

ISSUE 40 | SUMMER 2017



DELAMERE
& OAKMERE

NEWS

IN THIS ISSUE

**FOOTPATHS IN THE PARISH
PLANNING UPDATES
MORE WILDLIFE**

nicola**gibson**

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Forthcoming Events

ST PETER'S CHURCH, DELAMERE

SPECIAL SERVICES

SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER

10:30am - Harvest Festival

SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

6:30pm - All Souls Day

SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

10.30am - Remembrance Sunday

REGULAR SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY

8am - Holy Communion

EVERY 1ST SUNDAY

10:30am - Holy Communion

EVERY 2ND SUNDAY

10:30am - Family Service

EVERY 3RD SUNDAY

10:30am - Holy Communion

EVERY 4TH & 5TH SUNDAY

10:30am - Morning Worship

EVERY 1ST TUESDAY

10:30am - Holy Communion

THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Date	Speaker	Title	Competition
JULY 11TH	Susan Leicester	An English woman at the White House	Your take on the USA flag
SEPT 12TH	Peter Turner	Sleight of Mind	Group Comp. T.B.A
OCT 10TH	Delamere Diaries	-	-
NOV 14TH	-	Annual Meeting	-
DEC 12TH	-	Christmas Party	Home made table Christmas Tree

President: Lorraine Roberts. Meetings are held at 7.30pm, every second Tuesday in the month except for August, at Delamere Community Centre.

<http://delamereandoakmere.co.uk/delamere-womens-institute/>, <https://twitter.com/delamerewi>,

<https://www.facebook.com/DelamereWI>



In the main church at 10.45am every Sunday morning for a service led by a Methodist Local Preacher or Minister. One service a month includes the sacrament of Holy Communion, led by a Minister (Presbyter). Contacts: Anne or Eric Wright (01829 732950) or Rev Denise Harding (01928 733180).

DELAMERE AND DISTRICT GOLDEN CLUB

JULY 15TH, 2PM

Speaker John Baddeley "George Formby: His life story"

JULY 19TH, 2PM

Members exchange memories and/or speak about hobbies

SEPT 6TH, 2PM

Garden Party at the Paddock. Guests and visitors welcome

SEPT 20TH, 1PM

Birthday and Harvest Lunch. Music by Stephen Lucas

OCT 4TH, 2PM

Harvest Service with Rev.Elaine

OCT 18TH, 2PM

Roy Webster: "Beekeeping in Delamere and nearby Cheshire"

NOV 1ST

Christmas Coach Outing (details to be announced)

NOV 15TH, 1:30PM

Delamere Academy Choir entertain

NOV 29TH, 2PM

Lorena Anderson cookery demonstration with a Christmas theme

DEC 13TH, 1PM

Christmas Lunch followed by the Concordia Choir at (2.30pm)

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

We meet every fortnight on Wednesday afternoons, except August, at the Community Centre. No upper or lower age limit! For further information please contact Gloria or Robin Ackerley tel: 01829 752723.

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Thanks largely to having ready access to Forestry Commission land, Delamere and Oakmere is a great place for walking.

Many other public footpaths in the parish are shown on Ordnance Survey maps, and also on Cheshire West and Chester's website, which identifies all the public rights of way. In this issue we have put these together in a map of the parish, along with a brief description of each, and of ways in which they can be combined in circular walks. On the same theme we take a look at where two of these footpaths meet two of the parish's Roman roads.

There is more on the parish's wildlife in this issue too, with more nature notes,

another article from Cheshire Wildlife Trust, and news of a national award they have won for their work in the parish.

We have got an update on planning applications for the Marley site, the Magistrates' court and the forest, and plenty more from our many other contributors to the magazine.

With great sadness we report the loss of one of our regular contributors, Thelma Ashbrook, whose delightful poems have raised many a smile over the years. We have one more poem by which to remember her, plus another to help keep the tradition going.

Clive George and Phil Neave

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ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Delamere and Oakmere News is published three times a year with the support of the Parish Council. The next issue is due in November!

ADVERTISE WITH D&O NEWS!

Articles, ideas for articles, news of recent events or forthcoming ones, advertisements, photographs and any other contributions relevant to Delamere and/or Oakmere are all very welcome (inclusion subject to editorial discretion).

The newsletter is available to view on the Delamere and Oakmere Community website and you can also get a PDF file by email (contact us if you would like a copy).

CONTACTS

Editorial: do_newseditor@yahoo.co.uk

Advertising: info@neavecreative.co.uk

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All proceeds from advertisements go into the printing of the newsletter, so we really couldn't do this without you. Thank you!



