

Clay Cross update

Spring 2018

Clay Cross Parish Council News



Clay Cross in Bloom *see page 3*

Opencasting Victory *see page 15*

Welcome to Update

There are many successes and examples of good community spirit to report in this issue of Update, but first I wish to comment on the on-going problems caused by bad parking on Eyre Street, where there was a terrible accident in December. Our thoughts and sympathies are with the family and friends of the victim.

As is reported on other pages, the Parish Council are trying to get better lighting on Eyre Street and better enforcement of the parking restrictions, and I want to join in urging motorists to use the free car park and not park on the double yellow lines.

One option I would look at is a new access into Market Street from the Tesco side which might reduce traffic down Eyre Street and provide a new route for buses.

On a happier note, it is good to see the success of the new Aldi store, despite a few problems at their car park entrance, and I for one as a McDonald's fan will be delighted to see them open a new fast food restaurant near the Six Halts pub later this year, providing much needed jobs, particularly for younger people.

A children's pantomime held at the Social Centre was a sell out at £2 a ticket, and it will be repeated. The Social Centre is now used for a wider variety of functions, including weddings, with the result that bar profits have increased.

It was good to see a packed church for the annual Service of Remembrance, with many others waiting outside.



Councillor Gerry Morley

I was delighted to see that the Social Centre has had its annual Food Hygiene Inspection carried out by an Officer of the District Council, and the 5* rating has been renewed, and wish to pay tribute to the hard work of the Social Centre cleaners, bar staff and the luncheon club volunteers for retaining this licence.

May I acknowledge the diligence, willingness and hard work of Michelle Cowin, the assistant to the clerk who has had to resign for health reasons, and welcome the new administration assistant Carys Turner-Jones, who started work on February 26.

Finally, it was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Arthur Jackson, a member of the Parish Council for eight years, who will be sadly missed by his wife Marion, family and friends.

Councillor Gerry Morley.
Chair, Clay Cross Parish Council.

Clay Cross in Bloom

Clay Cross has won the Best Floral Entrance Award in the East Midlands in Bloom competition, a remarkable achievement for the town in the face of competition from across the region.

Irene Bates, secretary of the East Midlands in Bloom committee, said: "Clay Cross was nominated for this special East Midlands in Bloom Discretionary award through a tabletop judging with the EMiB Judges. It is an amazing achievement for Clay Cross and I am very pleased that this well deserving former pit town has won this award without even entering East Midlands in Bloom!

"The floral displays have been consistently good through all seasons and over many years, and it relates to the bedding on both sides of the High Street (A61) and around the winding wheel. The cheery uplifting displays have uplifted many a motorist (and our judges) whenever they pass through and are well worthy of this award."

The town won the award in competition with 17 other entrants nominated by judges across the six counties that make up the East Midlands region.



Front page photo and above: Clay Cross Parish Council Clerk Dawn Kershaw receives the award from Irene Bates of the East Midlands Best In Bloom Awards, with Jeff Bates, Steve Clark and Alison Griffiths looking on.



Clay Cross Parish Council Chairman Gerry Morley said: "We were surprised and delighted to win the award as we hadn't even entered. It's a great boost for the town. Much of the credit must go to the work force."

The flower beds and arrangements that brighten up the southern entrance to the town on both sides of the road are created by North East Derbyshire District Council staff and they were represented at the presentation.

Steve Clark, gardener/groundsman for North East Derbyshire District Council Street Scene, which is contracted to create and maintain the flower beds for the Parish Council, said: "We actually get quite a lot of compliments while we are working on the flower beds from members of the public. It takes about a day and a half to do each bed, and when we have finished I sometimes stand back and take a photo because a lot of pride goes into it."

Alison Griffiths, Street Scene coordinator for North East Derbyshire District Council, said: "I was pleasantly surprised because you don't get a lot of feed back from the work we do."

Improving Kenning Park

Improvements are underway at Kenning Park, Clay Cross, thanks to the hard work of the Kenning Park Community Group working with the Parish Council to implement changes requested by residents during a public consultation process.

A new 500 metre jogging track has been created and left to settle, and four fitness structures with safety flooring installed, with more landscaping work to take place.

More picnic benches will be provided, including one from the Rotary Club of Clay Cross, and a bench seat has been funded by the local Inner Wheel.

