

CRICH • FRITCHLEY • WHATSTANDWELL

CRICH Standard

Issue 93 • Spring 2020

The new name for Crich Area Community News

crichstandard.org

A photograph of two young men sitting side-by-side, smiling. The man on the left has curly brown hair and is wearing a light purple hoodie. The man on the right has short brown hair, wears glasses, and a blue hoodie with a school crest. They are in a room with blue and green lighting in the background.

Youth and opportunity
Growing up in Crich Parish
Community news and views

CRICH Standard

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Front cover photo by Chris Baker



Youth has no age

When we were discussing suggestions for future themes, it felt like a nice idea to run a 'youthful' theme for our second spring edition. We decided it would be important to get as much content from children and young people in their 10s, teens and twenties as possible.

So on pages 9 and 10 you can read some quotes from cubs in the parish about why they like living here. Children from Crich Infants let us know in their own words their answer to that classic question, 'What would you like to be when you grow up?' as part of our Schools Roundup on pages 32 to 35. Also on those pages kids from Crich Juniors think about what their school does to prepare them for moving on to secondary school.

Read the thoughts of some of the girls involved in Scouting in the parish on pages 16 and 17 - it is so heartening to hear how these girls see no barriers to getting involved in all the activities on offer. There really is hope that gender will no longer be an issue when getting involved in any aspect of life, in this country at least.

On pages 14 and 15, three young men who have grown up in the community write about their experiences of working in local businesses, while on page 21 it is a political career that beckoned another village resident. You can contrast their lives with the opportunities facing children and young people 150 years ago on pages 39 and 40.

How about reading how schooling in our community has changed over the years on pages 22 and 23 or getting right

up to date with a look at how technology is used in Fritchley and Crich Carr Primary schools to equip our children for the modern world (11-13).

Taken together, these articles make for very hopeful reading and it is good to be buoyed by the enthusiasm and optimism of youth. However there is a dose of reality in the stories from CHIKS children on pages 36 and 37. Though all stories of good news, they do serve to illustrate just how lucky our young people are to grow up right here and right now.

A final thought, it is always good to recall the observation of Pablo Picasso on this subject: 'Youth has no age'!

Andrew Auld

As I write I have been observing the commemorations of the six million Jewish people and estimated 1.5 million children who were killed during the Holocaust 75 years ago. The shock of this and of all the death and destruction across Europe in World War 2 still rightly resonates today and we will be looking back at our parish in wartime in the next edition. **Read more on the inside back cover and do write to me with your stories - editor@crichstandard.org.**

News in Brief



Twinky gives 'pig' opportunities for young people

This is Twinky and her seven piglets. Twinky was provided by Crich-based charity, CHIKs, as a sustainable way of supporting some young orphans in Aduwa, Kenya who are being cared for in their community. Among other things, CHIKs has helped buy pigs, chickens and goats, as well as the means to grow fruit and vegetables. These in turn help provide an income to feed, clothe and educate these children. Already a number have been able to achieve a degree of independence and entry to careers. In the past, popular concerts by The Fishpond Choir have helped fund these children's opportunities.

The Fishpond Choir will be performing again at the Glebe at 7.30 on 28 March. Tickets will soon be available. Visit fishpondchoir.com for more information.

Directory

Don't miss the cut-out-and-keep listing of useful local numbers. We only produce this once a year.

You will find it on page 72

Whatstandwell Social Club - Spring 2020

The Committee would like to say thanks again to all those who helped make our events last year a success. The Open Gardens and Festival in particular had their best ever year. More details for 2020 in the next issue.

Meanwhile, just a reminder for getting your 2020 Festival tickets. Due to increasing popularity, we now sell the tickets online and because of insurance restrictions we have an attendance limit. To avoid disappointment we would strongly advise purchasing your tickets well in advance rather than turn up on the day hoping to buy on the gate.

Watch the website for more details.

Be a tram fan from a young age...

Did you know that young people can become Tramway Museum Society Members from the age of 4 onwards.

Information about membership can be found on their website: www.tramway.co.uk/contact/membership/

Crich Parish Council

An update from Margaret Lane, chair of Crich Parish Council, will be published on crichstandard.org/cpc and crich-pc.gov.uk from the end of February.

Hard copies will be available at the Post Office and Glebe Field Centre.

Donation thank yous

The Crich Monument Race Committee has made a donation of £100 to Crich Standard to thank us (and previously CACN) for our support (providing runners, promoting the race and supplying helpers) over the years. Thanks from us for this kind donation.

Don't forget to get your entry in for this year's race at crichstandard.org/cmr

Also thanks to Esme and all the customers at the King's Arms for their very generous donation of £223.

We would also like to thank all those who supported us by buying one of the 2020 calendars (and for those selling them on our behalf). We have made a profit to help support the magazine publication and we hope you are enjoying the local pictures.



The PLACE Project

by Paul Yorke

We are pleased that the new swing and shelter have been installed on the Crich recreation ground and hope to have had the new 12 seat curved bench installed before you read this! We thank Awards for All for funding the swing and shelter and Peveril Homes for funding the curved bench.

You may have also noticed three additional benches and we thank Keith Fearn, Maureen Ashton and Laura Taylor for their kindness and for creating a place for themselves and others to sit and remember. Our thanks also go to Esme and the patrons of the Kings Arms for a recent donation from their quiz night.

We know the play and gym equipment are being well used and also that some just enjoy the chance to exercise around the path. Many people recognise what a great place the 'rec' is and The PLACE Project committee is grateful to all who have contributed including: the Parish Council, Veolia, Awards for All, Peveril Homes, Harron Homes, Wheeldon Homes, the Cliff Inn, customers of the Post Office, The Loaf, Nisa, Kate Smith and many other individuals.

Finally, we make an important appeal to all dog owners: can you please pick up your dog's waste and use the bins provided. There are a number of associated health risks with dog waste and young children using the rec are therefore put in real danger!

PLEASE, PLEASE ACT RESPONSIBLY so that everyone can enjoy using this valuable community space.

...STOP PRESS...

Scouts and Dementia Friends will be doing another screening of their community film 'Life in the 1940s and 50s - Crich and beyond' on Saturday 21 March at The Glebe. There will be two showings at 2.00 pm and 3.30 pm.

A Charlie I Travers' production in association with 1st Crich Scout Group, starring some of the older residents of Crich exploring their memories of life in the village and elsewhere during and after World War 2.

Entry is free and refreshments will be served. There will also be a market place of health opportunities available in the community.



Tackling cybercrime

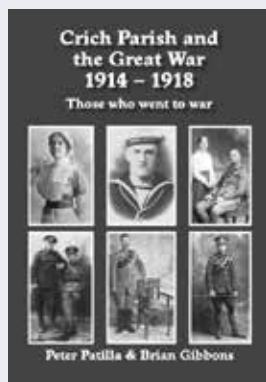
Cybercrime is becoming an increasing threat in our more digital society and criminals are finding new and inventive ways to try and get our personal data and information.

To help people feel safe and secure when they're online, Derbyshire County Council are launching a brand new digital MOT service. It's an online risk assessment tool that has been designed to help people review their online safety and identify any actions they can take to protect themselves.

All you have to do is answer a few simple questions about your online habits and you'll be able to see the most important steps you can take to avoid falling victim to cyber-scammers. Complete the Digital MOT now and find out how you can be more secure online.

Anyone who needs a bit of help or support to access the Digital MOT can book a one-to-one session through their local library.

If you would like a supply of Digital MOT cards to display at your community venue, please contact tracy.coates@derbyshire.gov.uk



Crich Parish - Those who went to War 1914-1918

There are a few copies of this complementary book which accompanied the new Roll of Honour now available to anyone interested. The 134 page booklet had mini biographies of all those names who are on the Roll of Honour. It was written to complete the Heritage Lottery Funding for the project as part of the Crich Area Community News submission.

Copies of the book have been submitted to the local libraries, record office and National Libraries as per the terms of the grant. The surplus copies are now available (free of charge) on a 'first come first served' basis.

Copies can be collected from the Glebe Field Centre - thanks to the Sue and Marie for agreeing to help with this. I am sure a small donation to the Glebe Field funds would be appreciated but not compulsory.

