

Your Chesterfield

Putting our communities first



Autism friendly swimming - Pages 12 to 13

Northern Gateway update - Pages 4 to 5



Welcome ...

to the spring edition of Your Chesterfield.



David Attenborough's Blue Planet certainly has everyone talking about the huge amounts of plastic waste in the oceans and thinking about what they can do to protect the environment.

So our article on recycling on pages six and seven could not be more timely. I hope that this will reassure people that their recycling is important. If everyone in Chesterfield increased the amount they recycled we could make a big difference to our planet.

Now that the warmer weather is on the way we have more opportunities for us all to get outside and get more active.

There are walks suitable for everyone during the annual Chesterfield Area Walking Festival this May (see pages 18 to 19). There is no charge for most of the walks and it's a good opportunity to get out in the countryside and meet new people.

Our parks and play areas are also great places for people of all ages to enjoy some fresh air and exercise.

While we are particularly proud of our five Green Flag award-winning parks, there are also a range of play areas and open spaces which are supported by local residents.

For instance, we have attracted funding for new play equipment at Whitecotes Playing Field (see page 14) and it is great to see youngsters in Inkersall looking after their open spaces (see pages ten to 11).

Becoming more active and getting involved in community activities are enjoyable ways in which we all can help improve the local environment and look after our own health and wellbeing.

Councillor Tricia Gilby
Leader, Chesterfield Borough Council

Are we accessible to you?

کیا ہم تک آپ کی رسائی ہے؟ اگر نہیں تو ہمیں بتائیے!

你可覺得易於與我們接觸？若不同的話，請提出要求。

Czy łatwo jest skontaktować się z nami? Jeżeli nie, powiedz nam o tym!

Siamo accessibili nei vostri riguardi? In caso contrario rivolgetevi a noi!

We want everyone to be able to read our publications.

We aim to provide what you need to be able to understand our information or talk or write to us.

On request we will provide free of charge:

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- Translation of written material into other languages
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Providing vital services

The majority of Chesterfield residents will see the amount they pay in Council Tax for services provided by Chesterfield Borough Council increase by 6p per week from April.

Since 2010, the council has faced a reduction of almost £6 million or 60 per cent in the amount of funding received from the Government and by 2020, this funding will cease altogether.

Despite this, most residents will continue to receive more than 50 services from us for £2.05 per week.

Most homes in Chesterfield borough are band A properties, which will see bills increase for the services we provide from £103.26 to £106.59 per year.

Properties in band D will see Council Tax rise from £154.89 to £159.89.

You can see a full list of the services on our website at www.chesterfield.gov.uk and a summary on the back page of this magazine.

How Council Tax is spent

Although Chesterfield Borough Council collects Council Tax from residents in the borough, we retain only 10 per cent to pay for services we provide, including: bin collections, street cleaning, sports and park facilities, regeneration, theatres and tourism.

Derbyshire County Council receives 74 per cent of your Council Tax. The county council has decided to raise its share of the Council Tax bill by 4.99 per cent, with two per cent of this increase being spent specifically on adult social care services.

Derbyshire Constabulary receives 11 per cent in Council Tax and will increase its portion by 6.6 per cent. Derbyshire Fire and Rescue receives five per cent and will raise its portion of Council Tax by 2.98 per cent.

Residents in Brimington also pay Council Tax to Brimington Parish Council and residents in Staveley also pay Staveley Town Council for the services they provide.

You will receive your Council Tax bills – which combine all these services together into one charge – in the post along with your free residents' parking pass (see page 14).





Work begins on new Saltergate car park

Work is progressing well on the Northern Gateway scheme to develop the town centre.

Work to demolish the former Saltergate multi-storey car park is nearing completion.

The old car park, which was built in the 1970s and was no longer fit for purpose, closed in February.

A planning application has now been submitted for a new, modern, 24 hour car park to be built on the site.

If approved by councillors, the new car park will have more parking spaces than the old car park. These 531 spaces will also be wider to better accommodate modern vehicles.

Councillor Terry Gilby, the council's cabinet member for economic growth, said: "We looked at refurbishing the existing car park, but reports from structural engineers showed it would be better value for money to build a new one in its place.

"With the new hotel, bars and restaurants, it is vital that we have good, modern parking facilities for people staying in and visiting Chesterfield as well as for our existing town centre shoppers."

While the work is carried out, alternative short and long stay car parking is available at the following car parks: New Beetwell Street multi-storey car park, Holywell Cross, Rose Hill, Soresby Street, Albion Road, Devonshire Street, Durrant Road, Theatre Lane, St Mary's Gate, Station Road, Derbyshire Times, Spa Lane, Hollis Lane, Queen's Park Annexe, Queen's Park South and North.