The £70,000 first phase of improvements has also included new play equipment for younger children. The next phase will provide new play equipment for older children, and fencing around both play areas. »



Ready for use when the good weather comes.



*In brief**Pet check on tour*

The PDSA will be visiting Kenning Park, Clay Cross, on Wednesday 25th of April from 9pm to 4pm, to help residents with care of their dogs. The event is about engagement with the local dog community promoting responsible dog ownership by linking with the PDSA and offering free health checks, free micro chipping, free nail clipping and ear cleaning, giving out poop bags and general advice on pets. The event is not about raising money for the PDSA.

› The Probus Club of Clay Cross have also donated a sum of £500 to the ongoing project. It was presented to the Kenning Park Community Group on 2 January 2018 at the North East Derbyshire Snooker Centre.

One item of play equipment which is certain to be popular is a large wooden train, and the Community Group have decided to ask children to take part in a competition to name it. More details will appear on the Community Groups Facebook page.

More tree planting will take place later in the year, with volunteer helpers welcome.



The Missing Coat of Arms



Volunteers have cleared ivy and other vegetation that concealed the gate posts at the ornamental entrance to Kenning Park, adjacent to the Library, which date back to the opening of the park in 1931.

One part of the arch above the gates appears to be missing, possibly a coat of arms, and the Parish Council would like to hear from anyone who might know what it looked like, or perhaps even has a photo of it.

NB: Motor dealer Sir George Kenning gave Kenning Park to his home town as a public recreation ground in memory of his parents in 1931.

Clay Cross Parish Council

Donations to Parish/Local Organisations 2017/18

Every year Clay Cross Parish Council gives donations to Parish/local organisations who meet our criteria. For further details contact Dawn Kershaw, Clerk of the Council on Chesterfield 862812 or email: clerk@claycross.gov.uk. In 2017/2018, the following Parish/local organisations received a donation:

NEDDC Chairs Appeal.....	300.00
(Derbyshire Domestic Violence & Sexual Abuse Service and Sheffield Hospitals Charity: The Spinal Cord Injury Centre)	
Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centres	250.00
Derbyshire Law Centre	200.00
Sharley Park Bowling Club	200.00
East Midlands Ju-Jitsu Association	200.00
Clay Cross Town Football Club.....	150.00
Clay Cross Cricket Club	150.00
Smithybrook View Residents Association	100.00
Holmgate Darby & Joan Club.....	100.00
Danesmoor Darby & Joan Club	100.00
Clay Cross Angling Association	100.00
Lower Clay Lane Neighbourhood Watch	100.00
Holmgate Monday Night Drop-In	100.00
Holmgate Tenant & Resident Group	100.00
Holmgate Community Association	100.00
Autumn Days Keep Fit Club	100.00
Danesmoor Breathe Easy Group	100.00
Clay Cross Table Tennis Club.....	100.00
Egston Crown Green Bowling Club	100.00
The Hub @ Gladstone Buildings	100.00
Blue Dykes Surgery Patients Participation Group	50.00
St Barnabas Pre-School	50.00
Clay Cross Mental Health Carers Support Group.....	50.00
Sunflowers Nursery (Holmgate)	50.00



The voluntary organisations that received donations from the Parish Council.

Pine View

Work has started to regenerate bungalows at Pine View, Danesmoor, following discussions between Clay Cross Parish Council, Rykneld Homes and residents and Labour councillors.

It followed a meeting two years ago at the St Barnabas Centre in Danesmoor regarding the condition of bungalows, the number of unlet properties and whether there was a plan to move forward.

Residents attended a packet meeting resulting in a decision to investigate possible options as soon as finance was available, and a viable method of underpinning the void bungalows was available.

On November 20 a meeting was arranged with over 20 residents, providing the opportunity to view the plans to regenerate the bungalows including the demolition of the worst affected bungalows, construction of five new dwellings,



Meeting the residents, from left, Councillor Ted Mansbridge, a resident, Councillor Kathy Rowse and Councillor Brian Wright.

window replacements, external security lighting, void refurbishments, additional parking areas and installation of security fencing.

Caring for the Carers

A Clay Cross woman has spoken of the need to support the carers of family members or friends with mental health issues, and of the isolation such carers often feel.

The former carer thanked shoppers who supported the Clay Cross Mental Health Carers Support Group in the Tesco Bags of Help competition, which provide thousands of pounds for good causes in the community.

