

# Davenham Parish Newsletter

July 2005

The Parish of Davenham consists of two wards,  
Davenham Village (including Whatcroft) and Kingsmead

## Dear Parishioners,

I am delighted to be acting as Chair for the next 12 months and hope to be able to meet as many of you as possible. I am a relative newcomer to Davenham (only 7 years) and very much a newcomer to the parish council, only 1 year. However, our longer serving councillors have made way for the new blood and I trust that they will forgive the enthusiasm of the new younger members for innocent exuberance! So, I am assisted in my duties by new blood Vice Chairman Chris Wroe and together we especially welcome new councillors Amir Kabishi and Rakesh Harji, all from Kingsmead.

### Laburnum Road Field

We were sad to say goodbye to Graham Hall, who through the pressure of work left us in January and who had put so much effort into the Laburnum Road project. Speaking of which, we have been sorely delayed by researching the appropriate legal document to establish the ownership and management of the area. However, we understand that the document is now approaching completion and we hope to be able to count on those patient volunteers who attended the public meeting last year to keep the faith and renew their enthusiasm! We will be issuing a call to arms shortly i.e. before another 12 months slips by!

### United Parish

The most polemic issue to surface recently is the drive to split the parish by borough councillor Will Charlton. He believes that Kingsmead would be 'better off' as a separate parish. The parish council's position is that we will support the demands of any significant group representing such a call. However, since the parish council raised this issue only 3 years ago by petitioning every household in the **Kingsmead ward** and received no significant response in favour of a split, we do not see that the future of the parish lies in a division.

My *personal* hope is that during the next 12 months we can foster a sense of greater identity by ensuring that residents in all areas of the parish feel understood and fairly represented by the parish council. As you will have noted already, Chris, Amir and Rakesh are all Kingsmead residents they will bring better understanding of Kingsmead issues first hand to council meetings.

We have also discussed holding alternate monthly meetings of council at the new school in Kingsmead and trust that this will facilitate bigger attendances by interested residents. That development is on hold until school finds an out of hours caretaker (see advert later!). *(Continued on page 2)*



George Cush - 2005

"Hilary Belshaw & Andy Cush would like to thank everyone for their kind support following the sudden, tragic death of their dear son George, on 19th March 2005. George was aged just 12 years old and has a brother Sam who is 14. The last three months have been very distressing for the family, but the huge amount of practical & emotional support given by the good people of Davenham has helped us all to get through this terrible time. We would also like to thank everyone who made a donation to the following organisations - £340 to Oxfam and £980 to WaterAid, which provides clean drinking water in third world countries. It is a comfort to know that children living in poverty are being helped by Davenham's generosity."

(cont. from page 1)

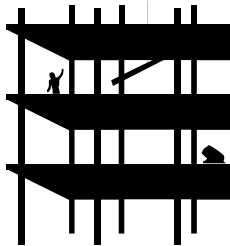
## Identity

Council has further discussed how to move forward as a united parish and whether any changes need or indeed could be made to help parishioners feel represented by Council. We have agreed the setting up of a committee to investigate the options available and have already begun to receive advice from Vale Royal and The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. In the meantime, I feel that greater efforts can be made to represent concerns from all corners of the parish but we need you to let us know when things need doing.

Contact details on the back page for parishioners to contact us on any parish matter.

Meantime, the usual council business continues and you are welcome to attend any of our meetings. Please visit our web site [www.davenhampc.org.uk](http://www.davenhampc.org.uk) and our notice boards in Kingsmead Square and Davenham village garden. A happy summer to you all!

Lorraine Dunne,  
Chairman



## Bridge Club

Do you fancy a game or learning how to play bridge? We run a successful bridge club based at the Royal British Legion, Firth Fields in Davenham and we cater for all abilities. Come along on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month to meet a friendly and sociable group, have a game of cards, have a drink and catch up on local news. The organiser is **Alan Goodier** and he will arrange lessons for beginners and improvers so call him on **47339** or watch out for an announcement in the Community pages of the local press.



