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SEPTEMBER 2020

Edition 335
Published Monthly

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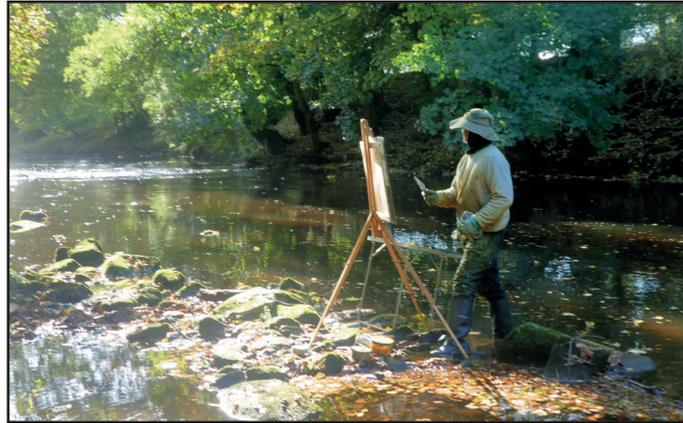
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COLIN HALLIDAY PLEIN AIR PAINTER

Colin Halliday is an Artist who lives in Duffield having moved here in 2005 with his wife and two daughters from London. Already a professional Artist established in London Galleries and showing across the UK.

Born in Cumbria in 1964 it wasn't until he was 21 that he decided to pursue a career in Art, eventually obtained his Fine Art degree in 1992 and by 2000 he was able to become a full time Artist. He has sold work to some very famous patrons including Helen Mirren, Adrian Lester



and Owen Teale to name but a few. Moving to Derbyshire prompted a change in direction and he was at last able to pursue his real love of

Landscape. In 2012 he started painting outdoors en-plein air and has continued to do that feeling that he is able to better see the colours and put a real

freshness in his work.

For Colin application is very important and he wants his work to show the application and not hide the human touch he likens it to the difference between a typed letter and a hand written letter.

You can also have the chance to come and see for yourself the vibrancy of his paintings as he holds an open studio event at his home 7 Cumberhills Road.

From Saturday 5th September up to and including Sunday 13th September he will be open everyday between ... continued on back page.

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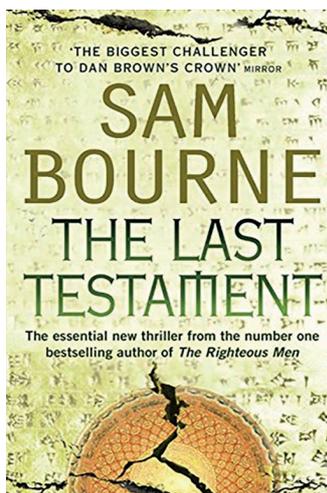
Local Law for Life



DUFFIELD LIBRARY NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER

I am pleased to say I can reopen the library on Monday 28 September. Browsing will be available and no appointment is necessary. You may have to queue outside the building if we have reached our capacity. Initially there will be a 15 minute dwell time per customer. We will request details for track and trace and sanitiser is available on entering the library. Please wear a face covering unless you are in one of the exempt groups. All returned items will be quarantined for 72 hours and all books currently on loan will be automatically renewed until 30 September and no fines will be applied until after this date. At present I am unsure of our opening times, most libraries are running on a reduced timetable at the moment. We will have one computer available for public

use and sessions will be for 45 minutes to give me time to sanitise the machines between each use. Some of the normal services are under review so at present I am unable to have storytimes, craft sessions and newspapers. It will be great to get up and running again and get back to providing a library service in the village. On line services will continue to be updated, the digital resources are very popular. The library Information service is an email and callback service to answer general enquiries, assistance with digital queries and is still available. Story times and craft activities are now available online, on Mondays and singing and rhymes on Wednesday mornings both at 10am. We also have an online reader group every Friday morning at 10am and an online poetry corner challenge



on Thursdays at 4pm. The Lego group get together on Sundays at 1pm. Check out our Facebook page or find us on Twitter for all the up to date information. The Community Response Unit organised by Derbyshire County Council is still running with support available for the public who need a bit of extra help while self-

isolating or have no family or friends close by who can offer help. More information can be found on the council website www.derbyshire.gov.uk or by phoning 01629 535091. I'm still reading loads of books, as you would expect. I've not quite finished all the Maise Dobbs series by Jacqueline Winspear yet, I've still 3 to go. They are very good and don't have to be read in order. I've also been reading the back catalogue of novels by Sam Bourne, starting with The Last Testament. These are fast moving thrillers in the style of Dan Brown and featuring political troubleshooter, Maggie Costello. Well worth reading.