Shoppers were asked to place tokens in the one of three containers that carry the names of the competing entries, and the Carers Support Group won. Top award is £4,000.

The former carer said: "Extra funding means we can support more people, so in winning the Tesco Bags of Help it allow us to expand our membership, providing much needed support, organising more days out and evening events.

"Carers always seem to get left out of the equation, when health and social care deal with someone with mental health issues. I know this is true, as my son was paranoid and psychotic and I had to become his carer without advice or help. He was suffering from the age of 14 and was not diagnosed for almost 8 years after numerous suicide attempts. I was only invited once each year to sit in on a session with the consultant and his support worker and specialist nurse.

"It is a very lonely place to be, when you don't understand what your child is going through and you find it hard to cope."

She said the group had been lucky with funding this year from Clay Cross Parish Council, Rykneld



Homes Ltd and Derbyshire Voluntary Action (formerly North Derbyshire Voluntary Action), so they could welcome carers in Clay Cross and district.

The person being cared for must be an adult, ie 18 or over.

The group meet from 11am-1.30pm the first Wednesday of each month at Clay Cross Social Centre and invite speakers to provide help and advice. There are arts and craft activities for anyone who want to join in. Refreshments and a buffet are also provided. The committee has arranged evening events to raise money and each month run a raffle. Several trips will be run in 2018.

Community Beds Concern

Labour's new Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for North East Derbyshire has pledged to fight any plans to cut beds at Clay Cross Community Hospital.

Chris Peace, who said she will be working hard to win back the seat for Labour at the next General Election, was commenting on the closure of essential services in Clay Cross since the Tories came to power, including the job centre and banks.

She said: "For some time there has been a move afoot to cut the community beds at our local hospital. Whilst no decision has been made yet, I have listened to local residents and local Councillors and what is clear is that the potential loss of the 16 community beds is of great concern.

"Going into hospital is something we all worry about and having a prolonged stay in one a long way from home is an added stress for both patients and their loved ones. The community bed ward at Clay Cross is staffed by a dedicated team of healthcare workers and provides a comforting environment near to home for local people who cannot be supported safely in their own home. People who are too poorly to stay at home or are discharged from hospital but are not well enough to stay at home have been comforted by the fact that a bed is available in their community



Chris Peace.

on their doorstep. If these beds are cut, then not only will there be fewer of them but they will be based at Chesterfield Royal Hospital meaning much longer distances for relatives to visit," she said.

Chris added: "Your local Labour Councillors have made their views known. Local support groups and some staff have made their views known. Most importantly people whom live in the local area also want to keep these beds. I assure you, as your Labour Candidate, I will do all I can to support your wishes in saving these beds at Clay Cross."

Chris is happy to hear your views on this or any other issue. She can be contacted on 07980650534 or chris@chrispeace.org.uk.

The Wednesday Club

New members would be welcome at The Wednesday Club. The club meets at Holmgate Community Centre from 2pm for two hours on alternate Wednesdays.

Activities include a quiz, a raffle, a tote, bingo, eating home made cakes with tea or coffee, and indoor curling – although not necessarily in that order!

A spokesperson said: "Anyone can join us, we try

to provide a social setting that has something of interest for everyone. Many of our members live alone and this provides a break from normal activities in a social setting."

The group aims to reduce isolation, provide a fun filled afternoon, provide a variety of activities and be all-inclusive, there are no barriers as to who may attend. Minimum cost is £1.

Clay Cross Social Centre

Clay Cross Social Centre is the ideal venue for birthday parties, engagement parties, wedding receptions, anniversaries, community events, public meetings and much more.

Clay Cross Social Centre has one of the finest dance floors in the area. It is spacious and comfortable, with a furnished lounge area adjacent to the bar and a fully equipped kitchen. In good weather there is an outdoor seating area and during the evening and weekends a large car park.

You can hire the main hall from just £10 per hour including the bar, which is managed by Clay Cross Parish Council and offers fantastic prices.

WE HAVE A GOOD SELECTION OF 2018 DATES STILL AVAILABLE AND WE ARE NOW TAKING BOOKINGS FOR 2019: BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!!

For further information contact the Parish Council on (01246) 862812 or 01246 861406.

The Social Centre has had its annual Food Hygiene Inspection carried out by an Officer of the District Council, and the 5* rating has been renewed.



