

Laburnum Road Field Development

You may recall back in July that the first public step towards creating something lasting and worthwhile for the whole village was taken when a meeting of as many members of the local community as possible, was arranged in the Church Hall. Prior to this the Parish Council had spent close on two years acquiring the land and sufficient funding to start a project under the covenant to create a "sporting, recreation and leisure facility, primarily for the benefit of young people resident in the village of Davenham."

The Council presented some initial ideas at the meeting but was primarily interested in gathering local opinion on what should and shouldn't constitute such a facility and perhaps more importantly, who within the community had the desire and enthusiasm to get involved and help deliver the final design. The signs were very good with over 80 people attending, representing many of the village's community groups and following an interesting and lively debate the basics were agreed and a group of volunteers identified.

As I am sure you are aware these things often take much longer than any of us might like but the good news is that we now have a core of around 30 people committed to some sort of involvement and the Council is now close to setting up the framework under which the scheme can be delivered and managed. Once in place the next step is to select the members of the project Management Committee and set about putting some meat on the bones of the plans discussed so far. This will involve a great deal of time and effort on behalf of all concerned but I am sure in the end it will be worth it and the Council remains committed to providing a lasting legacy to their efforts.

There is still time for those of you who would like to contribute to the success of this exciting project. Please feel free to contact me on 01606 352854, and to those of you who have already expressed an interest, thank you so far and keep the faith, we'll be in touch soon.

Cllr Graeme Hall

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The Parish of
Davenham
consists of
two wards,
Davenham
Village Ward
(which
includes
Whatcroft)
and
Kingsmead

DAVENHAM PARISH NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2004

Dear Parishioners,

Christmas, most people's favourite time of year is almost upon us once again. For me, our Parish year has passed very swiftly. Earlier in the year just after my election to chairman, we were unfortunate to lose two of our popular councillors, Mike Silcock and Jan Mashlan. Mike has moved to the semi-paradise that is West Wales, I certainly envy him living out there and Jan is helping out with the family business. More recently Chris Frost from Kingsmead left to live abroad with his work. I wish all of them good luck for their futures. On the plus side Lorraine Dunne and John Curran have joined us and I am sure they will contribute well to the running of the Council.

During the summer the Council took the first steps to enhance and develop Laburnum Road field, which we purchased some years earlier from the church

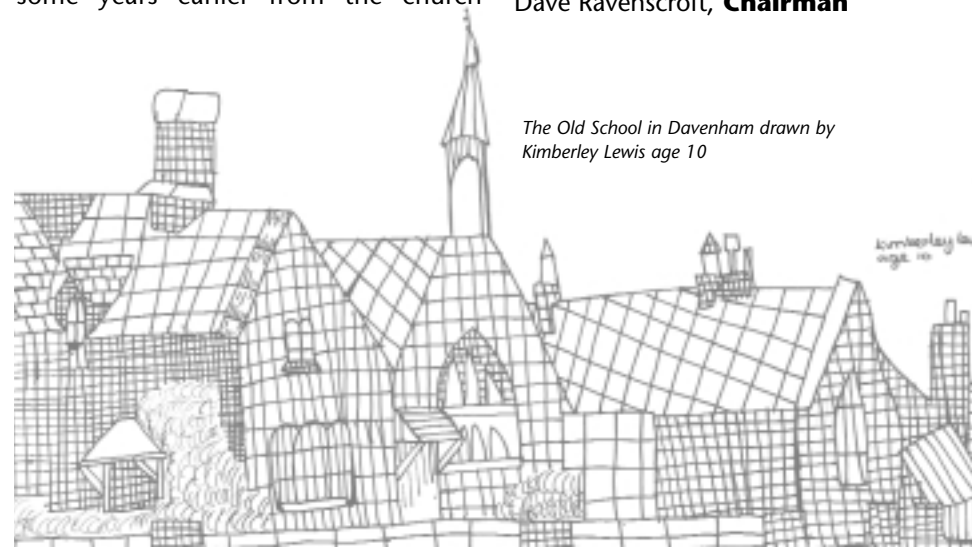
authorities. It is hoped agreement and cooperation can be reached with all parties concerned to make this a viable project for the benefit of all the community.