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GoOnLine is a free service for carers, volunteers or anyone aged over 60, and operates every two weeks' or once a month in

Bulkeley: Bickerton Poacher, Wrexham Road, Bulkeley, SY14 8BE The service runs on Wednesdays and the sessions run from 10.00 am to 1200 pm 16 th Aug, 30 th Aug 13 th Sept, 27 th Sept	Cotebrook: Alvanley Arms, Cotebrook, Nr. Tarporley CW6 9DS The service runs on Thursdays and the sessions run from 10 am to 12 md. 06 th July, 20 th July 03 rd Aug, 17 th Aug, 31 st Aug 14 th Sept, 28 th Sept
Crowton: Hare and Hounds, Station Rd, Crowton CW8 2RN The service runs on Tuesdays and the sessions run from 10 am to 12 md. 04 th July, 18 th July 01 st Aug, 15 th Aug, 29 th Aug 12 th Sept, 26 th Sept	Farndon: Lewis's of Farndon Coffee Shop, High Street, Farndon, CH3 6PU The service runs on a Thursdays and the sessions run from 9.30 am to 11.30 am 27 th July 24 th August 21 st September
Frodsham: The Queens Head, 92, Main Street. WA6 7AR The service runs on Mondays , and the sessions run from 1030 am to 1230 pm July 3 rd July, 17 th July 14 th August 11 th September, 25 th September	Oakmere: The Lounge, Chester Road, CW8 2HB. The service runs on Tuesdays and the sessions run from 10 am to 12 md 11 th July, 25 th July 08 th Aug, 22 nd Aug 05 th Sept, 19 th Sept
<p>Pop along or for further information please contact Jean on 07563 156 220 or Carol on 07851 253 587 Email goonline@opalservices.org.uk www.opalservices.org.uk</p>	

Rural Community Services (West Cheshire) Reg. Charity No. 1143753



Dear Friends

I am writing this in the middle of June, within the space of a few short weeks our country has seen two horrific acts of atrocity in Manchester and London, a bruising General Election and a horrifying, devastating tower-block fire in London (which as I write is still burning). Whilst this is happening around us St Peter's continues to celebrate the bi-centenary of the consecration of the church and so it is with mixed feeling and emotions that I begin this letter.

A huge thank-you to all those who shared in our 'Festival of Flowers' over Easter. I'm sure that all those who came to see the wonderful displays will agree with me that the church looked stunning, every possible space was filled with colour and beauty, silently speaking to us of the new life, hope and message of Easter. Thank you too for the continued support for the Community Centre coffee morning on the last Friday of each month and particularly for the combined Plant Sale and Coffee Morning at the end of May. Thank you to all those who came, those who brought plants and bought plants, who brought and bought cakes and who generally contributed to an enjoyable time.

Whilst life continues here in Delamere elsewhere the lives of others have been rocked and shaken so badly that they will never be the same again. But following both recent acts of terrorism and after the terrifying fire, what we have witnessed has been a tremendous out-pouring of love and support for those who are suffering. We have heard stories of acts of

kindness and generosity, simple things like offering water and food, a lift home, a bed for the night. We have seen pictures of piles of donated clothes, food, toys and furniture. We have heard accounts of heroism and bravery from the emergency services, paramedics and police but also from passers-by, from those who could have run away but who chose to stay and help. We have read of medical staff who have worked around the clock to care for the sick and injured.

In the midst of great sadness, we have seen evidence of great love and real neighbourliness. When Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan he challenged the listeners to answer 'who was neighbour to the injured man', and the reply came back 'the one who had mercy'*.

We warmly invite you to worship with us at St Peter's, each Sunday there are services at 8am and 10.30am. Usually on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10.30am, we have a service for all the family.

Do contact me by telephone or email if you would like me to visit or pray for you. Brian joins me in sending good wishes and blessings

*Revd Elaine
The Rectory
Chester Road
Delamere, CW8 2HS*

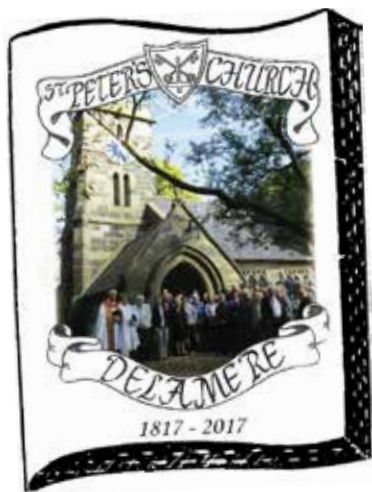
*The parable of the Good Samaritan can be found in Luke chapter 10 verses 25 to 37.

PS If you don't have a Bible of your own and you would like one please get in touch.

St. Peter's Notice Board

To celebrate the bicentenary of the church, St Peter's has produced a book recording its 200 year history. The project was started by Mary Carter and completed by Robin Ackerley with the help of many other parishioners.

Copies are available at £5 each from Rev'd Elaine



Notices

We welcomed by Baptism: June

Maisie Elizabeth Hilary Westwell, daughter of Stephen and Suzanne

Darcy Beatrice Derrick, daughter of Kristian and Kate

We said farewell to:

June: Rose Woodward

March: Gilfred Thomas James Jones, Peter Henry Thompson, Audrey Budge

May: Elizabeth Joan Hardy, Stanley Cox

June: Margaret Rose Worthington, Roy Bowen, Nell Fowles

Details of all our services are on the web-site

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/delamere-st-peter>

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 1st October at 10.30am

Harvest Festival

Sunday 5th November at 6.30pm

All Souls Day when we remember those who have died whether recently or in the past

Sunday 12th November at 10.30pm

Remembrance Sunday with two minutes silence at 11am.

