



DECEMBER 2017

HAGLEY VILLAGE NEWS



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THE JOURNAL OF THE HAGLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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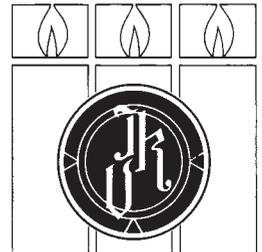


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EDITORIAL DECEMBER 2017

Welcome to December edition of Hagley Village News.

Can you believe that it's now officially December and Christmas time. On behalf of the Hagley community association, I would like to wish all of our villagers a Merry Christmas. It's time to eat great food, dive into traditions and spend time with loved ones. In the village news we love to bring new and talented individuals into the magazine. The front cover this month is from the wonderfully talented Dan Hughes who is from Hagley, but is now currently studying in America. You can follow his photos on Instagram: @Dannyh95. We also have a talented writer, Ellie Maher who has done our review page this month. Ellie is a student at Haybridge High School.

A fantastic well done to Hagley Scout group who put on another great bonfire night, they all did a fantastic job.

DID YOU KNOW?

The World's tallest cut Christmas tree was a 67.36m Douglas Fir tree, which was assembled decorated at Northgate shopping centre, Seattle, USA in December 1950.

Esther Gittoes
Editor



HAGLEY HELPLINE

886696

Monday - Friday 10am to 12 noon

The Office will close at 12 midday on Tuesday 19th December 2017 and reopen at 10am on Tuesday January 2nd 2018.

If you have appointments at the end of December or early in January and need our help, please try to phone us on 886696 before we close for the Christmas /New Year Break.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all our clients.

Hagley Helpline Committee.

HAGLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Patron: The Viscount Cobham

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| MEMBERS | Steve Colella | 882996 |
| | Rachel Jenkins | 07974 257172 |

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| | Jan Tandy | 886326 |

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BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE

Many will know that until recently there has been a footbridge over a small water course at the back of Newfields Rd. This was removed on safety reasons by the Worcestershire Countryside Services. The Countryside Service has now confirmed that this has already been replaced.

As part of BDC's review of CCTV surveillance across the district the Task Group is beginning to develop its recommendations around the existing fixed position cameras, the use of 'deployable' cameras and the use of surveillance cameras to tackle fly tipping etc. A visit to the control centre is currently being planned.

A further task group is being set up into the investigation into parking outside schools. This will start in the New Year and expected to be completed late spring.

Over the next couple of months Officers will be presenting proposals for members to consider in preparation for the 2018/19 council tax budgets which will of course include proposals for tax rises and fees and charges made for the discretionary services which provides.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from District Councillor Colella (Hagley West) and Jenkins Hagley (East).



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Hagley Parish Council

On behalf of everyone at Hagley Parish Council I would like to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

The Flood Alleviation works are close to completion with the final road closure scheduled to finish before Christmas. The hard standing materials will be removed from the playing fields and then re-levelled before being re-seeded. These areas will remain fenced off while the new grass takes hold. Once the surface has recovered sufficiently the fields will be returned to full public access. This will be the final commitment by Severn Trent to leave the site as it was found.

Hagley Parish is starting to develop its next Neighbourhood Plan. The plan will set out a shared vision for Hagley and it will play a key role in shaping the development and growth of Hagley. We would like help from residents who are willing to give their time to look at environmental, sustainable, and transport issues within Hagley. Anyone with data analysis or Geographical Information System (GIS) skills will be particularly welcome.

The Neighbourhood Planning team has joined forces with Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council to raise our concerns over the planned housing growth in the Kidderminster area, in particular the impact of traffic. We have met with Wyre Forest DC and Worcestershire Highways and will be included in on-going consultation into the traffic impact assessment.

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year period.

Steve Colella – Chairman Hagley Parish Council

Contact us: clerk@hagleyparishcouncil.gov.uk or assistant-clerk@hagleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Hagley Neighbourhood Watch

Thank you to the 80 people who were able to come to the meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner in October.