Find us on
Facebook

Clay Cross Social Centre now has a Facebook page so please visit us soon!

FOOD HYGIENE RATING



Forthcoming Events at Clay Cross Social Centre

CLAY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL PRESENT ...BY POPULAR DEMAND

'THE PREFABS' ON SATURDAY 19 MAY 2018

- DOORS & BAR OPEN FROM 7PM • ENTERTAINMENT FROM 8PM
- TICKETS £4 EACH INCLUDING HOT FOOD SUPPER
- ALL RAFFLE PROCEEDS IN AID OF CLAY CROSS MENTAL HEALTH CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CLAY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL
AND CLAY CROSS PROBUS CLUB

CHARITY RACE NIGHT ON SATURDAY 21 JULY 2018

- RACE NIGHT/ENTERTAINMENT FROM 8PM
- TICKETS £4 EACH INCLUDING PIE & PEA SUPPER
- ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY UK AND PROSTATE CANCER UK

TICKETS ON SALE NOW FROM...

CLAY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, CLAY CROSS SOCIAL
CENTRE, MARKET STREET,
CLAY CROSS S45 9JE

TEL: 01246 862812 OR 01246 861406

Holmgate Primary School and Nursery

Successful Ofsted

Holmgate Primary School has continued to build on its success of the previous years, with a successful recent Ofsted inspection and a growing roll. The school has fantastic grounds where we undertake a wide range of sporting activities as well as Forest School classes.

We have continued to make changes to the curriculum, introducing new teaching initiatives such as Mastery Maths following our participation in a national pilot, Rainbow Grammar and Read Write Inc phonics.

We've continued our programme of drama performances, with KS1 and EYFS performing brilliantly in their Christmas shows, Y3 & Y4 soon starting rehearsals for their Easter performance and the Year 6 leavers to come in the summer. Recent performances by the Drama Club have included 'Will Santa Get Shot Down,' 'Pandora's Box', and 'Macbeth' is already in production.

Holmgate Rocks Young Voices

Around 30 children from Holmgate Primary School attended the Young Voices Concert at the FlyDSA Arena in Sheffield, performing alongside stars of dance and music. The concert was the culmination of months of rehearsals leading up to the children singing with over 5,000 children from schools all across the North of England.

Highlights included accompanying internet sensation singer Alfie Sheard and critically acclaimed soul singer Natalie Williams as well as grooving along together with dance troupe Urban Strides.

Online Safety Is Big Priority

The school has invested in ensuring a high quality learning environment. All classrooms have an interactive whiteboard and a bank of computers and iPads for pupils. The library is well stocked with new publications both fiction and non-fiction. We use online learning resources, including a learning platform, Purple Mash and an online Maths programme.

The computer and the internet are such fantastic tools, but it's vital that children know what risks exist when going online. Holmgate pupils participated in National Online Safety Day as part of the school's work to help children use technology safely. Children learned the importance of keeping personal information safe, to be very careful with who they communicated with online and to make sure they had a trusted adult who they could talk to about any concerns.

Pharaoh Mummified in Holmgate Hall

A fabulous treat was in store for Year 3 when 'Portals for the Past' came in to school for our Egyptian Big Bang Day. A huge effort had been made before the day had even started, with many of the children arriving in fantastic Egyptian costumes. Dr Dave brought an array of artefacts including a huge sarcophagus, he then carried out a mummification in the afternoon, disembowelling the 'Pharaoh' before removing all his organs.

The children were fascinated by the tools and weapons that Dr Dave had brought with him and the truly expert knowledge he imparted! A favourite fact was that Ancient Egyptian doctors believed your brain's main function was to produce bogeys while the heart did all the thinking work!

Did you know...

Clay Cross Parish Council gives a sum of £5.25 for each of 648 children at Sharley Park and Holmgate schools towards Christmas activities, and £2.25 for each child for a drink or a healthy nutritious snack.

Sharley Primary School

Maths is fun

The children at Sharley Park enjoy maths and continue to work hard in their maths lessons.

A summary of a poll of the children's views (November 2017) found that all children surveyed enjoyed maths and that it was fun. Teachers explain ideas well resulting in confident children. The pupils felt they were able to have a go and to complete the challenging activities, and knew where to find resources if necessary.

