



# NEWSLETTER

**67th edition of the Newsletter for: Pleasley, Pleasley Vale, New Houghton and Stony Houghton.**

## CHANGES IN MAY

The most obvious change for our country in May came with the coronation of King Charles III. Although he acceded the throne on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 the formal state occasion was on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Local elections took place on May 4<sup>th</sup> to elect new parish and district councillors in our area.

Pleasley Parish is in the Ault Hucknall Ward of Bolsover District Council and there were seven nominations for the three vacancies. Tom Kirkham, John Ritchie and Catherine Tite were elected as District Councillors.



There were eight nominations for Pleasley Parish Council for the ten vacancies so all those nominated were elected unopposed and no election ballot took place.

At the first meeting of the new parish council Councillor Ian Allen was elected as Chair and Councillor Liz Smyth was elected as Vice-Chair. The council agreed to fill the two vacancies on the council by co-option and decided to advertise the vacancies in the community.

## PLANNING FOR CHANGE

### ELECTRIC VEHICLES – GET INVOLVED



More and more motorists are changing to electric cars but this prompts the issue of the availability of charging points.

This is an issue which needs addressing. The country is moving away from petrol and diesel cars but many properties are unable to have their own charging points. Nowhere is this more obvious than in New Houghton with the long rows of terraced houses. Some areas in

the country are using lamp posts as charging points.

**Derbyshire County Council** recognises this issue and has launched a survey to identify the extent of the matter and residents are invited to participate.

The Parish Council urges everyone to get involved. The survey can be completed online or on a paper copy available from the address below.

Chris Tyler from Corporate Services and Transformation, DCC, writes:

The DCC Sustainable Travel team is pleased to announce the launch of Derbyshire's Electric Vehicle charging survey.

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) is working towards developing a comprehensive network of on-street and destination charge points to provide practical and realistic alternative for those EV owners who do not have access to home or work charging facilities.

To determine where demand is highest for future charging infrastructure, DCC is collecting information through a dedicated webpage. If you're keen to register your interest in electric vehicle charging infrastructure please follow the below link,

Electric vehicle charging in your area - Derbyshire County Council

This survey is asking for resident, business, and visitor views on electric charging infrastructure provision in the County to provide an evidence base to help identify areas of demand and subsequently inform the most suitable locations to provide EV charge points in the future, so the wider audience this can reach the better.

We'd welcome your support in promoting this survey amongst your networks. Once registered, requests will be mapped alongside all other requests received across the County. This information will then be used to identify the most suitable locations to provide EV charge points in the future.

To help you identify your nearest existing charge point please visit [www.zap-map.com](http://www.zap-map.com), which provides live and up to date information on charge point locations.

The Sustainable Travel team,  
Derbyshire County Council,  
County Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3AG."



## SCARECROW FESTIVAL

It was with regret that the council felt it necessary to cancel the scarecrow event due to the low number of entries but is considering other options.

It is accepted that some properties do not have an appropriate area for display but the council does offer to find an alternative space. This is true also for residents outside the parish to participate by using such an area.

Keep an eye out on the parish noticeboards and social media for progress.

## NEW FLOOD PLAN

On March 13th Daniel Matthews and his team from the Environment Agency held an information session at The Verney Institute about the new flood plan which was about to become active. Ninety-six properties in Pleasley (both Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire) have been identified as being at risk from flooding.

Residents were asked to become flood warning contacts who would be alerted in the event of extreme weather and advise other members of the community.



## **BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL LOTTERY**



Win £25k and support local good causes. For example, if New Houghton Community Hub is nominated as your good cause it receives a portion of your ticket price.

Tickets for the Bolsover District Community Lottery Scheme are on sale.

With a weekly jackpot of £25,000 up for grabs and the chance to support local good causes in the process, make sure you sign up and buy your tickets. More information can be found on the Bolsover District Community Lottery Scheme website.

### **NEWSLETTER**

The council has changed the way in which the newsletter is delivered within the parish and is now confident that it is delivered to virtually all properties. If you know someone who has not received the Autumn 2022 or Spring 2023 editions please ask them to contact the parish clerk.