Friday 1st December at 7pm at the Community Centre

Village Hot Pot Supper & Entertainment

Sunday 3rd December at 10.30am

Bi-Centenary Celebration with Bishop Peter

BOWLING CLUB NEWS

Gerald Merry is offering a "Taster Day" for youngsters who are interested in taking up crown green bowling. The session will take place at the Community Centre on Monday 14th August, starting at 10.00 am. If you would like to take part contact Gerald at gerald.merry@btinternet.com.

Stop Press - We are delighted to announce that on 5th July Gerald won the British Crown Green Bowling Association's Jack & Jean Isherwood Veterans Championship, having won the St Peter's Church Lord Wavertree Cup just a few days before. The Cup had not been played for since 1947!

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Community Association held its Annual General Meeting on 3rd July. An operating surplus of £6,900 was reported, with £1,200 of the surplus used to provide a new gate for the Bowling Green, a bench for the Bowling Club and several replacement windows in the Main Building. In addition, work started in June to repair the Pump Room roof and replace the door; although the Pump Room is not hired out, it provides valuable storage for the Association's equipment.

A smaller surplus was expected, with the regular Saturday bingo evenings having ceased last year. However, this was substantially offset by attracting a couple of new regular bookings and the Centre has attracted more weekend bookings for craft fairs, children's parties and the like.

On a less positive note, the meeting failed to find a new Secretary. The

Association has been operating without one for over a year, with the other officers and committee members filling the gap as best they can. So please give serious thought to helping out. The Community Association needs you!

If you want to book the Main Hall, Bowling Room or Meeting Room then please contact the Booking Secretary, Lorraine Roberts, on 01606 889188 who will be pleased to help with your requirements.

If you're interested in any of the other regular activities at the Centre, such as Badminton, Bowling, Snooker, Womens Institute, Bridge, Whist, Action for Life, Golden Club or Slimming World, contact details are on the parish website or Centre Notice Board.

*Pat Wheeler, Chairman
Steve Lacey, Treasurer*

URGENT! DELAMERE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SECRETARY

A volunteer is urgently needed to take on the role of DCA Secretary. Unless the post is filled by Monday 4th September 2017, the future of the Association and the many activities it supports will be in grave doubt.

If you are interested and would like to know more about what is involved, please contact the Chairperson, Pat Wheeler, on 01606 883631.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

LATEST NEWS

Marley site. Following the public consultation reported in the last issue, Laurus Homes have now submitted a detailed planning application dealing with some of the “reserved matters” in the approved outline application for building up to 180 new homes. The Parish Council has expressed a number of concerns on this to the planning authority, regarding elderly accommodation, footpaths, public transport links, recreational facilities, traffic, restoration work, renewable energy and provision of local facilities. Cheshire West and Chester’s decision is awaited.

Magistrates’ court. There is still no progress on this. The architect tells us that the developer is “itching to start”, but that various aspects are still “up in the air”. This does little to alleviate concerns that they will stay up in the air until the building falls down.

Forestry Commission. The Forestry Commission’s second attempt to get approval to build holiday lodges at Kingswood and a new visitor centre at Linmere (issue 38) fared no better than the first. Cheshire West and Chester’s planning department recommended approval, as they did last time, taking the view that the FC had done enough to demonstrate the “very special circumstances” needed to build the lodges in the Green Belt. However, our local Ward Councillor Hugo Deynem called in the application for consideration by the Planning Committee, which rejected it unanimously in late April. What next? Our best bet is that the Forestry Commission will put the Kingswood proposal to one side, wait for the dust to settle, and then come up with a new proposal for Linmere (which should be a little easier as it is not in the Green Belt).

ANSWERS...

Answers to quiz

1. Referenda OR referendums – either is correct, 2. Datum (data can be used as a plural mass noun, and therefore a singular, but this is not technically correct – have half a point!), 3. Indices, 4. Mice, 5. Elves, 6. Attorneys general, 7. Genera, 8. Those women, 9. Regalis (although regalia is also acceptable), 10. Oxen

Who said English is easy??!

Answers to crossword

Across: 1. entrance, 6. without, 8. miss, 10. idol, 11. Tina, 12. bear, 13. edit, 16. yard, 17. entities, 18. idle, 19. screened.

Down: 2. newletters, 3. adhere, 4. countryside, 5. avid, 7. grandee, 8. Mike, 9. so, 12. better, 14. dens, 15. in.

Just a quick note from your chairman.

May I just say thank you to John Edwards for his year as Chairman and for all the hard work he has put into starting the Frith Avenue project. We have work in progress on this which is mentioned in this newsletter.

Work is continuing on the A556 to improve the sewage pipeline - hopefully this will finish on time. It will be nice to see the improvements at the Abbey Arms crossroads finally finish. We now have the speed limits on Station Road and Abbey Lane, which hopefully will improve our safety. For the Marley tile site, the former Magistrates' Court and the Forest lodges there has been little progress (see separate article) and we are waiting for more news.

