

Twentieth Anniversary Issue



Darley Abbey after snow

Next year sees the 20th anniversary of the founding of your Society. Whether the founding members thought that the Society would still be going strong after 20 years I do not know, but I would like to thank them for their foresight in laying the foundations of what has proved to be a robust and effective organisation. I felt that this achievement deserved to be marked by a celebration. As a result, I have arranged an anniversary dinner to take place at Haslams on Friday 16th January 7 pm for 7.30 pm. Tickets will be restricted to members and their families. Please find the booking form with this issue. I do hope that you will be able to come. Please don't delay as places are limited and we need to establish numbers as soon as possible. David Ling, Editor.




HAVE YOUR SAY!

It is so important that individuals have their say on items which affect their daily lives. We, as a Society, can put opinion forward but it may not be the opinion of every member.

There are two items which are currently under review which may affect you as an individual, and as communication is much easier with mobile phones, computers, emails if you can please take time out to **HAVE YOUR SAY!**

1. The bus lane is again up for review and the Derby City Council contact is Mr Robert Davison. You can either write to him by letter or email rob.davison@derby.gov.uk Send him your views!
2. The Head teacher of St Benedict School has applied to the Derby City Council to close the public footpath which passes through the school grounds. Your opinion will count, whatever that view is. Mr Ray Brown at the Derby City Council is collating information, his contact details are Roman House, Friar Gate Derby or email ray.brown@derby.gov.uk

If you require any further information on these items please contact Helen McCoy at the Darley Abbey Society.

 <p>Headlines <i>By Julie</i> Ladies and Men's hair Abbey Lane, Darley Abbey For appointments phone: 551440</p>	 <p>J H MOTORS Service and M.O.T. All makes Darley Abbey Mills Telephone 360223</p>	<p>Darley Abbey Stores Newsagents, Groceries, Off Licence & Video Club Phone 01332551247</p> 
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DARLEY AND NUTWOOD NATURE RESERVE

The summer saw a lot of work completed on the reserve. The "My Space? Our Space!" project, coordinated by BTCV, finishes in November.

They have:

- Installed steps on 2 steep paths
- Built a timber bridge over the stream
- Cleared hawthorn scrub
- Cut grass in 2 areas
- Made a hardcore path at the main entrance (November)

Our sincere thanks to their coordinators, Craig Williamson and Steve Wright, and to Leon Hayward who secured the grant for the project.

Over the next year an NVQ student, Ian Young, will be making a study of the 3 ponds on the site and the hawthorn scrub, and will then advise on their future management.

A local resident, Alan Jones, is planning a butterfly survey using the TRANSECT method, and the Derbyshire Mammal Group will be doing a further mammal survey in November.

Over 40 people attended a Discovery Day walk on the site on 26th Oct, with local enthusiasts Dave and Jean Roberts, Janet Dean and Alf Bousie sharing their wildlife knowledge.

If you'd like to find out more or to help in any way, please contact

Keith Dodd, 01332 557249

keith@dodd394.fsnet.co.uk

AUTUMN OPEN MEETING

Once again our open meeting was well attended and opened with a presentation by the Environment Agency on their plans for flood prevention in the Lower Derwent Valley. More of that later.

Following the break for refreshments, the meeting was thrown open to the floor.

Problems at the Abbey Pub

The first issue to be raised was the perennial problem of nuisance and anti-social behaviour near the Abbey Pub. This issue is regularly raised at the Neighbourhood Forum meetings. The Police are monitoring the situation and the pub's licence could be under threat if things don't improve.

St Benedict's Footpath Closure

Another issue causing concern was the application by St Benedict's School to have the public footpath to Park Farm closed due to anti-social behaviour there. The Society has objected to the closure, but residents are urged to lodge individual objections with the Council as well.

Path through the Park

The path through the Park was mentioned. It appears that funds are available to construct the first section from the wooden bridge to the balustrade.

Duffield Road Bus Lane

Despite the fact that the trial period has finished and the Council has concluded that the Duffield Rd bus lane is "a good thing" and should stay, Allestree councillors have asked the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the decision and are currently seeking the views of local residents.