Monthly permit holders can use New Beetwell Street multi-storey or selected surface car parks.

Work also began shortly before Christmas on stripping out the former Co-op building on

Elder Way ahead of creating a 92 bedroom Premier Inn hotel on the first and second floors with seven restaurants and bars on the ground floor and a health and fitness centre in the basement.

The £10.5 million redevelopment is being carried out by Jomast Developments.

Work on the building should be complete this autumn.

Councillor Gilby added: "It's exciting that after years of work involved in planning the development, the Northern Gateway is no longer just a series of plans but is now a reality.

"The Co-op building has stood empty since 2013 and I'm sure most people in Chesterfield will be pleased to see it being brought back to life.

"This will provide new places to work, eat and sleep as part of our work is to revitalise the town centre and provide new leisure opportunities."

The project will also see environmental improvements made to Knifemithgate and part of Elder Way, making the area more

attractive for pedestrians. This has been made possible due to a £5.83 million grant from the Sheffield City Region Infrastructure Fund.

As part of the Northern Gateway project, we will also build a new enterprise centre on part of the Holywell Cross (Donut) car park.

Councillor Gilby said: "The new enterprise centre will help meet demand for start-up and existing small and medium sized businesses in the area.

"Our existing innovation centres at Dunston and Tapton Park are almost full to capacity, showing the demand there is for this new centre."

It is estimated that the Northern Gateway scheme will create around 500 jobs.

For more information, visit www.chesterfield.gov.uk/northerngateway.



Recycling: your questions answered

We're often contacted by our residents with questions about waste and recycling and how it's collected.

We've collected together some of the most common questions we're often asked. Here are the answers from our waste and recycling team.

What should I put in my blue bin for recycling?

All glass bottles and jars need to be kept separate. Please place in the black box (caddy). If you don't have a caddy please contact us on (01246) 345734.

Only put the following items for recycling in the body of your blue bin. Please place in loose and not in bags:

- Plastic bottles, plastic pots and tubs, food trays and punnets
- Drinks cans and food tins
- Clean scrunched aluminium foil and food trays
- Empty aerosols and metal lids from jars and bottles
- Paper and cardboard.

NO plastic bags and film.

Don't forget that small electrical items can be left on the top of your blue bin on collection day. TVs, computer screens or microwaves are not accepted.

Why does glass have to be kept separate when everything gets mixed in the lorry?

The recycling bin lorries actually have two separate compartments, so it can look like all

the recycling gets mixed together, the glass goes in one side and the rest of the recycling in the other.

Our crews use what we call 'slave' bins for glass. This is a bin normally attached to the back of the vehicle. The glass from your caddy is emptied into the slave bin before being tipped into the bin lorry. The glass collected goes off to be made back into new glass.

What happens to the paper, card, plastics and metals when it's all mixed together?

The mixed recycling goes to a facility where it's sorted into different types of material. Conveyors, magnets and sensors along with some hand sorting are used to do this. The separated materials are then bought by companies who use them to make new products.

Why does it matter what I put in my recycling bin? It all gets sorted anyway.

Making sure that the right items go in your recycling bin is important, as not all items can be recycled.

Sorting facilities have to follow guidelines set out by the Government, which means the recycling is checked for quality.

Regular samples are taken and results reported to the Environment Agency. When wrong items are included this can affect the quality and what happens to the materials.

Why can't I put plastic bags or film in the recycling?

We're not able to accept any plastic bags or plastic film such as the packaging from ready meals, magazine wraps or bubble wrap. This is a new approach we are taking to help improve the quality of the materials we collect.

What happens when things are not recycled?

When recycling goes in the black bin, this goes for disposal.

Most of Derbyshire's waste sent for disposal is currently taken to Energy from Waste plants, rather than to landfill. Here the waste is burnt to create heat and power. For materials which could have been recycled, this is a waste as they could have been made back into new products.

Please only put items in the black bin which can't be recycled.

Visit our website:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/recycling
for more information - including a handy guide to what you can recycle and what you should put in your blue, green and black bins.



Bank holiday bin collections

Our residents will see changes to their bin collections over the forthcoming bank holidays.

- Bins due for collection on Good Friday, 30 March, will be collected as usual
- Bins due for collection on Easter Monday, 2 April, will be collected on Saturday 31 March
- Bins due for collection on the May Day bank holiday, Monday 7 May, will be collected on Saturday 5 May
- Bins due for collection on the Spring Bank Holiday, Monday 28 May will be collected on Saturday 26 May.

This applies to black, blue and green bins.

