

# CRICH Standard

CRICH • FRITCHLEY • WHATSTANDWELL

Issue 98 • SUMMER 2021

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



## **The lighter side of village life**

Our funny young folk  
Crich Cross at 150

Issue 98 • Summer 2021

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Front cover photo by Geoff Brown



## Editorial

At time of writing we are cautiously daring to try to put some of the past 15 months behind us. Our village pubs, churches and halls are re-opening, it looks like Crich Fete 2021 will take place, albeit slightly later in the summer than usual and we are welcoming visitors to our parish...as well as venturing out of the parish ourselves!

So with this in mind I asked our contributors for light hearted articles, humour and jokes for our summer edition. Well, you get what you wish for!!!

We have jokes and riddles from our children - Schools Roundup on pages 29-33, a spoof on a local mayoral election campaign (pages 8 and 9) and a murder mystery that probably won't hit the same heights in the good read charts as Richard Osman's contribution to the genre but is a fun read on pages 14-16.

If you thought our fete was already full of fun and excitement, you need to read about some of the acts the committee used to book - a hot air balloon letting off fireworks, for example. Read the article on pages 5 to 7. And I definitely think St Mary's vicar is using some of his best material on page 19 to get us back into the pews.

If your taste is slightly more serious, how about the poem based on local place names (pages 12-13) or some well considered, but slightly alarming musings on whether 'Crich might be Welsh' on pages 34-35.

Finally, don't miss the fact that after four editions with no events for your diaries, we at last have some 'what's on' entries. There is a series of events brought to us by Art Stand, Art Share and the Tramway village and our Gardens are once again Open. Also we have a brand new way you can send us

your community events at any time:  
[news@crichstandard.org](mailto:news@crichstandard.org).

We will put them on the Crich Standard website as well as sharing them on social media. Read all about how this works on p72.

We hope you enjoy this slightly quirky Crich Standard edition. I recommend setting up the deckchair, putting on the sunnies, grabbing a cocktail (or a mocktail!) and kicking back in the June sunshine to have a read and a chuckle. You can pretend you are sunning it on your favourite Costa!

We'd love to have some more help on the Crich Standard team. If you can help us with some of the admin involved in looking after our advertisers please get in touch. Also if you would like to help us with writing articles, doing interviews or reporting on events we would welcome you on our team.  
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**Andrew Auld**  
*Editor*





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*Editor*

## News in Brief

# Local painting displayed in London this spring – we want to see your work!

by Denise Clifflen

After several visits to the Crich Tramway Museum and a tour of the workshop meeting staff and volunteers, I wanted to create a painting reflecting this moment in history and pay respect to the staff and volunteers past and present. The trams are so majestic and so much hard work and dedication has resulted in transforming them to their former glory.

I submitted the 'Tramway Workshop' painting to the Royal Society of British Artists for their Annual Exhibition at the Mall Galleries in London. I was completely overwhelmed and honestly in total shock when I received the news that my painting had been selected for the Exhibition in April.

The RBA was established in 1823. A group of painters met at Lincoln's Inn Fields on 21 May 1823, to form the 'Society of British Artists'.

Denise Clifflen lives in Whatstandwell and is a proud member of Artstand. She holds classes and art workshops at her home studio and has 30 signed editioned reproduction Giclee prints for sale of 'Tramway Workshop'.

denise-clifflen-artist.com



Artwork by Denise Clifflen

## News in Brief

### News from Crich Parish Council

by Paul Yorke

At the beginning of May, at the Parish Council AGM, long standing chair Margaret Lane stepped down from the role after 16 years of service. All members of the Council are very grateful to this long and dedicated contribution to the Council and the community. Margaret remains a Councillor in the position of Vice Chair and I was voted in as the new Chair.

Also at this meeting, there was a question raised by a member of the public about the potential Crich quarry development. Whilst the Parish Council is still waiting for the formal planning application to consider, there is a statement giving its formal position on the Parish Council website. It is important to note that the Crich Parish Neighbourhood Plan is highly relevant. It provides a context for the Parish Council to defend the maintenance of green spaces and the protection of important views. We would like to reassure everyone that the Parish Council will do its best to defend the intent of the Neighbourhood Plan. Alongside the Parish Council, every individual member of the parish can take part in the planning consultation process when it begins.

You may not be aware that the Council has a number of active subgroups including one looking at green issues and the parish's response to climate change. There is also a burial ground subgroup where a lot of work is taking place. Further developments are coming including extending the road further down the hill. If you would like to follow the work of these subgroups or the wider work of the Council, please take a look at the website: [crich-pc.gov.uk](http://crich-pc.gov.uk)

### Crown Green Bowls

by Sandra Maycock

Denby Crown Green Bowls Club, Derby Road, Denby is looking to recruit new members. If anyone, from the age of 12 to no age limit, feels they could take up or return to the game, you will be most welcome at this friendly club. They meet on Monday afternoon and Wednesday evening. There are club bowls available for use, so no outlay is required to start with. Denby Bowls Club has Covid-19 safe measures in place.

See [denbybowlsclub.co.uk](http://denbybowlsclub.co.uk) or ring 07721770154 for details about the club and taster days.

### An update from the Well Dressing team

by Sandra, Jill & Paige

After much consideration, we have sadly decided to cancel the Well Dressings again this year. We will still be in some government C-19 restrictions at the time of starting the well dressings and we are also mindful that lifting of restrictions are still uncertain. The well dressing team feels they have a responsibility to support social distancing and keeping all our well dressers and the general public safe as we start to come out of the pandemic. We look forward to being together safely and confidently next year.

# MUDDLEALONG

by Lynne Field

We have missed our meetings and seeing everyone for a catch-up and a cuppa at Wesley Chapel, but in line with regulations we have been careful, and we hope you are all well and safe.

As lockdown eases, and the weather gets warmer we can plan for a meet-up and hopefully get back to our regular meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday each month. We would like our first get together to be on 26 May in the Chapel garden, the sun will be shining, and we will all be raring to go.

We have not been idle during lockdown; in fact, several helpers have been knitting squares and making lap blankets and Twiddlemuffs which we take to the hospital. We have been given a big donation of wool, and we had already ordered some from our usual supplier and many knitters have bought their own wool, so we have plenty.

The display in the photo shows some of the items we've made including: hats, scarves, small jumpers, blankets and teddies

Looking forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 26 May at 2pm at Wesley Chapel, Chapel Lane, Crich.

**Looking to the future, we hope to be able to offer willow workshops in Crich for others to enjoy this lovely craft.**

**To find out more you can contact Mogs Bazely: [margaretbazely@aol.com](mailto:margaretbazely@aol.com)**



Photo: Lynne Field

## Crich Heritage

by Corinne Clemson

We decided to cancel meetings until September in the hope that by then we will all be vaccinated and things will be much improved. So when we restart we hope to welcome Adrian Farmer with his very popular "Stories from the Derwent Valley". Adrian is a wonderful speaker and I hope this will be a good start to our next programme of speakers. Please watch out for further information about meetings nearer the time. Have a good summer everyone and look forward to seeing you in September.



