Articles Welcomed

If you would like to send in an article for the News Letter please do get in touch at *info@littlechester.org.uk*

Hedgehog Corner - December

This is the time of year when you clear up the garden remember that there could be a hibernating hedgehog in a compost heap or pile of leaves. There could be a hibernating hedgehog near-by who is about to wake up and look for materials to build a new hiberniculum.

Large hedgehogs wandering about at night are probably well and happy. Any small hedgehog wandering around at night probably needs help. Any hedgehog - regardless of size - wandering around in the day time will need help. It will not be able to eat or drink if it has hypothermia. *I over- winter hedgehog every year and I would be very happy to receive a phone call from you if you come across a hedgehog in trouble*.

Sallyanne 381315

Gnomes (now not) on Camp Street

Many of you will have read previously of the trials and tribulations of the Camp Street Front Garden. However on the weekend of the 14th November a new low was reached. A person (or more than one) was so desperate or uncaring decided to steal all the gnomes, statues and windmills. The actual value of the items stolen is small, but the effect on the Camp Street community is much greater.

We take pride in our community space, and we, not any other body, look after it, plant it and provide for it. The effect of this petty theft is extremely disheartening for everyone involved, such that the initial reaction is to say that it isn't worth it, why should we bother when people just spoil it.

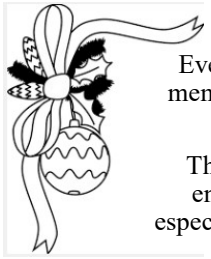
My feeling was initially similar, but I now feel that I'm not going to let someone who has so little respect for our community, or perhaps has such great need, spoil our common pleasure. We will replace the items over the winter, and we'll continue to be proud of our garden.

In the same way, one member of our community enjoys sticking topical toys on one of the posts around the garden. The sort of thing that he puts on are little Santas, Halloween figures, , just designed to give a little smile. You can imagine how fed up he feels when these disappear! They are only worth a couple of pounds, the value is irrelevant. It is the fact that someone is so uncaring or thoughtless that they will spoil it for everyone else, and put their personal gain above the pleasure and enjoyment of everyone else.

What can be done? It is going to be a long job because the only way to change this and stop this sort of thing happening again is to help everyone learn respect and community spirit.

We will not give up. The garden belongs to the community, it is everyone's and we will continue to enjoy and improve it. We won't let people that don't care spoil our enjoyment and pleasure.

Happy Christmas and a great New Year. ***Mark Davis***



COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

Everyone at the Community Centre would like to wish all our members, local residents and regular hirers, a very peaceful and happy Christmas.

Thank you to all our loyal friends who have come along and enjoyed the social events at the Centre throughout the year, especially those who are pleased to help during the evening in any way they can - it means a lot!

Thank you also to the local businesses who have supported us by providing brilliant raffle prizes on several occasions and to Rhian for our excellent quiz nights.

Christmas Spirit? **Smile ☺**

A vicar spots a small boy struggling to reach a door knocker and kindly knocks on the door for him. 'Thanks' said the boy, now run like mad!'

Christmas Kiss

Romeo: What would it take to make you kiss me under the mistletoe?
Juliet: An anaesthetic.

Christmas Pudding Label

Christmas charms in our pudding bring you good fortune. Packaging Notice: Potential choking hazard: do not use with food

Christmas Picture

JANE, my three-yearold, showed me a drawing that included red squiggles which she said were rhubarb.I must have looked confused as she added scornfully: "Rhubarb the Red-Nosed Reindeer".

A Christmas Carol Service

Chester Green Seventh-day Adventist Church

220 Mansfield Rd, Derby DE1 3RB.

The service will be held on Friday, 16th December, 6.30-8pm.

Traditional Christmas Carols to sing and enjoy listening, including other special items. Refreshments will be served following the programme – everyone warmly welcome!

http:// chestergreen. adventistchurch.org.uk/

News Letter Appeal

Friends - our funds for printing the News Letter have nearly run out !

The News Letter is produced and distributed by volunteers but costs £30 each month to print. It would be great if some of you could make a contribution (however small) to help us keep it going next year.

