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IN THIS ISSUE

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION 5	EDITOR'S	INTRODUCTION	5
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- ANSWERS TO QUIZ & CROSSWORD 5
 - ST PETER'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 6
 - OAKMERE METHODIST CHURCH 6
 - PARISH COUNCIL NEWS 8
 - JUBILEE COMMUNITY EVENT 9
 - COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS 10
 - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 12
 - **ELLIS JONES A TRIBUTE 15**
 - THE BLOOM AFTER THE GLOOM 16
 - **ANOTHER CHAMPION 18**
 - THE VYRNWY AQUEDUCT 20
 - TREES FOR THE JUBILEE 22
 - STRANGE FACES 23
 - **BEAVER NEWS 24**
 - CROSSWORD 26
 - QUIZ 27













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Welcome to this special Platinum
Jubilee edition of Delamere and
Oakmere News, which features the
events that took place in Delamere and
Oakmere, plus updates on what's
happening in the area from our regular
contributors, and I would like to say a
huge thank you to them for their hard
work in helping to get this issue to
print. A special thanks must also go to
the former editor Clive George for his
guidance and assistance in helping me
to get the gears in motion!

In addition to the special Jubilee Edition, we have exciting news from our friends at Cheshire Wildlife Trust, and some interesting news about the Lake Vyrnwy pipeline which runs

through the village, courtesy of United Utilities.

Moving forward, to keep Delamere and Oakmere News running it is essential that we have people to help with the content, design and advertising for future issues, anyone who is willing to lend a hand please email me at andrewrcbell@gmail.com or via phone on 07773512441.

Sending you all best wishes

Andrew Bell Editor

ANSWERS TO QUIT AND CROSSWORD

13. errant, 14. solder, 15. scar

womens, 16. stricken, 17. bard, 18. actor, 19. Chester. Down: 1. mildew, 2. Norman, 3. Euston, 4. fact, 5. slow down, 9. athletic, 12. wrench,

Across: 1. manages, 4. feast, 6. lyre, 7. sanction, 8. wanton, 10. rotor, 11. shire, 12.

Answers to crossword

- 10. TRex
- 9. Howard Carter
- 8. Elton John and Kiki Dee
 - 7. Emmerdale Farm
- 6. Virginia Wade, beating Betty Stove in the final
 - 5. Gardeners' Question Time
 - 4. John, later Lord, Reith
 - 3. It is a pearl anniversary.
- 2. Five Elizabeth II, Victoria (63 years), George III (59 years), Henry III (56 years) and Edward III (50 years and 4 months)
 - 1. Every 50 years

Answers to quiz

ST PETER'S, PLATINUM JUBILEE Rev Angela Askwith

Prior to the Enclosure Act of 1812 the land, which now comprises the Parish of Delamere, which includes Eddisbury, Kingswood and Oakmere, was part of the great forest of Delamere. The area was common land, extra-parochial and very sparsely populated. As part of the Enclosure Act the Crown gave an allotment of land for the purpose of building a Church, a Parsonage House, a Burial Ground and the Glebe land for the income of the Rector. As a result of this Act St Peter's is a Crown Benefice, the only one in the Diocese of Chester, and the Queen is our patron. (Courtesy of Robin Ackerley - a complete history is contained in a book, 1817 to 2017. written by Robin for the Bicentenary 2017)

Being the only Crown Benefice in Cheshire we deemed it appropriate to celebrate HRH Queen Elizabeth's jubilee in style. Our celebrations began back in March when, thanks to Forestry England, we were able to plant a row of flowering fruit trees along the boundary of the new car park. A group of children from Delamere Academy came along and under the guidance of the foresters, planted the trees as part of Queen's Green Canopy.

The PCC came up with two further initiatives to celebrate and commemorate the occasion; a pictorial album, representing the church's history throughout the Queen's reign and a celebration of flowers in conjunction with various village groups.

We created two albums, one to send to HRH and one which is situated in church for visitors and villages to enjoy. The floral tributes also looked back over the Queen's reign, with windows representing her silver, gold, diamond and platinum jubilees. These were decorated by the WI, the Golden Club, Delamere Academy and our own group of flower arrangers. I was particularly won over by the knitted corgis on the WI window! We had a good number of visitors and the church looked splendid thanks to everyone's hard work and imagination. Lots of memories were shared over cups of tea, coffee, and squash as people reminisced over happy times in our beautiful parish church. May I personally take this opportunity to thank everyone involved, the florists, the archivists and the visitors for making it such a memorable occasion.