Closure of public toilets

All present were against the plans by Derby City Council to close public toilets and deplored the present state of some of the conveniences. They were reassured to hear that the Darley Park loos were not on the list of possible closures.

Canoe Club Lane

The question of planned improvements to the lane leading from Old Lane to the Canoe Club was raised. The Council have been consulting with local residents about hard surfacing the lane, at least as far as the South Avenue junction, and making it an official cycle route. Concerns were raised about safety and whether this would lead to vehicular traffic speeding. This would pose an added danger to pedestrians using the lane, which is a busy route from South Avenue to the Village. A spokesman from the Canoe Club said that he would ensure that his members obeyed any speed limit. It seems that at least a modified scheme will go ahead.

Other matters raised included noise pollution, burglaries and traffic congestion.

David Ling.

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Darley Ward Neighbourhood Board and Forum

At the September meeting of the Board, several matters relating to Darley Abbey were still waiting for Council officials' response. Amongst these were: -

- the future of Haslams Lane
- the options regarding the old stable yard
- the spread of Japanese Knotweed

Derby City Council Planning and Transportation departments recently hosted an away-day for Derby Neighbourhood Board members.

The objective was to develop an improved understanding of Planning and Transportation functions and constraints in order to increase community satisfaction with the process. Positive interaction between the Council officers and the Board members went a long way toward developing stronger relationships in both groups.

Forum matters

- At a well attended Forum meeting, also held in September, several village concerns were raised from the floor including rowdiness and off-premises drinking at the Abbey Pub, police to keep a watching brief.
- Proposed closure of footpath between The Crest and Broadway. Council to analyse St. Benedict's application to close the footpath and residents' objections to closure.
- Concerns about increasing crime levels within the village. Police action is being taken to improve matters.

Everyone is welcome to attend Neighbourhood Forum meetings to express views and concerns about their area. Alternatively feel free to contact Gordon Jones on 364089 or jones@darleyabbey.com and I will pass on your comments.

The next Forum Meeting is at 7 pm on 26th November 2008 at Landau Forte College, Fox St. Future meetings will be on 28th January 2009, and 1st April 2009.

FLOOD DEFENCE CONSULTATION

The Environment Agency is in the middle of a process of consultation with local residents on their proposals for improving the flood defences in our area. One of the penalties we carry for living in our delightful position close to the River Derwent, is that it some times turns into a monster which bursts its banks and causes damage to our properties. Representatives of the Agency came to our Open Meeting and gave us a presentation of their plans. I had been concerned that their initial strategy of raising the defences in the City centre would have had a detrimental effect on Darley Abbey by causing flood water to back up. It turns out however, that this is not a viable option, and that instead they are recommending creating a 20m wide "Blue Corridor" through the City enabling flood waters to spread out over a wider area. As this would enable flood waters to pass through more easily, it should be beneficial to Darley Abbey. The existing defences in Darley Abbey will be maintained with the emphasis being on providing safe exit routes for those at risk. I raised the point that those living East of the river are effectively cut off by flood waters connected only by a potentially unsound privately owned single track bridge.

Consultation finishes on 10th December and I would urge anyone who has a concern or information that might inform the process to contact either me or call 08708506506 or e-mail lowerderwentstrategy@ea.gov.uk.

I have a number of publications on the issue for anyone who would like to look at them or you can look at the Agency's Website www.environment-agency.gov.uk/yourenv/consultations.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

There seems to have been some misunderstanding over the collection of annual subscriptions. I must stress that it will not be compulsory to pay by standing order, but it is an easier option for you and for us and can be cancelled at any time. (It is **not** a direct debit!) Subscriptions have been held at £3 for individuals and £5 for households.

I would again urge you to fill in a standing order form and return it to our Hon Treasurer, Helen McCoy at 57 South Avenue Derby.

If you would like to contact Helen regarding this or any other financial matters relating to the Society, contact her on Derby 551436 or helen@darleyabbey.com.

