



# CRICH Standard

CRICH • FRITCHLEY • WHATSTANDWELL

Issue 101 • SPRING 2022

[crichstandard.org](http://crichstandard.org)

**Climate change  
consciousness in Crich**  
Around our allotments

Issue 101 • Spring 2022

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Front cover photo by Geoff Brown

## From the Editor

**This magazine will be hitting your doormats just as I find myself away overseas for the first time in almost exactly two years. I am fortunate enough to have travelled fairly extensively and very much enjoy a trip to the Alps for some skiing.**

However, increasingly, flying abroad to enjoy the wonders of our planet feels like the wrong thing to be doing. Those of us that ski, particularly anywhere near or on our European glaciers, have all noticed the gradual and now accelerating reduction in size of these once enormous and awe inspiring natural wonders. Even 20 years ago I remember having to climb hundreds of steps on vertical ladders to reach the Konkordia mountain hut that once sat on the edge of the mighty Aletsch glacier, but was, even then, perched hundreds of feet above it on the vertical cliff the receding ice has left behind.

Only blind ignorance can possibly still deny the impact that humankind is having on our planet. This edition of Crich Standard focuses on the environment and climate change... not from a global big picture perspective, but from our parish's point of view. What can we do here? What is already happening in our community? What can we do as individuals?

There are examples from our youngest residents of what to think about and how to speak out. There are community groups with ideas for local initiatives. There are examples

of small changes we can make in our daily lives, as well as big changes we can work towards.

In writing about my own environmentally 'bad habits' I am potentially opening myself up to criticism. However, taking action on climate change isn't just about pointing out what others could change, it is about thinking hard about what we each could change ourselves. We all need to make some changes, big and small. For me, the changes I am making are in the hope that there'll be snow and ice to ski on in 20, 50 and 100 years from now...I wouldn't want our children, and theirs, to miss out on that!

**Andrew Auld**  
*Editor*



Photo by Paul Yorke



## News in Brief

### Well Dressings for 2022

by Sandra Maycock

We are planning for our parish well dressings to go ahead on 9 July. During the past two years I have heard a number of people say, how lucky we are to live where we do. On my daily walks, I know I've looked at my surroundings far more than I used to.

During a recent meet up with Jill Neal this aspect came up in conversation and inspired us to decide our theme for the 2022 well dressings: 'Our Beautiful Parish'. It gives groups scope to depict something from nature, wildlife, woodland, a view, a feature, a place, a building or buildings, the list of beauty which can be seen in the parish is endless.

We then questioned how water, a celebratory element of well dressing, fits in to this topic. All living things need water and my tenuous answer for buildings is that water is needed to put buildings together.

On that note, I will contact established groups to determine if they would like to participate this year and to list the feature they will depict (so we don't get all the same pictures). If any new groups, or even a few neighbours who would like to get to know each other, want to take part in a traditional event (support and instructions are provided) please contact Sandra on 01773 828856.



### Crich Youth Club

by Corinne Clemson

**Crich Youth Club opened its doors on 28 October 2021 after a few months of consultation with young people and fundraising. As ever there has been a tremendous response by local people and we have been successful in our grant applications which means that we have sufficient funds until well into 2022.**

The Club is very well supported by youth workers from Blend Youth Project, a charity based in Ripley and a team of volunteers. Over the last few weeks, our Thursday evenings have seen an average of 20 young people, aged between 11 and 16, enjoying table tennis, table football, pool, craft activities and board games. Any young people who might be interested are welcome to drop in on any Thursday evening (from 7.30 at The Glebe).

Although we have funds to support the club for a while, we still need to keep on top of fundraising to ensure it's able to continue well into the future. If you feel able to support us financially that would be wonderful, either as a one-off donation or a regular commitment through a standing order, please email our Treasurer: karen@thedriverhandbook.co.uk for our banking details.

We have had a number of business donations and extend our grateful thanks to all those who have donated including: Nisa; Callum's voice; St Mary's, Popalong, Crich Parish Council, Police and Crime Commissioner, Derbyshire Foundation, Derbyshire County Council, Explorer Scouts and numerous personal donors.

## News in Brief

### Crich PPG - if you don't tell us we can't do anything about it!

by Steve Wood

Social media encourages us to have a rant and moan about things to let off steam. We all recognise the immense pressures on the whole health system during the pandemic and, hopefully, make allowances when things take a bit longer or have to be changed. All organisations should welcome feedback (both positive and negative), but constructive comments, compliments and ideas do actually help organisations improve things for everyone.

The Patients' Participation Group (PPG) is active in influencing both the local primary care health provision from Crich Medical Practice, and the broader changes that are happening in the NHS, some of which you may not even be aware of. Do you know what ICS, Summary Care Records or Team Up are? They will all affect how we get care in the future.

**We especially want to hear more from younger patients and parents using health services. If you would like to know more about what's going on in the NHS or if you have any constructive feedback or ideas on local healthcare services to share, why not join the PPG, follow us on Facebook or contact us at [ppgcrich@gmail.com](mailto:ppgcrich@gmail.com).**

### Reusable and zero waste products

by Elizabeth Parker

#### Thinking about reusable nappies?

Did you know reusable nappies can save on average a whopping £1,475 or more (including laundry costs) over two and a half years? There's even a washing service and a money back incentive from our local council.

**For more information on this check out the Derbyshire County Council website - Real Nappies - Time for a Change.**

#### Zero waste period products

Each packet of disposal sanitary towels contains the equivalent of five plastic carrier bags. And on average women have periods for 40 years of their lives, that's 9 to 12 periods a year, that's roughly 450 in a life time. Using zero waste period products will not only help the planet, they can also save you money. There is a huge range of reusable options including towels, underwear and other products available on the market.

**If you're interested, check out Shelbizlee, a YouTuber who shares lots of information.**

## FRITCHLEY VILLAGE HALL & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

by Steve Wood

**Firstly, special thanks are due to Dave and Claire for putting up (and taking down) the village Christmas tree and lights, Ian for helping choose it, Robin for providing the electricity and his patience while we sorted out the persistent intermittent power problems on the lights.**

The new format tree switch-on and the Craft Fair, organised by Jan and her hard working team, were very well attended, particularly considering the miserable weather on the day! Comments and feedback welcome. It was a big shame that the planned Winter Celebration for local children had to be cancelled at the last minute.

It must have been a first for morris dancing and ukeles in the church? If you came to the Christmas Fair, you hopefully noticed that the church has been redecorated and now looks magnificent inside, even with new carpets and padding on the pews. Did you know it is licensed for weddings and would make a great venue?

By the time you read this we will have held another of Elaine's (slightly boozy) quizzes in the hall, and the Events Team will be well on with planning an event for around Easter time. Always room for more people with ideas for events, and funding available to support them, and spaces for more groups to use the hall.

Ideas, enquiries and feedback please to [fritchleyvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:fritchleyvillagehall@gmail.com) or the FCA Facebook page.

## Art Share Crich Spring News

by Clare Limb

**During the pandemic many people have turned to being creative and expressing themselves through arts and crafts to help them get through the toughest of times.**

Art, culture and creativity have been recognised as ways of helping people deal with difficulties such as loneliness and isolation; or enable us to find a deeper connection with our natural surroundings.

Art Share Crich (ASC) was formed in 2020 to provide opportunities for people in the Crich area to share their art and stories and through the process, connect with others.

The team of volunteers at ASC were delighted by the success of the various art

sharings and workshops which took place in 2021 including Rhymes and Lines, Get Creative and Have Fun workshops at The Crich Tramway Village and the annual Community Art Sharing, art exhibition and art sale in partnership with ArtStand.

The ASC team is busy putting together an exciting array of opportunities for you get involved with in 2022.

In the planning stages is an exciting special project with The Crich Tramway Village which aims to creatively takeover local outdoor spaces with 'guerrilla' style arts and crafts (watch out for Have Fun and Get Creative workshops being advertised).

We will also be hosting a creativity and wellbeing network meeting in spring. The network aims to bring together any individual or group in the area who has an interest in promoting positive wellbeing for people in the Crich area using creative approaches.

Finally, we are planning to hold the third Community Art Sharing at The Glebe in October.

**For more information follow us on Facebook @artsharecrich or visit our mini-site on [www.crichstandard.org.uk](http://www.crichstandard.org.uk).**

**If you are interested in getting involved in any of the above, please contact Clare Limb on [clarelimb@gmail.com](mailto:clarelimb@gmail.com)**

## What goes on at the Wesleyan...

by Martyn Offord

**Popalong** is a joint venture run by St.Mary's Church and the Wesleyan Chapel.

**Popalong meets** at the Wesleyan Chapel and welcomes new families. For those new to the area, Popalong is a Baby and Toddler Group (0 to 3 years) where mums, dads, grandparents or carers can meet up with others and relax while little-ones play, babies wriggle, stare or sleep, enjoy refreshments and join in the singing with Martyn on his guitar. The group is very friendly and supportive, especially to families new to the area. The session is from 9.30 - 11.30am and we meet during term time.