The meeting was informed of Anti-Social Behaviour by a group of youths around Sweetpool Nature Reserve. Residents were able to give the Policing team a great deal of information and details of these activities and as a result the Police have carried out a range of covert and overt operations. From the information discussed it was clear that there are individuals not from Hagley but are coming in and meeting up with local children.

It was alarming to hear what influence that this group is having on local children and we would like parents to ask themselves if they know where their children are and to ensure that they are not being led astray by this group.

It was agreed that the Watch team would arrange similar quarterly meetings. A few useful tips were raised such as the 'Whatapp' group set up by the residents of Wychbury Fields. This enables quick responses to messages between close groups of neighbours. This is a useful form of communications but please do not forget any non-users that also are your neighbours.

We are planning to have a Saturday drop in session, which will include producers of home security services and devices. As soon as we have a wide range of suppliers we will advertise the event in more detail.

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e: hfc1905@btinternet.com

Minister: Rev David Tennant

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CHRISTMAS SERVICE

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Ladies Afternoon Fellowship

Tuesday 12th December at 2:30pm

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Thursday Fellowship

14th December at 8pm

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Tickets required

Sunday Services December 2017

10.30am 6.00pm

Sunday School at 10.15am

3rd December

am Rev David Tennant*

pm Rev David Tennant*

24th December

3pm Christmas Eve

Christmas worship with
Holy Communion Rev Rikki Twigg

10th December

am Rev Dr Phillip Rees

4pm Christingle

25th December

10:30am Christmas Day

Rev David Tennant

17th December

am No morning/ Evening service

4pm Carol service

31st December

10:30am New Years Eve service

Pastor David Umbers
No evening service

*Includes Holy Communion

Church Vision Statement

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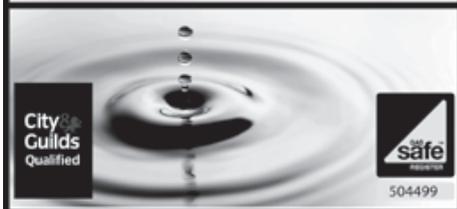
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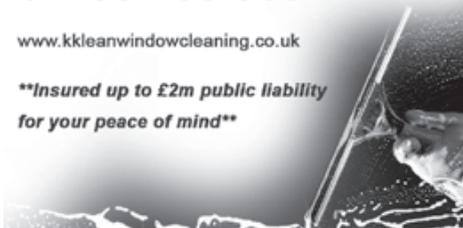
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VILLAGE INFORMATION



HAGLEY RC HIGH SCHOOL

It was wonderful to welcome so many of our school community to the Family Mass, which was celebrated by Father Des, our new School Chaplain. At this Mass we introduced members of our community to our new Mission Statement:

'Called as God's family, we strive to achieve our personal best, by living and learning in Christ.'

As a Catholic school we base all that we say and all that we do on Gospel Values and the teachings of Christ our Lord. We are encouraging our young people to have the highest of aspirations and recognise that there is no ceiling to their potential achievements. Taking advantage of all the opportunities the school offers is key to pupils realising their potential.

Father Hudson's Care has written thanking us for our donation of £1,163 raised from the sponsored walk, which took place last term. Thank you to everyone who supported our pupils in taking part in the sponsored walk. Without your generosity, we would not be able to support such a worthwhile campaign.

The money raised by our pupils will make a real difference to the lives of disabled adults attending the St Catherine's Day Centre. Last year our support helped to refurbish the hydrotherapy pool, improve the personal care facilities to further promote independence, dignity and safety and provide adapted communication technology. Currently 32 people use this day service and with the help of our donation, five new service users will be able to use the day service. The completed and planned alterations to the day centre will be life changing for its users.

Upcoming Events

14 December Christmas Carol Service & Fayre, 7pm in the School Hall (local residents are welcome to attend; the evening is free of charge and unticketed).

B McArdle

HAYBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



November is always a busy month at Haybridge High School and Sixth Form and this year has been no exception.

At the start of the month it was our privilege to host BBC Radio 4's 'Any Questions?' with a panel of national political figures and almost 300 people in the audience for the live broadcast. We were delighted to be offered the opportunity to host such an iconic programme and to bring a living example of British public debate and scrutiny into the heart of our school community. Thanks to all the parents, governors, staff and local partners who helped make it a success.

