



# Ironville & Codnor Park Newsletter



Local news, events, articles and more March 2024



## Welcome to Issue Number Twenty

We hope that you continue to find our village newsletter of interest and enjoy its articles and other contents. If you would like to get in touch or send in articles or other news items please write to the editor - Andy (acadman175@yahoo.com)

For further information why not visit the web site: <http://tinyurl.com/nzxc2t9w>

News From Ironville and  
Codnor Park Primary School



☎ 01773 602936

What a busy term we have had at Ironville and Codnor Park Primary. Our Key Stage One children, in Wrens and Robins, have found out about how special our village is and the origins of some of our street names and had fun using and making maps to explore; our Kingfishers Class went back in time to discover the Stone Age and our oldest children in Kestrels and Eagles have travelled across the Atlantic to find out what happened to the Mayan Civilisation. We have voted in our new School Council with our democratic 'hustings' and election. We have had so much sporting achievement to be proud of this term, with success in mini basketball and most recently becoming champions in Dodgeball! We continue to reward RESPECT behaviours within school and ask for nominations from the community for children who show these in the village, in order to receive the coveted termly 'Integrity Award' which has with it a £5.00 reward.



[www.ironvillecodnorpark.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.ironvillecodnorpark.derbyshire.sch.uk)

## HELP & SUPPORT NEEDED URGENTLY



**The Railway Carriage Youth Club offers safe spaces to help our young people explore who they are, make good decisions, increase their self-esteem and more - giving them the confidence and skills they need to live, learn, work and achieve.**

**Experienced and qualified youth workers are on hand to provide advice and guidance and provide a broad range of activities**

**To enable this service to continue your help is needed. In particular from people who are able to help with the administration of the club.**

**The Trustees who manage the club are getting older and many are unlikely to be able to continue in their roles for much longer. The loss of a precious village resource is imminent.**

**If you feel that you can help in any way please contact the editor soon by e-mail - [acadman175@yahoo.com](mailto:acadman175@yahoo.com)**

*"Youth Clubs play a vital role in supporting and diverting young people from serious youth violence and anti-social behaviour."*

# Parish Council Update *by Kath Gruber, Parish Clerk*

## Some changes to the Parish Council

Katrina Allsop-Jones and Iain Hines have left the Council and, in their place, we have co-opted Councillors Jenna Payne and Nikki Farthing.



## Parish Council Budget

The Council has set its budget for next year which is:

Budget Stream	£ Budgeted	£ Increase / Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
Income	36,064.00	1,970	5.77%
Expenditure	45,771.00	5,593	14%

Expenditure next year is increased because the Council is:

- \* moving to 11 meetings a year (instead of 6)
- \* planning an event to commemorate D-Day
- \* extending the school parking scheme.

The Precept (Parish Council's proportion of Council Tax) has been at £33,283 for 2024/25.

This equates to a 5% increase which is a small increase of £2.93 on the amount people paid last year.

## Climate Change

In July 2023 the Parish Council declared a climate emergency and the next step is to issue a short survey to get your insights so we can understand the community's perspectives on climate change. That insight will help the Council develop a plan to do what it can to reduce Ironville & Codnor Park's impact on the planet. A report telling you about Ironville & Codnor Park's carbon footprint – both the scale of emissions and the main activities responsible for the emissions – can be found on the Council's website: [Climate Change & Biodiversity – Ironville Parish Council Website](#)

## Improvements to Ironville and Codnor Park

The parish warden, John, has been very busy improving the environment, he has:

- \* Removed waste from various locations
- \* Cleared fly tipping where possible
- \* Regular cleaning of bus shelters
- \* Kept green areas tidy through weeding, pruning and strimming
- \* Litter picking



Your Parish Councillors are pictured below:



L to R: Cllr E. Holgate (Chair), Cllr T. Bowler Vice Chair, Cllr Y. Hutsby-Bird, Cllr P. Rose, Cllr B. Gill, Cllr N. Farthing, Cllr J. Payne

## Incidents of Fly-Tipping

are escalating and the Council has asked the police to monitor the situation. The community needs to pull together to rid our neighbourhood of this blight. If you see someone fly tipping make a note of:

- \* The date, time and place
- \* How many people are involved and what they look like
- \* What has been tipped - how much and what it looks like?
- \* The details of any vehicles involved including make, colour and registration number if possible.



Remember - **never** approach anyone you see fly tipping - they could become violent.

Report the incident to Amber Valley Borough Council via their [online reporting form](#). Alternatively please call the helpline on 01773 841335 or e-mail: [landscapeservices@ambervalley.gov.uk](mailto:landscapeservices@ambervalley.gov.uk)

## Speed Watch

The Council wants to re-establish this scheme but with the resignation of Councillor Katrina Allsop-Jones we have been left without a co-ordinator. If you are, or know anyone who might be interested in the role please get in touch with the Council. Full training is given by the police.

## School Parking

The Council is extending the scheme to promote safer parking around the school at pick up and drop off times. The purpose of this is to educate drivers and reduce obstruction / conflicts in order to contribute to road safety. Feedback from the school and residents has been very positive with the majority of people taking on board the advice and guidance of the warden.

The Council would love you to share your ideas for improving the village and you are very welcome to come along to our meetings at the OAP community centre.

**Future Parish Council Meeting Dates** are:

18 March 2024 7pm	21 October 2024 7pm
15 April 2024 7pm	18 November 2024 7pm
20 May 2024 7pm	16 December 2024 7pm
17 June 2024 7pm	20 January 2025 7pm
15 July 2024 7pm	17 February 2025 7pm
16 September 2024 7pm	17 March 2025 7pm



OAP Community Centre,  
Open Acre, Ironville  
NG16 5QA

**Find out what is happening** by checking the Parish Council website which has details of meetings, policies and initiatives. The website can be found -

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

If you have any comments, suggestions or questions for the Parish Council please contact the Parish Clerk, Kath Gruber, on [clerk@ironvilleparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ironvilleparishcouncil.co.uk) or 07595515154



# News from the Forge from Sally Fisher

Hello Everyone,

Mud, mud, glorious mud.....and the rain that continues to cause it has had a significant impact on what we have been able to do over the last six months. We have been unable to bring materials into the Forge to where they are needed because of the very boggy conditions and be able to get out again. Where we have been able to lay bricks (Taffy's idea) or bodpave( Deb's idea) this has worked well and withstood the horrendous conditions we have experienced.

The last work party we were able to do was to raise the level of the footpath above the water level surrounding it on the footpath down to the boardwalk by placing bricks across it and then fixing them in place by putting wooden plinths either side (Mick) and courtesy of Friends of Cromford Canal who kindly supplied the metal rods needed to secure the plinths. This was done just before storm Babet and has worked a treat although it will need to be topped up with more stone later.

Taffy and Sunshine, his dog helped and although we did not know it then, this was to be Sunshine's last work party( see bottom photograph) as he was soon to be diagnosed with inoperable cancer. He was only 4 years old and as Taffy and he were inseparable this contributed to Taffy's already declining health. We owe much to Taffy both as a friend and as someone who was always ready to lend a hand doing a lot of unseen but necessary work. He was ace at shovelling stone, digging ditches, fetching bricks with Deb and sanding down and painting the gates to mention just a few of the jobs he did.

Another group of people we wish to thank are those of you who continue to pick up the rubbish you find on your walks around the Forge keeping this green space a welcoming one for everyone.



*Sadly this was to be Sunshine's last work party.*



*Painting the gates with Mick Fox.*



We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to lichen. These can grow on any surface and in any conditions. They are actually two or more different organisms growing in a symbiotic relationship usually a fungi and an algae/cyanobacteria. Over 500 different species of lichen grow on mature Ash. They are also good at detecting how good our air quality is. Some species fare better than others when nitrogen is present. The more lichen that is present in a woodland the richer that woodland is for all wildlife. *(As there are over 200,000 lichen we have done our best to identify them but cannot be 100% sure of our accuracy).*

We also want to thank all those who supported us in our Christmas fundraiser. This is an important event for us as the money raised will go towards buying more stone for the footpath everyone wants to see laid. If we need to raise more money through grants then the fact that we have done a lot of fundraising ourselves will count in our favour when our bid is considered. This year we raised the money through our Facebook page as there was some confusion as to whether the Christmas fair would take place. If you missed that opportunity you can message both Deb or myself when you are in need of a tasty treat at any time of year.



Hypogymnia species



Xanthoria ulophyllodes



Xanthoria parietina



mokasta ramalina



Evernia prunastri



## **Down at the Carriage - Deepdale, Ironville** *with Shane & Helen*

*Sessions on Thursdays & Fridays, 6.00pm to 8pm*

'A warm safe place to go during winter, where you can chill with your friends'

Down at the carriage Youth Club all young people are welcome, (ages 11 – 18 and up to 25 with Educational Special Needs). Over the winter months young people have been showing a real interest in joining in with board games. Members have also been enjoying playing cards, scrabble, Dobble and Chess.

We successfully secured a grant from Ironville and Codnor Park Parish Council to purchase a PS4 with games that includes Fifa and Minecraft. This is proving a popular addition with many of the members. We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the local Parish Council for giving us this grant.



The young people as always have enjoyed playing pool with each other and staff, taking part in casual games and tournaments. Some members have gone on to join local teams, after first developing an interest followed by lots of practice at the Club.