**For more information contact Lynda on 01773 857921 or [jimlynda.gray@btopenworld.com](mailto:jimlynda.gray@btopenworld.com).**

**Covid guidelines** are followed as we want to keep all safe and well. Please contact the leaders before popping in, as at present an eye is being kept on numbers.

### Family Cafe Church

On the 3rd Sunday of each month from 9.30 am to 11am anyone is welcome to join Family Cafe Church...and especially those with age 5 to 11 year old children. There are Bible stories using Superbook films, refreshments and activities.

**BCP** (Book of Common Prayer) **Holy Communion** takes place at 8am every Sunday morning.

There is always a small gathering of people (socially distanced), and you are most welcome to come any week.

### Healing Prayer

A supportive, friendly group meeting once a month, on the third Tuesday afternoon in the month at 2pm. We have clips from videos to help us in our worship, sharing and praying for one another, and for loved ones.

**Crich Area Dementia Friends** music sessions are on the second Friday of every month. They start at 2.00pm. The music offered is a glorious mixture; the emphasis is definitely upon enjoyment. There is often the opportunity to join in but only if people wish. Following the music, a cup of tea and a piece of cake is served.

**Check out the Wesleyan Chapel page on [crichstandard.org/directory](http://crichstandard.org/directory) for more regular events.**



## Crich Parish Council and Climate Change

by Paul Yorke

Along with many of the usual issues and activities, the Parish Council has been discussing what role we can play on the big issue of climate change.

We know that governments have to deal with the national and international challenges, but also know we can all make a difference as individuals and through local organisations. For our part we have formed a working group to lead our contribution and to ensure we make the most of the pieces of land we own and recommend other initiatives we might take.

We have planted a number of trees on the recreation ground and along with The PLACE Project have agreed to clear the recreation ground banking (gym equipment side) and plant wild flowers and appropriate shrubs. We also objected to the felling of trees at Haytop County Park and confirmed our support for replanting there.

To commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee we are investigating the creation of a new garden area on the Jubilee ground.

We were pleased to see the establishment of the Crich Environmental Group and have also been happy to support the Friends of Crich Chase who are looking to secure the future of this important woodland. We know that community groups can play such an important part in local actions to bring about change.

**We will continue to take initiatives, and also support appropriate community activities, as we all respond to this enormous challenge.**



Photo by Chris Baker



## Allotment-ing – hard work, pleasure or a bit of both?

By Pauline Blake

Illustration by Mike Blake

*'ALLOTMENT. Noun. Def:*  
A piece of ground rented  
by the optimistic for the  
cultivation of vegetables and  
other plants for food, on the  
mistaken assumption that  
this can be done without  
any need for the investment  
of time or effort.'

Dr Johnson.



**Not a real definition, of course, but one which sad to say some innocents believe when they proudly take on their first allotment. In reality, it takes time and effort to make one work – but like so many things that do, it pays back many, many times over!**

So if it is hard work, why bother? That's what I'd like to explain - why I enjoy allotmenteeing so much and why it might be for you too. When I sat down to think about answering this question, oddly enough the first things that came into my mind weren't about plants at all. It was the enjoyment of watching the sheep with their new lambs in the field next door – less fun when the lambs get through the fence and attack your plot of course.

Second came thoughts of companionship. A very good friend has the plot next to mine and meeting up with her adds another level of enjoyment. An immediate cup of tea and a chat on arrival, then an inspection of our two plots followed almost certainly by a nose around everyone else's is the standard ritual. The other allotmentees are a great group too – someone is always ready to help, share experiences and offer advice, and just chat! It is great to see the range across generations, grandparents to grandchildren all enjoying some fresh air and a little hard work.

My allotment is an extension of my garden, in that I like to companion-plant lots of flowers in with the vegetables. This has both aesthetic and practical value – the colour and shapes add visual interest and pollinating insects are attracted to do their magic on the veg too. Sitting looking and listening to the bees, hoverflies and (shock horror) even wasps of a summer's morning is sheer bliss.

Allotmenteeing is a broad church and there are a number of different approaches used across the different plots. Some go for intensive planting for maximum yields on an almost garden nursery scale. There are no fixed paths, the whole plot is cleared each spring, rotavated and planted. Others keep

clear patches with fixed paths in between and rotate crops between them. Some allow the plot to change in a sort of organic way, with random plantings across the ground which change over time.

I like to have fixed paths with clearly defined edges and adopt a no-dig approach as much as possible. And in between lots and lots of flowers! These do serve a double purpose, as they provide cut flowers for home too.

The enjoyment extends beyond the plot itself. One can help friends with produce, perhaps for example providing emergency supplies of rhubarb to the Loaf! Even when the growing season is over there is still fun to be had. Seed catalogues to pore over, old favourites to revisit, new varieties to try out. I can spend hours looking and choosing. And recording successes and failures – though I'm not as good at that as I should be (according to my dear husband), preferring to draw a veil over last year's flops and always look ahead to next season's successes!

Walking home with a basket of fresh vegetables, fruit and flowers is a wonderful feeling and why many allotmentees 'allotment' (what is the verb?). For me the best part is sitting and relaxing, enjoying watching my efforts grow. Sitting in our chairs, one with 'HEAD GARDENER' on and the other with 'Thinks he's HEAD GARDENER', just soaking up the beauty of it all is the best part.

*The enjoyment extends beyond the plot itself. One can help friends with produce for example*

# Notes From the Allotment

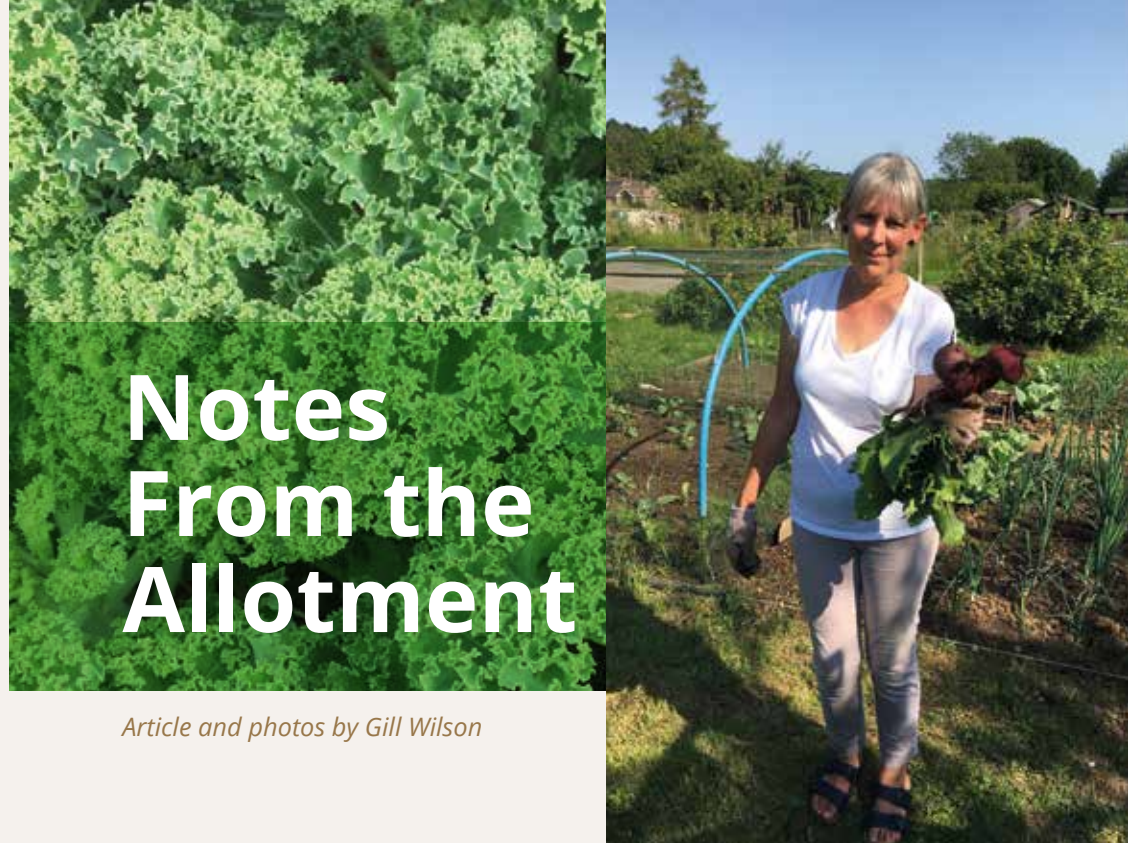
*Article and photos by Gill Wilson*

**I applied for an allotment at Whatstandwell a few years ago and thought it would take around 8 years to get to the top of the list. But I was amazed to be contacted in late February 2020, just before lockdown started and was offered a plot! There were two plots available and one of them had a greenhouse on it. Another family had also been contacted and chose the allotment without the greenhouse, much to my delight. The large plot had been well tended and had blueberry bushes, a plum tree, a small pear tree and a large horseradish (which is a bit of a brute and still needs attention).**

Coincidentally, at the time a friend told me about Charles Dowding who is a proponent of 'No dig' gardening. This method is generally used by organic vegetable growers where the soil is left undisturbed and compost piled on top of the beds which adds nutrition to the soil. From the beginning, my evenings were spent watching his YouTube channel and Instagram posts poring over what to do next on my new adventure.

