

your

Issue No. 1

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Summer 2013

Chesterfield

Putting our communities first

News and views from Chesterfield Borough Council

www.chesterfield.gov.uk



**Free parking
for residents
pages 6 - 7**

Welcome

Welcome to this first edition of Your Chesterfield which will keep you updated about all the council news that impacts on your life.

April may have been the start of a new financial year but it brought no let up to the tough economic times we face.

As a council we are no different. We are dealing with a 38 per cent cut to our budget over four years - which equates to £3.3 million - with further cuts expected to be announced in June.

We have been working hard to make efficiencies, reduce costs and ensure we provide value for money services.

But to protect frontline services we had to take the tough decision to increase Council Tax by 6p a week for residents in a band A property.

However, at the same time we were able to extend our free car parking pass for residents (see pages 6 and 7).

Even just using the pass a couple of times will more than cover the increase in Council Tax. Those who use it regularly will receive significant savings. By using it you will also generate extra business for our shops and market traders.

And this win-win situation will bring some much needed cheer to all of us.

Councillor John Burrows

Leader of Chesterfield Borough Council



Get in touch

We are always keen to hear your comments about Your Chesterfield.

Email: john.fern@chesterfield.gov.uk
Ring: 01246 345245.

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Website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk

Are we accessible to you? If not ask us how we can help.

We want everyone to be able to understand us.

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:

- Language interpreters, including for sign language.
- Translation of written material into other languages.
- Material in braille, large print and recorded onto CD.

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!

Please contact us:

General enquiries: 01246 345345
Text: 07960 910264
Website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk
Email: info@chesterfield.gov.uk
Fax: 01246 345252

Changes to blue bin recycling

The way you need to put recycling items in blue bins is to change.

It follows feedback from residents that you didn't find the caddy in the blue bins big enough to put your card and paper in.

This was confirmed by a public consultation which found 80 per cent of residents backed changing the way recycling material was collected.

Leaflets will be put on blue bins telling you when the changes take effect.

After that date you will need to put all:

- glass bottles and jars in the grey caddy

- other recyclable materials, including paper and card, in the main body of the bin.

Batteries and textiles should continue to be placed in tied bags beside the blue bin.

Anyone who doesn't have space for all their recyclable materials can either leave it bagged at the side of the blue bin, use your old blue box or we can supply you with a white bag.

To get a white bag or ask us any questions about the changes ring 01246 345734 or 345543.

Access housing information on your phone

Chesterfield Borough Council tenants can now access housing services 24 hours a day using a smartphone.

By using the free iHomes app, tenants can:

- Set rent reminders
- Report repairs and neighbourhoods issues
- Calculate their living costs
- Calculate if they are under-occupying their homes
- Take part in surveys
- Keep up-to-date with the latest news and events
- Quickly access contact information.

To download the app, visit iTunes or Google Play store, search for 'Chesterfield Council' and then download to your phone.

For more information on the app, contact Jayne Yates on 01246 345432 or e-mail: jayne.yates@chesterfield.gov.uk



Important news about future collections of your blue bin

From today please use your caddy for all glass bottles and jars.



All other recyclable materials including paper and card should go in the body of the bin.



Batteries and textiles should still be presented separately

www.chesterfield.gov.uk

Chesterfield BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ugh! Horrid food



More than 500 visitors took part in an event to discover the horrible history of food at Chesterfield Museum.

History Man David Cadle showed families the unappealing side of food over the past 2,000 years.

He uncovered such nasties as chalk and bleach in bread and showed children delicacies like dripping and black pudding.

Here to help you

Our new customer service centre has opened its doors to the public.

Located in the former Revenues Hall at 85 New Square, the new centre brings together staff from different departments who regularly deal with enquiries to provide a better customer experience.

These include council tax and benefits, licensing, planning and environmental customer services.

Previously, staff were spread over different sites in the Revenues Hall and in the Town Hall on Rose Hill.

Costing £300,000, the five month long refurbishment was financed largely by arvato through its public-private partnership with the Borough Council. The work was carried out by the council's property services partner, Kier in conjunction with chesterfield architects Frank Shaw Associates and Renishaw-based construction design management company Temple Safety.

The vibrantly decorated centre has been designed so it is easier for customers to access services.

New easy-to-use payment machines have been installed allowing residents to pay council bills in one quick drop-in and staff have also been brought out from



Dorothy is pointed in the right direction by a staff member on the door

behind the screens and panels - which many customers said they found intimidating - to new open plan areas with privacy screens and comfortable seating.

This was certainly appreciated by Dorothy Bramley of Brimington, who called into the new centre with a benefits enquiry.

“The staff were so courteous and nothing was too much trouble.”

She said: “It was the first time I’d been in there for years.

“When I walked in, I couldn’t believe it - everything used to be so dull and dark but now it’s a lot brighter - I loved the large picture of the crooked spire on the walls.”

The new system sees customers met at the door of the centre by a member of staff who will direct them to the correct area for their enquiry.

Dorothy added: “It was very busy when I went in”, added Mrs Bramley, “but the staff were so courteous and nothing was too much trouble.

“Melanie, the young lady I spoke to was very patient, she explained everything to me and put everything right.”

Large-scale works by local artists and photographers from the Chesterfield Action for Art Forum have been displayed on the walls to mark the opening of the centre.



You can use the customer service centre for:

- Revenues issues, including council tax, rent and housing benefit enquiries
- Licensing issues, including taxi, alcohol and gaming licenses
- Planning issues, including making, commenting on and appealing planning applications
- Environmental services, including noise pollution, smoke nuisance and air quality issues
- Housing services, including homelessness.

The centre is open at the following times:

- 8.30am - 5pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
- 10am - 5pm on Wednesday
- 8.30am - 4.30pm on Friday
- and 9am - noon on Saturday (for payments only)

Customers can call into the centre, there is no need to make an appointment.



Tel: 01246 345345 **www.chesterfield.gov.uk**

The best things in life are free



As a busy mum-of-two Dawn Anderson has limited time to get into town.

So having a free residents' parking permit provided by Chesterfield Borough Council has proved very handy.

The permits let any resident park for free in a set number of council off-street pay and display car parks (see side box for those it applies to):

- Before 10am Mondays to Saturdays
- After 3pm Mondays to Saturdays
- All day on Sundays and Bank Holidays

Dawn, who lives in Brampton with husband Steve, and daughter Libby, ten, and son Laurie, six months, said: "I am on maternity leave at present.

