

Delamere and Oakmere News

Number 3

October 2005

Who's Looking After Us?

On 21st September two Vale Royal Community Safety Wardens held a meeting in the station car park with members of the local parish council and homewatch co-ordinators to discuss local issues. Having learned of the appointment in June of a community policeman for the area I was a little confused about the role of these borough wardens. As I'd just volunteered to become a homewatch co-ordinator myself, I thought I ought at least to pretend to know who was doing what. I rang Liz Biddle, the Homewatch Officer working for Cheshire Police, who was able to help me with my inquiries.

The situation, apparently, is this. The role of Vale Royal Borough Council Community Safety Wardens is: to patrol neighbourhoods; to report suspicious behaviour to the police; to respond to minor incidents of anti-social behaviour; to check empty premises; and to act as a link between communities, police and other agencies. They may be contacted between 8.30 am and 10.00 pm on 01606 867847. Their function is mainly environmental; they are not a prosecuting agency.

The Community Police, however, form part of the Western Rural Neighbourhood Policing Unit and are part of the Community Action Team, known as CAT Officers (not to be confused with cat *burglars*, whose role is different again). We have two: PC Andy Simpson, based at Frodsham (tel: 0845 4586393), who covers Cuddington, Oakmere and Sandiway, and PC Robin Fisher, based at Mickle Trafford (tel: 0845 458 6394 or 01244 350222), who covers Delamere, Utkinton and Willington. They deal with *non-urgent* local issues and will respond to requests for advice on police matters. Anyone wishing to contact the police on more pressing matters, needing assistance or reporting an incident or having information to give should phone 0845 4580000.

Thirdly there are the Homewatch Co-ordinators, a voluntary group serving each part of Delamere and Oakmere. There are fifteen for Delamere alone, plus another five vacancies waiting to be filled. *If you see anything suspicious, but are not sure enough to ring the police, contact your nearest Co-ordinator.* For Delamere details see page 5 of the Delamere Civil Parish Booklet delivered in July. The Oakmere Co-ordinators are Colin Stayley, Forest Road Caravan Park, and Betty Ball, Mere Crescent.

A September Scene *The last milking herd in Delamere*



Sunday, Oct.2nd

Harvest Festival

Family Service

at

Delamere Church

10.30 am

Tuesday, Oct.4th

Harvest Supper

at

**Delamere Community
Centre**

7.30 pm

*Tickets £7 available
from:*

Anne Bold 01606 882649

Mary Carter 01606 883645

David Unsworth 01928 788078

Wednesday, Oct.5th

Golden Age Club

Chairobics ~ Mrs.Storah

Community Centre 2.00pm

**For queries regarding this
and all Golden Age Functions
contact Mrs.J.Riches (01606
882094) or J.Emerton (01270
668394)*

Monday, Oct.10th

**Delamere Community
Centre A.G.M.**

7.30 pm

**ALL MEMBERS TO
ATTEND**

Tuesday, Oct.11th

Women's Institute

Talk by Mr.Cummings

Llangollen to Chester

**7.30 pm in the
Community Centre**

Monday, Oct. 17th

Meeting of

Delamere Parish

Council

in the Church Room

7.30 pm

**N.B. All Golden Age and
W.I. meetings are held in the
Community Centre.**

Diary Dates

Wednesday, Oct. 19th

Golden Age Club

Harvest Festival

2.00 pm

Canon Harris

Monday, Oct.31st

Meeting of

Oakmere Parish

Council

in the Delamere Room,

Fourways

7.30 pm

Wednesday, Nov. 2nd

Golden Age Club

Lunch

12.00 for 12.30

If you wish to attend, let Jean

Riches know by October 19th

Followed by a talk by Emma

Davis from Age Concern

Saturday, Nov.5th

Jumble Sale

in aid of the

Community Centre

11.00am ~ 2.00pm?