As Covid restrictions were just starting I tried to find out if my half-hour walk to the allotment to plant seeds and tidy up my plot was allowed. It was within the guidelines and the allotment became my main occupation besides my studio work.

Weeks went by and my plot flourished. It was quiet everywhere and those days without traffic and airplanes enriched the days of lockdown. As the A6 was silenced, birdsong was suddenly everywhere and was really uplifting.





The allotment was an oasis of tranquility and I didn't initially meet the other allotmenters, only glimpsing them from a distance. However, as the lovely weather continued and the allotment was the sanctuary of everyone on it, we eventually made contact and I received so much support, advice and encouragement.

Two years later and I now feel part of the group of growers. It has been a steep learning curve and I have realised that you can't rely

on the same things happening from year to year. Some years there are more severe frosts, some years it's really dry, some years a crop is really productive and others it doesn't produce very much. Ways of storing water have become a priority and this year I have three full water butts so am off to a good start. The allotment is a reminder of the fundamentals of life. It offers enormous rewards and great community against a backdrop of challenge, hard work and many drawbacks. But when the sun shines in June on an abundant harvest it

makes it all worthwhile. The tranquility and reflection the allotment offers has provided a valuable contribution to my work in the studio.

This year my resolutions are to grow more of what I like eating – and a lot less runner beans! More French beans, more sweetcorn (they did really well last year), more leeks as they are so good over the winter and more flowers to attract insects etc. It's a really rich and exciting activity with lots of differing approaches, it's beautiful, varied, fascinating and a place where I relax and unwind.

I've met and got to know other allotmenters and started to learn more about different approaches to growing. I also hope to sit and ponder life a little more to reconnect with the earth, it's an ego-less activity and allows you to just be a person. I would recommend it to anyone, even just a small plot is amazingly fruitful.







Our son Gideon is in Year 6 at Crich Juniors and recently created a poster as part of the Belper climate change demo (Parents Strike with the Kids). His artwork has made it into a Climate Change book which was published with zero carbon printers and handed out to delegates at COP26 and environmental activists including David Attenborough, Greta Thunberg, Jane Goodall and His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

Called Climate Change Children's Voices, the book is a 200 page collection of photographs and drawings from children across the UK. The aim is to branch out the project into schools and education so that children's voices continue to be heard, as they will experience the changes to the earth's climate in ways



*Gideon's crying Earth image on a t-shirt*



*Gideon's crying Earth image on a bus stop ad and the original image below.*

that we adults will never know. Hopefully awareness around COP26 and projects like this book will help to change the tide for generations to come.

Gideon's crying earth image was made into a logo for the campaign to raise funds for the printing of the book. It was used on a t-shirt, hoodie and beanie worn at the demos at COP26!

It was also blown up to poster size and displayed in bus stops around Liverpool city centre for a month after COP26.

It's very exciting and we're super proud of our eco-warrior and to be part of this project.

Karen & Gideon

For more information on the book  
project visit: [gofundme: gofund.me/99f75321](https://gofundme.com/gofund.me/99f75321)

[www.climatechangechildrensvoices.com/2/](https://www.climatechangechildrensvoices.com/2/)





# Sustainable shopping

by Claire Ganthony

**When it comes to thinking about how to reduce our negative impact on the planet, it can be a little overwhelming. What are the key issues to consider and how can we make changes to the way we live and shop that have the biggest positive impact on the world we live in?**

## What are the key things to think about?

**Shop locally and seasonally.** The less distance a product needs to travel the better it is for the planet. While strawberries are delicious, those available in Britain during the winter will have a greater environmental impact than those we buy in the summer months. The more local the better, but as a small country, imports from much of Europe are also relatively local. When buying imported goods, those that come via shipping have less impact than air-freighted items.

**Eat a broad range of products and ingredients.** Increasing the amount and variety of veggies that form part of our diet, especially those grown locally (or even better, grown ourselves!) is not only good for our planet, it's good for our health too. The shortage of staples such as pasta, flour and eggs during the start of the pandemic highlighted our reliance on these items. Diversifying, by adding more UK native grains such as oats, wheat and spelt and using UK produced nuts, seeds and herbs adds nutrients, flavour and interest to our diet. When eating meat, think about its source. Can

you buy meat raised locally? Can you support farmers that protect the natural environment, ensure good welfare standards and limit the use of chemicals?

**Limit consumption of the things that have the biggest negative impact on the planet.** When you do buy them, where possible, buy Fairtrade or from a sustainable producer. Some of the products which can do the most harm to the planet may be surprising to you:

- Almonds and cashews
- Avocados and bananas
- Corn, rice and imported quinoa
- Cane sugar, tea, coffee and chocolate
- Soy
- Palm oil

## Local sustainable shops

There are a number of sustainable stores locally. Eartharmony in De Bradelei House, Belper sells produce which are plant-based, cruelty free and sustainable. They are also mostly organic. The store offers refills on food, home care and personal care items. You can bring your own containers, buy a reusable container from them or put your products in their compostable, recyclable paper bags and reclaimed, amber or branded bottles. There is a click and collect service available as well as items being available for local delivery or by post. You can also drop your containers off with a list of what you would like and Andy and Marisha will text you when it is ready to collect. Skopa in Wirksworth offers a similar service and range of products. It is open 6 days a week (closing at lunch on Wednesdays and not open on Sundays) and also has an online shop for click and collect orders as

well as a 'walk in' service. Further afield there is also Steph's Sustainables at Chesterfield Market and The Fig in The Eagle Centre, Derby. Buying fresh fruit and veg from local grocers, such as Gummers in Belper or from the selection available at the butchers in Crich, offers opportunities to buy locally and with reduced packaging.

## What are the supermarkets doing?

There has been an increasing pressure on supermarkets to up their game when it comes to sustainability and many of the big chains are making some changes in response.

## Reducing plastic packaging

Morrisons was one of the first to make a move in this direction by increasing the amount of fresh produce available without single use plastic packaging, and most other supermarkets followed suit. In Tesco and Sainsbury's reusable net bags are available and Lidl also offers 'green bags' for their loose fruit and veg. Throughout the rest of the stores the sizes of many packets have been reduced, while the amount of content has remained the same in an attempt to limit the amount of packaging used.

## Refills

While many of the big supermarkets have opened flagship stores offering zero waste and refill aisles, offering package-free items such as rice, cereals, shampoo and pasta, these are currently unavailable in our local area. For refills, we need to support our local sustainable shops.

## Recycling

A 'soft plastic' recycling point is available just inside the doors of Tesco in Alfreton. Many harder to recycle plastic items such as clear film used to package fresh meat and fish, bread bags, fruit and vegetable packaging, crisp packets and sweet wrappers (which cannot be placed in our household recycling bin) can be recycled here. Battery recycling collection points are available at Lidl and Aldi locally, and many of the bigger supermarkets have glass, plastic, paper and clothing collection bins in their car parks.

## 'Wonky veg'

Many of the main supermarkets now offer less than perfect looking fruit and veg, often at a lower cost. Purchasing these items, which may in the past have been wasted as they

didn't look quite right, increases demand and reduces waste. Where possible, choosing these items without plastic packaging has a double impact.

As consumers our choices have a direct effect on what is provided. The more we choose the items with less packaging or no packaging at all, the more we buy the things that aren't quite perfect and the greater variety of locally produced grains, fruits and veg we purchase, the more supermarkets will provide them.

