



## Bar and Kitchen Refurbishment



The Bar and Kitchen refurbishments are close to completion.

As you can see from the above photographs, the Bar has been redecorated; there is new lighting, new TV's, new more comfortable furniture and seating, and new curtains and blinds. The pool table and dartboard have been repositioned and a partition wall built to screen the "sports" end of the bar.

Based on what residents asked for in the survey, we hope you will agree that a more welcoming, comfortable appearance has been achieved. Judging by the number of residents that turned out for the official opening on April 5 and the positive feedback we received on the night, we seemed to have succeeded in addressing the issues raised by residents. If you haven't yet managed to see it for yourself then do please come along and give it a try.

A very big thank you to all who have contributed to the refurbishment project, from the initial planning through to the final implementation, and in particular the Trustees would like

to thank residents John Firth, Andrew Long, Mike McNeal and John Walters who have generously given their time to help with the redecoration work and also Alan Baskerville, our Facilities Manager, who has gone well beyond his job description in helping get the work done.

It is disappointing that scuff marks have already appeared on several of the walls, some in the most unexpected of places! We would respectfully request that Residents try to be as careful as possible so as not to spoil the hard work that has been put into the refurbishment. Also, users of the pool table are asked not to mark the ceiling with their cue tips!

The kitchen is now fitted out, training of the bar staff and community group members is organised and we will start serving bar snacks soon so watch this space. Again this is what residents asked for in the survey so please come and taste what's on offer. We will send an email when we have a firm date and put out the blackboard with details.

## Bus Service to Liverpool

An easy way to go to Liverpool on a Saturday (the only day it runs) is to catch the X22 bus from Weaverham. It stops just opposite the Co-op at about 10.20. This gives some 6 hours in Liverpool without the worry of parking. The bus drops and picks up at Paradise Street bus station. Fare is £6 return or if you are one of the 'venerable citizens' it costs nothing.

## Gardeners

We are delighted to report that one of our gardeners Chris Lea, has attained NVQ Level 2 and City and Guilds in Amenity Landscaping.

## Speeding

There have been instances recently where residents have witnessed cars driving through the Park well in excess of the 30mph speed limit. To make this a safe environment for us all please keep to a safe speed, 20mph is surely sufficient in area where children can be playing or riding their bikes.

## Reception Vacancy

We are looking for temporary cover for Saturdays between 16:00 to 19:00 and on Sundays between 19:00 to 22:00. If you are interested please contact Reception on 889263.

## Attention Dog Owners

Complaints are still being received regarding dog excrement not being picked up by owners. Could you please ensure that you take a plastic bag with you when you take your dog for a walk and place it in the bins provided.

Would owners of large dogs please exercise more control when walking them. Recently a small dog was attacked by a much larger one which had been left unsupervised around the green.

## Financial Report

At Budget time, I had estimated the total costs for the year 2006/07 to be £184,000 (before the VAT contingency of £32,000), in line with the contributions for the year.

The Accounts for the year are not yet finalised or audited. Leaving aside the question of VAT, which is not yet resolved, I now expect to show an underspend of around £15,000 for the year :

- Bar sales were slightly lower, but costs were lower still, giving an overall saving of around £4,000
- Gardening costs were £2,000 lower, reflecting a lower level of external spend while the tree maintenance programme was under review
- Energy costs were £5,000 lower, with both the unit cost of gas and the overall consumption levels lower than was feared
- Other operational costs in total were £4,000 lower

Pending resolution of the VAT issue, this surplus will be held as a reserve.

The first 5 months of 2007/08 are running within the budgeted level, mainly due to the timing of expenditure. There is no reason at this stage to anticipate a variance from budget at the end of the current year.

Bar sales are running 7% below budget, which was spread evenly across the year. It is hoped that use of the bar and other Clubhouse facilities will increase once the refurbishment is completed.

