

Crich Standard

CRICH | FRITCHLEY | WHATSTANDWELL | BULLBRIDGE

Issue 109 Spring 2024



A Community Magazine for the Parish

Crich Standard is a non-profit community magazine, run by volunteers and delivered quarterly to the Crich, Fritchley, Whatstandwell and Bullbridge area.

What's inside

- 3 The first word
- 4 News in brief
- 10 Crich Parish Council update
- 11 Why has Crich got a fire station?
- 14 Crich pub crawl – one for the road
- 16 Craft Wood
- 18 Gardening in March
- 21 Recipe
- 22 Crich Parish, Census 2021
- 24 Crich circles – quiz and circular walk
- 26 Taphophiles
- 28 Community diary
- 32 Community round-up
- 41 Quick quiz
- 42 Local advertisers

crichstandard.org



About us

Thanks to all of the volunteers who make up the core team, as well as the wider photographers, contributors, distributors and advertisers. Without their ongoing ideas, skill and hard work Crich Standard wouldn't exist. We continue to build on the original vision of the founding CACN committee.

Contact us

Mail: Crich Standard, Crich Glebe Community Centre, Glebe Field Close, Crich DE4 5EU (thank you to the Glebe).
Editor: editor@crichstandard.org
Distribution: distribution@crichstandard.org

Publication dates

The magazine is published four times a year. Deadlines for submission are 6 January, April, July and October.
Circulation: 1,900 copies
The editorial committee cannot be responsible for the accuracy of information contained in the magazine. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily shared by the committee.

Crich Standard team

Tony Mills, Stephen Woolley, Karen Davies, Claire Ganthony, Geoff Brown, Linda Philo, Jan Rowland, Julie Woolley, Sally Bestwick, Siobhan Conroy, Louise Maskill, Emma Nicol.

Crich Standard

Advertising Rates (for 2024)

Circulation: 1,900 copies

Support your community and advertise to your local customers.

Ad sizes:

1/4 page (H92mm x W60mm)

Single issue £24 2 issues £40
3 issues £55 Full year (4 issues) £68

1/3 page (H60mm x W122mm) Single issue £30 2 issues £50
3 issues £70 Full year (4 issues) £95

1/2 page (H92mm x W122mm)
Single issue £40 2 issues £70
3 issues £110 Full year (4 issues) £134

Full Page (H210mm x W148mm)
Single issue £60 2 issues £110
3 issues £160 Full year (4 issues) £210

Back Page (H210mm x W148mm)
£Negotiable

Design Prices: 1/4 & 1/3 page £35
1/2 page £50 Full page £90

Advertising deadline: Deadlines for submission are 6 January, April, July and October.

Please send enquiries to:
advertising@crichstandard.org

The Last First Word

Happy New Year and welcome to the new format of Crich Standard!

As a (special?) one-off, Last Word comes first in this edition to introduce what has changed and why – as well as, importantly, reminding us of what has stayed the same.

After five years the Crich Standard team has decided this change of format will better present us as a community parish magazine for everyone, presenting a friendly and relaxed feel for contributors, advertisers and readers alike.

We have changed the glossy cover to set us apart from the commercial publications that perhaps lack the local focus and interest that we try to provide for our community. We have also made a move towards greener credentials by switching to recycled paper. Finally, we have simplified the layout and binding to make the production of the magazine more efficient, as well as reducing some of the deadline pressures that are part and parcel of any publication.

However, perhaps the more important things are what we haven't changed. That starts with the content. Over the last few editions we have been delighted that our efforts to attract more and more community input have been rewarded by the enthusiasm of village groups and organisations. We have continued to run features, but with a greater focus on the parish, and we look forward to seeing more local news, stories and interest going forward.

What's On has been renamed Community Diary, and has been broadened to include events listed by organisation or group, including the churches and the Glebe. We can extend this further; if your voluntary group would like to be included, please send us your event or activity programmes so that people can use Crich Standard to find out about all the opportunities that are available in our community.

Last but very far from least, our advertising section remains unchanged with the same quality print and design. Advertising revenue funds the magazine, and our slightly reduced production costs will help us to maintain our very competitive advertising rates. We hope that our current advertisers will be happy, and that others may decide to use us in the future.

We know that not everyone will love the new format from the beginning, but we are sure that it's time for a change – an evolution rather than a revolution. Let us know what you think, and most of all, please continue to send the Crich Standard volunteer team your input, articles, ideas and comments. Quite simply, that's why we produce the magazine.

Crich Standard – our contribution to the rich tapestry of the Crich Parish community!

Tony
Tony Mills, Chair

Fritchley Community Association News

Last year was our busiest yet, getting people together at Fritchley events ranging from celebrating the coronation of King Charles III to dancing the night away at the Sounds of Soul evening and children crowding around as Santa arrived in the beautifully decorated village hall. All these events, including the now regular quarterly quiz nights and litter pick days, involved eating, drinking, laughing and chatting. In other words, the good times rolled for those who joined in, got to know their neighbours a little better, and helped raise enough money to begin a programme of improvements that will keep Fritchley Village Hall well maintained and, of course, open.

This year our focus will be on fundraising for work to continue down our list of priority needs, providing events that benefit the community and also increase community use of the hall.

Thank you to everyone who came along to an event last year, and hello to all the new folk who will take part in this year, whether by buying a raffle ticket, making a donation, eating a cake or drinking a cuppa, singing songs, putting up tables or washing the pots afterwards. It all helps!

Check out the Community Diary pages for details of our upcoming events.

You can find us on Facebook, or contact us using pen and paper (wow!) by dropping a line to Mark, our chair, via the post box outside the village hall. It's always good to know your opinions, and if you have ideas for events, even better!

A creative community

The ArtStand group of artists was formed in 2019 to celebrate creativity in Crich and Whatstandwell. Our members have diverse talents ranging from fine arts, felting, watercolours, oils, acrylics and ceramics to craft work, woodworking, jewellery-making and photography. Many members of the group are well-known professional artists who exhibit their work widely across Derbyshire.

We are now busily planning and preparing for this year's events. Our first of the year will be a new art exhibition and sale of work at Strutts Centre in Belper on Saturday 6 April, with a preview evening on Friday 5 April from 6.00pm to 8.00pm when you will be welcome to join us for a glass of wine. This will be followed by a week at Haddon Hall Gatehouse, Bakewell commencing Monday 8 July, when a small group of 'ArtStanders and Friends' will be showing and selling their work. Admission to the Gatehouse is free. We look forward to seeing you there.

As a group we are keen to get involved in local events and work towards developing the arts in the community. Several of our members run masterclass workshops, aiming to generate greater interest in their chosen media and develop creativity. If this sounds interesting, why not contact the group co-ordinator David Hunns (tel: 07835 886595), or email an enquiry to helloartstand@gmail.com for more information.



NSPCC School Service volunteers needed in your area



We are looking for new volunteers from all over Derby City and Derbyshire to be **Speak Out, Stay Safe** volunteers. No experience is required, just a passion to make a difference!

As a **Speak Out, Stay Safe** volunteer, you will visit primary schools to deliver our **Speak Out, Stay Safe** workshops that teach children about the different types of abuse and how they can speak out and stay safe, helping us protect a generation of children from abuse and neglect. Our **Speak Out, Stay Safe** workshops are age-appropriate and memorable, and need an energetic and enthusiastic person to deliver them. We offer you full training and support as you work alongside other **Speak Out, Stay Safe** volunteers to enable children to feel empowered and know who they can speak to if they are worried.

If you are interested in volunteering as a **Speak Out, Stay Safe** volunteer and want to find out more about the role, you can attend a virtual volunteer information meeting, which is a fantastic opportunity to:

- Meet with staff as well as volunteers to ask any questions you may have
- Learn more about the application process and your volunteer journey

Our meetings are designed to help you decide whether you want to apply – there's no obligation or expectation that you'll apply if you attend one.

If you have any questions, please contact our Volunteer Recruitment Team at VolunteerRecruitment@NSPCC.org.uk or go to the NSPCC Volunteering website at www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/volunteering-nspcc-childline/

Crich Live Update

We are looking forward to a thrilling 2024 at Crich Live.

After a successful 2023, we started 2024 with a sold-out show in January as True Crime Investigators UK brought us a dramatic evening with the case of *A Killer at Large in Derbyshire*. We hope there are many more exciting evenings to come from the Fritchley-based ex-detectives!

Our February show saw West Midlands feel-good funk band Cantaloop bring their infectious talent to Crich with *Whichever, Wherever, Whenever*.

While I cannot yet confirm our March show at the time of writing, keep your eyes and ears open for details of something special – we are looking to bring an exceptional talent to the stage! Details will have been released by the time you read this, so hopefully you will have secured your tickets already.

With that in mind, don't forget to pick up your tickets for our April show, *Hlywing*. Ruth Angell is an exceptional Derbyshire talent, and we are delighted that she will be closing our offering from Live and Local for the season. See the Community Diary section for more details.