We have welcomed three new Councillors this term - Mrs Jackie Powell, Mr Chris Ball and Mr Julian Inskip - and at the moment we have one vacancy. If anyone would like to join us you will be most welcome. I would also like to thank our Cheshire West and Chester ward members, Councillors John Leather and Hugo Deynem, for all their help and support. We are also very lucky in having Mrs Joanne Monks as our clerk for keeping us all up to date on the matters arising. Personally I would also like to thank Councillor Clive George and his team for putting this Newsletter together.

Many thanks, David Rutter
Chair, Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council



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It's hard to believe that we are half way through the year already and in the last few months we at WI have enjoyed a variety of speakers and activities. We've travelled to China, had a fun games evening, heard about the importance of hearing care and followed the river Weaver.



In our June meeting we were introduced to a corn snake, a tortoise and an Australian bearded dragon, when Sam Smith from Sam's Scales 'n' Tails came to talk about her exotic pet rescue work.

In May, every WI discusses the Resolutions that have been put forward by members. This year the subjects were 'Plastic Soup' and 'Loneliness'. Details of these subjects are available if you are interested. Our discussions were followed by the judging of our mini show and we congratulate Barbara Bettley on winning the cup which she will retain and dust for two years!

Members also joined in the Easter Flower Festival at St. Peter's Church, decorating two windowsills for visitors and congregation to enjoy. We are not just 'jam and Jerusalem'. Activities are held over the year, not only in local WIs, but at county and national level too,

giving members an opportunity to experience different things and to meet people from all walks of life. Information should be available on CFWI and NFWI websites and we can be found on Twitter and Facebook. If you are unable to find what you are looking for, please ask any of our WI members.



It has been a sad year as we have lost three former members – Jean Johnson in January, Rose Woodward in February and Betty Christopher who died in May, a few days short of her 100th birthday.

We are looking forward to the second half of the year with more interesting speakers and topics and we'd be delighted to welcome you to our meetings. Please come and try us out – we are waiting to welcome you.



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Delamere Grove Residents Association (DGRA) has splashed out to give cardiac arrest victims a fighting chance of survival. Members raised £830 and secured an award from the British Heart Foundation (BHF) to install a second public access defibrillator in the parish, at the entrance to Delamere Grove on Eddisbury Hill. This is in addition to the one at the Community Centre obtained by the Parish Council.

The defibrillator is a portable device that can be used by any member of the public to help restart the heart when someone has a cardiac arrest. This is when the heart stops pumping blood around the body and they lose consciousness almost at once. BHF has also provided a training kit for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). When someone suffers a cardiac arrest the key advice from the BHF is to call 999, send someone to get the defibrillator, and if you have been trained in CPR, apply it until the defibrillator arrives.

DGRA and the Parish Council have arranged for Community HeartBeat Trust to provide a training session on using the defibrillator and applying CPR, to be held in the Community Centre on 9th September (see separate notice).

Over 30,000 cardiac arrests happen out of hospital in the UK every year, but currently less than 1 in 10 survive. Defibrillation and CPR increase the chances of survival dramatically, so it's really important that the people in the parish can take these vital steps to help someone in an emergency.

Delamere Grove Residents Association would like to thank the following people/ organisations for helping make the installation of the defibrillator possible: British Heart Foundation, North West Ambulance, Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council, Mr & Mrs T Bolton of Delamere Grove, Olympic Park Homes and Martyn Clark, Eddisbury Hill Park.

"A COMMUNITY OF LIFE SAVERS"

Cardiac Arrest Seminar - to be held at Delamere Community Centre

Sat. 9th September 11am – 1pm

This session will cover:

What is Sudden Cardiac Arrest:-

'5 minutes to save a life'

'Physiology of the heart'

How to recognise SCA

How to dial 999:-

what to expect

questions you will be asked

How to do CPR and why

How to use the defibrillator

Recovery position/turning a patient

Handover to the Paramedics

Governance and support programmes

Following the installation of community defibrillators at Delamere Community Centre and at Delamere Grove (Eddisbury Hill) your Parish Council, together with Community HeartBeat Trust, have planned the above community awareness programme designed to answer questions, to give basic instruction and to be interactive and confidence building.

Training in correct CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) technique is invaluable and essential and is the first step to take following a SCA (Sudden Cardiac Arrest).

Training in how to use a defibrillator is simply following a set of instructions and is very easy when explained.

Training is desirable, essential and invaluable and creates confidence in the community in understanding the processes required.

Please come along to the seminar and help to

“Create a Community of Life Savers”.



A NORWEGIAN ADVENTURE *Anna Holland*

Our Scout group is about to leave for Norway (see issue 39), and excitement is running high. After a Norwegian Ball, a Family Fun Day, sponsored swims, sponsored hikes, stalls at every event possible and more donations than I could list, we have smashed our target of £35,000. I'm sure I can speak for everyone on the team when I express my gratitude to all those who contributed. We began in October and are now all so relieved that this challenging stage of this experience has come to such a fruitful end.