## 150 (and counting) years of happy Fete days in Crich

by Geoff Brown

Photo: Church float - Crich Carnival 1997 by Geoff Brown

**This year's Crich Fete has been postponed until 28 August in the hope that life will have returned a little more to normal by then. Assuming it can go ahead, this will be the latest in a long history of fetes, carnivals and fairs held in Crich, Fritchley and Whatstandwell. This article does not attempt to provide a detailed history of these events. Indeed, historical details seem a bit sketchy.**

Peter Patilla recently provided the fete committee with a poster (or press announcement?) relating to 'Crich Grand Balloon and Pyrotechnic Fete' to be held in August 1872. Interestingly held on a Tuesday, this was to include fireworks, hot air balloon ascents (while discharging fireworks), a gymnast performing 'Flying Leaps for Life', the 'Flight of a Fiery Pigeon', shooting galleries and much more. Health and Safety assessors and event insurance companies – eat your hearts out!

The event was to be held on the grounds of M Jessop Esq, who we know to have been

an attorney and solicitor, who lived at 'The Mount' in Crich and at that time owned some 63 acres of land in the village. Exactly where the event was held is not known and references to Lovers' Walks, Orchards and Pleasure Grounds raise a number of questions as these terms no longer seem to be associated with Crich. Applications for stalls remains a familiar concept, but what is different today is that you no longer have to pay an admission fee! (Sixpence in 1872 is equivalent to about £2.75 today.)

It is not clear whether fetes and carnivals were established as annual events around that time. We must also remember that the terms tend to be used interchangeably, although 'carnivals' are associated with processions of decorated floats. They would however have concluded with entertainment at a fixed location (as we would now regard a fete).

Ken Jackson's book *The Spirit of Crich, Whatstandwell, Fritchley & Surrounding Areas*, published in 2004, includes a number of images of events described as Crich,



**CRICH.**  
**GRAND BALLOON & PYROTECHNIC**  
**FETE on the Grounds of M. JESSOP, Esq.,**  
**ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1872.**  
**DERBYSHIRE YEOMANRY BAND,**  
 By the kind permission of  
 Lieutenant-Colonel Colville and the Officers of the Regt.;  
 Mr. W. H. ROBINSON, Pyrotechnist, of Ripley has been engaged to give  
**A GRAND DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS!**  
 Accompanied with Balloon Ascents, surpassing anything  
 of the kind hitherto given in the neighbourhood.  
 Ascent of MONTGOLFIER BALLOON,  
 Discharging Fireworks.  
**WILL SUBLANDO,**  
 The great Gymnast, in his Flying Leaps for Life, &c.  
 Dancing. Rustic Sports. Donkey Races.  
 Grand Balloon Races, Archery, Aunt Sally, Magic  
 Circle, &c.  
**FLIGHT OF A FIERY PIGEON!!!**  
 Exhibition of a monster ship Signal Lights.  
 Grounds open at Twelve o'clock.  
 Admission SIXPENCE. Children under 11 Half Price.  
 Admission to the Lovers' Walks, Orchard, and Pleasure  
 Grounds adjoining.  
 All applications for Fruit Stalls, Shooting Galleries,  
 Roundabouts, Aunt Sallies, &c., to be made to the Manager,  
 Mr. W. H. ROBINSON, Ripley.  
 Refreshments will be provided on the Grounds. 2976

*Crich fete poster from 1872 - courtesy P Patilla*



*Crich Fair 1908 -  
courtesy P Patilla*

Whatstandwell or Fritchley Carnivals held between 1900 and the 1950s. It may be that Crich and Fritchley carnivals were one and the same, as it seems that the procession often started in one village and ended in the other.

There also appear to have been annual travelling fairs, held either on the Market Place, or on the Dutchman Croft, land now developed as Weaver Close. A picture of such a fair dated 1908 is included. It is thought that the fairs lasted until sometime in the 1950s, this being corroborated by a resident who remembers them as a boy at around that time. In 1934 'Crich and Fritchley Hospital Carnival' raised money for the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary and the Derby women's and children's hospitals. Apparently, it cost £20 to stage! Ahh – if only. A picture from this event and several others appear on the Crich Parish website [www.crichparish.co.uk](http://www.crichparish.co.uk). The 1952 event, described as 'Crich Carnival and Field

Day' celebrated the accession of the Queen and was organised by Crich Parish Coronation Committee (The actual coronation happened in 1953 of course.) A carnival dance was held in the infants' school in the evening.

More recent memories relate to the continuation of a Crich Carnival right up until at least the end of the 1990s. Floats would be decorated by many of the village organisations and process through the village to the recreation ground. Some time around the millennium, the carnival procession was finally abandoned as the liability insurance costs made it non-viable.

Since then, the event has reverted to being a 'simple' fete held on the recreation ground. In recent years, it has run alongside the newly created Crich Monument Race which starts and finishes on the rec and which has become a major event for the local running clubs. The fete has also spawned other events in the

...fireworks, hot air balloon ascents (while discharging fireworks), a gymnast performing 'Flying Leaps for Life', the 'Flight of a Fiery Pigeon', shooting galleries...



*Crich Carnival king and queen 1938  
- courtesy P Patilla*

week before the normal July date, particularly the now well established Crich Well Dressings and the Crich Open Gardens.

We are hoping to run the fete again this year, albeit on a later date in August. This will still be subject to government guidelines at the time, so we keep our fingers crossed.

If you can fill in any history of the parish Fetes and Carnivals, please feel free to contact the fete committee either via the Facebook page or by email to [crichfete@gmail.com](mailto:crichfete@gmail.com)

Particular thanks are extended to Peter Patilla for his help in writing this article.



# Who gets your vote in the Crich Parish mayoral elections?

By Essie Prosser

As the time for the inaugural election of the Crich Parish mayor draws ever closer, Essie Prosser interviews the prospective candidates to find out their motivation, manifestos and aspirations.

## Cliff Quarry, candidate for the 21st Century Crich party:



**EP:** Cliff, I'm aware you've been a presence in Crich for a long time and are regarded as a rock in the community for many reasons. Why are you putting yourself forward as mayoral candidate?

**CQ:** Well, Essie, from my standpoint I feel I've got a 360-degree view of Crich parish and am in a position to take Crich forward both economically and socially. Most people in the village know me and, dare I say it, love me! In the past I've been responsible for providing employment and trade in the area and still am the reason a lot of people visit Crich.

**EP:** I agree, Cliff, but what do you aspire to bring to Crich in the 21st century?

**CQ:** I have big plans to ease the traffic problems around Crich especially with the proposed increase in tourists to the area. I would seek to reopen part of the old railway line between Bull Bridge and Crich for the transportation of visitors from the valley to the village. The plan is to develop the area near the main railway line into a multi storey car park and then give visitors the ride of lives up the old gang road to Park Head.

**EP:** These certainly are big plans, Cliff. Do you think you'll have any trouble with planning permission?

**CQ:** I don't think so. My old mate Sandy Lane is one of the planning officers and he's fully on board. He's lived in Crich longer than I have and is in regular contact with members of the Crich community and has first-hand experience of the issues with traffic around here. Also me old pal Mark Etplace is pretty influential with the council so I think we've every chance of success.