Following this show, I will be in full research and planning mode when Live and Local release their new menu ready for the autumn. We will be on the lookout for other exciting shows to bring you!

On a different note, we are also working closely with the Glebe on plans to launch a film club, as part of their successful bid in securing a Lottery grant.



Check out our website at crichlive.org for further details, and to sign up to our mailing list to ensure you're the first to get news of future shows. Tickets are available at www.ticketsource.co.uk/crichlive

Remember, we have a bar at each show, and we hold a raffle with some great prizes, including being able to win tickets to future shows. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Roger Bode, Promoter, Crich Live



See the Community Diary on pages 28–30 for details

Now we are 90!

There has been a Women's Institute group in South Wingfield since March 1934.

Our 90th birthday celebrations at our meeting on Tuesday 5 March will include food and drink as well as a look at our archives and a discussion of how we can continue to be a vital part of the community of South Wingfield and beyond. We will also do our best to impress the County Chairman with 90 flags of stitched bunting!

We moved our meetings to the Parish Rooms after All Saints was flooded in October, and we have just had to cancel January's meeting because half of us live on the wrong side of the flooded river!

However, now is a good moment to cast our minds forward to spring, when warmer and brighter days will come. We look forward to getting to know our newest recruits, Kayleigh, Denise and Lynn, much better. In the spring our local walks will become more floriferous as we look out for anemones, daffodils and bluebells. Everyone is welcome to our Bluebell Walk and Tea, scheduled for Saturday 27 April – look out for more details on our Facebook page. There will be homemade cakes!

On Tuesday 2 April we will have a talk from Derbyshire photographer Ruth Downing, and on Tuesday 7 May Jonathan Smith will reveal an unsung hero of Time Team.

Our member survey revealed an interest in all kinds of outings, so Ros, our newly-appointed outings coordinator, will be getting us out and about to our many local attractions.

We meet, we do coffee, we craft, we cook, we learn, we walk and we support each other. The WI is what you make it! Do join us, we'd love to meet you.

Our meetings are at 7.15p.m. in South Wingfield Parish Rooms on the first Tuesday of each month.

Find out more on Facebook @wisouthwingfield or contact Kate on 01773 778493, text 07981 437888. Do look out for our notices; visitors are welcome at all our meetings.

Did you know that Crich Parish is served by a mobile library?

Second Tuesday of the month

Fritchley – The Green

10.10–10.40am

Crich – Market Place

10.50–11.15am

Crich – Culland View

11:20–11:35am

Crich – Cliff Inn car park

11.40–11.55am

Open Gardens

Someone once said that the only constant in life is change. That is certainly true of our Open Gardens. With the keys to Executive Washroom now handed on and a new organising team in place, Ruth, our illustrious leader since the inception of this wonderful event, is now planning a lengthy European tour which will mean she won't be around for this year's openings. You will be sorely missed, Ruth.

2023 was an eventful year for our Open Gardeners, and 2024 looks equally adventurous. Our regular visitors, and there are many, will know that the number of gardens taking part each year has steadily increased. The geography of our villages means that a walk between all the gardens and a worthwhile stay in each is quite a push. This spread of gardens, from Fritchley to Crich to Devonshire Gardens and Foresters View, also means that more and more people from our community are not only willing to open their gardens to visitors, but are also making firm friends within the gardening community. Indeed, this one of the key reasons why the whole thing started, and I am sure this growth will continue.

Dates and times of opening have changed each year, but our mission statement remains the same: we are a bunch of like-minded people who simply want to open our gardens to inspire others and build our community. None of us are professional gardeners, and we have a couple of people who were brave enough to open their gardens when the plot was little more than a dream. These gardens have seen amazing transformations, and

they always receive great comments from visitors.

Opening dates for this year have yet to be decided, but there will definitely be two, the first in June and the second in July. As usual you will be able to visit gardens that are largely hidden from view for the rest of the year, and you can also be assured of a copious quantity of delicious cakes, tea and coffee.

We always have a meet-and-greet event before our season starts, giving us a chance to catch up with each other and discuss our plans for the coming year. This year our get-together will be held in the Old Black Swan on Thursday 21 March, starting at 7.00pm. This is the first shout-out to anyone wishing to get involved and open their garden for the first time – we would love to see you there. Alternatively you can get in touch through our Facebook page.



Photo by Alan Richmond

St Mary's News

By Martyn Offord

A vicar? Maybe? Or maybe not?

The vicarless days at St. Mary's continue, but so do services and all sorts of church activities. This is thanks to our volunteers, our wardens and readers, and to Rev. Jim Gray, retired Archdeacon Andie Brown and our current Archdeacon Karen Hamblin. So if you want to get married, have a child baptised, or sadly need to arrange a funeral, St. Mary's continues to be there for you.

Easter is early this year, which means the important events in the church calendar roll into motion quite soon after the last Christmas trees have been disposed of. In fact, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 14 February.

We have special services and activities in church as follows:

- Mothering Sunday service – 10.00am, Sunday 10 March
- Palm Sunday service – 10.00am, Sunday 24 March
- Good Friday activities – 10.00am, Friday 29 March
- Easter Sunday service – 10.00am, Sunday 31 March

These are all lively events for the whole family, and will feature daffodils, palms, crafts and eggs in that order. In fact, the Good Friday activity morning has become a popular village event with crafts and hot cross buns followed by a short service.

Otherwise, the routine for services is as usual, with Sunday Morning Services at 10.00 am:

- All-age worship, first Sunday in the month
- Communion, second and fourth Sundays
- Morning worship, third Sunday

If you want to contact us or receive our weekly news sheet you can email our administrator at cswsecretary2@gmail.com

The church website can be found at www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13152/; this is also a good way of finding up-to-date information.

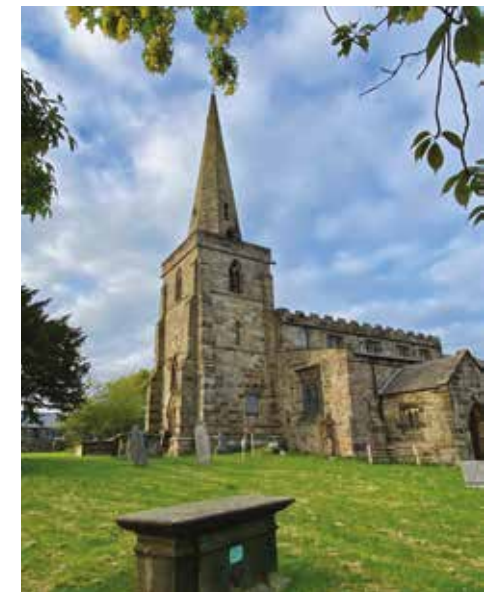


Photo by Geoff Brown

Crich Parish Council Update

Enhancing our community

Last year was another busy year for your Parish Council. We held eleven full council meetings and many committee and subgroup meetings. There is a formality about our meetings, much of it due to regulations and financial requirements, but this doesn't prevent Councillors, who give freely of their time along with our Clerk, delivering a high-quality service for our community.

Some of what we do can seem mundane – for example:

- Providing grit bins
- Reviewing planning applications
- Maintaining the Recreation Ground
- Ensuring the safety of play equipment
- Maintaining the Burial Ground
- Ensuring the safety of a number of trees
- Managing allotment allocations
- Making representation to Amber Valley Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council on issues impacting our community

In addition, however, we provide more visible services like summer floral displays and Christmas lights and trees, as well as funding the poppies on lampposts. We also provide less visible services such as grants to local community groups.

This year, as well as continuing with all of these services we want to make progress with a project or projects that

will enhance our community. At the time of writing this article we have a number of ideas, including a community orchard, additional planting of the Jubilee Ground, and cycle racks in the Market Place. We know there are major improvements we would all like to see, such as better parking arrangements on the Market Place, but these are outside our responsibilities although we do make representation to DCC about these issues.

We will be looking at ways to consult with you, but please don't hesitate to contact us via our website if you have any views you would like to share.

We also have a website at www.crich-pc.gov.uk, we contribute a regular article to Crich Standard, we maintain Parish notice boards, and I post on the Crich Community Facebook group. Our meetings are open to the public, and there is always an opportunity for you to raise issues, make suggestions or ask questions. If we can't solve your problem we usually know someone who can!

Paul Yorke

Chair – Crich Parish Council



Why has Crich got a fire station?

Article by Phil Dolby and photos by Geoff Brown

In the early part of the twentieth century Crich had no permanent fire station, being served by a crew of volunteers operating a cart and hose. In 1910 a deputation from the Council suggested the building or purchase of a suitable property for a station in Crich, but this was not followed through, and by 1938, when the Second World War was looming, Crich's fire crew still lacked a permanent home.

In preparation for hostilities the Government formed the Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS) to support the existing fire services run by local councils, issuing a nationwide call for volunteers to train as 'fire watch parties'. Derbyshire's Chief Fire Officer reported that out of twenty-eight rural parishes, Crich was the only one to have a full crew of fourteen volunteers; eighteen parishes had no volunteers at all! When vans towing trailer pumps became available, Duffield received the first, but Crich was the second parish to receive the equipment. The Parish Rooms on The Common began to be used as a

headquarters; even though the equipment was basic, Crich now had its own fire station.