Peter Patilla



The Briars

Not a prickly experience at all!

By Essie Prosser

Put me, Catholicism and young people under the same roof for any length of time and I would have said you're asking for the impossible, if not trouble and definitely an argument. But having just spent a few hours at the Briars I can safely say I am converted, if not to Catholicism, then certainly to young people.

Photo courtesy of The Briars

We have all probably noticed the groups of young people walking up and down the Common, especially in the summer, and wondered where they have come from and why. They most likely belong to one of the residential groups staying at the Nottingham Diocesan Youth Service Centre located at the Briars between Fritchley and Crich. The Briars as a building has existed for a long time but recently celebrated its 50th anniversary in its present reincarnation. This centre is one of 11 nationally and is run as an independent charity, it has over 5000 guests a year and is probably one of the largest employers in the Crich area. Its guests are usually school age but it does cater for all ages and it once hosted the Cardiff University rowing team. Anyway, enough of facts, what about the people?

Tom Baptist (honestly!) is the enthusiastic director of the Nottingham Diocesan Youth Service Team and has been in charge at the Briars for the last 18 months and it was he that was kind enough to show me round and introduce me to staff and guests alike.

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Tom had been on a retreat to the Briars as a 15 year old and like the seven volunteers currently based at the Briars, spent a year working there after he finished school. He decided to abandon his plans of going to drama school and to continue working and studying for his degree in Youth Work with the Open University. Many volunteers go on to work in the Youth Service, teaching or in the Social Services. The Briars employs three qualified youth workers who design the programmes for the retreats and supervise the volunteers. They also get involved in making YouTube videos for regular broadcast ([youtube.com/ndcyslive](https://www.youtube.com/ndcyslive) – informative and easy viewing). Tom sees the Briars as a place where their young guests can feel safe and comfortable. He hopes they leave feeling not only more loved but also more loving towards themselves, their families and communities and their environment.

Photos courtesy of The Briars

"Anna felt there was always a message in the work they do together at the Briars and found it good that she was able to share her voice in what she called a 'proper community'".



At the time of my visit there was a group of Year 8 pupils visiting from St Benedict's School in Derby and they were in full swing with group activities based around the topic "Me, myself, I..." before breaking for a lunch of pizza and chips which I can testify was excellent. I asked a few of the guests about their visit: Tevin was the first young man to speak and said that his experience at the Briars "made me feel closer to God...it was nice and friendly" and he particularly enjoyed the teamwork and a game they'd played called 'Protect a Pringle' (sorry didn't have time to investigate the rules of this game but it sounds like my sort of thing!). He felt more at ease communicating at the Briars than he did in the usual school atmosphere. Anna felt there was always a message in the work they do together at the Briars and found it good that she was able to share her voice in what she called a "proper community". She also thought that children were largely underestimated and that all children's voices mattered, not just Greta's (as in Thunberg). Joel thought the activities were "well thought out and fun" and that his experience there was unique. Ayanda felt her

The Briars has over 5000 guests a year and is probably one of the largest employers in the Crich area



Photo by Chris Baker

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confidence had grown in the non-judgemental environment of the group activities and Henry was courageous enough to say that his anxiety issues had lessened since being at the Briars. All of my interviewees were later taking part in a YouTube recording which I'm guessing they were really looking forward to.

The Briars community may seem a bit distant to those of us who don't work there; we know it's there and we see plans for further developments in their extensive grounds, but we don't have much contact. This is something Tom is most keen to change. He would love the Crich Community to visit, to join in, and use their outstanding facilities. After all, not only is there a chapel, there's a conference centre, catering and accommodation facilities for 90, a licensed bar and games room and an Airbnb; as well as a very warm welcome. And this year the centre will even be hosting its first wedding for some ex-employees. There are also plans to offer apprenticeship/degrees in conjunction with the University of Derby and for those young people seeking a less academic route, it is hoped more vocational apprenticeships will be offered. The Briars is a village asset we need make the most of. If talking to the youngsters and staff can fill an old wizened heart such as mine with optimism and encouragement, think what it might do for yours!



Photo by Chris Baker

And to finish, a saying I noticed on a poster in the entrance of the Briars which I think is relevant to all, young or old, religious or secular: 'Aspire not to have more but to be more' (Oscar Romero).

Contact details for the Briars:
info@ndcys.com. Tel: 01773 852044



Photo courtesy of The Briars

Cubs thoughts about Crich

A friendly, happy village – Paige

A peaceful and friendly village with amazing views and wildlife – Hollie

It is a great place to live. It's friendly, people interact. Where you can have a great sporty and imaginative childhood – Finlay

Crich is a caring community, we share every event with each other – George

An active community, active social life, with a wall of support from the community behind you – Tess

A friendly atmosphere, you won't find it hard to find an activity you like to participate in – Tess

In Crich we enjoy and attend a small active 'Get Together' called Family Mile – George



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*Crich is a friendly place.
People always have smiles on
their faces when you walk past – Paige*

Everyone has manners in Crich – George

*Crich is a nice place, everyone gets along in our community
– Hudson*

Crich has a warm welcome to everyone – Ivy-Rose

*Crich is a caring community, so if you have any troubles,
just ask anyone – Ivy-Rose*

Crich is a beautiful, friendly and child-friendly place – Lucas

*Crich is a very friendly place. Lots of people say 'Hello' or
'Good morning' or 'What time of day is it?'
– Joshua*

*There are lots of views and good places to take photos and lots of
walks, woods for adventures – where you can build dens – Joshua*

*I think Crich is a lovely, joyful, happy and friendly place. When I
moved here all the people were very welcoming. I made lots of
friends. It's lovely! – Scarlett*

*I think the best thing about living in Crich is all the lovely people
and how you can just go on an adventure without damaging the
environment – Scarlett*



'e' is for Education

- Technology at Fritchley School...

By Dom Andrews. Photos also by Dom Andrews.

'Computing really can be used in any job – just go on and name me one in which it can't' is a challenge that Ms Devonport the Computing Co-ordinator and Y5 & 6 teacher at Fritchley CofE school regularly lays down for her classes. Some jobs that the children fire back at her to prove her assertion wrong include farmer or mechanic.

'So how will a farmer do their accounts and stock control without some knowledge of computing?' and 'How will a mechanic run the diagnostic checks on a car without some computing skills?'

Ms Devonport went on to point out to me that since 2014 when the curriculum changed the name of her classes from 'Information and Communications Technology' (ICT) to 'Computing', the reason for the change was that Computing has become so much more integrated across the whole curriculum and is no longer a separate subject.

For example, a summer-time trip to the school field to see how many shades of green the children could find could fall within Science as a subject, but now that the children are using apps on iPads to differentiate between the 15 different shades of green that they have found; this has become a Computing class too.

Seeing the Reception children's faces as they used programmable 'Bee-Bot' robots with buttons inset into their wings on the floor was



Reception year enjoying fun with programmable Bee-Bots

a delight in itself.

Every time their teacher Ms Shaw asked them to clear the Bee-Bot's memory they moved it forward and back showing that using devices like these introduces children from a very early age to the basic concepts of programming a computer and requiring memory to run that program.

Other fabulous aids to having an understanding of networking and general hardware concepts include the tiny Raspberry Pi and the even tinier Microbit computer. These can be hooked up to a large touch-screen TV and then programmed or used as tiny multimedia devices.

While Years 3 and 4 were able to use a program on a PC before Daily Worship called 'Times Table Rockstars' to assist with their Maths, Years 5 and 6 were able to use that same program but this time on an iPad so that they could see how their scores and statistics

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Years 3 and 4 doing Times Table exercises on a desktop



Years 5 and 6 improving their scores on Times Table on iPads

had changed over time.

Using a mouse is something that the staff like to encourage early on so that the children learn that interactions with technology at secondary school or in the world of work will not always be touch-screen. The children also have early experience of traditional work applications such as Powerpoint when leading Worship at assembly or creating an interactive eBook with pictures or recordings of themselves inserted in the narrative.

The technology is a supplement to original teaching materials though and not a replacement. 'You can't replace a book' and 'You can't read a Kindle in the bath' are two mantras that Ms Devonport swears by.