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PLANNING MATTERS

35 Church Lane – We successfully objected to an application to demolish an existing bungalow and replace it with two new dwellings.

Garages to the rear of Lavender Row – Despite our objection to a proposal to demolish seven lock-up garages and replace them with a two bedroom two storey house the application was approved. This will result in more parking spaces lost in the centre of the village.

Cricket Club Pavilion – we support the plans for the new pavilion but have raised concerns regarding the control of noise levels from late night functions on the premises.

Rugby Club – we are vigorously opposing a proposal to build a ‘two-storey’ bungalow in the much enjoyed garden of the existing ‘normal’ bungalow on Folly Road, which also belongs to the Rugby Club. It would be a further unwelcome intrusion into a flood risk area and a detriment to the World Heritage Site and the Conservation Area.

Public Footpath between The Crest and Broadway –

St. Benedicts School have applied to have the footpath closed due to anti-social behaviour by people using this path. There are various opinions about the responsibility for the alleged abuse but, whatever the cause, closure of the footpath would be a serious loss of public amenity to many people, and we have made representations to the Council against the closure.

Gordon Jones

Friends of Darley Open Spaces

The park toilet block has been refurbished and chicanes have been placed on the Grove hill to safeguard pedestrians and animals from speeding cycles. We have provided music at the Village Hall and Terrace Café on five occasions during the year, working with DACA and Radio Derby and supporting the World Heritage Site Discovery Days.

In addition to our musical efforts to encourage youth participation in park activities, Jag (a FoDOS Member) and his News Delivery Team applied for a grant to undertake a day's adventure training at the Barn. Accordingly, on 27th Oct, 16 youngsters and two instructors did various team building exercises around the Barn and in Nutwood. They will do an additional half day of canoeing next Easter and we hope to make these activity days a permanent fixture in our calendar. We plan for Ken's Tea Room girls to join next year's activity days at the Barn and they have just volunteered to provide backing singers for the 'Shoop Shoop' song at next summer's Gala Music Day on the terrace!! Watch this space for more thrilling announcements!

Much work has been completed on the park's infrastructure and our committee is in active discussions with the city council over a final specification for the 'balustrade section with seating' part of our full riverside path. We have now raised £5,200 towards it. Hans Rieder has continued to produce a high quality news letter with costs kept to a minimum via printing help from the city council and a members 'pony express' free delivery service. Please make a diary note that next year's 'Night with the Band' event at the village hall will be on Sat 28th Feb. Tickets will be on sale before Christmas after last year's sell-out. The programme will be similar to last year but with more variety and value for money provided by the addition of The John Gill Band.

David Pearson

Contacts

Chairman and Newsletter Editor – David Ling (551484) 67 South Ave, Darley Abbey. david_ling@tiscalico.uk

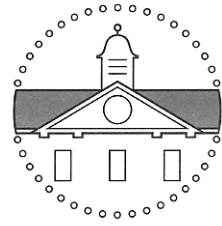
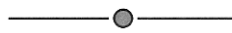
Treasurer – Helen McCoy (551436) 57 South Avenue. Helen@darleyabbey.com

Planning development and conservation (including Neighbourhood Board Representative) – Gordon Jones (364089) 1a Haslams Lane Darley Abbey. jones@darleyabbey.com

Council relations and communication – Joan Travis (557395) 2 New Road Darley Abbey

Darley and Nutwood Nature Reserve - Keith Dodd (557249) 394 Duffield Road Darley Abbey. keith@dodd394.fsnet.co.uk

The Darley Abbey Society



TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

to take place at Haslams (Derby Rugby Club)
on Friday 16th January 7 pm for 7.30 pm

Booking Form

I/We wish to purchase tickets for the 20th Anniversary Dinner of the Society at a cost of £15 each and enclose my remittance for £.....

Date:

Signed:

Full name of member

Address of member

.....

.....

Telephone number

Email address@.....

NB. A full refund will be given provided you cancel your booking at least three weeks before the date of the dinner.