## Dale Close, the Freedom for Fritchley party:



**EP:** Dale, please would you outline your candidacy for Crich Mayor?

**DC:** Yes, of course, Essie, be delighted! I feel I fall somewhere in between the two other candidates in that I'm neither old or new. I've lived in the area for a fair few years and would like to put Fritchley more firmly on the parish map.

**EP:** Your party's name could be perceived to be a bit provocative don't you think, especially in these days of unity and coming together.

**DC:** Yes, I suppose so but there really are quite benign reasons for its title that are deep rooted in the Hagg and surrounding woodlands. We, in Fritchley, are aware that we hold a large crop of wild garlic and that, at the moment, it is free for anyone to forage. We would like to create a local cooperative to oversee the harvesting of wild garlic, the freedom to sell it on the free market (or Matlock market, at least) and to plough the profits back into Fritchley.

**EP:** And how do you envisage spending any profit for the Fritchley community?

**DC:** Oh, that's easy. We would plant fig trees on the village green which would in turn create more income to invest in more agricultural ventures. We really want to put Fritchley, and Crich of course, on the map for locally produced, locally marketed and locally loved produce. With me as mayor, we could easily reach financial independence which could lead us to who knows what? Maybe we could become county capital of commerce!

## Rose Lane, candidate for the Welcome to Crich party:

**EP:** Rose, you are also a long-standing resident of Crich. Why are you putting yourself forward to be mayor?

**RL:** Essie, I think it's time the newcomers to Crich got more involved and are better represented within our community. We have had a welcome influx of new families into our village and I want them to feel at home and included. I propose to seek out those who have talents and skills and showcase them in a bi-monthly meeting to be held in a newly created exhibition hall called the Water Meadows Reflective.

**EP:** That sound ambitious. How will it be funded? And also, will everyone, old or new to the area be able to contribute?

**RL:** I hope it does sound ambitious- I intend it to be so! Funding isn't a problem; a local benefactor by the name of Sir Gerry Lane is backing it (no relation!) and has stumped up for the building and then it will be down to the community to keep it going. Of course the Water Meadows Reflective will be open to all residents, old and new. After the lock downs we need to develop a new all-embracing community spirit and I know my party will do it.

**EP:** Very positive, Rose. Good luck!

Well, the Crich community certainly has a varied choice for the post of mayor! Who will you vote for?

More information on the election, parties and individuals involved can be found at: [www.weravinalarf.comcrich](http://www.weravinalarf.comcrich)

Kate Willis, owner of  
Supporting Solutions

*"We all need support, we all need help, we all need to feel heard and valued, being able to give that to someone when they really need it."*

## INTERVIEW WITH

# A chat with Kate Willis, owner of Supporting Solutions

### What do you enjoy most about your profession?

People. Engaging with people; simple positive human connection. The sensitive, touching and sad moments are as important as the funny, naughty, laugh out loud moments.

### What would be your priority activity if you were the Invisible Man/Woman for the day?

I'd make everyone we look after and everyone who works within the team their favourite meal and drink, ready just the way they like it and the time of day that suits them best.

### Who is the person who has influenced you the most?

There are so many over the years I couldn't name one. I've worked alongside so many fantastic people that helped me push myself out of my natural comfort zones to gain better skills, to challenge me and my way of thinking and to learn different approaches. I think we/I collect these influences as we grow inside of work and of course outside.

And definitely the courage and the dignity of the people I've cared for over the years, the resilience of people at their lowest, vulnerable, is nothing but an inspiration.

### What piece of wisdom would you pass on to a child?

Don't worry about fitting in too much, be kind to yourself, don't take yourself too seriously, and as you grow up keep doing the things that make you shine.

### How would you spend your fantasy 24 hours with no travel restrictions?

I would go to the nearest, warmest, quietest beach with my sons and my husband and we would spend the day swimming, surfing and mucking about. There would be a campfire at night, food, music and drink or two!

### What single thing would improve the quality of your life?

Balance.

### What's been your greatest business challenge?

Staying continually focused on the many fundamental factors that keep us safe and viable.

### What keeps you awake at night?

Being responsible.

### What's the most fun you've ever had at work?

Years ago I did much more one to one work with people: I've taken people to London for the day, spent days at Alton Towers, Splash Landings, hours walking in the countryside, and swimming sessions. Those are fun moments.

### Most embarrassing moment at work?

I once got asked in a swimming pool, while I was with a young lady I was swimming with (supporting), if she was my daughter. She was 8 years younger than me, rude!

### What's your biggest vice?

Wine!

### What's the unending quest that drives you on?

We all need support, we all need help, we all need to feel heard and valued, being able to give that to someone when they really need it.



 supporting solutions

## Community Support Workers wanted

**Are you looking for local meaningful employment?**

**Can you see yourself helping others?**

**Do you live in Crich or nearby?**

**We are seeking to employ team members from within our community in and around Crich.**

**Join our CQC registered Community Care Service.**

Contact us via our office number for further information. Or send us an email.  
We are waiting to hear from you.

Tel: 01773 853107 Email: [katesolutions@aol.com](mailto:katesolutions@aol.com)  
Supporting Solutions Ltd, based in Crich.  
4 Chapel Cottages, Market Place, Crich, DE4 5DD



*A few weeks ago I asked subscribers to the Old Photos of Crich Facebook group for some of the colloquial names they remember for our local paths and lanes. What resulted was an on-line conversation of reminiscences and some very picturesque names involving over 60 responses. When I looked through them I realised that with very little jiggling we had a poem.*

## Old Folds' Yard

*by Martyn Offord*

*Off Fold's Yard, at the old quarry they called The Croft  
They lowered me down the mine shaft because I was the smallest,  
But I was the one who saw fossils, small fish and ammonites.*

*A small stone dropped down, a delayed plop  
In the dark distance like the soft sound of childhood.*

*Along Mooredge Road and across Ten Acre Hill  
Santa's Cave among the damp ferns, or so we believed.  
There we played between Parkhead and Plaistow Green.*

*But why are the cars parked there at night,  
Misted windscreens and heavy breathing in the dark?*

*Plain names: Dark, Gas, Back, Pump or Rock,  
Rough Ground and the Prairie golden in the sunset.  
Plosive names, functional, saying what they were,  
Coarse and gritted like a ditcher's hands:  
Shuck Troughs, Brook Bottom, Spooksville, Sod All.*

*To the Ganner past Cat Woman's House,  
Or Pogle's Wood where Dad took us for chestnuts,  
To pet the ponies and walk down to the canal,  
Or gather mushrooms at Top Doctor above Stone Lane  
Just by the old cricket Pavilion.  
And was it Stone Lane where Sally Mazie went  
After her caravan burned down?  
Remember the Mount Tabor Picnic in Hog Nick,  
But it was on the tree covered mound at Claylocks  
Where I played and courted.*

*Timmy Ray pitched his fair on Dutchman's Croft  
Where we once burned Guy Fawkes,  
And I sang along Blackbird Lane and raced the Mad Mile,  
Tried spelling Lighza's Hill while the breeze creased the grass  
Up Ox-Hay so I tightened my collar at Windy Gap.*

*Bradley's Yard in Fritchley where there was a smithy;  
Named for the Bradleys, a smart lot apparently  
Boasting lineage back to Curzons, Kedleston and the Conqueror.  
Allegedly a donkey was buried under the tree.  
Not "allegedly" my hubby says. His Dad showed him where.*

*But why is the Wakebridge lay-by Chatter Breaker?  
Did we break our chatter beneath Arthur Fox's funerals,  
Or the Council heaped chatter there for the roads?  
But I know that one day before Christmas from here  
We watched Saturn and Jupiter in conjunction*

*And knew that Bethlehem lay over Coddington way.*

# The murder in the kitchen

by Edgar Allan Teapot

Did you ever hear about the tragic case  
that unfolded some years ago (like  
some abandoned origami)?