A summary of a poll of the teacher's views (November 2017) highlighted that of the returned forms, teachers were happy and confident to teach maths. Teachers are able to explain the concepts and can use resources and manipulatives to support. iPads are even featuring in lessons now – much to the delight of the children! Teachers felt they had support in either colleagues or resources when needed.

In January, a team of year 6 students proved their capabilities in an inter-school competition. A team of 4 pupils were taken to Brockley School to compete against other schools from the cluster. The team were strong and resourceful and had to answer a range of questions. It was an enjoyable experience, even though they didn't come first! In February, it will be the year 4s turn to show their expertise!

Sharley Park Community Primary School Council

The last year has been one of the most successful years of the school council so far. The school council consisted of a very strong group of children lead by a particularly sensible and confident group of Year 6 councillors who were able to demonstrate strong leadership skills. The school council were able to raise over £1000 pounds with a variety of ventures e.g- stalls at the Christmas Fayre, Film Nights, Fund raising events, cake bake sales and Easter



Pupils enjoy outdoor play.

hamper to name just a few. The children have been instrumental in the expenditure of the money raised so far purchasing hot choc with head equipment, two large colourful rugs for school, baseball caps for Playground buddies, badges for the School Council to wear and play equipment for both key stages.

The School Council's have met regularly each week with the Co Headteacher. The children were also vital in their role in shaping the schools future and

Continued...

Sharley Primary School... Continued

having a say in the school vision. For the first time the school council were asked to add ideas to the SIP plan. The children were invited to take part in interviewing all the candidates this year for the vacancies that we had in school. The Year 6 School Councillors also supported the Headteacher when showing visitors around school, which received positive feedback from the visitors.

School visitors

At Sharley Park Community Primary School we are always looking for exciting ways to kick-start our imaginative learning projects and enhance the children's learning experiences through the use of visitors. And this year has been no exception....

Our Reception Class have enjoyed visits from local firefighters, farmers, a hot air balloon pilot, a Space dome, a white hedgehog and its owner, Mrs Cousins' daughter, a host of authors and of course more importantly a special visit from Father Christmas himself; who came to see us in our very own school grotto that had magically appeared during the festive period.



Parent Michelle Finch takes a reading session with children.



Pupils have regular opportunities to meet the pets.

Cornerstones scheme

We purchased the Cornerstones scheme this year. The KS1 children now do topics such as 'Mess, Muck and Mixtures' 'Beachcombers' 'Superheroes' and 'Enchanted Woodland'. Each topic starts with a 'memorable moment' which may be a trip to Mablethorpe, a dressing up day, or a huge experiment. The memorable moments have really helped the children to engage with the topic and they have enthusiastically completed homework projects and brought them into school to share with everyone. The Year 1s brought in some fabulous woodland scenes in boxes and buckets we even had a carved dragon.

We were also fortunate to get a community grant from the national lottery to build an outdoor classroom; the huge gazebo is used for lessons and the children enjoy sitting and chatting in their at break times. Each KS1 class now has a designated area outside the classroom for them to take their learning outside, these areas will continue to be developed over the next year.

Opencasting Victory

Campaigners are celebrating victory in their fight to stop opencasting taking place on farmland alongside the A61 between Clay Cross and Tupton.

A Government Inspector has turned down an appeal by Provectus Remediation Ltd against Derbyshire County Council's failure to give notice within the prescribed period of a decision on an application for planning permission.

The Hilltop Farm Opencast public inquiry had heard from residents and local councils that they were strongly opposed to the plan to opencast 175,000 tonnes of coal from land next to the A61 between Clay Cross and Tupton.

Clay Cross Parish Councillor Ted Mansbridge, who gave evidence against the proposal at the inquiry, said: "This is a great victory for the Hilltop Group who campaigned throughout this long, long planning application. Also to the Parish Council, North East Derbyshire District Council and the Kenning Park Community Group."

A spokesman for the Hilltop Farm Action Group said: "Today's decision is a victory for local residents who have fought long and hard to stop this scheme which would have had a devastating affect on the lives of thousands who live within a few hundred metres of the site.

"So far there has been no statement from Provectus Remediation Ltd. We understand that the only way they can challenge the decision is through the High Court."

Cllr Mansbridge had told the inquiry that the proposal would "seriously hamper the regeneration of Clay Cross."

He went on: "We had years of coal industry and heavy engineering and now with the closure of these industries we are looking forward to homes and jobs in a cleaner environment."

