

**News from The Trustees**

The beginning of 2018 has seen the completion of the final snagging work on the Pool Hall upgrade project. We are now enjoying the full benefit of the upgrade with everything working as planned and we continue to hold back a retention as insurance against anything going wrong.

Tennis players will be grateful that the electrical wiring has been upgraded and new LED floodlights have been installed to the tennis courts making it a little easier to play in these dark winter evenings. The Clubhouse car park lighting has also been upgraded. Not only do we benefit from improved illumination but being vastly more efficient the new lights save us money and help to reduce our running costs.

Whilst on the subject of lighting there have been mixed reactions to the new footpath lighting installed recently by CW&C Council. The new lights are designed to focus light towards the ground and will almost certainly save the Council a great deal of money but a number of residents have complained that they find them less bright than the old lights. Anyone worried about the quality of the new lighting should make their concerns known to CW&C.

A second Trustee surgery was held on January 12<sup>th</sup>. It was well attended by residents who raised various concerns all of which will be looked into by Trustees.

A number of IT enhancements have been completed recently. Most of these relate to the back office and are about tidying up and improving systems however you may have noticed the boosting of the WIFI signal in the Bar giving better connectivity for your smart phones and for the Bar credit card machine. We have new Trustee Andrew Bryson to thank for doing this work. Andrew was also prominent in arranging the highly successful Burns Night at the Clubhouse which is likely to become an annual event.

Finally Trustees are currently evaluating a number of projects including a revamp of the Reception area in the Clubhouse, purchase of an upgraded projector suitable for showing films and provision of air conditioning units to the Bar. We have also been looking at options to present to Plot-owners on how we might improve our ground maintenance service, which from your feedback we know to be one of residents' main concerns. However Trustees are clear that the most urgent priority is to fix the Clubhouse roof so other projects may have to be put on hold until this is attended to. We will keep you informed as all of these things develop.

**Coffee Mornings in the Clubhouse**

Why not pop in for a tea or coffee and a chat with fellow residents between,

10.30am - 12.00 noon

The next coffee morning dates are:

- March 1<sup>st</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>
- April 15<sup>th</sup>
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- June 7<sup>th</sup>



Each coffee morning is hosted by a different Community Group. Contact Maria on 01606 889728 for any further information

**Park Events to put in your diary .....**

<p><b>** 'Allo 'Allo Night **</b></p> <p><b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b></p> <p><b>7pm – Café René</b> <i>(in the Park Room)</i></p>		<p><i>An audience participation comedy with Kingsley Players</i></p> <p><b>Tickets from Reception: £22.50 to include 2 course French supper</b></p>
<p><b>** Easter Egg Hunt **</b></p> <p><i>around the Park</i></p> <p><b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>(2:00pm – 4:30pm)</b></p>	<p><i>Children's activities (in the Park Room)</i></p> <p><b>Bouncy Castle</b></p> <p><b>Tea &amp; Cakes served by Ladies' Club</b></p>	
<p><b>** Live Band and Fish &amp; Chip supper **</b></p> <p><b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>(7:30pm – midnight)</b></p>		<p><i>Back by popular demand following last year's successful Gala Day 'After Party'</i></p> <p><b>Tickets from Reception: £12.50</b></p>
<p><b>** Garden Safari and Scarecrow Trail **</b></p> <p><b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>(1:30pm – 4:30pm)</b></p>	<p><i>Gardens needed to keep this popular event viable, all proceeds to charity</i></p> <p><i>For further information, email: garden@delamerepark.co.uk or contact Mike McNeal via Reception.</i></p>	

**Events User Group**

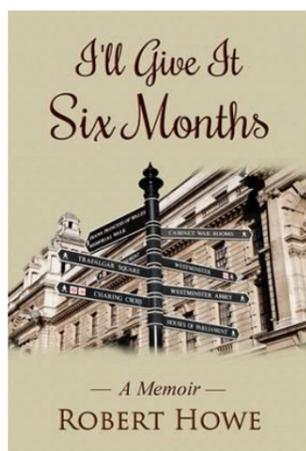
In January a few residents met together to form an Events User Group with the aim of organising a programme of events on Delamere Park throughout the coming year.