## Casual Caretaker Needed

The Governors of Kingsmead Primary School would like to employ a casual caretaker for evening work at school. We would very much like to develop the community use of the school and need someone to unlock and secure the building and remain on site for community events. This post may suit a retired person with some hours to spare in the evenings. There would be no cleaning or maintenance involved, just ensuring that community users used the premises considerately and safely and tidied up. If you can help or know someone who would be interested please give the school a call on **01606 333470** or email [admin@kingsmead.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kingsmead.cheshire.sch.uk)

## Helpful contacts for those wishing to build

The Parish Council is sent a copy of every planning application made in the parish. Whilst many of these applications are for conservatories, there are plenty of other more interesting applications! Whilst we cannot give any blanket advice on the best way to prepare your application, there are a number of free resources available that should help you along.

**Planning Office - 01606 862862** – ask for the Duty Planning Officer for general queries or alternatively, there is a Duty Officer available at the One Stop Shop for anyone calling in at Wyvern House.

Other contacts: Head of Planning - Richard Ellison and Planning Manager - Colin Williams

Current planning applications (those submitted but not yet determined) may be inspected at the same place. Objectors or supporters of planning applications may also apply to speak (max 3 minutes) at planning committee meetings although only about 25% of applications are dealt with at Committee, the rest are on 'Delegated Lists'.

There is also a planning web page on the Vale Royal web site [www.valeroyal.gov.uk](http://www.valeroyal.gov.uk) that has information on Planning Policy and current planning applications etc. For the real enthusiast visit the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister [www.odpm.gov.uk](http://www.odpm.gov.uk) for an in-depth look at planning policy nationally.

If the web and telephone defeat you there are plenty of helpful leaflets to be collected at Wyvern House.

Clr Arthur Wood, Planning Committee, DPC



## Bostock & District WI

So far this year we have been treated to tales of places as far apart as Norway and the Galapagos Islands as well as learning the beneficial effects of Aloe Vera. We have been out and about tenpin bowling, rambling and drinking tea at an afternoon social as well as exercising our brains at a recording of Mastermind. If you would like to see what the second part of the year has in store for us then why not join us in Bostock Village Hall at 7.30pm on the last Tuesday of the month?

Contact Mrs Pennington on 330456



## The Royal British Legion

Membership of the Branch is open to all and not just ex-service personnel. A small committee administers us and is desperately short of new members! We have already celebrated VE Day in May with a buffet dance and parade but in August we will be holding a VJ Day garden party (13<sup>th</sup>) with a Gala buffet and dance with top class entertainment in the evening. On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a parade followed by church service.

## Chairman's Report 2004/5

It was Harold Wilson who coined the phrase 'a week in politics is a long time' and in my year as Chairman it has seemed more like several years than just 12 months! I believe that we have dealt efficiently with the more routine problems that have arisen from complaints by parishioners and our outstanding parish clerk assisted us in this. It is often the smaller things that people are concerned about and if they can see them dealt with speedily, they feel good about the parish council fulfilling its mandate.

However, **anti-social behaviour** continues to cause problems both in Davenham village and in Kingsmead and naturally extends into Moulton and Leftwich. The Council has joined forces with Moulton Parish Council, Vale Royal Borough Council and the Police CAT team to form a coordinated approach to tackle the problems. The local press has been supportive in reflecting our efforts on this front.

The opening of the new **primary school in Kingsmead** was greatly welcomed and it is to the Council's credit that it was the first to press for this much needed school. I wish the Headteacher and her staff all the best for the future. **Davenham C of E Primary School** should also take credit for its high rating in the recent Ofsted report. It is one of the top listed primary schools in the country, yes country, for achievement and excellence. Credit must be given to the Headteacher and his staff as well as the many parents who devote their spare time to extra activities and fund raising. As a governor of the school I am very proud of it and all who play a part.

The Council's planning committee inspects all planning applications submitted in both wards of the parish. In 2004, 102 such applications were reviewed and comments made to the planning authority. The Council supported various **local voluntary groups** with grants totalling £1,256. Two editions of the **newsletter** were produced and distributed to every household in the parish. The **village carnival** was a great success and Council made a contribution by funding a much needed storage container for all the equipment. The **Davenham village gardens** continue to give all much pleasure and the planting of still more daffodils in the village was evident in March.

