

Smisby Newsletter Summer 2017

Issue 54

This Summer saw the Village Hall open its doors for the Smisby Vintage Craft Fair on the 17th September. This was a hugely successful event with a great turnout from within the Parish, as well as seeing new visitors to Smisby. We had 9 stall holders displaying varied crafts including rustic furniture, ornamental candles, dog collars, flower arranging, vintage clothing, ironware, decorative plates and jewellery. This charity event was organised to raise money in aid of the fantastic cause Cancer Research.



Rachel Hewitt the event's organiser was delighted to confirm the Fair raised £378 from the sale of cakes, hot drinks and the raffle, where prizes were kindly donated by local parishioners and all of the stall holders.

We have a great amenity in our Parish with the Village Hall and this was a fantastic example of its use bringing a cultural event to Smisby, which for parishioners who were able to attend thoroughly enjoyed.



A reminder to protect your diaries for the annual Smisby Christmas Event which is taking place this year on the Saturday 2nd December.

This will follow recent tradition beginning with Carols being sang under the glow of candle light in St James's Church, the turning on of the Smisby Christmas Tree Lights followed by a gathering in the Village Hall afterwards for food and drink. A specific information sheet showcasing the event will follow under separate cover. Importantly this will require a return slip providing confirmation of expected attendance numbers of adults and children from each household. Please look out for this communication and return your replies promptly as numbers are limited. This will also assist the organisers, Dawn Barnett and Rachel Hewitt, as a huge amount of work goes into bringing this wonderful event together.

This is certainly the highlight of the Smisby Calendar and those who have attended previously know how magical this village gathering is at such a special time of year.

Commonwealth Chance



Laura Hewitt's development as an elite weight lifter goes from strength to strength. Laura became British Champion for the second consecutive year in the Women's Senior 58kg Category winning gold at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry in July. She has now been selected for the Great Britain Team to compete in the European U23 Championships taking place in Albania in October. One of Laura's goals has always been to win an international vest so her chance to represent Team GB is a dream come true for her. This progression in her sport hopefully continues on track for her to be considered for the England Team to compete in The Commonwealth Games which takes place in Australia next April. Laura is currently ranked in the Top 5 in The Commonwealth. Good luck to this local Smisby girl.



We wanted to raise the awareness of the Smisby Facebook Group within the Parish. This is called Smisby Village News. This network forum is a good way to communicate with fellow parishioners or alert people to a particular subject. This allows you to have live instant messaging conversations. You don't have to be friends

on Facebook to participate in these conversations. Using the instant messaging feature gives you real-time contact with your fellow neighbours.

**Defibrillator
Code
2131**

Location: Village Hall

Smisby Village Hall



You will be delighted to hear that the Smisby Village Hall remains in good shape. Financially, we are in a strong position with many repeat bookings and several new hirers making enquiries. The Committee of Trustees agreed unanimously to keep hiring rates for 2018

unchanged (for the third year running!) despite inflation now running at 2.9%. We are very keen to keep our hirers using the hall and all speak very highly of the excellent facilities that we are now able to offer, including a much improved storage arrangement for regular users of the facilities. Our latest acquisition is a wireless microphone, which had been requested for quiz and game nights, but will also enable the quietest of speakers to be heard clearly at the back of the hall!

The next AGM will be held on 30 Jan 18 at 1930hrs – we encourage all parishioners to attend and participate in that important meeting, where you get the chance to voice your opinion and take part in the election of new trustees.

We are still progressing replacement windows for the Village Hall and working with SDDC Planning Department on achieving an acceptable design and composition. I hope to be able to report on the outcome in the next newsletter.

In terms of entertainments, we will be hosting the Christmas Hog Roast on 2 Dec and we are planning to hold a quiz night and wine tasting evening in the not too distant future.

Parking is still an issue, but does seem to be improving slightly after all the hirers have been comprehensively briefed on the safety requirements. We do still get a few perpetrators and if we can identify who they are, we will have a quiet word with them. Personal contact always seems to work better than negative comments on Facebook!

Rob Hounslow
Chairman of Trustees
Smisby Village Hall

Parish News

Potholes

We would like to make parishioners aware that there is an interactive map for individuals to record potholes. The more people that report road damage the more pressure will put on the council to do something in terms of repairs.

Senior Citizen Concession Cards

An important reminder that gold cards (senior citizen concession cards) are about to expire and need renewing via the council offices in Swadlincote.

Defibrillator within the Smisby Village

The Parish Council are keen to remind the parishioners of the installation of a Defibrillator within the Smisby Village as an important Emergency resource. This has been wall mounted under the entrance canopy to the Village Hall. The cabinet is unlocked allowing access to the public. The cabinets alarm sounds when the door is opened which can be disarmed with the use of a key code. This we felt provided the access we wanted to offer in case of an emergency situation, whilst also acting as a security measure and deterrent if someone was actually trying to steal the unit. The code for the cabinet is 2131. The first training for residents on the use of the new Defibrillator took place last summer which was kindly facilitated by Doctor Ruth Green. Look out for information as further training sessions will take place in due course.