Please make sure your bin is out by 7am on collection day as the time your bin may be emptied will vary.

Extra recycling is accepted beside the blue bin. Please ensure this is in a box or bag (not black) with glass kept separate. If you have any small electrical items, such as alarm clocks, phones, radios or toasters, you can leave these on the top of your blue bin.

We cannot accept any extra waste with your black bin.

You can check when your bins are due to be collected at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/bindates.

Calling all knitters



We're calling on all knitters and crocheters to help us mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

We are planning a poppy cascade from the balcony of Chesterfield Town Hall in the week of Armistice Day this November.

A pattern to knit or crochet the poppies is available to download from our website:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/poppies.

You can drop off the poppies at the Town Hall, Rose Hill, or at various points in the town centre.

Contact Rob Nash by calling **01246 550516** or email: mayors.office@chesterfield.gov.uk for more information.

Building new council homes

Work is currently progressing well on building four new council homes in Boythorpe.

The new development will see four semi-detached properties built on a former garage site at Rufford Close.

Each of these will have two bedrooms and the site will offer new homes to four families.

The design and building of these new homes is being carried out by the council's in-house team of architects and builders.

This is the first time that we have designed and built family homes for many years.

Work began on site in January and is expected to be completed in the summer.

Councillor Helen Bagley, the council's cabinet member for homes and customers said: "It's fantastic that we are able to use the skills we have within the council to both design and build these new homes.

"We are committed to using and developing the skills we have in-house and this is offering a very satisfying project for our skilled tradespeople and apprentices and will provide good quality homes for four local families when they are complete - I hope this will be the first of many housing schemes."

Good management of our finances in the last few years has given us the option to build again.

We have been reviewing the land we own to look for development opportunities which has made these new homes possible.

Although we are starting with small projects, there will be potential to develop larger scale developments as our expertise increases.

For more information on getting a council home in Chesterfield, visit: www.onthemove-cbc.org.uk or call the On the Move team on (01246) 345700.



Marking First World War anniversary

We're asking businesses and voluntary groups to work with us to help plan commemorations to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

We have put together a 2018 World War One commemorations working group and anyone planning events during the year is asked to contact us with details so that the events can be publicised.

Contact Rachel Appleyard by emailing: rachel.appleyard@chesterfield.gov.uk or calling (01246) 345277.



L to R: Inkersall pupils Poppy and Maddie as they get to grips with discarded fast food packaging.

Youngsters take pride in Inkersall

In our recent Are You Being Served survey of residents, one of the issues you identified as being a problem in your communities was the amount of litter you see.

Although our staff are out bright and early each morning to clean the streets, sadly, there will be more litter dropped again by lunchtime.

A group of local children became so concerned about litter in their area, they decided they wanted to do something about it themselves.

The youngsters at Inkersall Primary School were so worried about the amount of litter that had collected at Inkersall Green, opposite the school, that they suggested to their school council that they should carry out a litter pick of the area.

The school then approached us and we were able to provide litter pickers, gloves and bags to help them on the day.

Support was also offered by staff from the local Co-op supermarket, which is next to the school, as part of the Co-op's commitment to helping with projects in the community.

Year four pupil, Poppy Stevenson, explains: "It's important to pick up litter because if people don't stop dropping it, we'll have a world full of litter."

The children were keen and enthusiastic litter pickers clearing up the green and the area behind the school.

Rebecca Johnson, the school's inclusion manager explains: "We're looking at the community and the things we can do to improve the area in which we live.

"The children are really clued up about what's safe litter to pick up and what's not safe, they're really keen and enthusiastic."

Poppy has a particular reason for wanting to take part: "I want to help the environment and make sure animals don't suffocate because they

could get their heads stuck in the plastic and they wouldn't be able to get them back out."

The hope is that by taking part in the litter pick, the children will help educate others about the importance of not dropping litter. Mrs Johnson explains: "We've talked about how the message gets across the whole school.

"These children will go back and feed back to their peers, their peers will feed back to their older brothers and sisters who are also using the area and, hopefully, the message will get back to the wider community."

Keeping our streets and green spaces clean is one of the council's key priorities and we are keen to hear from groups who would like to carry out a spring clean of their local area.

If you are planning on holding a litter pick, contact our environmental services team by calling (01246) 345345 or emailing environmental.services@chesterfield.gov.uk. We are able to provide equipment including litter pickers and bags.

This type of community involvement is a key component in the annual Chesterfield in Bloom campaign, which forms our entry into the regional East Midlands in Bloom competition.

For more information about Chesterfield in Bloom and how you can enter the best kept garden competition, see more information on page 16.



