

The Post



Your Local News Magazine - Issue No. 123



CONTINUED INVESTMENT IN SHIREBROOK & DISTRICT

After a short delay, Bolsover District Council's development of new Council owned bungalows on the former recreation ground off Portland Road, is now underway. The development underlines the commitment from Bolsover District to continue investing in communities like Shirebrook & District !!

This development follows on from the refurbishment and extension at nearby Ashbourne Court, adding fourteen



new apartments, and the building of new housing stock in the Woodlands area of Langwith.

Also in the near future we will still see the creation of a crematorium, on land owned by Shirebrook Town Council, adjacent to the current cemetery on Common Lane.

*All-in-all a true commitment of investment !!
See pages 4 & 5 inside !!*



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY !!

Sunday April 30th, 30 years to the day that Shirebrook Colliery finally closed, is a date that you should be putting in your diary !!

Everything is on track for the official unveiling ceremony of Shirebrook's Colliery Monument. A project that the monument committee have worked so hard for over the past couple of years. A true community project !!

The day will be a celebration of Shirebrook's heritage and a dedication to those that worked, and to those who sadly lost their lives, at Shirebrook Colliery !! Further details will be advertised as we get nearer the date.

LEVELLING UP FUND - NOT FOR US !!

Bolsover District Council's recent application for some of the government's 'Levelling Up' fund was recently turned down !!

The fund, set up to help level out imbalances between communities across the country and to help recognised 'deprived' areas would, you would have thought, been a formality, as for years we have been labelled and classed as having some of the most deprived areas in the region !! See page 3 !!

POLITICAL COMMENT

You all know that this country is in the grip of much uncertainty !!



We are on our third prime minister and who knows how many chancellors. We have inflation not seen for a number of decades and the cost of food going through the roof. The price of fuel is unbelievable and yet the big companies are making that much profit even some of the hard line Tories are becoming embarrassed, and of course, the government allowing the increase in the price of gas and electric, beggar's belief.

The NHS is in crisis closely followed by ambulance staff, teachers, rail transport, postal service, in fact, most of the country !!

We all know what's caused all this; poor control of the economy by government politicians not having a clear idea of how to govern. Being factionalised and promising these factions anything for continued support creates instability and uncertainty.

This leads to massive directional swings and the first to suffer is the economy. Add to this the uncontrolled inflation which we all know is the enemy of the economy. It sees wages have less purchasing power hence higher wage demands. ***I won't go on; you all know how it works !!***

The government seems to be trying to adopt a 'laissez faire' attitude to the economy whilst still interfering and creating havoc. Growth is essential but investors will be reluctant to invest if they have no confidence.

Locally, we have other silly things to contend with. Let's start with the 'Levelling Up' idea peddled a few years ago..... it sounds wonderful but it's been around for many years in different guises.

When government started removing revenue grant support to local authorities thirty years ago it put part of it into a regional government office type quango. Currently it's called a Local Enterprise Partnership that covers Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and both cities.

That's where the £17 per head levelling up cash will go but only if you agree to a Mayor next year.

£17 per head of population, but, because its not index linked, is now only £15.30 and by the time it gets to the end of its thirty year run (2054) it won't buy a cup of coffee. ***But we will all pay dearly for that 'cup of coffee' both financially and democratically.***

There are more important and pressing issues facing us locally. We have a housing shortage that will only get worse. Private renters are facing notice to quit because their owners want to either put the rent up or sell with vacant possession.

There are currently over 1,700 people on the district housing list with the highest demand in growing areas like Shirebrook. The council is looking at ways of providing top quality accommodation in the least costly but most efficient way possible. ***It means change and innovation but I believe we can do it !!***

Coming back to the NHS crisis !! Some of the problems are caused by county council difficulties. Their desire to close care homes and day centres is having a knock on effect on hospital admissions.

Vulnerable patients not requiring continued hospitalisation are unable to be released due to a lack of care facilities even though they have put their council tax up to ease the problem. This means fewer beds, ambulances waiting outside with emergencies and unable to get back on the road !!

If the District Council can build and renovate and extend its sheltered accommodation why can't they ?

I remember Shirebrook Town Council offering to work with Derbyshire County Council to build a new care home under the 'one public estate banner' but Derbyshire CC didn't pursue it.

Which was a shame really, because pursuing an obvious community necessity with an ambitious cross party political will, would make many things easier and help in reducing the bed blocking problem.
S.W.F.



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LEVELLING UP PROGRAMME

But it seems not around here !!

We've all known of the apparent 'north south divide' for many a year, and the government's multi billion pound 'Levelling Up Programme' was, in their words, introduced with aims of reducing the imbalances, primarily economic, between areas and social groups across the United Kingdom.

For years we have been classed as and have been labelled as a 'deprived' area, so you would have thought that we would be beneficiaries of such a scheme, but it doesn't seem so !!

In mid January Bolsover District Council received a letter from the Minister for Levelling Up, Dehenna Davison MP, stating that their bid for funding had been unsuccessful.

In August 2022, the Council submitted a £14.2million bid to the Government's 'Levelling Up' fund to help regenerate and breathe new life into Bolsover Town Centre.

'To say we are disappointed is an understatement' was the underlying feeling from Bolsover District Council's Leader as he received the news that their Levelling Up bid had been unsuccessful.

Bolsover District Council Leader, Councillor Steve Fritchley said: "We feel completely let down and to say we are disappointed is an understatement. Four years ago we had the promise of Levelling Up funds to help regenerate our District, but four years down the line and we have still not received a penny. ***It's a disgrace !!***

"We were told we could not bid for round one because we weren't '***deprived***' enough. But here we are in round two and yet again we have nothing to show, after spending hours in time and resources putting a bid together."

The bid would have helped regenerate vacant town centre properties, create a cultural hub that would have included a cinema, theatre and live performance space and assistance for businesses to improve their shop fronts.

Money would have also been spent on improving the 5G network and installing fibre in the town centre to help improve connectivity and provide much needed Wi-Fi. And with improvements to public realm (pavements, signage, street furniture, etc), all this would have helped the town attract and encourage residents and visitors to spend more time in the town.

Councillor Fritchley added: "We are getting used to these setbacks and empty promises !!

"But we won't sit here feeling sorry for ourselves, we will look at what options are available to us and continue with our ambitions to help stimulate

growth and provide town centre regeneration and cultural opportunities in Bolsover and across Bolsover District."

"Four years ago we had the Prime Minister telling us that the 'former red wall' constituencies would receive their fair share of funding and he was committed to levelling up the country. ***Well, we are four years down the line and what have we received – absolutely nothing."***

The Council will now discuss the various options available to them and look at other funding streams to help them achieve their ambitions.

Editor: Politicians from all parties have all promised to tackle the north south divide, a line that dissects England, rendering two halves economically, socially and culturally different, but some recent reports have suggested that there is very little reduction in the imbalances.

There's always been a 'them and us' and that political parties in government only look after their bread and butter voters. Perhaps its about time they found the true meaning of Levelling Up ??

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BACK ON TRACK !!

