

LITTLE CHESTER RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Child's Death in Aida Building

Most people will have heard through the media about the tragic death of twelve year old Adam Johnson who fell through the roof of the disused Aida Bliss factory on City Rd on September 8th.

A floral wreath from the local community was laid with the many other tributes.

The former Union Foundry frontage and industrial units to the rear have lain empty for over a decade. The buildings are insecure and unsafe and have become a magnet for anti social behaviour, vandalism and a dangerous 'playground' for children.

The Police and Fire Services have been called out by residents on numerous occasions.

Dangerous Buildings dept contacted

Some months ago, the Residents' Association contacted the Council's Dangerous Buildings dept. which came out and fenced off the corners of the façade to prevent loose masonry from falling on passers by.

We also raised concerns about the building at Councillor briefing meetings conducted by the Flood Defence Team (OCOR) and confirmed those concerns in writing to Councillors and Council officers earlier this year.

Following this, verbal assurances were given to us that the Council would arrange for the building to be secured, prior to them taking legal ownership of the site once a sale had been agreed. These commitments were published in the July Newsletter.

Warnings from the Council

Subsequently the Council decided that they were not prepared to take responsibility for securing the site and wrote to Aida to inform them of this, the dangerous state of the building, that children were accessing the site and that the responsibility lay with Aida.

Warning from Residents' Association

In August, the LCRA wrote to both Aida's President and their Europe Director to highlight concerns about the site and urge the company to approve the sale of the site to the Council. Unfortunately despite the warnings it appears no actions were taken by Aida.

Current Situation

According to media reports, Aida say they are now employing a security contractor to protect the site on a 24/7 basis. A Coroners Inquest has been opened.

Alfreton Road Incinerator Application

Following further submissions by Envirofusion, the Council's Planning Officer has recommended the Waste Incinerator for approval.

A second hearing of the application by the Planning Control Committee was scheduled for the 14th September meeting, but this was also withdrawn at short notice.

To contact Little Chester Residents' Association or submit an article for the News Letter please see our web-site: [http:// www.littlechester.org.uk](http://www.littlechester.org.uk) or telephone Andrew Meehan on 298079

CHESTER GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

! HALLOWEEN DISCO !

Saturday 28th October

Scary Fun and Games!

Best Costume Prizes!



Bar open

Tuck shop

Hot dogs on sale

Come along and join us for a 'spooktacular' Halloween Disco with some scary fun and games at the Centre on Saturday the 28th October. Everyone is welcome so put on your most frightful Halloween costume as there are prizes for the best adult, boy and girl outfit, the more original the better!

There will be a raffle with some good prizes to be won (donations welcome of course). Bruce and Becky will be in charge so you can be sure of having a 'devillishly' good night out!

Doors open at 6.45 for a 7.30 start and admission is only £2 for adult members, £4 for non members, £1 for member children, £2 non members with under 5's free (please bring your membership cards).

SAVE THE DATE - 2nd DECEMBER 'Just for Kix' who you will remember performed brilliantly at the Picnic on the Park, are playing live music at the Centre for our 2nd Charity fund raising event - watch this space for more info.



Chester Green's Christmas Window Trail



Chester Green's Christmas Window Trail is coming back by popular demand! Let's make Chester Green Sparkle by decorating our front windows with a (loosely based) Christmas past, present & future theme!

If you would like to get involved and be put on the map, please text, ring or message Rachel on 07968025062/ Rach.wiggins@googlemail.com before 26th November.

15 November - Quiz Date for your Diary

Chester Green Events Team are holding a Christmas Quiz on Friday 15 November at the Community Centre. Doors open at 6.30 for a 7pm start. Festive fun and games for all the family £2.50 per adult and 1.50 per child.

Look out for posters and flyers for the above events and check out our Chester Green Events Facebook page for more information.

Finally - Come and get your groove on at **Zumba** on Mondays at the Community Centre 8-9pm

Rachel

Rainbow Tots

Do come to our friendly Parent and Toddler Group on Mondays at 10am—12noon

You will be so welcome and we have lots of toys and activities to engage your child.

£2 per family

Find us at St Paul's Church Hall, Seale Street, Chester Green, Derby

Little Chester History Group Archaeological Dig Findings

Thurs Oct 19th at 7.30pm

Chester Green Community Centre,

Come and find out what was discovered in 2016 in the digs in Chester Green. Discover the answers to your many questions with Archaeologist Paul Flintoff.