In 1941 the AFS was amalgamated with the existing fire brigades and became the National Fire Service (NFS). Crich firemen continued to serve throughout the war years, but after the war ended the fire service was reorganised to better serve the national need in peacetime. This meant disbanding many of the units who had volunteered during the war. The Fire Service Act of 1947 split up the NFS and returned fire brigades to the control of local authorities, so Derbyshire had to plan and run its own service.

The pre-war fire stations in larger towns continued to be used, but cover also had to be provided to the sparsely populated rural areas of the county. Crich was chosen to have one of thirty-one rural fire stations providing emergency cover in Derbyshire in the post-war years; I don't know why, but I like to think those pre-war volunteers who made Crich the

first parish to have a full complement of volunteer firemen, together with their service during the war, were recognised by those planning the future of Derbyshire Fire Service.

The Crich firemen continued to use the Parish Rooms as their base; a garage behind the Parish Rooms housed the fire engine, and the downstairs area was used as the equipment store and training room. The firemen worked a retained duty system, which meant they had normal civilian jobs but dropped whatever they were doing to become firemen when an emergency occurred.. (I say 'firemen' because, unlike today, at that time women were not allowed to be operational firefighters.)

The men had to live or work close to the fire station and be prepared to run or cycle there when there was a call. In the early days few people had cars or telephones, so it was difficult to let the firemen know when they were required. This was overcome by identifying one person who could be contacted by fire control. He then had to run to all the other firemen's houses or workplaces to alert them – not the fastest system, but the best they had at the time. Later, electric bells connected to fire control were installed in the firemen's houses, and the air raid siren was also set off so the whole village knew



The firemen worked a retained duty system, which meant they had normal civilian jobs but dropped whatever they were doing to become firemen when an emergency occurred.

the fire engine was going out. Many of the firemen worked in the quarry, so the driver would collect the engine and drive to the quarry to pick up the rest of the crew. Nowadays the firefighters carry pagers backed up by their mobile phones to alert them to a fire call.

In 1967 a new purpose-built fire station was opened on Sandy Lane. It had modern facilities and a tower, used for ladder drills and to hang the canvas hoses to dry. The tower also had an air raid siren fitted at the top. In the watch room was a sinister box that bleeped if you switched it on; it had to be tested every year because it was part of the nationwide early warning system for a nuclear attack. (It has gone now!)

Crich has had a huge range of different fire engines over the years. The early ones had crash gear boxes, and there was always a cheer when the driver shed a few gear teeth trying to ram the engine into a low gear on Bullbridge Hill. We have had fire engines that were so slow on hills we switched the blue lights off, embarrassed by the traffic jam behind us – and conversely we also had one called a Rapier that was so fast (with a top speed of 100mph) that the workshop disconnected the top gear to slow it down.

Similarly, the uniform has changed many times. Gone are the days when firefighters used their unprotected ears to judge how hot a fire was; blistered ears were common! Also gone are the short leather gloves that never covered your wrists, and which soaked up water that turned to steam and poached your hands inside. These have been replaced by long gauntlets – which also soak up water and poach your hands.

Serving at Crich fire station has become a family tradition. Gordon Bown and Trevor Mason were both station commanders in the past, and their sons Kevin Bown and Nigel and Gary Mason also became firemen. Paul Sayles and his son Mathew are both serving members at Crich, with Matt also being a full-time firefighter. On 3 March 2024 Paul Sayles will celebrate

four decades as an operational crew member at Crich station. He is a local farmer, and has been on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week for a record forty years. (Signing off call is allowed when firefighters are out of the area.) This is an almost unique achievement, not just in Derbyshire but the whole country. He will have attended over 3,500 incidents during his career, and in 2022 he won a national award for his outstanding contribution to the fire service, beating nationwide nominations including several Chief Fire Officers.

So next time you hear the fire engine two-toning its way to an emergency, give a thought to its long history and to all those village volunteers who have served and who continue to serve as firefighters.



CRICH PARISH PICTORIAL

*Pub Crawl*BY CLAIRE GANTHONY
& PAT LESTER**One more for the road...**

It was noted that our pictorial pub crawl through time stopped at the top of the hill, but in order to reflect the full community covered by Crich Standard we ought really to stagger down Hindersitch for a nightcap at Whatstandwell.

So we leave the Cliff and head down Carr Lane until it becomes Hindersitch Lane, continuing down the hill until we reach The Green, leading to Glen Road and the Iron Grates by Bryan's Steps. The pub was named after the iron grate covering the hatch where beer barrels were lowered into the cellar. If anyone has any additional information about this former public house, do get in touch.

After a quick pit stop at the Grates, we're off back along The Green and down Hindersitch until we meet Whatstandwell Main Road at Crich Carr CofE Primary School. We turn right and stumble on down towards the canal, calling in for 'just one more' at the Wheatsheaf Inn on the left before we reach the canal bridge.

The Wheatsheaf was once a very lively hostelry, known in the 1880s for all-night drinking sessions, much to the dismay of Florence Nightingale. She despaired of the drunken debauched behaviour in the area, due in her view to the huge number of public houses and the lack of alternative entertainment. She considered

purchasing the inn to convert into a Coffee House and Reading Rooms, in order to provide an alternative to alcohol for the working man. In the end, with the help of Dr Dunn and Mr Shore Smith, Shaw's Coffee Rooms was opened in 1882 on the opposite side of the road in the hope of tempting men away. However, the Wheatsheaf remained a successful public house for the majority of the following century.

Finally, we head down towards the Derwent Hotel at Whatstandwell Bridge. There has been an inn on this site for over 300 years. Now the Family Tree B&B and café, it was also known during the mid-1800s as the Bull's Head, and may also have also been known as the Ship at one time.

The inn was well positioned on the road, canal and later the railway, and many coaches stopped here en route between Manchester, Buxton, Derby and Nottingham. I imagine we may be in need of one of their rooms for the night after visiting so many hostelries in our Parish.

I'm sure we'll sleep well!



THE IRON GRATES



THE WHEATSHEAF



THE DERWENT HOTEL



The Bull's Head across the River Derwent, with the Coffee House on the right and the Wheatsheaf Inn on the left, further up the hill



Customers outside the Wheatsheaf



Craft Wood

Article and photos by David Hunns

I first became aware of Craft Wood in 2020. The pandemic was still causing serious issues, but people were allowed outside at that point, and I was looking for something to fill my time as I was retired and dealing with personal loss. The idea of volunteering meant I would be outside, meeting people and hopefully being creative. I help to organise the ArtStand group of local artists, so the idea of doing crafts in the woods appealed. The woods are close, between Crich and South Wingfield, so not too much travelling involved.

I introduced myself to Thomas Erskine, the founder and main man of the woods, and was invited to visit for a guided tour. It turned out the project was in its infancy, but this meant that there were opportunities to get involved in many ways.

I soon found myself visiting and helping once a week. Initially I was working alongside others clearing brush, making paths and trails or building shelters under Thomas' guidance. After a few months I asked if I could do a project of my own, and without hesitation Thomas agreed. This led to me building both a pole and bowl lathe, along with other woodland tools, which then meant I had to learn how to turn wood to make simple items. We now have an area for green woodworking, where attendees use green timber from the woods to build tables, stools and birdboxes.

Other people volunteered, and a pizza oven and cooking area were built. An area for arts and crafts was developed and began to be used, Green Social Prescribing sessions

began, and participants created a variety of work across a multitude of media, including creative writing, ceramics, printing, embossing and felting.

Since the pandemic Craft Wood has slowly evolved and grown. A wide range of people have attended and received help from what is on offer, and new attendees mean new projects. It is a place where you can come and just wander around, hug a tree, create some art, build something or just chat – you can be yourself. Extensive research has shown that being outside can reduce stress and improve general well-being, so this place can be hugely beneficial.

Our next project? Well, the Electricity Board came into the woods and cut down trees near the pylons, leaving loads of logs. What can you do with logs? Build a log cabin, of course! And what has been

particularly lovely is that I thought I'd be the only crazy guy to try it, but now we have our own crazy gang.

If you are interested in joining one of the current programmes or want to find out more, please visit www.craftwood.org.uk. There should be some exciting new programmes and upcoming sessions for 2024, so keep a lookout on our social media too (Instagram: @craftwoodcic, X: @craftwood19).

Craft Wood is a woodland project that offers hands-on outdoor opportunities to people with a variety of support needs. We aim to provide meaningful and purposeful activities through the management of the woodland and the development of woodwork art, enterprise and life skills, which can help people live healthier and more connected lives.



Gardening in March with Rob and Chris

With thanks to Crich Gardening Club

Early March is a good time to plant vegetables to eat in the summer. Potatoes and broad beans are fairly easy and reliable to grow.

PLANTING AREA

Most vegetables grow best in a sunny or partly sunny spot.