Chapel Street Bin Collection

It would be really helpful if all residents on Chapel Street who park on the road could ensure their vehicle is not obstructing or limiting access along Chapel Street on Tuesday evenings in readiness for the Bin Collection early on Wednesday mornings. In particular, bite points are on the corner at the top of the initial rise up from Main Street as the Refuse Lorry turns left along Chapel Street by the phone box and then at the Church end where the new kerbing has been laid. This will help the driver negotiate this particularly narrow street. Thanks for your help and co-operation with this.

Parochial Charity

Claire Hynam has been appointed as a nominative Trustee to the Charity, by the Parish Council, and is warmly welcomed to the committee by the other Trustees. Claire replaces Barbara Ball who has been a Trustee for around 20 years but decided she should retire at the end of this last 4-year term of office. The Trustees wish to pay tribute to the excellent contribution that Barbara has made to the work of the Charity over the years and wish her well in her 'retirement'

In the run up to Christmas, the charity needs to know whether there are any new names to be added to the Christmas hamper list. If you have reached the qualifying ages of 60 / 65 (women / men) by 25th December then please let Sheila Heap know as soon as possible on 01530 414179. In the past, couples have received a 'large' hamper whereas individual recipients have received a smaller version. This Christmas, to cut down on the work involved in putting Hampers together and distributing them, it has been decided that all those qualifying for a hamper will receive the same sort - meaning that couples will receive two Hampers rather than a 'double'. Children who are between the ages of 2 and 16 on Christmas Day, and who live in the Parish, can receive book tokens from the Charity at the end of the year – but Sheila Heap will need to be informed of any newcomers and of any just reaching the age of 2, to be put on the list of recipients.

A reminder also that any youngster leaving school, and off to Uni (or equivalent) this autumn from Smisby, can apply to the Charity for some financial help, e.g. against accommodation costs – but again, Sheila will need to be informed. In the last academic year, the Charity helped three undergraduates in this way.

New benches have been purchased for the Jubilee grounds and are currently situated round the petanque piste. Two new picnic tables were bought and been delivered but, due to the summer now being over, they will be kept under cover for a few months and assembled and put in place in early spring.

There is a separate note with this newsletter, concerning broadband speeds in the Parish and the Trustees ask that if you are interested in getting high speed broadband to your property that you read the enclosure to understand what the Charity has been doing to improve the situation and how you might benefit.

The Charity is again funding the Smisby Christmas party on Saturday 2nd December, starting with carols and then on to the village hall for a hog roast supper. Full details are to be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

St James' Church

The recent Patronal Festival was marked by a united service at which we were joined by the Ticknall choir and by several members from the other churches



in the benefice. The guest preacher was the Rector's father, Canon Timothy Short, who delivered an interesting sermon which enlightened the congregation about both St James and the Rector. The roof repairs have been completed and the PCC can now focus on the other R & M identified in the Quinquennial Inspection. The outstanding works classed as urgent are the repairs to the vestry windows to replace badly decayed stones and repointing the west elevation. There is then still a significant amount of less urgent R & M needed to the fabric of the building, both inside and out, which will be tackled as funds permit. Harvest Festival is to be celebrated on Sunday 8th October at 5.30 pm, followed by a 'bring and share' supper in church. Any help decorating for the occasion would be very welcome, as would produce being donated, whether from the garden or in tins! The food that is donated will later be taken to the Padley Centre in Derby which feeds the homeless - and they really appreciate harvest produce from churches. You can contact Pat Barnes on 01283 217319 if you can donate items, or can help with decorating, or contribute food for the supper – or just bring it along on the night. Remembrance Sunday is on November 12th and our special service starts at 5.30 pm, part of which will be by the War Memorial, weather permitting. Over that last few years our regular pattern of worship at St James has included All Age Worship services that use more contemporary language and are designed to be more accessible to less frequent churchgoers and their families. Despite trying various times, and sterling efforts to encourage a children's choir, sadly support for these services has not been sustained and indeed there have been no families attending these services at all over the recent months. Consequently, the PCC has begun a discussion to consider whether these All Age Worship services can be sustained or whether they should be replaced next year with the more traditional form of worship which has a steady following in Smisby. If you have any views on our All Age Worship or would like to join in the debate to identify a different time, place or form of fellowship that more parishioners would engage in, then please do contact either the Rector or Churchwardens who would be pleased to hear from you.

Ashby Art Club

The club has just held its joining night and many members took advantage of the reduced joining fee, which is now £40 for the rest of the season. Once again the Monday evening meetings will be augmented by bi monthly Wednesday morning meetings for this season.

