

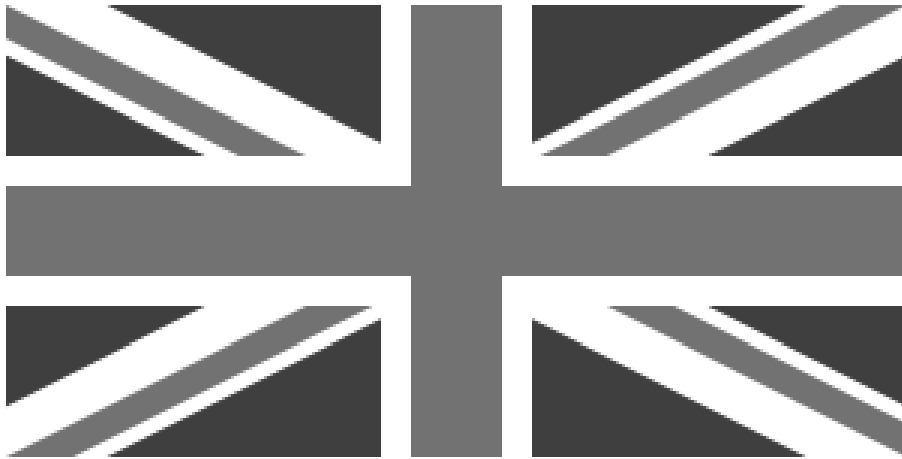
THE FINAL

# ***Delamere and Oakmere***

# ***News***

Number 24 Spring 2012

## **Diamond JUBILEE EDiTion**



In this edition:

New rector for Del amere

Diamond Jubil ee EVENTS in Del amere and Oakmere

Forestry Commission AwArd For del Amere Forest

Devel opments in oakmere

Del amere School expanSion

Pl ans for forEsT HoMEs

LOCAL BUS SERVICES

NEW BUSINESS TAKES OVER AT HARRINGTONS

EDDISBURY POEM REVISITED

## Forthcoming Events (for Jubilee Events see pp.16 &19)

### Church Services

#### St.Peter's Church, Delamere

April 5<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday Holy Communion 7.00am April 6<sup>th</sup>..Good Friday Service 10.30am

April 8<sup>th</sup> Easter Day Holy Communion 8.00am Family Service/Holy Communion 10.30am Evensong 6.30pm

#### Oakmere Methodist Church

April 8<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion 10.45 am Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>...Sing for Your Supper 6.30pm Hymns old and new followed by refreshments.

#### Delamere Parish Council

21<sup>st</sup> May...Community Event 7.00pm Delamere Community Centre (see p.18 for details)

#### Golden Club\*

*Note that the "Age" has now been taken out of what used to be the Golden Age Club and see what an interesting and varied list of events there is... for all ages!*

*For all queries regarding events and membership please call the Secretary June Budd on 01606 888117*

April 11<sup>th</sup>...12.30pm. Lunch...Steve Lucas

April 25<sup>th</sup>... Coach Trip (*to be arranged*)

May 9<sup>th</sup>...Speaker: Mr.Winston Wagstaff

May 23<sup>rd</sup>...A Choir from Delamere School +

Afternoon Tea . Visitors Welcome.

June 6<sup>th</sup>...Beetle Drive & Card Bingo

June 20<sup>th</sup>...Chairobics

July 4<sup>th</sup>...Lunch & Games

July 18<sup>th</sup>...Keep Fit..Pat Mason

August: CLOSED. A trip in August (*to be arranged*)

Sept.5<sup>th</sup>...Delamere Derby

Sept.19<sup>th</sup>...Birthday Meal & Steve Lucas

Oct.3<sup>rd</sup>...Fun Day!

Oct.17<sup>th</sup>... Harvest Festival: Philip Goodall

Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>... Lunch & Speaker: Alan Hayhurst

Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>...Coach Trip> Shopping

Nov.28<sup>th</sup>...Beetle Drive

Dec.12<sup>th</sup>...Christmas Party Lunch & Carol Singers

#### W.I.\*

April 10<sup>th</sup>...Mr Hawker..Gardens & Flowers of Cheshire

May 8<sup>th</sup>....Resolutions & Tasting Evening

June 12<sup>th</sup>... Samaritans....About their work

July 10<sup>th</sup>...Rachel Hall...A Humorous Talk

Sept.11<sup>th</sup>....Mrs Curry...Jewellery

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>....Mrs C .Docherty...A Musical Evening

Nov.13<sup>th</sup> .....AGM

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> ...Christmas Party

\*All at Community Centre

#### Delamere C of E Academy Dates see p.8

#### Delamere Forest Events

**Delamere ~Forest is full of great events in 2012. Discover wildlife, build dens, work with willow, go on an Easter hunt, volunteer....**

April 15<sup>th</sup>... Volunteer Day 10.00am – 4.00pm

April 22<sup>nd</sup>....Wildlife Walk 10.30am – 12.30pm

May 6<sup>th</sup> .....Dawn Chorus...5.30 – 7.30am

May19th & 20th...Spellbound Forest. Book online at

[spellboundforest.org.uk](http://spellboundforest.org.uk)

May 27<sup>th</sup>.....Volunteer Day 10.00am – 4.00pm

June 3<sup>rd</sup>.....**Jubilee Picnic** (see p.???)

June 7<sup>th</sup>.....Minibeast Madness(£2 per child)\*

June 8<sup>th</sup>.....Den Building 10.30am-12.00pm or 1.30-3.00pm £2 per child

June 24th.....Dragonfly Walk 12noon – 1.00pm

June 24<sup>th</sup> BEARS Olympics

June 24th... Volunteer Day 10.00am – 4.00pm

July 22<sup>nd</sup>... Wildflower Walk 2.00 – 3.00pm

July 25<sup>th</sup>....Minibeast Madness 10.30-11.20am or 1.30-2.30pm\*

July 26<sup>th</sup>..Den Building ( Times, etc as above)

July 27<sup>th</sup>...Bat Walk 7.30 – 10.00pm (£4.50 per person)

**July 31<sup>st</sup>... Forest Open Day 11.30am – 3.00pm (free)**

Aug.1<sup>st</sup>,8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>..Minibeast Madness (times as above)

Aug.2<sup>nd</sup>,9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>..Den Building(times as above)