The newsletter is available also by email or from the council's website.

### **VANDALISM**

It was reported in the last newsletter that damage costing over £1000 had been done to two bus shelters.

These shelters have been damaged again and repairs are likely to cost over £3000.

Who is responsible for these acts of criminal damage?

Share information with the police on 101.

## **DID YOUR RELATIVE SERVE IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR?**

### **FOR KING AND COUNTRY**

Local man Brian Downing, who has lived in Pleasley for nearly sixty years, is an amateur local historian has written a book of tribute, "FOR KING AND COUNTRY", which describes the family lives and brief summaries of wartime military service, of most of the servicemen whose names appear on the memorials. He has also researched the identities of other fallen victims that have been inadvertently overlooked by the fact that many victims' names were omitted from the Pleasley village cenotaph.

In total the book contains short individual biographies of over a hundred victims, with accompanying descriptions of their military experiences (where known), their burial sites or memorial inscriptions, and their medal awards.

Furthermore, the book describes the unveiling ceremonies of the three memorials which took place in the 1920s, and gives an analytical perspective to the data accumulated in the process of compiling this tribute. The major battlefield monuments and cemeteries relevant to the Pleasley victims are described in the book with accompanying photographs.

Finally, the book gives testimony to the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission with particular mention of the history behind the selection, transportation and burial of the "Unknown Warrior" in his final resting place in Westminster Abbey.

The book is on sale at the introductory price of £14.00 (plus p&p where appropriate) and anyone interested in purchasing a copy can contact Brian Downing by phone on 01623 810619.

#### FOR KING AND COUNTRY

ATRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF THE MEN OF  
PLEASLEY, PLEASLEY HILL AND NEW HOUGHTON

WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE  
GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918



RESEARCHED AND COMPILED BY  
BRIAN DOWNING  
2023

## SOURCES OF ADVICE

**Treacle** is a website that can give you information you need. Log on to [Treacle.me](http://Treacle.me)



**New Houghton Hub**, with the cost of living continuing to bite it is a great place to get your money sorted. The Department of Work and Pensions openly admits that millions of people are missing out on money to which they are entitled. If you are a pensioner or somebody in work, call in at the New Houghton Hub between 10 and 2 on a Thursday and have a chat with Karen from the charity DUWC.



the charity DUWC.

The sole aim of this advice service is to help you apply for the money to which you are entitled.

## SPEEDING VEHICLES

Concern has been expressed by some residents at the speed of traffic along Newboundmill Lane. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the parish council is eager to renew its involvement with Community Speed Watch but so far not enough people have expressed an interest.



To reiterate:

The time commitment is up to the individual but could be as little as one hour a month.

All volunteers (who have to be 18 or over) have a short introductory training session with Derbyshire Police to learn how to use the hand held radar device (speed gun) and how to conduct a speed check.

Details of cars travelling too fast are passed on to the police.

Speed Watch is not about catching speeding drivers, it is about raising awareness of speeding within communities and educating them. However, motorists found to be driving at excessive speeds on more than one occasion are contacted by the police.

## LIVE AND LOCAL

## LIVE AT THE VERNEY

The Parish Council is waiting to find out the response to its request for four events in the forthcoming Live and Local season. Live and Local concerts are subsidised so that small venues like The Verney can afford to offer high quality musicians who would normally be outside their price range.

Live at The Verney concerts have been held for ten years and they came full circle in March when Blair Dunlop, who opened the very first season in 2012 with his father Ashley Hutchings, returned. Over the ten seasons a variety of musical genres have been on offer with twenty-nine acts from different parts of England, Wales and Shetland as well as overseas visitors from Canada, United States, France, Spain, Ireland, Germany and North Africa.

One comment that is often heard about the artists performing is "I've never heard of them". Whilst this is a common truth, it does not undervalue what is on offer and Live and Local is a kind of guarantee to the quality of each concert. Readers of Chris' reviews of the concerts will recall the number of superlatives used after each event.