*Crime scene tape photo  
by Kat Wilcox from Pexels  
Kitchen crime scene photos  
by Edgar Allan Teapot*

The scene was carnage. Shattered pieces of glass and mangled chrome lay strewn on the tiled floor.

It had started with a major DIY project in the kitchen and the need for frequent drink breaks (and the odd cake!); it ended with a major investigation and a huge trial of national public interest.

Here we pick up the story...and the pieces...

The prosecution team had gathered their evidence. At a frenzied scene outside the court the cling film confidently claimed the case was almost wrapped up and hoped the prosecution wouldn't be foiled at the last minute. A new sauce had emerged during the investigation. They had witnessed the brand new sleek all-in-one coffee machine (one of those Italian types) falling from the kitchen top and meeting its maker, before it could make anything.

It had only arrived the day before and had been an impulse purchase.

There were very few reliable witnesses. The fridge said it had all the hallmarks of a cold case - she had seen nothing. The window, at one point, thought he was going to be framed; the door thought it was an open and shut case but would say no more.



*Sponge and spiraliser discuss the case*





*Cup seen mouthing off to the spoon*

The spiraliser had taken a turn for the worse during the trial and the knife said she had never read such cutting remarks in the press; the fondue set was cheesed off with the whole thing.

The tool box, which had been on the floor, was interviewed. He said there was a spanner in the works, as it was plane to see that he saw nothing of the incident as he was on the floor. He thought the nails may have seen something or may take the hit, but then again they were hammered from the night before so it was doubtful they did it.

The oven came in for a right old grilling but took the heat and stayed calm refusing to let his emotions boil over. After all he saw nothing.

The scourer who normally soaked up information like a sponge was asleep at the time. She thought it would be rough justice if the sandpaper got the blame just because it was on the kitchen top waiting for some action. However, she had shelved her opinion so as not to draw attention to the fact she was all washed up, and to be frank, ready for the bin.

The cup didn't want to be made a mug of so kept her lips sealed. She was spoon-fed some story, by the spoon about not wanting to get into hot water, or was that the other way round.

The milk jug really started to milk it under cross-examination. His story was outrageously sugar coated basically because he was bored and never got used.

It all panned out in the end, as under interrogation the glass had cracked and spilt the milk...and beans.

It turned out that the coffee pot and coffee grinder had been in cahoots, not wanting to be ground down and replaced.

They had plotted together and, despite both looking like 'butter wouldn't melt', had crept up behind the new machine in a pincer movement...and in an instant it was over.

The kettle boiled over on hearing the smash as she was so frightened, whilst the cocktail maker was totally shaken up.

In the end they all had to have a cup of tea, as of course that sorted everything out. The teapot was especially pleased at the time and later very thankful that the case was in the bag!

*The sponge is all washed up*



*Derek receiving the first Crich Area Community Award in 2008 from David Billyeald*



*Derek relaxing in his retirement*

## An epilogue to Crich Area Community News

*by Andrew Auld, current editor, Crich Standard*

It is with sadness that the team at Crich Standard heard of the death of Derek Killingsley-Smith on Monday 3 May 2021.

After a career which involved military service in the Grenadier Guards and as a police officer, Derek was someone in our community who also gave dedicated voluntary service. He was Chair of the Crich Carnival Committee and of the Crich Christian Coffee Club, but it is his role in founding the Crich Area Community News and leading as Editor for 12 years for which our team is particularly grateful.

Derek had long nurtured the idea of a local magazine serving the community going free

to all homes. In March 1997 edition 1 of Crich Area Community News was distributed across the parish after a group of volunteers gathered with Derek to form the first committee.

This means that the 100th edition of Crich Area Community News/Crich Standard will be our December 2021 edition. We had already been planning a special edition and were going to include an interview with Derek which now sadly won't be able to happen. However, I have recorded the essence of the story and will tell it in full then.

In the meantime, the current committee of Crich Standard would like to extend our thanks to Derek for his idea, his determination and his service and our deepest sympathy to Kate.



*"I, for one, am glad to be an 'odd sort' amongst you, because it really takes all sorts to make a community work."*

# Hatch, match and dispatch - it takes all sorts

by Revd Ian Whitehead

Photo by Geoff Brown

## So much of a Church of England Vicar's job role is in what are called the Occasional Offices, or 'hatch, match and dispatch'.

These are the more family focused special services of christenings, weddings and funerals. Each one carries a story and so often it's a family story that gets told again and again. There are also stories told of those services by Vicars too:

At a Christening I asked the Dad for the child's name, he didn't seem to have a clue and so Mum jabbed him sharply in the ribs. "It's Spindonna", Dad told me. I poured the water over the child saying "Spindonna, I baptise you...". Mum went mad! "What'd you go call her that for?" She shouted at me, "her name's Tracy!" "But Dad said it was Spindonna", I said. "No! I told that daft lump not to forget, and her name's pinned on her...cardigan!" It takes all sorts, I thought!

Marrying couples is something I love doing; I love a good wedding! One bride though turned up at the door totally panic stricken and breathing heavily. "I can't remember anything!" she gasped. To reassure her I told her that there was nothing to worry about. "Just remember these three things: Walk up the 'Aisle', head for the church 'Altar', we'll sing a 'Hymn', you'll be fine", I said confidently. As the Bride entered, all the Groom could hear was his future wife repeating those three words: "Aisle, Altar, Hymn...Aisle, Altar, Hymn". No wonder the blood drained from his face. It takes all sorts, I thought!

The very first funeral I took was a nerve wracking one. I wanted to get it right. The crem was packed, the coffin of the old chap was behind me waiting for the curtains to draw round it. The widow sat head bowed. As I read the final words I was to press the button to start the curtain closing. It was a rocker switch but as I pressed it while reading the words my brain froze...which way did I press it? Open or Close? I could hardly stop reading and look behind me, so I pressed it the other way. Now I was confused, and a little panicky, and so I pressed it again...the other way. Looking around at the end of the reading I saw the curtain closed. I had got away with it. However, unbeknown to me but in full view of everyone else, the curtains had indeed started to close, only to start opening again before finally closing shut. As people started to leave and I stood by the door the old chap's widow came to me, gripping my hands tightly in hers, she drew close to me and whispered, "the bugger didn't want to go!" She walked on, with a happy glint in her eye. It takes all sorts, I realised!

There are of course 'all sorts' of people in a community, all who are a part of all sorts of stories that happen every day. I, for one, am glad to be an 'odd sort' amongst you, because it really takes all sorts to make a community work.