Helping children with autism take the plunge

Having the confidence to learn how to swim can be a challenge for any child.

But for children with autism the traditional swimming class can provide extra challenges that put some young people off learning.

Although the Healthy Living Centre in Staveley has always run inclusive swimming lessons for children of all ages and abilities instructors noticed that children with autism were struggling to get the most from lessons due to the noisy environment.

So they decided to offer swimming lesson sessions every Thursday from 4pm to 4.30pm specifically aimed at supporting the needs of children with autism aged three to 11.

The sessions are proving so popular that the centre is hoping to put on more if the demand is there.

Katy Furness brings her son Fraser, five, to the session every week after seeing it advertised on our Facebook page.

She said: "My other son does swimming lessons but Fraser finds those a bit loud and other people don't always understand autism so these sessions are brilliant for him and they let him do swimming like his brother does."

"Coming to a session like this has given him so much confidence and it is something I can do just for him."



"The other good thing is that as a parent you get to meet other parents who are in the same situation as you are. It is good to have that support network as there aren't many places where you can get that."



Swimming is in the blood for Fraser as his grandfather Fred is an Olympic swimming coach. And Fraser is already on the way to following in his footsteps by getting his first swimming badge.

Katy added: "It is so hard for children with autism to find somewhere where they feel accepted and comfortable but the instructors here are really good and put them at their ease."

To make the swimming environment more comfortable for children with autism the lighting is dimmed, blinds to the viewing area are closed, coloured lights are lit at the bottom of the pool and the pool is closed to other swimmers.

The swimming instructors who take the classes



have all completed specialist training on the best ways to engage with children with autism to ensure everyone taking part has the best possible experience.

So far 15 children are booked on the classes, which cost £65.40 for 12 weeks – the same as all other swimming lessons. Sessions have no more than six people in a class, each with an instructor and an assistant. Parent assisted, level one and level two swimming lessons are available.

Darren Holdsworth, brings his son Fletcher,



four, to the lesson each week. He said: "Fletcher really enjoys it and it is an important life skill because children with autism are more at risk of drowning than other children if they don't have swimming skills."

"I go in to the pool with him to give him some reassurance. I enjoy it too and love seeing Fletcher enjoying himself."

"I would recommend the sessions to any parents who have children with autism."

To book a place, or get further information, ring Rebecca Truman, our activity development officer, on (02146) 345562 or email rebecca.truman@chesterfield.gov.uk

Information on all swimming lessons can also be seen on our website at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/swimlessons

Plans agreed

Councillors have agreed plans for the site of the former Queen's Park Sports Centre on Boythorpe Road.

This will see a 55 metres x 33 metres 3G all weather artificial sports pitch suitable for seven-a-side matches built on the area. This can also be split up for two five-a-side matches.

This will help meet a need identified by Sport England for artificial pitches within the borough and supports efforts to improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

The surrounding area will be restored to parkland, landscaping the area to merge in with the existing grade II* listed park.

New play equipment for town park

Youngsters who use the Whitecotes Playing Field at Boythorpe will benefit from new play equipment this spring.

This will see the play surface replaced and the installation of new play equipment for older children, an all-inclusive roundabout, a self-shutting gate and a trail circuit.

The work has been funded by £50,000 from the recycling, renewable energy and waste management company, Viridor.

Park for free

Residents can continue to park for free in town centre car parks.

All residents who live in Chesterfield and pay their Council Tax to Chesterfield Borough Council will receive a parking disc with their 2018/19 Council Tax bill.

This means you can park in the following town centre car parks:

- Albion Road
- Derbyshire Times
- Devonshire Street
- Durrant Road
- Hollis Lane (excluding on-street bays)
- Holywell Cross
- Queen's Park (North and South)
- Spa Lane
- Station Road
- St Mary's Gate
- Theatre Lane.

The parking offer is valid before 10am and after 3pm each Monday to Saturday and all day on Sundays and bank holidays. You must pay the standard parking charges to park at other times.

Please make sure your pass is displayed clearly on the dashboard of your vehicle and it is clearly visible through the windscreen.

The offer is part of our commitment to support town centre businesses and encourage people to shop local.



Your guide to Universal Credit

Universal Credit is a new benefit for people of working age on a low income and is administered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

It is a single monthly payment which will eventually replace:

- Income Support
- income related Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income related Employment Support Allowance (ESA)
- Housing Benefit
- Working Tax Credit/Child Tax Credit

Before making a claim

Before making a claim, you need to gather the following information:

- Your postcode
- Your National Insurance number
- Details of the bank, building society or Post Office account you want Universal Credit paid into
- Your rent agreement (if you have one)
- Details of your savings or other capital
- Details of any income that's not from work (eg from an insurance plan)
- Details of any other benefits you're getting

You might also need these details for people who live in your home.