"Having the permit has meant I have been able to drop my daughter off at school and then go into town or pick her up from school at the end of the day and go in.

"The convenience of it is great. You can make a few short trips into town rather than having to go in once and try and do

everything you need to at the same time. That is a definite bonus with having a baby.

"You do not have to worry about having any change for the car parking machines and it saves money because before I would be making the short trips but paying for at least an hour."

The initiative is also designed to benefit the town's shops and market traders by bringing people into town on more occasions.

Dawn added: "When I am coming into town I am spending money in the shops. My parents are pensioners so their permit has helped them get into town more as well."

The free residents' parking permit was sent to every household in the Chesterfield borough with Council Tax bills. Families that have more than one car can transfer the parking

permit from one car to another but only one permit is issued per household.

Residents who want to stay for longer than the free period can buy a ticket to cover the extra time.

So, for example, if someone wanted to arrive at 2pm on a weekday or Saturday – an hour before the free parking starts - they would only need to pay for one hour even if they stayed all afternoon. They would just need to display both the parking ticket and residents' parking permit in their car window.

We are also assisting commuters who work in the town by offering permits to reduce parking prices.

Ashgate Road has been turned into a Park and Walk site offering £1 a day parking for commuters. You can buy tickets at the pay station machine in the car park.

There are daily discount saver options for various car parks in Chesterfield, including £3 per day at Saltergate and New Beetwell Street multi-storey car parks. Simply buy five tickets and use each ticket on the day you choose to park.

Full details of the parking offers can be seen at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/parking or can be obtained by ringing 01246 345593.

Council off-street car parks to use your residents' parking permit in:

- Albion Road
- Ashgate Road
- Derbyshire Times
- Devonshire Street
- Durrant Road
- Hollis Lane
- Holywell Cross
- Spa Lane
- Station Road
- St Mary's Gate
- Theatre Lane
- West Street

The permit cannot be used in any other off-street car parks or on-street car parking bays, such as those outside the Town Hall.



Fighting the war against litter

“I don’t think people realise how much work goes into keeping the streets clean.”



When you’re tucked up in bed, spare a thought for Adrian Roberts.

Adrian (*shown left*) is one of the council’s SpirePride team who are up before dawn each morning to keep the borough’s streets clean and free from debris.

Starting at 4.30am each day, he drives one of the mechanical sweepers on routes that include Newbold, Dunston, Sheepbridge and Lowndsley Green.

Adrian explains: “We start by cleaning the shopping areas and roads before moving to the residential streets after 7am.

“I don’t think people realise how much work goes into keeping the streets clean - most people are leaving for work between 8am and 9am so they don’t see us when we are out picking up litter, leaves and general debris.”

As well as staff, such as Adrian, driving the sweepers, there are others carrying out regular litter picks and emptying litter bins across the borough.

At the moment, the routes are planned manually but we are investing in new software to plan the most efficient routes and reduce carbon emissions.

He is also on a rota to keep the town centre clean at weekends. Together with litter picking staff, he is out early to make sure the town centre is clean after the excesses of the night before.

“Sunday mornings are the worst”

“Sunday mornings are the worst”, says Adrian, “with the mess left over from people who have been out drinking on a Saturday night.

“Lots of the streets in the town centre are full of pizza boxes and chip trays – people who would normally use the litter bins don’t seem to care where they drop it when they are drunk.

“Worse, though, is cleaning up after they have been sick, and the number of broken glasses and bottles – someone could

injure themselves on them, so it’s important that we are out early to clean them up.

“But by mid-morning when people start coming into town again, the streets are all clear.”

Keeping the town centre streets clean is a joint effort and we work closely with local businesses.

Adrian and his fellow street cleaners used to have a problem with shiny advertising cards given out by pubs and clubs, that would stick to pavement surfaces when wet and were difficult to pick up with a machine.

Some of our staff spoke to the owners of pubs and clubs and the problem has been resolved.

Residents have responded positively, with the number of complaints about street sweeping and littering significantly reduced from last year.



Street cleaner, Robert Facer doing an early morning street sweeping round

Help us keep our streets clean

If you see litter or fly-tipping in the borough, report it through our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk or our cleansing hotline: 01246 345345.

You can also use this number to let us know if you think our street cleaners have done a good job in keeping your area free from litter and debris.

Welcoming the mayor

Chesterfield welcomes a new mayor as Councillor Paul Stone takes office.

Councillor Stone, ward councillor for Barrow Hill and New Whittington has been a member of Chesterfield Borough Council since 2001.

He follows in the footsteps of his father, Councillor David Stone, who was the borough's mayor in 1995 – 96. His mother was the late Councillor Freda Stone

Councillor Stone will be supported by his mayoress, Mrs Barbara Wallace, founder of the Nenna Kind Cancer Support Centre, located in Chesterfield town centre.

Himself diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome, the mayor is keen to support those facing challenges in their lives.

He said: "Our aim is to highlight the social and personal difficulties of minority charities and individuals and to embrace these, using our own experiences.



"The charities for this mayoral year are the Nenna Kind Weston Park bus appeal - which aims to set up a bus service from Chesterfield straight to Weston Park in Sheffield, Hope Springs Centre for people recovering from drug and alcohol abuse and also support for local food banks."

They replace Councillor Donald Parsons and his wife Diane. During their year in office, they raised over £16,000 for the Nenna Kind cancer drop-in centre, Chesterfield and Staveley Armed Forces and the Shoe box appeal for Afghanistan through the mayor's charity appeal.

Chesterfield recognised as Coach Friendly town

Chesterfield has become the first place in the East Midlands to win the Coach Friendly Award.

It is given out by the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK (CPT), the trade association representing the UK's bus, coach and light rail industries.

They chose Chesterfield because of the commitment Chesterfield Borough Council has made to understanding the requirements of coaches and welcoming their drivers and passengers to the town.

We have introduced measures including reserved parking for coaches, town centre guides and tours for passengers, as well as proper rest facilities for drivers.

New dog control measures to be trialled

Dog control measures are to be put in place in a Chesterfield park.

The trial at Eastwood Park in Hasland will begin in June when it re-opens as the Queen Elizabeth II Field following a £1.07 million improvement programme.