Aug.3<sup>rd</sup>,10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>...Bushcraft 11.00am-12.30pm (£3 per child)

Aug.5<sup>th</sup>..Volunteer Day (as above)

Aug.13<sup>th</sup> Bat Walk 7.30-9.00pm £4.50 per child)

Aug.24<sup>th</sup>...Moth Trapping 7.45pm-10.30pm approx.. £4 per person

Sept.15<sup>th</sup>...Fungal Foray 10.00am-3.00pm £4.50 per person [early booking recommended]

Dec.2<sup>nd</sup>..Astronomy 7.00-9.30pm £4.50 per person

Sept/16<sup>th</sup>... Volunteer Day (as above)

*Booking is essential for all events and activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.*

**For Volunteer Days please contact [jeni.west@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jeni.west@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)**

**For more information and booking on all activities call**

**the Information Centre on 01606 889792**

**[forestry.gov.uk/delamere](http://forestry.gov.uk/delamere)**

# DELAMERE STORES

13 Station Road, Delamere, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 2HU

Tel: 01606 882226

Note the recent changes to opening/closing times below.

*A traditional village store offering an extensive range of fresh produce, much of it locally grown, wines and beers. The store has a wide selection of delicatessen products, an in-store bakery and a full menu of fresh hand-made sandwiches, which are prepared as you wait,*

***Come and visit us.***

**WE ARE OPEN:**

Mon – Fri 6.30am – 7.00pm

Sat 6.30am – 6.00pm

Sun 7.00am – 5.00pm

---

## ABBNEYWOOD ESTATE

*Abbneywood Estate offers relaxed dining in our very own Garden Café. So rest awhile and enjoy a gourmet lunch, slice of home-made cake and light refreshments.*

*We use home-grown and locally-sourced premium produce wherever possible. This includes:*

*Free-range eggs from Abbneywood hens.*

*Vegetables, fruit and herbs from our vegetable garden.*

*Ethically-sourced meats.*

It's all about us providing you with simple, healthy sustainable food.

There are nine garden areas, each with its own distinctive character and themed planting:

**Glasshouse Borders**

**Tropical Garden**

**Pool Garden**

**Pergola Walk**

**Chapel Garden**

**Jane's Garden**

**Vegetable Garden**

**House Terrace**

**House Frontage**

**Arboretum and Woodlands**

**Opening hours:**

**Sunday 9am – 5pm**

**Monday 9am – 5pm**

**Tuesday 9am – 5pm**

**Wednesday 9am – 5pm**

**Thursday 9am – 5pm**

**Friday Closed**

**Saturday Closed**

Abbneywood Estate, Chester Road

Delamere, Cheshire CW8 2HW

T: 01606 889477

E: [info@abbneywoodestate.co.uk](mailto:info@abbneywoodestate.co.uk)

W: [www.abbneywoodestate.co.uk](http://www.abbneywoodestate.co.uk)

## New Rector for St. Peter's Church

After many years of sharing a vicar with Ashton Hayes, Delamere has its own rector for the first time since 2000 when, with the departure of Rev Paul Reynolds, the rectory was let by the diocese.

Since the retirement last summer of Rev Brian Perkes, who was based in Ashton Hayes, both parishes have been without an Anglican priest.

Delamere churchgoers were resigned to the fact that this was the way things were going to stay and the days of having our own incumbent living in our own rectory were gone forever.

And then a surprising thing happened. At a Parochial Church Council meeting last autumn members were told of a change of heart by the diocese. It had been decided that, after a lapse of more than eleven years, we were once again to have our own rector – and living in our own rectory.

Early euphoria was tempered by the realisation that in these days Church of England vicars (or rectors for that matter\*) are none too easy to find. A costly advertisement in the *Church Times* produced no response and for some months prospects looked bleak.

Meantime Mary Carter and David Unsworth, the churchwardens, had managed to find clergy and lay readers to take all the services from August last year until after Easter – quite an achievement.

Then in January came the good news that an applicant for the vacancy had been found. The PCC were invited to meet her the day before her interview with the Bishop of Chester and the two churchwardens.

The interview was successful!

Our new rector comes from the Wirral and will be moving with her husband to Delamere Rectory in the late spring.

## May Induction

**Rev. Elaine Ollman's induction as Rector of Delamere will take place at St. Peter's Church on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm.**

\*Why does Delamere (like Tarporley) have a rector and not a vicar? The difference is lost somewhere in the mists of ecclesiastical time, but it seems to have had something to do with the way tithes were once paid. In the past parishioners paid a tenth (tithe) of their income to the church. Those were the days! But don't tell PCC Treasurer David Bennett!

Asked for a clear explanation of the distinction between the two terms, a learned theologian recently provided an answer to this conundrum: a vicar, he said, lives in a vicarage; a rector lives in a rectory!

Can anyone come up with a more satisfactory explanation?

### Past Rectors of Delamere

Rev. Roland Hill	1817 – 1827
Rev. J.Brocklebank	1827 – 1837
Rev. B.Moore	1837 – 1838
Rev W.D..Fox	1838 - 1873 <sup>1</sup>
Rev. R.C. Garnett	1874 - 1889
Rev.Dr S. Payne	1889 -1913
Rev G.S. Payne	1913 – 1951 <sup>2</sup>
Rev C.H.Huggill	1951 – 1965 <sup>3</sup>
Rev D. E. Marrs	1966 - 1969
Rev D. R Tassell	1969 – 1974
Rev B.D.A. Spurry	1974 - 1983
Rev J.E. Richardson	1984 - 1988
Rev S.Winton	1988 - 1995
Rev P. Reynolds	1996 - 2000

---

<sup>1</sup> See *D&O News* No. 9 for an article on William Fox (cousin of Charles Darwin).

<sup>2</sup> See *D&O News* No. 6 for an article on George Payne.

<sup>3</sup> Rev Howard Huggill moved into the New Rectory in December, 1963.

From Elaine Ollman:

March 2012

A day or two ago Robin telephoned me to ask if I would write a piece for the next Newsletter 'Fine,' I said 'What would you like me to write about?' 'Anything at all' he replied. Fair enough. 'How many words do you need?' I enquired. 'As many as you want. It's up to you.'