**The Centre will be open on
Friday evening for the
receipt of Jumble.**

Tuesday, Nov.8th

Women's Institute

Annual General

Meeting

7.30 pm

Sunday, Nov.13th

Remembrance Day

Services

Delamere Church

at

10.30 am

&

Oakmere Methodist

Church

at

6.30 pm

Wednesday, Nov.16th

Golden Age Club

Christmas Shopping

Coach Trip

Bents Garden Centre,

Glazebury, nr.Leigh

Coach leaves at 10.30am

***Contact Jean Riches for
details**

Wednesday, Nov.30th

Golden Age Club

Delamere Derby

Community Centre 2.00pm

Toddlers and Babies

**Julia Timpson, the
Chairman of the Tarporley
branch of the National
Childbirth Trust, is
setting up a Toddler and
Baby Group. This is due to
meet on the third Friday of
each month at Kelsall
Community Centre. There
will be refreshments/crafts/
toys for toddlers and a baby
area. Cost will be £2. The
first meeting is on 21st
October.**

**Contact Julia on 08700
668932 for further details.**

Young People

**Louise Norris, of Delamere
Farm, is involved in a
youth support group for
Kelsall and the surrounding
area. Its aim is to provide
activities for young people.
During the October half-
term there will be a
Multisport Activity Week
at Kelsall Primary School
for 10 to 15-year-olds at a
cost of £10 per day.**

**To find out more and to
book a place ring Louise on
01829 751886, or e-mail
her at:**

**[louise@delamerehomes.co.
uk](mailto:louise@delamerehomes.co.uk)**

Sixty Years Ago continued

Fund-raising in aid of the War Effort was a major preoccupation in the early 1940s.

Everyone was encouraged to do their bit by contributing to National Savings and each village had its own National Savings Group. My parents ran the Delamere group and I recently found the ledger in which all the contributions for the war years were recorded.

February 7th–14th, 1942 was *Warship Week*. A four-figure sum was raised thanks to the efforts of the citizens of Delamere.

A year later came the *Wings for Victory Week*. In late February a committee was formed with the Rector in the chair. It was agreed that Delamere should go it alone and not as part of the Tarporley area as in the past. An ambitious target was set - £10,000, or two Spitfires.

Various functions were planned – whist drives, dances and sports. The commanding officer from Wardle Aerodrome was invited to attend, but it is not certain whether he accepted: the records are incomplete at this point and it just could be that he was a little busy at the time.

There is much fuller documentation of events for the following year, however. May 20th – 27th, 1944 was *Salute the Soldier Week*. An official eight-page programme covering all the events in Delamere was printed. On the back a soldier encouraged the readers,

“Come on – we’re all in it together! I’ll keep the front line safe, if you’ll ‘stand firm’ behind me”.

When the programme was planned no one could have foreseen that, by the start of the week, D-Day was a fortnight old and the soldiers were well on their way into Normandy. Delamere’s target was £5,000 as part of the £45,000 for the Tarporley District.

The week began with a parade led by an American Forces Band, stationed nearby, from the Abbey Arms to the school at 6.00 pm on the Saturday. The official opening was conducted by an American officer, Colonel H.G. Paullin. This was followed by a Rabbit Show, Fancy Dress for Adults and Children, best decorated Bicycle, best decorated Cart Horse, Cart Horse Race (open), and a Flower Decoration Competition.

On the Sunday there was a Drum Head Service in the Rectory Field

with an address by an American padre. The following evening the Americans held a boxing match and baseball exhibition in the Organsdale field diagonally opposite the school. On Wednesday evening there was an American forces concert in the school (admission 2/- adults, 1/6 children and forces). On Thursday the W.I. held a Whist Drive in the school and on Friday evening the Home Guard organised a dance with an American Forces Orchestra in attendance.

The closing event was at 4.30 on Saturday 27th May – children’s sports, a draw and distribution of prizes, again held in the Organsdale field. Mr. Hardy of Castle Hill presented the prizes. I have a very clear memory of running in a race with Charlie Gregory the only other competitor. I came second.

The school was kept open every evening between six and eight o’clock for the sale of National Savings Certificates. Judging by the records just about everyone in Delamere contributed to the savings effort. Just to read the list of names is an exercise in nostalgia. Sadly no record survives of the final score, but it seems certain that the target must have been reached. What is equally certain is that the war brought the people of Delamere and Oakmere together, united in a common cause, as never before or since.

Delamere’s celebration of VE Day was memorable for one rather strange reason. The school bell had until now regularly been rung to summon pupils to school in the morning. On VE Day it was rung with more than usual vigour with the result that the clapper fell out and the bell has never been rung since. When an attempt was made to restore it in the 1980s the bell tower was judged to be in a dangerous state and the bell was taken down. It now stands in the entrance hall of the school. Perhaps one day.....

Thanks are due to all the volunteer distributors of the Newsletter and in particular to Alan Knowles and Derek Wheeler for their help in organising distribution.

Special thanks also to Beth Knowles without whose computer skills this edition would probably not have appeared.