If you would like to make a donation you can post cash or a cheque (payable to Little Chester Residents Association) in an envelope marked 'Newsletter Donation' to 102 Chester Green Rd, 1 St Paul's Rd or 49 Marcus St. **Thank you.**

ST PAUL'S CHURCH - CHESTER GREEN

http://www.stpaulschestergreen.org/

Dec 4th	10.00am	Soul Breakfast
Dec 11th	10.00am	Contemplative Communion
Dec 18th		No morning Service
Dec 18th	5.00 pm	Carol Service followed by refreshments & Christmas Raffle in the Church Hall
Dec 24th	11.00pm	Midnight Communion
Dec 25th	10.00pm	Christmas Day Soul Sanctuary
Jan 1st		No service
Jan 8th	10.00am	Soul Breakfast

Generous Local Businesses and Societies

Thank you so much to the community minded groups that have sponsored a news letter this year. They are:

- **Alternative Tiles. Mansfield Road**
- **Chester Green Community Centre**
- **St Paul's Church**
- **jkmusicschool.com**
- **QSC Signs & Graphics**
- **The Barber Shop City Road**

(Funds still needed to cover printing of the News Letter next year hence our appeal to readers on the first page!)

Methodist Church Christmas Events

Sunday 4th Dec 4pm Family Nativity Service followed by Christmas Party in the hall

Sunday 18th Dec 11am Carol Service

Sunday 8th Jan 11am Covenant Service

Sunday 22nd Jan 10.30 Breakfast 11.00 Christingle Messy Church

You are very welcome to join us for any of our services. We wish everyone in Chester Green a very Happy Christmas!

Chester Green Chums Toddler Group

Last Chums Monday 12th December. Back on Monday 9th January.

St Pauls Pre-school

Seale Street, Chester Green

"Small School Big Family"

Ofsted Graded Good (2016)

✓ Flexible and Friendly
✓ Highly experienced, qualified staff
✓ Small group sizes
✓ Individual learning plans for each child

We are a non-profit making community Pre-School delivering high quality education in a nurturing environment at an affordable price.

If you would like to find out more please contact us on 01332 347375 or through our web-site www.st paulsplaygroup.co.uk

"All my children have loved their time at St. Paul's Pre-School Playgroup. It's such a warm, welcoming and friendly environment where all my children have flourished and grown in confidence and skills..Thank You"-

St Pauls Pre-School Parent

Chester Green's Christmas Window Trail. Dec 6th – Jan 6th (Map enclosed)

LITTLE CHESTER RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Council will construct Flood Defences on City Road Industrial Sites.

OCOR (Our City Our River) have confirmed that "Due to the uncertainty around timescales for delivery of the Aida Bliss and ex Tomlinson's sites, the Council have decided to use the Environment Agency's Powers of Entry under the Water Resources Act 1991 to construct the proposed flood defences on these sites. This will ensure flood defences are completed by Spring 2018 in line with the other OCOR package one works".

Cricket on Parkers Piece

In response to our questions about the future of cricket on Parkers Piece, Hilary Nelmes, the City Council's Parks Development Officer has said that "Reinstatement of cricket at Parker's Piece is within the OCOR project plan. This work is to include a pitch drainage scheme (subject to approval by Heritage England), relocation and installation of new cricket nets and installation of an artificial turf wicket. Future provision, including use of allocated section 106 funding and partnership funding may consider replacement of the existing cricket pavilion and refurbishment of the existing football changing facilities".

Members of Darley Abbey and Derbyshire Disabled Cricket Clubs have told us they have been in discussions with the City Council about possibly setting up a trust to try to ensure that cricket continues to be played on Parkers Piece once flood defence works are completed.

Thanks to a Great Team

Many, many thanks to the team who deliver the News Letter—all 1000 copies every month. Without them there would be no News Letter, which we hope, helps to keep our local activities and identity as strong as they are.

The intrepid band of deliverers are:

Bev, Iris, Ali, Julie, Geoff, Sarah, Margaret, Bruce, Rachel, Michael, Shirley, Rhian, Laurence , Julia and Marie.

☺ **Thank you All** ☺

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

Sofas and Street Pride

A couple of men brazenly dumped a large settee on the Green a couple a weeks ago in broad daylight! I couldn't believe it as it happened before my very eyes!! They ran off when they realised my friend and I had spotted them and were running down the Green to object. It must have looked quite funny to a casual observer.

However - cheers to the Council who did a great job. I reported incident immediately to Street Pride and by 10.00am the next morning they had taken the sofa away.

Editor