First, prepare your planting area. Clear any weeds and add organic material (well-rotted manure, garden compost or leaf mould). You can dig organic material into a trench where you want to plant, or spread over the surface and let the worms work it in.

The soil will be cold, but it can be warmed up by covering with clear polythene.



POTATOES

Early potatoes can be planted straight into the ground, but also grow well and are easy to harvest in re-usable potato bags or pots in peat-free compost.

Preparation

You will need seed potatoes, each one of which will produce a single plant with numerous potatoes.

Ideally, buy seed potatoes from December to February for planting in March, but you might find some still available. Buy locally or online, either early or late varieties.

Seed potatoes have 'eyes', little dimples where the potato will shoot from – they may even already have a few shoots. Put the seed potatoes in a semi-dark or dark, dry, cool but frost-free place and leave

BROAD BEANS

Choose seeds, buying online or from a local supplier – shorter varieties won't need staking.

Planting

March is likely to be cold, so it's best to plant seeds singly into little pots and place the pots in a cold frame, greenhouse or on a cool windowsill. 10 plants should be enough for most households, but broad beans can be frozen, so you could grow more if you have space.

When plants are 8 to 10 cm tall plant out into the soil, 20 cm apart in a sunny spot. Tall varieties will grow to over 1 metre; stake each group of plants by putting a cane or pole at each corner and two strings around the edge to prevent the plants from flopping.

Are they ready?

Broad beans will be ready between June and August. If the bean pod is firm and you can feel beans inside, they are probably ready; open one pod to check. They can be picked every few days for two to three weeks.

Happy gardening!

for a few weeks, allowing them to sprout. When sprouts appear move the potatoes to a lighter spot, but still keep them dry, cool and frost-free.

Planting

Plant in mid to late March, when the ground is not frozen.

Planting into soil: 15 cm deep, 30 cm apart. Cover with soil.

Planting in a potato bag or large pot: plant 3 seed potatoes into damp peat-free compost, half-way down the pot or bag.

Leaves

When leaves appear, cover with soil or compost and continue to cover as more leaves grow.

Watering

When leaves appear, water only if dry; potatoes in soil are unlikely to need water.

Are they ready?

Usually towards the end of May or early June. Look out for flowers; most potatoes will flower, although some early varieties don't. Dig down carefully to avoid damage and check the size of your potatoes; you can harvest them as small potatoes or leave in the ground to grow a bit.



WINDOWSILL PEA SHOOTS

– A FUN AND EASY INDOOR PROJECT

I decided to experiment with growing pea shoots on my windowsill. Pea shoots are a tasty and crunchy alternative salad or garnish. Growing is easy, almost guaranteed to work, and as a bonus they provided entertainment for my three-year-old grandson, who loved harvesting and eating the pea shoots.

You will need:

A container, compost, dried peas (£1 to £1.50 for several hundred peas)

Day 1

Place approx. 5 cm depth of damp compost in a container; I used a small propagator, but any container covered in clingfilm will work.

Place dried peas onto the compost, approx. 1.5 cm apart. 30 peas will provide 1 portion of salad.

Cover with approx. 1 cm of damp compost, and then cover with a propagator lid or clingfilm.

Place on a windowsill (not in direct sun).

Day 7

Peas are approx. 5 cm tall. Remove clingfilm and water very lightly.

Day 14

Peas are approx. 12cm to 15 cm tall and ready to eat.

Cut each pea shoot above the lower pair of leaves – cutting here will encourage further shoots. Water lightly.

Day 21

More shoots will have grown, sometimes two per stem, and should be ready to cut.

The stems will produce a further set of shoots, but after this the peas become tough and less tasty so you'll need to plant new peas in new compost.



Savoury nut puddings

By Sue Long

Over the last few years there has been increasing encouragement to follow a plant-based diet to save the planet. Although I am not totally sold on the arguments put forward I have tried to eat less meat, mainly for health reasons and focusing on smaller amounts but better quality. At least two or three days in the week our main meal will be vegetarian or vegan. I'm sure that many of you do likewise. It seems that older teenagers, especially girls, are the fastest-growing group planning to follow a plant-based diet, which can be difficult if you're the one responsible for feeding them!

One irrefutable fact is that big manufacturers have jumped on the green bandwagon and created many vegan and vegetarian products which, on face value, appear to be healthy and appeal to Gen Z because they are plant-based. Unfortunately the vast majority of these burgers, sausages and ready meals are also what is called 'ultraprocessed', and according to research their consumption on a regular basis can have a negative effect on health – especially among the young.

When my younger daughter became vegetarian, twenty-five years ago, there were very few products aimed at non-meat-eaters in the shops. However, I was very keen that my children all ate as healthily as possible, so I had to become inventive. She is one of four, so I also needed to keep the rest of the family happy! Lots of our everyday meals just had the meat dropped – lentil bolognese, vegetable curry, bean casserole – but when it came to the Sunday roast, that was sacrosanct! I needed something that could be popped into the oven along with the joint and roast potatoes.

Fortunately my daughter had always been a fan of nuts and peanut butter, so the following recipe for savoury nut puddings fitted the bill. This recipe is vegetarian, but can be vegan if the egg is omitted. I cook it in three or four individual pudding basins or ramekins as it freezes and reheats well, so I can avoid leftovers.

Ingredients

1 small onion, finely chopped
1 crushed clove garlic (or a squirt of garlic puree)
1 tbsp olive oil
300g sweet potato, peeled, diced and cooked until tender
50g walnuts, finely chopped. If you chop in a processor do not overdo, better to have some texture
30g cashews, finely chopped
75g fresh breadcrumbs (I use wholemeal)
1 tbsp unsweetened peanut butter or tahini
1 tsp dried mixed herbs
½ tsp Marmite
1 tsp tomato puree
1 tsp paprika
1 medium egg, beaten
Salt and black pepper to season
Optional: 4 walnut halves to decorate



Serves 3–4 depending on appetite
Preheat oven to 180C/170C fan/gas mark 4

Method

1. Fry the onion and garlic in oil until softened and slightly changing colour.
2. Mash the cooked sweet potatoes in a large mixing bowl and stir in the onion mixture.
3. Add all the other ingredients and combine well.
4. Divide between three or four greased individual oven-proof dishes, laying a walnut half (if using) in the base of each dish before filling with mixture.
5. Cover each dish with foil and place them on a baking tray. Cook for 30 minutes until the mixture feels firm to the touch.
6. Remove foil and turn the savoury nut puddings out. Serve with vegetarian gravy and the usual roast dinner accompaniments, or with salad in summer.

Crich Parish, Census 2021

Article and photo by Geoff Brown

The latest national census was carried out in 2021. It takes some time for all the data collected to be published, but basic statistics are now available online down to parish level. So, we took a look to see what is happening in our own parish. The summary below is based on data from the Office for National Statistics – but there appears to be something odd, so we would welcome comments from people who may know more!

Headline numbers

The population of Crich Parish (to the nearest 100 people) is stated as 2,700 – which appears to be about 200 fewer than reported in the 2011 census! We apparently live in 1,200 households.

With the number of new houses built in the last ten years, these numbers seem very low. Figures vary slightly according to where you look, but one suggestion (thanks to Crich Parish Council) is that the map on the ONS website appears to omit much of Fritchley. It seems Fritchley village may have migrated to South Wingfield!

However, the more detailed data contained in the report is probably a reasonable reflection of our community, so let's consider some of it.

People

- Our population is older than the national average, with a higher than average concentration in the 65–75 age group.
- Most of our residents (97.6%) were born in the UK (compared to 82.6% in England as a whole). Over 99% of residents have English as their first language.
- There are slightly more females than males. (That's normal!)
- Of those of us over 16, nearly 57% are married or in a civil partnership and 24% are single (having never married or been in a civil partnership). About 10% are divorced, and 7.5% are surviving partners of marriages or civil partnerships where the partner has passed away.
- Nearly 82% of us consider our health to be very good or good. Just over 12% reported they were in reasonable health, with just under 6% considering themselves to have bad or very bad health. 18.6% of people are listed as having a disability according to the Equality Act.
- For people over 16, about 40% have a higher-level educational qualification (level 4 and above), 35% have qualifications at levels 1–3, while 16.8% have no formal qualifications. The overall level of qualification is above the national average.

- About 13.5% of people over 5 years of age are in full-time education.
- Just over half (53%) of us are employed, with 1.6% unemployed and a very high 45.4% of us being economically inactive. We have a lot of retired people!
- Of those who work, nearly 65% work full-time (over 31 hours a week), with the rest being part-time.
- Again among those who work, nearly 40% work mainly from home. Only 3.8% travel more than about 18.5 miles (30km) to work. This appears to support the 'busy' feel of the community, with many people working or spending their leisure time very close to home.
- Of those who travel to work, most (about 85%) use a car or van. Only 0.5% use a bus and 0.3% a train. Does that tell us something about local public transport provision? Slightly more encouragingly, over 1% cycle and nearly 6% walk to work, again reflecting the local nature of work within the community!
- Just under 10% of the households do not have a car or van. About 40% have one car, 37% have two, and 14% have three or more.
- Most of the population (52%) identify as Christian, while over 40% reported that they have no religion. About 6% chose not to indicate any religious status. Other faiths account for less than 1% of our population.