So here I am with a blank sheet of paper; what shall I write about – I thought I might do a piece on 'The State of the Global Economy with Particular Reference to the Ongoing Difficulties in the Euro Zone', or maybe 'The Perceived Disparity Between the UK Extradition Treaty with America Compared to That With Other Countries'. However, I thought I might leave those for another time and I turned to my late mother's scrapbook.

Now this is no well ordered affair neatly arranged but is a positive jumble of cuttings and jottings. Interesting things she'd heard on the radio or read in a book, the text from her tear-off calendar, observations on life, a recipe here and a scrap of knitting pattern there. On one page, sandwiched between the aide memoir for recalling when the clocks change – '*Spring forward, Fall back*' and the impact temperature in degrees centigrade (Celsius) - '*5, 10 and 21 - winter, spring and summer sun*' there is pasted the poem by M L Haskins that King George VI quoted in his Christmas broadcast to the nation in 1939

"I said to the man who stood at  
the Gate of the Year,  
'Give me a light that I may tread  
safely into the unknown.'  
And he replied, 'Go out into the  
darkness,  
and put your hand into the Hand  
of God.  
That shall be to you better than  
light,  
and safer than a  
known way.'"

Brian and I are looking forward to coming to live in Delamere and sharing in worship at St Peter's, meeting new people and becoming involved in the life of the local community. However, for us coming and for you waiting for our arrival is a little like 'treading into the unknown' uncertain of what lies ahead. But as the poem says if we 'put our hand into the hand of God' if we trust him for the future he has planned then He is all the light we need, His way is the safest.

With all good wishes



Elaine Ollman

**Oakmere Methodist Church  
celebrates its  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
next year**

If you have any memories, photos or memorabilia of Oakmere Chapel and/or people who attended it in days gone by please contact Ann or Eric Wright (01829 732950) before the end of 2012.



### **Harringtons Staff (c. 1960)**

**Back Row:**

Ken Goulding Trevor Cork Jim Mercer George Nicholas Charlie Hodgkinson Stan Leah Roger Yeats Alan Hough Jim Cartwright

**Middle Row:**

Audrey ? Eric Johnson Ron Leach Ken Howell David Hood Alan Hassall Mrs Spann Horace Murray Mrs Craven  
Josie Newall (?) Ann Johnson Sylvia Russell (?) Jean Lightfoot John Edwards Denis Johnson

**Front Row:**

Sid Bull John Embsry (?) Mr Jones D.G.Vincent George Holloway P.G.Cliffe Ernie Jackson Tom Pemberton (?) Gordon Chiles

Photograph (and names) kindly supplied by Trevor Cork. Trevor worked at Harringtons for 38 years.

## **End of the Road for Harringtons**

Founded in the 1920s and by far the oldest caravan dealers in the country, Harringtons Leisure Centre was for many years a thriving and popular business. Then along came Discover Leisure who bought out some fifteen caravan dealerships up and down the country.

It was clear some time ago that all was not well with the new owners. Many long-established members of the workforce had left, rumours abounded about the financial health of the company and by 2010 Discover had disposed of most of the companies they had taken over only two or three years earlier.

The Delamere branch was one of the last to go, but the writing was on the wall long before its demise. When in October last year Discover went into administration, some 240 employees lost their jobs – nearly 70 of them at Delamere.

Few will find any sympathy for the perpetrators of this collapse; any such feelings should be reserved for the local businesses that have suffered as a consequence and especially for the many workers who have lost their jobs at what is a particularly difficult time.





## Nick Tomlin Cars Your friendly local Used Car Dealer Service Centre

We service all makes of vehicles.  
Servicing with us does not affect your manufacturer's warranty!  
So why pay main dealer prices?  
Free courtesy car supplied or free collection  
and delivery in the Oakmere area

### Body Shop Centre

No job too big or small, from a bumper scuff to a full body re-spray  
All insurance work welcome with courtesy car supplied.

*Simply proud to be a family-run business established since 1994*  
Easy to find - we are on Chester Road, Oakmere

**Tel: 01606 889494**

## Rural Bus Service

The service offers door-to-door travel for everybody.  
We use fully-accessible vehicles which enable people with mobility problems to use the service. Baby seats are available.

To book a journey or to find out times of services please ring

**01606 784100**

**BOOK BETWEEN 10.00AM & 2.00PM ON THE DAY BEFORE YOU WISH TO TRAVEL.**

The phone lines do get very busy so please be patient.

Fares are £2.

All services may be subject to change based on availability of vehicles and driver.

£ 60 each way or £1.30 each way concessionary. Travel will be FREE, on production of a bus pass, between the hours of 9.30am and 4.00pm.

**Mon. 9.00:** Cotebrook-Oakmere-L.Budworth-Tarporley-Delamere-Whitegate-Cuddington>**WINSFORD (RETURN 12.000)**

**10.30:** Cotebrook-Oakmere-L.Budworth-Utkinton-Tarporley-Whitegate-Cuddington> **NORTHWICH (RETURN 1.300)**

**Tues. 9.00:** Crowton-Kingsley-Acton Bridge-Norley-Delamere-Cuddington-Whitegate> **WINSFORD (RETURN 12.00)**

**12.30:** Crowton-Acton Bridge-Kingsley-Norley-Delamere-Cuddington-Whitegate> **NORTHWICH (RETURN 3.00)**

**Wed. 9.30:** Cotebrook-Oakmere-L.Budworth-Utkinton-Tarporley-Delamere> **NORTHWICH (RETURN 12.30)**

**1.30:** Tarporley-Oakmere-Delamere-Utkinton-L.Budworth-Cotebrook> **WINSFORD (RETURN 3.30)**

**Thurs. 9.00:** Kingsley-Delamere-Norley-Crowton-Acton Bridge-Cuddington-Whitegate>**NORTHWICH (RETURN 11.30)**

**Fri. 9.30:** Tarporley-Eaton> **NORTHWICH (RETURN 11.30)**

**ALL TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE.**

## Motorcycle Accessory Retailers Takes Over Harringtons Site

It was announced in February that the vacant Harringtons site had been bought by J&S Accessories Ltd. of Northwich.

Motorcycle accessory company J&S, which began life in Northwich, has 12 outlets in the UK, from Hamilton in Scotland to Plymouth in the South West as well as a large online business.

