

The Diseworth Dialogue



DECEMBER 2008/JANUARY 2009

DOUBLE ISSUE No 142

Delivered free to households

in Diseworth

<http://www.diseworth.org>

50p

The Diseworth Dialogue

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*Details of our committee meetings can be found in the diary section of the magazine.
We extend an open invitation to members of the village to come to our meetings.*

CONTRIBUTIONS

Please let us have your items for publication (this includes advertising) by the 7th of the month for the following month's issue. Remember that we produce 2 double issues (July/August and December/January). **All contributions will be considered for publication.** They can be delivered to any committee member or emailed to **peggy.tudor@btinternet.com** and/or to **ruth@airnig.co.uk** and to **sue@cbrompton.fsnet.co.uk** or via our village web site at

<http://www.diseworth.org>

Contributions for our dispatches page are most welcome. Share your news with the village - birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, congratulations etc. When contributing, please **include your name**. We do need your name, but we won't publish it if that's your wish. If you're a child, our readers appreciate seeing your age too!

Designed & produced by Ruth
Smith, Telephone 01332 811538
Printed by The OfficeWay.com
Telephone 0800 068 4666

ADVERTISING

Advertisements in our Yellow Pages can be placed yearly or monthly according to your needs. Please contact **Victoria Britton, 01332 850184** for details.

DISCLAIMER

Any views or opinions expressed within the pages of the *Diseworth Dialogue* are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team or Committee. All advertisements are accepted in good faith.

OUR PRICING POLICY

We aim to be able to deliver one copy of the *Diseworth Dialogue* to each household in Diseworth. Our objective is to fund production through advertising, fund raising and voluntary contributions. We aim to deliver a quality publication which enriches village life and encourages such voluntary contributions, these we invite annually. Additional copies are available for purchase at 50p. If you know somebody living outside the village who would like to have a copy mailed on a subscription basis, please let us know. Mail subscription is £10 per year, including postage.

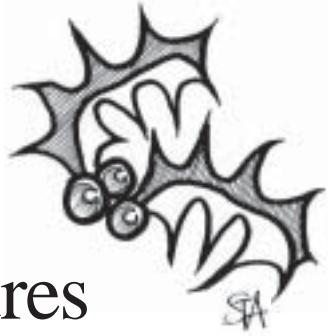
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DISEWORTH DIARY

DECEMBER

Monday	1 st	Women's Discussion Group. "Personal Meaning of Christmas". 20 Clements Gate. 2pm.
Monday	8 th	Womens Group. Christmas Concert - Loughborough
Tuesday	9 th	Affordable Homes. Meeting 4pm - 7pm Village Hall
Thursday	11 th	Retired Residents Christmas Lunch. 1pm Village Hall
Saturday	12 th	Farmers' Market. 9am – 12.30pm. St Edwards Primary School Castle Donington.
Tuesday	16 th	Bookworms. – showing of DVD "Mamma Mia". Venue 12 Lady Gate. 2pm.
Wednesday	17 th	Hathern Band In church. 7.30pm £5
Friday	26 th	Boxing Day Fun Run.
Wednesday	31 st	New Year Party at The Plough. 7.30pm.

JANUARY 2009

Monday	5 th	Women's Discussion Group. "Half Empty, Half Full". Venue 7A Lady Gate. 2pm.
Sunday	11 th	Plough Sunday Service. Diseworth church. 7.00pm.
Monday	12 th	Womens Group - Village Hall – 8pm. Colour me Beautiful - Jo Round
Saturday	17 th	"Dick Whittington". Diseworth Village Hall. 2.30pm & 7.30pm. £3 & concession £1.
Saturday	17 th	"Opera Dudes." Long Whatton Community Centre. 7.30pm.
Saturday	24 th	Diseworth Church Coffee Morning. 10am – 12noon.
Thursday	29 th	<i>Dialogue</i> Collating and Committee Meeting. 8pm at the invitation of Sue Brompton

Worship & Praise
every Sunday at
7-30 pm

Junction 24 

Whitehouse Hotel
Kegworth

Guest speakers each week
Worship led by
one of Junction 24's Worship Bands

Welcome to the special December/January double issue of the Diseworth Dialogue.



Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your kind donations. We now have a final figure which is a fantastic £933. THANK YOU.

What a bumper issue we have in store for you! In no other magazine could you read about swimming with sharks on one page and promising young boxers on another! Thank you to all who have contributed towards this month's magazine.

Our centre pages are, as usual at this time of year, dedicated to a review of the year, with an emphasis on the recent beautiful weddings that took place in the village.

Other articles include a fascinating item written by Muriel Howe about a holiday spent at Dent railway station and Liz Jarrom's account of a balloon flight which to me sounds positively terrifying, but then I won't even go on the baby rides at Drayton Manor! As for Sue's article about swimming with sharks, all I can say is, she's a very brave lady!

Now, I would like to personally thank Anna Groves for all her hard work, which this month was finally rewarded by the completion of the village hall car park and playground. It seems quite ironic that there is no playgroup to enjoy the fruits of Anna's labour. (Perhaps with all the new babies in the village, now would be just the right time to reinstall the village Mother and Toddler group.) You would think that Anna might now take a break from all her fundraising, put her feet up, but no, on pages 18/19 you will find details of the annual Boxing Day Fun Run and New Year's Eve Party both of which Anna has personally organised. All I can say is 'Anna you're a Star!' And I'm not the only one who thinks so, as you'll read in the magazine.

I'm looking forward to the production of Dick Whittington on the 17th of January and I think the offer of accompanied children going free is very generous.

Before that, is of course, the Retired Residents' Christmas Lunch on the 11th of December and a Christmas Concert at St Michael's on the 17th of December.

So all in all, plenty of things to get us into the Christmas spirit. And I think this year we all need a bit of festive cheer!

It just remains for me to wish all Diseworth residents a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Peggy Under.

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

Letter from the Kegworth Rectory



photograph Julia Sillitoe

Dear Friends

I wonder if you have been caught up in the euphoric celebrations as America elects its first black President. This monumental event in the history of the Black Civil Rights movement; captured so poignantly by Jesse Jackson's tears at the news; looks set to really change the world. For far too long, people have been subjugated or ignored due to race, colour or sex. Now with a white female as a strong contender for so long, and with a black man as the ultimate winner, the marginalised can begin to take hope that it really is possible rather than just empty dreams.

Or can they? Certainly those listed above – those who are marginalised because of race, sex or creed can, but what about the poor? Obama's campaign spent \$573m, which in pounds Sterling amounts to £361 million at the current exchange rate. McCain spent \$296m. Ignoring the gulf between the amounts spent, it is clear to see that when running for president, money talks. This is not to say that Obama isn't the right person for the job – time will answer that. The point is that there is a fundamental problem here when only the rich – or the richest sponsors – can survive in such a race.

In the current financial climate, the fear that only the rich survive is a very real one. Those who were wooed by unscrupulous money lenders into getting into bad debt are, this Christmas, no doubt rueing the day they saw the advert. However this could also be an opportunity for us as Christians to give hope to those so marginalised.



St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

TEAM RECTOR

Revd. Gill Turner-Callis The Rectory, 24 Nottingham Road,
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e-mail gill@thets.demon.co.uk

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CHURCHWARDEN

Mr David Bird 01332 810381

ASSISTANT WARDENS

Miss Rosalyn Edwards 01509 844052
Mrs Muriel Howe 01332 850338

Please note that Gill takes Monday as her day
off and Alison takes Friday as her day off.

For **Baptism** enquires, please contact Gill
or Alison. Baptisms will then be shared
out in all 6 churches and taken by Gill or
Alison.

For **Funerals**, please contact Gill. The
local undertakers have now been asked to
contact Gill direct. Gill will then make
arrangements for a member of the team to
take the funeral.

For **Wedding** enquiries and bookings,
please contact Alison. Gill and Alison will
then share the weddings in all 6 churches.

Consider this text, one of the set readings for the day before the elections: *“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant”* (Philippians 2:5-7) Jesus, the most powerful, very God of very God, made himself the poorest, the most vulnerable, the most despised possible. Not to glorify poverty and marginalisation, but to subvert our attitude to it. Being poor doesn't make us holy, but our attitude towards money can help us on the way to Godliness.

Maybe this Christmas, when money is tight and we have to think about what we buy people, we can begin to look beyond 'big is best' to the most thoughtful, and personal, is better – and best yet is love (which has the added benefit of being free). Maybe we can better see the simple crib when we are not blinded by the baubles and tinsel.

Have a happy, and blessed, Christmas, and may God be with you wherever you are.

Love Gill.