Look out for the announcement about the next season of concerts. Never heard of them? Why not give it a go?



## **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

As residents are aware the Millenium Green recently had its first cut of the grass and not long after youngsters decided it would be fun to collect some of the cuttings and set fire to them in the designated enclosed sand pit area at the bottom of the green. On top of that they have been dragging old sofas and mattresses onto the green from people's properties creating what we would describe as dens and going in to these dens smoking and drinking alcohol and smashing the empty bottles, creating an unsafe area for everyone that uses the green not to mention the fact that taking the furniture on the green and leaving it is actually fly tipping and could end up with them and their parents being taken to court.

It has also been reported that youngsters have smashed one of the dog poo bins from its mounting and discarded the contents over the green - the committee of the green would like to make parents aware of some of the things that their youngster are getting up to and would ask that they make them aware that what they are doing is not acceptable and actually costs money that all groups are currently finding harder and harder to raise the funds required to put right their wrong doing.

We have all been youngsters and understand that there is not a lot within the village for youngsters so realistically why damage or make unsightly what we do have? On the positive side there is not another community within many miles that does have what we do have – we can walk in any direction and be on open fields or a play area within minutes – we have the recreation ground – the Millennium Green – the children's play area – exercise equipment on the recreation ground – Pleasley Vale sports with rough terrain cycling - canoeing – rock climbing (to mention just a few). We even have a country park and all of them are within walking distance – why spoil it or damage it? Accept what we do have and please encourage them to respect what we have.

## **REMINDERS**

### **DERBYSHIRE MOBILE LIBRARY**

Derbyshire's mobile library will be in Pleasley and New Houghton on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July and 22<sup>nd</sup> August. 2.00 – 2.15 Newboundmill Lane. 2.20 – 2.35 Booth Avenue 2.40 – 3.00 Recreation Road

### **ROOM HIRE**

The Verney Institute and New Houghton Community Centre are both available for room hire by arrangement with the caretakers.

To book The Verney Institute contact Phillip Briggs 01623 810732 To book New Houghton Community Centre contact Laretta Brudenell 01623 811390

### **OPEN DOOR**

Open Door is the name of the session that is held each Thursday morning in New Houghton Community Centre.

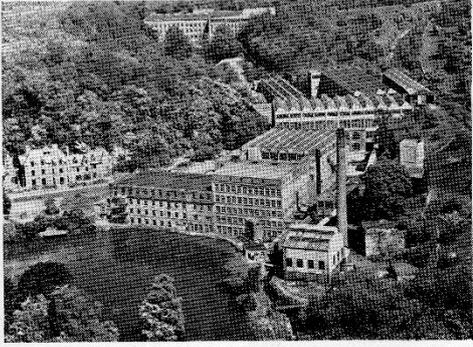
If you want to improve your IT skills in a friendly, supportive environment then this is the place for you. Thursdays 9.30 -12.00.

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON EXERCISE CLASS** The Parish Council offers the opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to engage in regular physical activity, each Tuesday, for an hour, from 1.30 with Julie Bonsall as leader.

**Leaving School?**



The 'VIYELLA' Mills at Pleasley Vale offer to youngsters leaving school, a good job in pleasant surroundings, a job that is well paid and for which thorough training is given. Working conditions are first class, and there is a five day week. Good meals and snacks are served in the canteens at very low prices, and parents can be sure that their youngsters will be well looked after.



Why not come along and have a chat with the Personnel Officer?  
WILLIAM HOLLINS & CO., LTD. PLEASLEY VALE, N. MANFIELD  
Liners of Mansfield

## PLEASLEY VALE MILLS

The mills at Pleasley Vale, tucked away in the River Meden valley, whose story began in 1784 when a partnership was formed between Henry Hollins, a brazier from Nottingham, Thomas Oldknow, a draper from Nottingham, John Paulson, draper from Mansfield, William Siddon, draper from Mansfield, and John Cowpe, an employee of Thomas Oldknow, closed in 1987 and are part of Bolsover District Council's plans for investment in terms of business and tourism.