2,700 Crich population
40% work mainly from home

Housing

- Of the households in the parish, the vast majority (nearly 98%) are actual houses, with just under 2% being flats or apartments.
- Just under a third of properties have one or two bedrooms, with about two thirds having three or four.
- Over a quarter of households are single occupancy, and just over 70% are home to single family units.
- Reflecting the age profile of the population, nearly 48% of the houses are owned outright, with about 28% being mortgaged or in shared ownership. The remainder are a mixture of private or public sector rentals.
- Nearly 55% of households (above the national average) do not consider themselves deprived in any way.

This article is only a simple summary of the information available. More detail can be found on the following websites:

www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/customprofiles/build/#E05003287

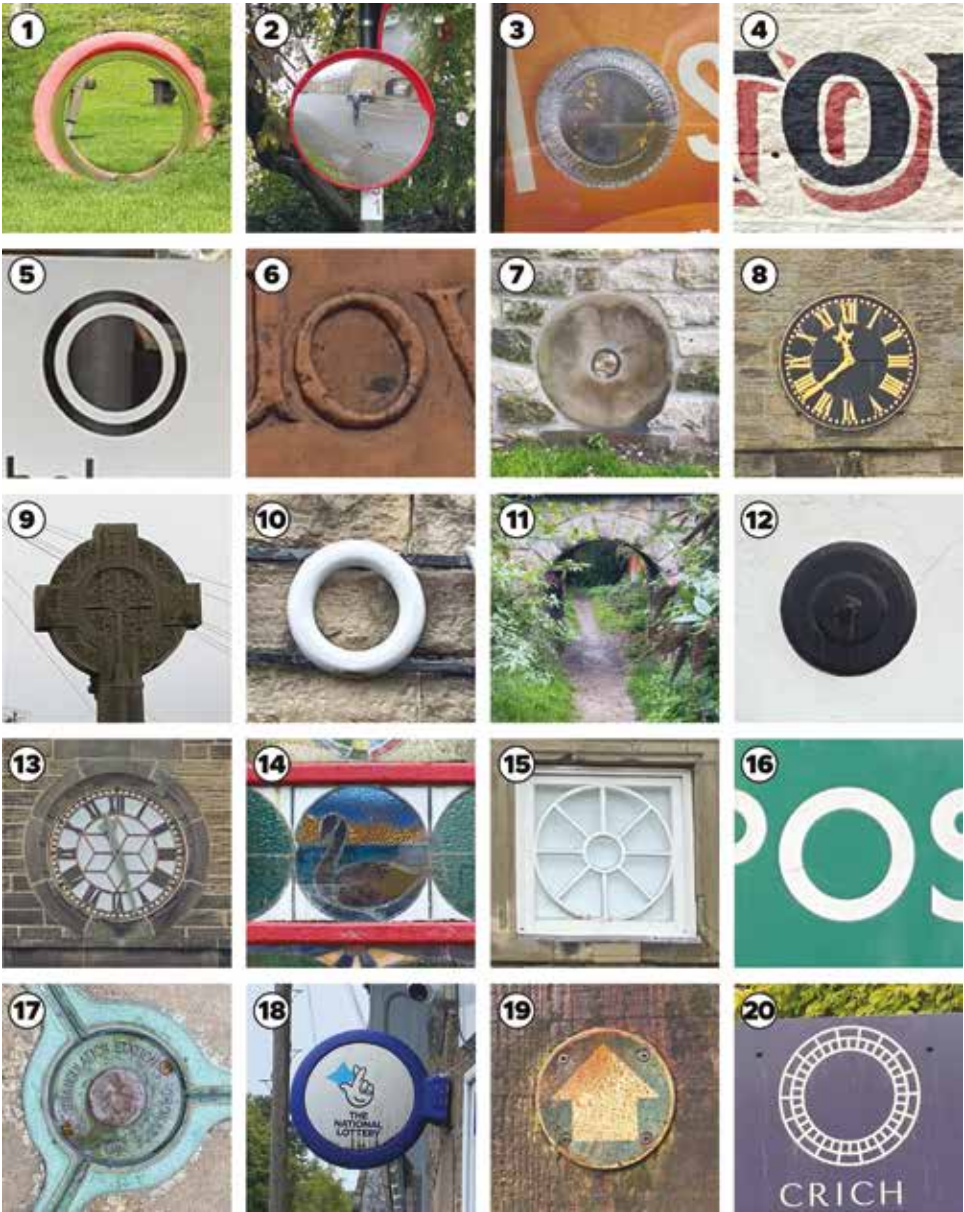
www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E07000032



Crich Circles

Quiz by Tom Scutt

Where in Crich would you find these circles?



Crich Circles Round Walking Route

Map data © OpenStreetMap

1. Playground/The Rec 2. Black Swan/Bowens Hill/Coach/Archway House 3. Cordale Fish Bar 4. The Cliff 5. Loft window 6. Jovial Dutchman 7. The Rec 8. St. Mary's Church 9. Crich Cross 10. Loft bakery 11. Back of the Rec/Coasthill 12. The Black Swan 13. Baptist church 14. Phone box/deffibrillator 15. Crich Tramway Village 16. Post Office 17. Crich Stand trig point 18. Nisa Local 19. Coasthill/Carr Lane footpath 20. Crich Hair & Beauty

Taphophiles

Article by Essie Prosser

The taphophiles (look it up!) among us will all be familiar with the pale grey Portland stone which the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) uses to mark the graves of those who died while in military service.

Indeed, our own St Mary's churchyard contains nine such tributes, recognising the sacrifices made by men and women of the Crich area. However, due to the dedicated work of two local men we now know St Mary's is also home to two more marked graves of men who lost their lives during the First World War. The difference between these two graves and the others is that they have comparatively new wooden markers with brass plaques instead of the familiar Portland stone. And thereby hangs a tale.

Peter Patilla is well known to Crich residents for his extensive and excellent work documenting, transcribing and discovering historical facts and anecdotes about our village. He is responsible for publishing the Roll of Honour at the entrance of the Glebe, and for elaborating on the lives and deaths of those listed there. In contrast, Terry Bishop is a newcomer to Crich, but he was appalled to find the war graves in our churchyard in a state of neglect, taking it upon himself to maintain them, clear the weeds and mow the grass around them.

Peter and Terry were brought together when they recognised that there were two First World War soldiers buried in the churchyard who had not been honoured by the CWGC: LCpl Frank A. Hall was born in Longford, but was married in Crich to Hannah Hancock and then made his home here. He served with the Sherwood Foresters in Ireland in

The difference between these two graves and the others is that they have comparatively new wooden markers with brass plaques instead of the familiar Portland stone. And thereby hangs a tale...

1916, sending postcards back to his family home on The Common. He remained in military service, being employed at the National Service Tribunal Office before his untimely death on 27 November 1918 at the age of 28 years.

Pte Frederick C. Bown of the Cheshire Regiment worked as a wood machinist before enlisting in February 1915. He served in France and Italy, and was injured and hospitalised several times. He received gunshot wounds to his knee and hand and was poisoned by mustard gas, ultimately dying of complications in 1919.

Both these men are recorded on the Roll of Honour and the War Memorial. However, they have been denied war graves because the CWGC considered they were not casualties of war since they died after the Armistice, although LCpl Hall was still serving when he died and Pte Bown died as a result of injuries sustained during wartime. Both of these are criteria for service personnel to be honoured with an official headstone, and appeals have been made to have these soldiers recognised officially. However, despite lobbying by Peter and members of the local British Legion, the CWGC have

been immovable in their decision to deny these men their rightful memorials.

The CWGC states that (among other things) it is 'responsible for the commemoration of personnel who died between 4 August 1914 and 31 August 1921 whilst serving in a Commonwealth military force or specified auxiliary organisation'. According to the CWGC's own words, then, it would appear that LCpl Hall and Pte Bown fall into this group, but they still remain unrecognised.

If you feel more local pressure should be put on the CWGC, the address to contact is: Enquiries Team, Commonwealth War Graves Commission, 2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7DX. You can also email them via their website: www.cwgc.org/contact-us

At the time of writing there is a move to commission a local stonemason to make headstones; funding will be needed for this, but we hope to report in a future edition that this project has been able to go ahead.

Both these men are recorded on the Roll of Honour and the War Memorial. However they have been denied war graves because the CWGC considered they were not casualties of war since they died after the Armistice...