Back to the festive season. This year the council will be lighting up both our Christmas trees at Kingsmead Square and in the village garden on 2nd and 3rd December respectively at 5.00pm. The Kingsmead tree lights will be lit by the new head of Kingsmead School Catriona Stewart and the Davenham village tree by the Council's past member and chairman Mike Silcock. (Please any vandals: Don't steal our light bulbs this year!)

Finally I would like to wish all Parishioners and friends in the village a happy Christmas and a truly peaceful New Year.

Dave Ravenscroft, **Chairman**

*The Old School in Davenham drawn by
Kimberley Lewis age 10*



HAVE A JOLLY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE...

What is Santa's favourite supper?

Pizza - it's deep and crisp and even! **HO, HO, HO!**



Davenham - Contact for Animal Rescue

There are too many animals and not enough homes! You may have heard this before but the next time you are thinking about buying a new pet please think about re-homing one first. My name is Nicky Green and I work closely with Lower Moss Wood Wildlife Hospital near Knutsford and Warrington Animal Welfare as an unpaid volunteer. I also have a list of people who are waiting to give up their pets often for sad reasons. If you can offer a home now or be prepared to wait or need other assistance with your pet, please telephone me on **01606 46645** (emergencies 07984 036522).



Davenham Recreation Bowling Club

The 2004 bowling season finished in September with the club having 11 teams competing in the Mid-Cheshire, Norley and ladies leagues. Congratulations go to the ladies 'B' team, which won its league and gained promotion!

The 2005 season will start in early April and the club would love to see new members of any standard. For further details please ring Alan Buckley on **01606 43663**.

AGE
Concern

...in Davenham

Two years ago Age Concern Cheshire launched the Village Links project and is looking to expand it throughout the county. Age Concern felt that poor public transport and a certain reluctance from the elderly to ring 'faceless' organisations, were denying people in rural areas access to Age Concern's extensive free information and advice service.

The aim behind Village Links is to provide a local point of contact and Age Concern is looking for a volunteer in Davenham. His/her name and phone number will be published in the parish newsletter and training will be given with out of pocket expenses paid. If queries can't be answered locally a referral can then be made to the nearest full time information and advice centre (Chester, Hartford and Neston).

Would you be prepared to give up a little of your spare time to help dispense information and advice to older people? If you think you can help or would like some more information please contact Age Concern's Village Links Development Officer, Alan Mottram, by phone on **01829 733195** or by email on **mottram5@aol.com**



Davenham Methodist Church

In September our new minister on the Northwich Circuit, Rev Russell Rigby and his wife Pauline from New Zealand, arrived. Rev Russell intends to introduce some 'kiwi' customs! We have also welcomed Deacon Ann Shepherd and her husband, Tony, to the Circuit. Ann is a trained teacher and will be using her experience to work with young families especially in Kingsmead. Ann is now a familiar face at the Mums & Tots Group (Tues & Thurs 10.00am-11.30am) where 2-3 year olds and their mums play and socialise! The waiting list is currently short so, if you are interested, why not come along and find out more about their activities?

The Ladies Group meets in the Church Hall at 7.30pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month and has a varied programme. The Sunday School meets at 10.45am. For Family Services (last Sunday each month) the youngsters stay in

for the service which is geared to the younger generation.

We are ready for our usual round of Carol Services and activities (see below). These days it seems to get easier and easier to forget that all the festivities are to celebrate the birth of Jesus and the promise of new life that he brings for us all. From the meanest of beginnings great things can happen! If you fancy coming along to one of the services, please don't hesitate. Everyone will be most welcome. Our special December dates are below.