The Government Inspector K.A. Ellison concluded: "I consider that the proposal would cause substantial visual harm, particularly in relation to the residential areas to the north, west and south. In addition, the surrounding area would be affected quite extensively by high levels of noise."

She agreed that opencasting on the site would be to the detriment of potential house buyers and businesses moving into the area.

"To my mind, it is entirely plausible that such effects might lead prospective house buyers to either defer their purchase or seek to buy elsewhere. Irrespective of the intangibles of market sentiment or perception therefore, I would expect there to be a small negative effect associated with the appeal scheme, at least for the period it is in operation," she said.

Although she agreed with the appellants that "there would be some sustainability benefit as a result of the reduction in distance travelled, if the coal obtained at Clay Cross was to displace imported coal," but added: "I consider that, even taking into account these national benefits, the sum total of benefits associated with the proposal would not be sufficient to clearly outweigh the likely impacts. Thus, the benefits are not sufficient to justify the grant of planning permission."

Parking on Eyre Street

Clay Cross Parish Councillors arranged a meeting with representatives of the county Green Jacket traffic warden force to discuss long-term parking problems on Eyre Street – but they never turned up.

The Parish Council want the Green Jackets to make a more determined effort to stop cars parking on double yellow lines in Eyre Street, which causes difficulties for other vehicles and is a danger to pedestrians trying to cross the road. A 62 year old woman died in collision with a bus on Eyre Street in December.

District and Parish Councillor Tracy Reader said the County Council were reluctant to meet to discuss the problems because of an on-going investigation into the fatal accident – “but we have been asking for action for at least two years. I think it’s just an excuse not to do anything. Until they agree to meet us we are at a standstill, but we just have to keep plugging away,” she said.

Eyre Street is on a bus route and has a bus stop, but the width of the road means that buses and heavy vehicles have difficulty manoeuvring when vehicles are parked there.

Parish councillor Ted Mansbridge said the council understood that shopkeepers needed to load and unload for a limited period of time – “you have to have a bit of leeway with this.”

But, he added, “there is a free car park just yards away, but people park on the double yellow lines to pop into a shop or pick up a kebab; sometimes they double park.”



Parking problems on Eyre Street.

Councillor Reader took a photo of two police cars parked on double yellow lines whilst officers were apparently picking up a kebab, and the police have since apologised.

One local resident voiced her concerns to the council, particularly over the problems with turning into Eyre Street at the High Street junction, stating: “There are people parking on these yellow lines, in some cases double parking. How are pedestrians crossing the road meant to do so in safety while there are cars parked along the road blocking their view?”

Councillor Reader said the Green Jackets “need to be in the area more often and not finish at 5pm because that’s when it gets busy.” >

- › And she added: “The issues at night when the takeaway shops are open are just terrible.”

The Parish Council want discussions with Derbyshire County Council and North East Derbyshire District Council about the parking issue, improved lighting, and the possibility of removing the bus stop and re-routing the buses.



Christmas Celebration

Clay Cross Social Centre was packed for the annual Christmas Celebration, which included a market and an art exhibition at Smithybrook View. The choir was made up of children from Sharley Park Community Primary School accompanied by Ashover Brass Band.

Guide Dogs Chesterfield raised £195.04 on their stall with Wayne and Cindy Oldham raising a total of £244.25 for the Donkey Sanctuary. An amazing amount for the both charities in just a couple of hours!

Ellie May Hartsorn, the Clay Cross Gala Queen, opened the Celebration, and Santa was a popular visitor, hosted by the Rotary Club of Clay Cross. Every child that visited Santa received a free gift, which were provided by Clay Cross Parish Council.

The event was organised by a partnership of Clay Cross Parish Council, the Town Centre Group and Tesco, Clay Cross.



Out and About

Over 40 elderly people enjoy lunch and bingo at the Clay Cross Social Centre every Tuesday, thanks to the hard work of volunteers and the support of the Parish Council.

"I think it's very important because it gets people out and the meals are very, very good," said 96 year old Agnes Walker, who helped in the kitchen for 17 years and now sells raffle tickets, as well as enjoying the meals.

Agnes has been a member of the Luncheon Club every since her husband Charles died 32 years ago. She moved to the area from Hertfordshire in 1947 - "so I think you can call me Derbyshire."

