

Delamere and Oakmere

News

Number 8 Aug/Sept 2006

160 NOT OUT

Delamere School Celebrates Its Anniversary

An invitation was sent out, via this Newsletter, to all former Delamere School pupils to attend a performance put on by the present children. This took the form of a celebration of the school's past and included mime, dance and song. Two of the Year Six pupils, Jack and Emily, took the leading parts.

Over thirty past pupils responded, many of whom had attended when Delamere was an all-age school and who had spent their whole school life here. The oldest was Mrs. Lucy Rowland, now living in Tarporley, a very youthful looking eighty-nine year-old. As Lucy Crawford she had attended school from 1921 to 1930 (in the days when Mr. Fugler was Headmaster), walking along the then quiet country road from her home at Kelsall Lodge on Gresty's Hill. Lucy was accompanied by her daughter Jean Boughey (nee Roscoe), 1947-1953.

Six of the Davies family, from Stoney Lane and later Watling Drive, came to Delamere and the four oldest, Beryl, Joan, Tom and Elsie plus Tom's daughter Karen all attended, as did the three Spruces, Doreen, James and Alan together with Alan's two children, Mark and Katie, while Katharine Wilman (nee Bradbury), 1955- 1961, had journeyed from Surrey specially for the occasion. Katharine was accompanied by her sister Ray (now Mrs. Jones), 1955- 1960. Many will remember their mother, Doreen Bradbury, who taught at Delamere in the 50s and 60s.

After the performance and after collecting their commemoration mugs and enjoying strawberries and cream, visitors were invited to look round the school, partly a nostalgia trip, partly a chance to admire the new library extension.

Here, in no particular order, are the names and dates of those who attended:

Jean Johnson (nee Bettley), 1933-42, Jean Boughey (nee Roscoe), 1947-53, Glenda Owen (nee Ball), 1949-53, Peter Ashbrook, 1940-50, Ray Jones (nee Bradbury), 1955-60, Katharine Wilman (nee Bradbury), 1955-61, Graham Rathbone, 1941-51, Joan Gibbons (nee Davies), 1938-48, Tom Davies, 1941-51, Karen Davies, 1972-78, Elsie Weston (nee Davies), 1943-53, Beryl Curry (nee Davies), 1935-45, Alan Spruce, 1949-55, Mark Spruce, 1972-78, Katie Spruce, 1978-84, Doreen Ashworth (nee Spruce), 1938-47, James Spruce, 1945-53, Jessica Norman, 1991-98, Eric Wright, 1946-53, Lucy Rowland (nee Crawford), 1921-30, Jean Sheen (nee Fairclough), 1958-65, Colin Haworth, 1951-54, Nicholas Mulholland, 1981-86, Elizabeth Ashbrook (nee Vernon), 1951-57, Paul Dutton, 1979-86, Kristel Lawson (nee Dobson), 1972-78, Lucy Hopley (nee Lyon), 1948-53, Ann Wakefield (nee Prince), 1948-52, Trevor Cork, 1945- 54, Vera Page (nee Gore), 1943-54, Tracey Nicholas (nee Crawford), 1974-81, Stuart Nicholas, 1970-77, Joshua Nicholas, 1996-02, Lesley Wright (nee Crawford), 1968-74, Robert Crawford, Rita Roberts (nee Lievesley), 1970-77, Diane Lievesley, 1973-80, Robin Ackerley, 1945-51.



The Old and the New

The Original Building 1846

The Library Extension 2006

The School Kitchen 1947

What's On
August & September
*All events in Delamere
Community Centre, unless
indicated.*

All club/society secretaries:
*Please let me know well in advance
the dates of your meetings for the
following two months: ie, by 16th
September for October/November,
etc. (if you would like them included
in this diary.
Contact me on either:
01829 752723, or by e-mail:
robin.ackerley@btinternet.com*

Tues. 8th Aug.
Women's Institute
Garden Party
at Grassendale, Abbey Lane
2.30pm

Wed. 6th Sept.
Golden Age
Bingo
2.00pm

Mon. 11th Sept.
Committee Meeting of
Delamere Community
Centre
7.15pm

Tues. 12th Sept.
Women's Institute
Talk by John Johnson,
Rose Farm, Utkinton
Competition: Evening Bag.