# Crich Cross: 150 years old

by Peter Patilla

*An early postcard of Crich Cross showing the Jovial Dutchman Inn as thatched.*

*The area surrounding the cross was the market place for Crich until the 1920s.*

The cross stands on the site of an earlier monument, listed as ancient in 1857 and described by local poet Ann Perry as an old blackened wooden cross. The present cross was erected on 27 June 1871 and was designed and carved by a local man Isaac Petts. There is a memorial to him in Crich church yard.

The wheel cross head has a foliage decoration to the west face and a carved figure to the east face. Most of the early directories, copying from each other describes the figure as St Michael overcoming the dragon, although it is hard to see evidence of a dragon.



The placing of the Cross was reported in the press at the time:

Derbyshire Advertiser and Journal 7 July 1871

## CRICH

### RESTORATION OF THE CROSS

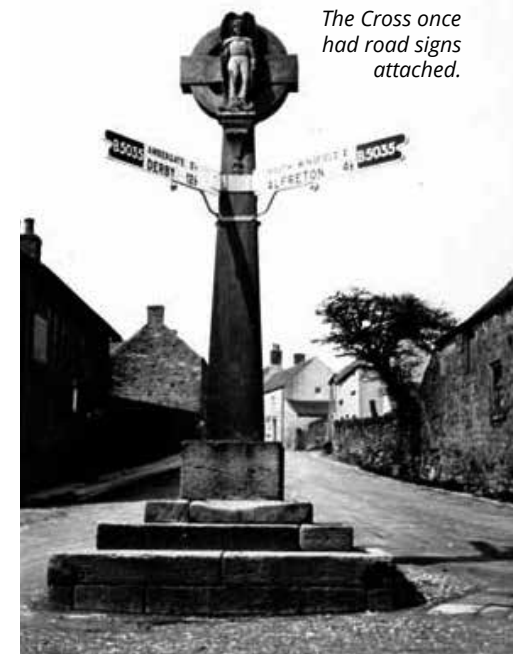
For some years the Old Cross has been in a ruinous state, and was taken down three weeks ago to be re-erected by public subscription, after a new design. Nothing was found in the remains to gain any idea as to how many years it had been built. It is supposed to have been erected as a beacon to guide the weary travellers across the wilds in days of yore, when no other building or human habitation was to be seen around. The work was undertaken by Mr J. Petts, of Fritchley, and on Tuesday se'nnight he succeeded in completing the restoration. It has a square base, which is reached on either side by three steps. In the centre of this base, is a receptacle in which is placed a bottle, containing an article on the supposed age of the parish church, and a poem by J. W. Lee on the restoration, coins of the realm of current silver and copper. On this a huge block of stone is placed, on which the massive column stands, nine feet six inches high. On the side of the column is a heart in bas-relief, with the words, "Restored 1871." On the top of the column is a beautiful design of the cross on one side, and Michael the Archangel with his sword through the dragon's neck on the other. It stands seventeen feet high from the ground, and is a splendid piece of workmanship, which reflects equal credit on the good taste of the architect out of the skill of Mr Petts.

[The word se'nnight was much used in newspaper articles of the time. It is an abbreviation of seven nights, meaning "a week ago"].

*The artwork on the right, courtesy the late Aileen Taylor, is the original drawing for the cross given to Isaac Petts to copy.*

More photographs and history of Crich Cross can be found on the website:  
[www.crichparish.co.uk](http://www.crichparish.co.uk)

*The Cross once had road signs attached.*



# Celebrating Crich's Cliff Quarry

*With Art Share Crich, Art Stand Group and the Tramway Village*

*by Trish Howard*

**Have you ever walked over the Tors or Bent Hill and looked at Crich Stand, rising like a beacon above towering cliffs, shimmering golden in the light of the sun? This sight has puzzled many visitors who wonder why there is a lighthouse so far inland or even, "where is the sea?"**

The cliffs of Crich quarry can be seen from afar and have been part of our local landscape since George Stephenson leased the quarry in 1840. Quarrying for limestone in Crich probably began as long ago as the Romans. The quarry is listed as a monument and is home to a diverse range of wildlife including foxes, protected badgers, hares and many birds such as buzzards, jackdaws and ravens. This recognisable landmark is an artist's paradise. To celebrate this, Art Share Crich, in partnership with The Tramway Village, is inviting Crich parish residents to create a piece of art work which captures this unique local feature.

In June and July, The Tramway Village will open its doors free of charge to residents who wish to view and create a piece of art based on the disused quarry, which has now seen over 10 years of re-wilding (Please remember to take proof of address). Members of the Tramway village may already visit anytime to view and sketch the quarry or simply enjoy the facilities. There will also be workshops during June and July, details of these are below and you can also check the websites below for more details. Local schools are being invited in June to participate in workshops on sketching and painting.

If you wish, your work may then be displayed in the Art Share Crich Exhibition in the autumn at The Glebe and The Tramway Village, Crich. Your work can be any size, in any medium/ materials of your choice and be abstract or realistic. Anything goes!

Andy Parkinson, International Wildlife Photographer and Irene Brierton, Wildlife Artist have kindly donated a print each for the two pieces in the exhibition they feel most capture the beauty and character of the quarry.

Have a go, you'll be amazed at what you can do!

*Photo by Trish Howard*



## **Art Share Crich Exhibition, October 2021**

**Closing date for entries: 30 September**

Please email a photograph of your work and size/dimensions of the piece, your name and contact details to [clarelimb68@gmail.com](mailto:clarelimb68@gmail.com). Details of when to deliver your work to the Glebe will be on the website nearer the time of the exhibition.

### **Find out more on Facebook and Crich Standard, Art Share Crich**

If you just fancy a walk up to the Tramway Village in June and July, take a picnic and enjoy the amazing views over the Derwent Valley. Wander through the Tramway's Woodland Walk and explore the nature there or even discover the hidden fairies (and trolls!) hidden amongst the trees.

**Find other walks and details of a foraging walk (Derbyshire Wildlife Trust) in the Summer online:**

**ACE (Active Crich for Everyone) on Facebook or [crichstandard.org/ace](http://crichstandard.org/ace)**

## **Tramway Village workshops**

All workshops will take place in a quiet grassy area above the Bandstand opposite the quarry face.

### **Margaret Bazely, Willow sculptor**

**Sunday 11 and Saturday 17 July - 2pm - 4pm**

This will involve sculpting with natural willow where participants can make items such as a small animal, a sphere, plant support, a wreath or tension trays.

**Price:** £20 including materials and printed instructions. 6 places are available. To book please contact: [margaretbazely@aol.com](mailto:margaretbazely@aol.com)

**Saturday 3 July and Sunday 4 July 10.30am - 12.30pm**

This is a drop-in session, sculpting with natural willow. People can make a small item and pay for their art work.

**Prices:** Magic wand is £3. Or at £5 each: fish on a rod, a heart, a dragonfly, a bird feeder

**Booking is not necessary, just turn up during the available time**





Photo by Ade Smith

### David Hunns, Artist

Saturday 26 June, 17 July and 24 July 10.00am – 12.00pm and 1.00pm – 3.00pm. Price: £3 per person or £10 per family

Drop-in sessions where individuals have the freedom to explore and create their own art work under guidance. Materials provided.

Booking is not necessary, just turn up during the available time.