We have teamed up with Sporting Communities on Thursdays and have been offering Football on the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) outside. This has proved to be very popular with significant numbers taking part.

Over the last few months young people have had conversations about healthy eating, future life goals and how to achieve them. All advice is provided by fully qualified Youth Workers.

In order for the Youth Club to continue, we are looking for community members who will become Trustees for the Community Association. Trustees are the people who share ultimate responsibility for governing the club and how it is managed and run. These are of course voluntary positions. We are hopeful that someone with the right experience and caring nature, will come forward and help this vital provision continue for the area.

If you would like more information on your child attending the Youth Club simply “pop” in and meet your local Youth workers or if you are interested in becoming a Trustee contact the editor on: [acadman175@yahoo.com](mailto:acadman175@yahoo.com)

## Julian's Column

My mum used to say that the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. Looking around today it seems that there is a growing desire to have something that is newer, bigger, better than what anyone else has got. To use an old phrase we covet what others have. But really we risk losing sight of what we already have that is so good.



61 years ago the great train robbery took place where £2.5 million was stolen from a mail train. One of the thieves, Ronnie Biggs was caught and jailed but he escaped and lived abroad as a fugitive for many years. He was once interviewed by a journalist and when asked he said that his happiest time was before the robbery when he was living at home with his wife and children.

Greed for money, position and possessions warps our value of things that we have, it causes arguments, breeds selfishness and can even lead to crime as was the case with Ronnie Biggs and his fellow criminals. The reality is we don't end up happier, just hungrier for more. The bible is packed with stories of people who have ended up worse off through their greed, and even one of the 10 commandments tells us not to seek after what others have. (Exodus 20:17).

Why not just look around and see what you have and be grateful and enjoy what you have been blessed with.

Can I end with a poem from the poet Steve Turner:

**Poor  
I thought I was poor  
I mean,  
Nowhere left to stack the videos.  
Then I realised  
There are people  
in the world  
Who don't even have shelves.**

*Julian* Rev. Julian Penfold

## **“TOOTSIES” FOOTCARE - AFFORDABLE FOOTCARE**

Age UK Derby and Derbyshire and NHS Derbyshire County are working together to offer an affordable, long-term footcare solution for people aged 50+.

**In Ironville Church Hall, Casson St. on:**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

To book an appointment please call 01773 766922

(More dates follow on - every 6 weeks approx.)



**TOOTSIES  
FOOTCARE**  
For all your foot care requirements





## The Cromford Canal and Codnor Park Reservoir Group - Seasonal Work Update



We have all had to accept the extreme wet and windy weather this autumn and winter and we have seen the devastating impact it can have across the country. The canal hasn't fared too badly. The paths along the canal have flooded a few times but there hasn't been too much damage to the path structure. Some stone from the path has been washed away but we only need to do minimal repairs. To try to protect the paths in the future we have pulled a channel of reed and bunded along the canal towpath. Thanks to Dave Collins for the hire of the mini digger and for Terry Hughes for operating it, without which the job would have been back breaking. We have cleared some reed manually around humpy bridge to create rivulets and pools, steadying the flow and trying to maintain the water level in the reed beds to create optimum habitat.



Images we have taken from a drone have helped us to understand more about how the water drains into and out of the canal. We have already seen the impact of holding more water in the canal and it has helped to create super habitat in the wide basin. The water has done our job for us by removing some of the willowherb that had established itself there and if we can hold onto the water in the drier months, it should become a lovely pond area. We have already spotted a pair of water rail down there, a little egret and a pair of shovellers.



This season we have been working down at the bottom end of the canal, where it joins onto Erewash Meadows. We have opened up a view over the meadows, creating a dead hedge and we have put in a seat there to rest a while and enjoy the wildlife. It is now a bright and sunny place to sit in the early morning sunshine with wonderful views.



The area where the diseased ash trees have been felled into the water has become a great habitat, full of life. There have been flocks of redwing, fieldfare, lesser redpoll, and siskin. We've also spotted both marsh and willow tit alongside the usual suspects, great and blue tit and plenty of wrens. The kingfisher has also been checking it out. Reed and grasses have become tangled in the branches creating fantastic natural dams. Beavers fell trees around water courses and build dams to create pools of varied depths, and areas of faster and slower water flow, resulting in varied habitats for a diversity of species. In their absence, we have tried to be second rate ecosystem engineers, thinking of natural solutions to increase biodiversity. We are hoping the water vole and white clawed crayfish populations will spread down to that area taking advantage of pools of slow running water and plenty of crevices to hide in. We should also see an increase in aquatic invertebrates down there, eventually emerging as mayflies, dragonflies and damselflies.





We would like to invite you to help us monitor the impact of our work. This year we aim to provide seasonal wildlife awareness courses free to those who enjoy visiting the area and want to find out more about the wildlife in our patch and become involved in surveys and collecting data on biodiversity. We will also run our popular evening with bats. Last year's event was a victim of the wet and windy weather. We tried a couple of dates but had to cancel both because bats don't tend to fly in these conditions. The evening provides opportunities to find out more about UK bats and to see bats flying around the trees and skimming the reservoir. We use bat detectors to eavesdrop on our local bats and we know that there are a number of species of bat in the area.

Get in touch by email: [cromfordcanalgroup@outlook.com](mailto:cromfordcanalgroup@outlook.com)

Look out for the dates for our free 2024 events that will include tracking water vole, harvest mice and otter, pond dipping, surveying birds, butterflies, and dragonflies, and identifying the local flora and fungi.

We are also delighted to be able to share the news that the group have received £16,100 from the Awards For All scheme from The National Lottery. We have exciting plans to share with you soon.



## CHILDRENS DANCE CLASSES Now BACK

Ballroom, Latin and fun dances

£3 per class  
Pay as you go!

\*FREE TASTER SESSION FOR  
NEW PUPILS\*

THURSDAYS

5:30pm-6:00pm Up to 10 years

6:15pm-6:45pm 11+ years

Ironville Church Hall, Casson Street  
Ironville NG16 5NN

Contact Lauren Monks Tel: 07812 994066  
Email: [laurenmonks1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:laurenmonks1@hotmail.co.uk)  
Facebook: [laurenmonksschoolofdance](https://www.facebook.com/laurenmonksschoolofdance)  
IDTA Qualified and full DBS Check





## AN UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY PANTRY FROM RURAL ACTION DERBYSHIRE



As you are all aware the community pantry in Ironville is no longer operating. Feeding Derbyshire, which is part of Rural Action Derbyshire is really keen to keep a pantry in the village and is actively seeking a community group or interested community members to help establish a pop-up pantry within the village.

This initiative aims to provide affordable food and support to individuals and families who might be struggling to make ends meet during difficult times. If anyone is finding it hard to access food in the meantime, they can reach out to Oscar, Church of Christ, 6 Colledge Street, Riddings, DE55 4EZ, [oscarisocial@gmail.com](mailto:oscarisocial@gmail.com), 07990 157922 for further assistance. The goal is to ensure that no one in the community goes without access to essential food items during challenging times.



## Crossings Club Monument Lane

☎ 01773 606657

Monday - The club is CLOSED  
Tuesday open 5pm to 12am  
Skittle Matches

Wed. & Thurs. open 5pm - 11.30  
Meals served from 5.00 - 7pm  
£6.50 per meal - Desserts £3.00

Friday open 4pm - 1am  
Various Bands & Entertainments  
Saturday open 8.30—12am  
Breakfast Served 8.30 - 12pm  
Meat Draw 7.30pm Saturday  
Sunday open 12pm to 10pm  
Free Bar Nibbles

*The Club can cater for ALL occasions, also free room hire. Please contact the club for more info.*



Wed. Mornings 10am - 12pm in the Church Hall

☎ Pam 01773 689414 for further details



All you crafters come and join us for a morning of crafting of your own choice . . . or why not learn a new one. We enjoy helping each other. We do anything from felting, quilting, crochet, knitting and any other craft that we can think up! Then there's tea and biscuits and conversation too.



*Christmas Wreath Making  
December 2023*





'Supporting Communities is a charity dedicated to supporting families and young people throughout Derbyshire. We are collaborating with the Railway Carriage Youth Club to provide more opportunities to young people in Ironville. We aim to expand the range of activities available to young people in Ironville, ensuring that they have access to vital local services.'



## Clowns Children's Centre

In January we talked to the children about how when it's very cold outside water freezes and turns to ice.

We filled the outside water tray with water and left it outside overnight and then when it was frozen the children explored the ice...

The activity prompted new words such as freeze, frozen, ice, and melt. The children talked about what the ice looked like, felt like and sounded like when it broke.



If you would like to find out more about the activities we do and are interested in a place for your child please contact the nursery on [clownsnursery4@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clownsnursery4@yahoo.co.uk). We would be happy to tell you more and help you to understand how much fun the children have learning through play. We offer places for children who are eligible for 2 year funding and for all 3 and 4 year olds.





## SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS



For most of us, home is a sanctuary. A place we feel safe and can shut the door on the outside world. That's why burglary has such a devastating impact on those affected and can make us feel afraid in our own homes.

We have two specialist teams in Derbyshire dedicated to tackling burglary, and we are determined to do as much as we can to stop it.