As many residents would have seen, the former 'paddler' on Portland Road, is being ripped up, foundations are being laid and new bungalows have started to emerge out of the ground !!

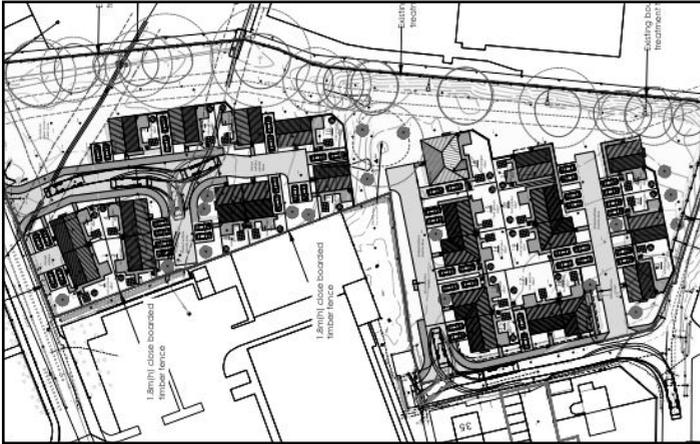
Plans for Bolsover District Council's proposals to build new Council bungalows on the site where approved last year, however, as we reported in our last issue, the main contractors, Woodhead Construction, ceased trading and BDC stepped in to take over the project.

Since then BDC have established their own **'construction company'**, who have taken over all current projects and will be the main contractors for any future Council housing development projects in the District.



District to help fund the ambitions of, and the key challenges faced by, the District Council.

The Council decided to set up the company after they had previously took quick and decisive action by agreeing to take on the current construction projects at Whaley Thorns, Creswell, Langwith and Shirebrook after the collapse of its preferred building contractor Robert Woodhead Ltd.



A full business case on the new company was commissioned from Sharpe Pritchard (Public Sector Lawyers) and councillors had the opportunity to ask questions at two separate presentations.

The business case clearly showed Dragonfly to be a viable proposition, which will generate income over the proposed 30-year period of the plan.

The company, called **'Dragonfly Development'**, will provide an income stream from housing, and commercial and regeneration activities across the

Bolsover District Council's Deputy Leader, Duncan McGregor said: "Let's not beat about the bush here, government funding is reducing all the time,

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so we have to come up with ways of generating more income if the Council is to survive and we are to continue with our ambitions and improve the services we provide.

"Our District is growing and everyone deserves the chance to live in a safe, secure, modern and efficient property. So, if we are in control of building these properties through Dragonfly Development, this will enable us to formulate business cases for each project and provide new homes for areas that need them and for people living in that community."

The authority has already identified that there is a need for more council properties as it currently has over 1,700 active applicants on its waiting list and the new company will initially focus on two areas:

- 1. Housing** - The increase in 'Right to Buy' requests for council properties far outweighs the number of council houses being built. Dragonfly Development can assist the Council in building up its housing stock, retaining the income and safeguarding jobs, all in line with market needs.
- 2. Commercial** - Dragonfly Development has the necessary skills and ability to find and match land to meet demand and build bespoke commercial developments that will create jobs and improve the local economy.

Councillor McGregor added: "So, rather than a

construction company making a profit on our regeneration and house-building schemes, Dragonfly Development will allow us to take this profit and re-invest it back into our services and District for the benefit of our residents."

In addition, Dragonfly Development can also build new and buy open market properties that will build their investment portfolio, drive up landlord standards, diversify the offer to local residents and increase income potential for the authority.

The development off Portland Road, once complete, will see 24 much needed Council bungalows, another three or four will also be built on the former garage site opposite.

As we have previously reported, and as many Shirebrook residents will be aware, the site was first destined for commercial development, but with no serious interest over the years, and the impact of the pandemic, the decision for residential development was taken, fulfilling the need for more and better council owned properties, more suitable for our ever aging population.

This project is part of Bolsover District Council's £36million '**Bolsover Homes**' project, which will see upwards of 400 properties built across the District in the forthcoming years. ***The sites chosen to date in Shirebrook and Langwith will see forty odd new properties that will enable tenants to have safe and secure tenancies.***

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POLICE REPORT

Your Shirebrook Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team led by Sergeant Mark Church, work alongside partnerships / agencies to both target and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, with the aim of keeping our area safe.

"It May be a little late but Happy New Year to the good people of Shirebrook and District from myself and your Shirebrook Safer Neighbourhood Team. I hope that 2023 is a happy and peaceful year for all !!

"I want to use this opportunity to thank my team for being involved in a local school project. My staff have been visiting Modal Village Primary School and the children have been involved in 'Mini Police'.

"This project will bring education to our next generation and will allow the majority to become better citizens, with support also from their family and school. *It's great to be able to offer the younger generation reassurance and the support of their local police !!*

"I'd like to offer a warm welcome to new team member **PC Aiden HALL** who joined the team in February.

"Aiden previously worked on an Safer Neighbourhood Team in the South Yorkshire Police Force and has previous experience on working on a busy Safer Neighbourhood Team.

"I have no doubt that Aiden will add real value to the team and it's a great move for the local community."

Sergeant Mark Church

Editor: We've been made aware that a few weeks ago there was a spate of thefts of catalytic converters from parked vehicles. We would urge all vehicle owners to be wary of where they park their vehicles and to be vigilante of any suspicious people hanging about .

Shirebrook SNT, though their Facebook page have reported an increase in 'scam' calls from 'fake police officers' asking people to give money to couriers for hoax investigations. These callers pretend to be investigating a crime involving the victims' card or bank details. Again, we ask you to be wary of similar calls you may receive.

As always we would encourage all residents to report all crime or anti social behaviour to the Police, no matter how trivial you may think it is.

101 is for 'non-emergencies', but if you are being threatened, or there is a risk of you or someone getting injured, or there is a crime being committed, then call 999. You can also report crimes by contacting Crimestoppers on 0200 555 111 or by visiting www.crimestoppers.uk.org



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BDC ENFORCEMENT TEAM

Bolsover District Council's 'Enforcement Team' which includes their Community Enforcement Rangers, works independently from, but closely with, the Police and regularly patrol the District dealing with and responding to all issues of anti-social behaviour including, fly tipping, litter, dog fouling, graffiti and noise.

As previously reported the Enforcement Team can issue 'on the spot' fines for environmental issues like dog fouling and littering, but talks are in the pipeline between BDC and the Police, to give the Enforcement Team more powers in dealing with other issues.

If you need the team's help or assistance you can call them on 01246 242424 or visit <https://selfservice.bolsover.gov.uk/en>

POT HOLES !!

Yes its that time of that year again when pot holes seemingly appear overnight on our roads, with even a 'pothole pandemic' being called in Scotland earlier this year !!

Why do pot holes appear ? During cold times water in cracks in the road surface freeze and the ice expands outwards causing damage to the road surface. When temperatures increase, the ice melts and creates voids beneath the cracks. Traffic continually drive over these cracks breaking the surface deeper and deeper and pot holes are formed.

What's the answer ? Are the right materials being used ? Are the repairs being repaired correctly ? Would it not be better and more cost effective to repair roads in stretchers instead of constantly repairing the same pot holes ?