With the departure of Discover it was feared that the empty site would turn into yet another housing estate. The good news now is that a thriving retail company is to set up shop in Oakmere.

J&S plan to move not only their store, currently in the middle of Northwich, but also their head office at present located in Kingfisher Court (behind B&Q) to the Oakmere site. Meantime their warehouse, situated behind the old office, is to be relocated to Northampton.

J&S hope that with the excellent facilities at Oakmere it will become the largest outlet with the best range of motorcycle clothing in the UK.

I spoke recently to Peter Lynch, the company accountant, about the planned move. He told me that it is anticipated that some 25 employees will move out from the Northwich site and office. This does not include staff at the on-site café/ restaurant, which is due to re-open.

Asked about other plans for the site, he agreed that, although J&S now owned the whole site, it was larger than was needed for their retail business, but, despite numerous rumours, they were at present concentrating on the move and were keeping an open mind as to further possibilities. There is, however, no truth in the

rumour of an outside go-kart track being developed, but the continuation of caravan sales has not been ruled out.

In addition to clothing and accessories J&S sells Kawasaki machines and may acquire further motorcycle franchises in the future.

He assured me that the company was concerned about their image and maintaining good relations with the locality. Motorcyclists' average age, he told me, is in the mid-40s, rather countering the stereotypical image many have of bikers.

J&S are looking to open in late March/early April and are planning an Open Weekend on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April. It is hoped that local residents will attend what sounds like an interesting and fun event for all ages.  
R.

DELAMERE ACADEMY DIARY	
16 <sup>th</sup> April	SUMMER TERM BEGINS
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Years 5/6 Hockey Lesley Moore
19 <sup>th</sup> April	PTA Meeting 9.00am
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Hockey Tournament: Deeside Ramblers
27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup> April	Arts Weekend Conway
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Governors' Meeting
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Football v Utkinton School
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Concert at Community Centre
1 <sup>st</sup> June	New Building: Official Opening* Jubilee Garden Party
4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Half Term
11 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Transition Day
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	INSET Day
25 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Conway Trip
20 <sup>th</sup> July	TERM ENDS
<b>*see overleaf for new classroom details - and for a chance to become part of the history of Delamere School!</b>	



# J&S OAKMERE NOW OPEN

THE BIGGEST MOTORCYCLE AND  
ACCESSORIES STORE IN THE UK!

\*Large selection of new & used bikes

\*Main Kawasaki dealer

\*Massive selection of brands

\*Service & parts department

\*All new café

OPEN WEEKEND 21<sup>ST</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL

**DR-BIKE**



FRANK THOMAS



**J&S**

MOTORCYCLES • CLOTHING • ACCESSORIES

On the A556 Chester Road  
Delamere Forest, Nr  
Northwich  
Cheshire CW8 2HB  
Tel: 01606 48691

## New Classrooms at Delamere Academy



*The new classrooms should be ready after Easter*

Anyone passing Delamere School recently must have taken a second look at what has suddenly appeared in the school grounds. I was shown round the new building as it was nearing completion and couldn't help being affected by Headmaster Steve Docking's enthusiasm for what is happening and his plans for the future.

The whole structure will be cedar-clad and will contain two spacious classrooms, each with a kitchen area, toilets and an entrance lobby. The classrooms are for Years 1 and 2.

Pupils were asked to come up with ideas for the grounds to the north side of the building. These were then presented to Urban Forestry Group, who incorporated many of the suggestions into an exciting and ambitious plan for the area.

The proposed development will include a 14' x 8' polycarbonate greenhouse, a planting area for school gardening projects, a seating area with six wooden planters and a timber trellis archway, a bird table and study area with tables and an imaginative Diamond Jubilee theme planting area with a 60 as its centrepiece.

### **Buy a Block**

**Anyone who has any connections with the school, either past or present, is invited to take part in the *Buy a Block* scheme.** A pathway made of block pavers is to run through the new garden and there will be a chance to become a part of the school's history by buying a block. Each block will have two lines each of up to sixteen spaces for contributors' names, dates at school, etc. The closing date for entries is **16<sup>th</sup> April**. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity! Contact: Delamere C of E Primary Academy, Stoney Lane, Delamere, Tarporley CW6 0ST. Tel: 01244 981145. Email: [admin@delamere.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@delamere.cheshire.sch.uk)

*See p8 for School Diary.*

## **SWP ELECTRICS**

SOCKETS LIGHTS REWIRES

NO JOB TOO SMALL WE DO THEM ALL

PORTABLE APPLIANCE TESTING

PROMPT RELIABLE SERVICE

FREE TESTING

REFERENCES AVAILABLE

Telephone 01928 740415/740237

Stephen Warburton

Tarvin Road

Manley, Cheshire WA6 9EW

## **‘The Joy of Art’**

**Exhibition and Sale**

**Abbeywood, Delamere**

All proceeds to St.Luke's (Cheshire) Hospice.

**From Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>**

**April . 9am – 4pm (9am – 7.30pm Mon & Wed)**

**FREE ENTRY to the Exhibition.**

For more details contact: LizWells on 01606 555816; email: [liz-wells@stlukeshospice.co.uk](mailto:liz-wells@stlukeshospice.co.uk)

St.Luke's Hospice, Grosvenor House,  
Queensway, Winsford CW7 1BH

*Registered Charity No. 505595.*

## **ACKOMATICS**



WASHING MACHINES,  
TUMBLE DRYERS

&

DISHWASHER REPAIRS

*Also New & Re-conditioned  
Machines available for sale or  
rental*

*Reasonable Rates*

Call Paul on 07976 969223

Or 01829 760355

Cotebrook, Tarporley

**OUR REPUTATION  
IS AT STEAK!**



**DUTTON'S**  
*Quality Meats*



4a Church St, Kelsall  
Opp. Dr Surgery

**01829 751355**



## Forest Furore

### “Threat” posed by Holiday Homes

News of plans for the siting of up to 78 holiday homes in Delamere Forest has caused an almighty rumpus in certain quarters locally.

*Forest Holidays* was established in 2006 as a joint venture between the Forestry Commission and the Camping and Caravanning Club. The company has sites in forests throughout the country, including Sherwood Forest and the Forest of Dean.