## Attention Parents

**There have been reports of children playing in the lagoons and streams near the clubhouse. This is both annoying to the residents of the nearby properties and, of course, dangerous so please make your children aware.**

## Damage to Grass verges

A number of verges have recently been damaged by contractors vehicles whilst working for residents. If this happens can residents please ensure that their contractors properly repair the damage before allowing them to leave the Park.



## Security Cameras and Access Control

**Following the failure of part of our old CCTV system, we have now commissioned an improved replacement system. The Access Control system which was included in the Budget and advised to you at the recent Open Forum has also been installed. The Trustees will write to Residents in the near future advising how the Access Control will be implemented in the Clubhouse.**

## Attention Horse Owners

There have been a few instances recently of horse manure on the pathways around Delamere Park. This is both unsightly and unhygienic.

We would advise owners and riders of horses that they are neither to ride on the footpaths nor on the communal lands. Public roadways must be used.

## Coffee Morning

Perhaps the warmer spring weather might tempt you out of your house to take a walk, which might end up at the Clubhouse between the hours of 10.30 and 12.00, where you can drop in for a chat and a cup of coffee or tea.

### Upcoming Dates

April 21 - last of the additional coffee mornings for the winter months

May 1 - hosted by the Yoga Group

June 5 - hosted by the Ladies' Club.

You will be warmly welcomed on any of these dates. Do please come along, either alone or with a neighbour or friend. For further information, or if you need a lift to the Clubhouse, please telephone Maria (889728) or the Clubhouse (889263).



## Trustee Surgery

The next surgery will be held on Saturday April 19 between 10:30 and 12:30. In view of the low number of residents attending these surgeries Trustees will only be available by appointment. Please book your appointment with Reception, 889263, by Thursday April 17.

## Children in the Clubhouse

There has been a repeat act of vandalism in the gents' toilet caused, we believe, by certain young children. We would remind residents that, in accordance with the Bye-Laws, young persons up to the age of 18 years are allowed into the Function Room, the Lounge Bar and the Sports Bar only if accompanied or supervised by an adult who is prepared to take responsibility for their safety and behaviour or face the consequences.

# community groups

## 39/45 Club

The speaker for our February meeting was Steve Burke. He gave an interesting talk on the German Aircraft Carrier Graf Zeppelin. Because of indecisions by the German command it was never really completed. If it had been it might have made an important contribution to the balance of sea power in the war. Steve Burke had found out what happened to it at the end of the war. He hopes to dive to the boat in the future.

The Valentine Day's lunch was held at The Cottage Restaurant again. There were 44 members and guests who still had enough romance left to come. Once again the two visits to the indoor bowling centre at Prestatyn have been arranged for this year on 10th April and the 11th September.

The 39/45 club once again hosted the Coffee morning on Thursday 6th March. There were over 20 customers. It was, as usual, impeccably served!

For more information ring our contact number 888926.

## Gardening Club

Spring is upon us so therefore the gardening club activities will really be increasing in pace.

We have already had three interesting speakers for the first three months of the year. Our April speaker is Mrs Hurst from the Cottage Herbery who will speak on Kitchen Garden Herbs.

On May 2 to 4 we have a 3 day 2 night trip to the Spalding Festival and Barnsdale, Geoff Hamilton's Garden.

On Sunday May 18 is our annual Garden Safari. Around seven residents will be opening their gardens for charity. We can still accommodate an eager volunteer willing to open their garden. If you are interested then please contact Brian Hoyland on 888550.

On May 19 our speaker is John Trinder whose subject will be The Iris Year.

On May 26 is the Bring and Buy plant sale where you can give away a plant you have split up and maybe buy some replacements.

As you will see elsewhere in the Newsletter on July 12 our Gala Day we are planning a plant/produce and Craft Show.

**For further information contact Reception on 889263, Brian Hoyland on 888550 or at [garden@Delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:garden@Delamerepark.co.uk)**

## Whist

Drives are arranged for April 12 and May 17.