Since the last article, a number of milestones in the fundraising journey have been achieved by everyone on the team. A major achievement of mine was the sponsored swim that took place in April. I have never been good at swimming, and rarely go to the pool, so swimming the distance of the English channel (1,340 lengths of an average-sized swimming pool) was a

major challenge. Between us we broke our target distance by three hundred lengths and raised well over £3,000 in sponsorships.

On the evening of May 13th (a few days before the Norwegian Constitution Day) we held a Norwegian Ball, full of music, dancing, raffles, and auctions. This was a huge success, leaving us with a memorable night and over £3000 in profit.

Our most recent event was a Family Fun Day held in Helsby, full of stalls, displays and demonstrations, including the “Lord of the Wings” aviary team, a local author and a Fun Fair. Everyone had a brilliant time and all went home smiling. Overall, fundraising has been an amazing experience and everyone is now counting down the days until our Oslo-bound plane departs. I want to thank everyone who helped us get to this stage in our fantastic journey.



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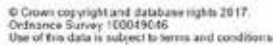


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Map created on 25/5/2017 using <http://maps.cheshire.gov.uk/twain/interactivemapping>

These are in addition to the many footpaths in the forest, which has been designated as "open access land". The Forestry Commission has a legal right to restrict public access to this land for purposes such as forestry operations or concerts, except for the Public Rights of Way. Unless special permission has been obtained from the local authority, these must remain open at all times.

Most of the Public Rights of Way in the parish are in Delamere ward, with just two footpaths (FP1 and FP5) and three bridleways (BR2, 6 and 7) in Oakmere ward. Bridleway 6 goes from Gallowsclough Lane to join FP1, which runs through the forest to Blakemere Lane (the B5152). These two can be combined with Gallowsclough Lane, Stonyford Lane and the Oakmere Way (FP5 and Bridleway 7) to make a circular walk, taking in Stonyford Cottage Gardens and/or the Station Café for lunch or tea. FP5 is unusual in having two branches. This is a consequence of its diversion to allow quarrying on the original route, which ran along the whole length of Farm Road from Chester Road to the end of Golf Course Road. The diversion takes it round the southern side of the Marley lake to re-join the original route at the golf club.

Following the recent parish boundary changes four of the Delamere footpaths (FP1, FP2, FP10 and FP11) are no longer in the civil parish, but are still partly within the ecclesiastical parish. FP1, FP2 and FP11 form a single route out of Kelsall over Kelsborrow Castle to the Boot Inn, from where a circular walk can be completed via Willington Lane. FP10 goes west from Yeld Lane to the northern end of Hall Lane, which goes down over the Kelsall bypass to Old Coach Road. From there a circular walk can be completed via Yeld Lane.

FP9 is the popular footpath that goes alongside the Roman road from the

corner of Stoney Lane and Eddisbury Hill to Kelsall. It emerges on the A54 beyond Gresty's Waste, from where a short walk takes you up to the traffic lights and across to the Farmers' Arms. A circular walk can be completed via Yeld Lane and Forest Gate Lane, which continues as FP19 to meet FP 13 (which is part of the Sandstone Trail). From there a variety of routes can be taken across or around Eddisbury Hill.



Kelsall end of footpath 9

Before FP9 reaches Kelsall it crosses the Sandstone Trail (FP13), which can be followed in either direction to complete alternative circular walks. To the south the trail goes through Gresty's Waste and Primrose Wood to meet FP6. To the north, it passes through Nettleford Wood to Eddisbury Lodge, where it crosses FP4, and continues north on FP3 to Barnsbridge Gates and on into Norley. To the west FP4 comes out at the northern end of Yeld Lane, which can be followed south to link with several other paths. In theory FP5 completes a smallish triangle linking the western end of FP4 to FP3, but at the time of writing it is comprehensively blocked by fallen trees. East from

Eddisbury Lodge FP4 goes to Linmere Visitor Centre, and on along the Linmere access road to Station Café and Station Road.

In the south-west corner of the parish FP6 can be combined with FP7 and FP14 to make another circular walk, taking in Stoney Lane to the south of the school, the southern edge of Primrose Wood (with good views of rolling countryside), and a short stretch along the A556. There are steep slopes at the southern end of FP14 that can be difficult when it's muddy - and beware of galloping horses as you cross the equestrian centre at Kelsall Hill!



The view south-east from footpath 14

FP14 is shown on three old maps, Bryant's of 1831, Baker's of 1842 and Fuller's of 1848. In all three cases the path continues straight on towards the



Footpath 14 across Kelsall Hill

church where it crosses Middlewich Road (the A54), so FP7 must have been a later diversion. The path may well have been created at the time the church was built, as an access route for residents in the south of the new parish. It can't have been too easy for them on a cold, wet, winter's day, negotiating the muddy ups and downs in their Sunday best.

To the west of FP7, FP8 makes its way through Abbey Wood from the A556 to the A54, with a bend in the middle close to Abbey Lane. It is possible that this too provided a route to the church, but not likely, as the three 19th century maps show the path as part of a meandering route through the forest. At the time of writing it is impassable, being completely overgrown along most of its length, and with several fallen trees blocking the southern section.