Stay safe and I'll see you all soon
Carole-Ann

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DAVE'S UPDATE – YOUR GREEN COUNCILLOR

September is usually an exciting month, as school starts again after the summer break. This year will be strange and different for everyone heading back into the classroom – staff and pupils alike. I hope you all manage to settle quickly into your new routines and systems.

School Streets

With the return to school, our roads will be busier again, and maintaining social distancing will become more of a challenge. If you are a regular reader of Duffield Scene, you may have seen my previous update which introduced the idea of School Streets – an initiative to open up streets around schools to pedestrians by closing them to non-resident traffic at the start and end of the school day.

Thank you to residents who suggested that William Gilbert School would benefit from the scheme. I met with the school and council officer and am hoping this will result in School Streets being created around William Gilbert.

I've also been in touch with Ecclesbourne School, who have

expressed an interest in the scheme. I hope to be able to update you on this soon.

Welcome back to people who have been shielding

While many of us have become used to the new ways of doing things, those who have been shielding will have been venturing out more. If you have been shielding, I hope you are managing to stay safe and well and enjoying the opportunity to get out and about. It's important we all continue to listen to advice and follow guidance to ensure we all stay safe, and I know your DuCS volunteers will be there for support.

Rolls-Royce

The coronavirus crisis has hit many businesses hard, with jobs lost or at risk as the economy struggles. Locally, many residents will have been directly or indirectly affected by the job cuts announced by Rolls-Royce. Government should work closely with industries to shift production towards short-term need and a sustainable future. The highly-skilled workforce

at Rolls-Royce and its service industries should be supported to adapt their skills to more carbon-neutral activity. I have written to Pauline Latham MP to urge her to put pressure on her government colleagues to ensure that the aerospace industry is part of any Green New Deal and industry restructuring programme.

Plastic-Free Duffield

We have been busy planning activity to take place in the coming weeks – see the Plastic-Free Duffield article in this edition of Scene for more details.

Wilder road verges in Duffield

Reduced mowing of roadside verges can help boost wildlife; as wildflowers are allowed to grow, butterflies, bees, birds and other species can benefit. When Peter and Maggie Zimmermann contacted me to ask if their verge could be left to grow wild rather than cut, I was happy to help. If you'd like yours to be left too, please get in touch.

Putting the record straight

I've never used this column to be critical of other councillors

or other political parties. In the Green Party we prefer to simply inform you of what we are doing for the good of the community.

However, I feel the need to respond to Cllr Short's article in last month's Scene, where he 'quoted' a post allegedly made by me on Facebook. To put the record straight, I have never made such a statement, or anything like it. The post may have been made by a different Dave Wells, I don't know as I haven't seen it, but a simple check would have shown this wasn't me.

I did vote for the new Waste and Recycling contract. We were told that it would give the council more control, influence and flexibility to respond to changes in legislation or the council's priorities. Also, it was the only contract on offer, a situation for which the Labour and Conservative groups blame each other. The other option was no contract and bins left unemptied from the end of June.

I hope that this is the end of this matter and we can move forward constructively.

by **Dave Wells**

NEWS FROM CHRIS SHORT LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Housing Sites to be considered for Labour Amber Valley Borough Council Local Plan

In my August article I detailed information about sites that were being considered by Labour led Amber Valley Borough Council for their local plan. I would like to share further details of this consultation with you. I would emphasise that your Conservative Councillors have requested since the beginning of the year that the site names should be released, however Labour would not do so stating **"It is important that any of the information relating to the potential sites, including their location, is not shared with any other parties."** Whatever happened to open government during the decision making process?

I would like to confirm to the residents of Duffield that the following sites are included in this consultation.

- **Land to the north of Wirksworth Road, Duffield**
- **Land south of Cumberhills Road, Duffield**

These are the two major sites that have previously been submitted and are now being considered again.

Another site that was listed for consideration was in Shottle. This was a proposal for a new Garden Village north of Cowers Lane, which consisted of 225 acres and 2000 houses. However as a result of pressure brought to bear by Conservatives, Chatsworth Estate, which owns the land and allowed Pegasus to make the proposal have now withdrawn this to avoid adverse publicity. (Great News)

As both your County Councillor and one of your Borough Councillors I shall fight these proposals at all levels.

