



Dinedor Newsletter

May 2017

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

Summer is almost upon us when we are able to fully appreciate the beauty of Dinedor at its best and enjoy lots of outside activities when we hope the weather will be kind to us. There are lots of events to look forward to which you will be able to read about in the newsletters. The Dinedor newsletter is published six times a year to enable you to keep up to date with Parish Council news, together with details of local groups and events and an opportunity to share information with each other. We are grateful to our regular contributors but would love to hear from anyone who is willing to write about their story or has anything to share. We are grateful too to our team of distributors who ensure this is delivered to your letterbox.

If you are a local business and would like to advertise in future editions of the Parish Newsletter please contact us via the details at the bottom of the back page. The advertising rates will be very reasonable at £20 for the year.

THE BIG LUNCH 2017

Sunday July 2 at Suzanne and Ian's house, The Laurels, Dinedor Hill, HR2 6PD. We will provide some food and drink and BBQ facilities. You bring some food and drink to share, maybe chairs and cutlery. We will start about 12.30 pm. Contact



details for further information: **01432 873170 or 07833 137096 ALL WELCOME!**

DINEDOR ART GROUP

Dinedor Art Group's popular Summer Exhibition will be held on **Sunday June 25 2.30 – 5.30** in the Village Hall and is a fund-raising event for the hall. Admission remains at £5 for adults and £3 for children and includes a glass of Pimms and a bowl of Strawberries and Cream as well as a chance to view and buy original works of art at extremely modest prices. Ten per cent of all sales will go to Hall funds. No need to bother to go up to the Royal Academy: it's all happening in Dinedor!

An apology! Unfortunately in our last issue in the "News from St. Andrews" section we attributed Jenny Smith with the name of Jenny Williams. We apologise for the error!

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT EDITION IS WEDNESDAY JUL 19

This month we had the annual parish meeting, followed by the annual parish council general meeting. The annual parish meeting is the opportunity for parishioners to come together and discuss matters of interest.

The camp transfer late in 2016 is now complete with a steering group established but permission is still awaited from Historic England before scrub clearance can begin. The volunteer monthly working parties on the adjoining land are already making a difference - thanks to all those involved. Brian Granthier produced a display of the work already undertaken. There are further details about the group on page three of this newsletter.

There has been very slow progress on the neighbourhood plan - the consultants, Kirkwells, are to be contacted again.

Councillor David Summers gave an update on the retrospective planning and highway issues at land near to Maes y Felin and road signs on Holme Lacy Road, both of which are still outstanding.

At the annual general meeting which followed, Duncan Green was re-elected as PC chair and footpath officer. Liz Kelso, parish clerk, reported that the financial out turn is as expected, with a small surplus. If you wish to inspect the accounts, please contact Liz before the end of July.

Some items outstanding from the camp transfer were discussed and a meeting with the Outdoor Centre is to be arranged as soon as possible. Signs stating that camping and lighting of fires in the woods and ancient monument are prohibited will be erected by the PC. Rubbish remains a problem; the large metal bin at the bend of Dinedor Hill is now being mis-used too. It is a bin for temporary storage on Thursdays only, pending collections on Fridays. The bin men have been unable to empty it several times when general rubbish has been mixed with recycling.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held **on Tuesday July 18 at 7.30 pm**. Please do come along or speak to any of the councillors if you want to raise an issue. Your feedback will be warmly welcomed.

A copy of all newsletters and full details of council matters can be found on the website **www.dinedorparishcouncil.org.uk**

DINEDOR SPORTS SATURDAY JULY 29

We are holding our AGM and Planning Meeting on **Weds May 24** in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Due to the timing of the printing of this newsletter there is a chance that it may have already been held! But don't panic!! You can still be involved. We need lots of help on the day. Also look out for the competition schedules that will be delivered to you over the next couple of weeks. If you feel you would like to be involved contact Julia Over, the secretary on **870320**.



DINEDOR HERITAGE GROUP

Once again, this year, the Heritage Group are actively involved in the Herefordshire Walking Festival and two of our committee are leading walks in our locality. **ROTHERWAS EXPLORED** is on **Saturday June 24, 2.00 to 4.00**, and covers Rotherwas House and the Munitions Factory and will be led by Chris Over.