Above are some of the events planned over the next few months, we hope you will support them.

Other ideas in the pipeline are, a Gala Day in July, a Wine Tasting, a Super Quiz night, more live bands and discos.

The next meeting of this new group will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm in the Lodge, if you have any ideas or can contribute in any way, then please come along to this meeting or Email: [community@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:community@delamerepark.co.uk)

**A New Author on the Park**



*From war-torn London to the Diplomatic Service, Robert Howe's memoir is a fascinating insight into an interesting and, at times humorous, life.*

*With a famous name on nearly every page and enough diverse careers to fill two lifetimes, this true account of life in the Merchant Navy, the Civil Service, and London in the fifties and sixties will surprise and make you smile throughout.*

*It contains many conversations with some very famous people, including Omar Sharif and Rudolf Nureyev. It also includes a few arguments he has had with various MPs and pop stars.*

*Having travelled extensively, his time living in France will delight everyone who has ever spent time in that country.*

*An excellent chef and keen cyclist, he lives near his favourite city. Chester with his wife Linda Fraser-Webb.*

Although Robert Howe and his wife, Linda Fraser-Webb have lived on Delamere Park since 1975, this is Robert's first book by way of a Memoir.

Having lived here for over 40 years it was only natural that he included a chapter on Delamere Park and that one or two of the residents would feature in it. The book has been published on Amazon and by Lulu Publishing: -

On behalf of my husband I would welcome enquiries from anyone who would like further information.

Linda Fraser-Webb  
Email: [fraserhowe@btinternet](mailto:fraserhowe@btinternet)

**Delamere Forest 41 Club**

.... would like to express a sincere thank you to the residents of Delamere Park for their generous contributions made during the visit of Santa Claus to the Park.

The contributions will be combined with those of Acton Bridge, Norley and Delamere village and donated to St. Luke's and Joshua Tree charities.

Many thanks and all the best for the New Year.

**Delamere Park Book Club**

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the current Delamere Park Book Club – our first meeting was in May 2008. Here are some thoughts from an initiating member.

The main function of the book club is to read a book and then discuss it with a diverse group of people with whom you then share your thoughts and opinions with...But if that's all a book club was then you might start to feel like you were right back at school.

Book Club shouldn't be just about the books, it should be about enjoying an evening with friends and going home refreshed and uplifted. So Book Club is only 50% about the books we read and discuss. The other 50% of what Book Club is about is socialising and creating friendships.

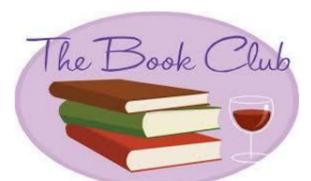
In our Book Club we spend the first part of the evening talking, catching up, nibbling and drinking and we don't really talk about the book. But then after that we set the socialising aside before moving into talking about the book. Most people come because being in a book club where the books being read come from a wide variety of genres makes for more interesting reading.

It makes you pick up and read books that you wouldn't normally consider. Having a new book to read every month or so keeps your mind open to new possibilities outside of your norm.

It forces you to experience new cultures, new ideas, different perspectives, opposing opinions, common interests, shared laughs, sympathetic tears and traveling to new worlds through the pages of a book. And you get to meet new people. Those are just some of the reasons why book club should only be 50% about the book.

Over the past 10 years members have come and members have gone. The Book Club can't be for everyone all of the time but as long as people do come and feel even a little bit enriched, supported, encouraged and connected then hopefully the Book Club will go on for at least another 10 years.

If anyone is interested in joining, the Clubhouse notice board has a poster showing the next book on our list along with contact details.



## Park PALs

As a start to the festive season a group of us went to Chester Cathedral in November to 'The Spirit of Christmas'.

A Christmas Tea was organised at the Clubhouse with everyone making a contribution. There were quizzes and a lovely selection of Christmas cakes and sandwiches. Mulled wine was much appreciated as was the cabaret put on by six members. Never was the Buckingham Palace Christmas tree so much in the news!

A member invited us to her home for Christmas drinks and another hosted a New Year Party. Fourteen of us greeted the New Year in traditional style with food and bubbly.