The measures are a response to feedback from residents that dog mess and dogs out of control are two of the biggest issues that concern you.

They mean dogs will have to be kept on a lead in the northern part of the park, including the access road, car parks, gardens, courts and bowling green.

In addition, dogs will not be allowed in the children's play area of the park.

Owners may allow their dogs off the lead in the rest of the park but will have to use a lead when asked to do so by an authorised officer.

Owners failing to follow the new rules will face a £50 fixed penalty notice from the council's enforcement officers. We will also have the power to take persistent offenders to court, where the maximum penalty is a fine of up to £1,000.

If the trial is successful we may introduce similar dog control measures in other parts of the borough.



Welfare reform: A mum's story

This April saw several changes to the benefits system introduced by the Government.

Of these, the one that has featured most in the headlines is the under occupancy restrictions for social tenants (referred to by many as the 'bedroom tax').

These rules mean a reduction in housing benefit for council or private tenants who have one or more spare bedrooms in their property - 14 per cent for tenants under occupying by one bedroom or 25 per cent if you have two or more spare bedrooms.

Angela Davis, a council tenant who lives in Inkersall, has three bedrooms in her home. She lives with her son, Jake, and because she has one spare bedroom, under the new rules would have to pay an extra £11 each week.

Seventeen-year-old Jake has a disability and it would be difficult for them to move to a smaller property.

Knowing that the changes were coming into force, Angela approached the council and explained her situation.

Angela said: "Although two bedrooms are used for sleeping, the third is used for Jake's medication and equipment.

"The house is only just big enough - there is a limit as to how much furniture we can fit into Jake's bedroom."

The house has had several adaptations to make it more suitable for Jake. Angela said: "We've had a large hatchway put in between the kitchen and living room. This means I can be in the kitchen cooking and see what Jake is doing in the other room without having to sit over him and watch him all the time - this allows him to be more independent."

They have also had a walk-in shower for when carers come in to help wash and dress Jake.

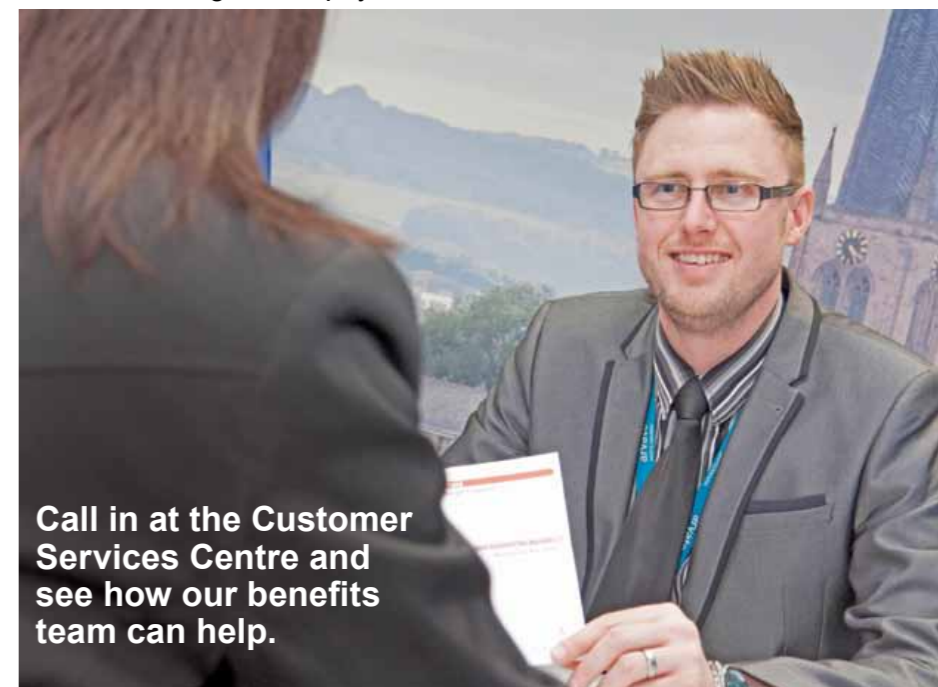
Our benefits team assessed her situation and agreed to pay a

discretionary housing payment to cover the shortfall in her housing benefit.

Angela is pleased with this as she feels the alternative would be too difficult for the family. Angela said: "We're really not in a position to move.

"It would end up costing far more and Jake finds it difficult to cope with change. He feels safe here and he's becoming more independent.

"Also, he can sometimes be noisy if he's happy or upset - he doesn't mean to be, he just can't help it. We know all our neighbours round here and they are very understanding - it might not be like that if we had to move."



Call in at the Customer Services Centre and see how our benefits team can help.

At a glance guide to the benefits changes

The Government has made major changes to the benefits system as part of measures to reduce the national debt.

Council Tax Support Who does it apply to?

Adults in working age households who previously got Council Tax benefit.

Most pensioners will not be affected by this change.

What's changed?

The Government has replaced Council Tax Benefit with a local scheme of Council Tax Support.

It means around 7,000 Chesterfield residents previously getting Council Tax Benefit now have to pay at least 8.5 per cent of their Council Tax bill.

For most claimants, living in band A properties, this means a bill of at least £1.58 a week or £82 per year. Those who didn't get full benefit will pay more. Previously some people were eligible for a 100 per cent benefit.

The Second Adult Rebate Scheme has also been removed for working age people.

Other changes, which affect around 2,000 people, mean:

- second homes will no longer get a 10 per cent discount on their Council Tax
- homes that have been empty for more than two years will have to pay a 50 per cent premium on their Council Tax rate - in a move designed to bring more empty homes back into use
- empty and unfurnished homes will have the 100 per cent discount on council tax removed after three months instead of six.

Housing Benefit under occupancy rule (also known as the 'bedroom tax'). Who does it apply to?

Working age people who receive Housing Benefit and live in a council or housing association property.

It doesn't apply to pensioners or people who live in their own home.

What's changed?

The Government has reduced Housing Benefit for working age council or housing association tenants living in homes that are classed as having spare bedrooms.

