



NEWSLETTER

64th edition of the Newsletter for: Pleasley, Pleasley Vale, New Houghton and Stony Houghton.

THE SCARECROW FESTIVAL RETURNS!

June 25th and 26th



The Parish Council is pleased to confirm that the Scarecrow Festival will be held on June 25th and 26th this year.

This is an opportunity for people to blow away those COVID blues , engage in some fun, and inject some community spirit into the parish.

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the fine details have not been finalised, but arrangements will be very similar to previous events.

As before, it is hoped that a large amount of money can be raised for the chosen charity which this year is the St John Ambulance.

Information about participating can be found later in this newsletter.

NEW CEMETERY GATES

It will have been noticed that the new cemetery gates have been installed. The council is pleased that this took place earlier than expected, as reported in the previous newsletter.



NEW COUNCILLOR

Welcome to the parish council's latest member.

Following the meeting in April, Liz Smyth was co-opted to fill the vacancy which had arisen. This brings the membership back up to the required number of 10 councillors. Since 2019 Liz has been one of the district councillors serving our area and she is the Cabinet member for Growth and Property on BDC.

At the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 16th, Councillor Howard Wright was re-elected as Chair of the council and Councillor Ian Allen was elected as Vice-Chair.

Congratulations to Winnie Bennett and Pleasley St John Ambulance.

The group, which meets at the New Houghton Hub on Mondays, was established on February 27th 1927 in New Houghton so it was fitting that the 95th anniversary celebration was held there.

Winnie Bennett, pictured left on the seated row, has been Unit manager for fifty years and on May 2nd she celebrated sixty-five years in The St John Ambulance. How about that for commitment?



Youngsters between the ages of five and eighteen are welcome to become Badgers. The group meets between 6.15 and 7.45. For more information see Winnie.

Neil Pocklington

It is with great sadness that the parish council shares the news of the sudden death of its Parish Clerk, Neil Pocklington and the council sends its condolences to his family and those especially close to him.

Neil became clerk to the council in 2016 and soon settled into the role proving himself to be everything that was required. Not only extremely knowledgeable, well organised and efficient, but also very personable. Whenever difficult or sensitive issues arose Neil was able to deal with them to bring about a resolution.

Neil was well known, not just as Parish Clerk, but as a resident of Pleasley for most of his life. He will be sorely missed

Neil's funeral takes place at Mansfield Crematorium on Saturday June 11th at 11.15.

Welfare Benefits Advice — Are You Entitled?



At its meeting in April, the council was pleased to agree to funding the work of a person at the New Houghton Hub to help parishioners get welfare benefits to which they are entitled.

Karen Seymour who is a DUWC employee, has been at The Hub each Thursday from 10am until 2pm helping people navigate the complicated welfare system. Karen has helped a number of people already and is at pains to point out that benefits are a right not a privilege.

Each year millions of pounds are unclaimed by people who have an entitlement. This can be because there is ignorance of the system, because the system is complicated, because of a fear of means-testing, or because people are too proud.

Councillors felt this confidential service was important especially in the current climate of rapidly rising prices.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Councillors have agreed to increase the number of Christmas lights in both New Houghton and Pleasley.



ADVANCE NOTICE

Sewer repairs are to be carried out on Phoenix Rise between July 18th and 29th



£20 & £50 NOTES

It will not be possible to spend the paper versions of £20 and £50 notes after 30th September. They can be exchanged at banks after that date and the Bank of England will always exchange old bank notes



DOG FOULING

Dog fouling is an issue about which there is much discussion and concern. Of course, the issue is not about dog fouling. It is really about dog owners who choose not to clean up after their dogs.

Your parish council encourages dog owners to be responsible in a number of ways. There are now ten dog waste bins in the parish which are emptied weekly and dog waste bags are available from dispensers in a number of areas.

In the financial year which ended on March 31st, for each bin that was emptied, there was a charge of £3.71 +VAT which was £1929.20 + VAT. In the same period of time there were five orders of ten boxes of dog waste bags. each containing 800 bags – 40,000 bags at a cost of £1239.00 + VAT.

The Council is committed to addressing the issue of dog fouling, hence the spending of over £3000 last year. So, dog owners, please bag it and bin it. Only make use of the council's provision when necessary.



NEED HELP WITH YOUR COMPUTER?

The Open Door computer sessions are held in the community centre in New Houghton on Thursdays from 9.30 to 12.30.

Assistance is on hand to sort out those problems encountered when using a computer. Lap tops are available for use or people may bring along their own.

These drop-in sessions are free to residents of the parish with a charge (£2.00) to those residing outside the parish. All are welcome to drop in.