But there are things you can do to help us. Burglars are often opportunistic thieves who seek out any opening that they can take advantage of, specifically doors and windows that are left open or unlocked or are easy to force. Make sure you always close and lock windows when you're going out, even if it's only for a few minutes.

You might not think garden landscaping has much to do with burglary, but it can be an effective tool for keeping intruders out. Burglars don't like to be seen or heard, so noisy gravel paths and low hedges which keep your property visible to your neighbours can help.

There is lots of advice on keeping your home secure on our website. Search 'burglary' to find out more – and together, let's keep burglars out.

You can also sign up to receive emails from us through Derbyshire Alert. We use Derbyshire Alert to send out local updates and appeals – you never know, one day you might have information which helps us catch a burglar. You can even let us know if your property has CCTV, so we can contact you when we need footage from your area. Sign up at [www.derbyshirealert.co.uk](http://www.derbyshirealert.co.uk).

Don't forget, you can get the latest updates from your Safer Neighbourhood Team on their Facebook page, just search for Codnor, Ripley and Waingroves Police SNT. This is also where we appeal for information regarding local incidents, as information from the public is often key in solving crimes.

We're still appealing for any information after four cars were destroyed in an arson attack in Ironville on Saturday 30 December. Anyone with details that may be useful to the investigation should contact us quoting reference 23\*797062.



*Specialist teams in Derbyshire are working to tackle burglaries.*

*Follow the above advice to protect your property against thieves.*

# IRONVILLE REMEMBERS ON A SPECIAL CENTENARY

100 years since the memorial was first dedicated



Our village remembered the fallen in a special service on Remembrance Sunday led by the Rev. Sheana Barby of Derby. Wreaths & crosses were placed by members of the community. The local school commemorated 100 years since the memorial was erected at the Church by observing the two minutes silence & singing the National Anthem (Friday Nov 10th). School Councillors, Alexis Hale and Darcie Squires (pictured above) unveiled the monument and read the names. The school encouraged everyone to work together and show integrity and RESPECT.



## New Friends of the Cromford Canal Booklet featuring Local Circular Walks

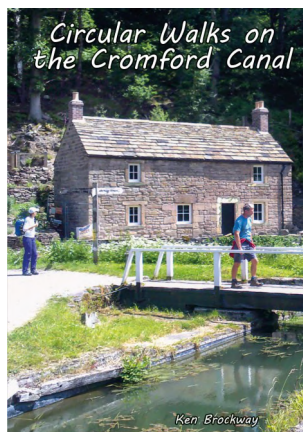
No need to join the gym, taking exercise can be fun and friendly. Friends of the Cromford Canal offer you free exercise with a circular walk exploring their wonderful canal which links Langley Mill to Cromford. A recently released guide offers twelve short circular walks taking you into some stunning countryside and perhaps places unknown to you. The guide has a written description of the route along with an Ordnance Survey map plus you can download a Google map with a QR code.

Two of the twelve walks include Ironville, walk four starts and ends at the church and walk three includes Codnor Park Reservoir.

There's lots to see along the way; we have tunnels, including two you can walk through, and four aqueducts; one that takes water over water and another water over a railway. There are two reservoirs and the canal line passes through a large Nature Reserve. We have a working lock taking boats from the Cromford to the Erewash Canal, and from here we invite you to explore linking canals. Elsewhere we explore a railway built in 1831 where the ground was too hilly for a canal over the Pennines.

Volunteers from Friends of the Cromford Canal operate the popular trip boat, *Birdswood*, from Cromford and are working on a project to extend the trips to include the aqueduct and Gregory Tunnel, while at Langley Mill work is in progress to extend the canal and towing path to Stoney Lane and beyond. If you could help, please get in touch, visit our website [www.cromfordcanal.org](http://www.cromfordcanal.org) for more information and we invite you to join us as a supporter and or a *Birdswood* passenger. In the meantime do enjoy these walks.

No longer up to walking yourself, then buy a copy for family and friends to enjoy while keeping fit and healthy. Available from the Friends of the Cromford Canal online shop at just £6.



**The Anvil Club is open every evening - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5 - 10  
Wednesday 5 - 11, Friday 5 - 12, Saturday 2 - 12 & Sunday 12.00 - 10**



*The Anvil Club is the perfect place for your functions. Where you can celebrate those special times or hold important meetings.*



*A cosy place, to enjoy a pint of good bitter ale with a welcoming atmosphere. A great place for a game of Pool too. With Your host Maria serving ales clear and bright.*



**See back page column 1 for full details of activities & events**

**Contact Maria McCormack on 07816-439881**

**The Anvil Club, Casson Street, Ironville, Nottingham, NG16 5NN**



Find us on  
Facebook



*"The Anvil Club"*



*The BIG*  
**FESTIVE SWITCH ON**  
Ironville  
December 1st 2023



**Carol Service 17th Dec 2023**

*"We went to the Christmas Party at the Church Hall and there was also a Carol Service in church. My boys were more interested in the church display than the party. Every time I took my eyes off them they had gone back in church. Ronnie even sat with the vicar!"* Natasha Taylor





# TAEKWONDO

Taekwondo classes have been held in Ironville for over thirty years now. The classes are in the military style/ Self-defence/ unarmed combat. They are for ALL the Family, both Juniors & Seniors. (Contact Dave on 01773 609626). See back page column one for more details.



# Christ Church

Rev Mark Taylor ☎ 01773 833280

Rev Julian Penfold ☎ 07932 564888

Warden: David Fearn ☎ 01773 605447

Services: Sunday at 11.00am:

**For more news and information -**

Please see the CHRIST CHURCH IRONVILLE Facebook page. This includes the Church monthly Newsletter, which is available also via email or as a paper copy.



Photo by Dave Taylor

## Ironville Post Office

We are very lucky to have in Ironville our own Post Office and General Store at the heart of our community. The store not only provides a top class postal service, but also newspapers, magazines and most general household needs.

Mon - Sat : Open 7am - 8 pm

Sun: Open 8 am - 2.30pm ☎ 01773 605472



## CODNOR PARK RESERVOIR

Fishing in well stocked water

☎ Steve Scudder  
07946 683417  
Tony Baxter  
07870909071



## WATERS EDGE BURGER BAR

Drinks, hot and cold food available.

Open Wed - Sun  
7.30am - 1 pm

Steph: ☎ 07800 978153  
Tara: ☎ 075140 98133





## **THE LIFE OF A PARISH WARDEN** by John Watson

I'd like to make a start by saying a thankyou to the parish council for the support I had during my time off with a hip op.

After returning to work, lots to do and catch up with, so litter picking was the main focus taking 3 weeks to catch up with around the village and outskirts reporting fly tipping DCC, Futures, Amber valley in the usual locations and removing small tips myself.

The Parish Council recently had skip day on King William Square which was full within 3 hours. They will continue to provide 2 skips each year so the next one will be on Parkside.

All the bulbs in the planters are now showing, so lots of colours to come.

Unfortunately all the lavenders have been damaged by work lorries working at the Severn Trent site on Nottingham Lane this all being replaced by wild flower seed soon.

The Civil Enforcement Officer role will continue outside school monitoring no parking at school times on yellow zig zag lines

Which brings me on to topic the school children have been doing ROAD SAFETY awareness week just recently which is a great learning experience and they made posters which were put on the school fence outside.

**GREAT WORK from ALL INVOLVED.**



# NEWS FROM PHILIP ROSE

☎ 077301771794 e-mail: [Philip.rose@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.rose@derbyshire.gov.uk)



My heart goes out to those who suffered from the floods last autumn, including families on Regents Court, many of whom were forced to move out while homes were made habitable following flood damage.

Cllr. Alex Stevenson (County Cllr. For Greater Heanor) and myself arranged a visit from Environment Agency personnel with the goal of identifying potential causes of the flood (apart from the obvious heavy rain!), in order that measures are taken to prevent a repeat.

Langley Mill around Cromford Road also suffered from a short but devastating flood, the cause of which may or may not be linked to our experience in Ironville!

We examined the Regents Court area, the flood bank across the field, the culverts under the railway and Victoria St., and the area around Nottingham Lane, including the sewerage treatment plant. We also spoke with residents where possible including Jack Brown and members of his staff as JB Transport yard was also affected.

The 'experts' suggested the flood was likely caused by the volume of water flowing down the Erewash from Pinxton and possibly backing up at the three culverts under the north railway embankment near Nottm Lane. Of the three culverts, two are 80% blocked – only one is clear – so the water backed up and flooded the field to the right of Nottm Lane (witnessed by residents) and swirled under the railway bridge spreading across the playing field on the wrong side of the flood bank thereby forcing the water over the field toward the lowest point, that being Regent Court!

That is the best guess at this time - to be honest, I am not convinced although, if it was flood water which caused the sewerage treatment facility to breakdown then maybe that is the cause, in which case the volume of water was staggering – to have made its way through Pinxton, Smotherly and Pye Bridge, all the way to Regents Court!

For me, the jury is still out and we await an official report with interest.

You may already be aware of the work going on to re-energise the 'Carriage' Youth club. Committee members have done a fabulous job over the years ensuring this valuable community asset survives and thrives. However, due largely to the issues faced over the last few years the club has found itself increasingly vulnerable and issues with technology and illness within the management team have resulted in critical funding being lost.