Under these new national Housing Benefit rules you will be allowed one bedroom for:

- Each adult couple
- Anyone else aged 16 or over
- Two children of the same sex under the age of 16
- Two children under the age of 10 regardless of their sex
- Any other child
- A carer (who does not normally live with you) if you or your partner need overnight care

For example:

- Couples or single people with no children would be allowed one bedroom
- A single parent with one or two children under 10 would be allowed two bedrooms
- Couples with three children (two boys and a girl) aged six, eight and 12 would be allowed three bedrooms
- A single parent with a child who visits for weekends will only be allowed one bedroom

There are exceptions for people

who have too many bedrooms, for instance, because of a recent bereavement, or who could afford not to claim Housing Benefit for the last 12 months.

If your house has more bedrooms than you are allowed under these new rules, then your housing benefit will be reduced.

- If you have one bedroom too many, your rent for the purpose of calculating Housing Benefit will be reduced by 14 per cent
- If you have two or more bedrooms too many, your rent for the purpose of calculating Housing Benefit will be reduced by 25 per cent

What can you do?

We have written to all council tenants affected by the changes.

Your options are:

- Stay in your home and pay the extra rent owed
- Move house - where smaller properties are available you could move to avoid losing any Housing Benefit.

You can find out more by visiting www.onthemove-cbc.org.uk, visiting Chesterfield Borough Council's On The Move office at 73 Low Pavements or ringing 01246 345700.

We can also offer limited financial help to tenants who fall into certain groups, such as disabled people living in significantly adapted homes. Visit our customer service centre at 85 New Square to find out if you are eligible or not.

Getting help and advice about benefits or related debt problems

Chesterfield Borough Council
Website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk
and click on tax/benefits

In person: customer service centre at 85 New Square, Chesterfield
Ring: 01246 345345

You can also talk to our Benefits Advisor on 01246 345480 or email anne.kitchen@chesterfield.gov.uk

Chesterfield Citizens' Advice Bureau
Website: www.chesterfieldcab.co.uk
In person: 6-8 Broad Pavement
Ring: 01246 283872

Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centre
Website: www.duwc.org.uk
In person: 70 Saltergate
Ring: 01246 231441

Derbyshire County Council Benefits Helpline
Ring: 0845 120 2985
Email: welfarebenefits@derbyshire.gov.uk

Chesterfield Law Centre
Website: www.chesterfieldlawcentre.org.uk
In person: 44 Park Road
Ring: 01246 550674

Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Credit Union
Offers secure savings and access to low-cost loans

Website: www.cnedcu.co.uk
In person: 10 Theatre Yard, Low Pavement
Ring: 01246 278833

National Debtline
Website: www.nationaldebtline.co.uk
Ring: 0808 808 400



Make your way to the Medieval Market



Chesterfield's famous outdoor market will take a step back in time to the Middle Ages for a Medieval Market.

The Chesterfield Borough Council run and funded community event will see Chesterfield Market stall holders in fancy dress selling goods and running tombolas and games for the event on Tuesday 30 July from 9am to 4pm.

Entertainment includes a medieval encampment complete with knights, ladies and medieval beggars. There will be sword fights and skirmishes in the grounds of the 'Crooked Spire' Church, a ducking stool and a show from court jester Heironymous Slop in Rykneld Square.

Visitors will be able to take a trip up the tower of the 'Crooked Spire', while Chesterfield Museum will play host to a medieval miller and there will be a fun fair for children.

A full programme of events is available on the day from the Visitor Information Centre in Rykneld Square - open 9am to 5pm - or from the information stall in the Market Place.

Howzat? Cricket festival returns to Chesterfield

The sound of leather on willow will once again be heard in Chesterfield when the Derbyshire Cricket Festival returns to Queen's Park.

The week long festival - from 14 to 21 July - is run and funded by Chesterfield Borough Council as part of our programme of community events.

It will see Derbyshire County Cricket Club play key ties against local rival Yorkshire in both the Twenty20 and four day championship formats. They will also take on Durham in a 20-overs a side game.

The games should be an opportunity to see the world's number two ranked batsman Shivnarine Chanderpaul. The West Indies batsman has signed as the Derbyshire overseas player following their promotion to league one of the LV County Championship.

During the Twenty20 games Derbyshire Cricket Club mascot Freddie the Falcon will join young people on the pitch during intervals for cricket related competitions.

And to help inspire young people to take up sport, Derbyshire County Cricket Club will give more than 300 Chesterfield schoolchildren the opportunity to try out their cricket skills with staff from the club during the cricket festival. They will also watch a day's play in the county championship game.

Cricket has been played at Queen's Park since the first match on 5 May 1894. The ground is the home of Chesterfield Cricket Club.



Matches during the festival

Sunday 14 July: Derbyshire v Yorkshire Twenty20 game

Wednesday 17 to Saturday 20 July: Derbyshire v Yorkshire Championship

Sunday 21 July: Derbyshire v Durham Twenty20 game

Tickets are available from the Chesterfield Visitor Information Centre in Rykneld Square.

Making a splash

Mark Tanner uses Queen's Park Sports Centre more than most.

As head coach of Chesterfield Swimming Club he is a regular by the pool as club members train at the sports centre for more than two hours five mornings a week and also five evenings a week for one to four hours.

So he and his fellow swimmers have welcomed our plans to build an £8.5 million replacement sports centre on the nearby Queen's Park Annexe site – opposite Queen's Park.