When you make your claim

You'll be expected to claim Universal Credit online at www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit.

If you don't have a computer or mobile device that you can use to make your claim for Universal Credit, there are several places where you can get free internet access and help:

Customer Service Centre, Chesterfield

Chesterfield Library

Brimington Library

Do you use an account to manage your money?

Before you can claim Universal Credit, you need an account to receive payments. It can be a bank or building society account or an account with Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Credit Union.

How often are you paid?

Universal Credit is only paid once a month into your account.

Do you pay rent, or is your rent paid on your behalf?

If your Universal Credit payment included help with rent and some service charges, you will have to pay it to your landlord yourself.

If you are a council tenant and might have trouble paying your rent while waiting for your Universal Credit payment to come through, please contact our rents team as soon as possible to let us know.

How can I get help?

The staff at our Customer Service Centre in Chesterfield can:

- Advise you on when Universal Credit may affect you
- Help you get ready to claim Universal Credit (eg help you set up an email address)
- Help you claim for Universal Credit when the time comes
- Provide personal budgeting help and advice.
- Advise and take your claim for Council Tax support and discretionary housing payments.

Call us on (01246) 345484 or 345507 or you can visit us at the Customer Service Centre.

We also offer personal budgeting support to Universal Credit claimants.

Call us on 01246 345509 to make an appointment.

Blooming again in Duckmanton

As the days lengthen and the gloom of winter is behind us, Anita Stevenson's thoughts turn to her beloved garden.

Anita is a resident of Markham Court, an older persons' accommodation complex in Duckmanton and is often found in the garden or brightening up the communal areas with crafts and flower displays.

She moved here to be closer to her family and enjoys the friendship of fellow residents with lots of activities taking place.

Anita has entered the best kept garden competition of Chesterfield in Bloom on several occasions. At last year's awards ceremony, she won third place in the best front garden category.

She says: "I like to keep busy and I love seeing the flowers come into bloom each year, it brightens the place up and makes everything look nice and cheerful."

Other residents and local businesses can follow Anita's example and enter the competition, which encourages people to take an interest in improving the environment to make the borough a clean and green place to live, work and visit.

Categories include: best front garden, best back garden, best allotment site, best allotment plot and best pub/restaurant. If you don't have a garden, you don't have to miss out – there are categories for best container garden and best hanging basket.

Chesterfield in Bloom is our entry into the regional East Midlands in Bloom competition. Last year we won a gold award for the second year running and we are hoping for a hat-trick this year.

We have a friendly Chesterfield in Bloom committee which regularly organises events to brighten up the local area.

For more information about Chesterfield in Bloom or to join the committee, contact John Ramsey, principal green space strategy officer by emailing john.ramsey@chesterfield.gov.uk or call (01246) 345097.



Tackling anti-social behaviour

New measures to help residents and visitors to Chesterfield town centre feel safe came into force in December.

The new measures, known as Public Space Protection Orders mean that the police or authorised council enforcement officers can issue a £100 fixed penalty notice to people found carrying out anti-social behaviour in parts of the town centre.

This behaviour includes:

- Drinking alcohol on the street – the police or enforcement officers can order them to hand over opened and unopened cans or bottles
- Behaviour which causes nuisance, harassment or alarm to another person
- Loitering around cash machines, entrances to shops or car park ticket machines to beg for money
- Urinating or defecating in any space that is not a public toilet
- Putting up a tent or other temporary structure in a public place without permission
- Leaving personal belongings unattended.

In the first month of operating 36 dispersal warnings were issued, which ordered people to leave the town centre for 48 hours. In most cases this proved successful. Five of the orders were breached resulting in the person receiving a fixed penalty notice.

Anyone who does not pay their fine could face prosecution. Fines are not considered in the case of someone who would be unable to pay.

You are in a Public Spaces Protection Order area

In this area

- Do not** drink alcohol on the streets within the town centre. If you do this authorised officers can confiscate alcohol containers, open or unopened
- Do not** beg for money or loiter around cash machines, shops, car park ticket and payment machines or other areas
- Do not** urinate or defecate anywhere except in a public toilet
- Do not** behave in a way which causes nuisance, alarm, harassment or distress to another person
- Do not** put up or use a tent or other temporary structure without the landowner's permission
- Do not** leave personal belongings unattended.

Penalty: £100 and/or you may face prosecution.

Alcohol rules do not apply at licensed premises.
Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.



More details at www.chesterfield.gov.uk/pspo

The measures were introduced after consultation with residents and town centre businesses.