Wed 15th 7.30pm Ladies Group Carol Service

Sun 19th 10.45am Carol Service led by the Sunday School and Choir

5.45pm Carol Singing Party collect for National Children's Homes

7.30pm Carol Service Fountain Court Residential Home

Sat 25th 10.00am Christmas Day Family Service led by Susie Treeton

For more information, telephone John Durston on **01606 883505**



'Davenham C of E Primary School is an educating school and is very encouraging in a child's work'

Charlotte Nelson Aged 10



A Day in the Life of Davenham School

'I like Davenham School because we do so many activities and everybody is nice to me, even the teachers. I like Mondays because Mr Hilditch, head teacher, usually does the assemblies about the Bible. I like Tuesdays because we go in the computer suite and do spreadsheets, we did a timeline on World War 2. In Year 2, we went to Beeston. I remember going in the candle shop and making a candle. I still have it now. In Year 4 we went to Bryn Gwynant and I remember helping Mr Garrett with the drink cartons in the rain. All the time I have loved it at Davenham C of E School.'

By Sam O'Brien Aged 10

'...all the children are friendly...all the teachers are great at their jobs'

Josh Hall Aged 11





New Vision New Vision is a Youth Group run by St Wilfrid's Parish Church in Davenham. 12 to 18 year olds meet to socialise, learn about the Christian faith and have fun. A group of about twelve people (mostly younger members) meet on Sunday evenings to read the Bible, learn and pray together, play games, have BBQs, go ten-pin bowling, play in an area youth group mixed football competition and attend events such as the "Space" music concert at the Apollo in Manchester, www.visitspace.net. One memorable event this year was "The Lock-In" where the group locked themselves in the Church all night for food, films, fellowship and fun, finished off with breakfast at McDonald's. All are welcome to meet with us. It is a good way of getting to know other young people in the area. Please ring Charles and Angela to find out more - **01606 331357**.

Davenham & Sandiway Players

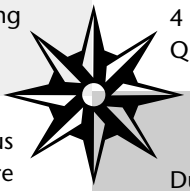
Hello to members, supporters, friends and neighbours! We have had a great year with 3 productions and our latest offering 'Which Service Please?' from local writer Simon Jones was on in October. The Guardian's review; '... good comic performances from the whole cast and some clever comedy writing...'. This was the third production of 2004 and we have now started rehearsals for the first of 2005. It's a welcome return to the family pantomime and this is a new story called 'The Princess and the Demon Tree'. It's suitable for all the family so please book early as we have limited seating: Tuesday 8th - Sat 12th February. Remember, theatre tickets make great Christmas presents!

We are hoping to stage 'Playhouse Creatures' in the spring, which is set at the time when women were first grudgingly accepted into the acting profession. Did you know that the theatre hosts other events and Thursday 16th December sees another regular date in the DAN Jazz diary? Come along and enjoy our refurbished toilets and bar (not necessarily in that order)! Our bar is open to 11.00pm on performance/music nights. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or indeed become a

member (for a very small fee!) please let us welcome you to your local theatre. (We're in Church Street you know, near the Church, and don't worry there are new signs on the way!) For tickets or further information phone Joanne Carter 01606 333213 or Bob Almquist 01606 45186

Hello from St Wilfrid's Church

As new Incumbent of St Wilfrid's Church, Davenham, I extend greetings to you all. With my wife Meg I moved from Horning, in the centre of the Norfolk Broads, early in October. Prior to ordination in 1982 in Salisbury Cathedral, I was a solicitor, mostly in private practice then for a time in the City of London with the Clothworker's Livery Company. Meg and I have been married for 35 years and we have four grown up children who have 'flown the nest' and four grandchildren. We look forward to meeting you, and what better place than in church, especially over Christmas. The main festival services at St Wilfrid's in December are a 'Christingle and Toy Service' at 6.30pm on the 4th; a 'Children's Nativity Service' at 10.30am and a service of 'Lessons and Carols' at 6.30pm, both on the 19th, Christmas Eve Communion at 11.00pm and an informal 'Family Communion' at 10.30am on Christmas Day. Martyn Cripps



Davenham Carnival - Saturday 18th June 2005

We are already making bookings for next year's Carnival and anybody wishing to join the committee or simply help on the day will be warmly welcomed. The choosing of the retinue will take place at Davenham Royal British Legion on Sunday 30th January between 2.00pm - 5.00pm. Girls between the ages of 4 - 16 can enter for Carnival Queen, Princess, Rosebud and Fairy Queen. Contact Lorraine Jackson on 331370.



Get your diary ready for dates on Page 7!