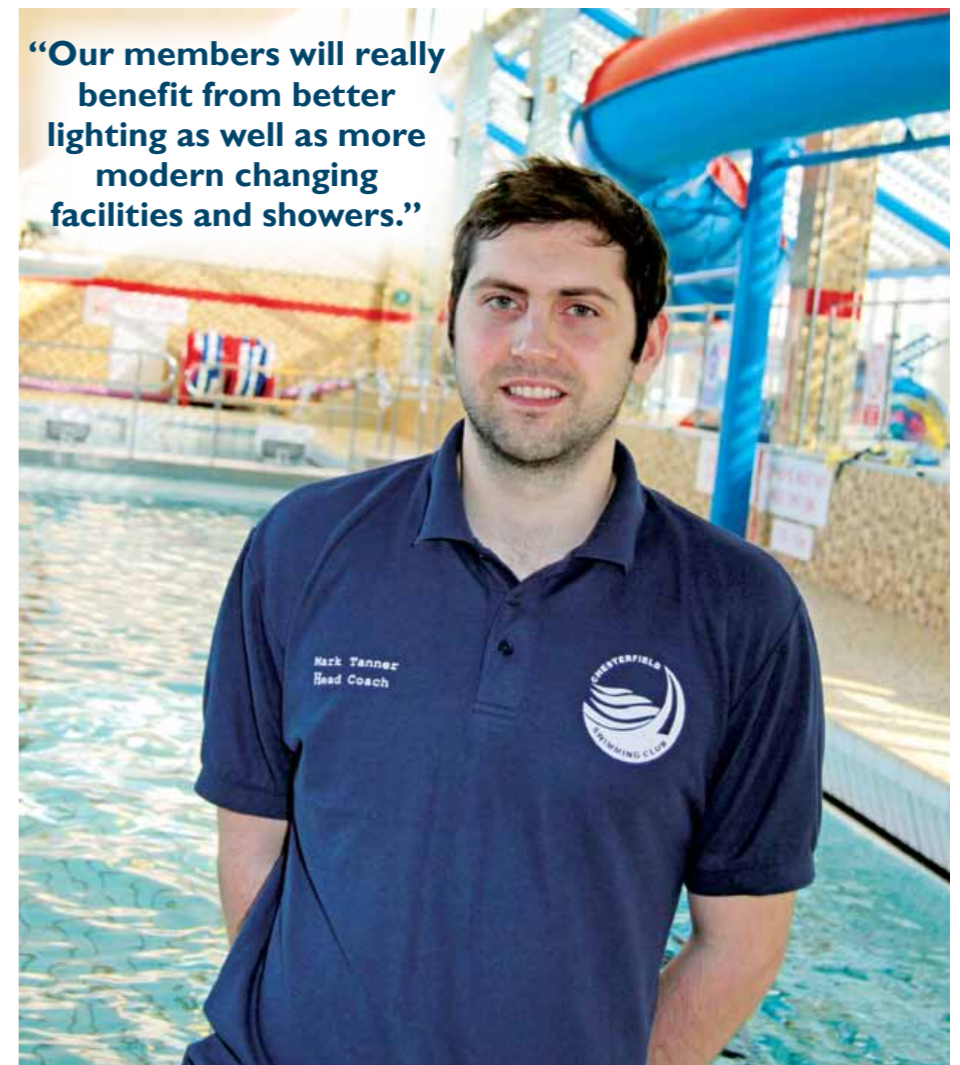
The existing centre is more than 40 years old, has high energy and maintenance costs, an inefficient design and also problems with a leaking swimming pool tank and sports hall roof.

We want to replace it with a centre with a mix of modern facilities.

Mark said: "As the current pool ages, it becomes more unreliable and if it isn't addressed, this becomes a problem for us in the future."

"The current pool is also dark and dismal whenever we swim and our members will really benefit from better lighting as well as more modern changing facilities and showers."

Building a new centre on the site of the annexe means the existing centre will remain open until the new one is ready. This is crucial for the swimming club.



Mark explains: "When major refurbishment work was carried out a few years ago Queen's Park was closed for many months. This seriously affected our training."

Over the past three years, the club has more than trebled the number of regional qualifying times set by its members for swimming championships.

Mark added: "The growth of our club in the last few years has been immense and if the pool had to close for six months for

refurbishment work, I'm scared the club's progress and individual swimmers' development would be damaged irretrievably. Swimmers, like all athletes, get one crack at a career. If months of development are lost, they're lost forever and that would be devastating."

Although the club acts as a hub for the county's elite swimming programme, they have more than 400 members, many of whom are just looking to increase their fitness and their swimming goals.



Building a replacement for Queen's Park Sports Centre

Why build a new centre?

An independent feasibility study concluded it offers the best long-term value for money.

Building a new centre will cost £8.5 million and require no more major work in the next 25 years.

Refurbishing the existing centre would cost £3.7 million upfront and a further £2 million over the following 25 years to deal with identified problems. The centre would lose £500,000 in income while work was carried out. This means the total cost would be £6.2 million.

In addition we spend £1.2 million subsidising the running costs of Queen's Park Sports Centre each year and need to reduce this.

Refurbishing the centre would reduce annual running costs by £206,000.

Building a new centre would save £470,000 each year.

Facilities

Current funding will build a modern centre with the following essentials:

- Main and learner swimming pools
- Multi-purpose sports hall
- Fitness suite
- Spinning room
- Dance studio
- Squash
- Village changing rooms with individual and family cubicles for swimmers
- Changing rooms for users doing other activities
- Social area with café and vending machines
- Flexible space for crèche, meetings, consultation
- Training rooms

We are already seeking grants to add other activities or create more activity space people may want, including diving.

Public consultation events will be held in June / July to find out what facilities people want. These will be well publicised in advance through the local media, on our website and in our leisure centres.

College partner

On average the Queen's Park sports hall has no bookings for approximately 60 per cent of term-time weekdays.

The centre's outdoor multi-use games area has, on average, no bookings for 80 per cent of term-time weekdays.

So we have reached an agreement with Chesterfield College which would enable their students to use spare capacity in return for them paying £2.5 million and a contribution to running costs.

Between 9am and 4.30pm from September to June, excluding holidays, the college would have access to:

- four badminton courts
- the 3G pitch and
- three or four training rooms.

Occasional use of the fitness suite and swimming pool would not be part of the formal agreement but there may be opportunities for this to happen – as it already does in the existing centre.

The college will not have exclusive use of the centre. Members of the public will continue to be able to do activities.

Where will it be?

It is planned to build the new centre on the Queen's Park Annexe site, which includes an athletics track that has been disused since 2008.

The plans would have no impact on Queen's Park, including the bandstand, boating lake, miniature railway, cricket pitch, children's play area, multi-games area and café or to the tennis courts and bowling green at Queen's Park Annexe.

The annexe site is owned by the council so it avoids the costs of buying land and means that construction work can take place while the existing centre stays open. Some members of the public would like the athletics track to remain but the likelihood of attracting funding for a new one is remote.

A new six lane running track would cost around £1.6 million, with changing rooms a further £250,000 to £400,000 depending on their size. Seating for spectators would add additional costs.

On top of this there would be maintenance costs but little way of generating income to cover them, as the recent closure of Don Valley Stadium in Sheffield has demonstrated.

Find out more by visiting:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/qpsc
or
Queen's Park Sports Centre
or the Staveley Healthy Living Centre.

Theatre redevelopment plans to attract bigger shows

Chesterfield's two council-run theatres are to get improved facilities in a £749,000 revamp.