Take a look at the top of Langwith Road, at the junction of Recreation Road and Albine Road. Every bone in your body is shaken when driving over this area !!

You can report pot holes locally, direct to our County Councillor Christine Dale, via Text on 07811 995612 or by Email on Christine.Dale@derbyshire.gov.uk

A SECOND POTHOLE PROBLEM

During the recent wintry weather drivers have been urged to make sure they clear their windscreen correctly !!

Any driver caught with just a small hole in the windscreen to see through, known as 'potholing', could be subject to harsh penalties from the Police. While it may be a timesaver for motorists in a hurry, this form of potholing poses serious safety risks and those who break the law risk a fine of £60 to £2,500, if their vehicle is deemed dangerous and potential 'penalty points' added to their licence. **YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED !!**

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WORDSEARCH COMPETITION

Following Argentina and 'Messi' lifting the FIFA World Cup, and following the death of Brazilian legend Pele, football pundits have, as always seems the case, been discussing who's the best footballer ever.

Everyone will have their favourites and it is almost impossible to compare footballers from one generation against another, but here goes !!

Listed below are the names of 20 of the greatest footballers to have ever played the game. There not in any specific order, but most will appear in most people's list. Simply find their surnames in the wordsearch opposite, and send your completed entry to: Studio 160, Station Road, Shirebrook, NG20 8UG.

Lionel MESSI	PELE
Christiano RONALDO	George WEAH
Zinedine ZIDANE	Diego MARADONA
Franz BECKENBAUER	George BEST
Michel PLATINI	RONALDO
ROMARIO	Marco van BASTEN
Paulo MALDINI	EUSEBIO
Ferenc PUSKAS	RIVALDO
Bobby CHARLTON	NEYMAR
RONALDINHO	Paolo ROSSI

DID YOU KNOW ?

Pele, who for many, was the greatest footballer of all time was born Edson Arantes do Nascimento, and was among the most successful and popular sports figures of the 20th century. In 1999, he was named 'Athlete of the Century' by the International Olympic Committee.

His 1,279 goals in 1,363 games, which includes friendlies, is recognised as a 'Guinness World Record'.

Bobby Charlton was a member of the England team that won the 1966 FIFA World Cup and played for England 106 times scoring 49 goals. He made over 600 appearances for Manchester United and was one of the 'Busby Babes'.

George Best, was renowned as a highly skilful

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F	N	N	A	F	I	F	A	T	F	I	F	K	D
A	F	I	I	F	E	U	S	E	B	I	O	C	L
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dribbler, and became one of the first 'media celebrity footballers'. A footballing scout for Manchester United spotted his talent when Best was fifteen and sent a telegram to the then Manchester manager Matt Busby, saying: "I think I've found you a genius!!"

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



It's been a while since my last report. Christmas has been and gone and we are now in 2023. Is time flying by or is it just an age thing? It doesn't seem that long ago when we entered the new Millennium !!

We're at that difficult time of the year, for all levels of government authorities,

when we have to set our 'precept', the amount of money we need for the forthcoming year.

There are always various options !! You could reduce the amount, but would have to reduce services and jobs. You could stay the same but stand still. Or you could even raise the amount and increase services and facilities.

However, with the recent 'cost-of-living crisis' and other economic problems we are currently going through, even to stand still would have to see an increase.

Before I go on, I would just like to mention that the published figure of 25% on social media sites recently is not the increase for Shirebrook Town Council. ***Someone definitely jumped the gun !!***

With ever rising utility costs, the increase of costs of materials across the board, and increases in

wages etc., we have had to make the decision, just to 'stand still', to increase our portion of the Council Tax bill by 15% on last year's rate. ***This will see an increase of just over sixty pence (60p) per household per week.***

It's hard to compare Shirebrook with other Town or Parishes across the District. We are the biggest conurbation, we do have the most employees, and we do offer more services compared to our neighbouring similar authorities.

And let's not forget Shirebrook Town Council raises around 50% of its annual income through its own generated income !!

The increase will enable us to maintain our current services / operations and to be able to host our community events over the coming year.

As a Council we want to see Shirebrook prosper and move forward. We want to see continued investment in the Town. In housing, in commercial and industry and in our infrastructure. Shirebrook continues to grow and we need to be part of offering residents now and in the future facilities for all age groups.

Some will object to any increase, especially in the current economic climate, but what is the alternative ?

As I have said previously, it would be the easiest thing in the world to cut back on our activities. We could close the leisure centre, shut the market and

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stop putting on community events, *but we definitely don't want to do this !!*

If we went down this line we may all save a few pounds over the year, there would still be a Town Council rate on our Council Tax bills, but we would see loss of jobs and amenities, and perhaps even have additional charges to pick up the Town Council's shortfall.

As a Council we want to see the opposite, more facilities and amenities, and we have to work, in partnership, with whoever, and not to just pass all increases on to the rate payer. To that end we have recently agreed in establishing a structured capital development programme to support future improvements in the Town

The first phase of the refurbishment of the Market Square, opposite the Old Drum, will be commencing in the very near future, and it will include preparations to site the Colliery Monument, which is to be unveiled on April 30th, the 30th anniversary of the closure of Shirebrook colliery.

The consultation for the redevelopment of facilities at the leisure centre and Town Park ran during the back end of October and throughout November. Individual Leisure Committee councillors also attended, to get as many responses as possible, various community events during this period.

As you know this first consultation period was to assess the views of the residents of Shirebrook to the Council's ambitions to improve leisure facilities. Once the information is finally collated, it will be made public, and potential funding and running costs will be further looked into, and to what the next steps will be. Further consultations may be required, especially if funding is sought, to any decision, with your views at the forefront, made !!

Your current elected members are: **NORTH WARD** - Pauline Chapman, Terry Chapman, Steve Fritchley, Fred Gobey, Paul Harford, Chris Kane, Brian Murray-Carr. **SOUTH WARD** - David Downes, John Lewis, Dale Smith, Marian Stockdale, Carl Talbot, Jen Wilson, Sylwester Zwierzynski. **SHIREBROOK LANGWITH WARD** - Sandra Peake. **Chris Kane - Chairman STC**

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Councillor DALE'S DIARY



The International Monetary Fund has announced that we're the only 'G7 Nation' to go into a recession this year !!

The County Council has proposed an increase in Council Tax of over 3%, this doesn't take into account the anticipated

rises from District and Parish Councils and the Police and Fire Authority precepts.

Water bills are rising by 7.5% from April. Many families are already struggling to keep up with the cost of living as fuel, food and interest prices have substantially increased and continue to rise.

Wages have not kept up with inflation and the future at present looks bleak as we enter a period of national strikes and unrest.

But I believe most people would agree it's about time our government ministers got their act together and concentrated on putting the financial interests of our nation first and foremost and looking to invest their time to growing our economy, instead of prioritising their own personal finances at the expense of our country.

It was good to get back to the feeling of normality over the Christmas holidays as families

were once again able to gather together to celebrate. It created a real feel good factor to the Christmas holidays !!