We are planning a brunch at Gibson's Mill and a Sunday lunch outing. For more information please phone Barbara on 882533, Christine 301699 or Pam 889665

## Delamere Park Singers



Our thanks to all those who helped at the Carol Service, this was a very happy evening and a good start to Christmas.

We are now preparing for our two April concerts. Our spring programme includes 'Bring Me Sunshine'; 'Those Were The Days' and 'Top Hat, White Tie and Tails'.

We are also venturing into the world of harmony, our gentlemen are providing an excellent base to the wonderful hymn 'All Creatures of our God and King'.

If you would like to join us, we meet on a Wednesday morning, 10.30am - 11.30am in the Park Room. Come and give us a try and bring a friend.

For more information, please contact Barbara Smith, 888844.

## Mah Jongg



Mah Jongg is held on the second and last Thursday of the month commencing at 1.30pm. in the bar area of the Clubhouse.

You will be assured of a warm welcome if you would wish to join us and learn how to play. A full list of dates is available on the notice board. Twice a year we hold a lunch with complimentary wine prior to a Points day competition.

Some of our members have also been tutoring youngsters at youth club meetings. The feedback has been fantastic. For any further information ring 01606 889665

John Hill usually posts these notes. Currently John is in hospital and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

## Mobile Library Visits

The Mobile Library stops at: Delamere Park Community Centre,  
10:10am – 10:25am

Friday (3 week cycle), future dates are:  
16<sup>th</sup> March / 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April / 18<sup>th</sup> May / 8<sup>th</sup> June



## Delamere Park Gardening Club

Hi Everyone,

As the snowdrops and daffodils are giving us their show of colour above ground again, Winter is drawing to a close and I'm sure you are all looking to get out into the garden again for barbeques, parties, games or whatever you do in your garden even if it's just relaxing in a chair with a nice cold drink.

If you sow seeds yourself then very soon will be time to sow them but beware of late frosts and snow so keep any seeds warm and cosy somewhere while they establish themselves.

Hyacinths, Amaryllis and various house plants will be coming into flower and everything is looking set for the new year ahead.

Gardening Club has also started its New Year with enrolment during February and March. It is only £8 for a whole year's entertainment and party events, so come along and enrol.

We have received our seeds at discount from Suttons ready to start sowing and a lot of our members and other residents from the estate are off on the annual trip, this year to Lincolnshire and the Ely Flower Festival 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> June.

Contact us straight away if you would like to go as its closing now.

This year's **Garden Safari is already scheduled for Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>**, an earlier event to showcase the azalea, rhododendron and other early spring flower and bulbs which have gone over by our previous summer event.

Last year's was a lovely sunny July day so we are hoping for the same as we

join with the younger residents on the Park

who are planning to have a scarecrow competition.

Each year proceeds from program sales are given to charities nominated by the garden hosts.

What we need now are volunteers to open their garden and for the youngsters to let us know

who will be showing scarecrows. Please let us know as soon as possible so this event can

continue. Email [garden@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:garden@delamerepark.co.uk)

Our club nights for the next few months are as follows:

**March 26<sup>th</sup>** – David Taylor will return to give a talk with slides on: 'Spring Watch'.

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>** will be Andy Vernon. His talk will be on 'The Flower Powered Garden', so I'm hoping for loads of ideas to add colour and variety to your garden for the Summer Months.

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** we will be organising a Monday evening visit to a local garden yet to be confirmed.

If you would like to come along to one of our meetings then we will be pleased to see you in the Park Room for 8:00pm start.

**Contact Gardening Club through**

David Cooper, Email: [garden@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:garden@delamerepark.co.uk) or  
Mike McNeal through Reception for further information.

**Happy gardening!**



## News from Ladies' Club



### LADIES' CLUB "SISTERS IN SONG"

#### Christmas Party 2017

After 4 years in the chair of Ladies' Club, Janet is stepping down from her post and we are pleased to welcome Patsy Chuter who took over the job at the AGM in February.