Mon. 18th Sept.
Meeting of
Delamere Parish Council
at Delamere School
7.30pm

Wed. 20th Sept.
Golden Age
Birthday Lunch
Hot meal/Drinks Entertainment.
12.30pm
£12
[Please let Mr. Emerton (01270
668934) or Mr. Grocott (01270
661445) know by 6th Sept

Tues. 3rd Oct.
Harvest Supper
7.30pm
Hot Pot Supper
Followed by a sweet
£8 per head
Children £4

Tickets from Church
Members
or from Anne Bold
01606 882649

+ + + +
Kelsall Social Club
Every Saturday night
Live Entertainment
(Male/female/duo singers)
from 9.15pm
Family treasure Hunt –
Late August
Cash Bingo
Every Thursday evening
For further information on all
events at Kelsall Social Club
please call 01829 752945
* * * *

Charles Shelley, of 1A Eddisbury
Hill Park, has asked that his many
friends and neighbours be told that
he has left his home and moved to
live with his daughter.
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COLD CALL WARNING

A male 'cold called' at the
home of a Sandiway resident
recently offering to renew fascias
and soffits. The work was
completed (by up to 5 males) and
paid for the next day. The men then
advised that the roof needed
repairing and asked for a much
larger sum of money, which was
paid in advance. The following day
they took a further large sum of
money, did none of the work and
have not returned. There are no
contact details.

This type of doorstep trading is
illegal!

**DO NOT BUY FROM A COLD
CALLER.**

If you have recently received a
visit from a male(s) offering
similar work, possibly driving a
transit type van, and can give a
description or part/whole vehicle
registration – the police would
like to hear from you.

Contact Frodsham CAT on
0845 458 6393 This is an answer
phone.

Leave a brief message with your
name and contact number. An
officer will return your call.

Reg Manwering

Reg Manwering of Frith
Avenue died on 10th June. He
was 82. Reg was born in
Norley, but had lived in Frith
Avenue for the past 51 years.

He was well known locally
and had been the organist at
the Zion Chapel, Norley for
over 60 years.

He had worked for 40 of
those years for the Forestry
Commission. He was a
member of the British Legion
having served in the Army
during the war as a tank driver
in France, Belgium and
Holland.

Our sympathies go out to
Reg's family for their sad loss.

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Oakmere Parish Council

Chairman's Report May 2005 to April 2006

On behalf of the Council I would like to begin my report by thanking Mr John Lynch for his excellent chairmanship of the previous year. I should also like to thank the Clerk, Mrs Mary Carter, for her continued expert and extensive support given to the Council.

The issues raised below indicate the nature and range of work carried out by the Council during the year. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

Emergency Services.

Concerns were expressed regarding the response times of the emergency ambulance service. In particular, there had been incidents whereby ambulance crews had expressed difficulties in finding some addresses in Oakmere. The Council considers this a matter of great concern. Despite several offers to meet representatives of the ambulance service, the offers have not been taken up. It has been decided to approach the Chairman of the Mersey Regional Ambulance Service NHS Trust to pursue the matter further.

The Little Wood.

The Clerk has been active in pursuing various grants. A "Changing Spaces" grant was received for work in the wood, and a sum of money was given by United Utilities to be used towards the costs of restoration of flooded areas. Mindful of the Council's responsibilities, action was authorised to fell several trees that were causing concern. The Council's inspections of the wood was formalised in October with the introduction on monthly inspections, checklists and reporting by members.

Parish Newsletter.

The Council welcomed the initiative shown by a member of the public in introducing a newsletter for the parishes of Oakmere and Delamere. The Council decided to use the letter as a means of conveying information to parishioners – with the proviso that any articles provided by the Council, if accepted, should be published in full and without amendment. Despite some difficulty in adhering to this proviso on the first occasion of publishing an article, it is hoped that the newsletter will prove a useful medium for the Council to use.

Appeal by Land and Development.

In September, the Council noted that the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the development of houses behind the former Delamere Service Station on Chester Road, had been dismissed. The Council had opposed the development which was considered disproportionate and out of character with the area of Oakmere.

Cheshire Railings.

The renewal of the Cheshire railings opposite the Vale Royal Abbey Arms had produced a considerable beneficial aesthetic impact. A list of all other railings in need of renewal has been given to the County Council.