Derwent Valley Cycle Route

Just as an update, this is the

choice that the majority of your local representatives asked me to support when Central Government released £2 billion to the country to support safer cycling initiatives.

I have contacted Cabinet members at D.C.C. to look at strategies and after discussions with the Chairman of the Trust I am in the process of arranging meetings which will endeavour to combine our efforts. I am also walking the route with local residents to discuss ideas in depth.

This project may take some time to reach fruition however, "The right effort in the right places always helps."

News regarding Village roadworks

Broadway service road will close because of work to be done on this area. Please be aware and look on D.C.C. site for further information. The dates are 2nd-4th September.

Community Speed Camera

I have discussed this matter with both the Chairman and Officers of the Parish Council and I am hopeful this item will be resolved quickly.

Rescind an incorrect statement

The statement regarding a comment made by Councillor Dave Wells in my August article as follows:-"Yep let's pay another company / council 2 million more than we were paying Veolia, who did the bins" was incorrectly attributed to Councillor Wells. It was in fact another Belper resident called Dave Wells who stated it. I therefore withdraw that quoted part of my statement from my article. However the rest of the item remains valid.

Please take care.

Chris Short

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Duffield Parish Council

Covid-19 Information



Staff working arrangements: The office at Cemetery Lodge is now open, with social distancing measures in place. If you would like to visit the office during opening hours from 10:30 – 12:30 Mon/Tues or 2-4pm Weds, please contact the Parish Council on 01332 842740 beforehand if at all possible, or email clerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk, to ensure there will be someone available to meet you. Hand sanitiser is available.

Eyes Meadow – New Benches, CCTV Installed



Several new memorial benches have now been installed at Eyes Meadow, for all to enjoy. Additionally, CCTV has now been installed at Eyes Meadow at the Cricket Club Pavilion which is being monitored by a private security firm, and at the Cemetery on Hazelwood Road.

Parish Council Community Grants

If you run a community group in the village, now's the time to apply for grant award funding which is awarded twice annually, in May and November.

Grants are made under S137 Local government Act 1972 to local voluntary groups and charitable organisations where the use can be shown to be of benefit to the village or its residents. Grants have been awarded to the Scouts and Guides, DCA and other local groups.

To find out more and download an application form, please visit the Parish Council's website: www.duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-grants.html



Village Walkabouts

The Council is seeking volunteers for village walkabouts which will involve conducting a "bee friendly survey" of the village, identifying locations and types of village flowers, plants and shrubs and to consider potential new allotment sites. Please contact assistantclerk@duffieldparishcouncil.gov.uk if you can help.

Traffic Management - Volunteers Needed

The Parish Council is 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.

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 Meeting on Wednesday 9th September and 7th October, Outdoor Management & Development Committee on 30th September (changed from 23rd)**. Meetings begin 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

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DUFFIELD & DISTRICT HERITAGE FEATURES – Ghosts!



Champion Park

If you've never seen a poltergeist, banshee or other kind of apparition you'll be surprised to learn that Duffield has its own fair share of 'ghosts'. If you can accept the definition of a ghost as being a mere shadow, or semblance, or trace of something now lost then the village can boast some interesting examples – but you have to look closely. Actually many of these 'ghosts' are hidden away within plain sight. Take Duffield Castle for instance, where only the outline of the late 11th/early 12thC foundation is tangible evidence of a once great Norman **keep** surmounting the castle **motte** (mound).

A medieval **moated** site within Champion Park, one of the parks within Duffield Frith (a private and later royal hunting forest) lies alongside a footpath between Cumberhills and Wirksworth Road. Although covered in woodland the central platform, ditch (moat) and outer bank of this Ancient Monument can easily be traced.

Transport during the Georgian and Victorian era involved some form of wheeled carriage; often stored within a coach-house. In Tamworth Street the archway to the coach-house serving The Park can still be seen; now a dwelling.

Although advertisements for smoking are now banned, at one time the sight of cigarette adverts was commonplace. A notable brand can still be seen in ghostly fashion on the gable wall beside 14 Town Street. It advertises cigarettes with the slogan '*Smoke Wills's Gold Flake Cigarettes*'. 'Gold Flake' was produced in Bristol by W.D. & H.O. Wills and from 1901



Tamworth Street

part of the Imperial Tobacco Company. The gold refers to cigarettes made using bright rich golden tobacco. Popular during WW1 with British soldiers in the trenches, today they are only available in India.