Rev Angela

OAKMERE METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Jo Brown

At Oakmere Methodist Church we have been re starting some of the usual activities. This has included concerts which we host. In July we had the delight of listening to the Melody Makers Choir. It was good to listen to some beautiful singing, laughter and sharing fellowship over tea and cake afterwards.

You may have noticed there have not been many Forest church gatherings

the last few months. We have been planning gatherings for this coming autumn.

It is a good opportunity to explore creation and our spiritual connection to it. You will see we are adding in a new activity alongside the usual forest church gathering. Forest bathing will be a term known by many. Forest church bathing is as the name

suggests a combination of forest church and forest bathing. We have all come to know how important our wellbeing and mental health is to us. Taking time out just to be in nature is healing for our body, soul and mind. Why not come and join us. All are welcome.





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EMMA WILSON
FITNESS

Dear Residents and Friends of Delamere and Oakmere.

It is said that in life "Good things come to those who wait", and this is very true with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and as always Delamere and Oakmere certainly rose to the occasion!

Our Platinum Jubilee Event at the Vale Royal Abbey Arms was well attended (thankfully the rain held off!), and it was great to see many of the younger residents thoroughly enjoying taking part in the games and eating plenty of ice cream

A huge thanks must go to Steve and Team at the Abbey Arms and Ryan and the Team at Delamere Events for providing us with the venue and facilities, and not forgetting Cllr Goodier for her invaluable assistance in making the event happen.

St Peters was also in full bloom with their tributes to Her Majesty, and a huge thanks to all involved in the creation of the wonderful floral displays and particularly a special mention to the children at Delamere Academy for their wonderful artwork which took pride of place near the altar.

We are making good progress in relation to Little Wood and a huge thanks to all those who attended the event and offered their assistance to addressing some of the issues we need to fix.

The Parish Council have also been made aware that there has unfortunately been an increase in dog fouling in certain areas of Delamere and Oakmere, and we would like to politely remind everyone to please

clean up after your dog especially if walking near the residential areas and play areas.

I would also like to welcome Cllr Hudson and Cllr Shaw onto the Parish Council; we still have some vacancies available so if you would like to help make a difference to our community and can spare a little time, please contact our clerk at

<u>clerk@delamerenandoakmere.co.uk</u> for more details.

I hope you all enjoy the warm weather whist it lasts!

Kind regards

Andrew Bell Chair, Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council



DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL JUBILEE COMMUNITY EVENT

At the Vale Royal Abbey Arms













Our thanks to all those who supplied photos of the event







COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS



This year marks 50 years from the opening of the Community Centre and we celebrated by holding an Open Day and Celebration Evening in July. Several of the groups that use the Centre were on hand to display their work and what each offered local people, including the Bowling, Billiards, Badminton and Whist Clubs, the Delamere Branch of the Womens Institute. Delamere Golden Club. St Peter's Church and the PALS Art Group. The Association had a display of photographs from both before and after the building of the Community Centre and of some of the activities down the years. These brought back many happy memories, as well as the odd embarrassing snap! Don Wilson also showed some of his interesting finds from the area. Unfortunately, due to competing attractions, very good weather and a recurrence of COVID. attendance wasn't as good as we had



hoped, but we weren't discouraged.

Many of the same people were back at the Centre in the evening to thank those responsible for the building of the Centre in 1972 and keeping it running over the ensuing 50 years. Many newer residents may not know that prior to that date there was a wooden Clubhouse on the site, along with the Bowling Green, 2 tennis courts and a small car park. The Clubhouse needed replacing and, at a public meeting in 1967, it was agreed to raise the funds for a Community Centre on the site.

The former Delamere Club was disbanded and replaced by Delamere Community Association, which raised the funds and continues to run the Centre. The Department of Education agreed to match funds raised locally and, by 1972, the Association, supported by the community, had raised £8,200 – equivalent to £125,000 today! Steve Lacey, current Treasurer, introduced 3 of the original Association Committee from 1967 to the evening and Barbara Bettley, Maurice Bettley and Gerald Merry were warmly welcomed by all and later cut the celebration cake together.