This event nicely set the scene for an educational visit to The Houses of Parliament by students in Years 9, 10 and 11. We strive to take students as often as possible to Parliament and also to engage with the Parliamentary Education Service and its resources which we use in school to support the promotion of citizenship and awareness of how politics works in the UK.

November brings thoughts of Remembrance of those who have died in wars since World War One and our traditional poppy sales, with profits going to the Royal British Legion, went well and the school marked Remembrance Day with assemblies.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening was well attended and we hope to be welcoming many of those who came to the school, perhaps for the first time, in September 2018 as Year 12s.

From all at Haybridge High School & Sixth Form, we hope you have a very peaceful and enjoyable Christmas.

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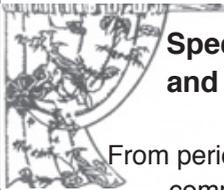
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VILLAGE INFORMATION



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There are festive delights at Artrix this December, including magical light parade, enchanting music and visits from Santa!

Cara Dillon returns to Artrix with an evening of Christmas songs (7 Dec). Other musical highlights include **Big Band at Christmas** (13 Dec) and a **New Years Eve Party with the Beat Brothers** (31 Dec).

Families can enjoy a festive theatre trip to see **Santa In Love** (2 Dec) or **Santa's Christmas Wish** (24 Dec), with a visit from the man himself, All & Sundry's pantomime **Cinderella** (16-23 Dec), **The Abominable Snowman** (27 Dec) and a cinema screening of **Royal Ballet Live: The Nutcracker** (5 & 19 Dec).

Comedians at Artrix this month include Simpson's super-fan **Yianni Agisilaou** (8 Dec) and **Barbara Nice's Christmas Cracker** (12 Dec).

Everyone is invited to take part in **Lantern Making Workshops** (9-10 Dec), ahead of **The Festival of Light** parade through Bromsgrove town centre (17 Dec).

For further information on all the shows in December please visit www.artrix.co.uk or call Box Office on 01527 577330.

HAGLEY RAMBLER SCOUTS



We hope everyone enjoyed the bonfire this year, we've certainly received some very positive, heart-warming feedback. As a Scout Group, we are very fortunate to have such a strong leadership team who turn out in force to prepare the bonfire and stalls and make the event run like clockwork. Words can't really express how fantastic they are and how fortunate we are for all they bring to our community. In addition to the leaders there are the parents who come and support us when the going gets tough – we really do appreciate it and couldn't run events like these without their help.

We also had some very generous contributions from the wider community such as Adam Hewitt Ltd based at Mustow Green for the free use of a telehandler which was organised and operated by Tony Biddlestone. This saved many backs from being broken when the wood was delivered to the field!

Securepro were heavily involved in the risk assessment process offering their professional advice on running a safe event and providing four security personnel free of charge on the night.

We received financial contributions from Bathams, Co-op and Spar and the bread was donated by Warburtons and Tesco. Other sponsors include Wildorange Graphics who very kindly designed the advertisement banners and Kep Print Group who printed the banners and boards. Finally, Worcestershire Highways very helpfully provided some of the traffic management signs and cones.

All proceeds from the event go towards our new Scout Headquarters which we now have planning permission for. If you would like to be involved in or help towards the fundraising for this then please get in touch.

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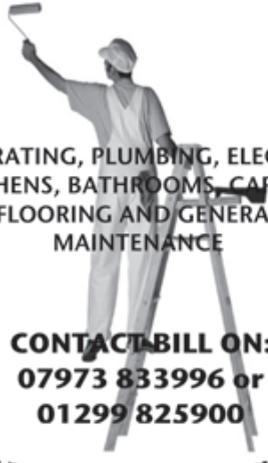


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WHAT'S ON IN HAGLEY? - DECEMBER 2017