Admission non-members £2. Annual subscription for £10 - a bargain!!

Chester Green Methodist Church

Clearance Open Day

Sunday 8th October 11am-3pm

Following the closure of the Church, we have a variety of items looking for new homes from tables and chairs, to plates and cups, to craft items, to Christmas decorations and more.

Please come along and see if there is anything you would like in return for a donation.

(Please note as we have no electricity there will be no heating, lighting or refreshments – sorry! There will however be a warm welcome as we would love to know that things are going to a good home.)

Smile ☺

What do you call a vampire who's always feeling peckish?
What do birds do at Halloween?

What do you call a tree that doubts autumn?
What is the ratio of a pumpkin's service to its diameter?

Answers at bottom of page

Tip for Autumn

Trees can tell when a garden has been freshly raked. To encourage them to drop the last of those leaves, rake your garden.



Personal view on the Tragedy on City Road

It's hard to know how to write about the death of Adam Johnson in the Aida Building on City Road. It's hard to believe that such a tragedy has taken place on our doorstep. Most of all, I can't imagine the pain that his mother and close family must be feeling. Like many of us that is my main reaction. This is a tragedy that cannot be undone, unexpected and irreparable for Adam and his grieving family.

There's also a feeling of helplessness. With other residents I have felt powerless watching the building deteriorating over the years. We have tried to influence from the side lines but with little success. Andrew Meehan gives some of the background in his article on the back page. At present it's not obvious we can take any action other than urge our councillors and Aida to ensure the site is now secured, ring the police if we see or hear anyone on the Aida site, and wait for the outcome of the inquest.

I didn't know Adam or his family but I have to admit that I felt shocked and miserable for days after his death. But as the days have passed a feeling of determination has been added. I feel more strongly than before that, in the light of this tragedy, we in Little Chester should continue working to do what bit of good we can to care for each other and keep working to make it a happy place for people to live, young and old.

Editor

Chester Green Seventh-day Adventist Church

Please keep the following dates in mind as you plan your year-end schedules! Watch our website calendar for more details and activities.

Web: <http://chestergreen.adventistchurch.org.uk/>

Email: derbychestergreen@gmail.com

- **14 Oct 17 ADRA Gift Box Appeal deadline** to turn in the child gift boxes. More information at: <http://www.adra.org.uk/projects/rwanda/>
- **11 Nov 17 ADRA Fundraising Concert** – More details to follow soon.
- **15 Dec 17 Annual Carol Service** - More details to follow.

ADRA Appeal sends gifts boxes to children living in the Kiziba refugee camp in Rwanda.

St Paul's Church Chester Green

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

All Services at 10.00am

Oct 1 Soul Breakfast

Oct 8 Contemplative Communion

Oct 15 Soul Sanctuary

Oct 22 Holy Communion & Baptism

Oct 29 Soul Sanctuary

Indoor Bowls Club restarts for winter

The Indoor Bowls club is restarting for the winter on Tuesday 10th October 10 - 12pm.

They are a friendly group and would make new members very welcome.

Colin the Hedgehog.

I know that at least 5 hedgehogs have given birth this summer. One hoglet (I call him Colin) born in May was found flat out on grass one morning. He was very poorly. Colin went to a vet in Ashbourne where he was given anaesthetic and an x-ray. He had broken a leg. He then went to Yorkshire with me for 10 days to recuperate. So, if you see a young hedgehog with a bit of a limp, it might be the well-travelled Colin.

Dustbins

Keep Bins off the Streets

At our recent Residents' Association AGM, several people raised the problem of dustbins being left out on pavements in Chester Green.

They pointed out that dustbins on the street mean that wheelchairs users cannot use the pavements and bins are also a danger to visually impaired people and children in pushchairs.

£100 fine

In some areas of Derby police are having a blitz on wheelie bins left on the streets, as well as other problems like dog fouling and fly-tipping. They can enforce a fixed penalty of £100 for bins left on the street if

necessary.

Wayne Hobbs, senior public protection officer, said "Bins are a big problem as it means they are a hazard to people with pushchairs, wheelchairs or the visually-impaired and so we give them 23 days' notice and then we will be back to see what is happening.

Can you help a neighbour?

If you have a neighbour who is frail or has a disability - could you offer to help them with their bins? I would hate to think that anyone is struggling on their own and don't want this article to be a source of worry to anyone. *Editor*