The former Court House, Chester Road.

The Council has continued its attempts to have the owner of this building improve its appearance. Concern was expressed that vandals had opened the building, with the consequent risk that children and vagrants may enter the building. Following the Council's request, the Enforcement Officer of the Borough Council, contacted the owner and the building was secured again. Nevertheless, the building remains an eyesore. The Borough Council has advised that they have limited powers in this matter.

Crabtree Green Caravan Park.

The year has seen the development of the park and the Council had sought assurances from the Borough Council that planning permission conditions should be imposed and enforced to prevent the chalets becoming permanent dwellings. The Council will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Site Visits.

In July, a visit was made to the Tarmac quarries of Crown farm and Four Ways. The visits were informative and the Council was particularly impressed by the quality and extent of the restoration and landscaping carried out by Tarmac.

The brownfield land behind the former Delamere Service Station was also visited during the year. This related to proposals to erect five industrial units to replace existing sub-standard units. The Council had no objection to the development in principle, but expressed concern regarding certain aspects, and reminded the Borough Council of the issues raised in the extensive planning history of this site.

Membership Changes.

Mr. Christopher Allen

At its meeting in June, the Council marked the passing of Christopher Allen, a former member of the Council, who had worked as a parish councillor on the Oakmere and Weaverham Councils for many years. Christopher's knowledge and active participation are greatly missed.

Mr. John Lynch

With great reluctance, the Council received the resignation of John Lynch. John retired from his career at the Four Ways Inn and decided that he would also take the opportunity to stand down from the Council after many years of active support. He is greatly missed at Council meetings.

Mr. Anthony Overland

At the April meeting, Mr. Overland was co-opted to serve as a member of the Council. His expert local knowledge will be greatly appreciated.

Venue Change.

After much thought, the Council decided in October to change the venue of its meetings to the Oakmere Cricket Club. It was thought that the amounts paid by the Council for a suitable venue would have a greater beneficial effect in supporting an organisation which had limited resources.

Eric Hodgson

Delamere Parish Council

The first meeting of the Parish Council at the new venue of Delamere School (at least, the first for many years) took place on 19th June with the newly-elected Chairman, Mrs. Monica Haworth, in the chair. Anthony Davies remained in the post of Vice-Chairman.

The following issues were raised:

Despite the recent work, including resurfacing, on Black Hill, water still ran down onto Station Road.

John Gladstone is to retire from his post as Homewatch Lead Co-ordinator in September. A new Lead Co-ordinator is urgently sought. Many thanks to John, who will continue as Co-ordinator for his area.

The vexed issue of speeding – particularly along Station Road – was raised once again (More on this in the October issue).

The state of Cheshire Railings in the parish was also discussed. A brief history of the railings, which are peculiar to Cheshire will appear in a later edition.

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Travel Information

Trains

From Delamere to Manchester
Times until 8th Sept./After 11th Sept.
Manchester trains leave 4 mins. earlier.
 Return Fare ~ £9.65. Snr. Cit. ~ £6.35.
 Cheap Day Returns ~ £7.40-Snr. Cit. ~ b£4.40 (Mon to Sat).

dep. 10.19 am arr. 11.30am
 then every hour until
 dep. 5.19pm arr. 6.30pm
 then: 6.12pm &
 every hour until 9.12pm
 Last train @ 11.00pm

From Delamere to Chester
 Return Fare ~ £5.55. Snr. Cit. ~ ££3.65
 Cheap Day Returns ~ £4.10 Snr. Cit. ~ £2.70
 (Mon. to Sat).

dep. 10.31am arr. 10.50am
 then every hour until dep. 11.31pm
 Cuddington to Manchester: 4 mins. later
 Cuddington to Chester: 5 mins. earlier.

Buses

Whitegate Travel

Single Full Fare: £2.40

(Tuesdays only - to Northwich)

dep. Frith Avenue 9.20am
 Eddisbury Hl Pk 9.30am
 Abbey Arms 9.35am

then via Little Budworth, Whitegate,
 Hartford to

Northwich Watling St. 10.37am Sainsburys
 10.40am

Return to Delamere:

dep. Sainsburys 12.10pm
 Watling St. Stand D 12.23pm
 arr. Delamere 1.35pm

GHA Coaches (formerly Arriva)

Before buying a return ticket on this route make sure it's valid for the return journey as this may not be run by the same company.