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

Services & Locations for December 2008

	Time	Service	Location
December 7 th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Hathern & Kegworth
	10.30am	CW Holy Communion	Diseworth & Belton
		Christingle Service	Hathern
		Family Service	Kegworth
		All Age Worship	Long Whatton C. Centre
	3.00pm	Christingle Service	Osgathorpe
	6.15pm	BCP Evensong	Belton & Kegworth
December 14 th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Kegworth & Belton
	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Osgathorpe
	10.30am	CW Holy Communion	Long Whatton, Hathern & Kegworth
	4.00pm	Christingle Service	Diseworth & Belton
	5.00pm	Christingle Service	Kegworth
	7.30pm	Songs of Christmas Praise	Hathern
December 20 th	11.00am	Wedding	Diseworth
December 21 st	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Kegworth
	10.30am	CW Holy Communion	Long Whatton
		Family Service	Kegworth
	3.00pm	Carol Service	Osgathorpe
	6.15pm	Nine Lessons & Carols	Diseworth, Belton, Hathern, Kegworth & Long Whatton
December 24 th Christmas Eve	3.00pm	Crib Service	Belton
	4.00pm	Crib Service	Diseworth & L. Whatton
	5.00pm	Crib Service	Kegworth
	6.00pm	Crib Service	Hathern
	10.00pm	CW Holy Communion	Belton & Long Whatton
	11.30pm	CW Holy Communion	Diseworth, Hathern & Kegworth
December 25 th Christmas Day	9.00am	CW Holy Communion	Osgathorpe
	10.00am	Family Service	Kegworth

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

December 28 th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Diseworth & Kegworth
	10.30am	CW Holy Communion CW Morning Prayer	Hathern & Kegworth Osgathorpe
	6.15pm	BCP Evensong	Belton, Hathern & Kegworth

Week Day Services

Tuesday	8.30-9.00am	Morning Prayers	Diseworth
Tuesday	12.30pm	CW Holy Communion	Belton
Wednesday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Kegworth

Lessons and Readers for December 2008

		Time	Reader	Sidesman
December 7 th Advent 2	1st Reading:	10.30am	T Walker	D Cherry
	Isaiah 40.1-11			
	2nd Reading:		D Blenkinsopp	
	2 Peter 3.8-15a			
	Gospel: Mark 1.1-8		M Howe	
December 24 th Christmas Eve	1st Reading:	11.30pm	S Bird	T Griffin
	Isaiah 52.7-10			
	2nd Reading:		M Gidlow	
	Hebrews 1.1-4			
	Gospel: John 1.1-14		D Griffin	
December 28 th Christmas 1	1st Reading:	8.00am	S Brompton	
	Isaiah 61.10-62.3			
	2nd Reading: Galatians 4.4-7			
	Gospel: Luke 2.15-21		S Bird	

If you are unable to read on the date shown please arrange for someone else to do so.



St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

Services & Locations for January 2009

	Time	Service	Location
January 4th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Hathern & Kegworth
	9.00am	CW Holy Communion (said)	Belton
	10.30am	Family Service	Diseworth , Hathern & Kegworth
	6.15pm	All Age Worship CW Morning Prayer BCP Evensong	Long Whatton Osgathorpe Belton & Kegworth
January 11 th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Belton & Kegworth
	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion (said)	Osgathorpe
	10.30am	CW Holy Communion	Diseworth , Hathern, Kegworth & L. Whatton
	6.15pm 7.00pm	BCP Evensong Plough Sunday Service	Kegworth Diseworth
January 18 th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Kegworth
	9.00am	CW Holy Communion	Diseworth
	10.30am	CW Holy Communion	Belton & L. Whatton
	6.15pm	BCP Holy Communion BCP Evensong	Hathern Kegworth & Belton
January 25 th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Diseworth & Kegworth
	9.00am	CW Holy Communion	Osgathorpe
	10.30am	CW Holy Communion	Hathern & Kegworth
	6.15pm	BCP Evensong	Belton, Hathern & Kegworth
January 28 th	7.30pm	Benefice Praise Evening	Hathern



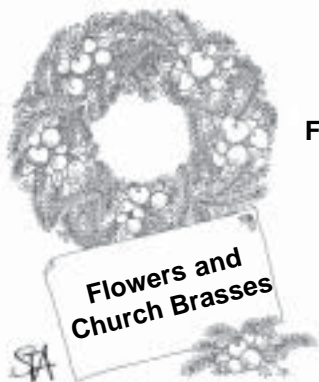
St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

Lessons and Readers for January 2009

		Time	Reader	Sidesman
January 11 th Baptism of Christ	1st Reading: Genesis 1.1-5 2nd Reading: Acts 19.1-7 Gospel: Mark 1.4-11	10.30am	D Blenkinsopp R Harris M Gidlow	G Stone
January 18 th Epiphany 2	1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3.1-10 (11-20) 2nd Reading: Revelation 5.1-10 Gospel: John 1.43-end	9.00am	A Stone S Brompton S Bird	M Howe
January 25 th Conversion of St Paul	1st Reading: Acts 9.1-22 2nd Reading: Gospel: Matthew 19.27-end	8.00am	D Griffin D Cherry	T Griffin

If you are unable to read on the date shown please arrange for someone else to do so.

Bell Ringing at Diseworth
Mondays 8pm



Flowers and Church Brasses

Flowers Brasses

December 22nd Christmas – All help welcome

January 4th/11th Mrs S Bird Mrs M Linthwaite
January 18th/25th Mrs P Cotton Mrs D Griffin

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

Other Benefice Services, Meetings and Social Events in December 2008 & January 2009

December	2 nd	Tuesday	Kegworth House Group 7.30pm
December	3 rd	Wednesday	Hathern House Group 7.30pm
December	6 th	Saturday	Hathern Church Coffee Morning 10am-12noon
December	7 th	Sunday	Hathern Church Music Café 6.00pm-8pm
December	12 th -13 th	Fri. & Sat.	Hathern Church Christmas Tree Festival 10am – 8pm
December	13 th	Saturday	Kegworth Church Coffee Morning 10am-12noon
December	13 th	Saturday	Belton Church Christmas Concert
December	13 th	Saturday	Kegworth Church Christmas Concert
December	14 th	Sunday	Hathern Church Christmas Tree Festival 1pm – 5.30pm
December	16 th	Tuesday	Kegworth House Group 7.30pm
December	17th	Wednesday	Diseworth Church Christmas Concert with Hathern Concert Band 7.30pm Admission £5
January	3 rd	Saturday	Hathern Church Coffee Morning 10am-12 noon
January	4 th	Sunday	Hathern Church Music Café 6.00pm-8pm
January	6 th	Tuesday	Kegworth House Group 7.30pm
January	7 th	Wednesday	Hathern House Group 7.30pm
January	10 th	Saturday	Kegworth Church Coffee Morning 10am -12 noon
January	11th	Sunday	Plough Sunday Service, Diseworth 7.00pm
January	14 th	Wednesday	Benefice Representatives Meeting 8pm Belton
January	20 th	Tuesday	Kegworth House Group 7.30pm
January	24th	Saturday	Diseworth Church Coffee Morning 10am - 12 noon
January	26 th	Monday	Benefice Bible Study, 33 Green Hill, Hathern 7.30pm



Christmas Concert

Featuring

hathern Concert Band



diseworth Church

wednesday, 17th deCember
7.30pm

tickets £5 inc. refreshments

plus raffle for a
Christmas hamper

Catholic Church of the Risen Lord.

Hillside, Castle Donington

Mass every Sunday 9am



Kegworth Methodist Church

High St. Kegworth



Sunday Services

Morning Worship - 10.30am

Praise Worship – 6.15pm (First Sunday each month)

Minister – Rev. Manville Wiles. Tel. No. 01509 672479



Kegworth Baptist Church

High St. Kegworth



Sunday Services

Morning Worship & Sunday School – 10.30am

Evening Worship – 6.15pm (2nd Sunday each month)

Lead Deacon: Paul Phillips 01509-551464

COUNTRY MATTERS



***by Liz
Jarrom***

TWO TRIBES AND A MAGPIE

Our ten brown Isis hens have served us well since last January, but we decided in the autumn that we needed to add to the flock to supply our needs through the winter. During the long summer days, a hen will lay close to one egg per day. As the day length shortens, egg production naturally declines and may even stop in the depths of winter. Poultry, in common with wild birds, tend to go into a moult during autumn. So while the days were still warm in August, we decided to fetch another dozen young birds before our resident hens decided to moult.



Rather than have some more Isis, a bird bred for battery production, we decided to have some Black Rock pullets instead. These birds are also a hybrid, but they are bigger and stronger, with predominantly glossy black feathers and then a striking chestnut neck and dark red comb. We had difficulty in finding some but eventually located a farm with a dozen growers at the right price. When we got them home we discovered that we had thirteen birds and one of them was what is known as a magpie, her ruff white rather than chestnut.

The new birds were released into the henhouse to join our resident hens and left to get to know each other. The new birds looked like gangly teenagers, and the resident birds eyed them with contempt. At first all was well; the young birds avoided the old birds, not even attempting to get up on the perches at night but huddling in a heap on the floor. Then the trouble started. The new birds grew and started to fight with the established flock battling to get themselves up the pecking order. There was a lot of scuffling and pecking in the pen, especially around the food hopper, but it was worse at night. The new birds proceeded to try and roost on the highest perches already occupied by the old birds. Fierce pecking

and squawking occurred until it was finally dark and then all was quiet. After a week or two peace returned to the flock as a new pecking order was established. The only one that seemed a bit out of it was the magpie hen. She wasn't growing as fast as the others and being smaller, she seemed to get picked on by everyone. To get away from the others, she took to flying up and landing on top of the fence. Tottering along like an inexperienced tightrope walker, she seemed so

smug as she surveyed the other hens far below her. Even now, despite the fact that she appears to have established herself within the pecking order, she still flies up and has a wander along the fence.

Perhaps being up in the air makes her feel important, my only worry is that she flies down the wrong side and lands outside the pen. I don't want the fox to end up having her as his Christmas dinner!