It may seem overwhelming, but changing something, no matter how small, is better than changing nothing at all. If all of us take small steps, particularly in exercising our consumer power, we can collectively have an impact.



Photo by Markus Spiske on Unsplash

# Building and renovating in a climate conscious age

by Jillian Mitchell

If there is one good thing about 2021, it is that many of us started to think seriously about the energy-efficiency of our homes. Whether it's Greta who has inspired you, or news from COP26 which has made you feel anxious, it's been hard to get away from the fact that we all need to do whatever we can to reduce our energy consumption.



If you are thinking of renovating or extending your home, it's a great opportunity to look at measures you can take to improve energy efficiency whilst you replace the conservatory or add that extra room. Insulating walls and floors or sorting out ventilation might not feel very exciting, but reducing your energy bills and improving the indoor air quality will be worth the effort and expense.

Think of the improvements in terms of four key principles: heat, air, moisture and light. Insulation, together with ventilation and air-tightness, enable us to reduce the amount of energy we use to heat our homes and ensure that we have plenty of lovely fresh, healthy air. If we concentrate on one, at the expense of the others, we can potentially create more problems than we resolve. For example, if we install lots of insulation but don't think about how the house is ventilated, we can increase the risk of condensation forming which can lead to mould growth.

Older properties, particularly those with solid, stone walls, can be difficult to treat, but that doesn't mean there aren't measures you can improve in the building fabric. You'll want to avoid impervious materials – plastic-based insulation and cement-based renders – and there are natural alternatives when it comes to internal wall insulation, with cork- and clay-based products which effectively manage vapour movement. As we block up all the gaps around doors and windows, and swap open fires for woodburning stoves, we need to consider how best to introduce fresh air and remove stale air without losing heat or creating draughts.

Newer homes should be well-insulated already; cavity walls should be well-filled, although it is rare to find a whole-house ventilation system in a home unless it is



purpose-built. Trickle vents – those strips often found in window frames – are intended to provide background fresh air, but too often they can result in draughts and are left closed.

Loft insulation should be thick and tightly packed. At the eaves, where the roof meets the walls, it's vital to ensure ventilation above the insulation is maintained to keep the roof timbers in good condition. The loft access hatch should also be insulated – it's easy to DIY if it hasn't already been installed.

If this all feels very scientific, you might like to consider how you can increase the amount of natural light coming into your home. Natural daylight increases our sense of wellbeing and helps us to feel connected with the outside world. There is always a need to consider orientation to avoid overheating if you have larger areas of glass. Roof lights are a great way of bringing light into an older property

and positioning a roof light carefully can transform a dark space – stairwells are one place to consider.

There is a vast amount of bewildering information out there, so it's a good idea to get advice from professionals who specialise in low-energy construction. Whatever improvements you decide to make, keep in mind the four key elements of low-energy design – heat, air, moisture and light – and remember the mantra "build tight, ventilate right" with every choice of treatment you choose to implement.

**Jillian Mitchell is a chartered architect and a director at Lomas and Mitchell Architects, an award-winning practice specialising in low-energy, healthy, beautiful buildings.**



## Just a thought

# Somewhere to turn

by Ian Whitehead

I recently saw this coloured calendar for the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021. My brain tends to see information better in colours and what impacted me was just how much we have been living through together and the pressures that will inevitably bring.

I found it interesting too to map my own health and wellbeing over the same time, using a similar Red, Amber, Green colour scheme. It shocked me, but also demonstrated that none of us are cut off from all that is happening around us.

Thinking about this, we all too often answer a greeting of 'All right?' with the bland 'Fine thanks', when many times the opposite is more likely to be true. Sometimes it'd take too long to explain why that day is 'blurgh', or

just simply difficult. At other times some of us don't like disappointing the person who has asked, by admitting that, no, things are not all right.

We often hear that it's 'OK not to be OK' and perhaps we need to give ourselves permission to actually believe that and to be good to ourselves.

Within our churches we offer the words of Jesus: 'Come to me all that are troubled and weighed down...' perhaps now, more than ever, we need to hear that more. Knowing that there IS somewhere we can go when our day is not 'Fine thanks'. Don't see it as running away, rather that you are able to receive support. Jesus' words end '...and I will give you rest'.

A short prayer: Lord, give us a break. Amen.

	2020	2021
JANUARY	No lockdown	Lockdown
FEBRUARY	No lockdown	Lockdown
MARCH	Lockdown	Restrictions - Step 1
APRIL	Lockdown	Restrictions - Step 2
MAY	Lockdown	Restrictions - Step 3
JUNE	Restrictions - Stay Alert	Restrictions - Step 3
JULY	No lockdown - Eat Out	No lockdown
AUGUST	No lockdown - Eat Out	No lockdown
SEPTEMBER	Restrictions - Rule Of 6	No lockdown
OCTOBER	Restrictions - Tiers	No lockdown
NOVEMBER	Lockdown	No lockdown
DECEMBER	Restrictions - Tiers	Restrictions - Plan B



## Friends of Crich Chase

by Jane Corton

**Anyone who lives around the Crich parish will know the beautiful area known as Crich Chase.** It covers 182 acres of ancient woodland home to around 18,000 trees, such as chestnut, oak, birch, sycamore, ash and alder. It also contains bracken, brambles and a large and very spectacular area of bluebells, and many creatures such as woodpeckers, badgers, grass snakes and common lizards call it home. The Chase has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest because of the diversity of this ancient woodland.

Beyond all of this the Chase is a special place for the community and is used by young and old for exercise, relaxation and a fantastic natural play area. It's somewhere for people to walk their dogs, watch the wildlife and the change of seasons and generally to feel the calm and peace that comes from being in the woods. Children go there to run and build dens where they play using their imaginations and enjoy the outdoor environment.

This special place is now up for sale and a group of local people have formed the Friends of Crich Chase to try and crowd

fund to buy the woods so that it can stay accessible for our community for years to come. At an asking price of £720,000 this is quite some undertaking so the campaign is being supported by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust who will also manage the woods for the community, if we are able to make the purchase. This will help ensure open access throughout the area and that the appropriate environmental management is available. Considering the emphasis on the environment and climate change recently highlighted by COP26 it seems even more essential that we do all we can to save this precious piece of our natural surroundings, which has a beneficial effect on our local area.

I would urge you to go for a walk in the Chase and experience the beauty for yourself. If you would like to support this campaign to help save this special place you can find out more by ringing 01773 881188 or by visiting the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust website or the Just Giving website.

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/crich-chase-woodland](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/crich-chase-woodland)

A Wild Garlic Walk through Crich Chase appeared in our very first edition of Crich Standard. Go to the website to see the route: [crichstandard.org/walks](http://crichstandard.org/walks)



# Unmarked military graves

by Peter Patilla

**Men who lost their lives during WW1 (or shortly afterwards as the result of injuries or illness sustained whilst serving with the forces) are entitled to a military headstone. There are several military headstones in the churchyard, however, there are two men who lie in unmarked graves: Frederick Bown of Fritchley and Frank Arthur Hall of Crich.**

**Frederick Bown (1897– 1919)**, son of Christopher and Mary Ann Bown, died as a result of his wounds and gassing just after the war in July 1919.

**Frank Arthur Hall (1890– 1918)**, who died in the flu epidemic whilst still serving.

Both men are remembered on the Crich War Memorial by the church gates and on the original 1920 Roll of Honour inside the church. It is very unfortunate that they have been overlooked in regard to having their currently unmarked graves appropriately recognised.

The body responsible for military graves is the Commonwealth War Grave Commission (CWGC) who have been contacted to advise them of these two omissions. An acknowledgement of my submission has been received with the warning of a substantial wait-time before they are able to respond.

Anticipating a positive response it will be critical to accurately identify the two unmarked graves. Luckily there are some clues in William Piggin's burial record of the time:

**From North wall reading from East wall to top of quarryhole**

## Row 1

Adams George, 54 years, Crich  
Martin Alfred, 40 years, died at Ripley, Crich  
Gratton G (pte) 25 years died at Colchester hospital (a military headstone)  
Taylor Maurice (Heappey) 24 years Crich

## Row 2

Bingham James (pte), 37 years died in hospital at Canterbury (a military headstone)  
Hall Frank Arthur (pte) 28 years  
Buckley Anthony 73 years Parkgate, Crich  
Gibbons Elizabeth 69 years Wheatcroft (marble headstone to Elizabeth and Daniel)  
Gibbons Daniel 66 Wheatcroft

**From North wall reading from East wall to top of quarryhole**

## Row 3

Martin William H 37 years, Nottingham Prince  
Eliza 52 years Chapel House Crich  
Bown Frederick C 22 years died of wounds at Leicester  
Wetton Bertha 5 years Crich Common

To be sure, if anyone is able to confirm the position of Frank Hall's and Frederick Bown's graves that would be very reassuring.