The Winding Wheel and Pomegranate Theatre will both benefit from the work, which is being funded by a £495,000 Arts Council England grant and £254,000 of funding from Chesterfield Borough Council.

Work at the Winding Wheel will be carried out between April and June 2014, and see:

- Improvements to the auditorium, stage and backstage areas to allow the venue attract more higher quality productions
- Improvements to the main hall, allowing it to be used for more activities and studio performances and provide greater access for artists with impaired mobility.

The Pomegranate Theatre, which is the oldest civic theatre in the country, will have more seats in the auditorium. All existing seats will also be replaced.

The theatre will also receive new digital cinema equipment which will enable better quality film performances and live broadcasts of productions from around the world.

This work is due to be carried out between July and August 2014.



Improvements will attract more West End shows like last year's Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Park to get new sports pavilion

A new sports pavilion is to be built for users of Eastwood Park in Hasland.

We will pay £211,000 of the cost, with the remaining £125,000 coming from Sport England's Inspired Facilities Fund.

The new pavilion will have changing facilities for home and away teams, an umpires' room, shower and toilet facilities, a tea room and a multi-purpose room.

The park is already used by bowling, football and cricket teams but it is hoped the new pavilion will also be used by other groups, including jogging, walking for health and netball groups.

Building work is due to be completed by summer 2014.

Eastwood Park is due to re-open in June following the completion of a separate £1.07 million Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund scheme.

This has included work on the fountain, footpaths, creating a new play area, a new multi-use games area, community garden, wildlife garden and tree planting.

The park will be renamed the Queen Elizabeth II Field as part of the legacy of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Helping hand for first time buyers

First time buyers can apply for a cheaper mortgage deal following the launch of a £1.25m support scheme.

We've joined forces with Lloyds TSB and Derbyshire County Council to provide the Local Lend a Hand in Chesterfield scheme and give a much needed boost to the housing market.

Chesterfield Borough Council has invested £1 million in the scheme, while Derbyshire County Council has contributed £250,000.

Around 50 first time buyers meeting the scheme's criteria will be eligible for a Lloyds TSB mortgage with a lower rate of interest than would normally be available, if they can raise a minimum five per cent deposit.

The scheme only applies to existing homes – not new builds – as on average every first time buyer of an existing property sparks four transactions further up the chain.

The maximum loan value is £114,000 meaning borrowers – subject to Lloyds TSB's usual lending criteria – could purchase a property up to the value of £120,000 with a minimum five per cent deposit of £6,000.

To apply or get further details visit any branch of Lloyds TSB.

Winding Wheel weddings

The Winding Wheel, one of Chesterfield's premier venues, is now licensed to hold wedding and civil partnership ceremonies.

The Grade II listed building, owned and run by Chesterfield Borough Council, is able to offer two alternative venues for the ceremony.

These are the elegant surroundings of the ballroom, holding up to 200 guests, or the grand auditorium, holding up to 400 guests.

Ceremonies held in the auditorium have the added option of allowing the happy couple to get married on the stage.

The Winding Wheel is also able to stage the wedding breakfast and provide different wedding reception options to suit different needs and budgets, with the option to self-cater.

For more information or to discuss holding a ceremony at the Winding Wheel, contact the Chesterfield Venues Team on 01246 345333.

Supporting future sports stars

Eight of Chesterfield's most promising sporting stars have shared in a £2,050 cash boost from business network ICON.



Table tennis players Liam Pitchford and Isobel Ashley, netball player Tyler Bexton, squash player Ashley Davies (pictured above) and fencer Hannah Lawrence have each received a bursary of up to £300, together with William Ward (sailing), Alicia Barrett (athletics) and Theo Hall (karate).

They all currently compete for England or Great Britain or are part of recognised national development squads or club academy structures. The bursaries will help meet training and competition costs.

Chesterfield Borough Council is a member of ICON, which was set up by Derbyshire Sport as part of the work to create a lasting legacy from the London 2012 Games.

Decent Homes for our residents



Council tenant Jenny Woodruffe, of the Grangewood Farm estate, recently received a new kitchen and heating as part of our Decent Homes programme.

This scheme, introduced by the Government in 2000, ensures that homes are warm, protected from the weather and have reasonable modern facilities.

Jenny and her three children have lived in the same house for the last ten years. She said: "My old kitchen had been put in during the Eighties and it was beginning to depress me.

"When people came to visit me they had to walk through the kitchen to get to the living room

and I would make excuses about the state of the kitchen."

Work carried out included new tiling for the floor and walls, wallpaper and new kitchen cupboards and work surfaces. Before the work began, Jenny was able to sit down and choose the fittings for herself, including the floor tiles and the style of door handles for the cupboards.

She said: "I wanted a nice, bright, modern look for the kitchen. I love preparing meals

and this gives me even more reason to come into the kitchen and get cooking."

She was also pleased with the standard of work from the council's in-house team. Jenny said: "I never thought they would have the work done in five days. They started on Monday taking down the old cupboards and by Friday they'd finished, I couldn't believe it.

"They even gave me advice on where to put the fridge and other appliances."

As well as work to the kitchen, Jenny and her family also

received new central heating.

She explained: "The new radiators only took two days to install.

"There are new ones in the kitchen and the living room and even in the downstairs loo. It used to be so cold in there before that we would all use the one upstairs instead.

"It's certainly nice and hot now, you can definitely feel the heat. The workmen also blocked up an old air vent into the living room, which used to make it cold."

"It's certainly nice and hot now, you can definitely feel the heat."



Chesterfield Borough Council has received an £8.2 million grant from the Government to help fund the Decent Homes programme in 2013/14 and 2014/15. The rest of the funding comes from rent paid by tenants.

Eighty five per cent of council homes met the Decent Homes standard by March 2013. The council's target is for all homes to meet the standard by 2015.

Work is carried out by the council's in-house team, with some specialist work carried out by sub-contractors. The council tries, where possible, to contract work out to local firms.

Over the next year, we will fund £18.6 million worth of improvements to bring council homes up to the Decent Homes standard.