New committee members are urgently required to help secure the future of our youth club and bring renewed energy and ambition. If you are interested in helping, please contact myself or the editor. Currently we have a transitional committee whose goal is to stabilise the finances and protect the club moving forward. We are working with Ripley CVS and others to find appropriate funding and secure what is a critical village asset.

It is also, potentially, an exciting time for the youth club – an opportunity for new ideas, for growth and to have an ever greater, positive impact on the young people of Ironville and benefit our community as a whole. Watch this space....



Cllr Rose tests out one of the resources on a visit to the Railway Carriage.



## THE NIGHT THE VILLAGE PULLED TOGETHER

By DIANNA McCORMAC

After what had already been an eventful day of navigating my way home from a conference in Nottingham, through the treacherous road conditions and persistent downpours, I arrived home to the news on Facebook that Regent Court was flooded. With this in mind, my first instinct was to go down there to see if there was anything that I could do to help. Whilst on my way, I saw families walking up Waterside with bags of clothes and other minimal belongings. I spoke to some of these families, and they told me that they had had to leave their homes and didn't know where they were going to go. Immediately, I rang my sister Maria to ask if she could help by opening up the church hall so that the families at least had somewhere warm and dry to go in the first instance. With the permission of Mr Fearn (Church Warden), Maria opened up the Church Hall immediately. Together we began the task of getting families to the Church Hall. As they began to arrive, some with only the clothes they stood up in, it was clear they were wet, cold, and understandably upset, not knowing what was going to happen or where they were going to go from here. My sister and I began to rally family members to assist us in supporting them, we began collecting blankets from our own homes and put out a post on Facebook asking for help from the local community. Working at Ironville and Codnor Park primary school, I contacted staff members, as I knew that they would like to help where they could. As I thought, those that could began to arrive to offer help and support and before we knew it, in the true spirit of the Ironville and Codnor Park community, people began to turn up to help, bringing whatever they thought would be needed at the time to keep these families warm, dry, fed, and hydrated.

# THE FLOOD

IT ALL STARTED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023



With thanks to Di & Ryann Bingham for photographs

It soon became clear that these families would be needing to stay the night, as they had nowhere else to go. Again, the local community and beyond stepped up, arriving with blankets, blow up beds, quilts, and pillows, and together we began the mammoth task of turning the Church Hall into one big bedroom. Many families stayed that first night, ranging from young children to the elderly. Early the next morning, whilst the families slept, we went out to buy supplies to prepare them a cooked breakfast. The families awoke to a full English laid out for them., after such an eventful and emotional night this was the least we could do, to ensure they had a good start to the day ahead. Throughout the day, people in their droves from the local community and surrounding areas began turning up to the Church Hall, far too many to list but I will forever be grateful to each and every one of them, each arriving with an unprecedented amount of donations, after hearing of the families being flooded and unable to return home. A gentleman from Futures, was constantly on his laptop, working tirelessly, never giving up trying to rehome them. My sister Marion was on the phone for hours to Derbyshire County Council also asking for help. Fortunately for them, as time went by, the families were found some form of accommodation, this was either temporary accommodation provided by Futures, or through friends and family. Whilst all of this was occurring, we began making up hampers for the families to take with them from the overwhelming response of donations of food, clothes, blankets, and toys. We also received help in transporting the families to where they needed to go. The true generosity and support from the community within Ironville and Codnor Park and the surrounding areas was humbling to say the least and will stay with me always. The coming together in time of need was second to none.



# Friends of Cromford Canal (FCC) Update

Registered Charity number 1164608



## Work Party Report by John Guyler

A further gift of produce from the Lock Keepers Garden at Lock 4, was sent to Age Concern at Eastwood, during September, for the food bank distribution. This was the result of a lot of effort from Shirley Bullock and her sister Carol Hartley at the garden.

On the 20th December, eight volunteers were at Ironville, at the request of Andy Cadman. Many years ago, a railway carriage was placed near Deepdale in Ironville village to be used as a Youth Club. This was operating successfully until last November when the Club had to be closed due to seriously damaged drains. For the club to open again the drains had to be fixed. The area of the damaged pipes had become severely overgrown with Dog Rose & Bramble. Andy requested the FCC to clear the area which we did, aided with the supply of plenty of coffee & biscuits from the Railway Carriage. The latest is, the piping has been reconnected. The next job will be to clear and power jet wash the brick walkway and drive at the end of the carriage. Further clearance of vegetation on the site is on the plan for some time in the Spring and Summer. Thanks to the FCC the Youth club has now been operating successfully since early January.



Before (top photo) & After

From October through to the time of writing (mid-February) there has been a lot of work at Codnor Park Reservoir removing wind damaged and fallen trees around the reservoir. Trees which were a danger to footpath users have been cleared. A team led by Malc Chisnall and Chris Martin,

cleared a tree from fishing peg 42 on the far side of Codnor Park Reservoir, this was a wind damaged tree and had fallen across the footpath. On examination of the tree, it was dead up the centre of the trunk. A week later another group, dealt with a fallen tree again on the footpath at the far side of the Reservoir, this took six volunteers four hours each to make the area safe. In November, the tree group which consisted of eight volunteers worked on a wind damaged tree on the angling section, which had split with the wind, it was found to be rotten inside when the trunk was cut. In February a fallen tree near Golden Valley was winched out of the canal channel and then cut up, several more trees were identified as at risk.



Removal of a wind damaged tree at the Res & below damaged tree on the far side of the Res.





On the Golden Valley section, one group of the work parties went along the abandoned section towards Golden Valley, to clear vegetation and make the footpath wider than it had been in the summer, nettles and brambles had effectively reduced the path. We were clearing vegetation and saplings and we saw the Kingfisher twice, second time it landed on a bush near where Shirley Bullock was working, the following week we saw the Kingfisher again and it was around all day. In November at Codnor Park Reservoir, we were clearing vegetation just over the steel bridge towards Golden Valley and whilst, sitting on a bench eating lunch, watching coal tits and nuthatch on the feeder someone had put up, there was a rat coming out of a hole to feed on the dropped seeds. It was only about six feet away and didn't seem bothered by our presence.

At Ironville, a large amount of Himalayan Balsam was pulled from the channel between Locks 3 & 5, I think last year was a good growing year for Balsam. The channel itself was cleared of vegetation down the Lock 4 stretch, but looking at the aftermath of the heavy rainfall in the lead up to Christmas, it now seems to have been un-necessary, the water was far higher than usual. A roach, about 8 inch long was rescued from Lock 3 and returned to the main reservoir. An Ash tree was brought down at the entrance to the Lock Keepers Garden and had to be cut up, the trunk was very badly diseased. There is a damaged fence at Lock 4, which has some rotten posts and had some help in collapsing, a repair is being planned by the FCC on behalf of the Canal & River Trust.

On the 13th Sept, the work party were at Pinxton Wharf, working near the weir, which the FCC rebuilt in 2020. The main jobs were to clear the edge of the towpath with a strimmer and to clear vegetation around the weir so that reed clearance could commence. We were restricted in the reed clearance on that day by the usual number of reed rakes (cromes) not being available, we operated with two. Some tree work was also done, clearing a large Hawthorne bush which was fouling a BT cable and if correction work had not done it would have resulted in the cable being brought down. The following week, again at Pinxton Wharf surveying of dead Ash trees was commenced but the work party had to be halted after two hours because of heavy rain and swirling wind. For safety reasons, everyone on the work party was withdrawn from the area.

The following week again at Pinxton the work party was again called off because of concerns for safety in the wooded areas, due to a weather forecast of very high winds. The following week twelve volunteers went back to Pinxton wharf near the weir, pulling reeds and blanket weed from the canal, one volunteer was strimming along the towpath bank, for a length of approximately half a kilometre, some work was undertaken on dead trees which had partially fallen and were in danger of falling across the canal channel and falling on the towpath.



In early October, the FCC work party were back at Pinxton, again pulling reed and blanket weed from the canal, clearing vegetation and cutting small trees which were near, but not, underneath a power line, Western Power were informed of some dead trees very close to power lines, this situation was surveyed by WP and action was pencilled in for the weekend before Christmas, the FCC work party was again abandoned at noon due to very heavy rain and blustery winds. Work party were invited to shelter in the wood yard adjacent to the canal. A week later, a group of volunteers, removed some small trees which had been damaged by the high winds or were dead. The main job was to remove branches which were liable to fall either in the canal or across the channel and on to the towpath. We had a controlled burn of some of the wood removed. Derbyshire Fire Service control, are always notified of controlled burns and again contacted when the fire has been raked out and left safely at the end of the work party.

On the 16th October, Birdswood, the FCC owned narrowboat, was lifted out of the water at Cromford and placed on stands for the MCA bi-annual hull inspection. The interior was completely removed to allow the floor plates to be lifted for the hull bracing points to be inspected. Some members of Birdswood crew and a small number of work party volunteers scraped the hull ready for the exterior inspection. Three work party volunteers joined some of the Birdswood crew in painting the hull after the inspection and the boat was lowered back into the water in January. The interior has been rebuilt and Birdswood has had a very large amount of volunteer hours put into the outside and inside maintenance.

1st September to the 4th September, the volunteers of the Friends of Cromford Canal work parties, who are qualified to operate diggers and dumpers, worked with the Waterways Recovery Group (WRG) at Beggarlee, Langley Mill, to alter the 900mm diameter headwall and pipe in the gully that will meet up with the 600mm pipe, which had been laid a couple of months ago.