## Farming and its impact

Article and images by Geoff Brown





## Farming has shaped the countryside since around 5000BC. Almost everything we eat is produced by farmers somewhere in the world and we all need safe and nutritious food.

During and for many decades after World War II, farmers were encouraged by the government to increase food production as much as possible to feed a hungry nation. Advances in technology allowed the yields of crops and animal-derived foods (meat, milk and eggs) to significantly improve. This incentive to produce more food was underpinned by guaranteed prices so that farmers had the confidence to invest in buildings, equipment and technology.

Since the 1970s the European Agricultural Policy has sought to guarantee production levels, and provide income support where necessary. In some situations this has impacted the environment in unintended ways, even though there were benefits to be gained.

Crops and animals only thrive if they are properly cared for. The UK has some of the most demanding farm production and animal welfare standards in the world and with the UK population set to rise to about 75million by 2050, the need to produce good food at affordable prices is becoming even more important. We will need to produce significantly more food, but on less land with fewer inputs and less water. We also need to waste less!

The UK is only about 60% self-sufficient in food production and is reliant therefore on global supply chains, which don't necessarily have the same standards. Our government is calling for agriculture to be net carbon zero by 2050. In fact, farmers themselves, through the

National Farmers Union, have committed to achieving this by 2040. Farmers have always adapted to changing circumstances and fully recognise their responsibilities in mitigating climate change; after all, it affects them maybe more than most.

The emphasis for farming has changed from support for production to support for the environment, and a new UK farm policy is changing the emphasis of how the government will support farmers moving forwards – to improve the environment and provide clean water, woodland and increased biodiversity.

**There are three main farm support schemes being introduced over the next five to six years in the UK:**

**The Sustainable Farming Incentive** – which will support approaches to farm husbandry that deliver for the environment, such as actions to improve soil health, hedgerows and integrated pest management

**Local Nature Recovery** – which will pay for actions such as creating, managing or restoring habitats, natural flood management and species management

**Landscape Recovery** – which will focus on landscape and ecosystem recovery through projects looking to achieve large-scale forest and woodland creation, peatland restoration, or the creation and restoration of coastal habitats, such as wetlands and salt marsh

Although the same amount of financial support has been promised as has previously been paid under the old direct payment support schemes, there is a lack of clarity as to how these new schemes will work in practice and farmers need financial certainty and time to make significant changes to their businesses

It is early days for our local farmers to have clear plans. In Issue 96 of Crich Standard, we indicated that in our area the main 'crop' is grass which in turn supports predominantly dairy, beef and sheep production. Areas of non (or less) productive land are best suited to delivering the benefits of the new schemes. Farmers have to meet the demands for economical food production in a sustainable way. Be assured that they are adapting to the new schemes and will continue to do so, just as they always have done.

*Farmers have always adapted to changing circumstances and fully recognise their responsibilities in mitigating climate change*



# What's On

Below are the events scheduled at time of going to press.

## REGULAR EVENTS

### MONDAYS

**DERBYSHIRE TOY LIBRARY STAY AND PLAY** (weekly)  
9.30-11am, Crich Glebe Field Centre

### TUESDAYS

**GENTLE SEATED YOGA** (alternate weeks)  
10am-noon, Crich Glebe Field Centre

**THE TUESDAY CLUB SOCIAL** (weekly, booking essential)  
12:15-1:30pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

**FRITCHLEY AND DISTRICT OAP SOCIAL** (monthly, first Tuesday)  
2pm Fritchley Village Hall

**TABLE TENNIS** (weekly, Sept-April)  
2-4pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

**4C CHOIR** (weekly)  
6:45pm, The Family Tree, Whatstandwell

**CRICH BRASS REHEARSALS** (weekly)  
7pm, Fritchley Village Hall

**TRANSITION CRICH** (monthly, second Tuesday)  
7:45-9:15pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

### WEDNESDAYS

**CRICH LUNCHEON CLUB** (weekly, booking essential)  
10:30am-1pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

**WHATSTANDWELL AND DISTRICT WI** (monthly, second Wednesday)  
2pm, St Margaret's Hall, Alderwasley

### THURSDAYS

**CRICH CRAFTERS SOCIAL GROUP** (monthly, second Thursday)  
6-8pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

**CRICH YOUTH CLUB** (weekly)  
7-9pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

### FRIDAYS

**POPALONG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP** (weekly)  
9:30am, Crich Wesleyan Chapel

**COMEALONG MUSIC GROUP** (monthly, second Friday)  
2pm, Crich Wesleyan Chapel

**INDOOR BOWLS** (weekly)  
2pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

**MUSIC NIGHTS AT THE COMRADES** (monthly, first Friday)  
6:30pm, Crich Comrades Club

## SATURDAYS

**MUSIC NIGHTS AT THE COMRADES** (monthly, third Saturday)  
8pm, Crich Comrades Club

Check the [crichstandard.org/](http://crichstandard.org/) events for listings.  
Email [news@crichstandard.org](mailto:news@crichstandard.org) to add your event.

## OTHER EVENTS

### MARCH 2022

#### CRICH LIVE EVENT

##### Ma Bessie's Prohibition Party

Take a trip back to Prohibition-era America with Ma Bessie & The Pigfoot Band. Book tickets at [www.crichlive.org](http://www.crichlive.org)  
Saturday 19 March, 7:30pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

#### ART STAND CRICH EXHIBITION

##### Spring Arts and Crafts fair from local artists and makers.

Sunday 27 March, 10am - 5pm, Hurt Arms, Ambergate

#### CRICH HERITAGE TALKS

##### Ashover light railway - a talk by Richard Booth

Richard is chairman of the Ashover Light Railway and his talk concerns the railway's past and future.

Thursday 31 March, 7:30pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

### APRIL 2022

#### CRICH HERITAGE TALKS

##### The Nightingale Murder - a talk by Julia Hickey

Thursday 28 April, 7:30 pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

#### CRICH LIVE EVENT

##### 'Bonfire Radicals' in concert

Saturday 30 April, 7:30pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

### JUNE 2022

#### Belper Goes Green

There will be eco info, talks and stalls, lots of live music, CAMRA real ale and cider festival and lots more! [transitionbelper.org](http://transitionbelper.org)

Friday 10th June to Sunday 12th June Belper Cricket Club.

#### SIGNALS FESTIVAL

An eclectic day for all ages, where music takes centre stage and headlined by the Charlatans. [signalsfestival.co.uk](http://signalsfestival.co.uk)

Saturday 11 June, 9am - midnight, Crich Tramway Village

To keep up to date with What's On please check the website



# Art Stand and Landscape Artist of the Year

by Denise Clifflen

Artstand now has 12 members and for those who aren't familiar, we are a group of local artists living within the parish of Crich. We have artists, photographers, sculptors, potters, felters and more within our group. Amongst us are amateurs, semi-professional and professional artists, we meet regularly socially and take part in exhibitions and craft events locally. Artstand was founded by David and Kennedy Hunns from Whatstandwell in 2018.

If you are interested in joining us please contact David Hunns on 07835 886595.

A date for your diary - Artstand will be exhibiting and selling their arts at the Hurl Arms on Sunday 27th March, Mothering Sunday, do come along and browse and we hope to see you there, please check out the Artstand Facebook page for more information.