This is one of a number of measures carried out since the first Town Centre Summit organised by Derbyshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Hardyal Dhindsa which brings together a range of partners from the public and private sectors including the police and the council.

If you see any anti-social behaviour in Chesterfield town centre, you can report it to Derbyshire Constabulary using the non-emergency number, 101.

In case of an emergency or you feel in danger, call 999.

Walk on, walk on...

One of our priorities is to improve the quality of life for local people and we are committed to offering opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents.

This is why each year, we support the annual Chesterfield Area Walking Festival offering opportunities for people of all ages to get fit, make new friends and walk in some of the beautiful north Derbyshire countryside.

This year's festival runs from Saturday 12 May to Sunday 20 May and features 54 different walks of varying types from easy access, suitable for people with conventional wheelchairs or pushchairs up to strenuous walks, suitable for experienced country walkers with an above average level of fitness.

One of our regular walk leaders, Mel Hardy, says his favourite walk is the Chesterfield Round Walk, a 34 mile walk right round the borough on Sunday 13 May.

Starting at the White Hart pub at Calow at 7am, the route provides a taster for every type of walking, with fine views of the Crooked Spire.

The route completely encircles the town, encompassing 4,000 feet of ascent. People only wanting to take part in part of the walk will be taken back to the start on request.

Mel says: "It's wonderful – the walk allows you to see the whole of Chesterfield from every angle: from the flatter east side that people don't see so often as well as from the west.

"Some of the people on the walk have been coming for years. It's great to walk ahead and hear all the different voices chattering away behind you."

Although the round walk is his favourite, Mel says the festival offers plenty of variety: "Last year, we found the themed walks were very popular and we have added more of these including the History of Reservoirs and Cruck Barns and Halls of North East Derbyshire."

Mel says walking offers real benefits: "There is nothing like going for a walk – it takes in the senses: sight, sound, smell.

"You can see the poppies in ripening corn, you can hear the birds of prey overhead and smell the bluebells. You don't get all of that going for a drive or sitting in the car admiring the view.

"It doesn't matter about the weather or if you are on your own or in a group – you get the same enjoyment."



Cllr Brunt (left) with walk leader Mel Hardy

Councillor Steve Brunt, the council's cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy, is urging people to take part: "We're committed to offering people chances to increase their wellbeing and the festival is a great opportunity to do this because you can increase your fitness and get out and meet people, as well as seeing the beautiful views of Chesterfield and the surrounding countryside.

"Whether you're an experienced walker or taking it up for the first time, there is something for everyone – pick up your boots and have a go."

For safety reasons, numbers are limited on every walk. Tickets are going fast so book as soon as possible. The easiest and simplest way to book is online by visiting www.chesterfieldwalkingfestival.co.uk.

You can also book by contacting Chesterfield Visitor Information Centre: call (01246) 345777 or email tourism@chesterfield.gov.uk. You can call into the centre in Rykneld Square to book tickets in person.

The centre is open Monday to Saturday from 9.30am to 6pm.

Please allow up to seven days for tickets to arrive by post.



Wheel's boost to Chesterfield market

The recent visit of the Chesterfield Observation wheel saw an increase in takings for our market traders.

The wheel was in the town centre from 10 February to 11 March. Standing at 60 metres tall, people taking a ride were able to take in stunning views of the area, including the Crooked Spire and Peak District.

Several of our market traders received a boost during the time the wheel was with us.

David Mills from Ayres Fruit and Veg stall said: "I think it's brought lots of people into town, people we haven't seen before - it's been very good."

The general market takes place each Monday, Friday and Saturday offering top-quality produce.

The very popular flea market takes place each Thursday with lots of bargains to be had.

Also on the second Thursday of each month is the regular farmers' market. Here you can find award-winning produce including: vegetables, rare breed meat, fish and Derbyshire delicacies including: oatcakes, honey and cheese.

The next farmers' market takes place on Thursday 12 April.

Also offering some of the finest locally-sourced produce is the monthly Chesterfield Artisan Market held on the last Sunday of each month.

Chesterfield Market Hall is also open each Monday to Saturday with a wide selection of traders and also the opportunity to relax and enjoy a hot drink and cake at Chesterfield Market Café.



Other stories at Chesterfield Museum

Visitors to Chesterfield Museum can find out about the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities in Chesterfield and the wider north east Derbyshire area as part of a new exhibition.

The exhibition, in partnership with LGBT+ Derbyshire and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, features stories about people with other sexualities and gender identities over past centuries.



As homosexuality was illegal in the UK until 1957, many of these stories were not widely known and are being told here for the first time.