Children in reception and the earlier years are also more likely to read 'radially' around

the printed page meaning that they will be taking in pictures to give clues to the meaning behind the words. If children struggle with writing because of dyslexia, then being able to record themselves on an iPad saying the sentence that they want to write aloud first before putting it down in words is a big help.

Parents also benefit from the advent of technology to education. They can see their children off at school looking a bit upset and then see images of them on the secure school parents' portal and see pictures of them playing happily later. They can also discuss with their child what they did at school during the day by referring to photos of projects that they've worked on earlier that day.

Technology has changed education and the children's lives but it's definitely helping them to prepare for an ever-changing future.

'You can't replace a book' and 'You can't read a Kindle in the bath' are two mantras that Ms Devonport swears by.



...and at Crich Carr Church of England Primary School

Our school may have changed very little on the outside since it was built in 1884, but what goes on inside, has changed dramatically.

Education for our children is an exciting affair, with a huge range of opportunities and experiences. Maths and English lessons are enhanced by quality resources, interactive whiteboards, laptops and iPads.

Learning about the world we live in is done through forest school sessions, science experiments, educational visits and residential trips.

Sporting opportunities are many, ranging from the more standard football and tennis, to waterpolo, golf, martial arts and archery.

Coming to school is fun, and the children enjoy all the activities on offer!



Fun with programmable Bee-Bots

Read pages 39-40 about youth and opportunity back in 1870



Photo provided Andy and Harry

Growing up in Crich

by Andy Wallis and Harry Kitchen

Andy Wallis (23) and Harry Kitchen (21) have both grown up in the idyllic village that is Crich. Their childhood saw them both attend the local infant and juniors school together, whilst playing on the rec at weekends (which has recently undergone an amazing development).

Once they both went to secondary school it wasn't long until these small town boys started seeking employment; the village has an array of amazing small businesses with opportunities for young people. Both Andy and Harry made their way through the then big red doors that belonged to The Loaf bakery.

They began pot washing for a couple of hours and eventually progressed to working on pizza nights and taking on more responsibilities as the years went on.

Andy took a keen interest in business and marketing during his time there, which inspired him to pursue a degree in Marketing at Leeds Business School. He returned to The Loaf for his placement year where he gained a massive insight into the day-to-day running of a business and its place within the community – engaging massively in local activities with the business.

'My time in Crich and working at The Loaf has kept me humble and grounded, which I found to be particularly important when moving to Leeds and experiencing 'big city life'. The lessons and experiences I have learned, I will take on into my professional career and will never leave me. Crich has been a massive part of my life and I will always stay true to my roots' – Andy Wallis



'The experiences from starting my working life at The Loaf have stayed with me throughout young adulthood and my time at University. As my transport options were limited, it was imperative that I was able to work locally when I first started out. Not only did the experience help grow my confidence, but I feel many of my employable skills were first discovered working in Crich'.

– Harry Kitchen

Harry's interests leaned towards finance, which he subsequently went on to study at Nottingham Trent University; working in a small local business Harry experienced first-hand the factors which impact any business.

Their time at The Loaf has proven to be an amazing backbone to the pair of Crich lads. They are both pursuing careers in the disciplines they studied, inspired by their time at the bakery.

Being an apprentice at the Swan

by James Glover. Photo by Andrew Auld

I've lived in Crich all my life. I went to Crich Infants and then Juniors before following my sister to Anthony Gell in Wirksworth. My mates were all there too. I was still at school when I first got a job pot-washing at the Black Swan. Sarah, my sister, heard the landlord at the time saying they needed someone so I applied.

When Rachel and Steve took over it was them that offered me the chance to do an apprenticeship as a Commis Chef. I hadn't really thought about becoming a chef - it wasn't something I particularly wanted to do - but the more I do it, the more I enjoy it. I am now working on the 'pass' getting food ready to go out to customers, I still wash up and I also prepare food from scratch - everything really.

The apprenticeship is through a company called Hit Training and apart from some online courses, it is pretty much all assessed on the job. I am hoping to finish soon and will have to do a 'culinary challenge' at the end which involves cooking a main course and dessert from scratch in two hours.

I know my mates think I am pretty lucky to have a job in the village - it is nice to be a few minutes walk from home and you see people around that you know from the pub. Transport would make it tricky to get to a local town if I worked there and there aren't many opportunities to work in Crich. When I finish, I would like to stay on at the Swan - Rachel and Steve have been very supportive. I might even see if I can do the next level of qualification.

For now I am happy living at home but the only thing is that when I do move out, it's too expensive to find somewhere to live in Crich - I'll have to move to one of the local towns. Hopefully I can keep working here though!



A scout is a friend to all

This article is all about Scouting and how it helps me and other people around the world to build their confidence, try out new things and make new friends. I am going to tell you all about my group of Scouts and what they do, but first, some history.

Scouting began in 1907 and was founded by British Lieutenant Robert Baden Powell. Scouts was only for boys until Baden-Powell started a Girl Guiding group in 1909, which was run by his sister Agnes.

As there are no Girl Guiding groups in Crich, I started at Beavers when I was 7 years old and my first ever camp was sleeping in a tent inside a Scout Hut at Tansley. It was really cold outside and the Scouts had to camp in tents. I felt really lucky to be inside, however, I have also done that camp now - Chilly Challenge - with Scouts and can confirm that it is VERY cold!

Scouting gives people so many opportunities. In Cubs I learnt knot tying, first aid, wood work, making planters, building rafts and to shoot a rifle at targets. You have to have a lot of confidence in a child to let them do that!

I am now in Scouts and last year I went to Activation, a day of outdoor activities organised by the District Scouting Unit, where you pick four activities that you would like to try. I completed sailing, bell boating (great fun and highly recommended!), climbing (my favourite) and some brilliant crafts. The crafts included woggle tying and making a catapult out of lolly sticks, which shot dried peas.

My most recent camp was Chilly Challenge, which was on 18 January. This camp was great fun and gave so many opportunities. In the week before camp, as a group, we planned the route and meals. We had to travel from the Scout Hut to Tansley on foot carrying our rucksacks and we had to get there by map reading.



Photo by Nigel Shaw

After loading our bedding into Mark's car, we set off on our walk at around 11.00 am. We were asked to carry our clothing with us, however, I stuffed mine into my pillow case, which in my defence, one of the Leaders said was a good idea. We hiked across the fields and hills and stopped at Dethick Church for lunch. We arrived at camp around 2.30 pm. Once we arrived, we had the challenge of putting up the tents. In our groups we worked as a team and we were the second group to get ours up. Then we had to manoeuvre our luggage into the tent, which was for 4 people and there were 5 of us!

As it began to get dark other Scouts played games, whilst my friends and I lit a mini fire and roasted some marshmallows. We lit the fire with no help because we worked really well together. Dinner was cooked on the main fire - bolognaise with corn, pasta or jacket potatoes. After dinner some Scouts played games while others lit another fire, then everyone got into their sleeping bags. It was extremely cold - minus 4 degrees! I had pyjamas, fluffy top, blanket and sleeping bag and was still cold. In the morning we cooked our breakfast and began to pack away the tents. Finally, when we were all packed away, we went home. It was a great experience!

Things like this happen all over the world and it helps lots of people gain confidence, earn badges and try out new challenges and adventures. Scouts is brilliant!

Amelie – age 13



Tansley Scout Camp - tents being erected



Pausing to check the map at Crich Stand



Base camp hut at Tansley

Photos by Di Fretwell

Chilly challenge quotes from Scouts

'Chilly Challenge' – an annual challenge encouraging Scouts across Derbyshire to sleep outdoors overnight at any time during January.

Below are quotes from some girls about why they like scouting...

There's lots of support - if you are gonna do something, like a camp, and you really don't want to do it, people will help you and say that you can do it – it's just a bit of fun!

Well you don't get judged and you just kinda get along and you do walks and everyone just talks.

I can remember going on a camp. We were like, really nervous, because we didn't know what people would think and what we'd do. And then you just go out there and enjoy it and I remember always tripping over but most people wouldn't laugh at me, so that's just really nice.