Robin Ackerley

A letter from

Oakmere Methodist Church

Hello everyone,

We celebrated harvest at Oakmere Methodist Church on 25th September, 2005. The church was decorated with flowers and wheat, etc. The festival reminds us of the beauty and wonder of God’s creation. It isn’t hard to appreciate this when we are so near to Delamere Forest. I drive through the forest from Kingsley on my way to lead worship at Oakmere and I am often struck by its span and loveliness. I have also been caught up in traffic jams when people have been buying their Christmas trees!

Harvest not only reminds us to give thanks to God for creation and all that it provides us with but it can also be an opportunity to remind ourselves that we are stewards of the earth. Yes, we can take what we need from our planet but we should also be careful with the valuable resources we have, not just for our own sakes but also for future generations. We are stewards and guardians of the earth, each and every one of us, in our own small way.

Remembrance Sunday will soon be here. Oakmere Church will share a service with the British Legion on 13th November, 2005 at 6.30 pm. We come to remember those who sacrificed themselves for our freedom and to thank God for them. I hope we will also reflect that this sacrifice should never again be asked and that we can turn to each other in peace and forgiveness. World leaders should consider how to preserve both natural and human resources and work selflessly and humbly for peace and security. They too are stewards and guardians of the earth and of all who dwell there. Let us hope and pray that conflicts can be resolved and that our future generations will have a chance to flourish. May we too become peacemakers.

Yours in Christ,

Ann Kenton

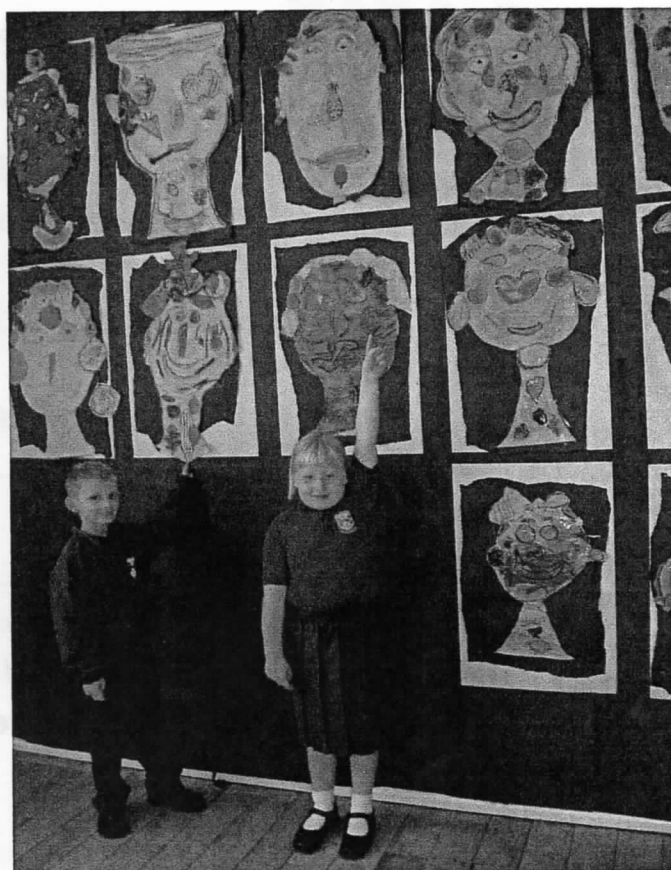
Minister at Oakmere Methodist Church

All Change at Delamere School

Pupils at Delamere School were greeted by several innovations when they came back in September.

During the summer holiday smart new dining room furniture arrived; this can be folded away and put to one side when not in use. In addition Class I (the room nearest the school house, for old timers) has had a complete makeover with a new interactive whiteboard and new computer equipment.

On 16th September the school held an Art Day, based on the theme of Self-Expression.



Proud Artists from Class 1 and Class 2 show off their masterpieces.