We were delighted to welcome our MP, Edward Timpson, to set the celebrations on their way and he shared his own memories of both the Community Centre and the village, whilst thanking those that have enabled the Centre to thrive during the changing interests of its users over the years. Edward then joined us in a convivial evening reminiscing with friends we perhaps hadn't



seen for a while, enjoying refreshments and thanking those who had made is all possible 50 years ago.

Our celebrations will continue with a Golden Quiz Night on Friday 7th October – keep your eye on the parish website, facebook and the Centre Notice Board for further details.

It is also our Annual General Meeting on Monday 12th September at the Centre, starting at 7.45; if you have any views on the way the Centre is run or want to help us out then we'd be delighted to see you – everyone is welcome.

Steve Lacey

Delamere Community Centre

Friday 26th August

Village Coffee Morning



10.30 am to 12 noon £1

in the Bowling Room

All are welcome

Delamere Community Centre

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Friday 30th September 2022

from 10.30am to 12 noon

in Delamere Community Centre Main Hall

In aid of

Macmillan Cancer Support

Raffle Cakes

Craft Stall

Some 20 years ago, Delamere supported the annual Shoebox Appeal for Operation Christmas Child, when shoeboxes filled with Christmas gifts were sent to displaced children and those living in poverty in Eastern Europe. We had an amazing response from our church, school and local community and a van load of shoeboxes was collected and taken to Wrexham for dispatch....it would be great if we could repeat this response this year. It is very simple, a shoebox filled with small gifts (nothing expensive) and a letter, which is treasured, in fact a box of love.

This year more than ever, the need is greater than ever with refugees and the war in Ukraine. The media has shown in graphic detail the shattered lives of children who have lost fathers, their homes and possessions. To send them a shoebox of gifts with our love shows them there is a world beyond hatred and destruction.



A shoebox of gifts shows your individual love that will make a real and tangible difference to a needy child somewhere, regardless of their country, race or religion.

Details will be made available at a later date, via Teams4u and Dave Cooke, the founder and creator of the original appeal. I can be contacted at dontravcon@hotmail.com, and in the meantime have a look on the Teams4u website, www.Teams4u.com



Tarporley and District u3a Open Day!

September 22nd 2022, 10am to 1pm at Tarporley Community Centre

All Visitors and Members Welcome, FREE entry and refreshments!

The u3a in the UK is celebrating its 40^{th} **Anniversary** so at Tarporley and District u3a we invite you to come and see what we do, what we make, what we learn and the places we go.

If you are retired, about to retire or winding down by working part time, the u3a is for you. Have fun, learn things, make new friends and share your skills and expertise.

We are blowing our own.....



Banging our own....



we are walking, cycling, reading, sewing, painting, learning languages and many, many more activities besides, come and find out more on 22nd September!

Or visit our website at:

Tarporley & District U3A: Home (u3asites.org.uk)

Email: tarporleyu3a@outlook.com

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Back in March, Delamere lost one of its well-known residents, Ellis Jones.

Born in Delamere in the 1930's, his love of golf started as a caddy at Delamere Forest Golf Club at just 9 years old under the guidance of the head professional at the time, Dennis Comboy.

Ellis joined Dennis Comboy as a full-time assistant in 1955, was elected to PGA Membership nine years later, and became only the club's third head professional since its foundation in 1910 when Dennis retired in 1989. Dennis' wife, Carol Comboy OBE, continued to support Ellis in the pro shop on a regular basis.

His skills as a coach were much in demand and highly respected. As a player, Ellis competed in two Open Championship qualifiers and was a regular participant in many golfing competitions both in the UK and overseas.

Ellis retired in 2007 and was rewarded for his 60 years of loyal service to Delamere Forest Golf Club by being made an honorary life member. Following his retirement Ellis continued to frequent the golf club, playing regularly with friends, and discussing his love of horse racing over a beer. His love of racing never ceased especially with his regular visits to Chester, Bangor and Aintree Racecourses.

His ability to listen, to be there for others and to give advice without judgement combined with his presence in the community will be sadly missed and the treasured memories of Ellis will always be remembered and never forgotten, particularly amongst his friends and family.



THE BLOOM AFTER THE GLOOM Diane Hodgson

It's been great to see local efforts to plant additional trees, wild-flowers and bedding plants with splashes of roadside colour alongside the natural grass verges. The "No Mow May" observed by Cheshire West & Cheshire Council (CWaC) has hopefully benefited the bees, butterflies, bugs and birds in their food chain and also for collecting nectar.