I was privileged to join the family Carol Service in Upper Langwith Bassett Hall this year, which was organised by Gary, a local resident and Committee member, to raise funds for the charity children living with cancer.

Young children from local families read the Christmas bible readings alternating with a selection of carols sung by everyone. I must make special mention of Gary's daughter Sally, who beautifully sang a solo verse of Silent Night.

Ladies from the village handed out refreshments and mulled wine to round up the evenings entertainment. It was certainly a memorable social event for the Community following the two years of isolation from families and friends during the long pandemic..

Presently the County Council is in crisis, 300 job vacancies exist at County Hall across all departments. Many of the senior officers have left including: the Finance Director, Head of Public Health, Head of Adult Care, Head of Personal and Senior Property Officers.

Many employees are jumping ship as their future remains uncertain following the agreement by the four leaders of Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council to accept a deal from the

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government to form one combined Mayoral Authority for the whole area, *and its still open for Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council to Join this one massive combined authority !!*

The County Council are experiencing difficulties in both recruitment and retention of personal. Home Care and Residential Care are at crisis level and failing to recruit sufficient numbers of care workers to run the service.

I spoke to a former children's officer who recently left the employ of Derbyshire County Council. He explained that his reason for leaving were that the wages were lower than the surrounding local authorities and his working conditions were very poor. He now has moved to a new job as a children's officer to a new authority with higher wages and better working conditions.

I recall senior officers at County receiving good wage rises but the Tory Council voted against proposed increase in wages for the low paid Home Care and Residential Care workers who put their lives on the line in the pandemic.

Also they voted against a proposed bonus for the care workers in recognition of the courageous and heroic work they had done in looking after vulnerable and elderly residents during the pandemic !!

Currently the County Council has 76 residential beds available for the NHS to relieve bed blocking, but it doesn't solve the problem.

The pressure on the NHS is so great they are considering block booking beds in private residential homes, to help prevent the bed blocking, which has become a serious problem as elderly patients can't be released from hospital beds to home early, as there are insufficient home care staff to look after them because of the crisis in recruitment.

HIGHWAYS - The pothole season has come round again !!

I have reported a number of potholes to highways on Pear Tree Drive, Central Drive and Field Drive, Please contact me if you want a pothole reporting so we can get it repaired as soon as possible to prevent further damage to vehicles and prevent accidents to cyclists.

Text me on 07811 995612 or Email me on Christine.Dale@derbyshire.gov.uk

I shall require details of its exact location and size, shallow potholes take up to 28 days for highways to repair, but for deep ones, larger than a tennis ball in depth, they will come out fairly quickly to repair to prevent accidents.

I had an elderly resident finding problems getting through to the Police on the 101 number recently.

Cont'd on page 15

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Saturday 18th
February
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Saturday 4th March
Five Piece Group

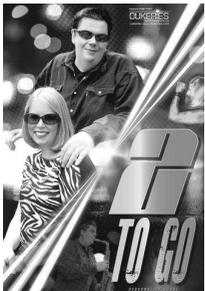


'GLAMATIZE'

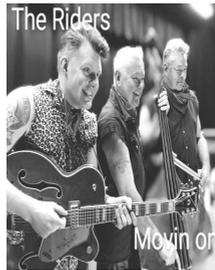
Sunday 19th
February
Female Vocalist
'LISA MONROE'



Sunday 5th March
Guitar & Vocalist
'RAY HATFIELD'



Saturday 25th
February
Male & Female Duo
'2 TO GO'



Saturday 11th
March
Three Piece Show
The 'RIDERS'

Sunday 26th
February
Male Vocalist
'NEIL JAMES'



Sunday 12th
March
Female Vocalist
**'GEMMA
CHRISTINA'**



SUNDAY LUNCH BINGO

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The problem arose, he said, was when he pressed the option number and wasn't put through to the operator.

I reported the matter to the Police on his behalf and their response was that they have introduced a new triage system on their phone lines, so if you are contacting them, for instance reporting a noise nuisance, it will not put you through to the operator but direct you to the local authority as it's a matter solely the responsibility of local authority's Environmental Health departments. who prosecute any contraventions of the law.

In other words as I understand it will only put you through if it recognises it's a matter that's the responsibility of the Police.

Karen our friendly helpful adviser, who works for the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre on Patchwork Row, and helps people with their benefit claims, has helped many elderly and vulnerable residents claim attendance allowance.

She is available all day Monday and Wednesday, Tuesday and Friday mornings until 11.15am, and on Thursday she is at the New Houghton Community Hub from 10.00am until 2.00pm.

Attendance Allowance is not means tested and anyone over 66 years, who has a medical condition, is entitled to claim this weekly payment. You don't need to make an appointment to see Karen, just turn up and she will help you fill in the forms to claim the allowance.

I hold a surgery at Hole in the Wall, which is in the entrance to the Children's Services Block on Carter Lane Shirebrook, on Tuesday mornings between 10am and 12:noon. If you have a problem come along and see me.

It's a warm hub and it's open to all to come have a chat a drink and a bun !!

Stephanie from the Rethink Mental Health team joined us at the Hole in the Wall this week and she will now be coming on a regular basis. If you are suffering with anxiety and depression as a consequence of the cost of living crisis, support and help is available, so why not come along to the Hole in the Wall on Tuesday mornings and talk over your problems with a mental health professional.

We also have an Adult Craft Club on Wednesday mornings between 10.00am and 1.00pm which you are all welcome to join, subs are £3.00 per week including refreshments.

The Freedom Project at the Methodist Church on Church Drive in Shirebrook also holds a warm hub on Tuesday mornings, and is available to everyone. They also offer advice on benefits and debt problems. ***That's all for now, so cheerio, and see you soon !!***

Cllr Christine Dale - 07811 995612



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Look for them on Facebook or Instagram: NG Dental Care

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OLD SHIREBROOK !!

I was asked the other month as to why there wasn't any old photos of Shirebrook in the last issue, and was told how much the individual and his friends enjoyed reminiscing about 'Old Shirebrook'.

I too, love talking and reminiscing about old Shirebrook, and even someone of my generation can recollect, maybe not as much as those older, what Shirebrook used to be in days gone by !!

When I was younger, although I lived the other side of the banking, the rows and rows of terraces from Langwith Road to 'Flash Hill' were still standing, although a few had been demolished.

There wasn't the mass residential dwellings of Leen Valley, Bracken Road, Meadow Lane and Acorn Ridge estates. There was even limited housing on the Summit Hill all the way down into the town centre. ***Some tell me I should remember Pear Tree Estate being built, but I don't, maybe I'm not as old as them !!***

Yes, you could almost buy anything you needed from Shirebrook shops, so I am told, and these were the days before the Co-op, Aldi and Lidl had even heard of Shirebrook.

Jobs in Shirebrook and surrounding area were almost 'guaranteed' with jobs at the pit or down the mills at Pleasley.

When the pit closed, 30 years ago this year, and the future of Shirebrook was at its lowest, who would have thought that Shirebrook would have grown in the following years and as to the development of the once colliery site.