One of our members, Denise Clifflen has recently revealed that she took part in Landscape Artist of the Year Series 7, episode 1, aired on Wednesday 12 January. Denise said:

*"I took part in Sky Landscape Artist of the year competition at the Eden Project in Cornwall in June last year. There were eight artists in the heat and we had to paint the landscape including the biomes plein-air (outdoors) in four hours including interviews within that time with Stephen Mangan and Kathleen Soriano. I would normally take something more like 44 hours, so this was a real challenge!"*

*Each artist had already been through a selection process to take part, based on their submission painting, in my case it was 'Yellow Silo' based on a photo taken on a walk in the snow just beyond Middleton Top. It was, despite the short painting time, a long day from 7am to approx 8pm, I was so nervous when I arrived I refused coffee, although wanting it, as I feared with my shaking hands I would spill it everywhere. I was amazed at the huge amount of people involved in the filming and I will never look at another TV competition again without visualising the stuff that goes on behind the camera. I managed my nerves with a talk to myself to just enjoy the day and it worked.*

## Community Round-up

*Furthermore, during a short break, I viewed the other artists' work and because of the beautiful artwork I saw, I comfortably resigned myself to enjoy the experience as I wasn't going to make the grade. I can only reveal this now, as the programme has been aired; I was completely in shock when I was announced as one of the three heat semi-finalists, apparently my expression of disbelief was 'one of the best'?! (I'm yet to see the episode, but fair to say I will be watching through semi-closed fingers). The finalist was then announced and I have to say her painting was deservedly the best and not knowing the winner of the competition as yet, I have everything crossed for her to win!*

*Just a quick NB. Over 10 years ago my son offered to arrange a parachute jump from a plane for me. I said yes, despite my fear of heights, events happened, time passed and 10 years on parachute jumps for me are a 'no'. However, when this opportunity arose, heading for 60, I thought, I can say yes and always change my mind later. I am so, so glad I did it. For my family, friends and art students, for my late parents and for myself."*

[www.denise-clifflen-artist.com](http://www.denise-clifflen-artist.com)

[www.easelweaselartworkshops.co.uk](http://www.easelweaselartworkshops.co.uk)

07930 354380



Denise Clifflen's LAOTY Painting

## Community Round-up

Thomas receiving his Bronze Award from Sarah, our Beaver Scout Leader



## 1st Crich Scout Group Update



by Di Fretwell

All sections are back meeting in the Scout hut and it has been really encouraging for both the young people and the section leaders to be back in our own 'home' and also for the young people to be with their own age groups and section leaders.

Beavers is the fastest growing group with lots of new members but there is still room for a few more! This is our youngest group aged 6-8 years. We are proud of Thomas Coward, who gained his Bronze Scout Award at the end of the autumn term. He really worked hard to achieve this, especially as much of his time in Beavers has been through lockdown. Well done Thomas!

Please contact Sarah McCarthy (beaverleader. crich@gmail.com) for enquiries about Beavers.

Cubs after months of joint meetings with either the Beavers or the Scout section., The cubs programme can now be planned specifically for their age group:8-10½. Enquiries to Bill Caine (williamcaine@btinternet.com).

Scouts (10½-14) meet on Wednesday evenings and enquiries can be sent to Nigel Shaw (scoutleader.crich@gmail.com). Previous activities included the investigation of the apple juice process – ways to prepare apples and also made juice from the apples they pressed!

Four Scout teams met a cooking challenge – planning and cooking a meal from around the world. Team choices were South Africa, Greece, Italy and Mexico. Our adult supporters Heather and Hazel judged strictly, so standards were high!

At the end of the year the Scout group delivered the Christmas card greetings from the local churches to every home in Crich. Our Scout families also visited the pantomime in Wirksworth to cheer (or boo?) our well-known local actor Richard Horton – whose name did not appear in the Queen's New Year acting honours...is that a boo!

By the time you read this, the groups will be excitedly preparing for summer camp activities which we are confident will be able to go ahead. After two summers of cancelled group camping our 2022 camps are going to be the best ever!

## Community Round-up

# The book of beginnings

by Caroline Hand

Last September we had the joy of restarting our Seekers club at Crich Baptist Church, welcoming a growing group of children between the ages of four and nine. Appropriately for this new start, we looked at Genesis, the biblical book of beginnings. Though the events recounted in this book took place many millennia ago, its wisdom speaks directly into our current struggles to protect our planet from climate change and species extinction.

We spent several weeks learning how the world was made by a good and powerful God: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." The children heard how our beautiful planet is not a random occurrence, but a beautiful masterpiece created by the most incredible designer. If this is true, we must surely treasure the earth, and care for God's other creatures which share the planet with us.

Our craft activities helped us to look around and wonder at the different aspects of creation. The children took home a colourful pansy in a pot they had made. We had a starlight evening, with sparkly lights and games in the darkened chapel, and made pictures of the constellations. We learned how God made the seas teem with life, when we made pictures of a seal colony thriving on a clean and unspoilt shore.

Genesis tells us that men and women have a special place in creation. We celebrated our uniqueness, and family likeness, by making outlines of all our hands, and putting them together on our 'Seekers tree'. Many people wonder whether their lives have a purpose: Genesis tells us that God gave the first humans the special responsibility of caring for the natural world. Adam was a gardener, and also the first zoologist as he was given the task of naming all the animals.

In Seekers we don't shy away from the lessons of the sad stories. The tragic account of humanity's rejection of God explains why suffering, decay and death spoil our still-beautiful world. We ended our time in Genesis creating colourful mobiles of the rainbow - the symbol of God's faithfulness, given after God had preserved a human family and every kind of animal, through a catastrophic flood. Noah had spent over a year caring for this very diverse collection of species!

Responsibility for creation is a natural consequence of the wonder we feel at our earth and its great Creator who entrusted it to us.

**Seekers meet at the Baptist Church every Thursday during term time:**

**5pm for Infant Seekers**

**6pm for Junior Seekers**

## Community Round-up

# Transition Crich

by Ade Smith

**In issue 92 of The Standard, Tony Mills wrote an article about the environment which triggered the Crich Environmental Group. Then we were hit by the pandemic which meant that the group never really met in person and communicated by WhatsApp, a far from ideal method. As a result, the group wasn't really able to achieve anything, despite everyone being extremely enthusiastic and well intentioned.**

As Covid restrictions started to ease a few of us had a very small and informal meeting where, amongst other things, we decided that we should hold a more formal meeting and get the group active. The first meeting was held in November 2021 with just six people in attendance and, at the suggestion of Tony and with the agreement of all present, I became chairman, with Gail Roberts taking on the role of secretary. We had a seven-minute brainstorming session and came up with many ideas for the group including connecting with local Plastic Free Networks, organising a trip to a recycling plant, exploring Electric Vehicle charging points at The Glebe, set up a litter picking group, try to get children involved with things like bug hotels, and looking into food waste in the area and how we could reduce it, plus many other ideas.

Having spoken to the joint leaders of Transition Belper prior to our meeting I suggested that we should also change the name of our group to Transition Crich and become part of the National Transition Network which is a very successful environmental group. Despite the low attendance many subjects were covered

and we all left the meeting feeling that great progress had been made, so much so that we all went to The Black Swan and continued our discussions there!

A second meeting was held in December which was much better attended. Clare Limb took us through a visualisation exercise taken from Transition Network national leader Rob Hopkins. Some of the ideas that came from this included rewilding/green spaces, reduce waste, saving energy and community involvement.

Things are already starting to happen to improve the local environment such as the Glebe now has the environment as part of its new five-year strategy; Crich Junior School has a garden which is cultivated by community members; people are taking their own containers to shops to reduce the use of plastic bags and a litter pick will have taken place led by ACE and Whatstandwell Social Club.

Research is being done into Repair Cafes and the possibility of starting our own in Crich and we are looking into ways of improving the state of our local footpaths, many of which are in poor condition or badly overgrown. So, as you can see, we have short-, medium- and long-term ambitions for Transition Crich!

Alan Richmond has kindly set up a Facebook page for us @transitioncrich and is currently working on a website too. If you are interested in joining us or have suggestions for projects you would like us to take on, you can contact us via the Facebook page.



## Community Round-up

# CRICH LIVE

## News from the Glebe Crich Live update

by Andrew Auld

It's been so great to see new activities starting up in the Glebe over the last few weeks and months and as we move into Spring there is more and more on offer to get you moving, meeting, chatting and eating! See the What's On pages for some of the regular events and the Crich Live shows, but also keep an eye out around the village for posters of one-off happenings.

You may not know that we have some smaller rooms we can hire out on a daily or even hourly basis. They are perfect for those meetings where you need to get away from the hubbub of the home office. We also have rooms suitable for occasional hire by health and care practitioners - chiropody, chiropractic services, massage therapy and so on. If you would like to take a look at any of these rooms and discuss availability, talk to Sue or Marie in reception or on 01773 857894.

We also have a space upstairs (yes the Glebe does have an upstairs) which is ideal for hot-desking...it has LAN connection points to get a really good internet connection and desks can also be booked with Sue or Marie.

Finally, look out for plans for two big celebratory events this year. Firstly we will be working with other organisations in the village on some events around the Queen's Jubilee. Then in September, we will be celebrating our own milestone...25 years since the Glebe opened its doors.

**Watch this space!**

by Roger Bode

As you read this Spring will be springing and we hope we can put a spring in your step with our upcoming shows. We are raring to go in 2022 and hope you are looking at booking your tickets for our live shows for some fun nights out.

If are new to Crich Live then we hope you will take the opportunity to see what fantastic performers are visiting our community this year. And if you are a returning guest then we look forward to welcoming you again.