For further information please email [Whist@Delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:Whist@Delamerepark.co.uk) or contact Helen Pattison on 889263

## Ladies' Club

Ladies ~ whether you are new to the Park or have just had a break from Ladies' Club, why not come along to our next meeting to be entertained and have a chat with friends, new and old, over a glass of wine or a cup of coffee

We meet on the second Monday of each month at 8pm in the Park Room.

Our programme runs from March through to February, the first meeting of the current year on March 10 was a talk by Liz Hemsley about "Virgin Vie" products which included their brand new homeware range as well as their popular cosmetics.

We look forward to seeing you soon, do bring a friend or neighbour, as visitors and new members are always welcome.

This is our programme for the next 3 months.

**April 14** - How to Live with Men by Anne Draper

**April 23** - Morning walk in the Grappenhall area (pub lunch optional)

**May 12** - St. Luke's Hospice - 'Jewellery for Sale' by Di Parsons

**June 9** - Claire's Florists by Lisa

If you would like any further information on any of the above, please contact Reception or call Elizabeth Hill on 889410 or [ladies@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:ladies@delamerepark.co.uk) or check the website [www.delamerepark.co.uk](http://www.delamerepark.co.uk).

## Book Sale

Continues to thrive and raised £53 in February. Please continue to donate up-to-date books (published this century) to keep the shelves stocked. Thank you for your continued support.

## Homewatch

Residents are reminded not to allow doorstep callers into their home without first challenging them to prove their identity. Nobody should be allowed into your home unless you are satisfied that they are 100% bona fide. The police recommend that such strangers, once invited into your house, should be constantly chaperoned.

New officer for Cuddington and Sandiway arrives on 21st April 2008. He is PC Frank Lea and he replaces Pc Paul Welsh who retired recently.

Please relay any relevant information to PC Frank Lea (from 21/4/2008) at Frodsham Police Station on 0845 458 6393.

To report a crime to the Police call 0845 458 0000

To contact our HomeWatch Officer, Liz Biddle call 01244 614291

For further information or if you are interested in becoming a Homewatch co-ordinator, please email David Bowker at [homewatch@Delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:homewatch@Delamerepark.co.uk)

# community groups

## Social Committee

Only 10 tickets were sold for the March 1 disco and so the event was cancelled.

### Spring Ball – Saturday May 10

This will be a black tie/lounge suit/evening dress event, commencing 8 pm to midnight in the Park Room. Dancing will be to "The Reactions" a band that caters for all types of dancing. The cost will be £10 per person including a luxury buffet. Tickets will be on sale from Saturday April 19 to Saturday May 3.

### Gala/Fun Day/Party on the Park - Saturday July 12

This will be an extension to the Party on the Park run in previous years. Events will commence at 2 pm and finish at 10 pm. Stake out your gazebo plot in the morning to get a good place and bring along your friends and relatives to enjoy a great fun day. During the afternoon activities are currently planned to include: music from Tarporley Brass Band; cycling games for adults and children; tug of war; Donkey rides; small sporting competitions; jujitsu demonstration; fancy dress competition for children; hook a duck; craft stalls; horticultural events; army display; police and fire brigade presence; basketball; coconut shy; food and drink stalls; ice cream stand.

The Four of Diamonds have again agreed to provide live music, at no cost, from 6pm. Other bands on the park likewise wishing to support the event are most welcome to do so by contacting the organisers through the Club's Reception.

Quite a few Residents have classic cars or motorcycles and it would be good if they would be willing to show them on the day. If anyone else is willing to help on the day or do an event, please contact the organisers through Reception at the Club.

### Craft, Garden and Produce Show - Saturday July 12

Members of the Gardening Club in consultation with members of the Social Committee, are planning to stage a Craft, Garden and Produce Show in conjunction with the Gala Day on Saturday July 12.

We are hoping to attract many entries and, from the list of classes below, think that there is something for everyone - please get sowing, sewing, snapping etc. Entry will be restricted to residents and their IMMEDIATE families (non-resident) and the entry form will indicate this.

This will be a very informal affair, with no formal rules from any overseeing bodies, although competitors will be expected to adhere to the descriptions in the class list (measurements, quantities, etc.).