As I progressed through the years I well remember all the pubs and clubs (drinking establishments) we had, and being a regular on the drinking 'circuit' of many a weekend. ***Who would have thought that so many would have been lost !!***

The Northern, Station and Diamonds are now some form of residential accommodation. The Badger, Drum and Summit now retail / business premises. ***And the Swan, demolished and off our landscape for ever !!***





Throughout its history Shirebrook has changed and it will continue to change. People will have their favourite era, will criticise the rest, and won't be forthcoming to change, but change is inevitable !! But like it or not, Shirebrook, in part, has become a commuter town, but we should take this a positive. The more people who live here and the bigger we get will only put Shirebrook on the map and encourage future investment.

The whole world has changed, community appreciation is different. Younger generations want to see more of the world, and even if we had what we have lost, more than likely, younger generations wouldn't want it !!

Investment and positive attitudes towards change can make Shirebrook great again, and we should all be on the same horse in making Shirebrook a better place, with job opportunities, retail outlets and leisure facilities suitable for all of us now and for future generations.

Pictured opposite (and yes we've featured these images before) is the former **Pleasley & Pleasley Hill Co-op** which stood on the corner of Main Street, and what was and is known as Patchwork Row. The imposing building was derelict for some years after its closure and was until a couple of years ago Bolsover District Council's contact centre. It is now occupied by NG Dental.

Above, an earlier image of the area looking down Patchwork Row. This was the continuation of Main Street before King Edward Street was created which allowed Main Street access to the Town Centre. In the far distance you may just make out the imposing outline of the former rail-
way embankment.

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FINAL END SOME 45 YEARS ON

Its been 45 years since the closure of Langwith Pit and the final buildings associated with the former colliery have now been demolished to make way for a private housing development project.

The former baths and canteen and associated outbuildings, which were over the road from the actual pit, have now been downed and the clearing up process is well underway.

Since the pit closure the site has been in private hands and over the years housed a wood yard, a scrap yard, and numerous buildings for small businesses.

Once completed the site will be made up of around thirty-six various size and style properties and will compliment the new rental properties that Bolsover District Council are currently building in the immediate area, enabling future residents, who would like to remain or move to the area, to rent or purchase future homes.

COUNCIL PROPERTIES UPDATE

The first phase of new council properties on the Woodlands are nearing completion and work on the other two sites in the Woodlands area will begin in the very near future.

These properties, built under the Bolsover Homes Scheme, will be fitted with environmentally friendly air-source heat pumps instead of gas boilers, and will have electric charging points for vehicles.

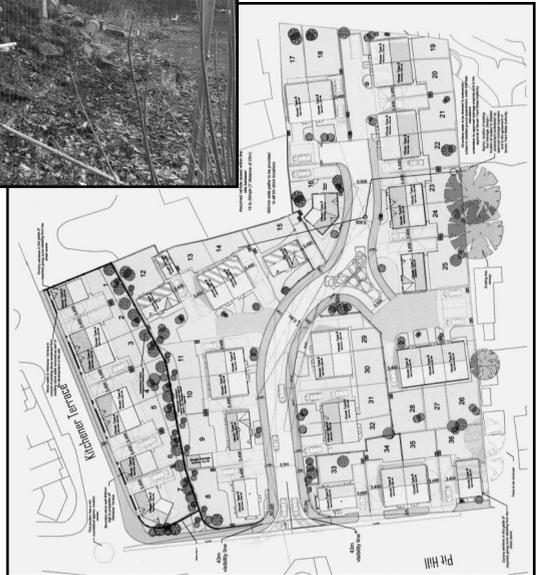
The heat pumps, which run on electricity instead

of natural gas, consume significantly less energy and will enable homeowners to minimise their fuel bills and reduce their carbon footprint.

Local Councillor for Langwith, Steve Fritchley said, "This development marks a significant step in our push for greater sustainability because it will be the first site in the area to exclusively feature homes supported by an eco-friendly heating system and electric vehicle charging points.

"This is the latest in a long line of housing developments we are building and supports our ambitions to provide good quality, modern housing that meet environmental and sustainability standards and meet a local need"

Inside, the properties will be spacious and provide for modern living whilst also ensuring tenants heating bills are kept to a minimum.



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District Councillor also for Langwith, and portfolio holder of Housing at Bolsover District, Sandra Peake said, "The properties are coming on really well and they will make lovely homes for local people.

"With over 1,700 active housing applicants on the waiting list it is important that we continue to build such good quality, modern and efficient properties for our tenants to live in."

The properties are being built as part of the Labour-controlled council's £36million Bolsover Homes Scheme. They range from one-bedroom flats, family homes and bungalows for the elderly, all of which meet a local need and demand for these type of homes.

This first phase development is due for completion in March 2023.

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL INVESTING IN LEISURE TOO

Bolsover District Council are also bucking the trend when it comes to leisure !!

In the past four-years alone they have, either invested or are directly contributing, to over £5million worth of projects, with a further £530k planned in the next few months.

The investment has seen:

- ◆ £3million for the new Creswell Heritage and Wellbeing Centre.
- ◆ £700k for a new 3G pitch at Go! Active.
- ◆ £100k to establish new Wellness Hubs in Tibshelf and Clowne and sessions expanded in Whitwell, Bolsover, Shirebrook and Pinxton.
- ◆ £600k invested in either new or refurbished play equipment or improvements to sports pitches across the District including South Normanton, Bolsover, Tibshelf and Pleasley.
- ◆ £500k to refurbish the gym at Go ! Active.

Shirebrook Labour Councillor and Bolsover's portfolio holder for Leisure and Tourism, David Downes said: "We all know how important leisure and recreational activities are for people's physical and mental wellbeing. ***That's why we continue to invest and not cut like other council's.***

"You can see from the projects we are involved in that we are committed to provide more and better leisure and recreational facilities in every town and village in the District and this will continue with your Labour council."

David added, "We made a promise four years ago that we would invest in our services and safeguard jobs, which we are delivering on. We do this through good, sound financial management where we are able to be flexible and invest in the services and facilities that are needed."

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LANGWITH PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman's Report:
Our Parish Council Christmas events were well received and appreciated by residents of all ages.

The Children's Christmas party at the Whaley Thorns Village Hall was again well attended and the children were treated to games, food and a visit by Santa & Mrs Claus.

We held our Senior Citizen's Christmas meal at the Village Hall and at the Langwith Junction Social Club. Those that attended were treated to a Christmas Fayre, prepared by the Lemon Tree at Langwith Café, festive music (live entertainment at Whaley Thorns), a game of bingo and a small gift from Father Christmas.

As I reported in my last report the Parish Council have invested in Christmas lights, which were displayed in strategic parts of the Parish, and to which we will be hopefully adding to in the coming years, and the new 'Welcome' signs and floral display units have been erected.



These floral display units will be planted throughout the year with seasonal plants and flowers and will compliment our already established displays throughout the Parish.

Our next planned event will be our Children's Easter Party to be held at the Village Hall on Thursday April 6th. More details and ticket availability will be advertised locally closer the date.

Preparations are also ongoing as to regards our Coronation Celebrations in early May.

We our thinking of hosting an Afternoon Tea, hopefully for all ages, at the Whaley Thorns Village Hall and the Langwith Junction Social Club. Again more details will be advertised closer the date.