The last of the Delamere Public Rights of Way, FP17, continues on from Old Coach Road across the A49 to the A54.



The south-eastern end of footpath 17

On the way it passes the Wyevale garden centre and through a strip of woodland between the Sandymere estate and Sandybrow stables. Two other old maps (Burdett's of 1777 and Magna Britannia of 1810) show the path crossing what is now the A54 and

continuing on to the Abbey Arms and beyond, as part of a route through the forest from Little Budworth to Frodsham.

The Parish Council has asked for the two blocked footpaths to be cleared. Nothing has yet happened for Delamere FP5, but for FP8 (through Abbey Wood) it is expected to be done as part of a tree-felling programme that is currently under way.

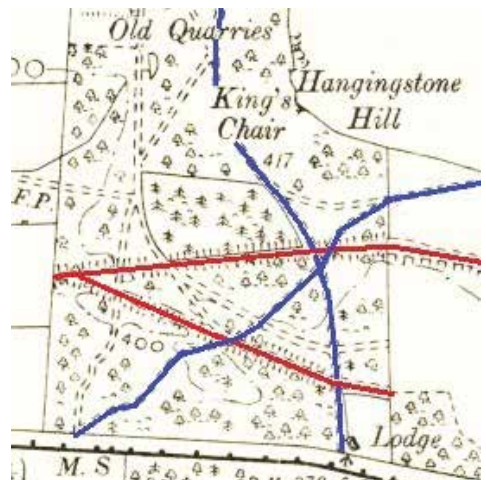


Burdett's map of 1777

FOOTPATHS OLD AND NEW

Last month Don Wilson led members of the local history group on a walk to explore, among other things, two of the Roman Roads in the parish (a third follows the route of what is now the A49). Near where footpath 9 crosses the Sandstone Trail both paths cross Watling Street, the Roman road from Chester to Manchester. Further south the same paths cross the Roman road from Chester to Middlewich.

The small map shows the two Roman roads marked in red, and the present day footpaths in blue. Remains of both roads are visible at the point where they meet, overlooking Morrey's nursery.





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WILDLIFE IN THE PARISH *by David Wright*

The first butterfly I saw was at Lob Slack on the 12th March which was a Comma along with Orange Tips feeding on Hedge Mustard and Cuckoo Flower, known to me as May Flower.



Common Blue butterfly Sharp, Wikimedia

Late May brought sightings of Brimstone Butterfly, Common Blue and Small Copper Butterflies to the unimproved grasslands of Lob Slack, along with the June Chafer, a smaller relative of the May Bug, while the ponds at this site had Broadbodied Chaser ovipositing and several Four Spot Chaser patrolling the banks.

A large male Emperor Dragonfly (*Anax imperator*) was also at the pond on the same day, 4th June. This is our largest Dragonfly at 78mm long and is always worth watching for a while.



Emperor dragonfly, Ken Billington, Wikimedia

The spring passage of birds brought Black Terns back to the lake at Four-ways, along with Common and Arctic Terns. A Short Eared Owl stayed for a couple of weeks and a Ring Ousel visited

about the same time. There were also Stonechats and Wheatears. This habitat must have reminded them of upland heath or Moorland where they spend the summer. Ring Ousels (Mountain Black-birds) are occasionally seen on the Old Pale fields during spring passage.



Short Eared Owl, Sumeet Moghe, Wikimedia

Nightjars were back at Primrose Wood on 16th May, the same date as last year. An Iberian Chiffchaff was also in Primrose Hill on 1st June and stayed for a few days, which brought numerous twitchers into the wood which upset local dog walkers.

On 16th May, Gloria and Robin Ackerley found an odd growth on a nettle that looked like a yellowish caterpillar.



Puccinia urticae (Nettle Rust), Wikimedia

This turned out to be Nettle Rust, which is primarily caused by a fungus. I found a similar distortion on Brambles in Stonyford Lane. The stem was flattened out and spread to 2 inches wide. This is caused by a bacterial phytopathogen, *Rhodococcus fascians* (common name Leafy Gall Disease).

There is excitement at Cheshire Wildlife Trust as they have just seen what they believe to be their first 'true Delamere' white-faced darters emerge. Chris Meredith, Delamere Conservation Officer at the Trust explains the importance of this year's survey results.

The white-faced darter is a small dark dragonfly, with a pale creamy white front and a wingspan of just 5cm. The male is particularly striking as it is marked with red and orange whilst the female is patterned the same but yellow replaces the red.



*White-faced darter,
Photograph courtesy of Kevin Reynolds*

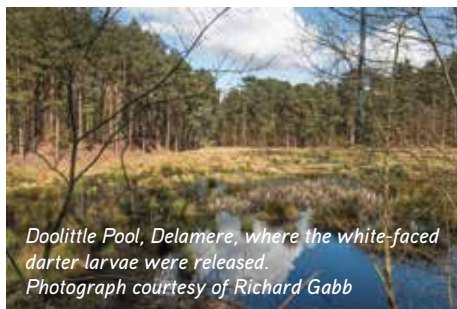
We have seen quite a few adults emerging this year and that is really significant. We know that we have had white-faced darters successfully emerge from our work introducing mature larvae to the site, but this is the first year where we have not introduced new larvae to the pool. This means the adults that are emerging at the moment are either from larvae that were at an earlier stage and have therefore survived for a longer period or are in fact the result of adults breeding successfully at our site.