In 1829 "Hollins" featured for the first time in the company name and remained so until 1961 when the company was renamed Viyella International with W Hollins & Co a subsidiary company.

Powered originally by water, steam engines were introduced in 1804 and a gas plant was installed in 1839. In the 1880s the gasworks at the mills provided gas to Pleasley Colliery, and by concession from Lady Verney (Parthenope Nightingale) to the whole of Pleasley village.

The company began to develop a community. By 1859 The firm owned 26 cottages in the vale and 8 on Pleasley Hill.

Mill children attended school in mornings one week and afternoons the next. At the back of the schoolhouse were baths charging ½<sup>d</sup> public and 1<sup>d</sup> private.

The company continued to develop the community with events and activities. Yearly outings to the seaside were arranged. Workers had a free train ticket and families were taken to the railway station in company wagons.

The company farm supplied milk, eggs and other produce. A field was ploughed so that workers could plant potatoes in their allotted furrows. The development of a co-operative store in Pleasley Vale was encouraged by the company whose farm continued to supply it. The William Hollins & Co Cricket Club was established.

In 1941 The British Small Arms company's premises in Birmingham were bombed. Part of the lower mill was cleared and heavy carding machines and complicated spinning equipment was dismantled to make room for the BSA company. 17 pounder anti-tank guns were sent to units of the Royal Regiment.

William Hollins & Co Ltd came through the difficulties of two world wars and The Depression and in 1947 over 800 people were employed at the mills, 70% of whom were women and girls.

By 1952 the company was exporting its goods to over forty-five countries.

Pleasley Mills were well known for its "Viyella" product and the company became Viyella International in 1961. After further name changes over the next twenty years the mills closed as Coats Viyella in 1987.

*Did you or a family member work at the mills? If you have a story to tell, let the council know*

# COMPETITION TIME

## WORDSEARCH

Find the 22 British Prime Ministers listed in the table below and return your entry to The Verney or any councillor by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Name

Address

There will be a £10 Garden Voucher for the winning entry.  
The winner of the Spring wordsearch was S Drew of Pleasley.

D	O	C	N	A	H	G	A	L	L	A	C
I	J	O	H	N	S	O	N	P	E	A	D
S	I	E	N	O	S	L	I	W	M	R	H
R	N	N	S	C	N	E	D	E	E	T	M
A	S	O	U	H	O	G	R	H	I	L	A
E	S	T	N	U	Q	O	C	U	A	E	C
L	U	S	A	R	N	T	Q	M	Y	E	M
I	R	D	K	C	A	S	B	L	F	P	I
H	T	A	E	H	A	P	L	R	G	E	L
M	T	L	T	I	Y	M	A	J	O	R	L
A	I	G	S	L	A	I	I	B	R	W	A
S	P	P	A	L	M	E	R	S	T	O	N

PALMERSTON	GLADSTONE	THATCHER
BLAIR	JOHNSON	CAMERON
MACMILLAN	WILSON	CALLAGHAN
DISRAELI	PEEL	TRUSS
SUNAK	PITT	MAY
LAMB	BROWN	MAJOR
EDEN	HEATH	CHURCHILL
ASQUITH		

## EXTREME WHEELS ROADSHOW



Two Extreme wheels sessions were held at Rotherham Road recreation ground during the school's Easter holiday. The first session was well attended but rain discouraged some on the second occasion. Nevertheless, around fifteen youngsters braved the showers.

A further session was due to take place on Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, once again at New Houghton.

The Parish Council is pleased to support these holiday activities for the young people of the parish.

### CURIOUS!

Discovered on the inside of a wall on a property on Newboundmill Lane.

Richard & Elizabeth Dobb 1714.



### FACEBOOK

The Parish Council uses Facebook to share information about events in the area and information from public bodies. Please contact the council by email ([ian.pleasleypc@gmail.com](mailto:ian.pleasleypc@gmail.com)) or telephone (01623 819786) rather than the FB comments or Messenger.

### PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Vacancy

Vacancy

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