This includes:

- **£3.767 million to replace the central heating in 1,256 homes**
- **£2.793 million to repair or replace roofs on 399 homes**
- **£1.369 million to start the building of replacement sheltered housing**
- **£1 million to replace kitchens in 206 homes**
- **£1 million to replace bathrooms in 468 homes**
- **£950,000 to rewire 700 homes**
- **£559,000 to replace soffits and fascias and £280,000 to repair gutters at 399 homes**
- **£119,000 to install external wall insulation at properties in Mastin Moor.**

Your Chesterfield What's on

Chesterfield events

- Sunday 9 June
Hasland Gala Day
11am to 4pm
Eastwood Park, Hasland
Tel: 07708 235377
- Sunday 16 June
Chesterfield Race For Life
Run, jog or walk in Chesterfield to raise money for Cancer Research UK
Tel: 01246 345777/8
- Friday 28 June to Tuesday 2 July
Flower Festival
11am to 6pm (except Sun) at St. Bartholomew's Church, Old Whittington
Tel: 01246 451550
- Saturday 29 June
Old Whittington Gala
Noon to 4pm at Village Green, Old Whittington
Tel: 07859 033288
- Saturday 29 - Sunday 30 June
Chesterfield Canal Festival
10am to 5pm at Staveley Town Basin
Tel: 01246 477569
- Sunday July 14
The Inkerman Buzz
Sustainability Fair in Inkerman Park
- Sunday 14- Sunday 21 July
Chesterfield Cricket Festival
For details see page 14
Queen's Park, Chesterfield Tel: 01246 345777/8 tickets
- Sunday 28 July
Storytelling
Folk tales to capture the imagination.
11am to 4pm at Revolution House, Old Whittington
Tel: 01246 345727
- Tuesday 30 July
Chesterfield Medieval Market
10am to 4pm, living history, jesters, minstrels and lots more including Crooked Spire tours
Tel: 01246 345777/8

Wednesday 21 August
Pirates of Chesterfield Canal Family Fun
1pm to 3pm
Tel: 01246 551035

Monday 26 August
Chesterfield August Bank Holiday Market and Tabletop Sale

Starts from 9am with street entertainment and Crooked Spire tower tours
Tel: 01246 345777/8

Wednesday 28 August
Sun, Sea and Sandcastles
Fun on the Chesterfield Canal
1pm to 3pm at Tapton Lock
Pre-book - Tel: 01246 551035

This events list has been compiled from local sources. It is believed to be correct but no responsibility can be accepted by Chesterfield Visitor Information Centre for any errors or inaccuracies.

Chesterfield Museum

Open Monday, and Thursday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm.
Tel: 01246 345727

Monday 1- Saturday 27 July
Chop Suey
Discover the stories behind the development of the town's Chinese restaurants.

Tuesday 30 July
Daily Bread
Meet a medieval miller.

Saturday 10 August to Tuesday 31 December
Hidden Gems Part III
A display of objects from the museum store.

Revolution House

Tel: 01246 345727

Saturday 29 June
Discover all about life in a 17th Century alehouse
11am to 4pm

Chesterfield Venues



BOX OFFICE 01246 345222

Saturday 1 June at 8pm
Northern Soul and Motown Night
Northern Soul oldies in one room and club soul sounds in the other.



Wednesday 5 June
Hal Cruttenden
at 8pm
Seen on 'Live at the Apollo'. Hal's comedy is warm, catty, straight and camp

Thursday 6 June
Psychic Sally: On the road
at 7.30pm
Britain's favourite TV Psychic with her outstanding 2013 tour.

Monday 10 June at 7pm
BBC Radio 4 recording - Sorry I haven't a clue
The multi award-winning antidote to panel games will be recording at the Winding Wheel.



Thursday 11 July at 7.30pm
Celebrity Cook-off Live
the UK's best live cooking show. Celebrity chefs/celebrities go head to head to win the day's best dish.

Friday 2 August at 7.30pm
An evening of Dirty Dancing
Smash hit tribute to one of the greatest movie soundtracks of all time



Thursday 8 August at 2.30pm
Flanders and Swann Drop Another Hat
Michael Bernstein and Colin Stevens perform a homage to Michael Flanders and Donald Swann, composers and performers from the fifties and sixties.

Friday 6 September
Roy Chubby Brown
at 7.30pm
He's still rude and crude and this time he's turning the headlines into punch lines with his own rip-roaring banter. Adults only.



BOX OFFICE 01246 345222

Monday 3 to Wednesday 5 June at 7.30pm
Peak Youth presents
Oliver
by Lionel Bart
Great musical numbers like 'Food Glorious Food'

Thursday 6 - Saturday 8 June at 7.30pm
Saturday matinee at 3pm
Some like it hotter
Snappy musical comedy looking at the power of celebrity. Based on the three main characters of 'Some like it hot'

Monday 10 June
Doors open at 7.15pm for an 8pm start
Jazz in the theatre bar
Darkside of the Lounge
Sultry vibes and bossa beat – contemporary classics with a sexy funky facelift.

Wednesday 12 June at 7.30pm
Four Farces
One-act farces from the Victorian stage with a hint of Monty Python.

Thursday 13 to Saturday 15 June at 7.30pm
Saturday matinee at 3pm
Neville's Island
by Tim Firth
Brilliant comedy where Neville is on a team-building exercise with three middle-aged colleagues.

Thursday 20 to Saturday 22 June
Good to Firm
A fast moving comedy about heartaches and horse racing.



Sunday 23 June at 2pm

Tiddler and other terrific tales
These terrific tales for children are woven together with live music, puppetry and colourful characters. Suitable for 3+ years.

Monday 24 - Thursday 27 June at 7.30pm
Wednesday matinee at 2pm
Deathtrap
by Ira Levin

Clifford, an unknown playwright sends his latest copy of a play to Sidney for his comments. So impressed is Sidney that he tries to plagiarise it helped by his wife, Myra. When Clifford

arrives at the house, events take a sinister and unexpected turn.

Monday 1 - Wednesday 3 July at 7.30pm
Wednesday matinee at 2pm
A life in the theatre
A rare glimpse into the backstage world of actors. "...peppered with witty insights and devastating one liners." The Evening Telegraph

Friday 12 July at 7.30pm
FILM - Untouchable (15)
Award winning French comedy drama that tells the true story of a friendship that forms between two men from opposite ends of the social spectrum. Subtitled.