Janet has loved her time in office and we have loved having her. Her grace and charm coupled with that lovely smile have ensured that our meetings are relaxed, sociable events; newcomers are always made very welcome and everyone soon becomes a valuable member of our cultural scene. Those of us on the committee have also appreciated her energy, efficiency and general attention to detail; attributes when coupled with a steely determination to get things right have meant that outings, events and activities have always been enjoyable and successful despite the vagaries of the weather, the rail network and last minute cancellations etc etc. Thank you so much Janet, it has been great.

A hard act to follow but we have every confidence that Patsy, whilst bringing her own ideas to the party will continue the traditions of the ladies section and support our exciting programme of events and talks. We hope she will enjoy the job as much as Janet has.

We go into the new season with our usual mix of talks and activities-

On 9<sup>th</sup> April Vale Royal Falconry will treat us to "A Close Encounter with Owls and Eagle Owls".

On 14<sup>th</sup> May we will be in the company of Joelle Warren MBE, The Vice Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire and prominent local business woman. We know the Lord Lieutenants of Cheshire meet and greet Royalty when they visit us but that isn't very often so it will be intriguing to find out what they do while they are waiting for those visits; and how what they do impacts on our community.

On June 11<sup>th</sup> we are delving into the mysteries of Chancery with the broadcaster Steven Lawson of FDR Law. His talk is entitled "Can Contentious Wills be Resolved"; sounds like we are in for an interesting and informative evening.

Ladies' Club welcome visitors to any of their evening talks which are held on the second Monday of each month. Alternatively why not become a member, £10 entitles you to attend not only the talks but to enjoy our summer and winter outings and our lively and fun Christmas Party.

Subscriptions for the year are due in March. Any queries contact Patsy Chuter 889140 or email: [ladies@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:ladies@delamerepark.co.uk)

## Delamere Park Clubs Socializing and Leisure

- 39/45
- Art
- Book Club
- Bridge
- Coffee Morning
- Gardening Club
- Ladies' Club
- Mah Jongg
- Singers
- Social – Plot Draw
- Social – Quiz Night
- Whist
- Youth Club

## Health, Fitness and Wellbeing

- Adult Swimming
- Children's Swimming Lessons
- Exercise Class – Pure Stretch
- Exercise Class – Circuit Training
- Exercise Class – Pilates
- Ju Jitsu
- Squash – Men's Team
- Squash – Ladies' Team
- Squash – Junior Coaching
- Table Tennis
- Water Aerobics
- Yoga

For further details regarding any of the clubs or activities listed above please contact Reception at the Clubhouse or check on the ParkEvents section of the website: [www.delamerepark.co.uk](http://www.delamerepark.co.uk)

## Delamere Park Ju-Jitsu

The Park Ju-Jitsu club has been well established for over a decade now and has taught many of our residents the vital art of self-defense.

Instructor Adam Forshaw (5th Dan) has been practicing JuJitsu for over 22 years and received a British Empire Medal in 2013 from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for his services to youth in Cheshire.

The hard work put in by students and instructors has seen a number of residents achieve their Black Belt degree, which I am sure you will agree is a fantastic achievement and will certainly help when applying for Universities or jobs.

The Ju-Jitsu club would like to invite any new students wanting to give Ju-Jitsu a go to come and give it a try. All abilities welcome.

**Wednesday 7 - 8:30pm in the Park Room (7-16yrs)**

First lesson is FREE, plus get a FREE gift on your 7th lesson. Lessons just £4.



## 39/45 Club

At the meeting of the 39/45 Club on the 21st February members had a very informative talk given by Tony Chaplin on "The Lancaster Bomber". The Speaker outlined the background to the creation of the aircraft, its links to the North West and the pivotal part it played in World War II.

The Club's programme covers a range of topics so why not come for a taster and an opportunity to enjoy a drink and a chance to "put the world to right".

Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday, 7pm for 7:30pm in the Lodge

News Team postscript ...

Dear Residents, the newsletter gives us all the opportunity to communicate with each other. If you have anything you wish to include in the next newsletter (Summer) the deadline is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018. **Please contact Ella, Elizabeth or Lesley via email to: [news@delamerepark.co.uk](mailto:news@delamerepark.co.uk)**