- Friday December 1st**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Kidderminster or Halesowen
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
Messy Play
 St Saviours Church Hall - 3:15-4:45pm
HCK Badminton
 Hagley RC School
 7-8pm beginners
 8-10pm members
- Saturday December 2nd**
Taekwondo
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 10-1pm
- Sunday December 3rd**
Hagley Tennis Club
 Hagley RC School - 10am
Advent gift Service
 "Gifts for Loaves and Fishes"
 Free Church - 10:3am
- Monday December 4th**
Dial a ride
 Hagley - Stourbridge
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12 noon
Hagley Country Dancers
 Free Church Hall - 2- 3:30pm
- Tuesday December 5th**
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9 - 12 noon
String Orchestra
 Free Church Hall - 10-12 noon
Active Seniors
 Hagley Community Centre - 1:45pm & 3pm
Active Seniors- Tai Chi
 Hagley Community Centre - 4:30-5:20pm
Tuesday tea club
 Free Church Hall - 2:30- 4pm
 Hagley Community Centre - 4:30-5:20pm
Ex Cathedra Music by candlelight
 St Johns - 7:30pm
Wyre Forest talk
 Blakedown Parish Rooms - 8pm
 The history and restoration of an 18th century playground - an illustrated talk by Dominic Hamilton
Historical and field society
 Andrew Crabtree: 'Christmas Songs and Carols'.
 St Saviour's Church Hall - 8pm
- Wednesday December 6th**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Merry Hill
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre -
- 9-12noon
Mothers & Toddlers Group
 Free Church Hall - 10-11:30am
St John's Bellingers
 St Johns Church - 7pm
Western Badminton Club
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 8-10pm
- Thursday December 7th**
Hagley Library
 Storytime- 10:30-11am
Hand of Friendship
 Fee Church Hall - 11-1:15pm
Active Seniors
 Hagley Community Centre 1:45pm less challenging class
 3:15pm slightly challenging class
Hagley Community Orchestra
 Rehearsal
 St Saviours - 5:30 - 7pm
Taekwondo
 Hagley Community Centre - 6-9pm
- Friday December 8th**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Kidderminster or Halesowen
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
Hagley Country Market
 Hagley Café - 10 -12:30pm
Hagley Art Club
 St Saviours Church Hall - 7:30-9:30pm
 Christmas Party
HCK Badminton
 Hagley RC School
 7-8pm beginners
 8-10pm members
- Saturday December 9th**
Taekwondo
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 10-1pm
Hagwarts event
 Community Centre 4pm - 8pm
- Sunday December 10th**
Hagley Tennis Club
 Hagley RC School - 10am
- Monday December 11th**
Dial a ride
 Hagley - Stourbridge
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12 noon
Hagley WI
 Hagley Community Centre - 2pm
Hagley Country Dancers
 Free Church Hall - 2- 3:30pm
- Tuesday December 12th**
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9 - 12 noon
- Active Seniors**
 Hagley Community Centre - 1:45pm & 3pm
Ladies Afternoon fellowship
 A Christmas celebration
 Hagley Free Church - 2:30pm
Active Seniors- Tai Chi
 Hagley Community Centre - 4:30-5:20pm
Village ladies
 Christmas service
 St Saviours Church - 8pm
- Wednesday December 13th**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Merry Hill
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
Mothers & Toddlers Group
 Free Church Hall - 10-11:30am
St John's Bellingers
 St Johns Church - 7pm
 Haybridge High School
Christmas concert
 St Saviour's - 7:30pm
Western Badminton Club
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 8-10pm
- Thursday December 14th**
Hagley Library
 Storytime- 10:30-11am
Hand of Friendship
 Fee Church Hall - 11-1:15pm
Active Seniors
 Hagley Community Centre 1:45pm less challenging class
 3:15pm slightly challenging class
Mother's Union Advent Service
 St Saviour's - 2pm
Hagley Community Orchestra
 Rehearsal
 St Saviours - 5:30 - 7pm
Taekwondo
 Hagley Community Centre - 6-9pm
Hagley Evening Fellowship
 Christmas Party
 Hagley Free Church - 8pm
Hagley RC Christmas carol service and Christmas fayre
 Hagley RC - 7pm
- Friday December 15th**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Kidderminster or Halesowen
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
Hagley Country Market
 Hagley Café - 10 -12:30pm
HCK Badminton
 Hagley RC School
 7-8pm beginners
 8-10pm members
- Saturday December 16th**
Taekwondo
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 10-1pm
- Sunday December 17th**
Hagley Tennis Club
 Hagley RC School - 10am
Hagley Community Orchestra
 Rehearsal
 St Saviours - 4pm
St Saviour's Carol service
 St Saviour - 6:30pm
- Monday December 18th**
Dial a ride
 Hagley - Stourbridge
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12 noon
- Tuesday December 19th**
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9 - 12 noon
Active Seniors- Tai Chi
 No class
Tuesday tea club
 Free Church Hall - 2:30- 4pm
- Wednesday December 20th**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Merry Hill
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
Mothers & Toddlers Group
 Free Church Hall - 10-11:30am
St John's Bellingers
 St Johns Church - 7pm
Western Badminton Club
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 8-10pm
Hagley Gardener's club
 No meeting
- Thursday December 21st**
Christmas Holiday Club
 St Saviours - 9am - 3pm
Hagley Library
 Storytime- 10:30-11am
Hand of Friendship
 Fee Church Hall - 11-1:15pm
Active Seniors
 No Class
Taekwondo
 Hagley Community Centre - 6-9pm
- Friday December 22nd**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Kidderminster or Halesowen
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
HCK Badminton
 Hagley RC School
 7-8pm beginners
 8-10pm members
- Saturday December 23rd**
Taekwondo
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 10-1pm
- Sunday December 24th**
Hagley Tennis Club
 Hagley RC School - 10am
Christmas Eve Eucharist
 St John's Church 11:30pm
- Monday December 25th**
CHRISTMAS
- Tuesday December 26th**
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9 - 12 noon
Active Seniors
 No class
Active Seniors- Tai Chi
 No class
- Wednesday December 27th**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Merry Hill
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
Mothers & Toddlers Group
 Free Church Hall - 10-11:30am
St John's Bellingers
 St Johns Church - 7pm
Western Badminton Club
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 8-10pm
- Thursday December 28th**
Hagley Library
 Storytime- 10:30-11am
Hand of Friendship
 Fee Church Hall - 11-1:15pm
Active Seniors
 No class
Taekwondo
 Hagley Community Centre - 6-9pm
- Friday December 29th**
Dial a Ride Bus Service
 Hagley to Kidderminster or Halesowen
Hagley Playgroup
 Hagley Community Centre - 9-12noon
HCK Badminton
 Hagley RC School
 7-8pm beginners
 8-10pm members
- Saturday December 30th**
Taekwondo
 Haybridge Sports Centre - 10-1pm
- Sunday December 31st**
NEW YEAR