Council members have agreed to allow our local Heritage Centre to re-locate, free-of-charge, to our Community Centre.

Unfortunately, where they are at present is being sold off by the County Council, and members wanted to do everything they could to help preserve the continued existence of a Heritage Centre in the Village.

Clusiv

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Government guidelines will be adhered to during the Covid 19 pandemic.



Our Community Centre is the host for several businesses and community groups and there are limited vacancies for any small business or group that are looking for a base. **If you are interested then give Deborah a call on 01623 746498.**

Our Village Hall regular users include: a Dance Group, a Tai Chi Group, a Bingo Group, a 'Messy' Church Group (kids painting and crafts group) and a 'Bounce Back' Group, which is a mental health support group. All welcome new members and again details can be found by giving us a call on 01623 746498 or by calling in at the office at the Village Hall on Portland Road.

The Village Hall is also the ideal location for any family events / celebrations you may have on the horizon !!

Finally, as local residents will be aware of, the first phase, after a few hiccups along the way, of new Council housing in the Woodlands area is nearing completion and hopefully it won't be too long before new tenants are handed the keys.

Sandra Peake - LPC Chairman

DON'T FORGET !!

Whaley Thorns & Langwith Village Hall on Portland Road is available for Hire from as little as £10 per hour.



It is a great venue for Family Parties, Weddings, Christenings and Funerals, with a seating capacity of 100. Kitchen facilities and a 'bottle' bar are also available in the Village Hall.

For Bookings call the Parish Council on **01623 746498**, call in to the Village Hall, or visit our website www.langwithparishcouncil.gov.uk for an online booking form.

DEVONSHIRE CHARITY

The Devonshire Charity was established to financially assist young people in education, primarily in the parish of Upper Langwith, but it is able to extend its assistance to young people living in neighbouring Langwith and Shirebrook.

So, if you are aged between 16 & 25, are in part-time or full-time education, or even training in a work environment and are looking for a little financial assistance, then contact Jeni via email upperlangwithdevonshirecharity@hotmail.co.uk



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SHIREBROOK TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

*All Home Fixtures are
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Road Ground, Langwith
Road, NG20 8TF.*



It's not been a good few months, both on and off the pitch, for Shirebrook Town Football Club.

On the pitch, of the twelve games played, in the league or in the cup, throughout November, December and January, Shirebrook have only returned one victory and one draw, suffering ten losses.

At the time of writing this Shirebrook are in the bottom three of Division One.

Off the pitch, following the poor run of form, the Club parted company with Manager Jordan Cattott and his team, and appointed, as Interim Manager, Craig Barnes, who will be assisted by Steve Singleton, whilst the process of appointing a permanent manager takes place.

Town's fixtures for February and March of the 2022/23 campaign are:

FEBRUARY

Saturday 4th - NCEL Division One

Glasshoughton Welfare .v. **Shirebrook Town**

Saturday 11th - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Athersley Recreation

Tuesday 14th - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Staveley Miners Welfare

Saturday 18th - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Swallownest

Tuesday 21st - NCEL Division One

Ollerton F.C. .v. **Shirebrook Town**

Saturday 25th - NCEL Division One

Armthorpe Welfare .v. **Shirebrook Town**

MARCH

Saturday 4th - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Retford F.C.

Tuesday 7th - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Horbury Town

Saturday 11th - NCEL Division One

Brigg Town .v. **Shirebrook Town**

Tuesday 14th - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Ollerton Town

Saturday 18th - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Campion

Tuesday 21st - NCEL Division One

Shirebrook Town .v. Rossington Main

Saturday 25th - NCEL Division One

Nostell M.W. .v. **Shirebrook Town**

Ticket prices for home games are: £5 for adults, £3 for concessions and £1 for children.

For confirmation of future fixtures either telephone: **07983 809608** (Aimee Radford, Club Secretary) or log onto www.ncefl.org.uk

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RHUBARB FARM REWARDED

Rhubarb Farm have been awarded a grant of £22,785 by The Foodbank Fund #foodbankfund from Julia and Hans Rausing.

This award will help them to continue the food work that they do within our communities in both Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

This includes them continuing to provide Food bags at their pop-up hubs, Communita's that bring residents of the community together for a social eating event, the warm space that they provide, the community cafe on site and lots more.

Julia and Hans Rausing said: "We are pleased to support Rhubarb Farm CIC in Langwith. The funding applications we received highlighted the emergency crisis foodbanks are facing across the country.



"The Foodbank Fund was created to alleviate some of the pressure's foodbanks are facing with increased demand and the associated costs. We hope that those who are able will also consider

giving generously to support their local foodbanks, which are a valued lifeline to many."

The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust is an independent grant-making charitable fund supporting organisations and charities within the UK. Since its formation, it has provided over 1,000 grants totalling more than £330 million. Funding is given to organisations working within three main areas: Health and Wellbeing; Welfare and Education; and Arts and Culture. By supporting charitable initiatives, the Trust aims to foster a healthy society that gives care to those in need, provides opportunity for all, and offers inspiring cultural engagement.



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01623 844539 or 07811 151594



RHUBARB FARM, LANGWITH

They're always busy down on the Farm, and they're always happy to welcome friends old and new !!



Rhubarb Farm had a fantastic time over the Christmas period with Brunch with Santa, Christmas Community Lunch and Wreath Workshops for the Community proving to be very popular.

Christmas Lunch:

They held their Community Lunch over two days and served up a treat for Community members and regulars. They all had a traditional Christmas meal prepared for them by Carol in our Café, a visit from Santa and a small gift (also donated by the Frasers group)

Brunch with Santa:

Adults and Children were met by an Elf on arrival and headed over to the café for their Brunch with Santa.



There they met Santa in his wonderful Grotto to see if they were on the naughty or nice list and receive a gift.

All the children's gifts this year were kindly donated by Charlotte Jones, 'Engagement and Enablement Lead' of the Frasers Group in Shirebrook.

They continue to do lots of work within the Community including 'Food Hubs' set up by 'Food Champion' Melanie Richardson and a team from



Once finished they took a ride down to the Grotto on the Tractor led Sleigh driven by the 'Head Elf'.

Bassetlaw Food Insecurity Network, lead by Stephanie Henry of BCVS.

People from the local Community can buy a food bag from the pop-up hub for just £3 per bag which includes fresh fruit and vegetables, proteins, and lots of other staple foods.

Rhu-Baby is a new initiative at Rhubarb Farm where they have set up a shop, on site, which is open Fridays 10am to 3pm and Saturdays 10am to 1pm, along with the 'normal' Farm shop. **And again, pop up shops in local establishments in the Community.**

The scheme, set up in the hope of helping people



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with young families feeling hardship with the rise in the current cost-of-living crisis.

They have a fully stocked shop of things such as clothes, toys, feeding Bowls, cutlery and bottles, a nappy swap shop with a huge range of sizes and much more.

Warm Space - They have opened their Café as a Warm Space on Thursdays from 10:30am to 1:30pm. Anyone can go along and enjoy a Warm Space, have a hot drink, and purchase some hot food, prepared in the café, if they wish to.

