

LITTLE CHESTER RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Flood Defence

Work has started in preparation for the construction of improved flood defences for Derby in order to protect 2000 properties (many of which are in Chester Green) and infrastructure in the City.

A brief conversation (18/1/16) with two OCOR (Our City Our River) officers working in Chester Green prompted a verbal apology for the late delivery of the communication to inform residents of the commencement of tree and vegetation removal along the line where new flood walls are to be constructed. The officers confirmed that the trees adjacent to the current flood wall on the City Rd edge of Parkers Piece were soon to be removed to permit construction of a deep set (to prevent underground seepage) brick faced wall, topped with glass panels. The plan is for smaller street trees to eventually be replanted on a widened pavement on City Rd.

Darley Neighbourhood Board Speed Calming Consultation

Following the implementation of the 20mph speed limit in the Old Chester Rd/City Rd area, a speed survey showed that on average, 80% of drivers were speeding and *more than 300 drivers each day* were speeding in excess of 30 mph.

Given these results and lobbying by the LCRA representative, the Darley

Neighbourhood Board agreed to consult again with affected residents on whether they would support the introduction of a speed hump scheme on City Rd & Old Chester Rd.

Providing there is a 10 % response rate of those consulted, a majority vote of respondents will stand this time. Due to the forthcoming construction of flood defences, speed humps if supported, would not be implemented until the main construction work has been completed. This will reduce the potential for excessive noise of heavy construction vehicles over the humps and prevent the humps from being damaged. The current reduction in traffic volumes is due to the temporary closure of the City Rd car park which will be reopening in the future.

Andrew Meehan (LCRA representative on Darley Neighbourhood Board)

Thank you

Thank Kevin and Linda for their lovely display of Christmas lights on Old Chester Road and to Bob for the lights around the tree in Marcus Street, they really looked lovely.

To contact the Little Chester Residents' Association see website at www.littlechester.org.uk or ring Andrew Meehan 01332 298079

To submit an item for the News Letter, send it to lcnewsletter@btinternet.com.

CHESTER GREEN METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 7th February – 11am Service with separate activity for children during part of the service which may involve pancakes ...!

Sunday 28th February – Messy Church 10.30 Breakfast 11.00 Informal Café style service In the hall. We will be thinking about Mums and making treats for Mothers' Day for the week after. For all ages – relaxed, informal, fun, thought provoking.

Chester Green Chums Parent and Baby/Toddler Group 10-12 in the hall Mondays – new children and their mums/dads/grannies/grandpa's always made welcome! NO meeting Monday 15th Feb (half term).

Little Chester News Letter February 2016

LPP and Pocket Panto are proud to present their own, their very own . . .

Victorian Old Time Music Hall

A fun show for all ages 5 to 105!

With singalongs and visit from the Pearly Kings and Queens of old London Town.

Come as you are or dress up in Victorian costume or hat – Prize for the best one!

Sunday 28th February 2016 - 4pm (doors open 3.30pm)

Chester Green Community Centre

Tickets £6 Adult and £4 under 16's

Tickets on the door or to pre book call or text: Becky on 07932 941 576

Becky, Darren and Jeremy, the team that bring Pocket Panto to the Community Centre every year, are returning with a new show. Becky runs her own professional theatre company Little Pixie Productions. Due to circumstances beyond her control involving an irresponsible landlord at her storage facility, a large amount of her props, costumes and equipment have been taken away and destroyed.

Becky and the boys will be performing the show to raise some much needed funds to help with the long process in starting to replace the last seven years of her business.

Treemageddon in Chester Green?

I'm sure we've all been suffering from shock and sadness about the loss of so many trees in the area to make way for the flood defenses. I wonder if anyone would like to send us a short poem or piece of prose that expresses their feelings or commemorates the passing of so many trees and the change in the character of Chester Green that it's brought about. If so please do send through to: lcnewsletter@btinternet.com

Floods, Climate Change and the Cuts

Leading climate scientist, Ed Sears, will be discussing what's happening to our weather and what we're doing about it. This will be of particular interest to residents concerned about the flood defense arrangements that are being put in place in Chester Green and how long they're taking. Is it time for a rethink? All welcome. The meeting will be on Thursday 11 February at 7.30 in St Pauls Church Hall, Seale St, Chester Green. Organised by Derby Climate Coalition for more info tel 723950

Little Chester History Group

Come and join us for the first meeting of 2016 on Thursday Feb 18th at 7.30pm in Chester Green Community Centre, Old Chester Road, Derby for a talk by Alan Hopkin on the '**History of the Orchestra and its Instruments**', when antique instruments will be on display. Entry non-members £2. Tel. 01332 559615 for further information.

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Kids Disco!

COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

Kids Disco!