Retired Residents Christmas

Lunch

Thursday

11th December 2008

Village Hall

1pm

All senior citizens and retired
residents of Diseworth very welcome

No cost – sponsored by EMA
To book contact

Nikki Hening 853647



**CHRISTMAS & NEW
YEAR
at
THE PLOUGH INN**

Our opening hours over the festive period are:-

Christmas Eve	11.30am - 12.00am
Christmas Day	12.00pm – 2.30pm
Boxing Day	10.30am – 10.30pm
Saturday 27 th Dec	11.30am – 11.00pm
Sunday 28 th Dec	12.00pm – 10.30pm
Monday 29 th Dec	11.30am – 3.00pm 5.00pm – 11.30pm
Tuesday 30 th Dec	11.30am – 3.00pm 5.00pm – 11.30pm
New Year's Eve	11.30am – 1.00am
New Year's Day	12.00pm – 10.30pm

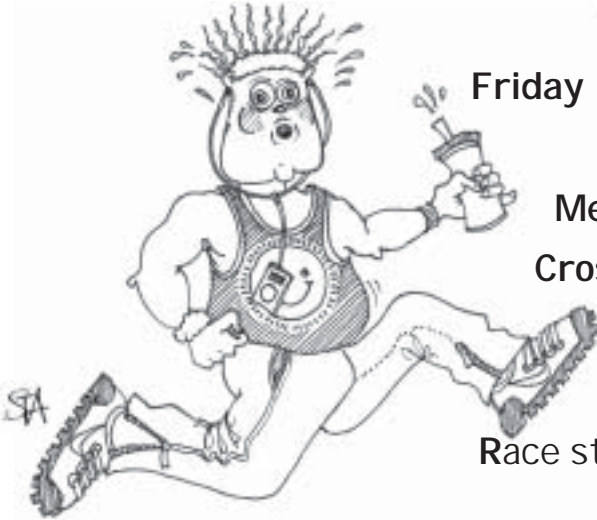
The village Fun Run takes place on Boxing Day – then back to The Plough for a much earned drink!

New Year's Eve this year is fancy dress.
Feel free to join in.

Hot Roast Pork and Stuffing Cobs
served on New Year's Day.



DI SEWORTH'S ANNUAL BOXING DAY FUN RUN



Friday 26th December

Meet at the
Cross at 11am

Race starts - 11.30am

Fancy Dress Competition
Decorated Trolley/Buggy Competition

Prizes awarded to the best



Tickets £2 for adults and £1 for children

All donations for the raffle are gratefully received

Phone Anna on 01332 810014 or bring to
The Cross on Boxing Day

In aid of local charities

New Years Eve Party

at

The Plough

December 31st

7pm - 1am



Fancy Dress



Adults £5

Children £2.50 (under 16)

Price includes buffet and disco

Children's fancy dress competition
and party games

In aid of local charities

For more information phone Anna on
01332 810014 or email anna.groves@talktalk.net
Tickets available from Anna or The Plough

The Plough will be open as usual for custom



Village Hall News

Diseworth Village Hall Resurfacing Project is now COMPLETED

As a Diseworth resident you will no doubt recall over the last number of years, Anna Groves and the Playgroup members started fund raising for the resurfacing of the village hall car park. With various fund raising ideas, the blue bags (clothes), inter village rounder competitions (just when you thought you were going to have a relaxing summer) Christmas Fairs. The list is endless.

With Anna at the helm, driving the resurfacing project forward for our village, this has subsequently resulted in the donation of £10,000. This sum of money has been the major contributory factor enabling the resurfacing of the car park to be able to be completed.

The Diseworth Village Hall Committee would personally like to say a

**“BIG THANK YOU”
To
ANNA GROVES**

Not forgetting the other members of the Playgroup who gave their support and all of Diseworth residents for all the support they ultimately have also given over the years in attending and contributing towards the fund raising events!!!!!!

If you have not found time to see the results or perhaps are unaware that this major task has been completed and what, as villagers, we can achieve in supporting our village events, please try to find time. We are sure you will be pleasantly amazed

Finally a further thank you to Mervyn Johnson for all the support and time he gave to ensure the project was completed to the standard required and agreed with the contractors. Mervyn's civil engineering knowledge & expertise in this field, greatly assisted the project completion and ensured that the work was carried out to the agreed standard.

*Vanessa Johnson
Secretary Diseworth Village Hall*

..... *and a personal thank
you from Dave Adcock*



I should imagine by now that everyone will have noticed the refurbished car park at the village hall. Not only have we had the car park re-surfaced but the committee took it onboard to undertake other work at the same time, more especially removing the old oil tank wall, providing steps to the side fire door and generally making good at the rear of the committee room.

The total cost of all this was just in excess of £10,000, an amount that put little or no financial requirement on the hall's finances. The reason for this was thanks to Anna Groves and her concerted effort to ensure her goal was achieved in providing a newly surfaced area at the rear of the hall.

Over the last year or two Anna has organised many events and given up so much of her time. For this the Village Hall Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her effort as I am sure do many of the village residents. Further more we should like to thank all those who have helped Anna organise these fund raising events over this time and to all those generous residents and friends of the village who have supported the various events.

A special thank you should also go to Mervyn Johnson who gave up so much of his time and expertise to oversee the project once the finances were in place, thus allowing the project to be completed swiftly and accurately.

Finally, just to say well done and thank you to everyone who helped or supported the recent firework display at the hall. The evening proved to be very successful in every way and unusually even showed a small profit towards the hall funds.

Hall Bookings:

**The hall continues to be well booked up so please book early
to avoid disappointment.**

Winter rates £7 per hour (£20 minimum charge)



Dave Adcock

Charnwood Community Theatre

Presents

**DICK
WHITTINGTON**

by

Sarah Cox

Saturday 17th January 2009

Diseworth Village Hall

2.30 pm

(Accompanied children free for this performance!)*

and

7.30pm

Tickets £3 and £1 (concessions)

Tel: 01332 810785

Email: ctheatre@live.co.uk

***As a 'thank you' to Diseworth for always being so
supportive!**

Claire & Piers Wedding

25th October 2008



When our daughter announced that they had brought their wedding forward, & the new date is in seven weeks, our initial reaction was “not a chance”. & when she adds, “by the way Mum & Dad can you sort the reception out at the pub”, of course we answer ‘not a problem, darling’.

The week leading up to the wedding, saw lots of busy people. Claire’s Auntie Caron was plotting all sorts of surprises & baking ready for the day. Pier’s Auntie Gina, also baking quiches & lots of low calorie puddings (ha ha) with her newly installed oven. Jeff Cooke, Dave Allen & crew erecting the marquee in lovely weather conditions assisted by Mark Mitchell, Del & hindered by Rocky the Dog, (Sorry Jeff for the paw prints). Sarah Minton preparing Claire & the Bridesmaids’ bouquets, button holes & wonderful flower displays. Julie Haywood locked in the kitchen baking sausage rolls & lots of scrumptious goodies for the wedding feast.

The wedding service was so beautiful, Claire looked stunning & Piers look okay for a bloke. They either had a lot of wind or were very happy as they smiled all day.

We all headed back to the pub, Claire & Piers were being driven by our family friend Mark, & the Bridesmaids were being chauffeured in Chris Draycott’s nicely polished white Porsche (At last Chris got it right, just pulling your leg when I call it a Jaguar), thanks for doing this Chris even with the threat of rain.

We had such a warm welcome from Jody & Karen. They had worked so hard to transform the place into a Princess’s Paradise. The smell of the food that Julie was preparing smelt wonderful. The flowers & table decorations that Sarah had made were stunning. Not forgetting the favours that Auntie Caron had hastily made the night before.

The informal reception was followed by a mad party in the evening. The marquee rocked to the sounds of “Trez” & Phil’s Disco (apologies to the neighbours for the noise). We had our own resident photographer on hand; Wiggy (Steve) who managed to take some very interesting photographs between drinking us out of Jack Daniels, even though he blamed Piers for this. We had hog roast & more buffet followed by lots of puddings, washed down by Claire & Piers’ special beer & Pig Brook brewed by the North Cotswold Brewery which is Piers’ family brewery spookily enough in the Cotswolds. We partied into the night & were suitably looked after by Jody & his lovely assistants, Ollie & Ed.

Our heart felt thanks go to all that have already been named, Gina, David, Sophie, Sarah & Jonathon, Claire's friend Rebecca, all you people played such a major part in making Claire & Piers' day so special, it would not have happened without you all. A special thanks goes to Tracy for dragging me off to have my hair done & chill me out, well appreciated by my family. Thank you also goes to all those people behind the scenes, family, good friends & customers alike who have not only supported Derek & I, but who are continuing to carry this on now to Claire & Piers.

We thank everybody who attended the day & hope that they enjoyed themselves as much as we did.

A massive kiss & cuddle go to the three special little people who stole the limelight, Piers' nieces, Alice & Tilly; they were beautiful Princesses & Michael the most charming well behaved Prince.

We wish Claire, Piers & Baby Michael lots of happiness for the future & thank them for letting us share in their very special day.

Written by Sandra & spell checked & authenticated by Derek Wiggins

Faye and Tim's Wedding

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Faye Danielle Adkin and Timothy John Percival, from all their family and friends.

Faye & Tim were married on Saturday 25th October, 2008, at St. Michael & All Angels Parish Church, Diseworth, by the Revd. Peter Evans; this was followed by a reception at The Royal Arms Hotel, Sutton Cheney.

Bridesmaids: Zoë Adkin (Chief bridesmaid), Kristie Percival and Emma Ward.