The WRG were again on site in early November, to finish fitting the chamber top weighing 3.3 tons on the 900mm headwall, the manhole cover and the interior ladder were finished and the headwall at the end the 900mm pipe was fitted in place, but because of a mechanical failure on the digger the second headwall for the 600mm pipe could not be fitted. This remains sitting on site and will be fitted when WRG return to backfill over the pipes sometime in the Spring.



one of the headwalls at Beggarlee, being lowered into position.

In January work started clearing the designated area of the flood plain, by the FCC work parties. This area has to be cleared before the start of the nesting season. The reason for this work is, that we have to compensate the flood plain for the land that is being used on the canal extension, by pulling the bank of the flood plain by 4m for a specified distance. At the end of February, we should be ready to bring a chipper on site, once the ground has dried up, to dispose all the cut wood and branches.



The FCC, has two certificated power-saw operatives as well as certificated trimmer operatives, digger and dumper drivers, certificated tree chipper and lime mortar operatives. With the building of the Beggarlee Extension getting closer, we need a Site Manager, someone who has the experience of managing contractors and keeping the job on track. If anyone has the experience and is interested; please contact **David Martin** to discuss terms and conditions on:

[chair@cromfordcanal.org.uk](mailto:chair@cromfordcanal.org.uk)



The work party at Whatstandwell removing pulled reeds.

If you feel that you would like to participate in the work parties, the volunteers are a sociable bunch, they look out for each other and are great to work with - Contact **John Barker** on:

[work@cromfordcanal.org.uk](mailto:work@cromfordcanal.org.uk)

## Meet your local Amber Valley Borough Councillors for Ironville & Riddings



### **Kieron Cox**

I am one of your "relatively" newly elected Councillors! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those in Ironville and Codnor Park who have given their support to me. I am proud to represent you as your Borough Councillor. I am very much of this locality, with family in Riddings and Ironville going back over a hundred years. I am a Management Accountant in a Manufacturing business so have good experience of working with money and balancing books. I will always do my very best to represent you and fight to make the village in which you live a better place for everyone. I am always available to discuss any concerns you would like me to take up on your behalf.

You can contact me either by e-mail [kieron.cox@ambervalley.gov.uk](mailto:kieron.cox@ambervalley.gov.uk) or by phone: 07746 603204



### **Rebecca (Becky) Grundy**

Ironville and Codnor Park are dear to me as I have relatives here and lived locally all my life round the corner on High Street, Riddings. I have two children in our local schools so good education and getting activities for young people are close to my heart. In my jobs as a health care assistant working in our nearby hospitals – and doing shifts helping customers at McArthur-Glen – I spend my life caring for people. My aim is to help you and improve our area – so do get in touch with any issues on 07773 889890 or

[Rebecca.grundy@ambervalley.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.grundy@ambervalley.gov.uk)



... Or do come to our next advice surgery for a chat. We look forward to seeing you at the OAP Community Centre, Open Acre, Ironville on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March or on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April. We will be there on both dates between 11.15am and 12.15 pm



## NEWS FROM CHRIST CHURCH



The months of November and December proved to be very busy with a lot happening and with many thanks due to many people.....

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** – The service at the War Memorial last November was organised by the British Legion and took place on 12<sup>th</sup> November with a good number of people present. This last year marked the centenary of the *Unveiling & Dedication of the War Memorial* in the church grounds which took place with great ceremony on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1923. The Parish Council placed two Tommies in the church grounds together with other Tommies and Poppies around the village. The Crafty Crafters made a tapestry of knitted poppies to hang near the memorial, and the staff and children from Ironville School made a special effort to mark the centenary by placing poppies and flowers around the memorial. Thank you to everyone. (See page 15).

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE** – This took place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December in the Church Hall and raised £816 for church funds. Thank you to all stall holders, those providing refreshments and especially to all the visitors who came along to support the event. (See page 32).

**CAROL SERVICES** – The church Carol Service took place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks to all those who came along to enjoy the occasion and particularly those who volunteered to read. A few days later, Ironville School held its Carol Service in church and a large number of parents and friends came along to support the staff and children and to enjoy the readings and singing. (See page 17).

**URGENT ELECTRICAL WORKS** – In late 2019, an Electrical Inspection was carried out at Christ Church. The result was an *Unsatisfactory* report. For the past few years, there has been a great deal of debate as to how to move forward. The main problem lies with the fireproof, copper-clad cable (MICC/Pyro) used throughout the building which is degrading and needs to be replaced. There are further problems with the outdated protection devices, the existing earth provision, the old sockets and switches and lights and fittings, all of which need bringing into line with current industry standards. Also, there is a lack of emergency lighting. Some specialists and contractors have visited, and all seem of one mind – repairs are not an option, and a full *Renewal & Upgrading of the Electrical Installation* is needed at a projected cost of around £25,000. Our church insurers are now involved, insisting that we must carry out whatever works are necessary – and as soon as possible - so as to meet the conditions of our insurance policy and provide a safe place for the public. The church is now starting a fundraising campaign to try to raise money for the work. If you think you can help, please do get in touch.





It would be difficult for Futures to give an update about the last six months without mentioning the devastating floods in Ironville in October. We know it's been an awful time for so many people who were sadly affected by the unprecedented level of flooding and this included 18 of our customers' homes.

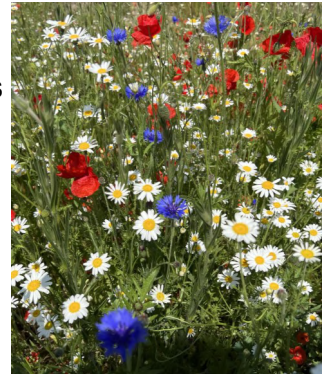
We've been supporting families and households ever since that day, and while we continue to work with them, we hope everyone in the community who hasn't been able to move back home yet are still safe and settled. Our thoughts are with you all in this difficult time.

In November last year we were asked to put Tommies up again on lampposts throughout the village in honour of Remembrance Day. We're always eager to help our communities in any way we can so it was an easy yes to help with again!

More recently our grounds maintenance team has finished planting more and more wildflowers across Ironville. The flowers should hopefully bloom in the next two to three months, showing a mixture of vibrant, rich colours. Every year we reseed wildflowers in Ironville, which covers a huge 6,000 square metres! Did you know one acre (just over 4,000 square metres) of wildflower meadow on a summer's day, can contain up to three million flowers? These flowers can produce 1kg of nectar honey, which is enough to support nearly 96,000 honey bees a day! It's fair to say, Ironville is buzzing!

If you cast your mind back to March last year you may remember we planted the final tree in our 70 for 70 tree planting project. From December 2022 to March 2023, we planted 140 trees across many of our customer locations, which included 17 trees in Ironville. The trees are spread across the Market Place, Victoria Street bus stop and King William Street and many of these are apple trees which are local to Ironville. We'll be out to inspect these within the next few months, but we hope it won't be long before apples finally appear – every flower is a potential fruit!

If you manage to take any nice pictures of our blooming flowers or trees, we'd love you to share these with us at [communications@futureshg.co.uk](mailto:communications@futureshg.co.uk) – thank you!



## What is the Derbyshire Immediate Justice Scheme?

Angelique Foster, Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner, is one of only 4 commissioners nationally to have secured a £4.4m grant to focus on Anti-Social Behaviour, which includes the new Derbyshire Immediate Justice Scheme. The scheme will provide perpetrators of Anti-Social Behaviour the opportunity to repair the harm caused to their victims and wider communities by taking part in reparative activities such as community clean ups, gardening, working in charity shops and foodbanks or directly repairing the harm caused such as painting over graffiti. Where appropriate we will also be seeking input from the victims involved.

Immediate Justice focuses on giving back to victims of Anti-Social Behaviour and communities where Anti-Social Behaviour has taken place. Where these incidents/offences have occurred, Immediate Justice will be considered and given where appropriate.

### Get Involved!

If you have ideas of how Immediate Justice can support your local area, please contact us. We're keen to look for new placement opportunities and how Immediate Justice can improve Anti-Social Behaviour in Derbyshire communities.

Email: [admin@IJscheme.org](mailto:admin@IJscheme.org) or Telephone: 0300 122 7549



*There have been multiple litter picking sessions across Derbyshire as part of the Immediate Justice Scheme, where individuals have been giving back and making a difference to local communities.*

*You can find further information on the scheme here:*

<http://tinyurl.com/544zaje>

Above: left Before Immediate Justice... and after (right)

*Ironville & Codnor Park Community Association would like to thank Amber Valley CVS for their support, particularly in applying for grants to help keep the Carriage Youth Club OPEN, the Friends of the Cromford Canal for clearing vegetation and many other individuals too.*



## MACS - A NEW LOCAL GROUP

*More Activities for Community Social Events*

Forthcoming Village Events by MACS



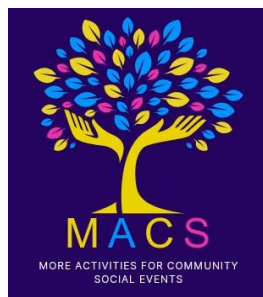
**Easter Party Saturday 30th March**

3.30pm until 6.30pm in Ironville Church Hall

**Ironville's Summer Fun Day - Sat 10th August**

11am until 3pm inside 11 until 6pm Outside

This new group plan to bring even more special events and activities to our village. Something that we can all look forward to and enjoy.