NEWSLETTER PLANS

The council is considering sending the newsletter by email to those parishioners who request it. If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please contact Cllr Wright.

Derbyshire's mobile library will be in Pleasley on the following days:

Tuesday 21st June, 19th July & 16th August 2022

2.00 – 2.15 Newboundmill Lane.

2.20 – 2.35 Booth Avenue

2.40 – 3.00 Recreation Road



KEEPING FIT – CHAIR-BASED EXERCISE

The Senior Citizens' Exercise class takes place at The Verney Institute. This is for one hour, with a series of light exercises and stretches, in the Verney on Tuesdays with a qualified instructor. There is no charge for Pleasley parish residents but there is a small charge of £2 per session for those residing outside the parish.



Community Speed Watch (CSW)

Derbyshire Community Speedwatch is a scheme that enables groups of trained volunteers to positively contribute to reducing the problem of speeding vehicles on local roads. By working in partnership, the police and community can make a real contribution towards reducing the incidence of speeding vehicles, thereby improving the quality of life for all.

This will be achieved through the continuation and development of CSW across Derbyshire.

This is achieved by:

Undertaking high-visibility roadside operations to ascertain the actual speed of speeding vehicles, with a view to improving driver behaviour.

Reporting to the Constabulary the details of speeding vehicles in specific areas where speed is of concern.

These speed monitoring reports enable the Constabulary to:

- a Send advisory letters to the registered owners to confirm to them that their vehicle was travelling in excess of the speed limit.
- b Use the data gathered to inform the Constabulary and others on the allocation of resources and general road safety issues.

Delivering locally based feedback and problem solving schemes where speeding is of specific concern to the Community.

Speed Watch **is not enforcement**: it is about raising awareness of speeding within communities and educating drivers.

Trained volunteers who must be 18 or over will operate on behalf of their respective communities. These volunteers are not employees or agents of Derbyshire Constabulary nor will they be able to claim expenses for travelling.

CSW comprises:

- A hand-held radar that meets the approved specifications. Only these speed detection devices should be used by volunteers.
- Portable Community Speed Watch warning signs. No other signs are permitted. The portable signs must be deployed whenever a scheme operates, even where fixed signs have been installed near a check location.
- High visibility Orange or Yellow jackets for volunteers.

Do YOU want to make a difference? Protect our community? Make our villages safer?

Here's how. Register an interest in being a CSW volunteer in Pleasley Parish please contact Mick Gamble: mickgamble@aol.com

FIGURES FOR REPORTED CRIMES IN PLEASLEY PARISH DECEMBER - MARCH

<p>Crime figures for December</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour 3</p> <p>Criminal Damage & Arson 3</p> <p>Burglary 1</p> <p>Vehicle Crime 1</p> <p>Violence & Sexual Offences 10</p>	<p>Crime figures for January</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour 6</p> <p>Criminal Damage and Arson 2</p> <p>Other Theft 2</p> <p>Vehicle Crime 8</p> <p>Violence & Sexual Offences 9</p>
<p>Crime figures for February</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour 4</p> <p>Criminal Damage & Arson 1</p> <p>Public Order 1</p> <p>Violence & Sexual Offences 5</p> <p>Other 1</p>	<p>Crime figures for March</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour 5</p> <p>Criminal Damage & Arson 3</p> <p>Public Order 3</p> <p>Violence & Sexual Offences 11</p>

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Howard Wright (Chair)
01623 810486

Christopher Davern
07366 464640

Wendy Kirkham
07749 500025

Ian Allen (Vice-chair)
01623 810346

Mick Gamble
01623 810035

Hayley Smith
07708 724594

Pauline Bowmer
01623 811492

Thomas Kirkham
07734 274848

Louise Stokeley
07977 019674

Liz Smyth
See below

Parish Clerk: Vacancy

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Thomas Kirkham
tom.kirkham@bolsover.gov.uk

Liz Smyth
liz.smyth@bolsover.gov.uk

Patricia Clough

COUNTY COUNCILLOR Christine Dale christine.dale@derbyshire.gov.uk

LIVE AND LOCAL

The third concert in our Live an Local season featured a duo, Tiwkilin, a completely different offering from anything before at The Verney.

Here are snippets from what our reviewer, Chris, wrote:

“ tonight’s concert was something quite, quite different to anything I’ve ever tasted before. Tonight’s performers; Vocalist Iness Mezel and Percussionist Nora Abdoun, are serving a sonic repast made of previously untasted ingredients. North African instruments, beats and musical scales blended together in The Berber language of Tamazight.



However, review I must, so here goes...