Dates and times of our March and April shows at the Glebe Field Centre, 'Ma Bessies' Prohibition Party' and Bonfire Radicals, are on the What's On pages (p25). We are also looking forward to welcoming the folk group Bush Gothic from Australia during the Summer.

Our February show, 'Dudley - The Jazz of Dudley Moore' with the Chris Ingham Trio, was a sell out so get booking now to secure your seats.

**For full details on all of our shows please visit our website [www.crichlive.org](http://www.crichlive.org). You can also sign up to our mailing list and be the first to receive information and updates about our forthcoming shows.**



Front garden abundance

# Creating ethical local solutions

Article and photos by Ryan Sandford-Blackburn

**Caution! What you are about to read and learn about permaculture may change your perspective. It did mine.**

Permaculture offers solutions in a time where people are remarkably disconnected - from neighbours, from where our food and water comes from, and from the impact our consumption has. Permaculture connects us back to natural ways, by giving us thinking and design tools inspired by nature.

Three simple ethics are at the heart: earth care, people care, fair shares - making sure there's enough to go around now and for future generations.

The core concepts are heavily influenced by Aboriginals and other indigenous people

around the world. Combining them with the science of ecology, design approaches and appropriate technology. This makes permaculture a unique toolkit that is used to design at all scales - from homes and gardens to community projects and farms - all around the world.

Often, when searching to find out more about permaculture, you'll see it applied in the garden. A great place to learn about the way nature works! I've used permaculture to create gardens that need very little watering and while using no chemicals produce kilos of healthy, nutritious food. From fresh fruit for gobbling or making wines, to herbs for teas or sauces. Diversity is an important principle to me; I include a broad mix of plants, some for us to eat, plenty that provide nectar for pollinators, and lots of food for the soil life too. To quote the permaculture musician Charlie Mgee, "You are what you eat. And you



*On the permaculture community allotment in Belper*



*Ryan's allotment through cherry blossom*



*Ryan with Earthed Up! at 2021 Crich open gardens*

are what what you eat eats. And you're even what what what you eat eats eats." In other words, feed the soil, it feeds you.

I don't use herbicide to kill plants typically thought of as weeds. Some weeds like dandelions simply can stay and we have salad leaves and bumblebee food. Others, like grasses in the veg patch I weed by hand and mulch with compost, leaves, woodchip, something to exclude light from the grass and ultimately feed the soil. Mulch helps keep moisture in the soil too, so I use rainwater only and not tap water for the garden. Our three hens keep the slug population in balance, their bedding gives compost material and sometimes they give us some eggs!

We're happy to add delicious food to our diet from our gardens, though we are not self-sufficient by any means. We think carefully about sourcing the rest of our food. The majority comes from local businesses Pingle Produce's organic veg, refill businesses for dry goods, and of course Crich's brilliant bakery and butchers. We're fortunate to have access to such places here.

Permaculture is about sustainable, ethical solutions that work for you. And we don't have to (or can't) solve the big problems of our time on our own. On a community scale many permaculture designs result in creative projects creating abundance. See the Transition Network - local groups aim to be experimental, collaborative, and inclusive in reimagining and rebuilding our world. Transition started in 2006 as a community led response to the challenges of the time. There are now groups everywhere, over 1000, on six continents. Just a few months ago, Transition Crich was started!

**Ryan Sandford-Blackburn lives with his family in Bullbridge. He has worked for the Permaculture Association (Britain) for nearly eight years. He is a founding member of Earthed Up! - a Belper-based workers co-operative growing and selling edible and useful plants, delivering peat free compost, and offering courses. Earthed Up! are running an introduction to permaculture course taking place at Belper Lane End on Saturday 7 May 2022 [www.earthedup.com](http://www.earthedup.com).**

## Schools Round-up

### Generosity knows no bounds

*by Karin Baker*

**Here at Fritchley CE Primary & Nursery School, community is at the heart of what we do and despite these tricky times, where many within our community are struggling to make ends meet, our school community have been particularly kind and generous in supporting our charity fundraising events that took place during the autumn term, raising over £1200!**

Our Macmillan cake fundraiser generated £120.80 for this amazing charity, plus each child enjoyed a scrummy wrapped cake

£100.50 was raised to support young people's mental health on Hello Yellow Day for YoungMinds and the children looked very bright and cheery in their yellow clothes.

£125 was raised for the Royal British Legion's Poppy appeal with the children wearing their poppies and keyrings with pride.

A fantastic £683.29 was raised for Children in Need by all of the children from Nursery to Year 6 being sponsored to walk a mile around our glorious grounds on a chilly winter's day. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all, with some children even choosing to walk extra laps! (see picture).

The current Covid-19 situation continued to make it tricky for staff to accept physical presents from pupils or parents again at



*Photo of the Children in Need walk*

Christmas and whereas we are always grateful, and appreciate, the thoughtful gifts and cards, with this in mind, we suggested a charitable donation as an alternative.

This year the staff also donated to the Crisis charity instead of giving each other 'Secret Santa' gifts and this way we could all help the homeless at such an important time. Our community also supported us and the total raised was a massive £220!

Well done everyone, your donations have made a difference to so many people across the country.

I know that each of these charities badly need donations at the moment, so can I say a huge thank you to you all again on their behalf, for your generosity.

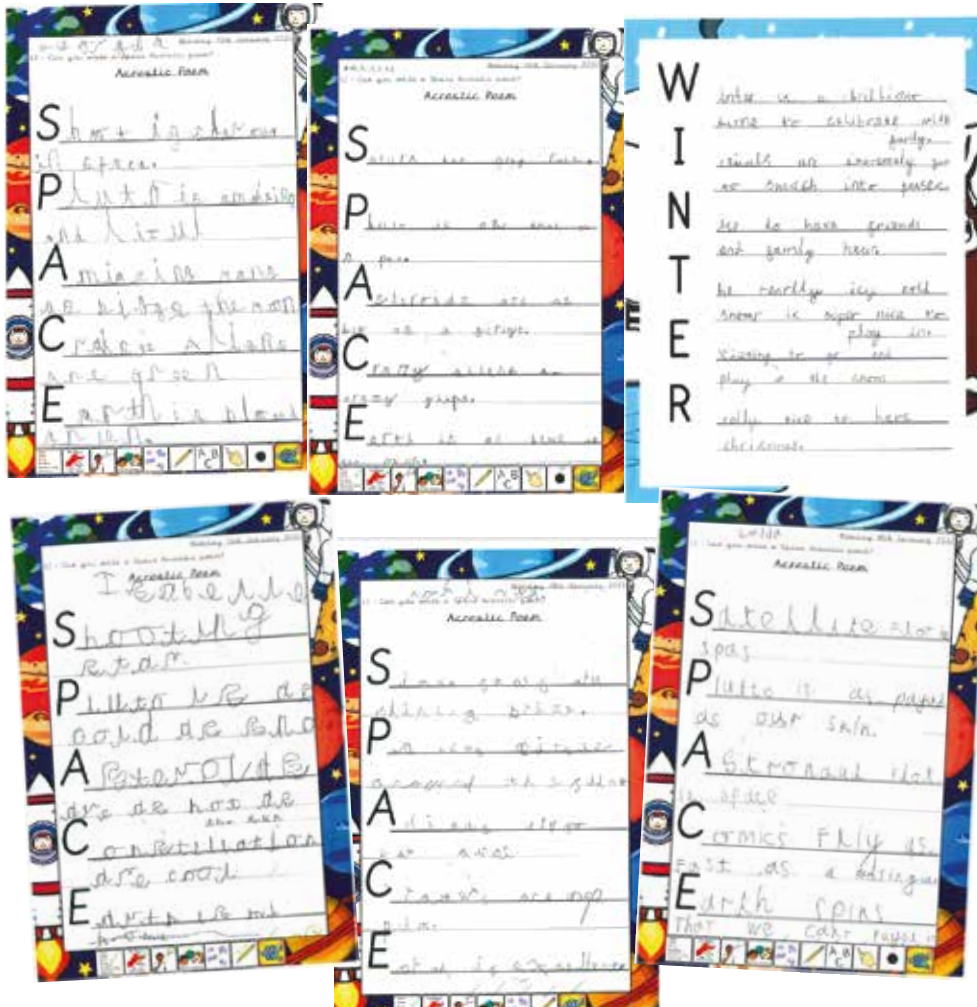


This term the children have been learning about 'Our Amazing Planet', exploring our place in space and finding out about colder climates on Earth. Here are some wonderful acrostic poems from our year 1 and 2 children.