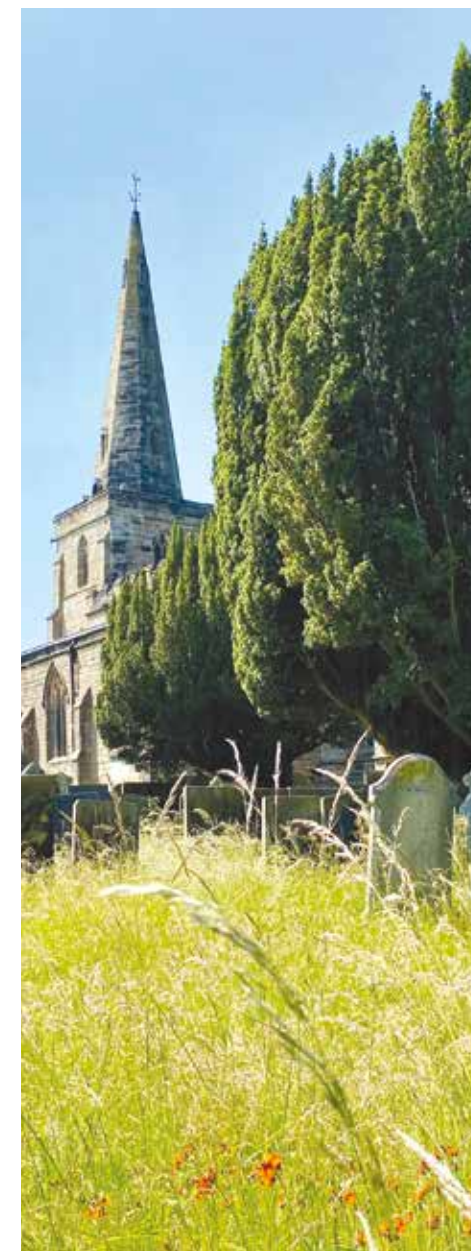


Photo by Geoff Brown

Community Diary

Crich Glebe Community Centre

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY

Derbyshire Toy Libraries Stay & Play	9.30–11.30am
Crich Family Lunch Club	11.00am–1.00pm
Kurling (autumn/winter only)	12.00–2.00pm
Dru Yoga	3.00–4.30pm
Clare’s Yoga	6.30–7.30pm

TUESDAY

Gentle Yoga (fortnightly)	10.00am–12.00pm
Tuesday Club (meal – book in advance)	12.15–1.30pm
Sarah’s Aerobics/Dancefit	6.30–7.30pm
Table Tennis	7.00–9.00pm

WEDNESDAY

Luncheon Club	10.30am–1.00pm
Serenity Yoga	1.30–3.00pm
Starlight Social Club (monthly)	7.00–11.00pm
All About Women (monthly)	7.00–9.00pm

THURSDAY

Children’s Dance Classes	4.45–6.15pm
Youth Club	7.00–9.00pm
Crich Heritage Group (monthly)	7.30–8.30pm
Crich Crafters (monthly)	6.00–8.00pm

FRIDAY

Yoga with Rachel	9.30–11.00am
Men’s Group (monthly)	1.00–3.00pm
Indoor Bowls (September to April)	2.00–4.00pm

Crich Glebe Community Centre

EVENTS

Evening of Spanish and Greek tapas in aid of Callum’s Voice

Friday 12 April, 7.00–11.00pm

Please join us for a wonderful evening of Spanish and Greek tapas, alongside the sounds of resident Spanish guitarist Graham Roberts and singer Aimee Chilton.

All proceeds are in aid of Callum’s Voice and the Glebe Community Centre.

Licenced bar and raffle.

Venue: Glebe Community Centre.

Tickets: £20 each, available from the Glebe or email: dawnmharper@hotmail.com

St George’s Day afternoon tea

Saturday 20 April, 1.00–4.00pm

We have an upcoming fundraising event to celebrate St George’s Day this spring! We will be hosting an ‘English Afternoon Tea’.

Venue: Glebe Community Centre.

More details will be available nearer the time. We’ll be having a fundraising raffle, so we’d welcome any donations of prizes. Donations can be dropped off at reception, Mon–Thurs, 9.00am–5.00pm

Crich Glebe Community Centre

WEEKLY SERVICES

Optometrist and Dispensary	
Tuesday	2.00–4.30pm
Thursday	9.00am–1.00pm

Hair Salon	
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	all day

Foot Health Clinic	Thursday
--------------------	----------

Contact information: www.crichglebe.org

Email: office@crichglebe.org

Tel: 01773 857894

Reception is open Monday to Thursday
9.00am–5.00pm.

Fritchley Village Hall

REGULAR CALENDAR

Fritchley OAP Group – first Tuesday
afternoon of each month

Upcoming event

Fritchley Quiz – Saturday 20 April

Find out more on Facebook, or drop a note
in the post box outside the Village Hall

Parish Council – Upcoming meetings

Parish Council Meeting
Monday 4 March, 7.30pm

Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 8 April, 7.30pm

Venue: Crich Glebe Community Centre

Crich Wesley Chapel

REGULAR CALENDAR

POPALONG

Fridays in termtime 9.30–11.30am

Contact Lynda Gray: 01773 857921

MUDDLEALONG

Second and fourth Wednesdays of each
month, 2.00–4.00pm

Contact Margaret Scott: 01773 852618

Whatstandwell Social Club

Contact: whatstandwellsocialclub@googlemail.com

Share & Repair Café

Saturdays, 2 March, 18 May, 14 September,
23 November, 10–1.00pm

Venue: The Glebe

Music & Live Performance

CRICH LIVE

Saturday 27 April, 7.30–10.30pm

Ruth Angell – *Hlywing*

This show is a presentation of Ruth Angell’s new album *Hlywing*, which has received rave reviews. Ruth is a superb local talent; meaning ‘shelter’ and pronounced ‘huh-lee-weenguh’, *Hlywing* is her first album as a solo artist. The show includes self-penned songs and a few well-chosen covers to complement the set.

Venue: Crich Glebe Community Centre

Tickets: £12.50

<https://crichlive.org/events/>

Community Diary

Community Groups and Clubs

GARDENING CLUB

‘Starting up for the season’ with the Potty Planters, Wednesday 6 March, 7.30pm

Venue: Comrades Club

Contact: If you’d like to come along please contact Robert Brierton: 07979 714360

CRICH RECORD CLUB

Third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm

Venue: The Old Black Swan

Contact: Simon Philo:
simonjphilo@icloud.com

BEAVERS for 6-8 year olds

Mondays, 5.45-7.00pm (termtime)

Venue: Scout Hut, Jeffries Lane

Contact: Crichbeaverleader@gmail.com

CUBS for 8-10.5 year olds

Tuesdays, 6.30-8.00pm (termtime)

Venue: Scout Hut, Jeffries Lane

Contact: williamcaine@btinternet.com

SCOUTS for 10.5-14 year olds

Wednesdays, 7.00-8.30pm (termtime)

Venue: Crich Scout Hut

Contact: debbiecaine@btinternet.com

Community Groups and Clubs

TRANSITION CRICH

Meet on second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm

Venue: Comrades Club

Contact: transitioncrich@gmail.com

Transition Crich also has a **Green Spaces and Wellbeing sub-group**, meeting bi-monthly on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.

Upcoming meetings: 20 March, 15 May, 17 July

Venue: Comrades Club

Contact: transitioncrich@gmail.com

Litter Picks – bi-monthly on Saturdays, 10.00am-12.00pm

Upcoming dates: 6 April, 1 June, 3 August

Venue: Meet outside the Glebe

Contact: Janet: transitioncrich@gmail.com

Sports Diary

Cliff Inn Cricket Team

Contact: rogerbode64@gmail.com

Weekly Quizzes

The Old Black Swan – Sundays, 7.00pm

Comrades Club – Mondays, 9.00pm

Church Services

ST MARY’S CHURCH, CRICH

All age service – every first Sunday, 10.00am

Morning worship – every third and fifth Sundays, 10.00am

Holy communion – every second and fourth Sundays, 10.00am

Find out more:
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13152/>

Email: cswsecretary2@gmail.com
or call 01773 852158

FRITCHLEY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

March service – Sunday 3 March, 2.30pm

April service – Sunday 5 April, 2.30pm

Find out more: Facebook @Fritchley.Church

Email: FritchleyChurch@mail.com

CRICH BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday worship – 10.45am and 6.00pm

Prayer meeting – Tuesdays, 7.30pm

Infant Seekers Club – Thursdays, 5.00pm

Junior Seekers Club – Thursdays, 6.00pm

(Groups meet during termtime)

Find out more:
<https://www.crichbaptist.org/>

CRICH WESLEY CHAPEL

Book of Common Prayer holy communion – Sundays, 8.00am

Sunday afternoon worship – 3.00pm

Family Café church – third Sunday of the month, 9.30-11.00am

Healing prayer – third Tuesday of the month, 2.00pm

Miscellaneous

WOMEN’S INSTITUTE

First Tuesday of the month, 7.15pm

Venue: South Wingfield Parish Rooms

WI BLUEBELL WALK

Saturday 27 April

Contact: Kate: 01773 778493 or via Facebook: wisouthwingfield

MOBILE LIBRARY

Second Tuesday of the month

Fritchley, The Green – 10.10-10.40am

Crich, Market Place – 10.50-11.15am

Crich, Culland View – 11:20-11:35am

Crich, Cliff Inn car park – 11.40-11.55am

If you would like your group’s events or meetings to be featured here, please contact Crich Standard, editor@crichstandard.org

Please check with groups directly if you would like to attend any of these events or meetings, to check dates and times. Crich Standard cannot guarantee the accuracy of these listings, which may be subject to alteration after publication.