You will see that there are sections on Veg & Fruit, Flowers, Cookery, Handicrafts, Hobbies, as well as 4 different age sections for 3-16 year olds. We do hope you will all be inspired to enter and to encourage your families to do so. Judges will be drawn from local experts and contacts (but NOT RESIDENTS). Prizes will be modest, and place certificates will be given. It would be nice to give overall 'section' awards, especially for the children, so if anyone would like to sponsor a section and/or offer a small trophy, that would be most welcome and would, of course, receive due acknowledgement.

Please do give us your support. Further details and from Monday 16 June, entry forms will be available from **Pat Sweetingham on 07787 543488 or email [sweetp\\_flower@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sweetp_flower@yahoo.co.uk)**.

## Categories for Craft, Garden and Produce Show will be as follows

### Veg & Fruit

1. Peas x 7 pods (displayed on a paper plate)
2. Broad beans x 5 pods"
3. New Potatoes x 7"
4. Radish with tops x 5"
5. Lettuce, any variety, with root
6. Spring onions x 5 (displayed on a paper plate)
7. Raspberries x 5 "
8. Gooseberries x 5 "
9. Red/White/Black currants x 10 (assorted) [displayed on a paper plate]
10. Vase fresh herbs, min 3 varieties "

### Flowers/Plants

11. Fresh flower arrangement in a basket, space n/e 18" x 18"
12. Fresh flower arrangement, max space 18" x 18"
13. Fresh flower arrangement in a tea cup, max space 8" x 8"
14. Hanging basket, summer flowering, n/e 12" diam
15. Patio Tub, summer flowering, container n/e 14" diam
16. 1 foliage houseplant, pot n/e 8"
17. 1 flowering houseplant, pot n/e 8"
18. 1 Cactus/succulent, pot n/e 8"
19. Vase 7 Dahlias, any variety
20. Vase Sweet Peas, any variety
21. Vase 5 Roses, any variety
22. Vase Annuals
23. Vase Herbaceous (perennial) flowers

### Cookery

24. 1 Jar marmalade
25. 1 Jar soft fruit jam
26. 1 Mixed Fruit Loaf, 2lb tin
27. 1 Jam filled Victoria Sandwich cake, 3 eggs
28. 4 Fruit scones
29. Rhubarb Pie, 8" plate
30. 6 pieces Tray Bake

### Handicrafts/Hobbies

31. Greetings card, n/e 6"x8"
32. Specimen of Cross-stitch/embroidery/tapestry/beadwork
33. 1 hand knitted item
34. 1 machine knitted item
35. Picture, any medium, mounted or framed
36. 1 Holiday Photo (view/scene) n/e 8"x6"
37. 1 Humorous Photo n/e 8"x6"
38. 1 Animal Photo n/e 8"x6"

### Junior Section 3-5 years

39. A Painted/Decorated Wellington Boot (size in keeping with age)
40. A bookmark, any medium
41. 3 Decorated Digestive Biscuits
42. Animal made from plant/vegetable material

### 6-9 years

43. A Painted/Decorated Wellington Boot (size in keeping with age)
44. A painted pebble paperweight
45. 3 Decorated Digestive Biscuits
46. Animal made from plant/vegetable material

### 10-13 years

47. A Painted/Decorated Wellington Boot (size no bigger than 6 please)
48. Item made from recycled materials
49. Animal made from plant/vegetable material
50. 3 Iced/decorated Fairy Cakes

### 14-16 years

51. A picture, any medium, mounted or framed
52. An item of handicraft, NOT from a kit.
53. Item made from recycled materials
54. Arrangement of fresh flowers (max space 12"x12").

## community groups

### Mah Jongg

Sick of the same old card games? Why not try something different? Mah Jongg is an ancient Chinese game that uses tiles instead of cards, and makes for a fun, interesting game! It is very sociable and is a great way to spend a rainy afternoon. No need to bring anything – everything provided. Learn this addictive game in an afternoon!