Parish councillor Mick Holmes said there was always room for more members - "sometimes



Another enjoyable lunch.



Agnes Walker

we have 48 or 50 people here. They get a meal, pudding, bingo and tea or coffee for £3, which must be good value,"

Members are also treated to occasional outings, such as the visit to the famous Chorley market last year, with lunch at the Olympus fish and chip restaurant in Bolton.

"We try and do different things for them, and we are hoping to arrange a day trip out this summer," he added.

A big favourite is the annual Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, including crackers - "they send us crackers," joked Agnes.

Another long standing member Annie Green now enjoys being catered for herself after retiring from the kitchen last year. She had helped to prepare the meals for over 30 years. "They better not close it now, I'm really enjoying it" said Annie, 87.

The Heritage Gala

Local charity Junction Arts has been working in partnership with Clay Cross Parish Council on a funding bid, with an aim to bring you another Heritage Gala this year. After the success of last year's inaugural Heritage Gala, delivered by First Art, a Junction Arts Project, everyone was keen to bring you another enjoyable family event.

This year's theme will be focusing on the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, celebrating the role of service men and families from the Clay Cross area, alongside attractions, stalls, food and community projects.

A provisional date for the Heritage gala is Sunday

5th August at Kenning Park, and the organisers are hoping that a funding bid will be successful.

A spokesperson said: "At present we are looking at a series of community projects collecting memories and stories from the residents of Clay Cross and hopefully engaging a writer or poet to pull all the memories together.

The organisers are working with the two local schools in a poetry-based poppy project to show at the Gala, taking inspiration from the Chesterfield artist Paul Cummins and his Blood Swept Lands installation at the Tower of London.

"Once we hopefully get the green light from the funders we should be able to get all these and more underway."

Three Generations Create Winning Ice Cream!

We have been making ice cream for 3 generations and have been based in Clay Cross for 55 years.

The present proprietors are Domenico and Louise Manfredi who run the company with their daughters: Tina, Janet and Lorraine.

We go out to many sites in Derbyshire to sell ice cream to the public and supply many shops and businesses with our quality ice cream.

The secret recipe of our ice cream is to use only the best quality ingredients. We are based in the heart of Derbyshire, Clay Cross.

2016 CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS AWARD

We are proud to say we won the champions of champions award early in March by the Ice Cream Alliance, meaning we have the best in the United Kingdom



www.smithscreamlandices.co.uk

tel: 01246 863766

email: tinamanfredi@fsmail.net

Regeneration Under Way

The regeneration of Clay Cross took a step forward with the first homes being completed on the St Modwen site, and the announcement that McDonald's, the fast food chain, will open a restaurant near the Six Halts pub soon.

The opening of the Aldi supermarket last Autumn has been welcomed as it provides another shopping alternative for the community. St Modwen estimate that between 40 and 60 houses will be built each year.

Gregg Titley, development director at St. Modwen, said: "The Clay Cross development, known as Egstow Park, is taking shape, with the first phase of residential building underway. We've also received planning permission for a McDonald's on the site.

"An outline application has been submitted to the North East Derbyshire District Council for 825 homes, eight hectares of commercial space, public open space and a footpath link through the site to Tupton Hall School. We are currently waiting for a decision on this."

Artist Melanie Jackson has created the sculpture positioned outside Aldi, she said: "Commissioned by Aldi, my brief was to come up with a bespoke artwork for Clay Cross. I chose to produce concepts for a sculptural marker which would welcome you into Clay Cross given the feature's location, on a main artery into the town.

"My main inspiration for the artwork was the town's rich industrial heritage with its tunnels and railway lines beneath.

"Standing approximately 4 metres tall and 0.8 meters wide, the feature is evocative of polished,



meandering railway tracks. As well as reflecting the town's past, the feature's uplifting form reaching skywards, is also meant to reflect the town's continuing progression and onward journey into the future."

The artwork is entitled 'Progress'.



Kurling Tournament

On Thursday 30th November seven kurling groups from across North East Derbyshire came together at the Clay Cross Social Centre to play in a friendly tournament hosted by North East Derbyshire Generation Games and Rykneld Homes.

It was a cold and early start to the day but everyone was soon warming up with a coffee and chatting to the other teams ready for the competition ahead.