Public access defibrillators in Crich Parish

Article and photos by Geoff Brown

Here in the UK, about 30,000 people every year suffer a cardiac arrest outside of hospital. If this happens, the speed of response is critical. Sadly not every case will be treatable, but to stand the best chance, the 'Chain of Survival' below should happen as quickly as possible. Every minute of delay will reduce the chance of survival by 7-10%.

- Call an ambulance (call 999 or 112).
- Start cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), or at least chest compressions. The ambulance service will provide advice and instruction on this over the phone.
- Fetch (and use) an automated electronic defibrillator (AED). It will tell you what to do!
- Ensure specialist treatment from the medical professionals when they arrive.

You may already know that defibrillator awareness sessions are being organised in the parish by the Patient Participation Group. Keep an eye out in the local media for details.

We are fortunate in having SIX public access defibrillators in our villages. In case you are not aware, these are situated at:

- 1 **Crich Tramway Village** – outside the museum, on the wall of the cottage to the left of the iron entrance gates (when looking from the road)
- 2 **Crich Market Place** – in the refurbished telephone kiosk adjacent to the troughs
- 3 **Crich Glebe Community Centre** – on the wall in front of you as you approach the main doors
- 4 **Crich Fire Station** – to the right of the front access door
- 5 **Fritchley Green** – in the old telephone kiosk
- 6 **Whatstandwell, Family Tree** – to the right of the main entrance

To access them a security code may be needed from the ambulance service – so get that call in early!

Geoff is an ex-resuscitation support trainer for the British Red Cross.



2



4



1



6



3



5

Repairing Teddy and other news from Transition Crich

By Clare Limb

In October we held our final Share and Repair Café of the year, and in total our expert repairers fixed, gave advice on or reviewed 74 items brought along by members of the local community. This included a much-loved teddy bear, which the team of repairers Janet, Clare and Sue set about making good again. Kate, the owner of the teddy, said:

"I was thrilled and so grateful to have my teddy repaired. The teddy was hand made for me by my great aunt and is over 30 years old. The fabric has become thin and fragile. The sewing team did an amazing job and I am looking forward to passing it on to my daughter when she is a bit older."

This year we plan to expand our Share and Repair Café events to include stands from local organisations who are promoting sustainability and wellbeing. If you are interested in taking part, please contact us using the email address below. Our next event will be on Saturday 2 March at Crich Glebe Community Centre. We also have workshops planned for 2024, so keep an eye on our website and social media for details.

We continue to support Darcie from Refills on the Road (the mobile zero waste shop) in her fortnightly Tuesday afternoon visits to Crich Glebe Community Centre, and we

are involved with ongoing conversations with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, and about the Derwent Living Forest, Futures Housing and greening local spaces.

At our October meeting we formally constituted our group, meaning that we can now apply for larger sums of money from trusts and foundations to help us to undertake more sustainable and impactful projects in the future.

If you have an idea for how to make Crich and the surrounding area a more sustainable place to live and work, or if you would like to help out at an event or join one of our working groups, please visit our website: www.transitioncrich.co.uk, get in touch: transitioncrich@gmail.com or send us a message via our Facebook or Instagram accounts @transitioncrich.



Crich Youth Club fundraising update

By Karen Sutton

If you happen to be walking past the Glebe on a Thursday evening you will certainly see the growing number of young people arriving for Crich Youth Club (CYC). On average twenty 11-to-17-year-olds come along each week to meet up with old friends, make new ones, and have fun whatever the weather.

The club is run by a mix of volunteers and paid youth workers from Blend Youth Project. It is a relaxed informal group with areas for playing games like table tennis and table football, crafting and chilling out with friends. There is also a tuck shop selling snacks and drinks.

Where does our fundraising come from?

In order to cover the weekly overheads of the club – to pay our trained youth workers and cover room hire – as well as putting on additional activities throughout the year, like a climbing wall and this year's Christmas disco, the Youth Club relies on a combination of funding streams in order to keep opening the doors every week. Subs are £2 per session, but that doesn't cover our costs.

Grants and funding opportunities across all sectors are becoming more and more competitive and we are not always successful with our applications, but the CYC committee continues to seek out new grants, reapply if we are unsuccessful, and find ways to make our funding more sustainable for the future. Without at least one successful grant each year we struggle to make ends meet.

That is why we are so grateful for the kind donations we receive from individuals and local businesses to our raffles, as well as support from community groups and events such as Open Gardens and the Hallowe'en Firefighters' Charity Car Wash, which was a huge hit this year. Thanks to everyone who came along, to the young people who got



involved, and to our local fire team and their outstanding Hallowe'en outfits. The sun was shining and business was brisk all day, and the donations from this event will be used to organise a special event to be chosen by the young people at the Youth Club.

Like so many community groups, the annual Crich Summer Fête is our biggest event of the year, not only for fundraising but also for the wider community to see what the Youth Club and the young people are up to. Our tea tent is always a bustling area of the fête; thanks to everyone who came to the Scout Hut and supported this year's rained-off event, and to Jake from Crich Butchers for allowing the cake stall to take place.

We ended 2023 on a high with a fantastic Christmas disco at the Youth Club and our Retro Dance Night fundraiser at the Glebe – a festive and fun way to end the year. Big thanks to the band Retro, led by Jim and Kate Baker, and everyone who came along and danced the night away. Without fundraising events like these, the Youth Club cannot survive!

At the time of writing we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 11 January and making 2024 another successful year for this thriving and vital weekly hub for the young people of Crich Parish.

If you would like to donate or help with fundraising, please get in touch: crichyouthclub@gmail.com

Crich Youth Club meets at Crich Glebe Community Centre on Thursdays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. The club is for young people aged 11 to 17. Cost is £2 per person per session. No need to book, just turn up. Everyone is welcome!

Poppy Appeal 2023

By Kevin Oliver, Vice Chairman, RBL Crich & District Branch

On behalf of the Royal British Legion (RBL) I would like to thank everyone in Crich and the surrounding area and villages for their generous donations to the 2023 Poppy Appeal. The appeal raised a grand total of £2,365.00, higher than last year's total and a fantastic achievement considering the current cost of living crisis. A huge thank you to Chris Scorch, our Poppy Appeal Organiser, for his hard work and commitment.

Of course, this total would not be possible without the support and generosity of our local pubs, clubs, shops, businesses, schools and residents. Thank you to you all for your needed and much appreciated continued support. A big thank you to the Old Black Swan pub in Crich who donated the proceeds from one of their Sunday night quizzes.

Thank you to Crich Parish Council for their help and very generous support and for providing the lamppost poppies which you will have all seen in Crich, and also to Crich Comrades Club for their hospitality and support throughout the year. Thanks to the Post Office for the loan of the cash counting machine – it made counting a lot easier! It also provided us with a good few minutes' entertainment watching John Lucas and Stew Harrison trying to operate it, even after having the operating instructions explained – thanks Karen, we got there in the end!

I would also like to thank the Crich & District RBL branch members and volunteers; without your support and time this appeal would not be the success it is in raising the funds that go to support members of our Armed Forces Community who find themselves in a time of need.

Crich & District RBL will continue to be active throughout 2024, working to support and raise the profile of our Armed Forces Community. However, our branch is currently short of active members to fulfil the required committee posts. We have vacancies in various roles, and if you might be able to fill them it will be highly appreciated and very rewarding.

The Crich & District branch has been in existence since 1929, and we pride ourselves on the fact that we are still going strong. With your help we are hoping to make it to 2029 for our 100-year anniversary and beyond. If you have an interest in the Armed Forces, why not become a member of the RBL Crich & District Branch? You do not have to have served in the Forces; membership is open to everyone.

If you do not want to be a registered member of the branch but have spare time to offer, then why not become a fundraising volunteer? These are needed especially during the Poppy Appeal, which is one of our busiest times.

Finally, we are a sociable group mostly made up of ex-service personnel who wish to see the branch flourish and continue supporting our Armed Forces Community. If you would like to help us make a difference to the future of our servicemen and women and their families, you are welcome to join us at one of our meetings so we can explain our activities in detail and hopefully discuss ways of involving you, either as a branch member or as a volunteer, thus securing the future of our Crich & District Branch.

We are based at Crich Comrades Club. Further information is available from our Chairman, Keith Forsyth (07984 203138) or from our Facebook page (Royal British Legion Crich & District).

2nd Revolution Quilters

By Laelia Burch

One of the most frequently asked questions about our group is how we got our name. It derives from the village of Pentrich (where we meet), and the events that took place there back in 1817 – that is, England's last revolution.

Times have changed since 1817; Pentrich is now a quiet little village with no revolutionaries, but it does have its quilting groups whose members come from across the area, a significant number from Crich, Fritchley and Whatstandwell. Our 'revolution' was in 2004 when a second quilting group was formed in the village to cope with the increasing number of people wanting to be involved with quilting.