### Denise Clifffen, Artist

Sunday 27 June, 11 July and 18 July 2.00pm – 4.00pm

This is an introductory workshop to pastel painting landscapes. There will be a demonstration of how to work in pastels, focusing on the quarry, followed by a practical workshop session. All materials provided

Price: £10 per person. 10 places available

To book please contact:  
denise.clifffen@gmail.com

### Julian Bray, Mixed Media Artist

Sunday 4 July 1.00pm – 4.00pm

There will be a demonstration followed by a practical activity with participant's own materials. Please bring your own paper/ sketchbook/ canvas and whichever materials you wish to work in.

Price: Free. 20 places available. To book please contact: paperworkz@hotmail.com

### Dr. Andrew Smith. Geologist

Saturday 10 July 1.00pm – 2.00pm and 4.00pm – 5.00pm.

This is a talk called a "Slice through time". It focusses on the formation of Cliff Quarry over millions of years. Fossils will be on display and available to photograph and make rubbings

Price: Free. Booking is not necessary

### Jonathan Amos, Photographer

Sunday 25 July - 1pm - 2.30pm and 3pm - 4.30pm

How to use light and shade in landscape photography. Bring your own camera. The participants will be able to photograph aspects of cliff quarry and features around the Tramway Village such as the woodland walk, views over Derwent valley and the Tramway Museum.

Price: £2 per person. 10 places available.  
To book please contact: jamos@waitrose.com

Further information on all of these workshops can be found on Facebook, Art Share Crich, local advertising and on [www.crichstandard.org](http://www.crichstandard.org)

# What's On

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

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

## AUGUST 2021

### WHATSTANDWELL OPEN GARDENS AND ART TRAIL

The Art Trail theme will this year take equal billing with the Open Gardens. There will be a plant sale at one of the gardens and original works of art by local artists will be available to purchase as well as to enjoy. More details will be made available on the Whatstandwell Social Club website as well as the Open Gardens National Directory - [www.opengardens.co.uk](http://www.opengardens.co.uk)

Sunday 8 August, 12:00 - 17:30

Admission by program. (£4 adults, children under 16 free. All monies raised will go to a local charity.)



Whatstandwell Open Gardens



Whatstandwell Open Gardens

## JUNE 2021

### CRICH OPEN GARDENS

Covid kept our gardens closed in 2020 so they bloomed unseen, but we are planning to go ahead this year. Some gardens will open on Sunday 27 June and others on Saturday 3 July. We will need to limit our activities a little to ensure safety, not serving refreshments for instance, but we feel proper distancing and monitoring of numbers shouldn't prevent everyone enjoying themselves.

Sunday 27 June

Watch out for more information nearer the time.

## JULY 2021

### CRICH OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 3 July

Watch out for more information nearer the time.



Whatstandwell Art Trail

## Community Round-up

# It's good to walk!

by Rachel Jennings

Active Crich for Everyone has had a funny year. Just before the first lockdown we'd started our Spring program and had a fantastic geology walk led by Dr Andy Smith (Crich Rocks!) then it all stopped.

However, the upside of lockdown has been a huge increase in people walking round the village, woods and valley as their daily exercise. You have been spotted!

So, this year, we thought we'd build on this enthusiasm by supporting the Great British Spring Clean. Pick up your litter picking equipment on Sunday 13 June from the marketplace at 10 and return it at 12. Decide which area you'd like to focus on and be a #litterhero.

Hopefully, many of you enjoyed the recent guided walk by Andy Smith on Quarrying and Mining in Crich Parish. At the time of writing, we are trying to organise a guided foraging walk, so check our Facebook page or the Crich Standard website for details.

The Tramway is open to Crich Parish residents for free during June and July, so why not take a picnic and enjoy the woodland walk and amazing views. Evidence of your address will be needed to gain free entry and children must be accompanied by an adult.



Photo by Geoff Brown

Linda and Corinne have been updating the Crich Heritage trails to include additional information and a quiz on the northern and southern loops, plus the addition of a pub walk - discover all the old pubs of our parish and enjoy a pint or two en-route in the current ones! The walks can all be found on the Crich Standard website and followed on your phone or printed from a pdf.

We are also excited that following a successful funding bid with Derbyshire County Council the Explorer Scouts are going to be creating a new nature/heritage walk for the village. We think it'll be ACE!

**Follow us on Facebook for our latest updates or see the Crich Standard website events page. If you have any ideas of activities that you would like to see in the parish or would like to join our team, please get in touch [active.crich@gmail.com](mailto:active.crich@gmail.com)**

Active Crich for Everyone Team

## The Glebe prepares to re-open its doors

by Clare Limb

The Glebe is preparing to open its doors once more! Although some services have been able to continue over the past year, the majority of activities held at the centre have been on hold.

In the meantime, a dedicated group of staff and volunteers have been working hard behind the scenes in order to get the centre ready for hosting a range of activities once more. Ensuring that the building is safe and sound after a period of non-use is a high priority, with work being done on the conservatory to make it a usable space and on the skylight windows to ensure that the building can be well ventilated.

The first use of the centre was the Children's Fun Club providing an exciting range of activities for children in their Easter holidays. This initiative, coordinated by Frances James, and funded through the Crich Patient Participation Group, provided a much-needed opportunity for fun and friendship for the children of the village.

Another important piece of work is now well-underway, with The Glebe 'opening-up group' looking to gather the views of residents and users across the community about what the Glebe means to them and what is their best hope for its future.

Throughout April, May and June Creative Conversation with the community actively sought the views and thoughts of the community, with a feedback event planned in July. The aim of this research is to gather vital information for devising the new strategy for The Glebe.

## Community Round-up

# CRICH LIVE

The team at Crich Live are busy preparing to bring shows to the Parish from the end of September onwards and into the Spring of 2022. As things hopefully improve we will see the confidence and desire of audiences return and a quenching of the thirst to attend live events.

Crich Live aims to be at the forefront of that for our local audiences and their family and friends. For those of you who have been to local shows in the past, and for those who want to 'go local' for the first time, we aim to bring an interesting and entertaining programme of music, drama and dance. The majority of our first ventures will be at the Glebe Field Centre in Crich but we then look to extend our options as we go forwards.

**You will be able to keep up to date with the news about shows and events through the Crich Standard website, where we will be posting regular updates and ticketing information: [crichlive.org](http://crichlive.org).**

And if you would like to be on our mailing list then please visit [crichlive.org/mailling](http://crichlive.org/mailling) and register your details. We will be able to send you priority information about what's round the corner so you can plan your diaries.

Enjoy the Summer and get planning for your Autumn/Winter entertainment!

Roger Bode, Promoter, Crich Live



## Community Round-up

# 3

### COMRADES CLUB

## Reasons to be cheerful are three:

by Kev Oliver

- No.1** The sun is starting to shine, the days are getting longer and the roaring twenties are here, the 2020s that is.
- No.2** If all goes according to plan the Club will be re-opening on 17 May, albeit with possible restrictions and then we can look forward to 21 June and the fuller re-opening of the country.
- No.3** The ongoing Club refurbishment will soon be coming to an end. Tables cleaned and varnished and the Pool room walls also cleaned and varnished, all courtesy of Bob and Stew. Yours truly refurbished the bar stools and re-upholstered a few chairs, even got Mrs O. in on the act, cleaning stool seat pads.