Scouts is for girls and boys; anyone can participate.

It's a lot better with both boys and girls because there's a mixture of activities. Some girls like football and some like more crafty things – I'm not judging them.

Yearning to belong

Sequel to Ian Whitehead's 'How can I sing a song in a strange land?'

After reading Revd Ian Whitehead's short article in the Summer issue I felt totally compelled to do my bit.

I am old enough to remember By The Rivers Of Babylon but I have no difficulty in singing a song in this land. Have you heard the song 'Cucurucu' by Nick Mulvey? If you know it you may remember the words 'yearning to belong'. Look it up, the full song is very meaningful.

I have lived in Crich for nearly 20 years. Before that I was in Northamptonshire for 10 years and before that I was in Spain for two years and before that in Paris for two and before that in Spain for 24 years.

So you could say I have moved around a bit.

But nowhere have I ever felt more at home and more attached to the land than here in Crich.

It appears that all along I was 'yearning to belong' and everywhere I felt I was 'just passing' but now I have found that I do belong here. Perhaps not everyone would agree that I do belong and I am aware that I will forever be considered a newcomer and somewhat exotic at best...

However, everyone has made me welcome, strangers have approached me with warming, friendly, open arms, even when they expect me to 'go back home' eventually.

But home is here.

My family are all in Spain, my British ex-husband emigrated to France. But I am staying put. Crich, Derbyshire is where I truly feel at home. I have never had a stronger feeling of putting down roots, of belonging, of being in constant awe of the landscape, the local ways and the people. Come rain or shine, this is home and will be forever.

Once, walking my now deceased dogs (ever come across Blanca and Paula, the gorgeous cocker spaniels?) we were by the church yard across from home and someone stopped to talk (so Derbyshire!) and he informed me that he lived away and had come to his mother's tomb but that he was 'born and bred' here. To which I responded 'Well, I was born far away but I am going to die here!'. It came from the heart, unexpectedly. It made me realise my intricate bond with Crich and with Derbyshire which I am not willing to undo, no matter what life throws at me.

The phrase still resonates stronger and stronger in my heart. Here is definitely home.

Ana

An integrated village

– generations working together

What can we all do together that will help build up the story and life of our village?

By Revd Ian Whitehead

In those dim and distant years of my youth I would be found out and about; putting up hurdles in the back garden from line props, climbing a tree, constructing dens, brook jumping and generally keeping out of the way. Not that I can do much of those activities anymore!

Coming here to Crich in April 2019 there is so much going on in the area for so many age groups it takes my breath away. Being the new vicar, I thought I would start to get to know all the other groups in the area in the first year...I am sadly lacking in that area there are so many!

Throughout this issue there will be stories and adverts and images about the fantastic work that so many do for our young people that I have only glimpsed in this past year. I went to the Scout AGM thinking 'this'll be dry...' like most AGMs are - it was a tremendous evening full of hope, excitement, positive energy and great things to report. Being a small part of our schools, I have seen and shared some great times and settings. It's great to see kids gathering on the rec and hear them making a racket there from our house.

Our churches share a real excitement about their youth and children's work through Pop-a-Long, Youth Club, All Age Worship and Sunday Stars. The village fete was a terrific explosion of fun in the centre of the village in the summer for all. Sport and music have featured before in the Standard and it's great to see young people being a part of that. The Glebe Centre

echoes with children's voices still through the Toy Library, dance and the schools' visits to the day care.

I do wonder where the gaps are though; obviously, the loss of Pre-School will be felt keenly in the village and so what can we do about it?

Where can our youngsters go to, those who aren't part of the uniformed organisations and so what can we do about it?

What can the generations do together that will help build up the story and life of our village and so what can we do about that?

I believe in the God of the gaps and I am in a church that should be a real part of the 'gaps' in our village and society. That takes energy, resources, co-ordination and a will to see something done.

Are there those of you out there who have done your brook jumping in the past but aren't ready to give up just yet? Would you join me in imagining what more might be possible in the village for our young people? Not to 'keep them out of the way' as was my tendency to do as a kid, but to see them as a real and valuable part of our village today. That's as challenging as finding a brook I can still manage to jump!

Coming here to Crich in April 2019 there is so much going on in the area for so many age groups it takes my breath away

A sepia-toned photograph of a forest trail. In the foreground on the left, a wooden signpost with a horizontal arrow-shaped sign pointing right stands on a rocky, grassy slope. A dirt path leads from the bottom right towards the background, winding through a dense forest of tall evergreen trees. The overall tone is warm and nostalgic.

Defining career paths

Photo from Pexels

It's not often a candidate for the council turns upon your doorstep wearing a hat borrowed from Suggs, so a few of us got a surprise when Joel Bryan appeared canvassing on behalf of the Labour Party last year. The other surprise was that he was still in his teens.

Although not a Crich lad by birth, one of the most influential experiences of his young life took place in our lovely village, at the Briars where he spent 2018 as a volunteer and not only gained a new family but became inspired to work with children and start training as a primary school teacher. He says the Briars is a great place for bringing young people together and still spends time there.

His interest in politics began, he says, aged 10 when he was not allowed to watch political debates on TV. Aged 14, he became aware that some issues such as homelessness and saving the environment were bigger than party politics, which, he admits he found "daft" at the time. However, the 2015 Labour Party leadership debate caught his attention and he attended a meeting at which Jeremy Corbyn was speaking and was hooked. Joel has met JC and says he is a thoroughly nice person and has spectacular word power. As a result Joel joined the Labour party in 2016 and began to attend branch meetings. Whilst at the Briars (supporting another JC!), he decided to stand as a council candidate and that is when we probably noticed his trademark hat for the first time. Joel didn't get elected on this occasion but remains politically active in every sense, having spent the weeks in the run up to the last general election campaigning in 11 East Midlands seats and gaining a political education he would never otherwise have had.



Whatever your politics, you have to be impressed by Joel's enthusiasm and his ability to express his passion about politics and religion, his other great life influence. He firmly believes that Catholicism and Socialism can sit comfortably side by side and the time-old phrase "love thy neighbour" is a feature of both that Joel firmly recommends. He says: "for a living I talk about religion, for passion I talk about politics", possibly an incongruous mix for a young person these days but one that seems to work for him.

So where will he be in 10, 20 years' time? Joel is currently doing his primary school training via an access course at the University of Derby and so in the near future wants to pursue teaching as a career. He would also like to marry eventually and raise a family. In the meantime, he would like to encourage more young people to take an interest in local politics and stand for Council election – he is thinking of standing for County Council in 2021. Looking further ahead he has aspirations to stand for Parliament when he's 40 or so as he believes Parliament requires a degree of maturity.

In the meantime and in the interests of political neutrality, other parties are available but if you're minded to support the Labour Party, Joel Bryan is your man!



Historic photo of school courtesy of crichparish.co.uk and taken by Beryl Calladine

'Isn't it wonderful what they have today. It's no wonder they love coming to school, it's so much fun for them!'

Learning through the decades

Crich schools have been a significant part of the early experiences of young people in our area since the mid 1800s. Claire Ganthony explored how 'top school' has changed over time with life-long Crich resident, Margaret Critchlow.

Crich C of E Infant School has occupied the spot at the top of Bowns Hill close to Crich Cross since it was built as Crich Parochial School in 1848. The school had a shaky reputation throughout the 1860s and 1870s. The school logbook records theft and stone throwing resulting in broken windows and roof slates being a regular feature of school life. Inspectors found deficiencies in arithmetic and inadequate teaching of younger pupils. There was also widespread cheating and misbehaviour amongst pupils. As a result of these damning reports, government grants to the school were cut and as new schools opened locally, pupil numbers fell. In 1881, the appointment of a new Headmaster turned things around. Mr Scott was popular with parents and pupils alike and standards improved. Pupils numbered 200 with

4 staff: Mr Scott, his wife as assistant and his daughters as pupil teacher and monitor. Numbers swelled to around 300 by 1883.