Did you know a fun fact from the Butterfly Conservation charity says that Blue tits eat around 50 billion moth caterpillars a year in Britain and Ireland? It's also been discovered that butterflies have hearts in their wings, so there's a romantic thought!

The Cheshire Wildlife Trust is encouraging us all to grow insect friendly gardens and have some online helpful ideas for children to build bug-hotels and beetle buckets over the summer holidays, together building a Nature Recovery Network. It would also be great to see more hedgehog highways created by ensuring small holes are cut into the foot of garden fences if gardens are landlocked.

Nectar giving flowers recommended between July and November include a number of blue and purple coloured flowers: Catmint; Globe thistles; Michaelmas daisies: Scabiosa and



Richard Eckton is a retired Forest Ranger and a wild flower enthusiast. He has been involved with many local initiatives as a volunteer assisting with the creation of enhanced wildlife environments and colourful fields with seasonal variation between Spring and Summer. He has discovered that the CWaC "Your Street" team can offer support with the ground preparation for new local planting schemes. So together we have been looking for opportunities across the Parish for seeding new areas with wild flowers for next year. The suggestions so far include some public areas along the A556 Chester Road: The Waste off Station Road and a few places near



the Railway Station and near the new roundabout. We hope the Parish Council might help us to prioritise these in conjunction with Your Street ready for seeding some areas this autumn. Additionally some private land owners are being approached who we hope might also wish to participate.

The wild flowers around the forest and also at Frith Avenue Field have been quite a spectacle.

I'm sure lots of new trees have been planted by residents and it's been great to see new plantings at St.Peters Church and in the grounds of The Abbey Arms.

The Queen's Green Canopy initiative intended to leave a legacy of trees to mark her Platinum Jubilee year - has already started to have an impact. The Cheshire Wildlife Trust, The Woodland Trust and The Mersey Forest Foundation are all still encouraging such plantings and they can provide grants to enable local projects.

Maybe this year will see a tree finally planted on the Earlsbrook roundabout... even if it's just for Christmas?

Everyone's efforts to enhance our local flora are much appreciated.

Thank you.



Jack, the middle on in our family of 3 boys is 8 years old a Year 3 student at Delamere C of E Primary Academy. He got into bike racing a bit later than his older brother Tommy (see Issue 54 -"He's the champion!") - but has still been racing bicycles since he was six in tarmac circuit racing, mountain bike (MTB) cross country (XC) and the rather unique sport of cyclocross.

way and taking the overall series title ahead of boys from as far afield as the Isle of Man! pln addition to this, Jack also raced in the North West Circuit Race Championships at UCLAN arena in Preston where he was up against riders from across the North West where he took that title as well. finishing well ahead of his nearest rivals.



This summer he's been racing in the North West Circuit Race Series in the Youth E / 8 & under category on a variety of closed road circuits across the North West. In his category Jack raced 5 out of the 7 rounds and took to the podium in every race securing 3 wins and 2 second places along the



He also raced the North West cyclocross league earlier in the year and managed to take overall 2nd place in the league as an U8.

Jack is an avid cyclist along with playing cricket for Oakmere CC and football for Cuddington & Sandiway U9's, so he's a busy little chap and like his brother aspires to step up to National level racing when he turns 12 in 2026.







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Lake Vyrnwy



Lake Vyrnwy is a reservoir created in the 1880s by Liverpool Corporation Water Works to help supply the growing city. Costing approximately £620,000 to construct (equivalent to over £70 million today), it was created by building a dam across the Afon Vyrnwy valley which submerged the village of Llanwyddn.

The impressive dam wall spans over 350 metres in length and is nearly 44 metres high. When the reservoir is full it's around 26 metres deep.

Vyrnwy aqueduct system

The Vyrnwy aqueduct system comprises of three parallel 1 metre diameter pipelines that were built in phases:

- Line 1 cast iron constructed between 1881–1892
- Line 2 cast iron constructed between 1902-1905
- Line 3 steel constructed between 1926-1938

When completed, it was the longest aqueduct in the world. Since officially opening on 14th July 1892 it's had additional pipework sections added and refurbishment carried out.