As one of the UK's rarest dragonflies,

the white-faced darter had been absent from Cheshire for over a decade and are only found at a handful of locations in England. Our re-introduction project at Delamere Forest began in 2013 and involved collecting the tiny vibrant green larvae from healthy populations at the Natural England National Nature Reserve sites of Fenn's and Whixall Moss in Shropshire and Chartley Moss in Staffordshire.

The return of the dragonflies comes after several years of dedicated work to reinstate and improve lost habitats at the well-known forest in partnership with the Forestry Commission.

The white faced darter is a specialist of lowland peatbogs. We introduced the larvae to a mossland pool called Doolittle, in Delamere Forest. Our studies had confirmed that the pool had suitable water quality and vegetation to support this species with its submerged sphagnum moss for the nymphs to hide and prosper and the common cotton-grass and soft rush to provide the ideal ladder for emergence.



*Doolittle Pool, Delamere, where the white-faced darter larvae were released.
Photograph courtesy of Richard Gabb*

The nymphs of the white-faced darter develop and feed underwater for at least two years before emerging, and taking

to the wing to find a mate and breed so we will have to wait a little longer to find out whether Delamere once again has its own self-sustaining population of white-faced darters. The pool will continue to be monitored regularly, with the support of our volunteers, through tracking flying adults and also by counting the empty larval cases the dragonflies leave behind on vegetation when emerging from the water.

Connecting corridors have been cleared between mossland sites in Delamere Forest to encourage specialist species, including the white-faced darter, to move around the forest. The long-term hope is that the series of mossland pools that are being restored as part of Cheshire Wildlife Trust's and the

Forestry Commission's WREN FCC Biodiversity Action Fund funded Delamere's Lost Mosses Project will encourage this species to expand. The creation of several breeding populations is important for the long term sustainability of the white-faced darter in Delamere Forest as their breeding pools will change over time.

The white-faced darter reintroduction project is a partnership between Cheshire Wildlife Trust, the Forestry Commission, Natural England, the British Dragonfly Society and Cheshire West and Chester Council, with funding support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Linley Shaw Foundation.

... AND MORE WILDLIFE



A young woodpecker



... another exploring Gloria and Robin's greenhouse...



... a pheasant doing the same...



... and meeting the hens!

NATIONAL AWARD FOR PARISH WILDLIFE

The Cheshire Wildlife Trust has won a major national award for its projects in Delamere Forest. The Lost Mosses and Delamere's Dragons teams have won one of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's Best Practice awards, for the best large-scale conservation project.

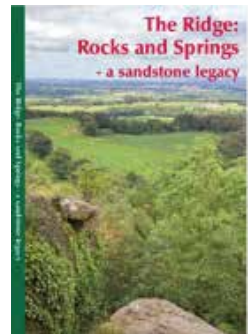
The award was given for the Delamere Living Landscape project, which includes the Lost Mosses restoration project and the Delamere's Dragons project to re-introduce the white-faced darter dragonfly.



Once these two current projects come to an end the Delamere Living Landscape project will continue and more smaller projects are expected to come out of it. At the start of the year CWT applied successfully for a peatland fund put forward by Defra and Natural England, and were awarded £30,000. In order to make the most of this CWT will be looking for yet more work from local volunteers. If you would like to join them visit - <http://www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/volunteering>

THE SANDSTONE RIDGE

The Sandstone Ridge Trust has been busy over the past few years. Among other things it has put together a team of over forty volunteers to produce an excellent new book on how the physical features of the ridge have shaped the heritage of the area. Thanks to support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the 132-page book is available free of charge from information centres and libraries, or directly from the Sandstone Ridge Trust at infosrtrust@gmail.com. The book can also be downloaded in electronic form at www.sandstoneridge.org.uk/doc/D245764.pdf.



The book includes ten circular walks highlighting items of historic interest, three of which are in Delamere. The SRT website has got leaflets on four other walks, along with many other downloadable publications on the archaeology and habitats of the locality. You can even watch an imaginative "video fly-through" of how the ridge might have looked in the iron age, which includes a lengthy section devoted to life in the Eddisbury hillfort. All in all the Trust has done a terrific job.



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Tuesday 8th August 2017

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SUMMER QUIZ *by Steve Lacey*

(Answers on page 14)

PLURALS

1. What is the plural of referendum?
2. Data is information or statistics held in raw form. What is the singular of data?
3. What is the plural of index?
4. And of mouse?
5. What is the plural of Santa Claus's little helper, the elf?
6. The government's chief legal adviser is the Attorney General. What do we call 2 or more of them?
7. A genus is a taxonomic rank in the biological classification of living organisms – what do we call two or more of them?
8. What is the plural of that woman?
9. Regalia are the privileges, clothes and decorations often associated with the Queen; what is the singular of regalia?
10. What is the plural of the beast of burden, the ox?