Scott Bates organised the bar makeover, new shelving, work tops, water heater and sink (the bar staff and cleaner have never had it so good, mind you, when you have a great team of staff you have to spoil them occasionally). All new bench seating is now fitted, new chairs have been delivered and carpet is being fitted in May, all in time for re-opening.

Over the years the Club has benefitted from a number of improvements. In 1941 electric lighting was introduced. 1950 saw the installation of gas central heating and in 1951

an extension was completed to accommodate the toilet improvements. November 1951 also saw a second billiard table installed; this is the one still in use today. In the early 1960s due to the increase in membership, the Club had a second extension built; this is now the Pool Room. The Club's popularity grew throughout the sixties, with bingo and raffle nights at weekends and darts, dominoes and billiard teams playing during the week. Sadly, we no longer have bingo nights, darts or dominoes teams due to lack of support, however we do have both snooker and pool teams and new players are always welcome.

To ensure the success of our 100th year celebrations and for everyone's safety and enjoyment, we have taken the decision not to start the centenary celebrations until September and hold further various family events and entertainment, street party etc over the next 12 months. After all we're still 100 years old until September 2022, so keep your eyes peeled and ears open for news. Until the next time, stay safe and enjoy the easing of lockdown.

## Schools Round-up

## Our funny young folk

by Claire Ganthony

We asked some of the local children to tell us their favourite joke

What do cows do for fun?  
*They go to the moooo-vies!*  
Sophia, 5

Why did Tigger go to the toilet?  
*Because he was looking for his friend Pooh!*  
Ted, 7

What did the duck wear to a wedding?  
*A duxedo!*  
Freddie, 8

What do you call a man with a rubber toe?  
*Roberto!*  
Evie, 9

Why did Darth Vader cross the road?  
*To get to the dark side!*  
Rafferty, 6

What do you call a donkey with 3 legs?  
*A wonkey!*  
Joseph, 6

What do you call a cow with no legs?  
*Ground beef!*  
Hugo, 8

Knock knock. Who's there?  
Banana. Banana who?  
Knock knock. Who's there?  
Banana. Banana who?  
Knock knock. Who's there?  
Banana. Banana who?  
Knock knock. Who's there?  
Orange. Orange who?  
Orange you glad the banana's gone away!  
Ike, 5

What did the cow say to the other cow?  
*Mooooo-ve it!*  
Olivia, 6



# Schools Round-up

## Chalk drawings, worry dolls and chickens at Crich Juniors

by Chris Orridge. Photos by Crich Junior School

We were delighted to welcome all of our children back into school in March with a day full of exciting activities including pebble painting, dodgeball and outdoor chalk art. We had lots of time to chat with our friends whilst we had fun.

In History, we have been learning about the Mayans. We have learnt about their culture, their beliefs and their chilli hot chocolate! We also looked at the origin of the worry doll. Legend has it that a Mayan Princess named Lxmucane received a special gift from the sun



god that allowed her to solve any problem that a person might worry about. The worry doll represents the princess and her wisdom.

Often children find it challenging to articulate their worries and it can make it difficult for them to sleep. The ancient Mayans came up with a wonderful remedy to help children to express their worries and sleep soundly. They created worry dolls with their children. Children tell their worries to the dolls and then place them under their pillow when they go to bed at night. The worry dolls then take on the responsibility of the problem, freeing up the worrier, allowing them to sleep more peacefully. By morning, the dolls are said to have gifted the child with the knowledge and wisdom needed to eliminate their worries.

In Art we have made our own worry dolls using clothes pegs, wool, felt, feathers and beads. Here are some pictures of our work.

We are also pleased to see how happy our chickens are. Miss Coppen, who looks after them with the children, is thrilled with the number of eggs that they are laying. We currently have 11 chickens although, if Miss Coppen has anything to do with it, we will soon be increasing our brood.





## It's just a figure of speech

by Mrs Smithurst

This term at Crich Carr Primary, Class 2 have been learning about kennings. A kenning is a figure of speech using two hyphenated words in place of a single noun. It is thought that kennings originated in Old Norse-Icelandic and Old English poetry. The children have decided to write some riddles for you to solve in the form of kennings. Each clue describes a character or film that makes them chuckle - and opposite are their drawings. Can you match the riddle with the drawing? We hope that you enjoy it - good luck!

Answers on page 72

## Who am I?

1. Funny-ghost hunter,  
greedy-eater, scared-  
runner

By Henry

2. Speedy-runner,  
feathered-whizzer,  
cheeky-meeper

By Caleb

3. Funny-inventor,  
clumsy-cheese-eaters,  
Clever-problem-solvers

By Joseph

4. Crime-fighters, funny-  
zappers, deadly-training

By George

5. Moooooody-  
watcher, fast-decider,  
unbelievable-tricker

By Amber

6. Cheeky-tickler, clumsy-  
sneaker, funny-trickster

By Alice

7. Bear-cuddler, silly-  
reader, funny-winner

By Olivia

8. Greedy-sandwich-  
muncher, silly-Peruvian,  
red hat-wearer

By Clark

9. Brave-adventurer,  
funny-pirating, silly-  
captaining

By Florence

10. Funny-decision-makers  
stone age-thinkers, silly-  
runners

By Isaac

11. Eccentric-dresser, silly-  
walker, funny-searcher

By Isabella

12. Rude-prankster,  
cheeky-scholar, clever-  
tricker

By Casey

13. Happy-flyer, clever-  
searcher, green suit-  
wearer

By Tommy

14. Blue-tumbler, round-  
bumper, clumsy-faller

By Ellie





# Could Crich be Welsh?

by John Sanders - proudly Welsh

Soon after I moved here Sylvia Taylor told me Crich was Celtic. I would've said rubbish, but it was Sylvia, so I didn't. I possibly suggested that it could just as easily have been the name of the local Norman Lord's dog. Claire's opening paragraphs in her article in the Crich Standard winter edition highlighted the puzzle yet again.

Firstly, there is no such language as 'Celtic'. You might as well say Scandinavian or Indian. There are five Celtic languages in two branches: Scottish and Irish Gaelic is one; Cornish Breton and Welsh the other. Four of these languages are unlikely to have ever been spoken widely in Crich.

The language spoken in the north-west of England and the south of Scotland for many generations post-Rome was medieval Welsh, sometimes called Brythonic. There is even a name for this area in Welsh as well as the

more obvious Anglicised Cumbria (Cymru/ Wales). It was referred to as Yr Hen Ogledd - 'the old north' - in Medieval Welsh literature.

Place names tell some of the story in these areas. The most common prefix in English place names that indicates a Celtic connection is 'Pen' meaning top, head or end. Amongst others you have Penryn, Penzance, Penrith, Penicuik or Penpont in Scotland, or the mountain Pen-y-ghent in Yorkshire. Did this 'Welsh' territory extend south of Pendle or Pen y Ghent? Crich is, after all, on the southern end of the 'Celtic' Pennines.

Secondly, the Welsh for hill is 'bryn'. So you get Brynmawr (Big Hill) or Brynteg (Fair Hill). Go to Anglesey on holiday, turn left over the Menai Bridge and you arrive at Brynsiencyn (Jenkins Hill).