## Who does what? Puzzled?! County / Borough / Parish Councils

By Pete Clark

It's all so confusing isn't it? Well yes it is, but I shall attempt at outlining "who does what" and hope this helps folks understand. Having been both a Borough and a Parish Councillor has opened my eyes into how it all works, so here goes:

### **AVBC (Borough Council based in Ripley Town Hall) are the people to contact::**

- Waste Collection (Wheelie-bins, Recycling) at the kerbside. (Theresa Barnes is the manager)
- Road and pavement sweeping, litter picking along the road verges. Litter Bin provision & emptying (Landscape Services Dept.). Abandoned vehicles.
- Mowing green areas, associated litter-picking. Dog fouling. (Landscape Services Dept.)  
NOTE – this does NOT cover the various areas owned by Futures Housing Association!
- Help with Planning Applications. The "Local Plan" for AV housing developments.
- Some types of ASB (Anti-Social behaviour). Noise nuisance.  
Fly Tipping (depends exactly where)
- Homeless, helping find homes. Housing Grants.
- Food Safety, Leisure facilities, Licencing.

### **DCC (Derbyshire County Council based in Matlock) are the people to contact::**

- Roads and Highways Maintenance, Pot-holes, road repairs, pavement repairs.
- Blocked drains in the road.
- Public Footpath / Bridleway obstructions, difficulties.
- Adult Social Care, Education, Schools.

### **Ironville Parish Council (see their website) are the ones to contact :**

- Christmas Lights, Christmas tree, Poppies.
- Bus stop condition.
- Skip Day, Some salt bins.
- Village allotments
- Parish Warden & Civil Enforcement Officer (see pages 2,3 & 20)

These lists are not exhaustive, just a practical guide within the space of this newsletter. Generally speaking - You may prefer to go on the respective website to report an issue or for further guidance. You can do this 24/7 and no waiting for the phone to be answered.

Of course we, as village residents have elected Councillors to represent us, and they should respond to any requests for help. I think it is helpful to understand (many people don't!) the remuneration differences between them. It hopefully gives an insight into your expectations?

- ◆ **A County Councillor** receives a full 'wage' – let's say around £25,000 per annum.
- ◆ **A Borough Councillor** receives a part-time 'wage' – say around £5,000 per annum
- ◆ **A Parish Councillor** receives no remuneration and is basically an elected Volunteer.

Hasten to add these figures are very approximate and there are variations. The exact figures are publicly available on the respective websites, each councillor is named along side their income, to the nearest penny.

*All the above is complex and there can be irregularities for various and historical reasons, for example. I've done my best. So please treat this article as a guide and not a guarantee. I am happy to be messaged for clarifications in my current capacity as a resident. (I am not a councillor anymore).*

# CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Church & Church Hall - Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>





# News From Amber Valley CVS by Lynn McCree

Be a Community Connector to increase the flow of health and wellbeing information from Public Health and across our communities.

- ◆ We will provide information from trusted sources that is relevant to Derbyshire
- ◆ There will be an email address to direct questions that members of the community have directly to Public Health
- ◆ You can be part of a network of like minded local residents, working with Amber Valley CVS to improve our connections in the community



Leave your contact details with [davidbrough@avcvs.org](mailto:davidbrough@avcvs.org) ☎ 01773 512076

Warm Space – funding still available until end March to meet costs of bringing people together . For further details go to this link:

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/health-and-wellbeing/your-health/keeping-warm-in-winter/warm-spaces/warm-spaces.aspx>



Derbyshire Public health Locality Fund has earmarked an extra £15,000 for small grants for Amber Valley voluntary groups. Do you need more funds to run your club or activity ? Contact Glynn Wilton [glynnwilton@avcvs.org](mailto:glynnwilton@avcvs.org) 01773 512076 for more information.



Amber Valley CVS are recruiting to the Help at Home workforce - put your gardening passion and skills to use by working hours to suit yourself close to your local area.

Amber Valley CVS are recruiting Gardener's in Alfreton, Somercotes, Swanwick, Ripley, Riddings, Heage and the surrounding areas of Amber Valley to work with their Help at Home Gardening Team

Do you have a passion for gardening and working outside? Would you like flexible hours which can work around your current commitments? You decide how many or how few hours you would like to work and we aim to give you clients that require support to maintain an independent life. No weekends or Bank Holidays.

We operate between 9.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday

The role is regular and ongoing garden maintenance including mowing, pruning, weeding, digging and planting at people's homes to promote independent living.

Person spec: reliable, trustworthy, general gardening plant knowledge and customer focused. Mature applicants welcome. You must have transport as equipment required for the role needs to be taken to each job, previous experience of gardening not essential but knowledge and passion of gardening and plants would be preferable

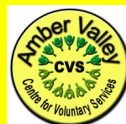


Benefits: Holiday pay. Pension, Sickness pay, Flexible hours, DBS check paid by employer

Rate of pay £10.42 per hour + Travel Time, Equipment and tools provided

For an application pack please telephone 01773 512076 or email: [admin@avcvs.org](mailto:admin@avcvs.org)

Closing date: 9.00am 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024



# Local Cycle Connections *by Granville Horton*

I opened Olympic Cycles in Nottingham in 1979 and retired in 2004. I have maintained my interest in cycles throughout my life. It has been my main hobby since I retired.

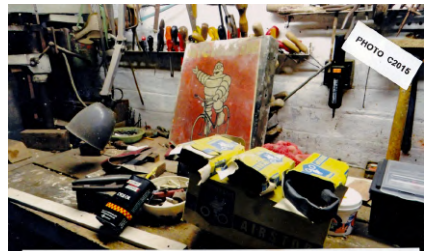
I have a collection of classic cycles including several of our own which were all hand built Nottingham was a hot bed for custom built cycles alongside Raleigh, who had a hand built division in Ilkeston.



*Granville's Local Collection of Classic Cycles*

The closest to Ironville was Egar Allens shop & workshop in Ripley (see photograph). The only one existing in the area is Mercian Cycles in Derby. They had a worldwide reputation dating from 1946.

Jacksdale had a bike shop some years ago called Tanseys in the premises now called *The Poachers Ale-house*. I have very little information on this. Any details that you might have would be welcomed.



EGAR ALLENS WORKSHOP CLOSED C1960



**Group of local Cyclists - Circa 1908**



# NIC'S FITNESS CREW

*A community fitness group located in Ironville Church Hall*

Hello we are a team of community fitness instructors who formed together through supporting each other and sharing a passion for exercise and friendships. Community fitness is special because of all the people that come and take part each week. We all have different goals and fitness levels with a combination of different ages and sizes, traveling from different areas and backgrounds, to come together and achieve our personal targets. Something we consider a privilege to be a part of. This is not possible to achieve without our community. Group exercise helps to :- Improve fitness levels, Mental health, Confidence, Body and muscle strength. It also Improves energy levels, flexibility and so much more .... A place where everyone is welcome. A safe space with no judgement. We love to welcome new beginners. We offer memberships to keep cost low with a range of different classes that are all fun!! We use easy routines that make you sweat. Please join our Facebook page for more information go to Nic's fitness crew or call Nic on 07810898868 and join the crew. The hardest part is walking through the door !!



See back page column one for more details



**Location @ Ironville Church Hall**  
Casson street, Ironville.  
NG16 5NN



**KEEP CALM ITS A MASHUP MIX**

Suitable for all fitness abilities  
Everyone is welcome

For more inquiries or info  
You can also contact Nic  
07810898868

## Beatz Dance Fitness

Monday 5.45 - 6.45  
Doubles are available on selected Monday dates  
6.45 - 7.45

**Rock box Fitness**  
Tuesday 5.45 - 6.45

**Mash up mix**  
Wednesday 5.45 - 6.45



Facebook page available  
For more info

Membership offers available for multiple classes 😊



# The Experiences of a Young Boy living in Ironville in the 1960's

*Adapted from "Life's Essentials" - a Blog by Rik Ravado*

This was a significant moment of personal enlightenment, when my faithful dog and I stumbled upon a mysterious, dark brown lake in a disused quarry in my home village of Ironville, Derbyshire.

The surface of the lake was strangely solid like boot polish. I should explain that this was the mid-sixties and I had until recently lived a relatively sophisticated life in a Nottingham suburb, a place of detached houses and modern plumbing.

. . . . But, that all changed when my Father became a village Postmaster and I found myself living just over the border in what was unkindly referred to in a local guide as 'the last village in Derbyshire (in more ways than one)'.

I can still recall the horror my middle-class family shared, transported suddenly from a neat, detached, suburban landscape to a grimy terrace overlooked by a railway line and a huge coal tip.



Ironville, so rooted in the past that the BBC used it to film period dramas and sociology professors from Nottingham University regularly bussed their students in on field trips.

"Isn't this place delightful?" said a BBC producer during a break in filming a D H Lawrence adaptation (Lawrence's family home was a few miles away at Eastwood).

"If it's so bloody delightful then why don't you come and live here?" said my Mother sarcastically.