THE TRAVELLER

travel section

A taste of Damanhur

by Esther Gittoes



The taste of Gorgonzola cheese melts my taste buds, a crunch of a walnut and the juiciness of the apple. Never have I experienced such taste on an Italian classic. The crust of the pizza is subtle and I'm unhesitant as I go to grab another slice of heaven. We've been invited into a Nucleo of one of the members of the Damanhur. A Nucleo family is a house shared by a group of people who are not all related living together in a household. They share a communal space, they often cook, shop and eat together and have their own private spaces. Nucleo families tend to have between 15 and 25 people and they comprise of singles, the elderly, youth and couples with and without children. Each citizen chooses whom they would like to live with in accordance with their preferences and goals. The purpose of this is to exchange experiences among different age groups, as well as offering children with economic and well being care, despite not being related.

Once a week our host welcomes visitors and fellow Damanhurians into his kitchen, for a small donation he cooks pizza and serves wine. His kitchen is his studio as he creates culinary masterpieces that are rich in flavour and have experimental combinations. He chooses three pizzas for us and the last one is the Gorgonzola, apple and walnut pizza.

I clink my glass of red wine with the couple's glasses opposite me. The Brighton couple have travelled to Turin like me to attend the three-day Damanhur retreat. The atmosphere in the dining room is not as crowded as I thought and it feels like a home rather than a canteen. There are several long benches and tables in the room, it reminds me of the common room at sixth form. There are small clusters of people enjoying the homemade pizzas on the other benches, none of which I recognise from my earlier tours.