Thirdly, there is the 'u' favoured by many of the attempted spellings of Crich. In Welsh Cymru is pronounced 'come-ree'. 'U' is very often 'ee' in Welsh. So 'Cruc' would actually sound out as 'creek'; 'cruch' or 'cruche' might be 'creech'.

If we're going to contemplate the shocking fact that Crich might have a Welsh derivation there's only one place to start. The word 'craig' means rock or outcrop in Welsh. It entered English as crag. Since Crich has been said for over 1000 years, predominantly by people who didn't read, how it's been variously spelt is kind of irrelevant. It feels as if there is an ongoing search for a spelling to fit the sound, but in English.

If we imagine people saying 'craig' starting with 'cry', we are heading towards 'Cri(ch)'. But usually we think of 'cray(g)', which leads to crai(g) stressing the 'a' not the 'i'. It's tricky

*Since Crich has been said for over 1000 years, predominantly by people who didn't read, how it's been variously spelt is kind of irrelevant.*

and counter-intuitive to accept a different pronunciation for such a widely known Scots name.

Of some relevance (possibly) in the sound versus spelling minefield is the hard 'ch' of Crich. The Welsh 'ch' is much softer - think 'loch'.

There's one final intriguing local accompaniment to any possible Celtic/ Welsh derivation of Crich: Pentrich. Pentre means 'village' in Welsh. It should have an 'f' on the end, but it usually slips off. Imagine the softened 'ch' mentioned earlier and who knows.

Who said what to whom when 'Crich' or 'Pentrich' were first written down 900 years ago - we'll never know. You could imagine it was a tired French speaking scribe straining to understand a local with no teeth. Asking a bit much? Perhaps it was the name of the local laird's dog after all.



## The writing's on the wall for



by Roger Bode

Have you ever asked yourself the question 'Is graffiti art, or just mindless vandalism?' Why is one Banksy worth thousands and another image seen as a blot on the landscape? Graffiti, both the singular and plural of the term, certainly stirs up the emotions and shakes the senses.

The earliest forms can be traced back to cave paintings, symbols and representations of thoughts and events. Later the ancient civilisations of Greece, Rome and Egypt, amongst others, wrote on buildings in protest, to express love, or merely to state that 'I woz ere'!

Are we much different? After all we still write our names on walls in our own homes to say that this was once where we lived, even if we then paint or wallpaper over it. Somebody will uncover it one day.

The spell checker constantly corrects us in modern times, something the ancient graffiti writers didn't have the luxury of. 'Bad spellers of the world untie!' may be a modern ironic piece of graffiti but one that could certainly have existed in ancient times.

The Roman city of Pompeii, which of course was famously buried in volcanic ash in 79 AD, left behind perhaps the most remarkable examples of pictorial and written graffiti from the Ancient World. There are many messages that survived due to the extensive preservation of the city. This piece found in the Basilica probably shows just how much was discovered.

'O walls, you have held up so much tedious graffiti that I am amazed that you have not already collapsed in ruin'

It gave an insight into how people lived and the attitudes of the day including their humour. However many of these were often bawdy, explicit and irreverent.

Of course graffiti also has its place in modern history and culture. It has a link to gangs who used it to define territories, and it has marked moments in history, such as the graffiti seen on the Berlin Wall. Some of the earliest expressions of street art were seen on the side of train cars, buildings and walls in what was essentially an urban phenomenon.



As an art form it really took off in the USA in the 1960s and 1970s and then created a backlash amongst local authorities who sought to clamp down on it. Although it was essentially illegal this subversive creativity began to evolve to the point where 'street art' was adopted into the contemporary art world.

So it might be seen as vandalism but the person who wrote

'Sorry about your wall' must have had some sense of remorse!

Well there we have it. Graffiti probably divides the nation though it is definitely part of our history and culture, and that of the rest of the world. And if it has stirred you to remember graffiti that you have seen somewhere, or even written, then ponder this particular gem!

'I hate 3 things:

1. VANDALISM
2. IRONY
3. LISTS

# The last word

## Looking forward to (almost) everything

Asking a few friends what the coming months had in store to look forward to produced some really interesting answers.

Yes the haircut, the party, the holiday all have their place. Then there were a couple of more specific comments, such as easier access to medical and dental services. But it's the personal stuff that was wanted most, hugging parents and seeing friends without a risk assessment and overall a sense of a restoration of dignity.

For me as a first-time grandparent from October last year it is pretty obvious what I am looking forward to and, I'm sure if he was able to, my grandson would be demanding some similar size friends to play with.

Should we be travelling? Should we be going to the office? It would be wonderful to think that we could look forward to continuing our lives with less pollution, more wildlife and a better work life balance. I wonder how that could even be possible again?

Can we look forward to the ongoing levels of respect and kindness that have been shown in the last year? Do you remember how easily people came together, shared, helped and supported each other? Let's do that all the time, after all it costs us nothing more than courtesy, kindness and a willingness to care for and about each other.

Photo by Dom Andrews



It's great to see that in our brilliant community we can look forward to things really happening! Crich Fete will truly be a day for the village to come together and I can't wait to be a part of the atmosphere that will captivate us all. And you only have to look at the What's On pages here to see that our enforced hibernation has simply allowed people and groups to plan and come back even better and bolder to enhance our lives and wellbeing across a whole range of activities and events. Enjoy!

You know what though, it's all about the people really. Yes, I'd rather drink draught beer than canned or bottled. I'd rather have food served at a table rather than be delivered to the door. I'd rather go to the theatre or cinema than watch a box set. But I want to do these with friends in an atmosphere of mutual conviviality and happiness.

*Have a great summer everyone.*

**Tony Mills**  
*Chair, Crich Standard*

Photo by Chris Baker



## Your quiz this time gives a nod to 'light'-heartedness and an uplifting summer. Enjoy!

compiled by Roger Bode

# QUICKQUIZ

1. What are nimbostratus, cirrus and altocumulus?
2. William Morrison was one of the inventors of candy floss, but what was his profession?  
a) Umbrella Maker b) Dentist c) Wig Maker
3. Which Dutch painter painted 'The Laughing Cavalier'?
4. Heliology is the study of what?
5. 'Somewhere Over The Rainbow' was written for the film 'The Wizard of Oz'. What year was the film released?  
a) 1939 b) 1945 c) 1951
6. What is the lightest gas in the World?
7. Is your football team flying high? What are the nicknames of the following clubs?  
a) Sheffield Wednesday b) Brentford c) Swindon Town
8. And finally which pop groups' hits include 'Lifted' and 'Ocean Drive'?

8 Lighthouse Family  
5 a) 1939 b) The Owls c) The Bees  
4 The sun  
3 Frans Hals  
2 b) Dentist  
1 Types of cloud

Answers





# CRICH Standard

CRICH • FRITCHLEY • WHATSTANDWELL

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

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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.

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## Next issue:

Whether you love or hate it, we've all experienced education and training. We want to celebrate our schools, trainers, educators and learners in our next edition. Why is it important to learn new things? How easy is it to access further education from our parish? What has changed in the last year and a half about how we can teach and learn? Send us your thoughts and experiences to [editor@crichstandard.org](mailto:editor@crichstandard.org) by 13 July.

*Photo by Chris Baker*