We meet on the second and last Thursdays of the month from 1pm onwards, in the Park Room. Our next dates are April 10 and 24, May 8 and 29 and June 12 and 26.

**Interested? E-mail [mahjongg@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:mahjongg@delamerepark.co.uk), ring Niki on 888959, or just turn up on the day – we look forward to seeing you!**

### Squirrels

We would like to thank everyone who previously collected the Sainsbury Active Kids Vouchers for us. We collected a wonderful 1600 vouchers which enabled us to have a table top oven and some new balls. The children are having a wonderful time learning to make cakes.

They are issuing these vouchers again until early June and we would be extremely grateful if anyone who has spare vouchers could donate them to Squirrels.

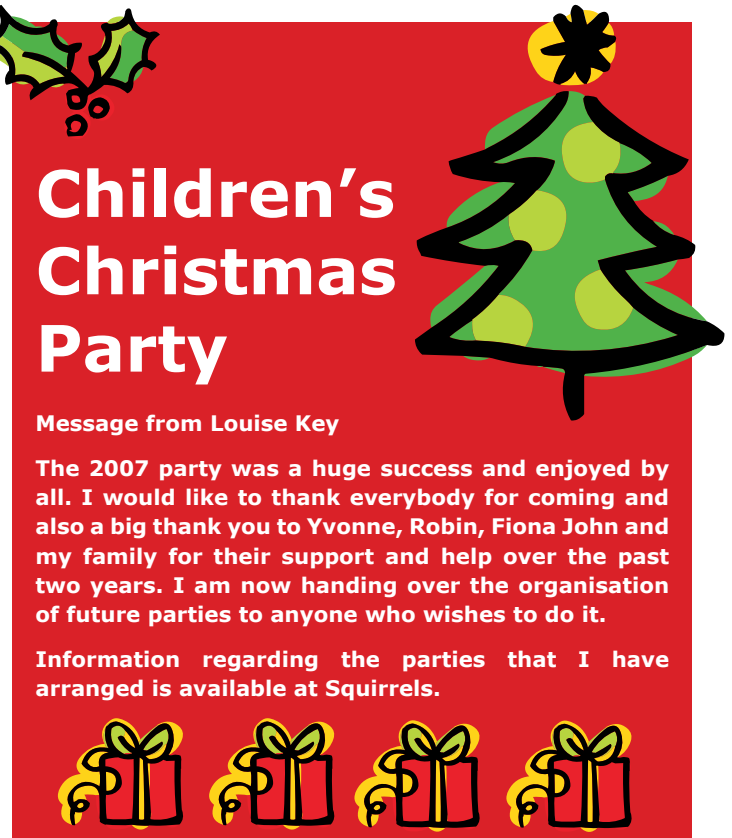
There will be a collection box in the Clubhouse Reception.

### Book Group

Would you be interested in forming a Book Group?

I have recently moved onto the Park and was a member of a group before moving. I enjoyed it and would like to start something similar here.

Meeting say once a month, perhaps in one another's homes,



**Children's Christmas Party**

Message from Louise Key

The 2007 party was a huge success and enjoyed by all. I would like to thank everybody for coming and also a big thank you to Yvonne, Robin, Fiona John and my family for their support and help over the past two years. I am now handing over the organisation of future parties to anyone who wishes to do it.

Information regarding the parties that I have arranged is available at Squirrels.



choosing our own books, reading them without pressure and discussing them without the need for a degree in English Literature but simply because the books have provoked a response of some sort.

If you are interested then please get in touch with me Alan Shaw by phone on 881771 or by email at [shawalan@hotmail.com](mailto:shawalan@hotmail.com) and hopefully we can get something started.

## sports clubs



### Cricket

Following the successful resurrection of the cricket team last year the Sports and Leisure Association will again be facilitating our campaign for 2008!