Calling all kids - we are having a disco specially for you

Sat 13th Feb 5.45 - 9.00pm

Community Centre, Darley Fields

You will have a really fun night of music and dancing with the help of Bruce and also Jodie from the Scraggle Muffins. The good news is it only costs £1.50 PER CHILD to come in and adults go FREE!!

Everyone welcome so bring your friends too; doors open at 5.45 for a 6pm start, finishing around 9pm so not too late. The bar and tuck shop will be open to keep everyone supplied with goodies but you can bring a picnic if you don't want to miss tea! See you there.

Dear Grandma and Grandma,
Thanks for what you got me.
Love Dillon
P.S i forgot what you got me.

Smile

Q: What do squirrels give for Valentine's Day?

A: Forget-me-nuts.

Q: What did the valentine card say to the stamp?

A: Stick with me and we'll go places!

Q: What is a vampire's sweetheart called?

A: His ghoul-friend.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH - CHESTER GREEN

<http://www.stpaulschestergreen.org/>

February	7th	10.00am	Soul Breakfast in the Church Hall
February	14th	10.00am	Contemplative Communion
February	21st	10.00am	Soul Sanctuary
February	28th	10.00am	Holy Communion

St Paul's Pre-School Playgroup - Fabulous "Frozen Disco"

Friday 12 February 5.30-7.30 @ St Pauls Church Hall. All ages welcome. Small charge on door and refreshments available. *All proceeds made to cover costs and support our local families at Pre-School.*

Coach and Horses Prize Draws

Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way to raise nearly £500 in the Christmas Prize Draw, whether it was by donating a prize or by buying squares (or both). The money will be split between the Skegness Children's Holiday Centre and the local branch of the PDSA and we will be presenting the money on the evening of Wednesday, February 24th at the Coach and Horses. All welcome!

Easter Prize Draw

Easter is early this year, so we've had to get our skates on organising the Easter Prize Draw. If you wish to donate a prize for the Draw, please drop it in at the Coach before March 23rd, which is when the Draw will take place. The beneficiary is the Tiny Tim Trust, a charity run by unpaid professionals and volunteers, which provides equipment and resources for children with special needs in Derbyshire. Prize Draw squares will be on sale for £1, so please pop in the Coach and buy some for a very worthwhile charity which we've supported before.

PARKING SCHEME - COMMENT FROM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Closure of Car Parks

The permit parking scheme was intended to reduce disruption to residents during flood construction work. (Flood work has caused the closure of the council's large City Rd car park, and Darley playing field car parks are planned to close too).

No Detailed Discussions

Despite our requests, there has been no detailed discussion with the Residents' Association about the design of the parking scheme. Since implementation we have had no response to suggested amendments to the scheme. In addition, the length of the "temporary" scheme and the process for deciding whether it becomes permanent is not clear.

- *The letter sent to residents states* "For the first two years of operation, permits will be paid for by the council's Our City Our River team" and "As we approach the end of the free period, we will write to residents to ask them if they wish to keep the scheme. If a clear majority do not want to keep the scheme then it will be revoked".
- *However the "Experimental Traffic*

Regulation Order" posted on lamp posts states "The scheme is effective for 18 months; Derby City Council will be considering, in due course, whether the provisions of these orders should be continued in force indefinitely...and that objections to these orders continuing in force indefinitely, should be sent in writing by 3rd July 2016"

Whilst parking permit schemes can be effective in preventing visitors parking during daytime hours (8 am to 6 pm) they rarely improve residents' overnight parking and will be chargeable by the council once the free of charge period ceases.

Comment now

The LCRA strongly recommend that residents who object to the current scheme becoming permanent write to Steven Millington at the Council House or email: traffic.management@derby.gov.uk.

In the meantime, the LCRA will seek to clarify the consultation and decision process and seek to ensure a permit scheme is not made permanent without proper consultation. and proven majority support of residents.

Camp Street Spring Planting

The Christmas tree has been stored away safely for another year. The tree made so many people smile, it really brought out the Christmas spirit. But another year in the front garden starts, and it could well be quite interesting. We have had so many plant donations (more details next month) and all we have to do is plant them out! If you want to help, just get in touch. It'll be fun, and the rewards are great! Mark (01332 295039)

Hedgehog Corner - February

We are lucky to still have a population of hedgehogs in Chester Green. But Hedgehogs are in trouble in the UK and are thought to have declined by 30% in the last 10 years alone. So watch this space for what we can do throughout the year to help them . . .



Most hedgehogs wake up at least once during the winter. They look for food and a new nest site. If your garden is accessible to hedgehogs you can help by ensuring that there is always fresh water available. They need a pile of leaves and/or hay to construct new beds. A nightly scattering of dried mealworms will always attract hungry hedgehogs. If they are not consumed by hedgehogs at night-time they will be a welcome treat for robins and blackbirds the next day.