[Route 82] Mon - Sat ~ to Northwich
 opp. Abbey Arms 8.00am. Then 8.12 am
 and 12 past every hour until 4.12pm Last
 buses: 5.17 & 6.22pm

[Route 82] Mon - Sat ~ to Chester
 opp. Abbey Arms 7.40am. Then 9.00am and
 every hour until 5.00pm. Last bus 6.05pm.
 Buses leave Chester 32 minutes and
 Northwich 20 minutes before the above
 times.

[Route 230] Mon - Fri ~ to Winsford
 Top End of Kelsall: 8.05am, 9.50am,
 11.20am, 1.20pm & 3.25pm
 Dep. Winsford

8.30am, 10.15am, 12.00pm, 2.00pm & 4.35pm
[Route X20] Tues, Thur, Sat ~ to Cheshire Oaks.
 Top End of Kelsall: 9.44am

Day Ticket Adult: £3.30; Child £1.60; Conc. £1.65

Rural Bus Service

01606 871990

To book a journey please ring between 10.00 & 11.30 am the day before you wish to travel.

Fare: £2.20 each way/ £1.10 concessionary.

Monday [Bus 1]

9.00am Cote Brook, Utkinton, L. Budworth, Tarporley, Delamere to Winsford. Return 12.00pm

10.30am Cote Brook, Oakmere, Utkinton, L. Budworth, Utkinton, Tarporley, Delamere to Northwich. Return 1.30 pm

Tuesday [Bus 1]

9.00am Crowton, Kingsley, Acton Bridge, Norley, Delamere to Winsford Return 12.00pm

12.30pm Crowton, Acton Bridge, Kingsley, Norley, Delamere to Northwich Return 3.00pm

Wednesday

9.30am Cote Brook, Oakmere, L. Budworth, Utkinton, Tarporley, Delamere to Northwich
 Return 12.30pm

1.30pm Tarporley, Oakmere, Delamere, Utkinton, L. Budworth, Cote Brook to Winsford
 Return 3.30pm

Thursday [Bus 1]

9.00am Kingsley, Delamere, Norley, Crowton, Acton Bridge to Northwich. Return 11.30am

Other Routes

The Sandstone Rambler (85)

Saturdays, Sundays, Bank Holidays 25th March - 25th September

From Delamere Stn. ~ to Tarporley (31 mins.)

via Barnsbridge, Mouldsworth, Ashton, Kelsall Top End, Summertrees, Utkinton, Tarporley, Bickerton, Cholmondeley Castle, **Whitchurch** (79 mins.):
 9.40am, 11.40am, 1.40pm, 4.40pm

From Delamere Stn ~. to Frodsham

(16 mins.): 10.30am, 12.30pm, 3.00pm, 5.30pm*

*to Runcorn at 5.56pm

Cheap Day tickets: £3 Conc./Children £1.50

From Willington Corner ~ to Tarporley & Bunbury (via Beeston & Peckforton):
 11.47am, 5.01pm

From Willington Corner ~ to Chester:
 9.33am, 10.32am, 12.43pm, 1.02pm.

Vale Royal issue Travel Passes for Senior Citizens.

Any one of:

Half fare bus pass

Rail Card (£12)

Taxi Voucher for rural areas

Vale Royal published details of the new concessionary fares at the end of March. These were sent out to all concerned at that time. If you have not received them, contact Julie Richards (01606 867928).