Interestingly, there's a society dedicated to studying and recording '**ghost signs**'; namely old, faded, hand-painted signage for products and businesses; many no longer existing. Painted on the sides of buildings, these advertise products from a bygone era including steamship cruises, fountain pens, pianos, snuff and of course cigarettes. As relics of advertising they provide an echo of the past when Guinness was considered good for you and nobody thought tobacco was dangerous to health. (www.ghostsigns.co.uk).

The oldest are typically late Victorian but one in Bath is 200 years old! In some cases light projections have been used to show how the signs once looked. Although the skill used in painting them has declined the craft is now experiencing a resurgence as seen recently on the White Hart.

Some signs have been given legal protection, like the 1920s fountain pen advert on a building in Stoke Newington. If you've been watching the Great British Sewing Bee this year the keen-eyed will have noticed the 'Ghost sign' for Bermondsey Wire Works on the adjacent building.

There are local examples on Bridge Street in Belper, King Street in Derby and this lintel at 100 Church Road, Quarndon revealing licensed premises in ghostly form. One in Wirksworth identifies the services of a



Town Street



SWEARER – actually a sworn appraiser of legal matters! Below that there's a faded sign advertising the sale of wines. Examine the stone wall on Wirksworth Road and you'll see more than just a means of enclosure. This wall once comprised the front of three 18thC cottages; evident by the carefully blocked up 'lost' openings. Their original use is superseded by two replacement dwellings behind; one aptly named '*Old Walls*'.

On Town Street some old stones in front of '*Greystones*' show clear signs of use as the base for original cast-iron railings - removed as part of the war effort to provide scrap for munitions during WW2. Many 'phantom' railing stumps can be found throughout the village.

16 Castle Hill has an example of 'ghost' lettering where close inspection reveals in gold Gothic script the name of this Edwardian house as *St Oswald's*. A ghostly plaque between 8/10 Crown Street identifies the original '*Holly Bush Cottages*'; once a farm with a frontage of hollies, though only one remains. Changes in retail have meant the closure of many village shops. Opposite the Methodist Church the outline of the fascia and glazed brick 'stall riser' to Orme's grocers is just discernible, as is *Ye Olde Thatched Stores*



'Phantom' railings, Town Street



Castle Hill



Crown Street



carved sign (originally Morton's grocers, wines and spirits and now dentists).

Apparently the Old Derby Gaol on Agard Street behind Friargate is reputedly the most haunted building in the country, while The Dolphin Pub (c1532) boasts four resident ghosts as its regulars! With up to 1,000 other sightings, Derby has been described as the '**ghost capital of England**'! It's possible therefore that ghosts of the twenty prisoners executed at the Vernon Street Gaol may have haunted its rear entrance gate; rescued during its partial demolition in 1919 and reused on Milford Road.

From St Alkmund's, before the church had a clock-face, comes the story of an inebriated grave digger who had fallen asleep on the job. At dawn's light he popped up to ask the time from a passing workman who, thinking he'd seen a ghost, fled in fear - and probably arrived earlier to work that day than ever before!

If however you're looking for a 'real' ghost in Duffield then visit the old Kings Head where allegedly ghosts of Oliver Cromwell's Parliamentarian troops have been observed from the basement beside the old road – in uniform but, because the road was much lower in the 17th Century, only the upper parts of their torsos were visible! Take a look, but if you don't see a ghost at least you're in a position to get a good pint. So far my only encounter with the supernatural extends to opening a bottle of Adnams **Ghost Ship** real ale!

by **Robert Reid**



Old Gaol doorway, Milford Road

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DON'T DO THIS AT HOME!

There are lots of reasons to enjoy wild flowers - for their beauty, their scent, their colours, their shapes, and their usefulness in providing food for insects. Many of these plants were also essential for the wellbeing of our ancestors well before the NHS and knowledge about how to prepare them and apply them was passed down from generation to generation. Much of their usage is redundant due to modern medicines and even though some remedies had elements that worked –it is not recommended that anyone ingest anything without being 100% sure of the chemicals it may contain. We have two sorts of Agrimony on the meadow – the yellow steeple like *Agrimonia eupatoria* is also known as stickwort or stickwort due to the barbs on its seeds; its name is derived from “Argemone” – a word given by the Greeks to plants which were thought to be healing to the eyes. The Anglo Saxons called it Garclive and used it for healing snakebites, wounds and warts. It was thought to be useful for curing internal haemorrhages – but only after being mixed with pounded frogs and human blood! It does produce a lovely yellow dye which is perhaps its safest use! Perhaps best just to admire it and its beautiful yellow flowers on its 80 cm spike that open in sequence up the stem as it waves in the breeze.



