

DARLEY ABBEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (DACA)

VILLAGE HALL, ABBEY YARD, off NEW ROAD, DARLEY ABBEY, DE22 1DS

Darley Abbey Community Association is a registered Charity, Reg. No. 700315

NEWSLETTER

Issue 38 - October 2006

Editor: Thorsten Siölin -- 55 83 19

Welcome to this slightly revamped Newsletter. Two pages and more information. If anyone can think of a snappier name than "Newsletter", please let me know. And if anyone is interested in becoming the next Editor, this is your opportunity ! You can reach me on thorsten.sjolin@btinternet.com or give me a ring. I am trying to cover as much as possible that is going to happen in the village so please let me know in good time and I will try to include it. We are publishing four issues a year starting with January.

Forthcoming Events in the Village Hall (February 07 - June 07) :-

Friday	16 Feb	Jonathan Wallis presents <i>Collections Relating to Darley Abbey and the World Heritage Site</i> (Historical Group)	7.30 pm
Saturday	17 Feb	Valentine's Night with romantic music and hot and spicy food (see below for details)	8 pm
Friday	23 Feb	Martin Clark will talk about <i>Worms</i> . (Gardening Club) NOT to be missed, say people who've heard him	8 pm
Friday	16 March	Derek Palmer will give his informative, if not destructive, talk entitled <i>Demolition Derby</i> (Historical Group)	7.30 pm
Sat/Sun	24/25 Mar	Arts & Crafts Fair with Floral Display by the members of The Gardening Club (more details later)	
Friday	30 March	<i>Gardeners' Question Time</i> with Bill Hudson and Anne Liverman of Broomfield College !!!NOTE NEW DATE!!!	8 pm
Friday	27 April	Irene Binks (aka the Herbwitch!) will talk about <i>Growing and using herbs</i> (Gardening Club)	8 pm
Saturday	5 May	Wine-tasting with Giles Orton - leave your car at home. Tickets £7.50	8 pm
Saturday	12 May	Annual Plant Fair and Coffee Morning Gardening Club and DACA. Your opportunity to stock up on plants	10-12 am
Friday	18 May	DACA AGM in cooperation with the Historical Group	7.30 pm
Saturday	9 June	Darley Abbey Day - more details later	all day
Friday	22 June	<i>Visit to Broomfield Hall grounds</i> arranged by the Gardening Club	7 pm

VALENTINE'S NIGHT SOCIAL

IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ON

SATURDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY STARTING AT 8 PM

THE EVENING WILL CONSIST OF

ROMANTIC MUSIC (with vocalist Richard Comfort

AND

HOT AND SPICY FOOD (Chilli and jacket potato)

Tickets @ £6 a head available from

Carol Wheatcroft on 55 70 55

NEW CHAIRS

The new chairs for the Village Hall have been delivered and very nice they look too. Many thanks to all those who sponsored one or more chairs. We were overwhelmed by the response. A framed list of all sponsors will be displayed in the Village Hall.

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THE OLD TIP

The future of the Old Tip off South Avenue was discussed on 18 January at a meeting with participants from the City Council and the village. It was decided to create a core group in order to take the creation of an official LNR (Local Nature Reserve) nearer. Anyone interested should contact Keith Dodd on keith@dodd396.fsnet.co.uk. This is your opportunity to have a say in the management of this important resource for the village.

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DA HISTORICAL GROUP

Roy Hartle writes: As you may have noticed there has been considerable building activity at the old "Barn" site in preparation for the creation of a youth activity centre.

The excavations on the site have been closely monitored by a professional archaeologist; three mediæval walls and a mediæval pavement have been uncovered and carefully recorded.

This discovery is leading to a better understanding of the long "LOST" Darley Abbey and you can help. Have you any memories, letters, newspaper cuttings etc that relate to any finds in the corner of the village close to the old "Barn" - New Road, Hill Square, West Row, North Row, The Hill, The Methodist Church, The Flats, Abbey Yard, Polpar Row, Darley Street, The "Abbey Pub, Dean's Field, The Royal British

Legion, Darley Park or even further afield. The find may be larger buried gritstone blocks, grave features - coffins, human bones, anything that may relate to the mediæval era. Phone Roy on 55 75 97.

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Gaëlle Bonfils

Max Roberts writes: Gaëlle Bonfils is a charming, quiet, 17 year old French girl, the daughter of a friend of mine. She lives with her mum and 2 sisters in a village near Béziers in the south of France.

She wants to improve her English to help with her upper 6th and further education and asked if I could possibly find a family with youngsters of her own age or younger, who might be able to receive her during July and/or Aug.

Her mum is not able to host an exchange, but is happy to make a financial contribution towards Gaëlle's keep.

If you can help, please contact Max on maxcroberts@tiscali.co.uk or phone him on 36 06 90 - 46 Bank View Road.