Flower Girl: Sorrena Fitzsimmons

Best Man: Stuart Pillans

Page Boy: Joshua Allen

Ushers: Steven Sherar, Peter Birch and Alex Weston

Thank you to everyone involved, you did an amazing job, making it a truly magical day!

At the time of going to press the newly-weds are still on their honeymoon, a Caribbean Cruise, so Bon Voyage !!

Claire Adkin



Congratulations

Saturday
25th October
2008

Claire, Piers & Baby Michael



Faye and Tim



Grimes Gate, Spring 2008



The Diseworth Destroyer, Robert Steven. *Report page 38*



The sad demise of the Grimes Gate ash.
Turn to page 33 for the report



Fun Run Fun. Boxing Day 2007



Halloween Fun.
Jessica,
Christopher, Toby,
Jonathon, Thomas
and Joseph



Bryan and Adele Jarrom,
Graham and Allison Wykes
and Liz Jarrom on their
Balloon Trip.
Report Page 34





Admiring the fine array of produce at the
Annual Flower Show
September 2008

Scarecrow Festival
June 2008



Married in church

The *Dialogue* bedtime story

Invitation to our Village Friends

Russell and Sally, from Lady Gate, are marrying on the 20th December in Diseworth Church at 11am. Russell is walking down the lane to the Church with his Best Man, Steve, at about 10.30 and Sally is following, accompanied by her son, Oliver, at about 10.45.



If any of their village friends would like to join them, either on the walk to the Church, in the Church for the ceremony, or afterwards for a buffet at the Bull and Swan from around 12.30pm, they would be very happy to see you.

Thanks!

From Charnwood Community Theatre

Charnwood Community Theatre would like to say a big, warm THANK YOU to the organisers of the Annual Diseworth Flower Show for the generous contribution of £150 from money raised at this year's Flower Show.

CCT likes to keep the ticket prices low, and contributions like this enable us to improve the entertainment value of our productions. We recently purchased our own portable stage lighting, and this contribution will help us to build on this with more lights and better sound equipment. Thank you.

We return to Diseworth Village Hall on Saturday 17 January 2009 with our pantomime, DICK WHITTINGTON, written by our very own Sarah Cox and featuring our usual star-studded cast. We are presenting two performances on that day – an afternoon matinee at 2.30pm and an evening performance at 7.30pm. Oh yes

we are!!! As a “thank you” to Diseworth, for the MATINEE PERFORMANCE ONLY, we will be offering FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL CHILDREN WHO ARE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT. You can book tickets by phoning Mike & Julie Doyle on 01332 810785 or email ctheatre@live.co.uk.

Thanks again to the Flower Show organisers, and to the village of Diseworth for adopting us as your very own Drama Group!

*Ady Bryan
Chairman, Charnwood
Community Theatre*

www.freewebs.com/ctheatre
Facebook Group: Charnwood
Community Theatre



D.ARTS

Young People's Drama Project



Following two successful Play-in-a-Week projects in 2007 and 2008 Chorus Theatre are looking at running a regular weekly drama group for young people at Diseworth Village Hall.

The project aims to start in January 2009 and run on a trial basis until May 2009. In that time we will devise and rehearse a new play to be performed to family and friends at the end of the project. The project will be open to anyone aged 7 – 13. There will be a charge of £4 per week for each participant. The project will run for 18 weeks making the total for the project £72. This can be paid in

full at the beginning of the project or in two instalments of £36 in January and March.

The group is pencilled in to meet on Thursdays between 5pm and 7pm at Diseworth Village Hall. At present we are looking to see how much interest there would be from young people and whether or not the project is viable.

If you would like to express an interest in being involved in this project then please contact Andrew McWilliam on 01509 212991 or via email andrew@chorustheatre.co.uk

Doorstep Clothing Collection Deception in Diseworth



We've noticed an increase in the number of leaflets through or door asking for old clothes. Perhaps you have too? One of the recent ones was from LAIRATEX LTD. Although not illegal, this is NOT a charity collection although the wording on the leaflet may lead you to believe it is. If you're webbed up, you can check it out here:

<http://www.scamtypes.com/clothing-collection-scam.html>

Of course, there are genuine Charity Clothing Collections, but these will supply a bag with a Charity Number which you can check. However, if you just get a leaflet with only a company name and no Registered Charity number, be suspicious.

You may believe your clothes are heading for the Third World or raising money for charity, but they may instead get cleaned, bagged and sold on at a car boot sale so that somebody else can pocket cash from your kind act.

If in doubt, support Anna Groves' regular Blue Bag Collections at the Village Hall or use a charity shop!

Mike Doyle

Close Encounters of the Shark Kind

Sharks.

I have written about these magnificent creatures before and some of the situations in which we have met. However, the latest holiday in the Red Sea eclipses all those.

Whenever we go abroad to dive we try our luck at spotting sharks. The Red Sea is home to a few such as the thresher, hammerhead, grey reef shark and oceanic white tip. We were diving an area known as The Brothers. These are two islands (just) one measuring 300m – Big Brother - and the other measuring 100m – Little Brother. They are about 100 miles off shore and appear as pinpricks on a map of the area, rising no more than 25m out of the water. Big Brother has a lighthouse on it but this did not stop the British built 'Numidia' from steaming straight into the island at 2:00 a.m. on the morning of July 21st 1901. She was on her maiden voyage to Calcutta from Liverpool. Another wreck is the 'Aida' which was a supply ship that brought goods to the lighthouse keepers. She sank in 1957 during heavy seas when trying to unload cargo to the island. Wreck diving is our passion but creatures of the deep that put in an appearance are always a welcome sight.

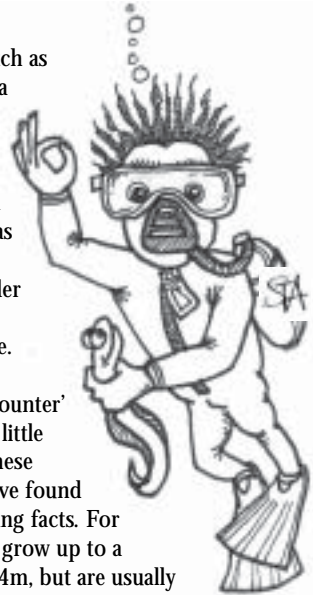
Our first three dives on Big Brother involved diving these two wrecks and on the first dive I spotted a grey reef shark in the distance but it swam away quite quickly. We then moved over to Little Brother and did two dives there. It was at the end of the second dive that I had my 'encounter'.

Just to re-cap – we were living on a 33m boat for the week and some of our entertainment, apart from diving, was to spot sharks circling the boat. The most common one was the Oceanic White Tip (OWT) and the occasional cry of 'shark' would send us scuttling to the side of the boat to observe a 2m shark swimming about 3 – 4 m below the surface.

We would watch as they swam in a very large holding pattern, appearing and disappearing as the circle got wider and wider and then they would be gone.

Since my 'encounter' I have done a little research on these OWTs and have found some interesting facts. For instance, they grow up to a maximum of 4m, but are usually 2m in length, and weigh up to 370lbs. They eat bony fish such as tuna and are usually accompanied by half a dozen pilot fish out for a free meal. They inhabit the open ocean and cruise close to isolated islets. They can reach a depth of 180m. They swim slowly with their pectoral fins spread wide and show little fear. They are a naturally inquisitive shark and will circle divers repeatedly if they think they may have a potential meal. Extreme caution should be shown around this animal. They are unpredictable and bold and have been put on record as the one shark that has attacked more humans than all the other shark species combined. It is advisable to get out of the water as soon as possible if they are in the vicinity!

History books tell us of two very famous shipwrecks – the USS Indianapolis in 1945 and the 'Nova Scotia' in 1942. The Indianapolis sank in the Philippines during WWII and reports of shark attacks accounted for up to 80 deaths. The 'Nova Scotia' was carrying about 1000



passengers when she was torpedoed off the coast of South Africa. Of the total passengers and crew only 192 survived – the majority were attacked by sharks. From survivors descriptions of both these wrecks the attacking sharks were OWTs.

Jacques Cousteau – he of the aqualung fame – said ‘...the white tips are the most dangerous of all sharks...’ I think he’s not kidding. Despite this they are also listed as being a ‘vulnerable species’ as the growing desire for sharks fin soup increases.

On 19th October I had little or no knowledge of all this. Would I have dived if I had known? – probably – but I would have kept my eyes open a bit more!

We were doing a drift dive on Little Brother having been dropped in at the northern end of the island. The group in front of us stayed to watch for hammerheads and were lucky so they spent most of the dive there. Our group of 6 divers drifted slowly with the current admiring the fish and the view and the occasional barracuda until after about 40 minutes the first two divers indicated that they were going to swim back to the boat, which was about 30m away. They left the shelter of the reef and swam out in to the ‘blue’. After a couple of minutes Graham and I decided to do the same and we left my son, Mike, and his buddy, Darren, to have a few more minutes before they came back.

The water was warm, the dive had been good and I was thinking about what was for lunch when I turned to my left to see if I could still see the pair we’d left behind. Shock – horror – sudden gasp. Swimming towards me in a very slow and lazy fashion was a 2 metre OWT. It was about 10 metres away and heading inexorably towards me – no sign of hesitation, its small beady eyes fixed on me. It got closer and I realised it was not going to give way one little bit. They say thoughts can flash through your mind in nanoseconds – it’s true. Do I swim up, down, left or right? Do I try and kick it with my fins (ha-ha)? Does it look hungry (how do you tell?) In the 3 seconds this took the shark was almost upon me. I could have

touched it if I wanted to but at the very last possible moment it turned and passed me by on my left. I looked to the reef where number one son and buddy were and they had seen the whole thing and were doubled up with laughter. Apparently I had let out a squeal which they said everyone under water could hear and they had looked up and seen what was going on. Their laughter soon died when they realised they had to swim across the same stretch of water!