## Schools Round-up

Crich Infants School

# Our Amazing Planet



## Schools Round-up

### Crich Junior School climate change posters

As you will have seen on page 12 one of our year Six children was involved in contributing to a book of posters and photographs from children demonstrating their concerns, worries and pleas about the current environmental crisis. Gideon also led an assembly about the conference and shared the posters and pictures, which led to more discussions and debates amongst all the children.

Following on from this, the children were really keen to produce something similar for the Crich Standard, as they felt children's posters transmit a strong message. Here are some of the posters they created!



# What can I put in my black bin?

by Claire Ganthony



## The following items can be placed in an Amber Valley black household recycling bin:

- Newspapers, magazines, catalogues and directories
- Junk mail and envelopes
- Paper and cardboard including cardboard eggboxes
- Plastic bottles
- Plastic food containers e.g. margarine tubs, yoghurt pots, ice cream tubs
- Biscuit or sweet tins
- Clean food and drinks cans or tins
- Clean aluminium foil
- Empty aerosols
- Glass bottles or jars of any colour (in inner caddy)



## The following items are NOT suitable for Amber Valley household recycling bins:

- Plastic bags or sheets
- Laminated paper or padded envelopes
- Tissues or kitchen roll
- Drinks cartons or tetra pak items
- Garden waste
- Plant pots
- Food waste
- Polystyrene
- Cling film
- Electrical items
- Metal pipes, paint/oil tins, chemical containers, batteries
- Clothing or shoes
- Crisp packets or sweet wrappers
- Plastic or paper plates and cups
- Wood
- Chinaware
- Mirrors
- Window panes
- Glass cookware
- Drinking glasses



Many recyclable items that cannot be put in a household bin can be recycled at local supermarkets, recycling centres or a Hidden Potential Blue Bag.



## Sustainable symbols

It can be tricky to know what the different symbols on products mean, especially when some seem so similar to one another.

Here's a quick explainer on some of the most common.

The **three-arrow triangular loop (mobius loop)** means a product is capable of being recycled. If there is a percentage in the middle, this tells you how much of the item is made of recycled materials. When on a plastic item, with a number in the middle, it indicates the type of plastic used in the item, and how recyclable it is.

- 1=PET Polyethylene Terephthalate
- 2=HDPE High-Density Polyethylene
- 3= PVC Polyvinyl Chloride

**These items are widely recyclable and can be placed in Amber Valley household recycling bins.**

- 4= LDPE Low-Density Polyethylene, capable of being recycled, but cannot be placed in our council provided recycling bins. Many can be placed in a Hidden Potential Blue Bag (bag £5, collection £8) Hidden Potential Belper <https://www.facebook.com/hiddenpotentialbelper>
  - 5=PP Polypropylene. Very difficult, or not possible to be recycled
  - 6=PS Polystyrene or Styrofoam. Very difficult or not possible to be recycled
  - 7= other. Usually a combination of different types of plastic and difficult to recycle
- 5, 6, or 7 should be avoided. Or if they are used, they should be reused as many times as possible to limit their impact.

An almost joined circle with a heart shaped arrow on a green background symbolises that a product is recycled by 75% or more of UK local authorities. The same symbol on a black background means it is recycled by 20%-75% of local authorities, so check before placing it in a household recycling bin. If there is a line through the symbol, it shows that less than 20% of local authorities recycle the item.

Light green and dark green interlocking arrows show that the manufacturers of the product have made a financial contribution to European recycling services. It doesn't necessarily mean the product is made of recycled materials or is recyclable.

A circle formed from two arrows with 'alu' in the middle shows that the item is made from recyclable aluminium. This includes tin foil, but for the best chance of it being recycled it should be scrunched into a ball, ideally at least tennis ball size.

A tree symbol with a tick to the left indicates the product is Forest Certified. This means it was made from wood sourced from a forest that has been responsibly managed, according to the Forest Stewardship Council's guidelines.

A black and white loop with leaves at the top, symbolises an item is compostable. These cannot be placed in your household recycling bin, but can go in garden waste bins in some local authorities (although not in Amber Valley, unfortunately.) Home composting is the best option for these items in our area.

The tidyman symbol is a reminder to dispose of your waste correctly and was created as part of the Keep Britain Tidy campaign.

A fairtrade mark shows that products bearing this symbol meet internationally agreed social, economic and environmental standards. It means the products are fairly produced, traded and fully traceable from farm to shelf.





The quiz in this edition explores themes around the environment and climate change. Who thinks smog is a character in The Lord of the Rings? Who thinks a greenhouse gas is an unpleasant smell in your garden?

compiled by Roger Bode

# QUICKQUIZ

- What year was Greenpeace founded?  
a) 1931 b) 1951 c) 1971
- Which naturalist and environmentalist presented programmes amongst others titled 'Zoo Quest', 'The Trials of Life' and 'Life in the Freezer'?
- Which 2016 Walt Disney film is a parable about climate change and indigenous rights?
- What is a copse?
- What was the name of the 2021 Glasgow summit on climate change?
- What was the name of the principal lion cub in 'Born Free' the book, and subsequent film, by conservationist Joy Adamson?
- How large is the Peak District?  
a) 1437km<sup>2</sup> b) 1879km<sup>2</sup> c) 2362km<sup>2</sup>
- What is the name for the region of the earth's stratosphere that absorbs most of the sun's ultraviolet radiation?

Answers  
1 c) 1971 2 Sir David Attenborough 3 Moana  
4 A small thicket, grove or group of small trees  
5 COP26 6 Elsa 7 a) 1437km<sup>2</sup> 8 The ozone layer



Andrew Auld, David Billyeald and Kate Killingsley-Smith  
Photo by Geoff Brown

## The last word

We very much hope you enjoyed the milestone 100th edition of Crich Area Community News/Crich Standard. It marked 25 years of hard work and dedication by volunteers in our community.

The occasion was celebrated by an event for contributors, advertisers, distributors and volunteers at the beginning of December and we took the opportunity to share the evening with key figures from the start of the publication.

I had the pleasure to invite Kate Killingsley-Smith, wife of the late founder of the magazine Derek, to join me during a welcome address. While surprised by flowers and the attention, Kate was keen to speak movingly about Derek's vision and dedication. Rather than reminisce about the past, Kate was quick to say how much she and Derek supported and appreciated the new look magazine that Crich Standard has become. We were all touched by the kindness and positive message from Kate.

Our Editor, Andrew Auld also presented the annual Crich Community Award. It was particularly fitting for Andrew and I to share the stage for the presentation as Chairs respectively of The Glebe Trustees and Crich Standard, positions held simultaneously for many years by the recipient of the award: that of course is David Billyeald.

A figure truly central to the development of our community, David was part of the original CACN committee which he chaired, as well

as being instrumental as part of the team that conceived and raised the funding for the Glebe Field Centre, which has sat at the heart of the Parish for 20 years. David was Chair of the Trustees at the Glebe until the end of 2020 when he showed the same attitude and courage as he had with CACN in 2018, by sensing the right moment to step down and pass the challenge, responsibility and opportunity to others.

Many will also remember David's important contribution to the Crich Carnival and Fete, yet another central pillar of the village and its culture.

Clearly both surprised and delighted by the award, David added his own appreciation for Kate, Derek and the CACN teams, together with those who had worked so hard on the development of the Glebe since its creation. He went on to thank Andrew and the Crich Standard team and continued the extremely generous theme of paying tribute to the work we have done in the last 12 editions. The Crich Standard committee of course is equally aware of and grateful for the 88 previous editions, the success of which is due to the energy, enthusiasm and long-term commitment of David and the volunteers.

It is an honour for those who follow David's example of community service and take the responsibility for continuing the work that he has done across so many aspects of life in Crich.

Tony Mills  
Chair, Crich Standard



# CRICH Standard

CRICH • FRITCHLEY • WHATSTANDWELL

*Crich Standard* aims to enhance and further the community spirit within the Crich Area.

## 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 at *Crich Standard*

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Siobhan Conroy, Administration

Sally Bestwick, Distribution

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Emma Nicol, Layout Editor

Karen Davies, Copy Editor and Proofreader

Leanne Aslin, Proofreader

Linda Philo, Claire Ganthony and Geoff Brown, Web Editors

Claire Ganthony and Geoff Brown, Reporters

## Next issue:

Our next edition will look at *Working Crich*, now and then. If there is anything that you would like to write about the history of the parish's working life - mines, quarries, railways, stocking mills, spring and dye works, we would like to hear from you. Equally, if you want to write about our villages as modern, virtual workplaces and hives of industry, then get scribbling!

Write to [editor@crichstandard.org](mailto:editor@crichstandard.org) by 13 April 2022 for publication in late May.

*Photo by Roger Bode*

Published by the Committee of *Crich Standard*