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THE MARLOWE PLAYERS

The Players would like to thank all who came to the performance in the Village Hall of *Absurd Person Singular* last November. Gil writes: It was gratifying to be performing to full houses every night.

Their next production will be at the Derby Playhouse Studio Theatre with Agatha Christie's play **Verdict**. This was Agatha C's favourite of all the plays she wrote. Dates are March 27 to 31 and time 7.45 pm. Tickets £8 (£6.50 conc) from the Play-house box office 36 32 75.

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WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Sheila Hartle writes: Derby City Museums are currently planning a complete refurbishment of the Silk Mill, now called *Derby's Museum of Industry and History*. This is dependent on achieving a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

They would like to hear your thoughts on the following questions, aimed at helping us identify what local communities would like to see in the new museum:

1. How far is it important to try to restore historic features of the Silk Mill site that are not currently viable ?
2. What aspects of Derby's history do you think it important to display at the new Silk Mill Museum ?
3. What subjects do you think it should not cover ?
4. How would you give the Silk Mill a "green" environment-friendly theme ?
5. Do you have any other suggestions for the site ?

If you would like to find out more, be kept in touch with the project, and think you may have some skills that we could use, please contact: The Project Manager on 25 53 08 or museums@derby.gov.uk.

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DARLEY ABBEY DAY

Make sure that you are in Darley Abbey on 9 June when a lot of events for the whole family will take place. This has been described as: "An event to draw together the Darley Abbey Community. Planned events include Morris dancers, Arts & Crafts display, historical display, Clivo the Clown, BBQ, open gardens and a lot more. Money raised will benefit local organisations and charities. More information about the event in the next Newsletter. Co-ordinator for this

event is Anthony Attwood and if you have any ideas or would like to help or need more information, contact him on anthony.attwood@ntl.com.

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THE HISTORICAL GROUP

Anyone who missed Alan Bradwell's presentation of his research into village history at the AGM on January 20 only has him/herself to blame ! You just cannot find anyone more enthusiastic and knowledgeable. Alan is determined to find out where the abbey was situated and he will, believe me. To learn more about the village's past, join the Group and read the reports. David Parker is the man who will relieve you of £5 and he is on david.parker50@ntlworld.com.

Also come and listen to interesting talks and get a chance to look behind the scenes in our local mill and other mills and historic sites in the area.

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THE GARDENING CLUB

How many gardens are there in Darley Abbey ? Around 1000 ? Possibly more. However nice your garden is, some new ideas would not come amiss. And the place to get them is in the Gardening Club. Look at the front page for dates of the many enlightening talks and outings arranged by the Club. Come and meet likeminded people who are happy to talk about plants and gardens and also happy to show you round their own. All this for £5 a year must be a bargain. Contact Sue Parker to join on david.parker50@ntlworld.com.

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OUR WEB SITE:

www.darleyabbey.com

THE DARLEY ABBEY SOCIETY

Many of us just don't have the time to keep an eye on things that happen in the village. DAS has been doing that on your behalf for a couple of decades by now. The Mill View Garden is just one of the Society's successes. It has stopped inappropriate buildings or additions to existing buildings or made the applicants make alterations. The village would have looked a lot worse without the efforts of the Society. DAS is an important part of village life and, like all the other voluntary organisations in the village, needs your support. Even if you don't have the time to be involved, let DAS do it for you. And that must be worth £5 per annum. Contact David on david_ling@tascale.co.uk.

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DARLEY ABBEY WI ?

Darley Abbey has been without a WI for several years, but there are now plans to put this right.

Women of all ages and outlooks are invited to an open meeting at Haslams, the Home of Derby Rugby Club, on Haslams Lane on Tuesday 20th February at 7.30 pm to discuss the possibility of setting up a new WI for the village.

The WI is the largest organisation for women in the country and caters for a wide range of interests from craft and cookery to dancing, helping in community projects and campaigning on such topics as sports facilities, children's obesity, the trafficking of women and children, and renewable energy.

The WI has been providing women with enjoyment and fulfilment for 90 years and still offers a challenge, the opportunity to try new hobbies and activities, friendship and fellowship, so why not go along and see what they have to offer.

If you would like more information or if you are interested but cannot go on 20th February, please phone the Derbyshire Federation of Women's Institutes on Derby 34 25 96 or email derbywi@btconnect.com.

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As a result of the second page in an earlier Newsletter, with "heads" found in ancient walls in the village, a new head has come to light. This one has a grinning face more like a gargoyle. What a find ! Look carefully in your old garden walls as Keith Dodd is convinced that the three found so far cannot be isolated cases. Contact Keith Dodd on keith@dodd396.fsnet.co.uk if you find anything and not only old heads. Any find could throw some light on the village's history.

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THE VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is an important part of the village and needs your support as a visitor and user. Can you imagine the village without it ? It was touch and go at one point but, thanks to the hard work of some volunteers it is now flourishing. To book the Hall ring Joy on 55 86 23. Very competitive rates.