Meanwhile I had inhaled a large enough breath of air to ensure that I had no chance of sinking below the level of the shark (that is another thing to do apparently – go below the level of the shark and all will be well. Whoever came up with that piece of advice did not take into account the sharp intake of air which makes you float and the fact that you might have a nearly empty tank at the end of a dive). I turned to Graham and saw the shark had turned back and was swimming about 6 inches over his head towards the first two divers who were blissfully unaware of what was going on and what was following them as they neared the boat.

Trying desperately not to over breathe through fear and panic I motored towards the boat like there was no tomorrow. Forget how hard it is to climb the ladder with all your kit and fins on – I was up there like a piece of greased lightning and landed on the deck in a quivering heap. Seconds later Graham appeared and said, ‘That was a bit close’. Understatement or what. Now I was safe, relief washed over me as we tried to explain to everyone else what had happened.

Number one son and his buddy swam back from the reef and then hung on a line 10m below the boat and watched the OWT as it circled again and again. They felt quite safe protected by a thin bit of line! When I spoke to our dive guide, Susie, she said I would have been ok; it’s just when they start bumping you that you need to get out quick.

I have a great respect for these creatures and realise that we are intruders in their environment. However that one was a bit close for comfort.

Sue Roberts

R. I. P.

The sad demise of the Grimes Gate ash *(a very belated report).*

Over 200 years of guarding over the Grimes Gate entrance to the village came to an abrupt end when this magnificent tree was chopped, sliced and diced in the space of only six hours on 25th March 2008!! The stump remaining in the hedgerow is the only trace of its existence following a very efficient felling operation.

It is a sad fact that many of the mature ash trees surrounding the village are dying and this particular tree, although far healthier than many others, was in an unfortunate position close to the road and power cables and with a potential for its branches to fall on nearby properties. Severe pruning was probably all that was required but the deed cannot be undone.

25 years ago the entrance to the village down Grimes Gate was very different. There were beautiful elms shading the roadway - but these succumbed to Dutch elm disease - and now the magnificent ash has gone.

We need to be planting more trees around the village for the benefit of our children's children's children. I hope the Parish Council will be looking to plant a replacement for this ash.

Alison Evans

Turn to page 26 for photographs



Acorns To Oaks . A New Beginning

After 17 years working as a Country Park Ranger for Leicestershire County Council I felt it was time for my career to move on to another level. What? I didn't know until the opportunity to take voluntary redundancy arose. This immediately inspired and motivated me to make a first step (or was it jump) to set up my own business as "Acorns to Oaks" as it is now known.

During my time as a park ranger I undertook varied training that was needed for my day to day responsibilities. These included tree surgery to fishery management, tractor driving to spraying to name a few. My qualifications and experience in managing and maintaining of the woodlands' nature reserves, gardens and fishing lakes have given me a wealth of knowledge to build my company on.

I am now very pleased to offer a friendly and efficient service in all aspects of landscapes, gardens and trees from mowing your lawn to removing the largest of trees, a one off job to regular maintenance or maybe you just want some logs. Give me a call. My advert is in here under "Acorns to Oaks." Free quotes and advice are given with no obligation.

I am passionate about what I do and want that to show in my work. Hence my company motto "service with a smile leaving you with a smile."

Thanks for reading

Julian



Balloon Trip

It all started with a milestone birthday and a desire to go up in a hot air balloon, but the whole thing grew like topsy until there were five of us flying. The day for take off dawned fine with not much wind, so we were very hopeful. At 1.00pm we got the call to say the flight was on, take off at 4.00pm. We arrived at Ambergate just in time to see another balloon set up and take off which gave us an idea what to expect, then our balloon arrived.

We were given instructions on the procedure for take off and landing, and then it was time to inflate the balloon. We all had to give a hand spreading the balloon out on the ground, and then the basket was laid on its side and attached to the prostrate balloon. Two people had to hold open the mouth of the balloon while blowers filled it with cold air. When it was nearly full, 8 of the 12 passengers were instructed to climb into the basket and hang on to the handles tightly while it was still on its side. Then the pilot ignited the propane blowers to heat the air in the balloon, and it floated up gently, pulling the basket upright. The rest of the passengers scrambled over the sides and we were all told to hang on tight until the balloon was airborne. Then suddenly, we were off, gently floating away over the treetops.

We drifted towards a tree clad hill, climbing steadily all the time as the pilot fired up the burners. As we cleared the top of the hill we were treated to a magnificent view of Amber valley as it stretched away in the distance towards Chesterfield. Ever upwards we went, the burners roaring in our ears and

keeping our heads warm. We climbed to 2000ft above sea level, and then slowly descended down to about 600ft above the ground. From this height we could see an amazing amount of detail, and conduct a thorough examination of people's gardens and roofs. Lots of the fields were crossed by animal tracks, and we did see the occasional hare scampering along these tracks. Some people waved to us from their gardens, and two young people called to us to enquire if it was fun. We shouted back that it was brilliant. On route we passed over Wingfield Manor and Ogston reservoir, and then all too soon, it was time to land.

The pilot picked his spot, a grass field, and we were told to hang on tight to the handles of the basket, bend our knees and not to let go or get out until he told us it was safe to do so. The descent seemed quite quick and the ground rushed up to meet us and we were down. The basket teetered on its edge as it dragged along the ground briefly, then toppled over on its side. The pilot leaped out and did things to deflate the balloon, then told us it was safe to get out. We all scrambled out, helping each other as it was rather muddy underfoot. The support vehicle arrived, plus all the people who were following us in their own cars. Next job was to pack away the balloon into its bag, stand the basket back up and get out of the field. We had to enlist help from a farmer and his tractor at this stage, as the support vehicle got stuck in the mud.

With the dark closing in we finally made it out onto the road and the champagne was cracked open. Suitably refreshed, we awaited



our certificates, only to discover that the pilot had one more treat for us. He informed us that officially we had all broken the law as commoners are not allowed to fly in hot air balloons according to an old law. So he would have to create us all Lords and Ladies. To peals of laughter he made us all kneel on a muddy verge, pretended to singe some of our hair with his lighter, and then sprayed us

with champagne! Certificates were handed out, then back in the support vehicle for the journey back to our takeoff point. A quick drink in the pub then homeward bound all of us tired, a bit muddy but exhilarated.

*Bryan and Adele Jarrom, Graham and Allison
Wykes and Liz Jarrom*

Turn to pages 26/27 for colour photographs of this exciting trip

OPERA DUDES

“LICENSED TO THRILL”

Expect the unexpected from
two very accomplished entertainers!!!

Saturday 17th January

7.30pm

Long Whatton Community Centre



Performances will include music from Grand Italian Opera and Viennese Favourites to Elvis Presley, Dean Martin and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Opera Dudes promise to entertain with their singing, fantastic piano playing and amusing stories.

Bar will be open, tea and coffee and ice creams.

Why not buy tickets as a Christmas present?

**Tickets and enquiries: Viv Matravers 01509 646413
Viv@manororganicfarm.co.uk**

Tickets available from Manor Farm Shop, Long Whatton post office and Long Whatton primary school.

Ticket price £7.00 adults, Concessions £6.00 Children under 16 £4.00.

Family friendly show all ages welcome.

Professional touring theatre is made available to local villages by Sponsorship Arts Council England, Leicestershire County council and Northwest Leicestershire District Council.

Christmas



Sandra, Derek & Family would like to wish all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

To my friends in Diseworth and elsewhere, may I wish you a peaceful Christmas and a happy new year, from Rosalyn (Rose) Edwards with love.



A very Happy Christmas to all friends and family in Diseworth
Best wishes
Bryan, Adele, Alice,
John & Harriet
Jarrom



Bill & Denise would like to wish all their friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a happy & peaceful 2009.



Warmest Christmas Greetings to all our many friends in Diseworth, from Mary and Tom Bebbington.

Seasons Greeting
Will and Liz Jarrom wish everyone in Diseworth a Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Peggy, Christopher and Thomas would like to wish all friends and neighbours in Diseworth a very Happy Christmas and all the best for 2009.



Carly and Jim Snee send their very Best Wishes to all in Diseworth for a Happy Christmas and New Year



Greetings



Martin & Nikki Hening send to all their very Best Wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

*Wishing all our friends a very Happy Christmas and good health in the new year.
Muriel and Brian (Howe) and teddies.*



*The Austs at Lillys Cottage
Wish all our friends and Neighbours in Diseworth,
A Very Merry Christmas
and A Happy New Year!*



Mike, Julie, Matthew and Hannah would like to wish all their friends and neighbours a lovely Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!

Sandie & Dave Moores send Seasons Greetings to all their friends in the village and wish each and every one a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

A very Happy Christmas with good wishes for 2009 to all our friends and neighbours in the village from Ruth and Aaron.



Pete and Nicky, Adam, Thomas and Graeme Miller would like to say Happy Christmas to all our friends in Diseworth who have made us feel so welcome.