Starting shyly and, possibly, a little defensively, they launched into a strange tune, sung, partly perhaps in French. Iness’ voice was accompanied tenuously by nothing more than a suspended rack of tiny bells and a sheaf of empty sea shells. With The Berber flag displayed proudly throughout the performance, the trance had been induced and this apprehensive audience had been transported to a strange new world. An ‘otherworld’ where they could relax and forget, for a while, the cares of everyday life.

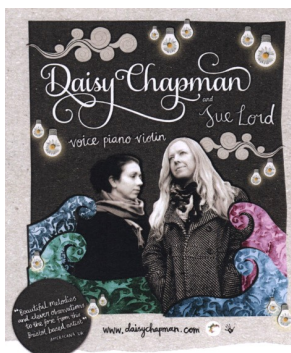
Songs of Berber flow and the Verney Faithful, now fully attuned, are on the magic carpet and enjoying the ride. Abruptly it’s half time and the old place buzzes in anticipation of the second set.

Fine sounds and hectic rhythms erupt once again. Wedding songs, rituals and folklore, until Iness guides us calmly down, in the gentle rain, through the coastal pines to understand and be at one with nature and the planet.

Then to the ending... Although audience participation is, generally, something to be avoided for both performer and listener, Tiwkilin lure the audience in to a ‘clap and chant’ finale. The *genuine* encore, being, really, just a more advanced continuation of this whole room performance.”

The final concert of the season was Daisy Chapman and Sue Lord.

The audience was entertained by two talented musicians with an evening of piano, voice and violin.



This was the smallest audience of all our Live and Local events as a significant number of those who had said they were attending did not come.

Unfortunately, our reviewer was unable to attend due to Covid.

What Next?

The organising team is currently involved in the planning for the next season of concerts which will begin in October. Live and Local events will also be held in Glapwell and Doe Lea and it is hoped that co-operation between the venues will bring a greater cultural offer with a three mile corridor.

EVENTS

June 3rd & 4th (5th) Pleasley Pit Beer Festival

COMPETITION TIME

WORDSEARCH

Find the 18 animals listed in the table below and return your entry to the Verney or any councillor by July 1st.

Name

Address

Contact number

There will be a £10 Garden Voucher for the winning entry.

The winner of the Wordsearch in Newsletter 63 was Mr G Stafford.

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

STOAT	WEASEL	RABBIT
BADGER	MOLE	FOX
BROWN RAT	GREY SQUIRREL	PYGMY SHREW
ROE DEER	TOAD	BANK VOLE
FROG	SMOOTH NEWT	DORMOUSE
HARE	WOOD MOUSE	BAT

Mosquitoes and Midges

A mosquito is a small flying insect, known for biting and sucking blood, leaving an itching bump on the skin. A midge is one of various small two-winged flies, not all of which bite. Mosquitoes use a long needle-like “proboscis” to silently suck blood from capillaries, whereas biting midges have serrated mouthparts, cutting a painful hole in the skin from which to feed. Only females of both feed on blood;

There are more than 30 native mosquito species in the UK.

If you’ve ever felt that you’re irresistible to pesky mosquitoes. Numerous scientific studies have revealed that mosquitoes really do prefer to bite some people over the others when given the choice.

In fact, one study found that they are even attracted to one blood type over all others. Researchers revealed that people with Type O blood were found to be twice as attractive to mosquitoes than those with Type A blood. Mosquitoes can even taste via skin secretions what blood type we are before sucking it down, enabling them to find their preferred type.

Mosquitoes are also drawn to certain other particularities, like smelly feet and people with high concentrations of steroids or cholesterol on the surface of their skin. The colour of clothing also makes a difference as the bugs prefer dark colours that don’t reflect much light, there are a number of ways to repel them naturally,

When you plan to be outside, wear lighter coloured clothing like white, khaki or pastels, all of which are popular during the summer months anyway. Avoid dark colours like navy blue and black.

Scarecrow Festival June 25th & 26th

- Q** Do I have to pay to enter the festival?
A No, entry is free.
- Q** How do I enter?
A Complete the form and send it or email. You will receive a number which should be put on your scarecrow.
- Q** Does the festival have a theme?
A No. You decide what sort of scarecrow to make.
- Q** I don’t live in Pleasley Parish. Can I take part?
A Yes, but your scarecrow must be put up in the parish.
- Q** Are there any prizes? If so, what are they?
A This hasn’t been decided yet.
- Q** How are the best scarecrows chosen?
A By public vote.



SCARECROW ENTRY FORM

Name

Address

Contact Information: Phone Email

Please return to “Scarecrow”, The Verney Institute, 13 Newboundmill Lane, Pleasley NG19 7PL
or email Howard Wright, jonwrightppc@gmail.com