If you enjoyed answering these questions, why not come along to the **quiz at the Community Centre on 6th Oct?** Details at the Centre or from Steve Lacey on 01270 780777.

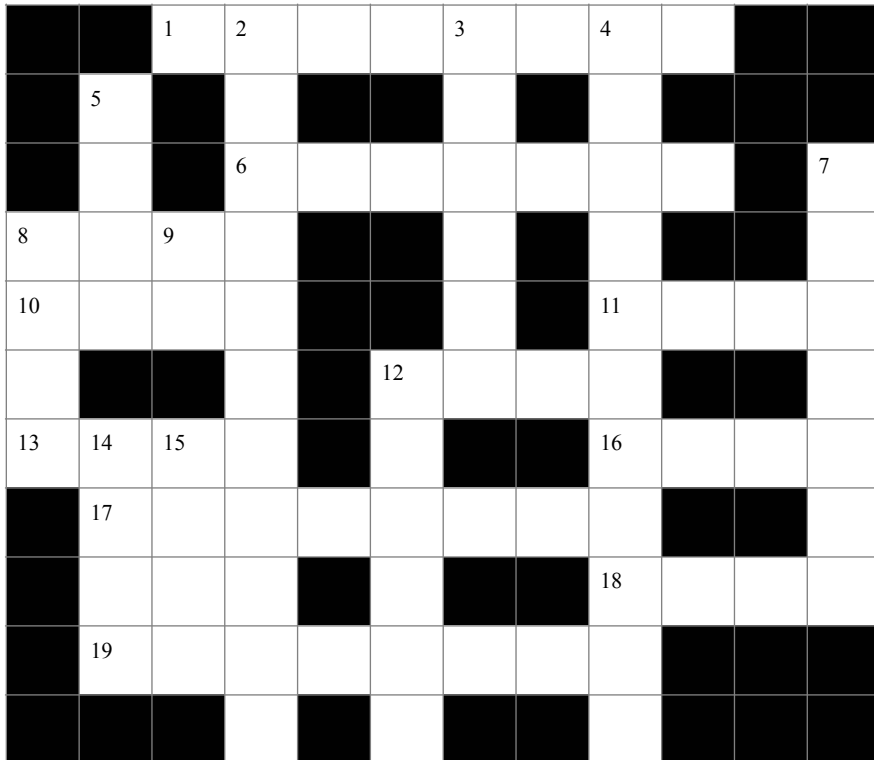
CROSSWORD *by YETI*

Across

1. Charm your way in (8)
6. Missing outside (7)
8. She's not a hit! (4)
10. Lido's first becomes last image (4)
11. Dizzy, ain't she! (4)
12. Put up with vocal nude (4)
13. Amend returning tide (4)
16. A small garden! (2)
17. Hospital department computer man gives the right (8)
18. The lazy may linger (4)
19. Concealed yet put on film (8)

Down

2. Missives under four directions, periodicals like this one (11)
3. Header muddled, but will stick (6)
4. Eco-industry may well be based here, though diversified (11)
5. Eager prima donna turns back (4)
7. Grandmother briefly on local river – a 13th century noble (7)
8. He has amplification (4)
9. Sounds like needlework therefore (2)
12. Cured gambler (6)
14. Children make these by taking time out of hollows (4)
15. Popular at home (2)



(Answers on page 14)

Travel

by David Wilkinson

Holiday, holiday where to go?
Blackpool, Benidorm, Majorca or Rhy!
Can't help feeling they're all a big no.

I like to travel far and wide,
Africa, China, Hebron or Rome,
Experience life from another side.

So many interesting things to see,
So many diverse cultures to absorb,
So many foods and customs to envy.

Which one do you like best? I'm asked,
But each and every one was fascinating.
A choice however I will make when tasked.

Revolution, sun, music, dance and sea,
Colonial buildings, smiling people, community.
Yes, Cuba is the place for me.

Friendship

by Thelma Ashbrook

A cup of tea tastes better
when you're drinking it with friends,
and the pleasure that it gives us
well it never really ends.

Because it gives us happiness
in ways you just can't measure,
not only to enjoy today,
but memories to treasure.

When we look out in the winter
cold and bleakness meet our gaze,
we'll have summer to look back on
and remember golden days.

Many readers will have met Thelma through the poems she regularly contributed to the News. Thelma has passed away at eighty-six years of life, but her poems, together with sketches and paintings will live on in a book being put together by her family. Thelma had led a very full and varied life: five children, twelve grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren. She had also driven an ambulance for disabled people and had been well known in her younger days as a volunteer in the Alzheimer's Society Shop in Northwich. She loved to laugh and always had a glint in her eye and a glowing smile. She loved the Golden Club, reading a specially written poem at every meeting.

She had been a keen table tennis player and Thelma can be seen trying her hand at a Golden Club indoor games afternoon. We shall miss her as we shall miss three other much loved members who have passed away since the winter: Barbara Whiteside (Oakmere), Rose Woodward (Delamere) and Freda Smith (Cuddington).





Emma Mackley

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