The sacking of Mr Scott by controversial vicar Revd Acraman in 1883 resulted in the establishment of a rival 'British' school. Pupil numbers dropped to around 60 at the Parochial school as the rest moved across the road to Mount Tabor chapel with Mr Scott. The British school moved to the site of what became known as 'Bottom School' (now Crich Junior School) in 1884. Until the early 1950s, there were therefore two Primary schools in Crich. Children from the 'top' of the village attended the school on Bowns Hill and those from the 'bottom' went to the school off Crich Market Place.

Margaret Critchlow was amongst the first residents to attend both schools

'top school' for infants and 'bottom school' for juniors. Margaret recalled how she began at what is now Crich C of E Infant School at the age of 4 ½ in the spring of 1947, along with her friend Linda. Their mums took them that first morning, but when the girls came home for lunch they told their parents that they could walk themselves back. From then on, the girls made the short walk from Wheatsheaf Lane to school and back unaccompanied.

When we visited the school, some things were familiar to Margaret. Children still enter the school via the same porches, where coats have always been hung. The main porch had been a narrow corridor around a store room in Margaret's time but is now more open, with the store room knocked through. While the porch led into two separate classrooms when Margaret was a child, there is now a large open plan space used by reception and year 1 children. Office and storage space occupying part of what was then the smaller of the two classrooms. Margaret remembers small tables with four chairs around them throughout the classrooms. Now, the room features fewer tables with a wide variety of

'challenge' activities set up and opportunities for imaginative play and learning in 'curious corner' and the role play areas. There is also a cosy reading area and library for the children, something that was absent from the school during the late 40s.

The outdoor toilet block across from what Margaret remembers as the coal store remains, although this is now only used by staff. The children have access to more comfortable indoor facilities! The rest of the outside space is completely transformed. The playground at the front of the school was a plain empty space for running and playing in, the only outdoor equipment Margaret remembers being skipping ropes. There is still open space and the brightly coloured soft surface playground features a familiar hopscotch design, but the space for, and scope of, outdoor activity is now so much broader. The children today spend around half of their time at school outside, with outdoor learning challenges in both the covered and open areas at the back of the school. There is an enormous mud kitchen, space for children to design and build their own balance courses and beautiful carved wooden decorative features and stools. There are bikes, trikes and scooters for children to develop gross motor skills with. When Margaret's son was at the school in the 1970s he remembers being told off for standing on the low wall at the front of the school. Margaret laughed at how the children are now encouraged to climb along the walls, albeit using the climbing holds on a safer side wall!

When Margaret came to the school, what is now the Year 2 classroom was for the youngest children. She remembers a large stove where the role play area now is. This fire, which fuelled the school boiler, was surrounded by a rail to keep the children away and stop them from hurting themselves on it. Another feature Margaret recalls from her time at the school was the bell that rang at 9, 12 and 3 each day. The original bell sits on the floor of Headteacher, Julie Kirk's office, but a replacement hangs in its place. Although not in regular use, the children enjoyed spotting the bell swinging and listening to its gentle 'ding dongs' during Margaret's visit.

We visited the school during a numeracy session. While Margaret remembers an abacus as their own mathematical apparatus, we saw sand pits filled with number cards, beads for counting and 'numicons' to match up to the figures children dig out of the sand. Each classroom featured a blackboard and easel in Margaret's time. Today large electronic whiteboards project 'live action' digital displays of teacher demonstrations. While Margaret enjoyed school, she marvelled at the opportunities and experiences available to the children. 'Isn't it wonderful what they have today?' said Margaret, 'It's no wonder they love coming to school, it's so much fun for them!'



Photo by Emma Collyer



Photo by Roger Phipp

What's On



Remi Harris Band

MARCH 2020

COMRADES CLUB

JESSE LACE

Friday 6 March, 7.30pm,
Crich Comrades Club

LIVE AT THE GLEBE

LIGHT & SHADE TOUR - REMI HARRIS BAND

Welcome return by Remi Harris with his new show - Light & Shade. The show traces the history of guitar music from the '40s to the present, using a variety of acoustic and electric guitars. Remi's extraordinary guitar work is supported by bass and drums.

Suitable for ages 10+

Saturday 7 March, 7.30pm,
Crich Glebe Field Centre

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/crichglebefieldtrustltd or call David Lane 01773 853 260

COMRADES CLUB

BREACH

Saturday 14 March, 8.30pm,
Crich Comrades Club

LIVE AT THE GLEBE

THE FINAL FRONTIER - JKB PRODUCTIONS

A new musical based on the characters in Star Trek, and with great 60's music played live. 'Do You Love Me?', 'Great Balls of Fire', 'Let's Twist Again' and over 20 more songs from the team who brought us the sellout production of 'Ring of Fire' in 2017.

Saturday 14 March, 7.30 pm,
Crich Glebe Field Centre

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/crichglebefieldtrustltd or call David Lane 01773 853 260

COMRADES CLUB

ROBERT PERRY

Friday 20 March, 7.30pm,
Crich Comrades Club

LIVE & LOCAL SHOW

LONG LOST HOME

With her truly extraordinary voice and rich stories told in song, Russian born, but UK based Daria Kulesh is a rising star on the UK music scene. Here she undertakes a haunting, poignant exploration of her family's Ingush heritage, mixing history, stories and folklore. Singing in English and her native Russian tongue, Daria engages completely, and is here accompanied by one of the UK's leading acoustic guitarists Tristan Seume.

Saturday 21 March, 7.30pm,
Florence Nightingale
Memorial Hall, Holloway

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/florence-nightingale-memorial-hall or call Dave Carless on 01773 856545

DERBYSHIRE SINGERS

SPRING CONCERT 2020

Saturday 21 March, 7.30pm
Highfields School, Matlock

Tickets:
derbyshiresingers.org

CRICH HERITAGE TALKS

BALLOONING IN DERBYSHIRE

Talk by Robin Macey

Thursday 26 March - Glebe
Field Centre, Crich at 7.30pm

Admission: non-members,
£2.50; members, free

What's On

LIVE AT THE GLEBE

SONGS FROM HERE THERE AND EVERYWHERE

Fishpond Choir fundraiser for
CHIKS

Saturday 28 March, 7.30pm

Crich Glebe Field Centre

**Tickets will soon be available.
Visit fishpondchoir.com
See page 2 for more
information**

SCREENING AT THE
GLEBE

LIFE IN THE 1940S & 50S IN CRICH & BEYOND

**Saturday 21 March - 2.00 pm
and 3.30 pm**

Crich Glebe Field Centre

See page 4 for details

APRIL 2020

LIVE AT THE GLEBE
BELPER MUSICAL
THEATRE

SONGS FROM THE SHOWS

We can expect a lovely mix of
well-known and less familiar
tunes from West End and
Broadway shows performed
by soloists, barbershop
groups, and the full ensemble.

**Saturday 4 April, 7:30pm,
Crich Glebe Field Centre**

**Tickets [ticketsource.co.uk/
crichglebefieldtrustltd](http://ticketsource.co.uk/crichglebefieldtrustltd) or call
David Lane 01773 853 260**

CRICH HERITAGE TALKS

THE NIGHTINGALE MURDER

Talk by Julia Hickey about one
of the unsolved murders of
the 19th Century involving
a relative of Florence
Nightingale

**Thursday 30 April - Glebe
Field Centre, Crich at 7.30pm**

**Admission: non-members,
£2.50; members, free**



Nancy Kerr and James Fagan (see June)

What's On

MAY 2020

WYNS TOR SINGERS

SUMMER CONCERT

This excellent chamber choir will perform an enjoyable program of sacred motets, traditional folk song, modern choral compositions, and some songs from the shows.

Saturday 2 May, 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Crich

**Tickets from St Mary's church or email editor@crichstandard.org
Price £8 in advance**



Belper Musical Theatre (see April)

LIVE & LOCAL SHOW

KISSING MISS NIGHTINGALE'S SHADOW

A new play by George Grundy to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth, with Kay Facer Swan as Florence.

Tuesday 12 May, 7.30pm, Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall, Holloway

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/florence-nightingale-memorial-hall or call Dave Carless on 01773 856545

LIVE AT THE GLEBE

LE CAFE PARISIEN – ANDY LAWRENSEN TRIO

A musical and cultural journey through the streets, cafes and terraces of Europe; expect to hear hot club swing, classical themes, adventures into Romani and Celtic music, and vintage songs. A professional trio of the highest quality; featuring violin, guitar, string bass, and vocals.