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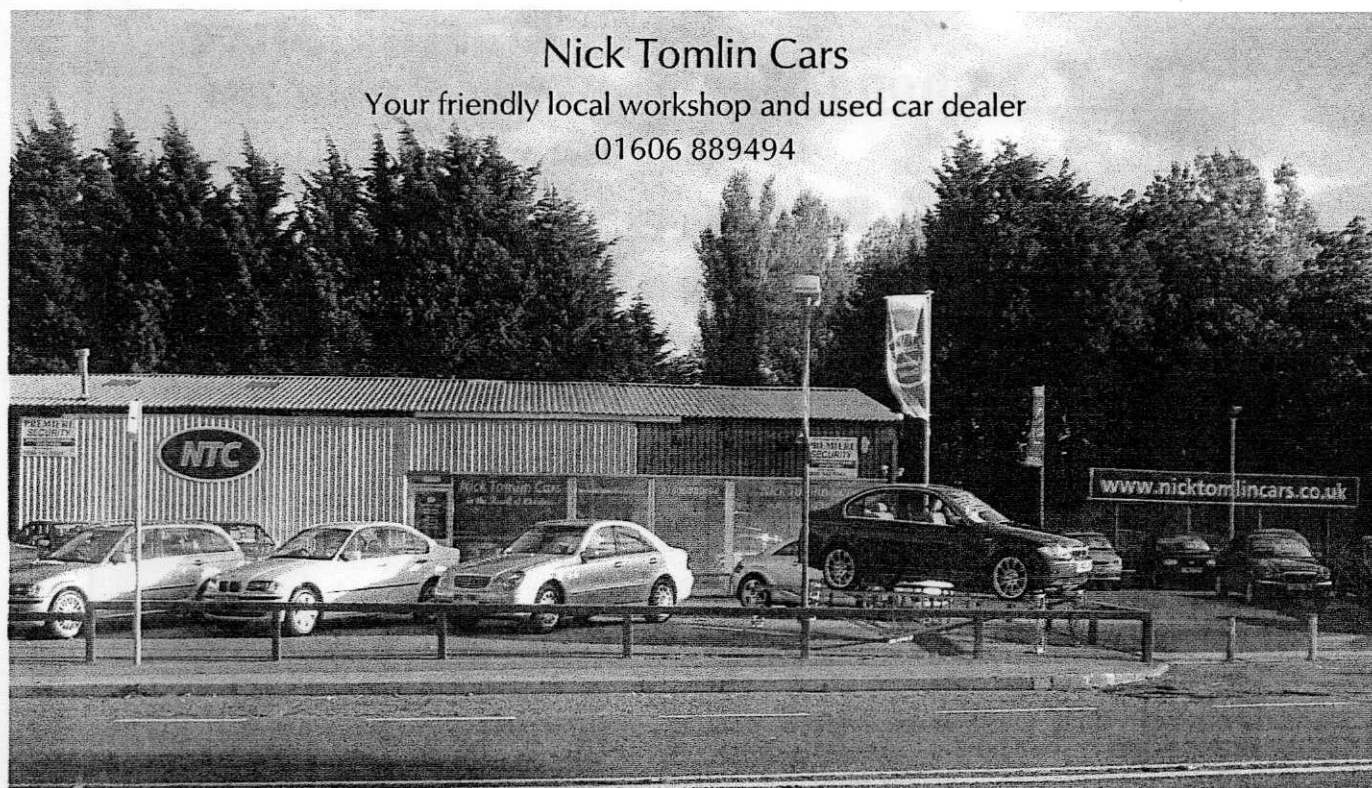
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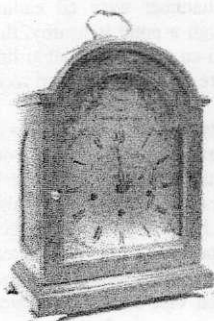
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Friday, 6th October, 2006

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From My Window

ON SUNDAY 28TH MAY a pair of mallard ducks, a pheasant, a rabbit and a yellowhammer were all eating together under the bird table. Although a pond is nearby, the ducks preferred to dabble in water in an upturned dustbin lid. They only spent a couple of days there and have not been seen since.

Our pair of crows brought their two young ones for their breakfast and a tea of bread. How many pieces of bread do you think a crow can hold in its beak? At the last count, ten pieces!

On the 14th June I saw a beautiful courtship display by the male pheasant to one of his females. He walked alongside her with his wing outspread like a fan almost lob-sided. He walked with her for a few yards, but she was quite unimpressed and completely ignored him. I'm worried that the four females have not been seen feeding and no young ones have come to feed either. I hope the fox hasn't had them.

Many species of birds have successfully reared young: woodpeckers, great tits, coal tits, blue tits, yellowhammers – and house sparrows thankfully, for they have been in decline. No sightings, though, of the beautiful long-tailed tits.

I think I have foiled the squirrels from stealing peanuts. A thin steel pole with one arm at the top (like an old-fashioned gallows), with feeders hung on long strings of wire, seems to have done the trick.