Friday 19 July
FILM - Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (15)
International thriller set in the cold war

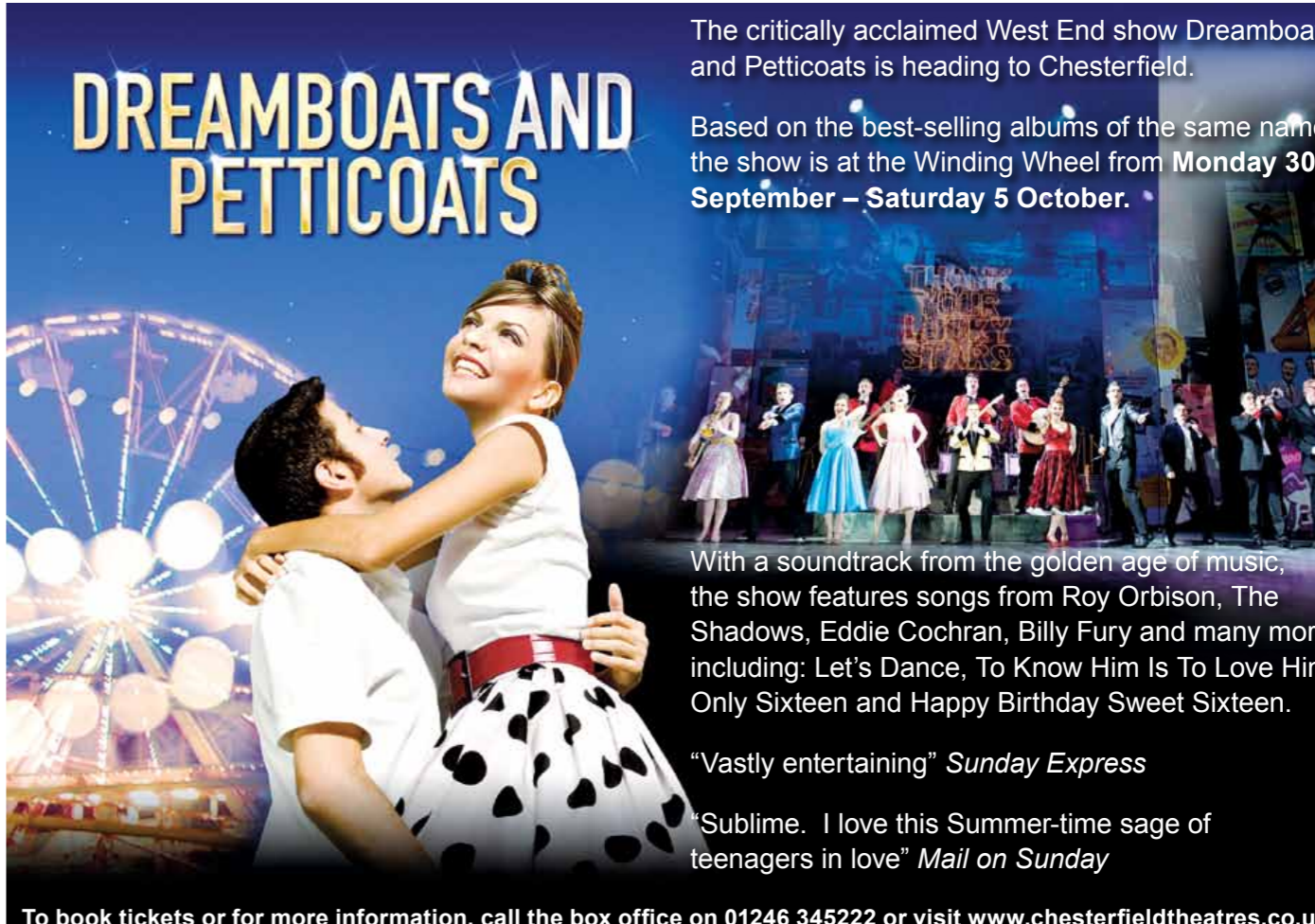
Saturday 20 July
FILM - Great Expectations (12A)
Adaptation of the Charles Dickens' classic



Friday 26 July
FILM - Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away (PG) at 7.30pm
A separated couple journey through the astonishing and dreamlike worlds of Cirque du Soleil as they try to find each other again.

Saturday 27 July
FILM - Beasts of the Southern Wild (12A) at 7.30pm

DREAMBOATS AND PETTICOATS



The critically acclaimed West End show Dreamboats and Petticoats is heading to Chesterfield.

Based on the best-selling albums of the same name, the show is at the Winding Wheel from **Monday 30 September – Saturday 5 October.**

With a soundtrack from the golden age of music, the show features songs from Roy Orbison, The Shadows, Eddie Cochran, Billy Fury and many more including: Let's Dance, To Know Him Is To Love Him, Only Sixteen and Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen.

"Vastly entertaining" *Sunday Express*

"Sublime. I love this Summer-time sage of teenagers in love" *Mail on Sunday*

To book tickets or for more information, call the box office on 01246 345222 or visit www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk

Handy guide to keep

Contact details for the services you need

This guide explains who provides the services you pay your Council Tax for and how to contact them if you have a question or problem.

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
Economic development
Energy advice
Environmental health
Fly tipping
Graffiti
Homelessness
Housing benefits
Leisure centres (Queen's Park Sports Centre and Staveley Healthy Living Centre)
Licensing
Litter problems
Markets (*indoor and outdoor*)
Museum
Noise pollution
Parks and open spaces
Pest control
Planning applications and planning enforcement
Pollution control (*air, noise, odour, 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
Ringling 01246 345345
Texting 07960 910264

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
Faulty street lighting
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
Registry services (*birth, marriages, deaths*)
Roads - condition
Roads - safety and changes to road layout
Schools
Tapton Lock Visitor Centre
Trading standards
Trusted Trader Scheme
Youth centres

Contact them by:

Visiting www.derbyshire.gov.uk
Ringling 08456 058 058
Texting 86555

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

Contact them about all crime issues:

Visit www.derbyshire.police.uk
Ring 101 for all non emergencies
(24 hours a day)
Ring 999 for emergencies only

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:

Visit: www.derbys-fire.gov.uk
Ring 01332 771221 for all non-emergency calls
Ring 999 for emergencies only

For residents of Brimington and Staveley only:

Brimington Parish Council

Contact them by visiting:
www.brimingtonpc.co.uk
Ring 01773 833805

Staveley Town Council

Contact them by visiting:
www.staveleytowncouncil.gov.uk
Ringling 01246 473132