Davenham Football Club Bull's Head

During the 2003/2004 campaign our fortunes were mixed ending up fourth in Division 3. However, we were awarded the Fair Play Award, sponsored by D A McCoy of Davenham, for the second time in the four years it has been operating. We also regained the Moore Trophy in our annual charity game against a Bull's Head select eleven!

We have had a great response to our pre-season Match Ball Sponsorship from the patrons of the Bull's Head. This provides much needed help with our annual operating costs and we would like to formally thank all those who have sponsored the club's activities.

The start of the new season has proven to be the best ever in our six years in the Mid Cheshire Sunday League. Taking maximum points from the first 4 games of the season, we hope that this run will continue! Our home games are played at Moss Farm on Sundays at 11.00 am. The Club's activities, along with the minutes of the monthly Committee Meetings, are regularly updated on the notice board in the Bull's Head for all to view.

For more information please contact Phil Senior via the Bull's Head or email philsenior@caep.co.uk



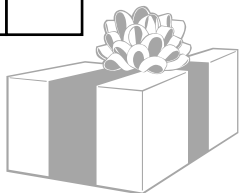
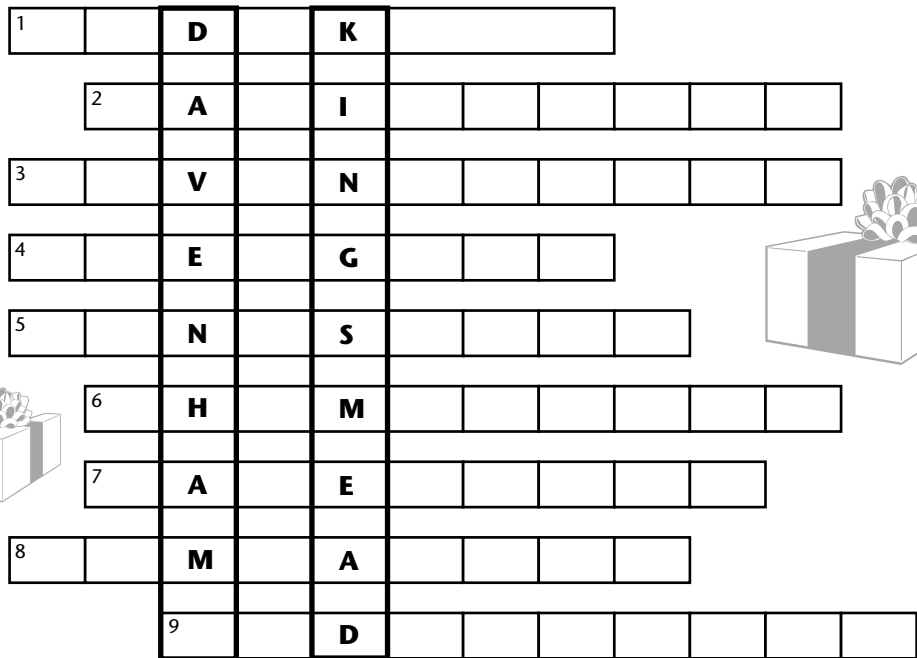
Friends of Davenham School (FODS)

celebrate the official unveiling of a new cycle rack named in honour of Hilary Belshaw who has been part of the fund raising team for a number of years. Pictured (left to right) head teacher Phil Hilditch, FODS Chairman Debbie Nelson, Hilary Belshaw, Donna Baker, Rachel Lonsdale

Don't forget the birds...fill your birdfeeder and refresh water daily Remember all the berries in the Autumn? Have they all gone yet? Watch out for the redwings swooping through the village over the next few weeks picking out the juicy berries of the holly. They say that berries are a sign of a hard winter, but maybe they are a sign that we had a good spring...Ed.



PRIZE CROSS-PUZZLE



1. A friend wouldn't do this!
2. Anyway, a mate in the air force
3. Black birds on a farm? No, he's a chair
4. One girl backs England manager - he'll take control!
5. Can the orchestra bear to play here?
6. Little Tom's eight will hurt
7. The cheek of a naturalist?
8. Flower in the belfry
9. Grave men drink here
(Thanks to Clr John Curran for devising the puzzle)



Prize: £10 book token to the first correct answer opened on 18/12/04. Send entries to 389, London Road, Davenham, CW9 8HN marked CROSS-PUZZLE. Include your name, address and telephone number. The Editor's decision is final.