It is brought right up to date by also featuring comments and experiences of local people who took part in a drop-in session last autumn.

The exhibition is open until Saturday 7 April. The museum, on St Mary's Gate, is open each Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am to 4pm. Admission is free.

More information about regular events at the museum is on pages 22 to 23. To find out more, visit the museum's website www.chesterfield.gov.uk/museum or you can find it on Facebook www.facebook.com/ChesterfieldMuseum.

Visit Revolution House

Find out about an important piece of Chesterfield's history as Revolution House opens for the summer season.

The house played a significant role in the overthrow of King James II in 1688 as the Earl of Devonshire, the Earl of Danby and Mr John D'Arcy met there to plan their part in the revolution.

You can visit each Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday from Saturday 31 March until Sunday 30 September from 11am to 4pm.

Admission is free but donations are welcome.

For more information, visit www.chesterfield.gov.uk/revolutionhouse.

Town Hall at 80

Chesterfield Town Hall is 80 years old next month.

The building on Rose Hill, which is built to the same design as the Northern Ireland Assembly building at Stormont, was opened by Evelyn, Duchess of Devonshire, great-grandmother of the present Duke on 6 April 1938.

The building is currently undergoing refurbishment allowing us to rent out space to other organisations including Derbyshire County Council's register office which is moving into space on the ground floor.



What's on

Chesterfield Market



Open air market each Monday, Friday and Saturday. Flea market each Thursday.



Walking Festival
Saturday 12 to Sunday 20 May
Chesterfield Area Walking Festival
See pages 18 to 19.

Chesterfield Museum

Open each Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10am to 4pm. Admission is free to the museum's exhibitions and events but donations to cover costs are welcome.

Tel: (01246) 345727

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/museum

until 7 April
Other Stories

In partnership with Derbyshire LGBT+ exploring the personal stories and social history of the LGBT+ community in Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire.



until 12 May

The Vikings

Discover what Viking life was like with this hands-on exhibition for children.

Revolution House

The historic house is open each Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday from Saturday 31 March until Sunday 30 September.



Admission is free but donations are welcome.

Pomegranate Theatre

www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk

Box office: (01246) 345222



Tuesday 10 to Wednesday 11 April, 7.30pm

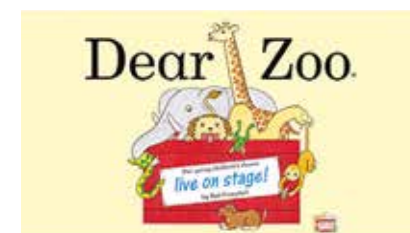
The Magic of Hollywood

With Strictly Come Dancing's Pasha Kovalev and his partner, Anya Garnis.

Friday 13 April, 2.30pm and 7.30pm

All Our Yesterdays

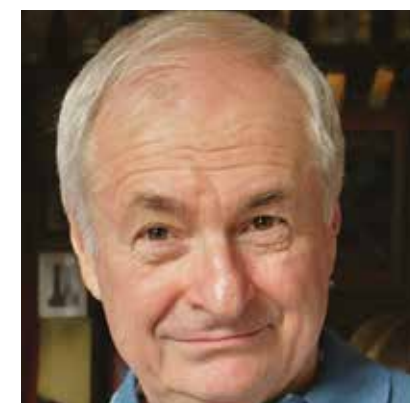
A breath-taking musical journey from the 1950s to the 1970s



Saturday 14 April, 1pm and 3.30pm; Sunday 15 April, 11am and 2pm

Dear Zoo

The timeless children's classic book makes its stage premiere.



Tuesday 17 April, 7.30pm

Paul Gambaccini

An evening with 'The Great Gambo - The Professor of Pop'.



Thursday 19 April, 7.30pm

Cinderella - Vienna Festival Ballet

Classic tale of rags to riches presented by the Vienna Festival Ballet.



Wednesday 25 April to Saturday 28 April; evenings 7.15pm, Saturday matinee, 2.15pm

The Full Monty

Amateur production - see members of Chesterfield Operatic Society get their kit off.

Tuesday 8 May to Saturday 12 May; evenings 7.30pm, Wednesday and Thursday matinee 2pm, Saturday matinee 3pm

Turn of the Screw

Written by Tim Luscombe, featuring EastEnders actress Carli Norris.



Sunday 13 May, 7.30pm

Seriously Dead

Featuring an all-star cast including Benidorm's Chrissy Rock, Billy Pearce and Tommy Cannon.

Winding Wheel

www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk

Box office: (01246) 345222



Saturday 31 March, 7.30pm

The Magic of Motown

40 back-to-back classic Motown hits.