Davenham has joined with neighbouring parishes to represent residents in the various enquiries and appeals dealing with the **Minosus proposal** to store hazardous waste in the rock salt mine, which is accessed from Jack Lane. The operation will be monitored closely. The good news is that the Land Fill Tax Credit scheme may provide funds to help village projects. Some small comfort perhaps.

Finally I would like to thank once more our **Parish Clerk** for the efficient way in which he has contributed to the well running of the council and also my fellow parish councillors for their individual efforts on the various committees.

I wish my successor all the best for the forthcoming year.

David Ravenscroft, Chairman, May 2005

## Summary of Accounts 2004/5

Administration	1,618.56
Salaries	7,200.74
Subscriptions	895.70
Insurance	1,260.74
Provision & maintenance of amenities	2,781.20
Newsletter	807.00
Grants	1,256.72
Total	15,820.66

Davenham Parish Council

## Not Jamie's.....but Kingsmead's School Dinners!

We opened in September 2004 with a home cooked, healthy eating menu and offer five portions of fruit or vegetables a day either from a snack or school meal. **Healthy eating** is a concern of schools nationally with child obesity and related illnesses on the increase and research shows that children who eat high sugar and salt diets learn less effectively, especially in the afternoon just after an unhealthy meal. One example from research indicates that the giving of triomega fish oil enhances the learning of dyslexic pupils more than individual reading and writing lessons with a specialist dyslexia tutor. We support a healthy diet to improve behaviour, concentration and learning.

Our catering Supervisor, Gulletta Spencer and her team offer a four-week menu; jacket potatoes and salad are available every day with main courses such as quiche, cream chicken, lasagne, pork Mexican, chilli and roast beef and Yorkshire pudding. Fruit or yoghurt is available daily as a pudding along with home cooked desserts such as fruit pudding, cookies or cake. Friday menus contain some less healthy but popular options but only in limited amounts such as chips and doughnuts and our packed lunch eaters support us by only bringing crisps in on a Friday.

### Youth Club – Rock Solid

Calling all Years 5 and 6 children! Come to the church hall, Church St., Davenham on **Friday nights for fun and madness 7.45pm – 9.00pm**. We look at issues of the day and introduce a religious point of view through playing games, discussion, quizzes and craft activities. We usually have lively debates and create a positive team spirit. We also have pure leisure evenings and can play snooker, darts, football, table games, play stations etc. To keep sugar levels up, there is also a tuck shop – a popular choice! The club is well attended by Davenham Primary School pupils and we'd love to see more children from other local schools.

**Other Clubs** – there are plenty of other social groups arranged through St. Wilfrid's so if you'd like more information on Rock Solid or other groups please contact **Martyn Cripps on 42460**.

### The Davenham RBL Social Club

This is a vibrant organisation open to all aged 18 and over. We have so much going on including **Bridge Club** (see earlier article), **Bingo** and **Whist Drives** every other Friday.

We also have busy **rambling and golf societies** and for those more musically inclined we **hold regular Saturday night dances** usually to an organist, trumpeter and lady vocalist. This is not disco, more 'come dancing' and we would be delighted to welcome you.

To find out more ring  
43466 (Bar)  
41564 (Secretary)  
47339 (Treasurer)



One byproduct of healthy eating is greater waste eg. jacket potatoes weigh more than powdered mash. The issue has not gone away but has been dramatically reduced by our **Roots and Shoots Group in Year 4** who monitor food waste each day and set school targets. Parents and carers have sponsored children so every time we meet the target the child receives a penny (or more) to bring to school. We will send this money to **Unicef** in July for 'K mix 2', a famine relief formula for children at risk of dying through starvation. By reducing our waste we are directly helping people less fortunate than ourselves and achieving a school aim, that of considering the effects of our actions on the environment. Many parents have enjoyed coming into school this term to enjoy a school lunch, an enjoyable event which demonstrated to our children that the **whole school community at Kingsmead support healthier eating**.