Untreated water from the lake flows by gravity to Oswestry where it is treated. The treated water from Oswestry is then transported to the storage reservoirs at Prescot via these huge underground pipes, passing through several tunnel sections, including underneath the River Mersey and Manchester Ship Canal.





The Victorian engineers

James Newlands became Liverpool and Britain's first Borough Engineer in 1847. He developed the world's earliest sewerage system in Liverpool.

Newlands was instrumental in achieving an improvement in public health and the average life expectancy, which was just 19 in 1847, doubled during his years in office.

In 1879 when it was decided to build a dam at Vyrnwy in North Wales. George Deacon, water engineer to Liverpool jointly with Thomas Hawksley, designed the Lake Vyrnwy scheme to supply Liverpool's drinking





Photos: laying the third pipeline in the 1930s water. Homes and businesses in Merseyside, Cheshire and the wider

North West are still to this day supplied with water from Lake Vyrnwy.

The Vyrnwy Aqueduct Maintenance Programme

Over time, a build-up of natural minerals can settle within the aqueduct pipelines from the water running through them. These minerals don't pose any health risks but can result in discoloration of the water if disturbed.

Between 2010 and 2015. United Utilities began a comprehensive programme of refurbishing a section of the pipes. 40 per cent of the pipe has already been refurbished and the remaining length from Malpas through to Merseyside will be completed between now and 2028.

Work will soon begin on the section between Malpas and Tarporley and United Utilities are now working with affected landowners and consulting with local stakeholders to develop plans for the section between Tarporley and Norton, which passes through the parish of Delamere and Oakmere.

More information can be found in issue 36 of D&O News, and also online at www.uuhub.co.uk/vyrnwy. This will be updated with more detail as the programme progresses.

DELAMERE ACADEMY CHILDREN PLANT TREES FOR THE JUBILEE

Eco-conscious children at Delamere CofE Academy have been planting trees at St Peter's Church in honour of the Queen's Jubilee.

The trees, which are varieties of apple, cherry and damson, are from Delamere Nurseries and have been donated by Forestry England.

Children from the school's Eco Club and Year 6 Wellbeing Officers were invited to plant them at the Delamere church by Rev Angela Askwith.

They form part of her bigger plan to 'rewild' the church grounds.

She said: "We are the only church in Cheshire with the Queen as patron, which is quite a privilege, and we couldn't think of a better way to celebrate than for the children to join us for the tree planting.

"They are also a fantastic addition to our rewilding work using locally sourced plants and environmentally friendly grass that bugs and bees like. "We're making right the things we've done wrong to spoil God's earth and creating a haven for animals, including our rare bats and moths which have not been spotted anywhere else.

"My passion is to one day have trees planted rather than headstones so that our grounds can truly be a place for nature."

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

Headteacher at Delamere Academy Julie Clayton said: "Our children care deeply about the environment and they took great pleasure in planting trees that will be home to many creatures for years to come."

The group photo below is of Rev Angela Askwith, Recreation Ranger for Forestry England Ben Dent, St Peter's Church staff' and helpers, and Delamere Academy staff and children.











STRANGE FACES IN DELAMERE DON WILSON

Not many people know of these mysterious faces which are carved into an outcrop of sandstone, off the beaten track in a little known area of Delamere Forest, not far from the Cycle Skills area.

There are three faces, but I have never been able to discern the third. However these two are easy to see.





It is impossible to date these images, or know their significance, but they are clearly of some age. One of the faces is upside down, its creator must have dangled over the top of the outcrop when it was carved. They are certainly spooky! I am open to suggestions of their origin.

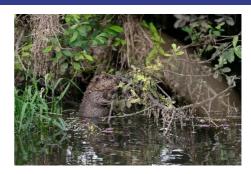
Cheshire Wildlife Trust are delighted to announce that a new young beaver has been spotted at Hatchmere Nature Reserve. This sighting confirms that beavers have bred in Cheshire for the first time in over 400 years!



This young beaver – known as a kit – is the offspring of a pair of Eurasian beavers named Rowan and Willow, who were released into an enclosed site adjacent to Hatchmere nature reserve back in November 2020 as part of a five-year project.

Since their release, the pair have transformed a key area into a wetland haven with dams and lodges. The beavers natural behaviour in creating dams and holding water is encouraging previously unseen species into the area such as Kingfisher, stoats and a whole host of waterfowl.