Saturday 16 May, 7:30pm, Crich Glebe Field Centre

Tickets ticketsource.co.uk/crichglebefieldtrustltd or call David Lane 01773 853 260

CRICH HERITAGE TALKS BENNERLEY VIADUCT

Talk by Kieran Lee about one of the only two iron viaducts in the country

Thursday 28 May, – Glebe Field Centre, Crich at 7.30pm

Admission: non-members, £2.50; members, free

What's On

JUNE 2020

LIVE & LOCAL SHOW

NANCY KERR & JAMES FAGAN

Nancy Kerr & James Fagan are one of the best-known and most experienced folk duos on the British circuit today. Outstanding musicianship, a lifelong grounding in traditional singing and instrumental playing, acclaimed original compositions but mostly noticeably a visceral chemistry between these two make Kerr & Fagan a perennial favourite at festivals, venues and clubs across the country. They met in December 1995, and formed the duo and life partnership that has become the backbone of their professional career in music ever since. They won the inaugural Horizon Award at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards in 2000, and were also the first ever recipients of the 'Best Duo' Award, which they won in 2003 and again in 2011.

**Saturday 6 June, 7.30pm,
Florence Nightingale
Memorial Hall, Holloway**

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/florence-nightingale-memorial-hall or call Dave Carless on 01773 856545



Wyns Tor Singers (see May)

Would you like your event listed here?

Contact: editor@crichstandard.org

... and get your community event noticed.

Community Round-up

Climate change - how on earth can I help?

Kate Smith is a longstanding member of Crich Parish Council: here she tells us about their initiative enabling everyone in the Parish to make a difference

We're all conscious of the need to respond to the climate emergency and the Parish Council is no different. We heard about the Borough Council's motion on this in the autumn of 2019 and decided to set up a group to decide what would be most practical to do. This group has now named itself CRAG (Crich-area Climate and Re-greening Action Group) and has met several times.

Tony Mills, chair of the Crich Standard, had an eye-catching piece in the Winter 2019 edition, asking for help and comment, and his final words, "We may not be able to change the world, but with some ambition and energy we can surely improve our Crich community environment" says it exactly. So what has CRAG decided?

The first major action is to plant trees, and this is where you come in. We are receiving a delivery of baby trees from the Woodland Trust towards the beginning of March. If you would like to plant one or more in your garden (or somewhere else where you are the landowner), just ask. It will be free, and you decide exactly where to put it (you'll need to sign a spot of paperwork). If you need any help we can provide it. [Watch out for the posters and flyers around the Parish.](#)

Of course we'll do other things too, but this is a start. Cllr Jordan James, who leads CRAG, has done an excellent handout showing the amazing job trees do for our environment. You'll get a copy when you fetch your seedling, but (just as a 'taster') did you know that trees capture CO₂, provide oxygen for us to breathe, promote mental wellbeing and help prevent flooding and soil erosion?

Parts of the Parish are fortunate to have plenty of trees. However, many of them are mature and won't last forever, so new ones will be replacements in the end. There are other parts where heavy rain and saturated ground in recent years have resulted in a well-established tree blowing over in the



wind, and a few others where trees have had to be removed, as they were unhealthy or causing danger.

We've even had an offer of help already. One resident has said we can have an oak sapling soon, and we'd like to thank her very much. As the saying goes, 'great oaks from little acorns grow'.

That applies to CRAG too, and we'd like it to become a Community Group (that is, mainly led by residents, with maybe one or two members of the Parish Council only) as soon as possible. Among other advantages, a Community Group qualifies to apply for grant funding much more easily than a Parish Council can. Every offer of help is welcome.

If you'd like more information, or can offer to plant a tree or help look after one as it grows, just get in touch with Cllr Jordan James on 07568 592695 or at jljames18@icloud.com – he'll be glad to hear from you. Let's all get planting and help to make 2,700 small bits of lovely difference to our area!

Fritchley Village Hall needs some young ideas!

A new year brings a new phase of development for the Village Hall. A series of successful events raised some significant funds last year to contribute to improvements and equipment for use in the hall. The FCA also obtained a grant towards improving disabled access to the hall. Did you know that we now have approval to hold weddings and funerals in the church and hall?

The church congregation is maintaining its numbers at the monthly services (first Sunday of every month if you are interested), and indeed doing better than many other Congregational Churches in the region. We need to remember that, just as the building needs the income from the hall to cover its costs, continued use of the hall also depends on a thriving congregation.

With the exciting prospect of control of the building being handed back to the local congregation in the summer, we need to keep the income generated by use of the hall sustainable, and want to grow it to support new community activities in the building, especially for younger people in the area.

We want to raise the profile of the hall and its potential for events, activities and hire across the area. This means we need help from someone who has skills in websites and social media to maintain our Facebook pages and website and keep them vibrant and up-to-date, and find new places and ways to share the content to reach all age groups. This may be an opportunity for a younger person who might be looking for experience in this area to join the team? Please get in touch if you, or someone you know might be interested in helping with this role.

There is a new group holding occasional 'Community Conversations' at the hall, for people of any age who care about and want to get involved in addressing current community issues. We are also planning to start a regular informal music session for locals who want to listen, join in, play together and learn from each other or try out a new song without any pressure.

By the time this is published we will have held an open village meeting, ('Nibble & Natter' on Tuesday 11 Feb 7.30pm) to introduce the committee members and for them to hear peoples' ideas and thoughts about how to develop use of the Village Hall for everyone's benefit - we hope that we will get plenty of new ideas. Remember, you can have free use of the hall to get a new village activity off the ground.

Contact Steve Wood on 07789 373241, email fritchleyvillagehall@gmail.com or see the website www.fritchleyvillagehall.co.uk.

Well Dressing – new groups wanted!

If any new group, in particular younger people, would like to take part in Crich Parish Well Dressings this year please contact sandra.maycock@outlook.com

The theme this year is musicals, so there will be plenty of music to entertain you at our Well Blessing on Crich Market Place, 4 July, 10:30am - 11:30am.

In conjunction with Well Dressings, Crich and Fritchley Open Gardens will take place over the same weekend. Buying a Trail Map not only helps find well dressing and open garden locations but it also supports our event. Trail Maps will be on sale over the weekend and in our local shops during the week.

Message to a troubled teenager...from a troubled mum

The haunted look, the sunken eyes,
The desperate pain your youth denies.
The spider like hands and wasted limbs
The shining star this illness dims.

The shoulders hunched,
The head hung low.
What evil has demeaned you so?

Fight on, strike out!
Don't let this voice
Deny you of your rightful choice
To live, to shine
To hold high your head,
To ignore the spiteful things its said.

You are worth more
Than a thousand dreams
And I won't let its voice
Unpick your seams.

I really need your gentle charm
To take and hold my quaking arm.
Together we can struggle through
As long as you need me and I need you.

Moving on... from the still troubled mum

The raft of hope is waiting
Moored to its rotting pole.
With its moss patched boards
And sprayed with the brume of uncertainty.
There are no handrails to steady our journey
Through the white water of fear.
No harness as we buck and toss
Down the rapids of self-doubt.
There is, however, one brightly coloured life jacket
Luminous in the gloom,
Startling in its glow
Of health and safety.
But there are two of us.
We tread from the bank with shaking legs
Who will claim this mantel of determination
With its whistle, flare and symbol of hope.
It's yours alone.
Bright orange is the colour of youth.
Take it and hold on to me
Through the rough channels of this river of hope
To the shallows of health, beauty and life
Which undoubtedly lie at the end of this maelstrom.