Their next upcoming event is the 'Opening' of their 'Two BIG Projects', which is on Friday 24th of March between 10am and 2pm.

They will be opening the new 'Snug' area at Rhu-barb Farm, which is a project funded by The Rank Foundation, to help people who attend the Farm have a quiet, relaxing space away from everything else that's going on and some time to themselves if needed.

The second project is the 'POV Project'. This is an Arts project which is aimed at young people aged between 16 and 24 years of age, that wish to join like minded people in some fantastic Art Projects at the Farm.

Their current project is a sculpture being built at the Farm, Lead by Ben, their Assistant Training Officer, and local sculptor, Phil Neal. ***This project is a huge sculpture inspired by Heath Robinson.***

Their annual Easter Egg Hunt is taking place this year on Friday April 7th from 1.00 to 3.00pm. The cost for this event is £5 per child and lunch is included. ***For any bookings, call 01623 741210. This event was very popular last year so they suggest to book early !!!***

The Farm Shop is open Fridays 10am to 3pm and Saturdays 10am to 1pm, selling fresh eggs, luxury jams, marmalades and honey, and seasonal veg freshly picked every day. The Shop also has weekly 'specials' such as handmade chopping boards and bird boxes to purchase.



Remember, for more details regarding Rhu-barb Farm, be it classes, groups or future events please give them a call on 01623 741210

They're always, what ever comes their way, busy down at the Farm !! 

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All staff trained to the highest Standards in Social and Dementia Care. Day time activities, day trips organised. All set in a peaceful, tranquil surroundings.

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***The Park, Nether Langwith,
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***Please call: 01623 742204
for further details.***



Inspected and rated

Good



***Come and visit us at the home,
and see for yourself.***



HOLY TRINITY PARISH CHURCH

Church Drive, Shirebrook, NG20 8DE

Main Services: Every Sunday in Holy Trinity at 11.00am
Sundays Together every Sunday on Facebook at 8.30am

Team Rector: Rev. J. Draycott - Team Vicar: Rev. K. Bradley

Curate: Rev. E. Launders-Brown

LOOKING FORWARD TO LENT ?

There is no wonder that January has a reputation for being a depressing month: the cold, the long, dark winter nights and the low mood following the Christmas celebrations !!

It can also be depressing because many of us start the year with good intentions making new year's resolutions but often in all too short a time, we find them falling by the wayside. **We have a second chance with the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday on 22nd February.**

It's all too easy to think: it's a fresh opportunity to give up chocolate, biscuits or cake. For many of us it's not easy – but when it comes to giving something up for Lent, it is meant to be. It is about far more than wanting to lose a few pounds – it's about feeling something of the suffering that Jesus felt in the run up to Easter.

Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness where he ate nothing and was subjected to various temptations by the Devil !!

Most of us will not be fasting throughout Lent but we will all be subject to various temptations. If we choose to give up something, we see it everywhere in adverts, in shops or we see other people with it in the street.

So when you think about giving up something that you enjoy and you feel those pangs of temptation, allow yourself to be reminded of the sufferings that Jesus felt. ***No-one would know if you did allow yourself to lapse – but you would know yourself !!***

What you choose to give up is up to you – it can be chocolate, biscuits, crisps, chips, alcohol or anything else but it has to be something that you like or enjoy otherwise it's no sacrifice and really isn't worth giving up. If you do, the first time you sample it at Easter will be all the sweeter.

HOW DO I ?

Book a christening or a wedding in church ?

To book a christening, also known as a baptism, or a wedding, come along to Holy Trinity Church on the first Monday of each month between 7pm and 8pm – we will be happy to help you book and make the arrangements for your special event.

There is no charge for christenings in church. If you are booking a christening for your child, it doesn't matter if you aren't married or if you haven't been christened yourself.

Hear my banns read ?

Banns are read for three weeks before weddings in church at our usual church service at 11am on Sunday mornings.

When you book your wedding, you will be told on which Sundays the banns will be read. It's a special time and one that you can share with the church community.

Arrange a funeral in church ?

To arrange a funeral, please speak to your funeral director. They will make the arrangements for the time in church and for an officiant to lead the service. They will explain the costs involved and help you choose things like hymns for the service.

Attend a church service ?

Services at Holy Trinity are held each Sunday at 11am. Everyone is welcome to attend – please feel free to come along. There is no dress code to attend church but please remember it is a large, stone building and can get cold.

Find Holy Trinity on social media

You can find Holy Trinity Church on Facebook @holytrinitychurchshirebrook – here you will find information about the church, services being held in church and special events.

If you would like to take part in our online worship, search for Sunday Together on Facebook. A short service is held every Sunday morning at 8.30am – you can either watch live or watch later to suit you.

TREE OF LIGHT

Thanks to everyone who came along to our Tree of Light service in December to remember their loved ones. Christmas is a tough time for many as they remember the people they have lost and the service and the tree containing the names give a chance to do that before Christmas.

Thank you too to everyone who gave donations in memory of their loved ones !!

PANCAKE DAY / SHROVE TUESDAY

This year Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, falls on 21st February. Many of us will be treating themselves to pancakes on the day - ***but why do we do it ?***

Because Jesus fasted for 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness, many Christians in the Middle Ages would fast themselves for Lent. This meant that they had to use up the food they had in their larders.

On Monday they would eat the meat products they had, on the Tuesday, which became known as 'Shrove Tuesday', they would eat the butter, eggs and fats such as lard. The easiest way to do this was to make pancakes – which is where the tradition came from.

So however you eat your pancakes – with lemon juice, chocolate spread or savoury in a dish such as cannelloni, hope you enjoy them.

WE NEED YOUR HELP !!

We are currently fundraising for new toilet facilities in the Church

If you have been into Holy Trinity Church recently, you will have noticed that there is a toilet in the back of church. This isn't one which can be used – but hopefully it will be replaced with a usable one in future.

At the moment, the only toilet is in the Church Hall meaning anyone attending services in church has to walk over there to use the facilities.

The plan is for new toilet facilities to be installed at the back of the church. All donations towards this project will be gratefully received.

CONCERT for KEN & FREDA

Shirebrook Miners Welfare Band will be performing a concert on 28th April 2023 to celebrate the lives of Ken and Freda Walker.

The couple were huge supporters of the band, and were particularly interested in encouraging the young players in the 'B' band.

The concert will be held in the auditorium at Sports Direct, who have kindly offered the venue free of charge for this community event. Ken himself organised several concerts for the band at Sports Direct which were always very well attended.

This evening of musical celebration will include pieces played by the Shirebrook Miners Welfare Band and also the 'B' band, showcasing our younger and less experienced players.

If you would like to buy a ticket, they are available to buy from Graham Buckley on 01909 721342. Tickets are £8 and £6 for concessions.

DERBYSHIRE UNEMPLOYED WORKERS CENTRE

Patchwork Row, Shirebrook

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or visit **www.duwc.org.uk**

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or E : MAIL

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*Please feel free to visit our office
(opposite Subway)*



*to see what other
services are
available.*



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HEATWAVES goal is to build a long lasting and trustworthy relationship with their clients.