Some of the Monday evening demonstrations and Saturday morning workshops are to be given by Art Club members this year, as the club has a number of accomplished artists in its membership. The first demonstration, in September, covers mixed media. This is followed by a watercolour demonstration in October and an acrylics workshop run by member John Smith who paints as Jay Dubya) and some of you will have seen his painting in the Shoulder of Mutton, Ashby. The club continues to exhibit paintings to Dr Shepherd's surgery in Ashby and (jointly with Ashby Camera Club), to the Castle Medical centre. Information about the all various events, demonstrations and workshops running this season can be found on the Art Club website, www.ashbyartclub.org.



Help At Hand 365



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Contact

Emilie Barnett or Sarah Batterson

M: 07935 331174

T: 01530 413365

E: enquiries@helpathand365.co.uk

Ashby Camera Club

For our forthcoming programme and to contact us, please visit ashbycameraclub.co.uk.

For further information and contact see www.ashbycameraclub.co.uk, or speak to any member.

Derbyshire Federation of WIs Trustees Centenary Challenge "Benefit to the Local Community"

To mark the centenary of the Derbyshire Federation of WIs, the Smisby WI are proposing an exciting project with the installation of two interpretation boards within the village.

The proposal is to host these on the Village Hall and Church notice boards respectively.

Smisby WI are actively fund raising, and have already held a very successful "bacon buttie" morning with a quiz night to follow in December.

We have applied for funding to the East Midlands Airport Community fund and the Post Code Lottery.

In the next few weeks we will start repairing and making good the church notice board and the board at the village hall. We shall shortly be setting up a working party with members and decide the information to be put on the interpretation boards.

We would also like to make parishioners aware of the Canasta Card Club that is held every Wednesday afternoon in the Village Hall from 1:30 to 3:30pm cost £2 per person including tea/coffee/biscuits. Beginners welcome. Contact Suzanne Jones 0779 089 771.

Suzanne Jones
Secretary Smisby WI

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

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When you really need us, will we be able to reach you?

When you park, please ensure:

- You leave extra room near tight corners
- Do NOT park on double yellow lines
- Check that there is enough space for a fire engine to pass
- Park as close to the kerb as possible

LEICESTERSHIRE
FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE



WARNING!

On Saturday 7 March, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, Leicestershire Police and City Parking Wardens will be checking this area for illegally and irresponsibly parked vehicles.

Yuk! dog fouling - Please don't let your dog foul outside my home.



Yuk! is the Derbyshire County Council campaign against dog fouling. Help to keep our Village free of dog mess. Dog fouling is ongoing problem and nuisance within the Parish. As always, unfortunately it is the responsible dog owners who are implicated because of the actions of a very small minority within a community who fail to follow the basis etiquette of being a dog owner and clearing up after your own pet. This requires vigilance by everyone and anyone observed not bagging up dog foul should be reported to the Council. South Derbyshire's Dog Control Order makes it illegal for an owner not to pick up after their dog in all public open land in South Derbyshire. They are also instructed to investigate all complaints about dog fouling and to act on any intelligence about possible offenders. Not only can dog mess cause stomach upsets and

headaches, but also asthma and blindness. To help combat the danger you can display one of the weather-proof Yuk! signs. Pick one up from any Derbyshire library or complete the form on line and they will post a sign out to you. They can be attached to gates, fences, or displayed in a window. These signs should act as a reminder to the small amount of irresponsible dog owners to think of the health risks if they don't clear up after their pets. It is every dog owners duty to clean up after their dog. There are no excuses, fouling is unacceptable



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Useful Smisby Village Contacts:

Parish Councillors:

Chair - Steve Hewitt (07908 620002)
Vice Chair - Sarah Rushman
Parish Clerk - Emma Stroud (01530 587349)
smisbyparishclerk@gmail.com
Councillor - Mark Parnham
Councillor - Simon Barnett (07855 969719)
Councillor - Rob Hounslow (07720 348860)
 Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like to include anything in the next Parish Newsletter.

South Derbyshire District Councillors:

Councillor - Michael Stanton (07768 010251)
michael.stanton@south-derbys.gov.uk
Councillor - Peter Smith (07894 338129)
peter.smith@south-derbys.gov.uk

Derbyshire District Councillor:

Councillor - Linda Chilton
linda.chilton@derbyshire.gov.uk

Parochial Charity:

Trustee - Barbara Ball (01530 416411)
Trustee - Jeff Barnes (01283 217319)
Trustee - Simon Barnett (01530 412491)
Trustee - Rob Hounslow (07720 348860)
Clerk - Sheila Heap (01530 414179)

Village Hall Committee:

Chairman - Rob Hounslow (07720 348860)
Secretary - Ron Walker
Bookings Sec - Barbara Ball (07526 268698)

Smisby Church:

Churchwarden - Gary Margerrison (01530 414453)
Churchwarden - Carol Morgan (01530 411314)

Newsletter Publishers:

Steve Hewitt
 James Barnett
 Sam Hewitt (Photography)

Facebook:

Smisby Village News

[facebook](#)

Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings; Held on Tuesdays @ 7.30pm in Smisby Village Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Next meetings are - 14th November 2017, 9th January 2018, 13th March 2018 and the 8th May 2018.