon and the hyphae penetrate the root’s individual cells in order to exchange mineral nutrients and water.

This web connects plants with one another – the oak tree growing in your garden may well be connected with the raspberries in your vegetable patch!

Other studies have examined how this web of fungal mycelia enables the **exchange of information** as well as nutrients. Experiments have proved that when a disease is

attacking a plant, the information about these toxins can be transmitted via the fungal web to neighbouring plants, which enables them to produce a defence in time to prevent a fatal attack. Thus plants “**talk to each other**” – a sort of fungal internet!!

The way that hyphae behave suggests even more interesting facts about communication systems. Hyphae have branching tips that can grow towards chemical signals and withdraw and change direction accordingly. Experiments have shown that they have the ability to choose the most efficient route when growing towards a source of nutrient. Models of the landscape of England with nutrients placed in key places show the hyphae tracing out paths that mimicked the motorway network!

The largest living organism so

far discovered on the planet is even bigger than the blue whale – the **Armillaria ostoyae** – in the Malheur National forest in Oregon. Covering 4 square miles, it is a fungal network that feeds off tree roots and kills massive areas of forest. Whilst we might marvel at the **woodwide** web, in this case our wonder is tempered by the disturbing consequences.

However, we humans are responsible for an even more detrimental effect on climate change by changes in the plants we plant. It has been estimated that human agricultural activities have altered 50 -75% of the Earth’s terrestrial ecosystems. By altering the plants that grow across much of the Earth’s surface from those with strong soil carbon storage to weak carbon storage, we have potentially further contributed to increased atmospheric carbon dioxide.

By planting areas with native vegetation and reintroducing the fungal symbiotic relationship, it should be able to restore the carbon storing ability of our soils.

When we decided to plant the Millennium Meadow, research had not fully identified the benefits. It is now clear that, as well as being a beautiful place to spend time, its mycorrhizal habitat under the ground is also helping to capture carbon dioxide from the atmosphere – thus helping to combat climate change. That lovely pine tree near the entrance is probably connected by a network of microscopic fungal hyphae to those cherry trees on the other side of the site.

And these Autumn colours are fabulous! Enjoy them if you can.

Keep safe and stay well.
See you down there.

Di Hancock
Chair; Duffield Millennium
Meadow Conservation Trust
07511230320



HOME COOKE'D IN DUFFIELD BY LUCY

I love to cook! If you don't or you don't have the time, or just deserve a break from the kitchen I can help.

Due to the current pandemic situation I, alongside many others find myself unfortunately out of work so I am starting a little venture of my own; Home Cooke'd, providing fresh home made meals in the local area. I will be offering a selection of healthy and hearty ready meals in single, double or family portions. All come chilled or frozen ready to be heated and enjoyed whenever you would like.

Over three seasons as a chalet host, I have fed hundreds of hungry skiers with full cooked breakfasts, 5 course dinners and delicious afternoon teas. I have also worked as a housekeeper for a busy family providing home cooked meals, menus for special occasions and keeping the

freezer stocked. I hold a Food Safety and Hygiene Level 2 Certificate and I'm currently undertaking a Level 2 Qualification in Nutrition and Health.

For those going into a sheltered lockdown, I will be able to offer a delivery service in the local area (5 mile radius of Duffield) on a Monday or Thursday weekly, and all other orders will be made available for collection on Sunday, Tuesday or Fridays from Duffield.

Orders to be made at least 3 days in advance, and will be served in recyclable foil takeaway dishes (plastic microwavable tubs available on request), if you prefer that I use your own dish this can be arranged. Payment to be made before collection / delivery.

You can contact me via my Facebook page or via email if you have any questions or

DISHES	Individual (1)	Double (2)	Family (4)
ROASTED GARLIC & SWEET POTATO SOUP	2.00	3.50	7.00
CHILLI CON CARNE	4.00	7.50	14.50
SMOKY VEGETABLE CHILLI	3.50	6.50	12.50
CHICKEN, TOMATO, SPINACH CURRY	4.00	7.50	14.50
SWEET POTATO, CHICKPEA, SPINACH CURRY	3.75	7.00	13.50
3 CHEESE MACARONI CHEESE	3.00	5.50	10.50
LUXURY FISH PIE	5.00	9.50	18.00
TRADITIONAL COTTAGE PIE	4.50	8.50	17.00
LASAGNE AL FORNO	5.00	9.50	17.50

FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL	Per Person
2 COURSES + A SIDE DISH	12.00

FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER:

- TRADITIONAL FRENCH TARTIFLETTE SAVOYARDE
- WITH CHARCUTERIE AND A MIXED SALAD
- HOMEMADE TRIPLE CHOCOLATE MOUSSE (VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE)

ORDERS TO BE PLACED VIA THE HOME COOKE'D FACEBOOK PAGE OR BY EMAILING ME AT [HOME COOKE'D BY LUCY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:homecookedbylucy@gmail.com)

PLEASE ALSO GET IN TOUCH WITH ANY SPECIAL REQUESTS, DIETARY REQUIREMENTS OR QUESTIONS

THANK YOU!

would like to make an order. Any special requests or dietary requirements can be taken into consideration.

I'm really looking to the local community for support as I hope I can support you, so please pass on the details of

Home Cooke'd to anyone who you think would benefit from this service.

Lucy Cooke
homecookedbylucy@gmail.com
[facebook.com/homecookedbylucy](https://www.facebook.com/homecookedbylucy)



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NEWS FROM CHRIS SHORT LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Ecclesbourne River Wall

After extended negotiations with both the Environment Agency and Derbyshire County Council plus delays due to the current unusual circumstances we find ourselves in we have now begun work on the River Ecclesbourne wall between the A6 and Chapel Street.

The work is to re-establish the integrity of both the brick and stone work in this area of the Ecclesbourne securing its safety in the future. I would like to take this opportunity to thank fellow members of Duffield Community Association for pointing this problem out to me initially.

Ecclesbourne School Covid 19 consequences meeting

I recently arranged a meeting with the school's headmaster James McNamara, a local representative from our Parish Council and myself as your County Councillor. I also arranged attendance of a Highways officer from D.C.C. The meeting was arranged for the following reason: The school itself have produced a safe strategy to minimise risk to pupils which is regularly monitored.

This meeting however looked at the effect of school return to the residents of Duffield in

general and possible ways of minimising risk to all.

One of the ideas was a leaflet to be given to Ecclesbourne School pupils which will make specific suggestions about minimising risk factors amongst all residents in our village. I have obtained funding for this and it will be distributed soon.

Wild Flower Project Duffield Cemetery

I have been working with Di Hancock regarding a project to increase the amount of wildflowers in our village. This is something I believe we should all support as residents. I have just been informed the funding Di asked for is now approved and should now be available to her. Many thanks to Di for undertaking this project.

Duffield Library

The village's library has now reopened with slightly reduced hours. It was hoped that the community could adopt the running of it but after a substantial period of Community Consultation it proved not to be viable. Derbyshire County Council have now agreed after extensive discussions and negotiations to maintain our library in its current format.



Ecclesbourne River Dredging

I was recently contacted by residents about the river and areas requiring dredging. I have consequently arranged a meeting with the Environment Agency. The agency have informed me the river is one of the best spawning habitats in all Derbyshire which restricts dredging at present. They have confirmed with me that they will definitely dredge the river next summer.

William Gilbert School

I have recently been contacted regarding perceived dangers at this school during drop off and pick up of the school children. I have contacted the Headmistress to arrange a

meeting to look for solutions to the problem.

I was recently informed that an independent application had been made to close Vicarage Lane during certain periods of the day and that qualified highways officers have assessed the request and considered it was not feasible. I have seen the report and the detailed reasoning behind their decision.

This is a long standing problem that I will work directly with the school to try and resolve.

Please take care.

Phone: 07970 741483

or 01629 536055

chris.short@derbyshire.gov.uk

Chris Short

Duffield Village Resident

HARVEST FOR THE HUB ON MELBOURN CLOSE

The residents of Melbourn Close collect food and toiletries for Belper food bank. A simple WhatsApp message circulated around Melbourn Close in October resulted in an open air, socially-distanced harvest to support the Belper Food and Community Hub. Residents added a few extra items to their weekly shop to express their own gratefulness whilst acknowledging that some people have been much more deeply affected by the pandemic.

Gareth Greenwood represented the food bank and received the contributions. He



explained: "In 2019, we gave out 300 food parcels over the year; in 2020 we have already given over 1,000 – and the lead up to Christmas along with the likelihood of many more redundancies, will see more people referred to us in need of urgent support. The

Hub is busier than ever. Every item donated will help."

Jo Lambourn who runs the Hub said: "The steep rise in referrals of local families and individuals has been matched by the incredible response of the local community during the pandemic. Thank you to

all who contributed."