The enterprise has proved so successful that *Forest Holidays* is seeking to expand into other areas – including Delamere. The company’s plans were first mentioned at a meeting at Linmere nearly two years ago, when local forestry officials and representatives of local community interests were invited to meet with a representative of *Forest Holidays*.

Following the recent threat to the future of Delamere Forest it has become increasingly clear that, if it is to survive in its present form and avoid any future threat of privatisation, the forest will have to show that it is financially viable. Initiatives such as concerts, car parking and Christmas tree sales, as well as the traditional income from timber sales, though important, cannot on their own realise sufficient income. It’s all very well having some romantic vision of the forest as an idyllic place for birds and squirrels, unspoilt by man, but the simple truth is that this large tract of woodland so loved by the thousands of visitors who flock here every year needs constant care and maintenance. And this costs money.

As someone who was heavily involved in the *Save Delamere Forest* campaign last year I am only too aware of the importance of the forest to people from all over the north west and how important it is to keep the forest open to all-comers, be they ramblers, horse riders, cyclists or even people who would like the opportunity to stay for a few nights in an area which we who live nearby are so lucky to have on our doorstep.

A recently-formed action group opposed to the planned development has given its website the arrestingly melodramatic title “Campaign Against the Destruction of Delamere” – not just Delamere

Forest, mind, but the whole, it would appear, of Delamere itself, as though there were some evil force at work threatening the annihilation of our village. Either that or the campaign’s founders are so out of touch with the locality that they are unaware that such a place as Delamere exists independent of the forest.

These activists appear to be driven by a mass epidemic of ill-informed hysteria. Convinced that “thousands of trees” have already been felled with the sole purpose of clearing space for holiday homes and that “hundreds of cars” will drive through the forest to reach them, no amount of reasoning or evidence to the contrary will persuade them otherwise.

So overcome with what they see as righteous indignation are they that these people just don’t want to listen. When Adrian Burn of *Forest Holidays* attempted at a recent public meeting to address the concerns voiced by the audience his every explanation was met with jeers and derision.

All the objections that have been raised *can* be answered. Not here, there just isn’t room, but if you have concerns about the impact of traffic, about the location of the holiday homes site, about tree felling and any other possible damage to the environment, about proximity to existing homes, about *anything* to do with the project, visit the exhibition at Linmere, talk to one of the people there and listen to what they have to say.

Behind this campaign lies perhaps the most virulent form of *nimbyism* – a phenomenon that manifests itself from time to time in rural areas. One militant protestor complained that he has found the area near the Visitors’ Centre “often unpleasantly heaving” (this no doubt with the masses who come from towns and cities for recreation and who helped save the forest from privatisation by signing our petition last year).

Another protester, when told that the introduction of holiday homes could well result in jobs for local people, retorted, “Why do we care about benefits to the local community?” (sic)

*Say no more, dear Nimby –  
You’ve told us quite enough!*

R.

**WILLINGTON  
FRUIT FARM SHOP**

**A FULL RANGE OF TOP QUALITY FRESH FRUIT  
AND VEGETABLES**

**NEW SEASON RHUBARB**

**HOME-PRESSED APPLE JUICE & CIDER**

**NEW SEASON PLANTS –**

**LUPINS, DELPHINIUMS, POPPIES, SWEET PEAS, BROAD  
BEANS, etc**

**SALADS, LOCAL HONEY,**

**CHESHIRE FARM ICE CREAM,**

**TRAYBAKES, FREE-RANGE EGGS,**

**JAMS AND PRESERVES,**

**PRE-PACK CHEESES,**

**CHESHIRE YOGHURT & BRIE,**

**WELSH FARMHOUSE YOGHURT,**

**WILD BIRD FOOD, CARDS**

**BOOK SWAP SHOP**

**OPEN: 9.30am – 4.30PM**

**EVERY DAY**

*Signposted to:*

**Willington Fruit Farm Shop**

**WINSORS, CHAPEL LANE, WILLINGTON, Nr.**

**KELSALL, TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE**

**Tel: 01829 751216**

**[www.willingtonfruitfarm.co.uk](http://www.willingtonfruitfarm.co.uk)**

**DOWNDALE  
CATTERY**

***An all new purpose-built***

***Luxury Cattery***

**'For Cats Only'**

*Downdale Cattery is a small family-run business, set within quiet and picturesque rural settings on the edge of Delamere Forest. If you're like us, your cats have become family members. When you can't be home for them, whether because of holiday, work, illness or other obligations, you want them to be taken care of with the same love and attention you give them at home. Here at Downdale we understand these needs and so we deliberately do everything ourselves so we can ensure individual attention and in return build a relationship with both our customers and their cats*

*For all further enquiries please contact:*

***Joanne & Alan Downes & Family***

***Morreys Lane, Delamere CW6 0SY***

***Tel: 01829 759133 / Mob: 07828 307114***

***Email: [downdalecattery@gmail.com](mailto:downdalecattery@gmail.com)***

***[www.downdalecattery.co.uk](http://www.downdalecattery.co.uk)***

**easylife gm ltd.**

e-mail: [info@gm.co.uk](mailto:info@gm.co.uk)

[www.easylifegm.co.uk](http://www.easylifegm.co.uk)

tel: 01606 889833

fax: 01606 882090

**Sales, Spares & Repairs for all leading makes  
of Garden Machinery.**

**We are located at Dairy House Farm on the corner  
of Farm Road and Chester Road on the A556**

**opposite the Fourways Quarry, Oakmere, CW8 2HB**

**Open Mon -Fri 8.30 – 5.00. Saturdays: Sept – Mar 8.30 – 1.00; Mar – Sept 8.30 -4.00**

***Call us for any further information or details.***

## Local Buses

Many years ago there used to be two companies whose buses passed through Delamere.

The green Crosville buses, which served western Cheshire and the whole of North Wales, were based in Chester. They ran a regular service from Chester to Winsford (and on to Middlewich and Sandbach). Buses turned right at the Abbey Arms, then left at the Fishpool. They would then go right at Sandy Brow and detour through Little Budworth before returning to the A54 at The Shrewsbury Arms and then on to Winsford.

The red North Western buses (belonging to the North Western Road Car Company) were based in Stockport and served the eastern part of the county. They ran from Northwich bus terminal to Chester.