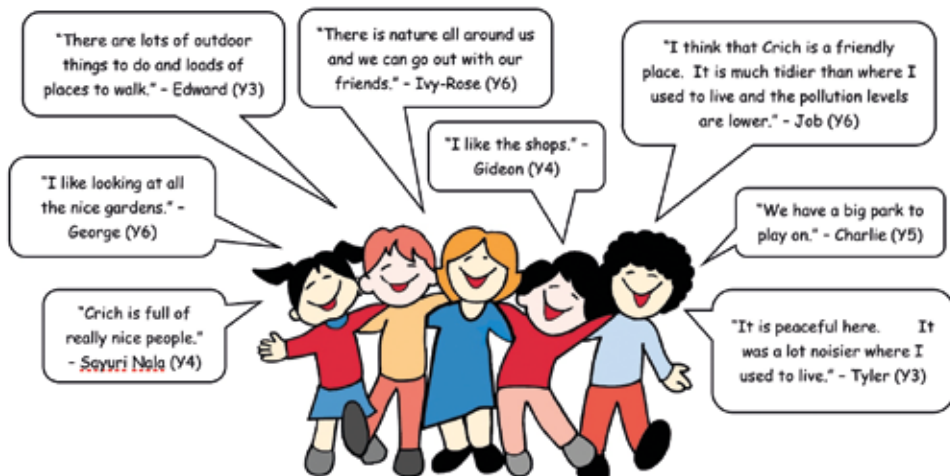


Growing up in Crich – Crich Juniors

For this edition, we have been thinking about living in and around the Parish of Crich. What are the benefits and what would we like to improve?

We talked about this as a whole school and our pupils think that they are lucky to be growing up in such a safe environment where they feel safe and can go out with their friends. They feel that they have the freedom to go to the park and that Crich is a friendly place to be.

We always like to get the opinions of our children in school and this topic certainly prompted lots of discussion. Here are some of their thoughts:



After our discussion about the positives of living in Crich, we asked the question: 'Are there any negative things about living here?' Many of our children are concerned about the number of new houses and the roads getting busier and more difficult to cross, especially as cars seem to park anywhere and everywhere. There were also concerns about whether the new homes would be able to cope with the drainage and perhaps create more flooding.

'How does Crich Junior School prepare you for moving on to secondary school?' was our final question, which prompted plenty of thoughts and ideas from our children.


Here are just a few:

- 'School is supportive. You can ask teachers for help and they listen' - Ivy Rose (Y6)
- 'Our teachers give us confidence' - Evie (Y6)
- 'We become more sociable. We interact with teachers, local residents, refugees and members of The Luncheon Club' - Joel (Y6)
- 'We get a good education which is creative...not maths and literacy all the time' - Miles (Y5)
- 'We get to do fun subjects and allowed to be creative' - Thomas (Y4)
- 'Doing the year 6 leaver's service really helps our confidence' - Scarlett (Y6)
- 'We do a lot of work on better mental health' - Job (Y6)

Perhaps this last comment is the most important of all.

Our children are knowledgeable about how to care for their health and wellbeing, especially mental health and happiness.

The five ways to wellbeing that they have studied are:

- 
1. To give
 2. To be active
 3. To take notice
 4. To learn
 5. To connect

They all agree that Crich is a great place to live and that it enables them to practise the 'Five ways to Wellbeing and Happiness'.

Schools Round-up

Caring, learning & praying together



Crich Church of England Infant School

Bowns Hill, Crich,
Matlock DE4 5DG
01773 852165
crich-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk

Through the eyes of children

We asked some of the children from Crich CofE Infant School what they like about growing up in the parish, what their career aspirations were and what sort of place they'd like to live in when they grow up. Here are some of their answers:



'I love playing at the park and writing at school. When I grow up I want to be a police officer' Jonah, Reception



'I love the village because it has lots of fields so I can play with my friends. When I grow up I'd like to be an engineer and care for people' Elijah, Year 2



'I like living in Crich because it's a very nice place. It's on a big hill and there are lots of places to explore. There are lots of fun people to play with too. When I grow up I'm not sure what I want to do, maybe be an engineer like Daddy, but I hope I can still live in Crich because I really like it here' Ted, Year 2



'I love The Loaf and getting my favourite brownies because they are yummy! When I grow up I would like to be a veterinary nurse so I can look after the animals and a head teacher so I can be the boss! I'd like to still live nearby to lots of nice walks' Felicity, Year 1

Photos by Emma Collyer



'I like Crich because of the countryside and its wildlife. I want to be a fisherman when I'm older and catch monster fish! I want to live in the wild' William, Year 1



'I like Crich because it's really special and old. I like the park and the tramway museum and all my friends live in Crich. When I grow up I want to be in the RAF and be a Daddy' Rowan, Year 1



'I like my teachers. When I grow up I want to be a teacher too and I want to still live in Crich' Ella, Year 1



'I like Crich because I feel safe here and it's my home. When I grow up I'd like to still be living in the countryside with all my family. I'd like to work in an icing factory' Ike, Reception



'I love my school and my teacher Miss Knowles. There's also an amazing park in Crich! I would love to be a vet to help poorly animals so there are more animals alive. When I grow up I would like to live in a hot country with my family' Olivia, Reception



'The best things about living in Crich are the tram museum because it's really fun and my school because it's even more fun doing challenges and indoor and outdoor learning. When I grow up I'd like to be a bus driver and I'd like to live in Crich because I like it here' Hugo, Year 2

CHIKS project children's stories

These are some of the youngsters that have been rescued by Irene's family in Aduwa, West Kenya. They all had a difficult start in life, many experiencing loss of a parent, cruelty and neglect.

Mama Jael, Irene's mother, has always been compassionate and children have gravitated to her compound where they were fed and cared for. Some ended up living with Mama Jael and her family. In 2010 CHIKS started to support this family. It became clear that the need was growing and for more children to receive this care, so in 2014 they began finding local guardians for a growing number of children, enabled to do so by being supported by CHIKS. School fees are paid and guardians given monthly food to enable them to survive, and the children given a healthy childhood and adolescence.

For update see crichstandard.org/CHIKS

Consolata

Irene started taking care of Consolata in 2004 when she was malnourished and about to die. Her mother, then pregnant with twins, was struggling to fend for her children so she used to carry little Consolata, and come to visit Mama Jael's home. Here they were given food and drinks and she would carry a bit of food for her other children. Consolata's condition deteriorated to the point that she could not sit up or even bear her weight. Irene took the mother and daughter to the hospital. They were both admitted for 3 months and Irene continued supporting the family by providing food. CHIKS became involved and are currently paying for Consolata's education. She has now grown to be a vibrant girl and is in secondary school.

Elizabeth and Perez

Elizabeth and her little sister Perez lost their mother on the day Perez was born. Their father, an alcoholic and living with HIV AIDS, could not take care of his girls. Their grandmother who lived in poverty and was disabled, managed somehow to care for her granddaughters until her death in 2018. Their father took over their care and it soon became clear that he was abusing them. Elizabeth was withdrawn and was missing school and her performance dropped so her class teacher raised these concerns. Elizabeth moved in with Mama Jael but the father refused to let go of Perez. This was affecting Liz as she knew what her sister was going through. Eventually Perez went to live with a guardian supported by CHIKS and is now safe. Liz is now doing well in a good boarding school, and is happier and less withdrawn.

Mary

Mary's father died of HIV AIDS and her mother is still living with the virus and is very fragile. Mary and her siblings have been living in poverty since childhood with the mother trying her best to provide for them. When Mary joined Form One her mother could not afford school fees, but Mary had scored good grades and was very eager to learn. Her mother requested help for Mary's education. CHIKS provided this and Mary joined secondary school and currently she's in Form 3.

Kevin

Kevin's mother died from HIV AIDS when he was 6 months old, so his grandparents, Mary and James, took care of him. They are very poor and could not afford to pay for Kevin's school fees. CHIKS took responsibility for his education and Kevin went to Eden polytechnic, studying metalwork. Now a young man he is in the nearby large town, Bondo, looking for work.



Consolata



Mary



Brian



Maggie

Brian

Brian grew up in a family where his father was regularly violent with his wife. She couldn't take it anymore and took her younger kids and left. Brian endured the beatings of his father; the little boy suffered a lot and the relatives were not sympathetic, for to them Brian was a liability. He became a regular visitor to Mama Jael and moved in with her, until CHIKS found a guardian for him and paid for his education. He was an average student in primary and secondary school. He has now grown up and is currently working at a flower farm in Naivasha.