**Catrina Stewart, Headteacher**

### Oddfellows Golf Society (OGF)

The OGF is a long established EGU affiliated golf society, centred at the **Oddfellows pub in Davenham** village and which meets regularly to enjoy great golf and fellowship. The society meets for a seasonal programme of competitions at top class golf courses throughout the north of England and North Wales. The OGF is organised along **English Golf Union** guidelines so all members are able to obtain an official handicap.

A typical day might include coffee and biscuits on arrival at the course followed by 9 holes and lunch. An 18-hole **Stableford competition** would be held in the afternoon with evening meal and presentation and all in the company of friendly local golfers. We can hold weekend meetings sometimes and an individual match play knockout. Each season is rounded off with a Turkey Trot and a gala presentation dinner dance.

New members are welcome. Please contact **John Pawson on 44947**, or drop into the Oddies for a round or two and ask at the bar!

## Davenham Rambling Society

We continue to prosper with a paid up membership of 60 and to date 7 Sunday and 5 mid-week walks have been arranged this season. The annual sponsored walk in May saw 43 members take part with 20 stalwarts completing the 22.31 miles from Mow Cop to Davenham! Sponsorship raised will be given to Diabetes UK Mid-Cheshire during a presentation at Davenham RBL on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Watch the notice boards or visit our informative website.

Contact us via the RBL in Firth Fields or mail [alan.goodier@davenhamramblers.co.uk](mailto:alan.goodier@davenhamramblers.co.uk)

[www.davenhamramblers.co.uk](http://www.davenhamramblers.co.uk)

## GRANT AID

The Parish Council is able to make grants to organisations within the Parish. The full list of terms and conditions together with an application form are on our website [www.davenhampc.org.uk](http://www.davenhampc.org.uk) - the gist of which is,

- Must send a completed application form and up to date accounts
- The grant aid must be justified and will include the financial case. The latter may be evident from the accounts submitted but large balances and/or donations to other bodies must be fully explained.
- Applications must be received by 1 November
- Grants will be paid shortly after the start of the following Financial Year
- Grants are not normally made to organisations located outside the Parish

### Summertime and the fitness is easy...

Sunflower Fitness from Davenham specialises in bringing safe and effective fitness into the community. Elaine Woodrow plans to encourage people of all ages to walk themselves fit. She says "Pedometers are the latest motivational tool on offer to measure your daily step quota. The recommended daily average is 7,000 steps but 10,000 steps are a level to work to. Most Sunflower classes register at around 4,000 steps per hour, which coupled with a burn of around 500 Calories, is an excellent way to stay fit and have fun."

Classes are available in Davenham and Elaine offers combinations including aerobics, pilates, yoga and circuit. Classes can be suitable for the young to the not-so-young, including the Nifty Fifties Class!

Direct your fitness related questions or requests for current class timetables to Elaine Woodrow on 48808.

[www.sunflower-fitness.co.uk](http://www.sunflower-fitness.co.uk)

## The Heart of Cheshire

O Bostock still is pulsing strong,  
Has got the Cheshire heart,  
That throbs traditions true and strong,  
Scarce marks with change its chart,  
For here the ancient notion stands,  
Of blended indigene,  
Of gentlemen, of house and lands  
And church and Inn and Green,  
O happy this community  
That keeps a County's soul,  
Inviolate as beauty be,  
That guards her treasures whole.

From 'Homage to Cheshire' by Hedley Lucas  
(1939)

Researched by Dave Ravenscroft

## Friends of Davenham School Diary

Visit our [website](http://www.fods.org) for information or contact us through school. A sample of our events just in July were:

Annual Fun Day - lots of games and entertainment, beer tent, rides, cakes etc.

Disco for children...in a marquee!

Summer Ball - for adults only!

Sponsored cycle ride at Oulton Park

[www.fods.org](http://www.fods.org)

## Davenham RBL Golf Society

Four weekend fixtures have already taken place in the 2005 season plus a successful tour of Scarborough earlier in June. We congratulated **Wilf Mahon** for a hole in one at the 147 yds 11<sup>th</sup> hole at North Cliff! **Paul Forster**, our 2004 captain, was overall tour winner despite a handicap of 4! Earlier in the year we saw **Nigel Forster** become Champion of Champions at a keenly contested competition at Sutton Hall. Congratulations to all winners and all of our 56 members!