Hemp agrimony is a different sort of plant altogether, with a large flat head of pinkish flowers on a robust stalk about 70cm high. Insects love it for its nectar and land on it upturned flower head with ease. **It may have been medicinally used in the past but today is considered dangerous as it contains compounds that can damage the liver and is not recommended for use at all.**

One of the prettiest flowers is the beautiful **Betony** (*stachys officinalis*). The vibrant purple flowers on stems 30cm tall spread rapidly and it has suddenly proliferated in the first meadow area. One of the first references to it are to do with folklore; the Roman physician Antonius Musa claimed it as effective against sorcery and it used to be planted in churchyards to guard against ghosts. The Anglo Saxon Herbal recommends its use to prevent “frightful nocturnal goblins and terrible sights and dreams”. Herbalists today use it to treat gallstones, heartburn, high blood pressure, migraine and neuralgia – although the active constituents have not yet been clearly identified as there has been little research. Yet again it should not be ingested without clear advice.



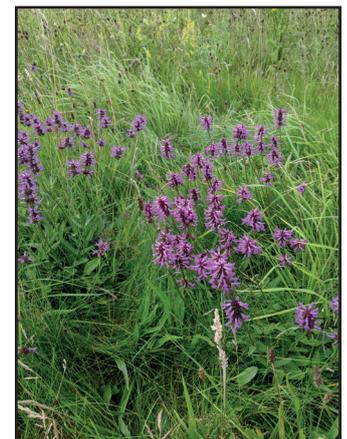
A close relative of Betony is **Hedge Woundwort** (*stachys silvatica*) that was described by the forager Monica Wilde as having a “musky scent that smells like an old room where mice have been living”! This smell is only evident when you crush the leaves. This plant is to be found in hedgerows and its common names include All Heal and Carpenter’s Herb – both of which reference its use for stemming blood in wounds and enabling healing. Battlefields of old made much use of this plant and it seems to assist in knitting wounds together if applied as a poultice. It has a pretty red flower and bees love it. The unseasonable weather has left its mark on the plants, trees and wildlife. The early hot weather in spring accelerated growth and the early maturing of plants – hence the wonderful display of flowers. The short wet spell followed by another dry, hot time is evident if you look at the size of the blackberries, crab apples, acorns and hazel nuts. They are all maturing fast but are not swelling to full size and whilst there seem to be bumper crops – they are falling short. Those creatures relying on flowers and plants



for their sequential lifecycles have been wrong footed whilst some have managed to breed twice this year – some butterflies have had second broods. As the light changes and we get the cooler nights the colours on the meadow will change rapidly. Autumn in all its glory is nearly upon us and some trees are showing early signs. The hybrid Dutch elm disease resistant trees - Japanese Sapporo Autumn Gold – are already turning a beautiful yellow gold and the birch trees have a blush of colour. Lastly – following last month’s article – I am happy to include a picture of a **Hobby** taken by Sharon Jackson who lives on the Hawley estate. It was perched on an aerial not far from her house. These birds used to be rare but are gradually being reported further north as our climate warms. They are very agile in flight and can catch swallows, house martins and dragonflies on the wing – before returning to Africa in autumn. By the way - the designer of the football game Subbuteo named it after his favourite bird – *Falco subbuteo* – the Hobby!!

Take care and keep well.

Di Hancock
(Chair, Duffield Millennium Meadow Conservation Trust)
07511230320



MUSIC AT DUFFIELD UPDATE

Due to the ongoing (Richard Jenkinson – cello) and 10th October 2020 (Bemrose Bursary Recital – Luke Jones – piano). Music at Duffield has regretfully taken the decision to postpone the concerts on the 12th September 2020 For the latest information visit www.musicatduffield.com.

COLIN HALLIDAY OPEN STUDIO



From the cover...

9.30am and 6.30pm so if you would like to book an appointment even on the day please email or phone and he can arrange what suits you best. Following Government guidelines he can have four guests from two separate households at any one time. Also he is holding the event outside in his Garden with

two large open topped Gazebos and a studio with double doors wide open. There will be between 50 and 100 paintings on display and all for sale. You can also see his work on his website and purchase prints or enquire after originals at www.colinhallidayart.co.uk. Tel. 07759 595294, Email: challiday1964@btinternet.com.

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