As I write, two wood pigeons are having quite a fight on the ground. It hasn't lasted long and neither was hurt. And I thought they were such gentle creatures!

A buzzard floats above in slow circles and hunts rabbits and small mammals. They spend much of the day perched in trees, on posts or prominent rocks.

D.D.

Ordination

As many of you may know, I have been a trainee or probationary minister for the last two years in Kingsley and Oakmere. This training period came to an end recently when I was ordained in Edinburgh on 25th June.

In the afternoon ten others and I were ordained by the laying on of hands at the Cathedral Church of St.Mary. Here the whole of the Church affirmed us in our calling as presbyters (or ministers) and asked God's blessing on this new stage of our journey. The cathedral was a striking setting for such a wonderful occasion. Some of my family and friends came along and a good number from my churches were there to support me.

Our duties as presbyters were read out to us. We are called to give Holy Communion, preach the Gospel and care for those in need. After hearing this long list I am sure that all the ordinands felt unworthy of their calling. The congregation were asked if we were worthy. The shout came back that we were. It was a heart stopping moment. No, in myself, I am not capable of the work that God has set me, but, with God's blessing and your support, I will become so.

However, that is by no means the end of the story. The Delamere Forest Methodist Circuit is losing a minister. Rev'd Neal Street is leaving us in August. He will not be replaced and so I am leaving Kingsley to move into his area of the Circuit. I will have responsibility for Oakmere, Tarvin, Kelsall, Bunbury with Tiverton and Ashton Methodist Churches.

So it's all change for the Methodists! I hope you are able to enjoy the summer and can take advantage of any fine weather we may have.

Yours in Christ,

Ann Kenton

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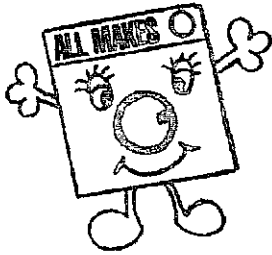
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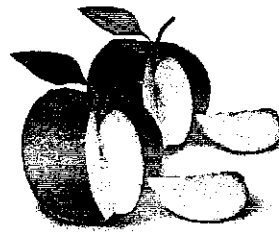
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Garden Party Triumph Glorious 1st of July

For 2006 the Delamere Church Garden Party reverted to its traditional day, the first Saturday in July, and the weather, predictably, was perfect.

Nevertheless there were some doubts leading up to the day, not because of the weather but owing to another factor beyond our control – the World Cup. The England/Portugal match was due to start at four o'clock. What effect would this have on attendance? Would people stay away altogether? How would it affect that other great footballing competition – the Delamere Junior Six-a-side tournament?

In the event all fears proved groundless. The young footballers solved the problem over their divided loyalties by arranging to kick off at one o'clock instead of two-thirty, their many supporters consequently arrived earlier, and attendance overall was at least on a par with former years.

There can be no doubt that the two events that draw the crowds in are the Football Tournament and the Dog Show. The former, with its eight teams of six players, mainly from outside Delamere, plus their parents, brothers, sisters - and fans - is instrumental in bringing many people to the Garden Party who would not otherwise attend; the dog show likewise attracts dog lovers and pets in considerable numbers. The football knock-out, as always ably and efficiently run by Mike Gore, was won by Tarvin, who defeated Bunbury Cubs in the final. So numerous are the categories and so generous the awards in the Dog Show that, thanks to organisers Ron and Yvonne Billows, few owners can have left empty handed. What's more I learned that our dog isn't a mongrel at all, but a *crossbreed*. So there!

All the other stalls drew the usual crowds (except perhaps the Hot Dog Stall; it was more ice cream than hot dog weather), a tribute to the efforts of the many people who year in year out play their part in fund-raising. It's always tricky singling out individuals, but surely Mike Gore and church wardens Mary Carter and David Unsworth deserve a special mention for their efforts, as indeed does Mike's daughter Jenny. Thanks to her employers', Barclays Bank's, promise to donate a pound for every pound she raised from the side shows, Jenny was able to contribute nearly £750 to the cause.

As a result the final figure was a record-breaking £3,262 – over £1,000 up on the year before!



Delamere Dogs Show Off Their Owners