DINEDOR HISTORY EXPLORED is on **Sunday June 25, 10.00 to 2.00**, and will cover much of our local area (6 ½ miles). This will be led by Ian Stead. Booking is essential. Further details on **www.walkingfestival.com** or by contacting **Ian Stead on 07833137096**



A NEW LIFE ON DINEDOR HILL – THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

The year was 1971 and Patrick and I and our three young daughters lived in a modern semi with all mod cons in a quiet road in West Bromwich with a pleasant outlook from the large back garden over the grounds of a senior school. Why would we want to leave, especially as we had spent the first three years of our married life in a caravan in Walsall and were now living in comparative luxury? The trigger was the smell! Across the nearby recreation ground, on a very pleasant open area a factory had been built to produce the smell to go into the North Sea gas and every afternoon they released the surplus! Apart from it being unpleasant, I was worried that it could be toxic and affect our three daughters' health so the search for a house in the fresh air of the countryside started.

We looked in five Counties, but every house was too expensive for our tiny budget. Eventually, entirely by luck, we found Beech Cottage and by scraping together everything we had we could just afford it. We fell in love with the cottage and there was no question of getting a structural survey or valuation. 'Yes, please, we will have it!' We knew we wouldn't get a mortgage as we moved almost immediately and neither of us had a job!

We arrived in September 1971 ready for the girls to start their first school year at Hunderton School. What a change. Wonderful views and all that fresh air, but only one bedroom for five of us, no water, no drainage, but thankfully, the electricity had recently been installed. No money left, literally, no jobs and in debt to the children which took two years to pay off! The kitchen was made as a lean-to with corrugated tin walls and roof – very noisy when it rained! The sink was a stone affair with a bucket underneath and we inherited a very old electric cooker from Mr and Mrs George Lamb, the previous owners.

For the first three weeks, Patrick and I worked at Acheson's Farm in Much Birch picking apples in order to feed ourselves. Then Patrick got a job as a fork lift truck driver at Thorn Lighting in Rotherwas and I started as a temp' with Star Secretarial Agency in St Owen Street. Thorn Lighting was experimenting with polystyrene pallets. They were not as robust as wooden ones resulting in many being thrown onto the scrap heap to be picked up by Patrick and carried home up the track. By the time winter started in November 1971, the ceiling and the walls of our lean-to kitchen were all lined with polystyrene pallets, plastered, wallpapered and painted with emulsion. A sink unit had been built in what was the cold slab area where the meat and milk was kept cool and a fridge-freezer purchased. An old log burner was also fitted and so we lived in comfort and warmth for the first winter.

What to do about personal hygiene? No bathroom with central heating any more. The loo was a 'loo' with a view' outside with an Elsan. Patrick fixed a tank on the roof to catch rainwater and one corner of the lovely warm kitchen was turned into a tiny shower room. Big problem – no rain, no shower. Problem solved! Every Friday after school, the three girls and I would go to Edgar Street Baths, now the Courtyard Theatre, and book two slipper baths which were proper baths and we shared, two in each. Years later the girls said that they felt ashamed to be going to the slipper baths and so would pretend to be turning right into the swimming baths until they were sure there was no one about that they knew and would then scoot left into the slipper baths! Our lack of facilities was a constant source of amusement to the staff at the Star Agency and they would ask almost weekly when would we have a bathroom? It wasn't until six years later that I was able to tell them that we did at last have a bathroom and shower. I would never do it again, nor have the courage, but it was right for the time.

Enid Bullock (aka Bully) May 2017

Are handbags your weakness? Do you lust after a Louis Vuitton or pine for a Prada at a mere £5,000 a go? If so, you will be interested in a classy item that has been seen in some of Dinedor's best houses, not to mention the Village Hall where it has added more than a touch of Damart glamour to the Raffle scene. I'm talking about the iconic Red Handbag, the winning of which has become the climax of local events. The first happy winner was Bill McKie who proudly bore away the coveted prize amid envious whoops and cheers.