Friday 6 April, 7.30pm

Material Girl

Celebrating the greatest songs from the Queen Of Pop, Madonna.

Saturday 7 April, 7.30pm

Beyond the Barricade

Over two hours of musical theatre from Broadway and the West End.



Friday 13 April to Sunday 15 April; Evenings 7.30pm, Saturday matinee 3pm

20th Century Boy

The Marc Bolan musical returns to mark the 40th anniversary of his death.



Friday 20 April, 7.30pm

Someone Like You: The Adele Songbook

Tribute act recreating the magic of the three record-breaking albums 19, 21 and 25.

Wednesday 2 May, 7.30pm

That'll Be The Day

An unforgettable night of nostalgia, laughs and rock 'n' roll.



Friday 4 May, 7.30pm

Crooners

Comedy musical featuring the music of the Rat Pack.

Pomegranate Screenings

Highlights from film broadcasts at the Pomegranate Theatre



Wednesday 28 March, 2pm

CinemaLive: Messiah from Bristol Old Vic (12A)

Production by the Bristol Old Vic inspired by Handel's religious masterpiece.



Friday 30 March to Thursday 5 April; Friday to Sunday, 11am; Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, noon and Wednesday, 2pm

Film: Peter Rabbit (U)

Featuring James Corden as the voice of Peter.

Friday 6 April, 7pm

National Theatre Live: Julius Caesar

Broadcast of the National Theatre production of Shakespeare's play.

Sunday 8 April, 2pm

Royal Opera Live: Macbeth

Verdi's opera based on the Shakespeare play.

www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk/cinema

Handy guide to keep

This guide explains which services your Council Tax helps provide and how to contact the organisations providing them.

Chesterfield Borough Council receives 10 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact us about:

- Abandoned vehicles
- Anti social behaviour
- Benefits advice
- Bin collections or damaged bins
- Building control
- Bulk collections
- Business rates
- Business support
- Caravan sites and illegal encampments
- Car parks (except privately run ones)
- Cemeteries
- Commercial waste
- Conservation areas
- Council Tax
- Crematorium
- Dog fouling
- Dog wardens
- Electoral registration
- Economic development
- Energy advice
- Environmental health
- Fly tipping
- Graffiti
- Homelessness
- Housing benefits
- Leisure centres (Queen's Park Sports Centre and Healthy Living Centre, Staveley)
- Licensing

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service receives 5 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact them about all fire and fire safety related issues:

- By visiting: www.derbys-fire.gov.uk
- Ringing 01332 771221 for all non-emergency calls
- Ringing 999 for emergencies only

- Litter problems
- Markets (indoor and outdoor)
- Museum
- Noise pollution
- Parks and open spaces
- Pest control
- Planning applications (making or commenting on one)
- Planning enforcement
- Pollution control (air, noise, odour and smoke)
- Private housing advice
- Recycling
- Street cleaning
- Stray animals
- Theatres (Winding Wheel and Pomegranate Theatre)
- Visitor Information Centre
- Welfare benefits

Council house issues

- Adaptations
- Choice based lettings (On the Move)
- Community involvement
- Decent homes
- Estate management
- Housing solutions team
- Rent payments and arrears
- Repairs/improvements
- Right to buy
- Sheltered housing

Contact us by:

- Visiting www.chesterfield.gov.uk
- Ringing (01246) 345345
- Texting 07960 910264

Derbyshire Police receives 11 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact them about all crime issues:

- By visiting www.derbyshire.police.uk
- Ringing 101 for all non emergencies (24 hours a day)
- Ringing 999 for emergencies only

Derbyshire County Council receives 74 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact them about:

- Adoption and fostering
- Adult care (including support in the home)
- Adult community education
- Blue badge scheme
- Bus shelters
- Care homes
- Care for people with disabilities
- Children's centres
- Children and family services
- Gritting of roads
- Lampposts
- Library books and services
- Pavements
- Potholes
- Public transport (although services are run by private companies)
- Records office
- Recycling and waste collection centres (rubbish tip)
- Registry services (birth, marriages, deaths)
- Roads – condition
- Roads – safety and changes to road layout
- Schools
- Street lighting
- Tupton Lock Visitor Centre
- Trading standards
- Trusted Trader Scheme
- Youth centres

Contact them:

- By visiting www.derbyshire.gov.uk
- Ringing 01629 533190

For residents of Brimington and Staveley only

Brimington Parish Council

Contact them by:

- Visiting: www.brimingtonpc.co.uk
- Ringing 01773 833805

Staveley Town Council

Contact them by:

- Visiting www.staveleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Ringing (01246) 473132