. . . . . But back to the lake. Its surroundings were strangely still and silent. The towering rock walls ensured no breeze stirred the stunted undergrowth and trees. No birds flew. Nothing lived or breathed in that place except me and the dog.

I think the dog knew. This dog with an insatiable passion for cowpats and compost heaps. He had a sixth sense for such things. He understood. The dog advanced towards the lake his nose twitching. I instinctively grabbed a pebble and threw it at the lake.

The surface remained unbroken, the stone's impact totally absorbed. The pebble remained, tantalizingly, on the surface. Larger stones proved no more effective at penetrating the crust.



The dog meanwhile perched on the shoreline, craning forward, daring himself to leap into the unknown. Sensing danger I grabbed the dog by the collar, clipped the lead on him and dragged him back. As he strained at the leash, I noticed a vast dried-up waterfall down the quarry side. In hindsight, a strong clue as to the nature of the mysterious lake. Finally I attacked it with a huge boulder that I threw as high as I could. The boulder came hurtling down and smashed through the crust, to the accompaniment of loud bubbling sounds and chemical activity worthy of a gothic horror movie.

The shining, black liquid which erupted from the crater was strangely alive. The dog's nose twitched and he was drawn magnetically towards the hole. I strained, gripping his lead and holding him back from temptation. The smell was now overpowering.

I was terrified. Was this the genesis of an ecological disaster? Had I opened Pandora's Box? As I rushed from the scene, dragging the reluctant dog, a monster of a man came towards me out of the trees and in the local dialect, demanded accusingly, "Hast tha' broke crust?"

"No, it wasn't me, honest." I lied and ran home gasping for breath against the vile stench that soon filled the entire valley.

The truth, I later realised was that this quarry was where the euphemistically named night-soil lorry had for generations dumped the entire contents of the outside lavatories of the village in which I lived. I had always assumed, quite wrongly, that the council took it far away and disposed of it in a responsible and ecologically friendly fashion.

How terrible the day when the privies were emptied. The villagers hid indoors and kept their windows tightly shut against the stench. They peered from behind net curtains at the passing of the monster truck, its great counterbalanced arm dripping vile fluid onto the street.

So the truth dawned. This quarry held a tangible legacy from generations of miners, furnace workers and their families. The entire history of a village distilled in semi-liquid form and hidden from view. A dark, dreadful secret, just waiting to be uncorked. . . .



*This is an example of one of the dry toilets (no flush) to be commonly found in Ironville prior to modern times. They mostly had single hole seats with large buckets underneath. Newspaper cut into squares and strung to the door handle was often the toilet paper of the time. At night a candle was often used to provide light. Each toilet was emptied each week by the "night soil men".*

# VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPHS OF IRONVILLE

BY DAVID COLEMAN (A further section from circa 1971 - see Newsletter 19 - page 36)



*The Big Six was on Victoria Street*



*Tank Street was just off Victoria Street*



## TEAM IRONVILLE . . . a short report by Pete Clark

Looking back, here are a few photos of projects that Team Ironville did in prior years. These were well received by the community and Team Ironville certainly enjoyed making our village surroundings look pretty. Parkside Drive spring Flowers / Carol painting a gold crown on the Red Phone box at end of Coach Road / Victorian grave before and after pics in Ironville old cemetery / Then to bring things up to date: At the end of February Team Ironville were out and about, carrying out some winter maintenance tasks."



### **BRINSLEY ANIMAL RESCUE** ☎ 01773 712 999 Info@brinsleyanimalrescue.org

Our aims are to rear/rehabilitate wildlife and release back into the wild and to assess and treat pets and farm animals, prior to finding them life-long homes as pets.

We have 27 acres at three locations including land at our home and several fields off Brinsley Hill. We have stables, a hay barn, a cow shed and a fully equipped animal hospital for treating wildlife.

Our current residents included cattle, equine, pigs, all kinds of poultry, cats, rabbits, and guinea pigs. Our hospital is currently occupied by hedgehogs and pigeons, we do though rescue all kinds of native wildlife including garden birds, foxes, badgers, swans, geese as well as birds of prey.

We are all volunteers and as the founders, we own the land that the charity uses free of charge, this all means that the charity's overheads are low, and we achieve a lot with what public donations we receive. Our vets' and feed bills are very high though and we need to raise over £100,000 a year. Website - <https://brinsleyanimalrescue.org/>

## A REMARKABLE ONLINE RESOURCE OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE CROMFORD CANAL PERMIT BOOKS / TOLL RECEIPTS



Thanks to the amazing work of Christine Johnstone and many others the Friends of the Cromford Canal has produced an immensely valuable database of people and business on the Cromford Canal in the early nineteenth century.

The database is especially important in relation to the early history of our village in the early nineteenth century. Goods were being transported to and from Ironville & Codnor Park as far as London and even on to France - All via our local canal. Products being transported included:

- \* Pots and bottles from Codnor Park Pottery
- \* Porter and ale from Codnor Park Brewery
- \* Iron ore, Iron and iron products from and to the local Ironworks / foundry / Forge.
- \* In addition there were boat loads of coal and iron ore setting out to and from our village and more.

All of these can be viewed on the FCC web site (click on "Canal Toll permits" in "The Canal Menu). It contains over 90, 000 records of boats passing on or off the canal at Langley Mill and records the cargo carried, the names of the steerer and owner and a mass of other information. The records offer an insight into the frequency of traffic, the types of cargo carried and the people who owned and ran the boats. This is invaluable to exploring and learning more about the early nineteenth century history of our village.

Most of the surviving books are in the Derbyshire Record Office at Matlock and several elsewhere in the UK. There are also ten in the Harvard Business School Library in the USA!

The permit books were stored in the attic of the toll house that stood beside Langley Mill Lock and were discovered when the cottage was bulldozed in the late 1960's. The surviving ones were rescued from a huge bonfire by local enthusiasts.

Here are just a few original examples of the toll receipts:

### Stones Bottles going out from the Codnor Pottery in 1822:

309 *In black* CROMFORD CANAL *Jan 28* 1822  
 PERMIT *William Stokes* on board *John Clark* Boat No. *1041*  
 to navigate the under-mentioned GOODS:

SPECIES.	Where loaded.	Where landed.	Weight by Bill of Lading.	Dry Inches	Tonnage Weight.	Miles.	Rate per Ton	AMOUNT.		
								Ls.	S.	D.
<i>Castings</i>	<i>Bridge</i>	<i>Gainsbor'</i>		<i>832</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>5 10/21</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>10 1/2</i>	
<i>Coal</i>	<i>gc</i>	<i>gc</i>			<i>2 1/2</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>	
<i>Bottles Pottery</i>	<i>gc</i>	<i>gc</i>			<i>12</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>9</i>		<i>1 1/2</i>	

Transcription: Date: 28/01/1822; Permit No 309; Boat No: 1,041; From Codnor Park Pottery; To: Gainsborough; Steerer: John Clark; Owner William Stokes; Cargo (species): Stone Bottles; Tons: 0.50; miles: 4; Notes; 1 boat 3 cargoes.



## Porter – a type of beer going out from Codnor Park Brewery in 1834:

*The brewery once stood in the same place as modern day Butterley Court*

Transcription: Date: 23/05/1834; Permit No 2,539; Boat No: 1,411; From Codnor Park Brewery; To: Newark; Steerer: John Hopewell; Owner: John Moreley; Cargo (species): Porter; Tons:1.50; miles: 4; 1 boat, 2 cargoes.

## Castings going out from the Butterley Company's Codnor Park Works in 1820:

Transcription: Date:16/05/1820; Permit No: 2014; Boat No: 965; From: Codnor Park Warehouse; to: Runcorn; Steerer: William Meaking; Owner: G Britain; Cargo (species): Castings; Tons: 40; miles: 4

## Cannon Balls going out from Codnor Park Foundry in 1814.

*Could they have been fired at Waterloo!?*

(Transcription: Date: 28/02/1814; Permit no: 3,288; Boat no: 316; From: Codnor Park Foundry; To: Gainsborough; Steerer: Thomas Widdison; Owner: G Brittain; Cargo (species): Cannon shot; Tons: 41.00; Miles: 3 - (cannon shot & cannon balls are the same thing)

## Some goods where even travelling from Codnor Park to France:

Transcription: 06/12/1816; Permit no: 2,726; Boat no: 917; From: Codnor Park Warehouse; To: France; Steerer: Joseph Bancroft; Owner: G Brittain; Cargo (Species): Pig iron; Tons: 48.00; Miles: 4 (This shows Pig Iron going from Codnor Park to France):

Finally I have also found the **earliest reference to Ironville as a place name** that I know via these records (1814). There were only just two references to Ironville in the entire data base holding 90,000 records.

2808  
CROMFORD CANAL  
PERMIT to *Mather Junr* on Board *N & G Wheatcroft* Boat, No. *33*  
to navigate the undermentioned GOODS, for which the Tonnage is Received for the Proprietors of the Cromford Canal.