Whether its vibrant colour didn't quite go with Bill's wardrobe or whether he generously realised that no self-respecting raffle could do without it is not known but it made another welcome appearance at the recent Quiz Night, to be claimed this time by lucky Alan Hardwicke. (No sexism in Dinedor.)

Has anyone spotted Alan displaying this fashionable enhancement to his customary elegance? Will it be on show at the Sports? Or is there a chance that it might be back in circulation and coming to a raffle near you? Be prepared, Dinedor fashionistas! It's just a matter of being in the right place at the right time and buying the right ticket for the Red Handbag to be yours. You know you're worth it.

VARIETY

DINEDOR COMMUNITY CHOIR



If you enjoy singing why not join us? Variety meet regularly in the village hall to sing together, learn new material and enjoy a chat in our refreshment break. We are grateful for some expert tuition from time to time from Alison Holbrooke who inspires us to get better. Our repertoire is expanding and we trust our sound is improving too. We are always happy to welcome new members so if you would like more information please give **Nick and Tricia Austin** a ring on **01432 870730**

GENERAL ELECTION

Ahead of the election on June 8, a hustings has been arranged at Little Dewchurch Village Hall on Friday **June 2 at 7.30 p.m.** This is a meeting where candidates in an election address potential voters. All the main candidates will be there - your turn to question them ahead of making your mind up.

NELWYN

After living in Dinedor, for well over 30 years, I was more than a little surprised to discover that, unbeknown to me, my mother, (maiden name Nancy Gwynne) was living in the village in 1926.

My brother was showing me some old family post-cards and several were addressed to her at **Nelwyn, Dinedor**. My task



at the moment is to find out where Nelwyn is – or was. Can you help please? If so contact Chris Over on **870320**. Thank you!

Footprints Messy Play is a local parent and toddler group where children participate in 'messy' activities. Different items are placed in large trays to encourage imaginative, sensory play e.g. straw and plastic animals, flour and cooking utensils, jelly and alphabet letters, mushy peas and plastic frogs, cooked spaghetti, lentils and diggers, foot printing etc - the messier the better! Parents can let their children explore whilst leaving the mess behind.



Footprints Messy Play is held in Dinedor Village Hall every Tuesday (term time only) from 10.30 - 11.30 a.m.

The cost is £5 per child and £2.50 for a second child. Parents/children are to wear clothes they don't mind getting dirty and bring plenty of baby wipes and a change of clothes. Follow us on Facebook or @FootprintsMessyPlay



Further information is available from Jemma Cleland.

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

DINEDOR CAMP MANAGEMENT STEERING GROUP

There is another Community Coffee Morning on Saturday June 3. Do come along and join us at Dinedor Village Hall from 10.30 -12 noon. Drop in at any time - you will be most welcome! There is always a 'Swap table', an ideal way of disposing of unwanted books and magazines which other people may appreciate a chance of reading or you may have plants or cuttings to share as we all venture



out into our gardens. This is a really pleasant way to chat together in an informal setting and maybe meet 'neighbours' you have never spoken to before!

There are always delicious home made cakes to enjoy with a cup of tea or coffee. Any donations will go towards boosting the village hall funds.

The date of the following coffee morning will be **August 5**

If you need transport or any assistance please ask Marlene 870628, Suzanne 873170 or Mair 870593 who will happily arrange this for you

We have held more meetings to plan future work, look into grants, get tree management advice and recruit volunteers. We have also had three successful scrub clearance working parties that have reopened some lost views. Many thanks go to those who helped. Unfortunately our enthusiasm is slightly dented because we are still waiting to get the official go ahead from Historic England. We've filled in the forms, phoned them, emailed them, but so far nothing. Watch this space.lan

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Steering Group please contact Ian Stead or Liz Kelso.

FRIENDS OF ROTHERWAS CHAPEL

Time for our first AGM! You don't have to be a member to enjoy hearing how privileged we are with members providing the speaker and displays. Jean Currie will give a talk with pictures on Farms and Family Fortunes in East Herefordshire from 18C to WW2 with illustrations of land once owned by the Bodenhams (ahead of her book); Richard Bodenham will be coming from Swansea, his researches on display; Pauline Powell has information on the clock. The chapel is the lovely focus of the family story but HARC is providing the excellent venue for celebrating this occasion – with light refreshment.