Children of Davenham School about their days...

'...then we have playtime. We can play football on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays but on Thursdays and Fridays we have to play something else...' **William Galloway Aged 10**



'...we do topic work...the Egyptians, the Victorians, the Sun and the Moon, Water, the Greeks and World War II' **Ryan Jackson Aged 10**



Seasonal Diary Dates

December

- 2nd - 5.00pm Christmas Tree lighting, Kingsmead Sq.
- 3rd - 5.00pm Christmas Tree lighting, Dav. Vill. Garden
- 4th - 6.30pm Christingle and Toy Service, St Wilf's
- 15th - 7.30pm Ladies Group Carol Service, Meth. Church
- 16th - 7.30pm Jazz Night at the Theatre, Church Street
- 19th - 10.30am Children's Nativity Service, St Wilf's
- 19th 10.45am Carol Service: Sunday School and Choir, Meth. Ch
- 19th - 5.45pm Carol Singing Party for National Children's Homes, Meth.Ch
- 19th - 6.30pm Lessons and Carols, St Wilf's
- 19th - 7.30pm Carol Service Fountain Court Residential Home, from Meth. Ch
- 24th - 11.00pm Christmas Eve Communion, St Wilf's
- 25th - 10.00am Christmas Day Family Service, Meth Ch
- 25th - 10.30am Informal Family Communion, St Wilf's

January

- 30th - 2.00pm Choosing of the Retinue, R British Legion

February

- 8th - 12th Family Pantomime at the Theatre, Church Street

Our next newsletter will be issued in March. Would you like your village society / organisation to feature? If so, please email me on dunnel@davenhampc.org.uk or contact me via the parish clerk.
Editor - Lorraine Dunne



Davenham Cubs

Recently we have been working towards the Caring Challenge and Animal Carers Badges. We have been learning to appreciate some of the difficulties experienced by disabled people and we have held our own mini-paralympics. We held a sponsored silence on Nov 9th and the money raised is to be presented to Guide Dogs for the Blind when Albert the guide dog and his owner visit the pack. Other activities have included a visit to Northwich Fire Station (thanks to the fire fighters) and competing in the District Swimming gala (with some considerable success!). On Dec 4th we are going to visit Black-pool Tower and this was very popular last year! We are continually searching for guest speakers to spend 30 - 60 minutes demonstrating a hobby or skill to 30 excitable boys. If anyone would be interested in talking to the boys on a Tuesday evening we would be delighted to hear from you. Marie Lawton (Raksha) **01606 47878** and George Stiff (Bagkeera) **01606 45302**.

Davenham Guides

We are two young leaders who have been chosen to represent the UK at a county international camp but we need to raise between £600-£1,000 each. We are org-anising fund raising events and would greatly appreciate your support.

COLOURING COMPETITION: Entry form 50pence: Age groups 5-7, 8-10, 10-14.

ADULT QUIZ SHEET: Sheets £1.

Both competitions close on 25th December and prizes will be awarded by 1st January. Please telephone for applications or pop down to the Guide meeting (each

Wednesday 7.00pm-9.00pm, Church Hall, Church Street).

Thanks - Jennifer Lawton (01606 47878) and Ella Jones (01606 46547)

Our teacher is good because she has star people every day and they do all the jobs.' **William Mitchell Aged 10**

'You do art on a Friday morning before break and after break you do P.E. As a warm up you do lots of laps of the netball court (it really tires me out!).' **Victoria Aged 10**



'Davenham has really good lessons...the head teacher is really nice and friendly...so it's a good idea to send your child to Davenham School' **Phillip Lingard-Smart**

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Arthur Wood

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John Curran

curranj@davenhampc.org.uk

Graham Scott, Parish Clerk

Tel: 01606 543948

The Parish of Davenham consists of two wards, Davenham Village Ward (which includes Whatcroft) and Kingsmead

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