SPECIES.	Where loaded.	Where landed.	Weight by Bill of Lading.	Dry Inches.	Tonnage Weight	Miles.	Rate per Ton	AMOUNT.
<i>Goods</i>	<i>Dunns</i>	<i>Ironville</i>	<i>1/2</i>	<i>25.5</i>	<i>1/2</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>11/12</i>	<i>16/11 3/4</i>
<i>10 cwt Oats</i>	<i>Dunns</i>	<i>Ironville</i>	<i>1/2</i>	<i>1/2</i>	<i>1/2</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>11/12</i>	<i>16/11 3/4</i>
<i>5 cwt</i>	<i>Dunns</i>	<i>Buttling</i>	<i>3/4</i>	<i>3/4</i>	<i>3/4</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>11/12</i>	<i>16/11 3/4</i>

STREET  
FRI  
NOTTING

Transcription: Date: 04/11/1814; Permit No: 2,808; Boat No: 33; From: Dunns; to Ironville; Steerer: Jos Mather Jun'r; Owner: N & G Wheatcroft; Cargo: Oats; Tons: 1.50; Miles: 4; Notes: 1 boat 4 cargoes. "Ironville" is fourth down in the "Where landed" column.

With thanks to Hugh Potter\*, Derbyshire Records Office and the Baker Library Special Collections and Archives at the Harvard Business School.

The introduction to this piece is adapted from an article by Hugh that appeared in "The Portal" Issue 86 autumn 2023

## Team Tree Update Spring 2024

I'm sure everyone will be pleased to hear that Team Tree is still in existence. We will be continuing to fund raise to help make our village a nicer place to live. Year 2023 was a very difficult time for a number of Team Tree members and unfortunately we lost a very valued member of the team "Tina" who very sadly passed away. Tina was a loving wife to David a devoted mother to both Rachael and Richard and a supporting grandparent to six beautiful grandchildren. Tina was a governor at Ironville and Codnor Park Primary school where she was one of the founders of the Breakfast Club. Tina spent many hours at the Book Club reading stories to the children. Tina was also the Brown Owl running the Brownies for a number of years and the village youth club. I'm sure the villagers will remember the Community Diner which along with Rachel Daniel's and the help of numerous volunteers was set up to serve the village lovely home cooked food on a weekly basis. Tina has been missed not only by her family and Team Tree but by many living in the village. We would like to say a big thank you to Tina for all that she contributed to support our village.



Team Tree moving forward are looking for new members and volunteers to help us continue to think of new ideas for our village. We will be meeting once a month throughout the year. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 26th March 2024 @ 6pm at The crossings Club all are welcome. It will be lovely to see new people attend. If you want any further information please email [teamtree@yahoo.com](mailto:teamtree@yahoo.com)

Team Tree Summer Scarecrow event this year will be held between the 26th July - 11th August 2024. As it is an Olympic year, and indeed the Olympics will be part way through in Paris at the time of the competition we felt that this was very apt for 2024. Please look out for further instructions on the Team Tree webpage.

We look forward to seeing some fantastic creations by our local businesses, organisations and residents ... the standard is always so high! We thank everyone who gets involved in making a scarecrow or who helps out in any way ... without these volunteers we couldn't continue to run the event.

Team Tree members would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you for all of the support you have given us in the past and in the future.





# Gardening on the wild side

Yes, I know you've heard it before, but British wildlife is severely under threat. Last year, I read an article in The New Scientist that claimed the abundance of 700 British species had declined a terrifying 19% on average in the last few decades. A huge driver of that decline is habitat loss, because we are just simply running out of space on our little island. While writing this article, I also found out that our residential gardens cover around twelve thousand square kilometres in the UK – that's an area bigger than the Bahamas! With all that space, just imagine the wildlife benefit if we all encouraged a little more biodiversity in our gardens.

2024 is the year I'm going wild in my garden – here's five of the cheap and easy things I'll be doing this year to encourage a bit more wildlife.

## 1 Put in a pond

Wildlife loves water. It is amazing how quickly you'll start to see more life in your garden if you put in a pond. It doesn't need to be big – just make sure you've got different water depth and some plants. It's good to put rocks sticking out the water for insects to land on. If you don't want to dig, how about making a container pond. Anything that holds water will work. I made one in a big plant pot and there's already lots of life in it.



Ponds are a quick way to draw more wildlife into your garden.

## 2 Grow a wildflower meadow

Help the pollinators and grow something beautiful to look at by picking a small area to grow wildflowers. This can be a flower bed, patch of dug up lawn or a container. Wildflower seeds are cheap and easy to grow and are best planted March-May.



Look out for bare root trees- they're the cheapest!

## 3 Plant a tree

Trees are great for all different animals, but especially birds and insects. I like trees that produce berries or fruit because they feed the wildlife and look beautiful when they flower. Always a bonus if its fruit we can eat too!

## 5 Build a log pile

Just gather logs and sticks of different sizes and stack them up in a sheltered place. The gaps between the logs make a great home for all sorts of animals. You can also do this with stones.






Log piles are a cheap and easy way to give wildlife more homes in the garden.


## 4 Stop using pesticides and weedkiller

A quick google and you'll find loads of ways to stay on top of pests and weeds without using harsh chemicals. My favourites are boiling water for getting weeds out of the cracks in paving slabs and beer traps to keep the slug numbers down. Remember that some weeds and pests are important food sources for animals we want to encourage like bees and hedgehogs.

**Wildlife gardening isn't just great for the wildlife.**

**It can also:**

-  Be really good for our mental and physical health.
-  Save us money.
-  Help stop flooding.

About the author: Hi! I'm Nic and I'm a new Parish Councillor in the village. I'm really passionate about nature and wildlife. I'm hoping we can do more for biodiversity in our village and learn how cool nature can be. If you want to see more of how my nature gardening is coming along, you can follow me on Instagram:  @little.yellow.raincoat

# What's on at the Church Hall?

**Mon - Nic's Fitness Crew** ☎07810898868

Beatz Fitness 5.45pm - 6.45 (See page 35)

**Tues - Nic's Fitness Crew** ☎07810898868

Rockbox Workout 5.45pm - 6.45pm (see page xx)

**Tues - Crooked Line Club - 7.30-10.00pm**

Dancing with Daz just for fun - free door prizes

☎Daz 07967760065 or Steve 07419323705



**Wed am - Crafty Crafters** (see page 12)

10am - 12pm ☎ Pam 01773 689414



**Wed - Nicks Fitness Crew** ☎ 07810898868

Pound Fitness 5.45 - 6.45 (see page 35)

**Thurs - Lauren Monks School of Dance**

Under 10's Ballroom & Latin 5.30pm - 6

Over 10 Ballroom & Latin 6.15pm - 6.45 (see page 10)



**Thurs - Taekwondo - 7 to 8.00 pm**

For all the family - adults and children.

☎Dave Gregory 01773 609626 (see page 18)



**What's on at the Anvil Club?** (see page 16)

**Monday 5-10 Free Pool**

**Tuesday 5-10 Free Juke box**

**Wednesday 5-11 Bingo Sticky 13 Play Your Cards Right Raffle Number Card Hot & Cold food**

**Thursday 5-10 Pool night - Pool Team**

**Friday 5-12 Meat Draw 9pm**

**Saturday open 2pm-12am**

**Sunday 12 - 10 Sunday Dinner 12 'till 3 Eat in or take away BOOKING ONLY Call in or ring Maria on this number: 07816-439881**

**The Friends of the Cromford Canal Talks:**

All talks start at 7pm in Ironville Church Hall

March 18<sup>th</sup> - M. Kelly-Why was king Alfred called the Great?

April 15<sup>th</sup> - Annual General Meeting

See the FCC website: [www.cromfordcanal.info](http://www.cromfordcanal.info) to find out more about forthcoming talks.

☎ **MARIA MCCORMACK**

**07816-439881**

**FOR BOOKINGS**



IRONVILLE CHURCH HALL

# IRONVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: [kathgruber@icloud.com](mailto:kathgruber@icloud.com) ☎ 07595515154

All meetings take place at The Community Room, Victoria Crescent, Ironville, starting at 7.00 pm .

(See website: [ironvilleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://ironvilleparishcouncil.co.uk))

Every meeting includes a period for Public Participation at which local residents are invited to attend - a time allocation of 15 minutes at the beginning of the meeting. (Also see page 2 & 3)

**Next Meeting : Monday 18 March 2024**

**We look forward to seeing you there.**



Cllr. Liz Holgate (Chair)

# COUNCILLORS' Community SURGERY

Do you have any suggestions, queries or concerns about Council services in our village?

Do come along and put your questions to:

Cllr Liz Holgate : Parish Council Chair

Cllr Philip Rose: Parish and County Councillor

Yvonne Hutsby-Bird: Parish Councillor

At the OAP Community Centre, Victoria Crescent On:

**Thursday 18th April  
Between 6 & 7pm**

Make a note in your diary and we will see you there.

# OAP Community Centre Activities

Victoria Crescent- Bookings ☎ Pam Cope 01773 606454

**Mon: Coffee Morning & Bingo**

**11am - 12pm**



**Tues: Money Bingo 7.30pm - 9pm**

**Friday - Prize Bingo 7.30p.m. - 9.00pm**

**Do come along and join in with these community events**



Ideas and local information, news or events please e-mail:

Andy: [acadman175@yahoo.com](mailto:acadman175@yahoo.com)

*This Newsletter has been supported by the D.C.C. Community Leadership Scheme*

via Councillor Philip Rose

*The next issue is September - Deadline August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024*

*The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Newsletter Editorial Team.*

*We also make it clear that we reserve the right to refuse or edit items that are sent in.*