Monday 19 June 2017 at 7 pm
Herefordshire Archive & Records Centre,
Fir Tree Lane, Hereford HR2 6LA

Email margotmiller@live.co.uk or phone Barbara Ferris 870696

DINEDOR AND HOLME LACY WI

What a day, on March 31 sixty WI ladies arrived at Hereford racecourse with no little 'concern' to attend a Driver Refresher day organised by the Institute of Advanced Motorists. After completing essential forms and being divided into four groups we were tested in a 'non-confrontational way' on our knowledge of 'The Highway Code' – vaguely remembered from years before. After coffee it was our turn to work, searching photos for road hazards, discussing attitudes 'behind the wheel' and being horrified by road traffic deaths and injuries statistics for the UK. We were told the five most important points in good driving, using the acronym COAST: Concentration, Observation, Anticipation, Space and Time.

After lunch we were each delegated an IAM observer who took us on a 45 minute jaunt around Portway, Wellington, past Queenswood, then Bodenham and Sutton St Nicholas, all with frequent questions and close observation.

Afterwards we were debriefed on 16 aspects of our driving and given advice on how we could improve along with compliments on what we did well. It was a very informative, positive and surprisingly enjoyable experience.

Anyone interested should take a drive around the website: www.advanced-drivers.org.uk or contact me for another course in October.

In April, Collette Gray brought along her fascinating collection of dolls depicting Pedlars and Hawkers and members brought along a variety of their own well-loved dolls. The Herefordshire Federation Annual meeting at Three Counties Hotel included speakers; Baroness Jill Pitkeathley who guided us through the workings of the House of Lords and Janice Langley talking about her life as NFWI Chair and stories of everyday happenings.

In June Rosemary Prosser will introduce 'The Final Furlong' and we are hoping for good weather for our visit to a member's garden on July 14. A talk on Aloe Vera and its properties and production is also planned for July.

For further information about the WI meetings that are held at Dinedor Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm (visitors welcome), contact Wendy 01432 870582



DINEDOR VILLAGE HALL

VILLAGE WALKS

Work on securing grants and raising funds for the improved storage facilities is ongoing and our first fundraising event of the year – 'Professor Peter's Quiz Night' – was a great success. Our second fundraiser will be the Art Exhibition with Pimms and Strawberries and Cream to be held on Sunday June 25. And thirdly, in November, we have 'Compost Heap' – the local male singing group who some of you may remember entertained us so well last year.

As you can see, the committee is working hard to raise funds to improve the village hall but it's your support that makes these events enjoyable and successful. We are grateful also to the Parish Council, who is supporting us in our efforts.

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall will be held on **Thursday May 25 at 5.30 pm**. Everyone is welcome – and if you would like to join the committee or help in any way we would be very pleased to see you. We're especially looking for anyone who'd be interested in the position of Treasurer as Tim Howson is taking a well earned break from the committee. If you can't come to the AGM but would like to help at a later date just contact any committee member.

To hire the village hall please contact the booking clerk, Marlene Kitto on 870628

After the washout of last year's attempt the first village walk took place on **Saturday April 22**. Fortunately it was a beautiful sunny, clear day, which encouraged a good turnout of sixteen enthusiastic ramblers plus four well behaved dogs. Suzanne led a shorter walk of about two miles over the fields behind the church. I led a longer walk which carried on to Bogmarsh, up to Ramsden Farm with lovely views, then down to Tar's Mill and back across the fields.