More recently our only buses were those on the Northwich–Chester route and when Arriva withdrew this service a few years ago the prospects looked bleak. Fortunately GHA Coaches of Wrexham came to our rescue taking over the hourly service from Arriva. Even better was to follow and we now enjoy an excellent half-hourly service to and from both towns, though the continuation of this service must surely depend on the continuation of free bus passes to senior citizens. Let's hope these continue!

### New Service to Winsford

Last September, however, another service was introduced in the area. D&G Bus, based in Crewe, now run from Chester to Crewe via Winsford, so you can once again catch a bus from Delamere to Winsford. In theory, that is. But there's a snag. After leaving Kelsall and approaching Organsdale the buses fork right at the points taking the A54, thereby by-passing Delamere almost completely.

I rang a man at D&G and asked why the Winsford buses couldn't go via the Abbey Arms as of yore. He was sympathetic and said it was worth considering, but added ruefully that the service was not doing particularly well since no one seemed to want to go to Winsford...

I was reminded of one of my favourite Stanley Holloway poems that tells of how Old Ted the Boatman used to row people across the Mersey from Runcorn to Widnes at "per tuppence per person per trip"...

*'But as nobody wanted to go either place  
Well the trade it weren't any too good'.*

Sorry, Winsford!

Nevertheless here's the

### 81 Bus service

#### Timetable:

##### to Winsford

Kelsall 11.29am 1.59pm 3.19pm\*

arr. Winsford High Street 19 minutes later.

\*this service only: arr. Middlewich 4.40pm

arr. Crewe Bus Stn. 5.10pm

##### from Winsford

dep. Winsford High Street

10.15am 12.45pm 2.45pm

On the return journey it should be possible to alight at the Fishpool – or even the end of Stoney Lane. Whether you can flag a bus down on the outward journey... it's up to you.

Talking of

## The Fishpool

I've heard lots of speculation and rumours about what's going on at this once lovely old pub.

It was bought by **Nelson (North-West) Hotels Ltd.** last year and is now undergoing what can only be politely described as extensive modification. Nelson also own *The Grosvenor* at Pulford, *The Bear's Paw* at Warmingham and *The Pheasant* at Tattenhall.

Former Fishpool landlady Lynn Hore and her husband, who was the chef, have retired and gone to live in Appleton. Any old regulars will know that if you wanted to eat at *The Fishpool* in Lynn's day you had to book, no matter what time or day of the week such was its popularity among local diners. Nelson hotels will do well to come near the old level of popularity.

## Del amere GarDen Party

on the School Field

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July

2.00pm

<p><b>Riley IT Services</b>  <b>IT Services for home &amp; business</b>  <i>For all your IT needs</i></p> <p>Broadband &amp; email problems  Upgrades Virus, spam &amp; spy-ware removal &amp; prevention  Hardware &amp; software problems  VPNs, Wired &amp; Wireless networks  Fully insured  Competitive rates</p> <p><b>Jeremy Riley B.Eng (Hons)</b></p> <p><b>0797 3864465 or 01928 726525</b>  <b>riley.it.services@gmail.com</b></p>	<p><b>G.B.WOODWARD</b>  <b>Interior &amp; Exterior Property Maintenance</b>  <b>Over 20 Years' Experience</b></p> <p><b>Wall &amp; Floor Tiling</b>  <b>Pointing</b>  <b>Paving</b>  <b>Painting</b>  <b>Roof Repairs</b></p> <p><i>94 Old Coach Road  Kelsall  Nr Tarporley  Cheshire  CW6 0RA</i></p> <p><b>Mobile: 07811 818491</b>  <b>Home: 01829 75290</b></p>
<p><b>SUMMERTREES</b>  <b>TEA ROOM</b></p> <p><b>Delicious Hot &amp; Cold Snacks</b></p> <p><b>Home-made Soup And Cakes</b></p> <p><b>Tues – Thurs 11.00am – 5.00pm</b>  <b>Sat – Sun 10.30am – 5.00pm</b>  Closed Mondays &amp; Fridays  (Except Bank Holidays)</p> <p><i>Tirley Lane, Willington, Nr.Tarporley  Cheshire CW6 0PF  Tel: 01829 751145</i></p>	<p><b>J.W.Landscapes</b>  <i>Jamie Wright</i></p> <p><b>BLOCK PAVING</b></p> <p><b>FLAGGING</b></p> <p><b>GATES</b></p> <p><b>DECKING</b></p> <p><b>TURFING</b></p> <p><b>TREE WORK</b></p> <p><b>FREE ESTIMATES</b></p> <p><b>RELIABLE SERVICE</b></p> <p><i>Little Budworth, Tarporley, Cheshire</i></p> <p><b>Tel: 01829 760223 &amp; 07955 219969</b></p>



## **Queen's Jubilee Family Fun Day and Craft Fair**

**Delamere Community Association is planning a major Jubilee celebration event for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012** in consultation with Delamere Parish Council, Oakmere Parish Council, Delamere Primary Academy School, St Peter's Church, the Forestry Commission and Delamere Store. The event will be held at the **Community Centre on Station Road, Delamere** and is being organised primarily for the residents of Delamere and Oakmere but will be open to residents from surrounding districts as well as visitors to the area.

The theme of the event is family entertainment and it is intended to complement the other local events planned for the Jubilee weekend, including the School Street Party on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June, the special service at St Peter's Church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, the Forestry Commission's Family Picnic later on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and Willington residents' Street Party on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

The Family Fun Day will start at 11.00am and finish at 4.00pm and there will be an official opening ceremony at 12.00 noon led by our new Rector, the Reverend Elaine Ollman, who will raise the Union Jack on the new flagpole donated by Delamere Parish Council.

There will be a wide range of activities aimed at children including a 'painting of the Queen' competition – to be judged by the new Rector, a 'royal' fancy dress competition, bouncy castle, face painting and many more. And for adults there will be the more traditional hoopla, tombola, raffle and other entertainments. There will also be a wide range of food, craft and gift stalls including a WI cakes stall, confectionery, tea and coffee, strawberries and cream, locally sourced hot food courtesy of Delamere Store, toys, books, handmade jewellery, and a selection of handicrafts.