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Eyebrow Wax & Tint - £9

Eyelash Tint - £5 Lash Lift - £20

Other Treatments also Available

Call: 01623 232650

For appointments or information.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP !!

During the current Covid-19 pandemic some of our services may not be available. Government guidelines for Covid-19 will be adhered to at all times.

PALS which stands for 'Physical Activity and Lifestyle Support', is a continuation of Bolsover District Council's 'Wellness Programme' and is aimed at changing behaviours and finding solutions to help people face their daily challenges which will allow them to concentrate more on their health and wellbeing.

PALS will bring together different agencies and services to support individuals and families in their households and within their lives.

It helps to assess their needs, unpick situations, and provide consistent support in an effort to improve their lifestyle and become more physically active. The **PALS** approach recognises that there are three key elements when attempting to create behaviour change:

- Capability to change
- Motivation to change
- Opportunity to change

Alongside these, there are also five key factors that have an impact on the above: Age, Gender, Socio-economic, Ethnicity and Disability / Condition.

A **PALS** co-ordinators role is to help join the dots as there are many agencies and organisations working hard to provide services to the people within their community, all with the aim of improving overall community health and wellbeing.

They will create a package / personal plan to enable a path to a more active and healthier lifestyle working with other agencies to navigate through what is available for the individual or family.

Self referral forms are available from Council offices and locally from Shirebrook Leisure Centre. So if you feel that the **PALS** programme could be for you, pick one up, fill it in and send it off, and a **PALS** co-ordinator will then contact you to talk about what support is available for you.

Alternatively contact **Archie Rowbottom**, your **PALS** co-ordinator, via Shirebrook Leisure Centre, who holds classes at the Leisure Centre and at the Arc in Clowne, on: **01623 748313**.

The **Wellness Programme** also run a 'low impact' exercise class run by experienced and qualified instructors. It is a class of various exercises for people who are looking to get back into light exercise, or if a beginner or returning from illness or injury.

It is a group but allowances are made to accommodate all abilities, and is designed to improve both physical and mental wellbeing.

Why not go along and give it a go. The class runs on a Tuesday at Shirebrook Leisure Centre from 1.00 to 2.00pm

SHIREBROOK MARKET

Every:

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Mixed & General Markets.

Casual Traders More Than Welcome.

Pitchers from £10.00 - Stalls from £12.000

Telephone Shirebrook Town Council on: 01623 742475

VENUE FOR ALL OCCASIONS !!

The Village Hall on Park Road has been serving the people of Shirebrook and the surrounding area for around 50 years.

From christenings to weddings and funerals, club activities to school events, or family parties to social meetings, the Village Hall can meet everyone's needs !!

The meeting room can be hired for small gatherings and the whole hall, which includes full use of



the kitchen, can be hired for most occasions on an hourly or daily rate, at very competitive rates.

Midweek, **'Meeting Rooms'** are available from just £7.50 per hour and the Hall from £13 per hour (minimum two hours).

On a Friday, Saturday or Sunday the daily rate is only £100 (which includes use of all rooms and kitchen etc), together with a £100 refundable bond on all events.

The Hall can be booked for half day on a Sunday for a cost of £50. The licensed bar, which is operated by the Town Council is also available, free of charge, upon request.

For details call in at the Town Council office on the Market Square or telephone: 01623 742475.



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GARDENER'S CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Pull along forcefully, or with difficulty (4)
4. Large, mainly tropical grasshopper which migrates in vast swarms (6)
7. Type of fine quality coffee, or soft leather made from sheepskin (5)
9. Institution for the education of children (6)
10. Easily agitated or alarmed, anxious or apprehensive (7)
12. Large edible fish of warm seas (6)
14. Small house found at the gates of a park or in the grounds of a large house (5)
16. Declare invalid a contract or marriage (5)
18. Expressing location or arrival in a particular place or position (2)
19. Symbol for the 22nd element of the periodic table (2)
21. Hard black semi-precious lignite (3)
24. Rudely brief, cut short, abridged (4)
26. Naturally occurring solid from which metals or minerals can be obtained from (3)
27. Any viscous liquid that is insoluble in water (3)
29. State in Western India with coastlines along the Arabian Sea (3)
30. Belonging to rank or birth to the aristocracy (5)
32. Woody perennial plant with a single stem or trunk (4)
33. Metal mouthpiece attached to a horse's bridle used for controlling the horse (3)
36. Small unsweetened or lightly sweetened cake made from flour, fat and milk (5)
39. The lowest cardinal number (3)
40. Small viper with an upturned snout (3)
41. Type of milk curd cheese used in Indian cooking (6)
43. Person who receives or entertains people as guests (4)
44. Short trip taken for pleasure (6)
45. Medium of exchange in the form of coins or banknotes (5)
46. An enemy or opponent (3)

CLUES DOWN

2. Small bug which lives from sucking sap from plants (5)
3. Game of Eastern origin with rules similar to hockey but played on horseback (4)
4. Four wheeled enclosed horse drawn carriage with a removeable front cover (6)
5. Aggressive dog, especially a mongrel (3)
6. Diminish or destroy the value of something (5)
7. Device for interconverting signals (5)
8. Help by doing a share of work (6)
9. Piece of wood in the centre of a chair back (5)
11. US and technical spelling of an indefinite and very long period (3)
13. Direct the attention of someone to (5)
15. Inflammation of part of the ear (6)
17. Brother of your mother or father (5)
20. Tricks performed as entertainment (5)
21. Cockney rhyming slang for a piano (6)
22. Portable shelter used for camping (4)

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23. Soft part at the base on the outer ear (4)
 25. Sticky organic substance exuded from trees and other plants (5)
 28. Tree or shrub of a genus that includes holly (4)
 31. The countries of the East especially of Asia (6)
 33. Large single edged knife used in the Philippines (4)
 34. Conditions of which buildings or land are occupied (6)
 35. Wash by immersing one's body in water (5)
 36. Sudden involuntary muscular contraction (5)
 37. Make a choice of something or to be in or out (3)
 38. Messenger or representative especially one on a diplomatic mission (5)
 42. Large African antelope with a long head (3)
 Once completed send to:
 160 Station Road Shirebrook, NG20 8UG.

Name:

Address:

Phone No.

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£60 with food from our menu from £4.00 per child

Little Explorers soft play area and Bouncy Castle and you provide your own food,

2 hours - £60, or,

£50 with food from our menu from £4.00 per child

Additional Extras

Inflatable Slide - **£40.00**

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6months to 3years of age - Every Thursday

9.30 to 10.15am and 10.30 to 11.15am

NO booking necessary.

ONLY £3.00 per session

Qualified Instructor

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£17.00 per hour

(includes floodlights if needed)

SQUASH - £5.50 for 40 minutes

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SOFT TENNIS - £5.50 for 60 minutes

ALL rackets, bats, balls and shuttlecocks included in above prices !!

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Boys and Girls

OPENING TIMES

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Saturday & Sunday - 8.00am to 6.00pm

For more information contact Shirebrook Leisure Centre on: 01623 748313