I had promised a four mile walk and was relieved that my app said it was 4.99 miles! Afterwards we enjoyed tea and cakes in the village hall. Overall it seemed a great success. The only real disaster was that we lost Bully who had started with the short walk group but couldn't find the longer route group ahead. Very sorry Bully, it won't happen again! I'm hoping to have another walk later in the summer, the date will be confirmed nearer the time.
Ian Stead 07833137096

NEWS FROM ST ANDREWS

Forthcoming Programme SUNDAYS AT 9:30 a.m at St Andrews (unless stated otherwise)

MAY 28 Holy Communion

JUNE 11 Holy Communion with baptism of Walter Cleland

JUNE 25 Holy Communion led by Rev John Wilson (Peter away on holiday)

JULY 9 Holy Communion

JULY 23 Holy Communion 11 am Confirmation Service at Little Dewchurch

JULY 30 3 pm Special Celebration service at St Cuthbert's Holme Lacy – you can choose the songs or hymns!

A big 'Thank you' and Farewell to Robert and Gail Gorman

Although we made presentation and formally SAID 'Goodbye' to Robert and Gail at the Carol Service in December, the almost inevitable hitches in selling and buying houses have meant that we have had the unexpected pleasure of their continuing with us for a few more months. However, all now seems clear for their leaving the village. Robert has acted as a faithful and conscientious Churchwarden and Treasurer for at least ten years and I would like to pay tribute to all that he has done. We wish Robert and Gail well as they move to Worcestershire in the near future and pray that they quickly settle and feel at home in their new surroundings and community.

Matters arising from the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting)

Two become one!

The meeting on March 28 was quite important since it was agreed in principle to combine the parochial church council and officers of St Andrews in Dinedor and those in Little Dewchurch. I would like to stress that the programme of services will not be affected and that the Treasurer Rev John Wilson, who acts as Treasurer for both parishes is dedicated to keeping all financial accounts held by Dinedor separate. The Rev John is coming to take the 9:30 service on June 25, since I am on holiday, and he is looking forward to meeting members of the congregation who were unable to attend the APCM.

A possible churchwarden

Since Robert Gorman retired last year, we have been without a formal churchwarden, although thanks are due to Robert continuing to carry out some of the tasks involved and for the contributions made by Tim Howson. Some light is now on the horizon since Colin Jones, who lives in The Pastures near Saxon Gate, and was formerly a churchwarden at Little Dewchurch, has offered to be the churchwarden and be responsible for official duties regarding paperwork, visits to inspect the fabric etc, as long as Tim and others help with routine matters such as regular practical duties on Sundays and in keeping the churchyard and interior of the building clean. If you have any comments about Colin being appointed, or alternative suggestions, please contact me before June 18.

If there is any matter that you would like to discuss with me, or would just like a visit, please contact me on 840443 or e mail me at Peter.houghton@kcl.ac.uk Associate Minister South Wye Team Ministry



HELLENS GARDEN FESTIVAL

Sat 10-Sun 11 June 10 am-5 pm

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is thrilled to be partnering the Hellen's Garden Festival again this year, helping people to enjoy and connect to nature.

The Trust's Hive tent will be a focus for children's fun activities throughout the weekend which will include extreme flower pressing and making seed bombs and bee crafts to take away.

During Saturday, Herefordshire Wildlife Trust's Hayley Herridge will lead a series of bee walks in Hellen's lovely gardens where she will be taking a closer look at our pollinator friends, providing information and inspiration for those that want to go away and do their bit to help the cause. Sign up in the start tent to join one of the walks which will leave at set times."



EXPLORING LIFE AT THE VILLAGE HALL

We have enjoyed some good discussions at our group held in the Village Hall and there has been a good atmosphere of people ready to listen as well as contribute on topics such as God's goodness and generosity, what we value and what restricts our freedom. Our next two sessions are 7:30 pm on Wednesdays **June 7 and 21** when we will be thinking about fulfilment and being really alive. The sessions are 'stand-alone' so it doesn't matter if you have missed one or two – or all of the them so far! Everyone is welcome.

A GOOD YEAR!

In 2018 several Dinedor residents will reach, or will be approaching, a significant birthday and would like to mark this with a celebration in our village hall. Aware of the great pleasure the Hall has given us and the efforts of those who built it and keep it going, it could be Fund-raising Celebration of Community. Any other pre-war babies, (or indeed of any other age) who would like to join a small working party to plan such an event, or have suggestions to make, please e-mail barbaraferris@uwclub.net or telephone 870696.

Dinedor Newsletter is published by Dinedor Parish Council

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