The teams were from Clay Cross, Eckington, Grassmoor, Holmewood, Holmgate, Killamarsh and Morton. All teams run their own regular Kurling groups and this is a great way for them to socialise with other teams and to get some competitive experience!

The morning saw some big wins for some teams and some very close games for others, but overall everyone had a great time. The ethos of the tournament was to create a competition which offers everyone the chance to socialise, get physically active and have fun. The majority of participants are aged 50+ and Kurling gives them a great outlet to get active in their local community.



Winners Killamarsh Kurlers.



A tense moment in competition.

The overall result saw Killamarsh Kurlers take first place by winning every match with Holmgate (The Wednesday Club) as the runners up. It is hoped to make it a regular occurrence.

All of the games were refereed by Jason Sadler and Jude Milburn from The Community Involvement Team at Rykneld Homes and very kindly two local volunteers Phillip and Barbara Arrandale from The Grassland Hasmoor Big Local Scheme helped with refreshments.

A spokesperson said: "Without these key people the tournament would not have been so successful, so I'd like to send them a huge thank you on behalf of myself and the Teams! Also thank you to Clay Cross Parish Council for hosting us at Clay Cross Social Centre and Handy's Catering for providing us with a wonderful buffet. "

If you would like to find out how to get involved with your local Kurling group in North East Derbyshire please contact Debbie Saint on 01246 217477.

Your Clay Cross Parish Councillors



**Councillor
Gerry Morley**

140 Market Street,
Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9LY

Telephone: 01246 861717

Mobile: 07484 078596

E-mail: clr.morley@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk



**Councillor
Derrick Skinner**

16 Stoneholes Drive,
Danesmoor,
Chesterfield S45 9SY

Mobile: 07949 166774

E-mail: deskinner303@yahoo.com



**Councillor
Brian Wright**

12 Carlton Close,
Danesmoor,
Chesterfield S45 9RP

Telephone: 01246 866856

E-mail: clr.wright@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk



**Councillor
Ted Mansbridge**

8 Nightingale Close,
Danesmoor,
Chesterfield S45 9SE

Telephone: 01246 860266

Mobile: 07703 184166

E-mail: clr.mansbridge@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk



**Councillor
Mick Holmes**

39 Florence Road,
Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9ND

Mobile: 07970 582985



**Councillor
Frank Rodgers**

2 Dunshill Walk,
Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9LP

Telephone: 07938 950710



**Councillor
Pete Wainwright**

60 Rye Crescent,
Danesmoor,
Chesterfield S45 9HH

Mobile: 07501 765818



**Councillor
Kathy Rouse**

North East Derbyshire
District Council,
c/o 2013 Mill Lane,
Wingerworth,
Derbyshire S42 7NG

Telephone: 01246 231111



**Councillor
Garry Skinner**

9 Woodthorpe Avenue,
Holmgate, Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9QU

Mobile: 07999 413931



**Councillor
Tracy Reader**

15 Chavery Road,
Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9LN

Telephone: 01246 864102

**E-mail: [dlr.reader@
ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:dlr.reader@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk)**



**Councillor
Andy Reader**

15 Chavery Road,
Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9LN

Telephone: 01246 864102

North East Derbyshire District Council Councillors representing Clay Cross:



Councillor Brian Wright
12 Carlton Close,
Danesmoor S45 9RP
Tel: 01246 866856.



Councillor Gerry Morley
140 Market Street,
Clay Cross, S45 9LY
Mobile: 07484 078596.



Councillor Tracy Reader
15 Chavery Road, Clay Cross
S45 9LN Tel: 01246 864102.



Councillor Ted Mansbridge
8 Nightingale Close,
Danesmoor, S45 9SE
Mobile: 07703 184166.



Councillor Kathy Rouse
North East Derbyshire District Council,
c/o 2013 Mill Lane, Wingerworth S42 7NG
Tel: 01246 231111.

Derbyshire County Council councillors representing Clay Cross:



Councillor Kevin Gillott,
Member for Clay Cross South
11 Elton Close, North Wingfield S42 5HQ
Tel: 07786 702230.



Councillor Brian Wright,
Member for Clay Cross North
12 Carlton Close, Danesmoor S45 9RP
Tel: 01246 866856.

Member of Parliament for North East Derbyshire:

Lee Rowley

Eckington Business Centre, 62 Market Street, Eckington
Tel: 01246 439222 Email: lee.rowley.mp@parliament.uk

Clay Cross
update