Joel

Joel's father died when he was a toddler. His mother is a very hardworking woman but she could not afford to pay Joel's school fees. CHIKS took responsibility for his education and he completed his final exams in 2017. Joel secured a job in a bakery, where he works during holidays to earn money to fund his training. He is currently training to be a teacher at Bondo Institute.

Yvonne

Her mother suffered from postnatal depression after her birth which was so serious that she wanted to kill her baby, as no clinical help was available. She abandoned Yvonne when only 1 year old and has never returned. Yvonne was left in the care of her alcoholic grandmother who struggled to look after her. Most of the time the grandmother would bring her to Mama Jael's home and she would be left there for days. Yvonne moved in completely with Mama Jael when she was 3.

Sheila

Sheila's father died when she was young and, due to ongoing violence from the family, her mother left the village. Sheila was left in the care of one of her uncles and his wife who neglected and abused her. Sheila was taken in by Mama Jael and she attended primary school. CHIKS funded her to go to secondary school and she has just completed her schooling. She is now in Nairobi learning from Irene's sister who is a seamstress and caterer.

Linnet

Linnet is an orphan whose aunt, Millicent, a very hardworking woman, took into her home. Millicent struggles to make ends meet as her husband lives away and does not support the family. Millicent has children of her own. CHIKS supports this family and Linnet is now in secondary school.

Jane Margaret (Maggie)

Maggie's mother died when she was a baby and she was left in the care of her fragile grandmother who is a widow living in poverty. Maggie joined Mama Jael's family when she was approximately three years old. She is a happy child and doing very well at school.



Perez



Shiela



Enjoy our Spring brainteaser!

compiled by Roger Bode

QUICKQUIZ

- Which character from an Oscar Wilde novel wished to remain youthful and beautiful whilst his picture faded and aged?
- What is the symbol of the National Trust?
- Who founded the Boy Scout movement?
- Founded in 1844 by Sir George Williams the first YMCA opened in London. What does YMCA stand for?
- Laura Dekker holds the record for the youngest person to achieve what Worldly challenge?
- At 17 years and 75 days old footballer Theo Walcott holds what record?
- Which character from Greek mythology fell in love with his own youthful and attractive reflection?
- What do the initials WCVA stand for? a) West Crich Voluntary Association b) Wild Cat Volunteering Association c) Wales Council for Voluntary Action
- Founded by Alec Deakin in 1958 what does VSO stand for?
- Originally set up in 1917 and reformed in 1939 what was the voluntary organisation the WLA?

- 9 Voluntary Service Overseas. 10 Womens Land Army.
6 Youngest footballer to play for England. 7 Narcissus. 8 C.
5 Sail single-handed around the World.
4 Young Men's Christian Association.
1 Dorian Gray. 2 Oak Leaves. 3 Robert Baden-Powell.

Answers

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

Our plastic planet

Plastic, plastic, in the sea

Plastic, plastic, injures me

Back in the past plastic free

Now plastic takes advantage of me

Nowhere to run

Nowhere to hide

As the guilt of plastic stays by my side

Plastic seen on the floor

People start to ignore

Now as things get serious repeat with me please

This is the moment we all have to seize

The three Rs are important as you've heard

**REDUCE REUSE
RECYCLE please
spread the word!**

Tess Kemp aged 10





Youth and opportunity in 1870

A look back at what was available to young people in our Parish 150 years ago

By Peter Patilla

Today many of the opportunities that are on offer for youngsters occur in their schools. They have the chance to explore music, art, sport and to develop through community activities and volunteering. In the 1870s things were rather different. Education had become compulsory although truancy was rife. The wages that working children brought into the family was much needed and education was not free – it cost 4d per week for each child. A significant opportunity for many youngsters was to be allowed to leave school at 13 if they had reached 'Standard V' in what was mis-called the three Rs (Reading, Writing and Arithmetic).

STANDARD V

Reading

A short ordinary paragraph in a newspaper, or other modern narrative.

Writing

Another short ordinary paragraph in a newspaper or other modern narrative, slowly dictated once by a few words at a time.

Arithmetic

Practice and Bills of Parcels.

On achieving this standard, pupils would be given a certificate to show an employer that they were entitled to be absent from school legally. So, a significant 'opportunity' at this time was to start working at the aged 13.



Photo from Pexels

Locally what work opportunities were available?

- Agricultural labouring on farms
- Labouring in the limestone and gritstone quarries
- Mining
- Working on the railways and canals
- Mill worker – these included saw mills, bobbin mills, cotton mills (Smedley's Mill started in 1784)
- Local labouring – framework knitting, gardening, housework
- Working on the estates of the major land-owners
- Learning a trade – smithing, stone masonry

Having begun work, that would have been it for most until infirmity made it no longer possible to continue. Then it would be the family's responsibility to support you thereafter. There was parish support, but this was often begrudging as it was a charge on the local community. For the majority, few opportunities arose to progress; although the advancement of the Industrial Revolution did offer the possibility of a change of employment.

Social activities in Crich Parish were very limited. In 1870 one forward-thinking group of parishioners formed a committee to create a free library to provide 'Crich entertainment'. In the following years this led to the building of the Reading Rooms on Sandy Lane. This was the catalyst for the formation of sports teams, social clubs and educational lectures. The building later became a Miners Welfare which continued to develop the educational and social requirements of the community. Most notably it was responsible for acquiring the Rec and its transformation into a sports and recreation ground. Crich Parish youth now had the opportunity of enjoying a recreational area. Before this several of them were prosecuted for playing football on the highway. How our parish has changed in the last 150 years!



Photo by Roger Phipp

The last word

Giving - what does it mean to you?

In the next few weeks the law will change to assume that we are all consenting organ donors. This reflects the shortage of organ supply compared to the ever improving capabilities of the health professionals in the world of 'spare part' surgery. Although the reality is that there are many ways to opt out - before and after death - (see organdonation@nhs.uk) this is still a form of managed or perhaps heavily encouraged giving. It will be interesting to see the positive benefits that are expected, then, what next? Maybe blood donation especially from males where there is also a reported shortage. As we featured in Edition 92 there is already the amazing Blood Bike service that enables the vital distribution of the plasma.

The last edition of Crich Standard described all of the giving that people do in our Parish as volunteers and the number and range of activities involved is truly inspiring. In addition to that are the silent, often unrecognised, unsupported and unrewarded carers of relatives and friends who of course take a huge burden on their shoulders on behalf of other relatives, communities and ultimately the State. Giving something back to this group of often unsung heroes is something that the rest of us might try to engage with.

'Communities are getting older and the responsibility of all of us is to care for each other in times of need'

Even a friendly word over the garden fence or while out walking our many footpaths and lanes is a form of giving through personal contact with people who may be lonely or insecure. Communities are getting older and the responsibility of all of us is to care for each other in times of need. That doesn't always involve money or physical health and everyone's mental wellbeing is a much higher profile topic than only a few years ago. It's wonderful that so many people care so much.

Going into the spring (already) many of us will be thinking about lifestyle issues so topical in terms of exercise, diet and sustainability. So whether it's keeping up going to the gym, reducing or even excluding meat from our diets or working to be plastic free, there's lots to think about. And maybe by doing so we are really giving to ourselves as a plan to change the way we (all) live to find a better, healthier and happier future.

How about we keep it up?

Tony Mills
Chair, Crich Standard



CRICH Standard

CRICH • FRITCHLEY • WHATSTANDWELL

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

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All founder and previous members of the CACN committee and associated members of the wider team whose ideas, vision and hard work have created a successful and enduring magazine that we are proud to take into the future.

Contact us at *Crich Standard*

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Next issue:

VE Day

Commemorations

As we go to print on the next edition, the country will be marking the 75 year anniversary of Victory in Europe. We thought it would be interesting to look back at the parish in wartime. Who were the brave men and women from Crich, Fritchley, Whatstandwell and Crich Carr involved in the fight for our freedom - both on the front and at home? How was the parish different to the way it is now? What organisations were there to look out for returning injured soldiers? How were the businesses in the community kept running during wartime?

If you have any stories, photographs or knowledge you would like to share to mark this important anniversary, please contact editor@crichstandard.org. The deadline for articles is 13 April.

editor@crichstandard.org

Photo by Chris Baker