To All our friends in Diseworth
Our very Best Wishes for Christmas and we hope that 2009 brings everything you wish for.
Sue ,Tony, Victoria and Rebecca Hill



All donations received will be sent to Rainbow's Children's Hospice, Loughborough

The Diseworth Destroyer



The story started some 4 years ago at the Penarth Amateur Boxing Club in South Wales with a young 14 year old Englishman wanting to become a boxer. The training began. In 2006 Robert Steven, now aged 16, moved up to The Birches and joined

the Charnwood Boxing Club, run by John Skillen. Hours of hard training and rounds of sparring took place until Robert's coach suggested he was ready to become an ABA registered fighter; Robert was delighted as this meant he would be fighting for real.

In October Robert went through the process of medicals and registration and waited for the call to fight.

Saturday 11th October 2008 was his first official ABA contest. He travelled down to a hostile Irish working men's club in Corby where he was matched against a local West Indian man with dreadlocks, a boxer aged 28 (very scary). The three 2 minute rounds began with a flurry of punches from Robert that nearly saw the bout stopped. The first round was easily won by the Diseworth Destroyer but in the second round the Corby fighter fought his way back into the reckoning. Both boxers came out in the third determined to secure the win. The longest 2 minutes of Robert's life saw him end on a high with a stunning right uppercut that shook his opponent to the core. The final bell. A nervous few moments while the 3 ring side judges handed in their scores, then the moment of truth, a unanimous decision to the Corby boxer. Massive disappointment, but a great performance. Onwards and upwards.

Undeterred by the defeat, Robert was straight back into training under the watchful eye of his coach John. Then the call comes. Robert has been asked to fill in for a fight at Coventry University as a fighter had withdrawn. The fight was for the following day. No worries says Robert, I am ready. So on Wednesday the 29th October he is in the ring again. His opponent is an Asian student from the

university. Again Robert sets off at a great tempo and the student suffers from some stunning blows. The first round ends with Robert well in front. The second round sees the student pull back some points but his punches seem to have no effect on the Destroyer and throughout the third round Robert dominates which results in a unanimous points decision to secure Robert's first official win.

Loughborough town is the next venue for the young boxer but not 2 weeks to prepare, just 10 days. So training is increased and Robert takes to doing his stamina work up and down Long Mere Lane. Fight night Friday the 7th November. 20 Diseworthians and another 10 from as far as Coventry turned up to support The Destroyer. Roberts opponent was slightly shorter but stocky and the fight was underway with a roar from home crowd. A very eagerly contested first round with Robert winning it with some great straight jabs. The opponent again came strong in the second connecting with a couple of good head shots. The third round beckoned with all to fight for and both boxers were aware of what was at stake, so a flurry of early punches saw Robert take the initiative which he held on to. The unanimous point decision was greeted with uncontrollable scenes in the crowd.

Robert was presented his trophy by the bout's sponsors M&M Properties and Lettings. The biggest honour came when it was announced that Robert had won the 'best debut boxer' on the night at the town hall and the trophy was presented by Leicester boxing legend Tony Sibson.

So when you see the lonely figure of Robert running up and down Long Mere Lane encourage The Diseworth Destroyer with some appropriate vocal comment.

Thank you to all those who attended for your support.

Congratulations on a great start in boxing from a very proud family.

Mike Steven

Royal Mail

Last recommended posting dates for Christmas

UK

Thursday 18th December Second Class
Saturday 20th December First Class
... and remember, if your card is larger than 240mm x 165mm x 5mm, then you need to use a large letter stamp.

International Airmail

Friday 5th December
South & Central America, Caribbean, Africa, Middle East, Far East, Asia, New Zealand and Australia
Wednesday 10th December
Japan, USA, Canada and Eastern Europe
Friday 12th December
Western Europe



LONG WHATTON & DISEWORTH PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



The Chairman welcomed George Pollard to the meeting. George is a correspondent for the Loughborough Echo and the Melbourne Messenger newspapers following the demise of NuNews. He promises to see if he can improve the distribution of the Messenger in the Parish.

The preparation of the coming year's Budget will probably dominate Councillor's thoughts for the next couple of months and arrangements for dealing with this task were made. Most local Councils routinely ensure that almost any information requested by members of the public is made readily available. This Council is no exception and now the new revised version of the legally-required Model Publication Scheme was formally adopted at the meeting. Updated information about this will appear on our website in due course.

Progress towards affordable housing in both villages has taken a step forward, with the options for possible sites being pursued. A consultation exhibition/meeting open to all will take place at Diseworth Village Hall on 9th December from 4-7pm. Another will take place at Long Whatton as soon as possible.

The Council's representation to Long Whatton Community Association was formally considered. This resulted in Councillor Downs joining Councillor Wilkins as the Council's two representatives. Also, enquiries are to be made about arrangements for keeping in touch with the School Governors, either through representation by a member of the Council or at least by keeping in touch.

The Pride Alarm scheme organised by local police is seen as a valuable facility and the Council has responded to funding appeals for some years. It was agreed to continue to help this year.

Quotations for play equipment maintenance had been received and the Budget Working Group will be considering this.

Following last month's public meeting six members of the public had offered to form an action group to deal with the 'Airport Parking' problem. Once arrangements are in place to obtain factual information from the police and the highways authority, the Action Group will begin its work.

The Council has been told that, from a proposed start date of 25th January, the daytime half-hourly Skylink bus service through the villages will be reduced to hourly. The service operated by Kinchbus is responding to requests for a similar service through Kegworth and therefore the buses will alternate the two routes during the daytime. This will mean an hourly service throughout the 24 hours. It was decided to note this information with regret at another reduced facility in the Parish.

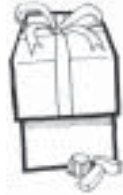
The Natural Burial Company had written seeking further sites to meet the increasing demand for environmentally-friendly burials. It currently operates sites at Prestwold and Scraftoft in the County. If anyone wishes to tell the Company of a suitable site I can provide contact information.

We are considering government consultations about the East Midlands Regional Plan and 'Communities in Control' and have discussed the somewhat ponderous proceedings of the 'Valley Community Forum' whose next meeting is at Packington on 19th November. Planning consultations this time were few and mainly centred upon the developments sought at Donington Park to enable it to become a Grand Prix circuit. Needing more time for the current major application it was decided to defer a response to the Planning Group meeting on 20th November.

Yours truly has been summoned to do his duty on the Jury in November/December. I'll be keeping everything going but sorry in advance for any delays in response to calls. Just leave a message (details elsewhere) and I'll respond asap.

In case I don't get another chance, my best wishes and Season's Greetings to everyone in Long Whatton and Diseworth.

Douglas Maas, Parish Clerk



IMPORTANT MEETING FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS - DISEWORTH

Your chance to see and comment on plans for affordable homes for local people in the village

The Parish Council warmly invites Diseworth residents to attend a drop-in session to discuss the plans for affordable homes for local people.

The venue - the Village Hall, Diseworth

The date – Tuesday 9th December

The time - from 4:00pm until 7:00pm

The Parish Plan identified the issue of affordable housing and the Housing Needs Study quantified this in June this year

You can see outline plans for the proposal and share your views with:-

- The Parish Council
- The developing housing association
- Representatives of North West Leicestershire District Council
- The Rural housing Enabler – Richard Windley



Refreshments will also be available throughout the session.

Please come along and see what's going on!

Seasonal Villains



I think I was getting a bit out of control with the hissing, foot stamping and hand clapping and was even about to verbalise my reaction to the scene I was watching, when the husband started to laugh at me and stopped me from continuing.

“OK”, I tell the husband, “I know I’m not at a pantomime, although I’m acting as though I am, but there are very definitely villains here, ganging up on the good guys and upsetting them, creating havoc, playing to the gallery and causing my eccentric behaviour”.

Actually, the gallery is our garden fence and these particular villains are squirrels that are stealing the bird food, digging holes in the lawn to bury the contraband nuts, only to dig them up again the next day, making a terrible mess of the lawn and seriously affecting my sanity. We are now on bird feeder number 4 (supposedly squirrel proof) and all this activity sends the poor dog into an absolute frenzy when she sees them. Daisy has always been very quiet before, but she now accompanies my stamping and clapping symphony with very well timed barks that surprise both her and the squirrels, but it still fails to deter them, they just exit the stage for a short while.

There are five distinct and quite recognisable, marauding, thieving, squirrel villains.

One always sits on top of the bird table and eats the nuts or other food he has taken from the bird feeder and he holds his tail up and around in front of his stomach, which makes him look like he is wearing a sporran. So this is Jock McSquirrel; sporran wearing, athletic, nimble and very quick to scarp, but never for very long.

The most annoying is Fish-wife squirrel, with unfortunately also some East-ender character in her. She does not just steal the nuts, but has the gall to sit boldly on top of the fence from where she loudly protests, moans, swears, chunters and chatters at the dog and me when we go out to chase her off. Sometimes she sits in the trees on Brookside, cursing and yelling at people as they pass.

Squirrel Vinnie Jones is recognisable by his habit of thundering around the garden aggressively, squaring up to the other squirrels and challenging them to make them give up the food they have in their paws. He chases the other squirrels and the birds and makes them drop the food they are eating, and then he swerves in at great speed and makes off with it.

Cobber Squirrel Digger would have been a convict sent to Australia in years

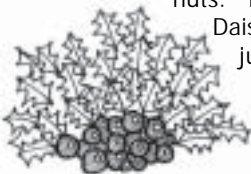
gone by; he has safe cracker skills, but needs no dynamite as he can simply chew through the pegs and bases of the most secure feeders. He is also a very proficient hider of his ill begotten loot. He can dig several tiny holes in seconds and stash away many nuts, and knows days later exactly where they all are.