School Diary ~ up to Half Term

Choir ~ Tuesdays 3.15 – 4.15 pm

Swimming ~ October 6th, 13th, 20th for Class 1 & 2

Oct. 5th ~ **Harvest Festival at Church** 9.00 am

Oct. 6th ~ Football (Away) v Duddon 2.00 pm

Oct. 7th ~ Class 2 Trip to Grosvenor Museum
to study Romans

Oct. 7th ~ Jeans for Genes Day

Oct. 11th ~ Football (Away) v Newton 1.00 pm

Oct. 13th ~ OPEN AFTERNOON for prospective parents 1.00 – 3.00 pm

Oct. 14th ~ School Photographer. Individual & Sibling Photographs 1.00 pm

Oct. 18th ~ *Gripping Yarns Theatre Company* visiting school

Oct. 20th ~ Football (Away) v Woodfield 3.30 pm

Oct. 21st ~ INSET DAY

Half Term ~ Monday 23rd – Friday 28th October

Letters to the Editor:

Hi Robin,

After reading the News my husband can remember they used to call people from Moulton the Moulton Crows, and we both remember where Black Bank is. It is situated on the A54 between Stoney Lane and the Fishpool, a clump of trees on the left hand side in the hollow.

Jane & Nigel Ball,
Chrimes Dive, Oakmere

This was the first letter sent to Delamere & Oakmere News – and I forgot to print it! Apologies, Jane and Nigel. Now you mention it, I had heard of the Moulton Crows. Wasn't there once a dance troupe with that name?

Dear Editor,

I am interested to know if anyone has any information about the future of the Court House on Chester Road. It is a shame to see this building in such a state of dereliction.

The Parish Council may have knowledge of future plans or maybe Vale Royal Council can pressure the present owners into doing something constructive to improve this eyesore.

Congratulations on a well produced Delamere and Oakmere Newsletter.

Yours truly,
Arthur Ellison,
Oakmere

Having spoken to the Clerk to Oakmere Parish Council, I can confirm that numerous representations have been made to Vale Royal about the state of the building. Unfortunately neither party owns the property and so neither is in a position to take any action. This is the responsibility of the owner, a Chinese restaurant owner from Manchester.

[Please send any letters to: Robin Ackerley, The Paddock, Stoney Lane, Delamere, Tarporley, CW6 0SX; e-mail: robin.ackerley@btinternet.co.uk]

By the way, on the question of the Delamere/Kelsall postal address, David Goodwin of Station Road has looked into this. I hope to report back in the December edition.

Brownies and Guides Growing in Strength

No praise can be too high for the achievements of Elly Heffernan over the last two years.

Elly formed the 1st Delamere Brownies Pack in 2003 and the 1st Delamere Guides Unit began only last January. Now over thirty Delamere and Oakmere girls regularly attend the Wednesday evening meetings.

So successful has the enterprise been that at present there is a waiting list to join the Brownies until the new year. There are already thirteen Guides.

Elly has asked if anyone can spare a large cupboard or wardrobe (lockable, if possible) where equipment can be safely stored.

Do you know of anyone with experience of working with Ranges ready for when the Guides are old enough to move on (at fourteen)?

It is so encouraging to hear of someone who is prepared to give up time working with young people in the area. Elly and Dorothy Buckley, who helps her with the Guides, deserve our every support.

Ring Elly on 01606 888449 if you can help with any of these requests.

REMINDER

Community Centre AGM is on

Monday, 10th October at 7.30 pm.

If you run a club or are a Community Centre member, you should be there.

Delamere Billiards off to a Good Start

Delamere Billiards Team, who play in the Frodsham and Chester Leagues, had every reason to start the season in late September on a confident note.

Last year they were winners of the Frodsham League and Stuart Nicholas won the Individual Championship.

So far their confidence has been justified with wins in their first two Chester League matches.

Anyone interested in finding out more, or in playing snooker at the community Centre, should contact Sid Craven on 01606 888029.

The Badminton season is also under way.

Jane Wright (01606 882708) is secretary of the Thursday evening club, which plays in the league.

Dennis Lorrman (01606 889876) looks after the Tuesday morning recreational club.

Congratulations to Ernie Nixon of Old Pale Cottages who celebrated his ninetieth birthday on 14th September. Ernie, who was born in Delamere, welcomed family and friends at a party at the Fourways on the 16th.

NetworkGloria: Parents for Parents

(Supporting Special Needs Families in Romania)

Thank you to everyone who supported our last Quiz Night at the Community Centre. We are hoping to hold further quiz nights in the new year.

Hand-embroidered Christmas cards (£1) are available from The Paddock, Stoney Lane.

To find out more about the charity see our website:

www.networkgloria.org.uk

PLEASE CONTACT ME, if you run any club with news to put in the Newsletter. Ring me at 01859 752723 or e-mail me robin.ackerley@btinternet.com

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Browse around the herbs in pots (from £1.10)

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Nr.KELSALL,CHESHIRE

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Delamere Infants 1959



Can you name these children?