All ages and abilities are welcome to participate. If you are interested please contact Robin Calvert on 889695 or 07771 556360

# sports clubs

## Circuit Training

**Spring is in the air and with summer round the corner, why not get out of the house and get fit for enjoying summer.**

Government guidelines recommend that each of us should take part in 5 lots of exercise for 30 minutes each week, at a moderate intensity. Make a circuit session part of your weekly exercise plan, and keep you and your family healthy and fit.

### **Family Circuits - Thursday - 6 to 7pm**

Children aged 14 plus and any adults can exercise together. Children aged 8-14 can come with an adult. Whether you are fit or unfit, there is something for all.



### **Adults Circuits - Thursday - 7.30 to 8.30pm**

Come and join our regulars for our weekly circuit session in the Park Room. If you want to keep healthy or get fit - why not come and try it yourself and bring a friend?

### **Monday Afternoon Circuits - 1.30 to 2.30pm**

This session is aimed at beginners or those who want to do low impact exercise. Exercises include low impact cardiovascular, toning, stretching and core stability training; this helps improve postural muscles, which can help reduce backache. Whether you want to keep healthy or get fit, this session can cover it all.



For all sessions, comfortable clothing, trainers and a bottle of water required.

**For more information about the sessions look at the poster in the club or phone Hilary on 07812 684979 or email hilaryhep@hotmail.co.uk**



## Ballroom-Latin-Jive Dancing

### **Last Tango in... the Park Room!**

**Sunday Evenings from 7.30-10pm in the Park Room.**

The temperature is rising at the current course of dancing lessons as the drama of the Argentinean Tango unfolds. The Latin dances are a big hit amongst the residents of Delamere Park as we swing our hips to the rhythms of South America. Rio will be the next port of call as we learn the steps of the Samba.

You can try the first night before you decide to book for the whole course.

Next Course – Sunday 11th May (tbc)

Open to residents and residents' guests, single or couples over 16 years. Learn Latin and Ballroom styles over an eight week block of lessons with expert tuition.

If you would like to join this friendly group of new starters, improvers and intermediate level dancers, take the first step – call Kathy or Steve on 01606 301845 or email sport@Delamerepark.co.uk

## Water Aerobics

Come and join us: lively music, good exercise to your own ability with fun loving companions. We meet:

**Wednesdays 11:00 to Noon**

**Thursdays 20:00 to 21:00**

Cost is £2 per person with all proceeds going to St Lukes Hospice.

Please contact reception for further details or email sport@delamerepark.co.uk





## Logs, Woodchip and Leaf Mould Sales

Logs and woodchip £1.80 per bag (50p delivery under 5 bags)  
£1.50 for 10 bags or more.  
£25.00 per container load.  
Leaf mould £25.00 per 1 ton bag.  
£1.50 per bag.

Contact Reception on 889263 to place your order.

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## Clubhouse Bar - Casual Staff

The bar is looking for staff to work on a casual basis whenever the need arises. For further details contact Barry on 07903 460626.

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## Clubhouse - Park Room

This room can be hired for private parties at a cost of £50 for the evening. Should the bar takings exceed £100 then the £50 will be refunded providing the room is left clean and tidy and all tables and chairs stored.

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## Clubhouse Facilities - Bookings

In order to use the time of our administrative staff more effectively bookings for the club facilities (including squash and tennis courts) will only be taken after 2pm.

**Reception Telephone  
Number 01606 889263**

## Reception - Additional Services

We have a folder for babysitters, gardeners, tree felling, discos, taxis, electricians etc. If anyone has any services that they can personally recommend, please leave details at reception.

## Lost Property

Reception has a number of items found both in the Clubhouse and in the grounds of the Park. If you have lost something recently it may well be in their possession.

## Coffee and Chat

Coffee and tea is available at reception in the afternoons and evenings, please feel free to come in and have a chat and familiarise yourselves with what goes on in the Clubhouse. You may be surprised at the many activities on offer!

All contributions for future editions of this newsletter should be sent to [news@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:news@delamerepark.co.uk) or hardcopy via reception. Deadline for the next edition is **May 15 2008**.