Finally, there is Lazy Bandit Squirrel, who has dark marks around his eyes (no bandanna or even sombrero, though) and who does not like to use more energy than absolutely necessary to get his food. He prefers to just take it if he can. He sits calmly and quietly on the fence out of the way, watching the other squirrels, particularly Cobber Squirrel Digger, obtaining and storing food. Lazy Bandit Squirrel patiently waits until all the other squirrels have left, finally chased off by Daisy and me. Then he hops around the lawn going to each little food store he has observed and noted and unearths the nuts that have been carefully buried by the other squirrels.

Female offspring arrived the other day when I was in full pantomime type jeer, and she observed something I missed. She noticed that there is Scrounger Pigeon, constantly wandering round and around the garden, picking up the dropped food bits or sidling up to birds and squirrels to ask for a crumb, seed or nut.

While we were in the conservatory looking at Scrounger Pigeon, Lazy Bandit Squirrel scrambled down the fence and across the lawn and started digging up

nuts. Female offspring, Daisy dog and I were just about to go out and shoo him away when a huge commotion occurred.



Bandit had been spotted by Fish-wife Squirrel who nattered and chattered and swore obscenities at him. This alerted Cobber Squirrel Digger, who scurried down on to the lawn, obviously in very high dudgeon and incensed that his nuts were being thieved.

Lazy Bandit Squirrel was too slow to get out of the way and a little fight ensued, which looked a bit like boxing kangaroos, in miniature.

Cobber Squirrel Digger was getting the better of this fight and Lazy Bandit was backing off, when Squirrel Vinnie Jones joined the affray, with two smoking barrels, a lot of attitude and sheer aggression.

With the chattering noise of Fish-wife squirrel ringing out from the top of the fence, and watched by sporan wearing Jock McSquirrel from up on the roof, Vinnie chased off both Cobber and Bandit Squirrel, leaving the garden empty and quiet.

I tell female offspring that I've had enough of squirrels being such a nuisance and that it's about time I asked someone to get rid of them for good, trap them and take them away or something.

Clearly what you need to do to stop the squirrels from getting all the birds' food, female offspring advised, is to feed Squirrel Vinnie Jones and train him to keep all the other squirrels away from the bird feeders. He would be your guard, an SS, a 'security squirrel', working for you for nuts.

Really! I don't know where she thinks up these incredible fantasies!

Karen Jepson

Holiday 2008

Self catering holidays come in all shapes and sizes. Brian and I have holidayed in both very small and very large cottages, log cabins, barn conversions and a wing of a castle, but this year was really different.



Going back to July 22nd 2007 we walked the Ribbleshead Viaduct with The Friends of the Settle and Carlisle Line and with our completion certificate was a tea shirt, other items and a small brochure advertising a 'get away from it all' Dent Station.

Dent Station is now a self catering property. We booked and the wheels were set in motion. On September 5th 2008 we set off, driving through rain all day to our holiday destination for a week at Dent Station. Dent Station is 5 miles from the village of Dent on the old coal road and 1150 feet above sea level. The road actually climbs to 1750 feet over to Garsdale.

On our arrival we found that there were quite a few rules. The station itself is on the main line Leeds to Carlisle route. The building is over 125 years old and a Grade 11 listed building. We felt very privileged to be staying in the building where so many people had travelled through, to and from.

The station has been completely refurbished :

The Entrance Hall.

Formerly the foyer for the Carlisle platform. Now, with its flagstone floor, under floor heating, Victorian radiators, cast iron shoe and boot warmer. All outdoor wear must be removed here.

Lounge.

The former Waiting Room. Now a beautiful lounge with large sofa, heavy curtains, chandelier and a view out of the windows down the valley to Dent. The room has a huge fireplace with its railways lanterns on the mantle shelf and one original waiting seat. The window for the ticket office is still in place.

Kitchen.

Where shall I start! This room was originally the First and Second Class Ladies Waiting Room and is now a living/dining kitchen. Fitted with a flagstone and oak floor, underfloor

heating, large sofa, dining table, chairs, coal fired Rayburn, electric cooker, fridge/freezer, washer/drier and more. Again the kitchen window has views down the valley. The views from these windows are just great! In the far corner of the kitchen is a spiral staircase to the top bedroom. This is a twin room with views south over Arten Gill and Dent Head viaduct.

Other Bedrooms

Through the lounge is a narrow room with two adult bunk beds. Formerly the Porter's Office.

Master Bedroom

Formerly the Station Masters Office. Again, a room with a fireplace and very comfortably furnished. As all the windows are on the station side they have frosted glass.

Bathroom

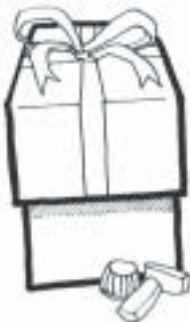
Originally the coal store. A fully equipped bathroom with original Thomas Crapper WC's and wash basin. Again, underfloor heating.

As the property is open all the year round in the yard is a Jeep just in case you are snowed in. Also in the outhouse is a generator in case of power cuts. The water is filtered and fine for washing, but you have to use bottled water for drinking and cooking. We don't know how long it took to refurbish the station but the attention to detail and all the fine points are just too many to mention.

There is so much to do in the area. It's straight out of the front door onto the train – south to Settle and North to Carlisle. Walking at Ribbleshead, visiting the Hawes Museum or the Wensleydale Creamery and eating fish and chips! On our last day down in Dent we visited the newsagent and village shop and on the notice board was an announcement ... LOCAL STATION WINS AWARD. Robin Hughes, who had refurbished Dent Station had won an Award of Merit as a winner of the National Railway heritage Award and RICS Tourism and Leisure Award 2008.

For more information www.dentstation.co.uk

Muriel Howe



Late Night Shopping in Castle Donington Friday 5th December 2008

from 5pm

“Switch On” of the Christmas Lights

Street Entertainer

Music and Carols

Tombola

Face Painting

Christmas Tree Treasure Hunt

DI A L O G U E D I S P A T C H E S

Women's Discussion Group:

1st December - The Personal Meaning of Christmas - Venue: Carly Snee, 20 Clements Gate

5th January - Half Empty, Half Full - Venue: Marianne Dokhanian, 7A Lady Gate

Book Worms:

16th December - Showing of DVD 'Mamma Mia' - Venue: Jan Firth, 12 Lady Gate

Extra copies of the Diseworth Dialogue will be on sale in both

The Plough and The Bull & Swan and also in Long Whatton Post Office



The Mobile Library visits Diseworth on the 12th December.

The Bowley 11.55 – 12.15
Clements Gate 12.20 – 1.20

The contact number for the mobile library is 01530 835951.

MANOR ORGANIC FARM SHOP AND BAKERY, LONG WHATTON

Our Christmas and New Year opening times will be



Monday 22 Dec 10 - 5pm

Tuesday 23 Dec 9 - 6pm

Wednesday 24 Dec 8 - midday

Closed 25, 26, 27 December.

Next open Tuesday 30th January 9am - 5pm

Closed Wed 31st Dec and Thursday 1st Jan

Open Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd 9am - 4pm

both days

Open as usual the following week.

Congratulations



to Sandie and John Clark on the birth of their son Jack, born on Thursday 20th November.

Advertising News

Welcome to **Atlas Express Ltd**, Mini Bus Private Hire.

Picture This and **RiverNene** have a new advert this month. See Yellow Pages.

? *The Plough Inn have general knowledge quizzes on Wed 2nd Dec and Wed 7th Jan, and music quizzes on Wed 16th Dec and Wed 21st Jan. The usual prizes and entrance fees apply!*

FROM LONG WHATTON POST OFFICE

You can now Top Up your phone and recharge your gas cards during shop hours; Mon-Fri 6.30-17.30

Sat 6.30-13.00

Sun 7.00-12.00

ALSO - now selling kindling, logs and coal. **KEEP WARM THIS WINTER.**

THANKS

Thank you all for a wonderful Halloween with many people having sweets and chocolates ready for the children.

They all really enjoyed the evening and the generosity of everyone.

Heidi



DIALOGUE DISPATCHES

Pam, Tony, Julie and Shirley at Long Whatton Post Office would like to wish everyone in Diseworth a lovely Christmas and a happy New Year. Thank you to everyone for the great support you all give to your village shop and post office.



Thanks to Val Stevens, Phil Clowes and Sandy (Diseworth) and to everyone who donated their excess fruit and vegetables for the benefit of local charities.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

We are now taking orders for Spencer's Christmas products and Julia's Christmas chutneys.

Christmas opening hours are:

WEDNESDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE

SHOP 6.30am to 5.30pm

POST OFFICE 9am to 12noon

CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED

BOXING DAY SHOP ONLY 8.30am to 11.30am

SATURDAY 27TH DECEMBER AS NORMAL

If you have items for the FEBRUARY ISSUE of the *Dialogue* please give to a committee member or email to

peggy.tudor@btinternet.com
sue@cbrompton.fsnet.co.uk

and ruth@airnig.co.uk

There is **NO CHARGE** to put items into the magazine - (except the yellow pages).

Please share with us your stories and announcements.

PLEASE MEET THE DEADLINE of the 7th JANUARY



Castle Donington Farmers' Market
2nd Saturday of every month from
9am. St Edwards C of E Primary
School, The Dovecote, Castle
Donington DE74 2QU

Are you interested in having an allotment in Diseworth?