Quilting has been around for thousands of years. Originally two or three layers of fabric were simply hand-stitched together to produce warm clothing and bedcovers. Quilts have since developed into works of art that can be worked either by hand or machine. Several different styles can be found around the world, each producing their own distinctive designs, and we enjoy taking these ideas to make our own versions!

We meet on a Monday morning in the village hall. We are not a teaching group as such, but we are happy to share our knowledge and encourage anyone wishing to learn this craft.

Schools Update Crich Infants

By Louise James

The Autumn Term at Crich C of E Infant School was nothing short of extraordinary! Our little stars shone brightly, creating memories and spreading joy throughout the term.

A special shout-out to our incredible children who delivered a show-stopping Nativity performance! Their talent, enthusiasm and adorable smiles truly lit up the stage. We couldn't be prouder of each and every one of them.

Now, as we turn the page to the next chapter, we're gearing up for our enchanting World Book Day celebrations. Our upcoming Book Fair during the week commencing Monday 26 February promises to be a magical experience for all, filled with the wonders of literature. On World Book Day, Thursday 7 March, our children will be invited to don their most imaginative costumes and dress up as their favourite book characters. Let's make World Book Day 2024 a chapter to remember!

Parents, we thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Your involvement helps our school community to stay vibrant and thriving.

Crich Scout group is celebrating its 100th anniversary!

By Duncan Ganthony

Crich Scout group is officially called 1st Matlock (Crich), because Crich was the first Scout group in the Matlock district, forming in 1924. There have been many changes over the years, not least to uniforms – the Scouts today certainly don't look the same as when they started, nor even as they did when I was a Scout in my youth. There was an update in the 1990s, partly to introduce a new uniform designed to withstand the destructive powers of even the most energetic Cub Scouts.

My children enjoy wearing my old Cub hat, and if I had old Scout berets or Baden-Powell-style wide-brimmed felt hats they'd enjoy wearing those as well. One item of uniform that has disappeared is sock garters; my children don't even know what these are! Even the most iconic item of uniform has changed over the years; originally the necker was tied with a knot but later woggles were introduced, and these are now part of the uniform in all their varieties.

The Crich Scout group has also changed over the years, with the number of sections growing. Originally Crich only had a Scout group, followed by a Cub pack. We currently have a Beaver colony, a Cub pack and a Scout group, with older members moving on to district Explorer groups or coming back to help run sessions as Young Leaders.

The Scout group was held in a sitting room before moving into parts of the Cliff Quarry joiners' shop, then the Black Swan club room and the bottom school before the Jeffries Lane Scout Hut as we know it opened in 1967. The whole Scout group was involved in fundraising over a number of years to buy the hut, and the group then added the finishing touches to it. Following damage in winter storms the hut had a new roof a few years ago, which stopped the leaks and will enable it to be used for years to come.

There is more information on the history of the Crich Scout group on the Crich Parish website, including pictures of the group through the years.

To celebrate our 100th anniversary this year the group will be organising various activities, including camps (not just in the summer months – also a hopefully successful January Chilly Challenge).

We have spaces in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts for both leaders and children, so if you are interested in joining in please contact the leaders at Crichbeaverleader@gmail.com, williamcaine@btinternet.com and myscout@onlinescoutmanager.co.uk.

If you are unsure about whether to get involved, the best people to talk to about it are the children themselves. If your child knows someone else in school that already comes along, please have a chat with them about why they enjoy being a Beaver, a Cub or a Scout, and about all the activities that we get up to.

Check the Community Diary pages for details of each group's meeting days.

Amber Rock Holiday Resort latest

By Tony Mills, on behalf of Residents Opposed to Amber Rock (ROAR)

Although I am Chair of the Crich Standard committee, I am comfortable writing this on behalf of ROAR because BMET, the applicant for outline planning permission at Crich Quarry, or any other group supporting the plan would be welcome to write in the magazine. However, as there has been no public engagement at all since a postcard and lightweight website in March 2021, it comes as no surprise that nothing has been offered. Indeed, some have noted that BMET has demonstrated a certain amount of disrespect for our community.

In case you have forgotten, the Amber Rock application has been on hold since June 2022 awaiting further information from the applicant. This has finally been received, triggering another round of consultation that technically expires on Friday 1 March.

If you haven't responded to the consultation yet, there's still time; the County Council will accept all responses right up to the date of determination, which is unknown at the moment. To help you make up your own mind please see the full and updated application on the Derbyshire County Council Planning web portal (planning.derbyshire.gov.uk, reference CM6/0122/28), or visit the ROAR Facebook page for further information and assessment.

Many of the points have already been well rehearsed, but perhaps there are also some deeper matters to think about.

With some concern, I wonder how much weight is being given to climate change issues. While singular events such as the recent flooding that made Crich almost inaccessible for a short time may be dismissed as a one-off, is there a broader view? Surely continuing climate challenges in rural areas with ageing Victorian infrastructure must impact the long-term sustainability of major projects.

Equally, major construction work is a necessary fact of life for many in countries across the world; without capital projects the world stands still. But is sufficient consideration given to the impacts on long-term mental health for those who are directly affected by such projects? In our case there will be perhaps five years of construction, and many more years of increased traffic volumes with the associated noise, pollution, congestion and potential safety issues. What is the relative weighting of our community's mental health?

Whatever your position, please do take the time to have your say either in favour of or against this application. If it goes ahead, it will inevitably affect all of us.



Crich Glebe Community Centre – our place to have fun, get active and meet new friends

It's quite difficult to contain our excitement at the Glebe Community Centre following the amazing news in December that the National Lottery Community Fund have not only supported our bid, but increased the funding awarded to a whopping £233,278. This incredible investment in our local community is going to pay for some significant upgrades to the Centre building – mainly to make it more environmentally friendly – as well as funding a three-year Centre Manager position. We are also investing in some screen and projection equipment, and will be working with Crich Live to bring events to the Centre that will make use of this equipment as well as hopefully starting a regular film club.

It's important to point out that the Lottery funding is all earmarked and allocated; it doesn't contribute in any way to our ongoing running costs and staffing. For this, we still need to offer more and more activities and events at the Centre that you in the community can support and take part in. With that in mind, this year we are looking forward to introducing some themed evening meal events such as a tapas night, hosting a spring tea party, running a second Wellness Hubhub event to bring together local health and care professionals, taking part in the Crich Well Dressing, and, further in the future, holding an autumn festival event and of course the popular Christmas Fair.

We will also be looking to widen still further the range of regular activities that you can take part in at the Glebe. We already have social groups like the new Women's Group, the Youth Group and

This year we are looking forward to introducing some themed evening meal events such as a tapas night, hosting a spring tea party, running a second Wellness Hubhub event to bring together local health and care professionals...

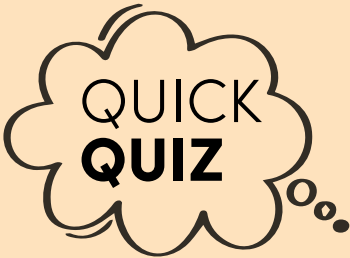
the Men's Group; we have yoga, aerobics, indoor bowls and kurling, children's dance and table tennis groups; we have family lunch on Mondays, the Tuesday lunch club and the Crich Luncheon Club on Wednesdays; and we are still home to a hairdresser, an optometrist and the Toy Library.

Keep an eye on our website crichglebe.org, our Facebook page facebook.com/crichglebe, and posters around the villages for updates on what's on – or why not just pop in and see what's happening? We always offer a warm welcome to people who come through our doors.

Don't forget, this is your centre to use and enjoy. Make sure you let us know what activities and events you would like to see. The Lottery investment is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for us to make sure the Glebe plays an important role in the heart of our community for many more years to come.



Because your magazine and online content aim to promote and support everything local, we're also keeping it local for your quarterly quiz! See how you get on, whether you're Derbyshire born and bred or a new arrival.



compiled by Roger Bode

1. In August 2005 the stretch of the A52 linking Nottingham and Derby was renamed after which person?

2. John Flamsteed, born in Denby in 1646, was England's first what?

3. Which writer, born in Glossop, has twice been awarded the Booker Prize?

4. Which founder of a worldwide travel agency was born in Melbourne, Derbyshire in 1808?

5. Name the second largest town in Derbyshire after Derby.
6. Chrome and Parkhouse are examples of what Derbyshire features?

7. He grew up in Belper and went on to play James Bond. Who is he?

8. Thornton's, based in Alfreton, made the world's largest chocolate bar in 2011. What was the weight?
- a) D H Lawrence

b) Michael Morpurgo

c) Hilary Mantel

d) Zadie Smith
- a) 6,051.50 kg

b) 4,307.50 kg

c) 3,214.50 kg

d) 5,792.50 kg

- Answers
1. Brian Clough (Brian Clough Way)

2. Astronomer Royal

3. c

4. Thomas Cook

5. Chesterfield

6. Hills

7. Timothy Dalton

8. d