Kevin Feeney, Reserves Manager for Hatchmere says: "The future of Hatchmere nature reserve is looking very positive since we released Rowan and Willow back in 2020. The dams and wetlands they have created are helping us to reach our project aims to improve water quality within the catchment and help reverse the decline in Cheshire's Wildlife. Monitoring is ongoing, the public's support is inspiring and the arrival of the first beaver kit to be born in Cheshire for over 400 years is a real milestone that couldn't have been achieved without our supporters"



As a charity, Cheshire Wildlife Trust are asking for donations to allow them to continue their work to bring beavers back to Cheshire and monitor all the incredible benefits they have for nature's recovery. Anyone wishing to be part of bringing beavers back to Cheshire can support our project online:

(cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/beaverappeal).

Why are Cheshire Wildlife Trust bringing beavers back?

Beavers offer a chance to reverse the dramatic decline in our wildlife by allowing nature to restore itself. The government's decision to allow a wild population of beavers to remain in the river Otter in East Devon has reinforced the importance of bringing these animals back into England's countryside.

The River Otter trial showed that the animals' skill replenished and enhanced the ecology of the river catchment, providing more food for otters, and clearer and cleaner water in which kingfishers could flourish.

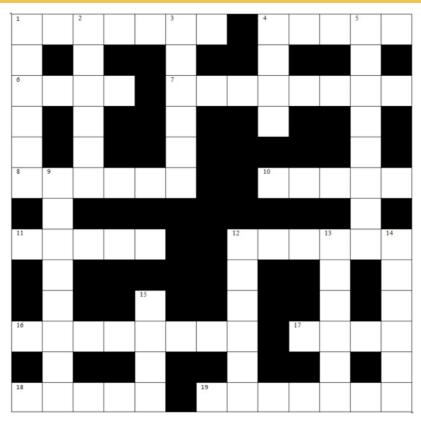
Their dams worked as natural flooddefences, helping to reduce the risk of homes flooding downstream.

The Cheshire Wildlife Trust project is one of 25 beaver reintroductions in England, with other sites in the South West, Kent, Gloucestershire, East Anglia and Yorkshire.



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Across:

- 1. Fellow gets older but copes
- 4. Intrusive English turn abstinence into gluttony
- 6. Musical instrument sounds untruthful
- 7. Allow penalty?
- 8. Immoral western soldier working
- 10. Decay, or either way, revolving part
- 11. Small rent in Surrey say
- 12. In this institute, warning signs follow west
- 16. Afflicted with disease, sicken, including terrible rash initially
- 17. Return of drab poet
- 18. Do, alternatively be a performer
- 19. Chap leaves one city for another

Down:

- 1. In coming back we'd limit this plant disease
- 2. Old Frenchman has no right on isle
- 3. America enters posh public school at London station
- 4. Loud performance, it's true
- 5. Take care, ruffled owls with fluffy feathers!
- 9. Agile tail the 100 scrambled
- 12. Bird on church gives emotional pain
- 13. Hesitant tirade is wandering
- 14. Fixer flogged monarch
- 15. Small vehicle left after injury





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Dill by Steve Lacey

(Answers on page 5)

There are two jubilees being celebrated in the area this year, the Queen's Diamond and the Community Centre's Golden. So here are 10 questions about jubilees (and anniversaries) for you to try.

- 1. According to Leviticus, the jubilee happens how often?
- 2. How many English/British monarchs have celebrated a Golden Jubilee?
- 3. We know that 25 years is a silver wedding anniversary and 50 a gold, but what is a 30 year anniversary called?
- 4. The BBC is 100 years old this year. Who was its first General Manager?
- 5. Still on the BBC, which popular radio programme was first heard 75 years ago as "Down the Garden Path"? It changed its name later the same year.
- 6. Who won the Wimbledon Ladies Singles in the year of the Queen's Silver Jubilee?
- Which soap opera broadcast its first episode in October 1972?
- 8. Born Reg Dwight and Pauline Matthews 75 years ago, how do we better know the singers who duetted on the number 1 "Don't Go Breaking My Heart"?
- 9. The tomb of Tutankhamen was discovered 100 years ago in the Valley of Kings in an expedition led by whom?
- 10. Metal Guru was number 1 in the UK Charts in May 1972 when the Community Centre was officially opened. Who recorded it?





ISSUE 55 | SUMMER/AUTUMN 2022