Entrance to the event will be FREE and any profits made after paying expenses will be used to fund the Community Centre's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party later in the year

The Committee are appealing for your help and support in a variety of ways including:

- Contributions of toys, books and bric-a-brac (which can be delivered to the community centre on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> June between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon).
- Help on the day with running stalls and activities, car parking and guiding visitors.
- Creating and running activities or other entertainments such as face painting and children's crafts.
- Loaning and putting up outdoor canopies and garden awnings (which will need to be in place by 09.30 am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June).
- Contributions of prizes for the raffle and tombola

If you are able to help in any way please either:

ring Janet Stubbs on 01606 889200, Paula Cockcroft on 01606 889741 or Winston Sherman on 01606 889411

or email [janetjstubbs@gmail.com](mailto:janetjstubbs@gmail.com), [paulacockcroft@yahoo.com](mailto:paulacockcroft@yahoo.com), or [winston.sherman@sherman.me.uk](mailto:winston.sherman@sherman.me.uk)

or leave your details in the box at Delamere Store

**Finally, please make a diary note of the date – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June – and help our villages celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee!**



*Delamere Community Association  
Presents*

# **The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration**

## **Family Fun Day and Craft Fair**

Delamere Community Centre  
Station Road, Delamere, CW8 2HU

Family entertainment, competitions,  
face painting, bouncy castle, tombola

WI cake stall, toys, books, gifts, crafts,  
handmade jewellery & much more

Food & drink available

**FREE ENTRY**

**Monday 4 June 2012**

**11am-4pm**

## **Letter from Delamere Parish Council**

### **Delamere Parish Council has vacancies for 2 Parish Councillors.**

Parish Councils are the first tier of local government and have an important role in representing the interests of their communities as well as defining and developing projects that will benefit and improve the quality of life and the local environment.

Delamere Parish Council has recently successfully lobbied CWAC to lower the speed limit on the A556, managed to get a grit bin located on Eddisbury Hill and has invested in environmental works to clear and maintain Waste Lane pond for the enjoyment of everyone.

We are shortly about to hold our first **Community Event, 7.00pm Monday 21st May at Delamere Community Centre** where we have brought together representatives from various local organisation including Cheshire Police, Cheshire West & Chester Council, HomeWatch, Delamere Community Association, the Forestry Commission and Delamere School to discuss current projects. We will also be seeking people's views on the future use of the playing field at Frith Avenue, talking about our plans to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee and starting the process of putting together a Parish or Neighbour Plan. Given the Government's Localism Agenda and the recent changes to Planning Legislation this will be an important document and its formation will enable the residents of Delamere to have their say on the future shape and development of the area.

Delamere Parish Council is not party political. The council meet monthly, meeting taking place at either Delamere School or Delamere Community Centre; meetings starting at 7.30pm.

If you live or work in Delamere and you're over 18 you'll probably be eligible to become a Parish Councillor. If you want see what happens why not come to the next public meeting, **7.30pm Monday 16th April at Delamere School**. To register your interest

about becoming a Parish Councillor or for further information please contact our clerk, Denise French - 07730 480764 or email [delamereclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:delamereclerk@yahoo.co.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you!

*Steve Roberts (Chairman)*

## **Development of the Old Courthouse and Police Station**

Built in 1897 (before which the court was held at the nearby Abbey Arms) the Police Station has lain disused and derelict since 1987.

The current owner of the premises, Manchester restaurateur Gerry Yeung of Yang Sing restaurant in Princess Street, has been looking for some time to develop the property and recently engaged local architect Nicola Gibson of Oakmere.

Nicola has produced an imaginative design that retains the character of the original building. It involves the preservation and renovation of the existing courthouse into nine residential units and in addition the construction of ten units on land to the side.

The new houses are intended to have elements of the style of the Courthouse and to fit in with the style of other buildings in the locality (such as the row of Crown Cottages further along the A556).

Plans have been submitted and are awaiting approval from the council.

## Delamere Forest Wins Top Award

The Forestry Commission at Delamere recently received a top award at the *Landscape Institute Awards*.

The Old Pale Community Woodland at Delamere Forest was the winner in the *design over 5ha* category.

The judges described it as “an outstanding example of large-scale landscape”. The strong design concept responded well to the historic, ecological and geological sensitivities of the site. The panel particularly liked the manipulation of views through the woodland, guiding visitors to the summit and the surprise panorama of seven counties.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The Landscape Institute Awards are presented annually to encourage and recognise outstanding examples of work by the landscape profession. The awards aim to:

- promote the art and science of landscape architecture
- advance the knowledge and understanding of the discipline
- celebrate professional expertise
- reward schemes that demonstrate a high level of commitment to sustainability.

### Late News

#### Oakmere Parish Council

A meeting at the Community on the evening of April 3<sup>rd</sup> was attended by over 40 people, many of them concerned about a number of issues at present affecting Oakmere. Principal matters discussed were: the impact of housing on the area (particularly in the light of the massive developments likely on two sites in neighbouring Cuddington; planning, local employment, recreation and tourism in the area.

It was learned that Wainhomes has bought a strip of land from J&S (new owners of the former Harringtons site), possibly to provide the open space required as part of the new development on the Fourways site. Construction of the 35 or so homes on this site is apparently due to commence shortly.

A planning application has been submitted for development of the Marley and Crown Farm Quarries.

It was understood that the government is to give up to £10,000 to local authorities for each house built plus a further £300 per year for the first six years. Local authorities (CWAC in our case), it was reported, will return 20% of this sum to relevant local parish councils to fund the development of local amenities.

### Jubilee News

#### Two Flagpoles for Delamere

At a recent meeting Delamere Parish Council agreed to purchase two flagpoles, one for the school and one for the community centre. It's hoped these will arrive in good time for the hoisting of the Union Jack on Jubilee Day.

#### Jubilee Service at Delamere Church

There is to be a special service celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.30am. All are welcome.

Incidentally, visitors to the church on this or any other occasion should take a look at a plaque near the font. It records how the vestry was built to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. Before that the old vestry was a small room, now unused, behind the organ.

#### Forest Jubilee Picnic

The Forestry Commission invites anyone who would like to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in the open air to a Jubilee Picnic Event on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Picnickers will gather (with picnics!) at the Events Arena.

At 2.00pm there will be a conducted walk to the top of Pale Heights.

Weather permitting, this should be an occasion to remember. Anyone who's never visited the hilltop before will find the view quite breathtaking.