Maggie Zimmermann, who sent the original WhatsApp message said: "I was overwhelmed that a simple message caused such a wonderful response. Brilliant – good job Melbourn Close,"

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DUFFIELD

From the back page...

The Christmas Tree Trails is a DCA contribution to Project Cheer. Here are some ideas to get you started:

A great use for those Brussels sprouts, don't you think?

Now we know what happens to all the excess pumpkins after Halloween.

You know those beach balls you keep finding in the garden.....

So get your thinking (Santa) caps on!

CHRISTMAS TREE TRAIL

PS. Blow up snowmen and flashing reindeer don't count as Christmas Trees, but don't let that stop you!!

(And on the subject of Village Christmas Trees: We had hoped to be putting up the usual display of traditional lighted Christmas trees around the village at the end of November.... but we may have to delay that a few days due to the Lockdown...

However, whatever it takes, we will decorate the village as soon as we can!

Registration form at: www.duffieldscene.co.uk/ChristmasTrees.



DAVE'S UPDATE – YOUR GREEN COUNCILLOR

As I write, the Coronavirus epidemic is getting worse, so I hope this update finds you well.

Plastic Free Duffield

COVID has slowed down our pursuit of Plastic Free Community status, but in September we held a village-wide litter pick. Once again this was a popular event, with family "bubbles" taking part in a COVID-safe manner. There was also a display of the single-use plastic items alongside plastic-free alternatives. Thank you to everybody who took part.

What you can do to help:

- If your business or community group might be able to remove just three items of single-use plastic,

please get in touch with me and become a Plastic Free Champion.

- Join Surfers Against Sewage's digital "Return to Offender" campaign. If you find single-use plastic litter, "See it, Snap it, Share it". Take a photo showing the brand name, then use Twitter or Instagram to share the photo, with the hashtags #ReturnToOffender and #SurfersAgainstSewage. Tag the brand's social media account too.

News from Amber Valley Borough Council

Divestment from fossil fuels
I'm proud to say that my motion asking AVBC to call for the pension fund to disinvest from fossil fuels

and to invest in renewables instead was passed, gaining votes from Labour while Conservatives abstained.

The moral case for this is easy to make: it's five years since scientists and economists said that 75-80% of known fossil fuel reserves must be left in the ground if the world is not to suffer catastrophic warming. This makes fossil fuels a bad investment financially too. Combine this with a reduced market for plastics (made from oil) and you can see why Mark Carney, former Governor of the Bank of England, has warned that "investors who continue to invest in fossil fuels could face potentially huge losses." It's easy to do this for your own savings and investments too.



Group, I received no answers to my questions on this. I'm still urging the council to cut carbon emissions where it can, and am glad that £50k has been set aside to do this. And we must remember that this report relates only to the council's own activities. We have a lot of work to do to make the borough as a whole net-zero carbon.

Extension to Field Lane car park, Belper

In a very close vote, councillors approved £437 000 to be spent on providing up to 100 additional parking spaces. I voted against this development, as did the Conservatives. I argued that we should not spend this large sum without hard evidence that extra car parking spaces are needed.

Carbon Neutral?

AVBC has declared that it should become carbon-neutral by 2030, and the council's recent study shows that this can be achieved just by planting trees. This must not be used as an excuse not to cut down emissions as well. The calculations of how much CO2 will be absorbed by the trees seem over-optimistic to me. Sadly, as an active member of the Climate Change Working



CHRISTMAS TREE TRAIL



The Duffield Community Association wants to encourage everyone to brighten up the village after (hopefully) the dark days of our second lockdown. We would like to see your creative ideas for traditional and alternative Christmas Trees livening up your front gardens and windows in December.

We encourage you to have

your displays in place by 11th December, but earlier if you wish. We all need 'Cheer'ing up'. We hope to be able to produce a trail map in conjunction with Duffield Christmas Windows, so to help us to know where to find your display, please complete the short registration form at www.duffieldscene.co.uk/ChristmasTrees.

Continued on page 15...

HOLBROOK HALL RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME



AN ELEGANT AND SPACIOUS FAMILY RUN CARE HOME SET IN BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS WITH AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION



COVID 19 POLICY

Holbrook Hall remains alert to the risks of COVID 19 and has a robust regime of infection control whilst our high standards of care enhances our resident's quality of life.

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 or email holbrookhall@aol.com

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