If so, please contact John & Sue Hurley on 810130.



Congratulations Anna.

I would like to say congratulations to Anna Groves on working so very hard, over such a long period of time, without getting despondent, to achieve the completion of the resurfacing of the car park at the village hall. It must be a dream come true for her. Well done Anna, *Rosie Smith*

A big thank you to Anna Groves for completing the task of getting the village hall playground tarmaced.

Regards, Adele

Diseworth Village Hall 200 Club

The latest winners of the 200 Club are:-

September

1st (93) H Kenney - £30

2nd (19) J Fletcher - £20

3rd (170) J Butterworth - £10

October

1st (59) K Sanderson - £30

2nd (95) B Dowsett - £20

3rd (55) K Henry - £10

womens group

We know the ladies love a hands-on evening. Maggie Cooper arrived with bundles of stripped willow for us to make obelisks, plant supports or similar. She demonstrated the techniques first, placing ten canes in a base with peg holes to support the work, then taking more slender weaving canes proceeded to weave around the circle. A certain amount of strength and wrestling was needed to pull the item into shape and keep everything under control without poking other peoples' eyes out!



Escapism, from the normal daily work routines, you could tell everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Mainly working in pairs and helping one another, most people produced a well worthwhile plant support or decorative item. Liz Jarrom thanked Maggie, already we have plans for inviting her back to make cane wreaths for Autumn or Christmas next year.



Last minute changes have been made for the December meeting, after three members joined the Loughborough University Choir. We are going to their Christmas Concert at the Cope Auditorium in Loughborough as it falls on our meeting night Monday 8th December. We are taking 16 members on the Donington Community bus, leaving the Village Hall at 6.45pm. With a programme of carols by Benjamin Britten and other choral works, this will be a wonderful start to the Christmas season.

JANUARY 2009

Monday 12th

Another year and its time to look at our appearance. We have invited image consultant Jo Round from 'Colour me Beautiful' to give a talk on colours and style to suit with a visual presentation. Come along and receive a warm welcome at 8pm in the Village Hall. You don't have to be a member – guest fee £3

Happy Christmas & a Colourful New Year!

Sheila Dakin 810858

HEALTH PAGE

It's the Festive Season and the Great News is there are Lots of Good Reasons to Eat Chocolate

We are constantly bombarded with negative messages about our favourite indulgences, so it's good to know that chocolate does have health benefits. I must point out that the type of chocolate that gives these health benefits is dark chocolate that has high cocoa content and low sugar content, sweet milk chocolate does not have the same health benefits.

Dark chocolate is good for the heart as it can help to lower high blood pressure and improve circulation due to the naturally occurring antioxidants it contains called flavonoids. These flavonoids help to thin the blood and slow down blood clotting and they also impede the build up of bad cholesterol, while encouraging increased levels of the good cholesterol. Apparently, eating a few squares of dark chocolate each day can reduce the risk of having a heart attack by up to 50%. Another naturally occurring chemical found in chocolate, epicatechin, could help prevent a range of diseases from dementia to strokes.

A study of people who ingested cocoa rich foods and drinks, had improved blood flow to key areas of the brain that enhanced brain function, helping to reduce fatigue and the effects of aging. Another study found that adults with chronic fatigue syndrome who ate 45grms of high cocoa dark chocolate each day reported significantly less fatigue. Research in Italy showed that regular consumption of flavonoids rich dark chocolate, which is naturally low in sugar, increased the body's metabolism of blood sugar which may reduce the risk of diabetes.

Chocolate could be included in cough medicine in the future as a naturally occurring compound in chocolate, theobromine, seemed effective in treating coughs. This same compound is a mild stimulant and a natural anti-depressant and helps to promote a positive mental attitude. It can also improve alertness and attention span.



Eating chocolate also stimulates the release of serotonin, a brain chemical that makes us feel happy and elated similar to feeling in love. Gentlemen please take note. Finally, the calorie question, surely eating chocolate makes us fat? Dark chocolate is actually low in calories and three dark chocolates have a lot less calories than most deserts, and they feel luxurious too, so enjoy.

Liz Jarrom

THE MOWER PLACE

Garden Machinery Sales, Service and Repairs

of all types of garden equipment.
Take advantage of our winter saving offer

NOVEMBER

has a 15% discount on all
service labour cost

DECEMBER

has a 10% discount on all
service labour cost

Ring now to book your equipment in.

Richard Ellison
The Mower Place
Unit 30c Gelders Hall Road
Shepshed
LE12 9NH
Leicestershire

Telephone 01509 600623 or 07767 481730

Directory of Useful Numbers

BBC East Midlands	0115 955 0500 www.bbc.co.uk/england/eastmidlandstoday/
BBC Radio Derby	01332 361111
British Gas - Service	0645 605040
Gas Escape Emergency	0800 111999
Castle Donington Community College	01332 810528 postroom@castledonington.leics.sch.uk
Castle Donington Volunteer Bureau	01332 850526
Chemist, Gerald Porter, Castle Donington	01332 810213
Derby City Hospital	01332 340131
Derby Playhouse	01332 363275 www.derbyplayhouse.co.uk
Derby Royal Infirmary - accident & emerg	01332 347141 ext 2170
Derbyshire Children's Hospital - emergency (health emergencies not caused by injury)	01332 340131 ext. 6808/6809
Diseworth C of E Primary School	01332 810208
Doctor's Surgery - Health Centre, Castle Donington	0844 477 3092
Orchard Surgery, Kegworth	01509 674919
East Midlands Airport	01332 852852 www.eastmidlandsairport.com
East Midlands Electricity emergencies customer services	0800 056 8090 0800 363363
Environment Agency	0800 807060
Kinchbus	01509 815637 www.kinchbus.co.uk
Loughborough Hospital	01509 611600
NHS Direct	08 45 46 47 www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk
North West Leicester District Council	01530 454545 www.nwleics.gov.uk
Nottingham Concert Hall	0115 989 5555
Nottingham Playhouse	0115 941 9419
Nottingham Royal Centre	0115 989 5555 www.royalcentre-nottingham.co.uk
Police	0116 222 2222
Post Office - Long Whatton	01509 842264
Queens Medical Centre, Nottingham	0115 924 9924
Radio Trent	0115 952 7000
Reel Cinema Loughborough	01509 212261
Severn Trent Customer Service	08007 834444
Skylink	0115 9506070 www.skylink.co.uk
Traveline - for all public transport information	0870 608 2 608 www.traveline.org.uk

If you have any suggestions for useful numbers to be included in this directory, please let any committee member know. *It's your magazine!*

The Neighbourhood Watch beat officer for Diseworth is Jason Underwood No. 1760. He can be contacted on 0116 248 5675 and then entering his number 1760.

Village Directory

Organisation	Contact Person	Telephone No
Book Worms	Sandie Moores	01332 812629
Brownies	Jane Lindley	01332 810796
Diseworth Village Hall	Dave Adcock	01332 850337
Flower Show	Pat Guy	01332 811119
Friends of Diseworth School	Meryl Tait	01332 812952
Guides	Sandie Clark	01332 814939
Heritage Centre	Martin Hening	01332 853647
History Society	Pat Guy	01332 811119
Millennium Meadow	Pat Guy	01332 811119
Neighbourhood Watch	Noel McGough	01332 811362
Scouts & Cubs	Jenny Buckle	01509 842593
Soar Valley Twinning Assoc.	Sheila Hawksworth	01509 568793
W.I.N.G.S.	Erica & Andy Foxall	01332 811689
Womens' Discussion Group	Liz Jarrom	01332 810358
Womens' Group	Sheila Dakin	01332 810858

Diseworth Village Hall

If you would like to book the village hall please contact Dave Adcock.
He will make arrangements for the provision of keys at the appropriate time.
9 Page Lane, Diseworth. 01332 850337

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CONTACTS

CO-ORDINATORS:

Noel McGough, 28 Lady Gate. 811362
Barry Smith, 18 Hall Gate. 812600
Sandie Moores, contact person for Lady Gate. 812629
Victoria Britton contact person for Clements Gate. 850184

YOUR LOCAL PARISH COUNCIL

The role of your Parish Council includes safeguarding the amenities of the village, including highways, lighting, drainage, road signs and planning matters. Current planning matters are available for inspection by arrangement with the **Parish Clerk:**

Douglas Maas, 86 Forest Road, Markfield LE67 9UN. Tel: 01530 242534.

Email: longwhatdisepc@hotmail.com.

Please visit the website at www.longwhattondiseworth.org.uk (being updated).

If you wish to discuss any matters of concern, please contact your Parish Councillors:

Martin Hening, 9 Clements Gate, Diseworth DE74 2QE	01332 853647
Sue Roberts, Chapel Farm, Hall Gate, Diseworth DE74 2QJ	01332 810813
Kevin Brown, 10 Grimes Gate, Diseworth DE74 2QD	01332 850910
Derek Wiggins, Bull & Swan, Grimes Gate, Diseworth DE74 2QD	01332 853960
Andrew Cawdell, 58 The Green, Long Whatton LE12 5DB	01509 843273
Michael Downs, 12 Barnfield Close, Long Whatton LE12 5BZ	
Thomas Wilkins, 1 Hathern Road, Long Whatton LE12 5DD	07971 730499

Parish Council meetings are held at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month, alternately at Diseworth and Long Whatton. Please see the Notice Boards or ask the Parish Clerk for current information or to make general enquiries about the Parish Council.