#### Another Diamond Occasion!

Delamere WI Celebrate Jean Johnson's 60 Years' Membership



## Last of the Newsletters

I'm afraid this has to be the last edition of *Delamere & Oakmere News*. I've found it taking up more and more of my time – hence the lengthening gaps between issues.

I'd like to give special thanks to the many people who've distributed the Newsletter over the years as well as the advertisers who've supported us and also the Vale Royal and, more recently, the CWAC printers.

Below is an outline of some of the main items in the previous 23 issues. I still have a few copies of most of these. If there's any article that you'd like a copy of, please let me know.

R.

- No 1 June 05* Photo: Delamere School Seniors, 1952  
*No 2 August 05* Delamere Wartime Memories  
*No 3 Oct 05* Wartime memories cont. Delamere Guides. Photo School Infants  
*No 4 Dec 05* Cheshire Dialect  
*No 5 Feb 06* Rev George Payne. Go Ape. Photos: Church Choir 1942 Senior Boys 1949  
*No 6 April 06* A556 Speed Petition John Bradbury: A violinist's reminiscences  
*No 7 June 06* Cheshire Dialect follow-up  
*No 8 Aug 06* School's 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion  
*No 9 Oct 06* Oakmere CC Grant. Charles Darwin's Fern. Bernard Jeff's Funeral  
*No 10 Dec 06* Travellers' Tales. Hillfort. The Quest – Archaeological Finds  
*No 11 Feb 07* The Quest 2. Destruction of the Countryside. Delamere Cricket Club  
*No 12 April 07* Delamere's Top Golfer Retires. DCA 100 Club  
*No 13 June 07* School – Threat of Closure  
*No 14 Aug 07* School Saved. The Story of Whistlebitch Well  
*No 15 Oct 07* PO under threat. "Pale Heights" poem. Delamere Meridian. Lest We Forget - WW1  
*No 16 Dec 07* Save our Shop. WI's oldest member.  
*No 17 Feb 08* The Quest continues. Abbey Wood's "vacant property".  
*No 18 April 08* Golden Age Crisis. Disgraceful Behaviour by the Post Office. A Local Family History.  
*No 19 Oct 08* Oakmere Cricket Club Promotion. Lest We Forget-WW2. Oakmere Centenarian  
*No 20 Dec 08* Habitats & Hillforts Project. Footpath Fiasco on the Yeld  
*No 21 Feb 09* Our "Outstanding" School. Local Housing Needs. HMI's School Report from 1950  
*No 22 Dec 09* Church in Crisis. Local Housing Plans Meeting  
*No 23 Nov 10* Eddisbury Ghosts? School Bell Restored. Hilltop Excavations.

Of all the pieces that have appeared over the years this poem by Kay George that so wonderfully captures our hillside has to be my favourite....Robin.

## The Hill

Big skies,  
Vistas and panoramas,  
Images from holidays in wild places.

Views all around – Liverpool's cathedrals, Jodrell Bank, Jubilee Tower on Moel Famau  
Close to Offa's Dyke.

Our village nestles  
At the foot of Eddisbury Hill, with its traces of Neolithic and Bronze Age burials.

Then came settlers with the latest technology,  
People of the Iron Age, centred on the hill fort,  
Their ramparts still visible.

But Romans destroyed this fort  
Too close to their road, still discernible,  
Skirting the southern slopes.

The tenth century saw Aethelflaed,  
Lady of the Mercians, rebuilding, holding the line  
Against the Danes in the north.

A few centuries on, Normans hunted in Delamere,  
In the King's Forest, the Forester's Chamber  
Cut into the hill's flank.

Later, land was taken for farming,  
Creating the Old Pale, by the millennium's end  
Host to steel masts and ravens.

The twenty-first century dawned, but not for us  
Houses, factories or supermarkets.  
We wander on gorse-clad ramparts

Imagining people from millennia past.  
No more ploughing, a few cattle and sheep,  
A mosaic of habitats, open to us all.

Will generations to come  
Marvel at the stones that now top the hill  
And wonder at their meaning?

Wildflower meadows, trees, a stream,  
Ponds and marshes, larks, buzzards, goldfinches,  
-And a big sky.

*Kay George.*



## Potential Mains Gas supply to Delamere /Oakmere

Hello, I'm Dr. Bob Clipperton from 75 Station Road and Robin, with the backing of the Parish Council, has kindly let me tell you in this newsletter that I've been exploring the possibility of getting a mains gas supply to Delamere / Oakmere for a couple of months.

I am told this has been tried before but no records exist of those tries, only word-of-mouth statements. Also, years ago, it seems, it was fairly easy to get a gas connection quote – all one had to do apparently was to 'phone British Gas/Transco and they would look into it quickly. But several years ago, Transco became National Grid - and other private companies, if they could convince the appropriate authorities that they could create proper and safe gas connections, were allowed to install pipelines. These companies are generically known as Utility Infrastructure Providers, or UIPs for short.

I am currently in discussions with two UIPs. They are both concerned about the geographical 'complexity' of, particularly, Delamere as a whole and one of them requires a fairly reliable estimate of how many properties would be committed to paying for mains gas installation.

Therein lies the main purpose of this communication. Below you will see tables of basically 3 columns. In the first, the UIP would like the main householder's name, and then the exact address and in column 3 a signature to confirm that you are interested in a mains gas connection. They also would like a telephone number but I will discuss with them why they need this. **Let me stress at this point that by filling in this form you are NOT committing yourself to any expenditure – it is only an expression of interest.**

So, I urge you to sign below so that this UIP will proceed. I have included 4 rows – please check with your neighbours to see if they are interested. **Lee in Delamere Stores has kindly agreed to allow anyone to hand completed forms in there, - and I'll try to put a box in the Community centre.**

Please don't expect results very quickly. These UIPs don't move very quickly but I will keep you updated as progress occurs. Finally, if any Oakmere residents wish to sign by all means do so – although you probably know that Wainhomes have to install mains gas when they start developing the old Fourways site.

---

### Mains gas interest

Householder name	Full Address inc post code	Signature & Telephone No.

Householder name	Full Address inc post code	Signature

Householder name	Full Address inc post code	Signature

Householder name	Full Address inc post code	Signature