### Recent and Next Diary dates:

July 16<sup>th</sup>, Pennant Park, Open day with BBQ

July 30<sup>th</sup>, Ellesmere Port, captain's Day and caberet in the evening

Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, RBL Sheild at Hill Valley with Presentation Awards in the evening

For more information contact the RBL club on 43466

## Davenham Bowling Club

The new bowling season is upon us and we have 11 teams in the Mid-Cheshire, Norley and Ladies Leagues. The club runs a social bowling afternoon every Wednesday commencing at 2.00pm, non-members welcome. You can find us from Laburnum Road field (behind Bargain Booze).

Contact Alan Buckley on 43663

Have you visited Davenham Parish Council's Website - [www.davenhampc.org.uk](http://www.davenhampc.org.uk) ? We have links to the following local societies and organisations and as a consequence of putting this newsletter together we will be adding Davenham Ramblers, Kingsmead (School) Friends Association, Sunflower Fitness and the Minosus Liaison group. Would you like your group featured? Please email details to the [Clerk](#).

[Davenham Cricket Club](#)  
[Davenham Parish Church](#)  
[Davenham & Sandiway Players](#)  
[Development of the Arts in Northwich](#)  
[Friends of Davenham CE School](#)  
[Kingsmead Primary School](#)  
[The County High School, Leftwich](#)  
[Sir John Deanes College](#)  
[Mid Cheshire College](#)  
[Davenham Dynamos Junior Football](#)  
[GenUK](#)  
[Vale Royal Borough Council](#)  
[Cheshire County Council](#)

[Cheshire Police](#)  
[Cheshire Villages](#)  
[Cheshire Parish Web](#)  
[Cheshire Association of Local Councils](#)  
[National Association of Local Councils](#)  
[This is Northwich](#)  
[Northwich Victoria FC](#)  
[Witton Albion FC](#)  
[Northwich Community Woodlands](#)  
[Mid Cheshire Chronicles](#)  
[Moulton Organisations](#)  
[St Wilfrid's Parish Church](#)  
[Vale Royal Safety Partnership](#)  
[P Williams Village Pharmacy](#)

## VISIT THE PARISH COUNCIL

**DID YOU KNOW THAT PARISHIONERS CAN BRING THEIR CONCERNS TO PARISH COUNCILLORS BEFORE EACH MEETING? MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH (BUT NO MEETING IN AUGUST).**

**TURN UP AT 7.15PM TO GIVE YOUR FEEDBACK – Methodist Church, Hartford Road**

How the work is split – direct your questions to a specific councillor or via the clerk

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Representatives</b>
Planning	J Kerruish-Jones, A R Wood, B Robinson, A Kabishi
Finance	L Dunne, J Kerruish-Jones, J D Ravenscroft, E Betts, A R Wood
Playing Fields, Paths, Trees, Ponds incl. Kingsmead Landscape Co.	D Ravenscroft, C Wroe, Vacancy
Charities	L Dunne, Vacancy
Heritage Society	B Robinson
Association of Parish Councils	E Betts, L Dunne, R Harji, J Kerruish-Jones
Delegates for PC Assoc AGM	L Dunne
Special projects (including Laburnum Road field)	J Kerruish-Jones, A R Wood, B Robinson, C Wroe, A Kabishi
ASB, Police & Homewatch	J Curran, C Wroe, B Robinson
Newsletter	L Dunne (editor), Vacancy, J Kerruish-Jones, R Harji
Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society	J D Ravenscroft
CPRE	A R Wood
Trustees to the Welcome Home Fund	A R Wood, M J Silcock (retired councillor)
Minosus Liaison	A R Wood, B Robinson (reserve)
Vale Royal Area Meeting	L Dunne, A Kabishi

[www.davenhampc.org.uk](http://www.davenhampc.org.uk)

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\*\*\*KINGSMEAD VACANCY\*\*\*

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Arthur Wood

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