I arrived from a Q&A session organised by the Damanhurians a few hours before. I had the opportunity to ask one of the first members of Damanhur questions about the spiritual group. His name means sunflower, which seems to match his personality perfectly with his smile beaming towards mine. Whilst living within the Damanhur community I have learnt that the Damanhurians adopt animal and plant names, I ask the man why this is the case. His translator sits next to him and replies to me an audited voice.

"Changing our names is as though we are being reborn. It is a spiritual connection a name to begin our spiritual journey".

I wonder to myself what my animal or plant name would be. His grey hair looks similar to cotton wool and with each question he delves into the Damanhur life, their founder and the belief system. The Damanhur is a spiritual and eco community that believe in sustainability. They are also responsible for creating underground temples, which are rumoured to be the 8th wonder of the world. They have their own currency, schools and university, as well as producing their own organic produce. Their leader Falco, who created the community and the underground temples in secret, originally founded the group.

Damanhur is now home to roughly 600 residents and 400 more people live nearby, many of those are from different countries. I thank Sunflower for answering our questions and hurry to the Nucleo to indulge in Italians finest cuisine. I can't help but think whether a sustainable life like Damanhur is the new future. But I'm still unconvinced about the belief and purpose of this community.

For more travel stories visit: www.awomanconsumedbywanderlust.co.uk

A SNAP REVIEW



Hagley Theatre Group 'Sister Act' Review. By Ellie Maher



'Sister Act' is known as one of the most feel-good musicals and Hagley Theatre Group's (HTG) rendition of it was no exception. No matter whether the song was comedic or heartfelt, everyone including the live musicians was well polished. A personal highlight of the show was Mother Superior (Izzy Nicholl) singing 'I haven't got a prayer'.

The director (Beth Smith) was certainly right by saying; "it is a joyous show that uses music to bring different communities and lifestyles together"; whether that be 'quirky' Deloris van Cartier and rigid Mother superior or corrupt Curtis and his sidekicks- aka. the comedy-gold-trio. Every member of the theatre group both on stage and behind the scenes created a showstopping performance. Some of the highlights of the show included both the chorus numbers and solo performances that showcased the immense talent in the young individuals.

In addition to the music, the acting was professional and showcased an extraordinary capability in such young performers. The casting team were spot on, as every role fitted the individual seamlessly and showed off the sheer amount of talent within the group. Every individual, regardless of their role, fully embraced their character throughout the performance- drag queen or otherwise. All of these pieces of the jigsaw led to the show being such a success. A particular well done to Deloris van Cartier (Louise Bates) with a faultless performance.

The performance couldn't have been as well executed without the behind the scenes workers and all of the production team's hard work. The set design accommodated several scene changes and formulated an uplifting backdrop throughout the performance. The handmade costumes, the personalised stain-glass that represented the convent, showed the extra mile that the crew went to.

The enjoyment of the audience was a reflection of the participants; Chris Rutter (Curtis) said, "Sister Act was an amazingly fun, but challenging show to perform. Every night I came on the stage buzzing, knowing that everyone involved had worked tirelessly to make something truly special" and Izzy Nicholl said, "It's one of the hardest shows I've done with HTG, the harmonies are complex and with so many newcomers it was quite a challenge. Seeing the show progress quickly from Monday 9th to the first show night was insane; I have never seen such a drastic change but I am proud of everyone- their hard work paid off!". The standing ovation was a well-deserved ending and the audience was left feeling elated, whether that be with laughter or pride.



BOOK REVIEW

This months recommended book is; **Murder on the Orient Express - Agatha Christie.**

In light of the release of the new film Murder on the Orient Express, we have chosen this book for our book of the month.

An American tycoon is dead in his compartment, his door locked from the inside. Detective Hercule Poirot must identify the murderer, before another passenger is killed.

It's recommended to read the book before you watch the film, to dive into the talent of Agatha Christie.



VILLAGE INFORMATION

Hagley Historical and Field Society



I am certain that you will be familiar with the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, which now adjoins the new Library. Perhaps you will not be so familiar with its predecessor, which we now refer to as the 'Old Rep', in Station Street, Birmingham.

The Old Rep theatre, opened in 1913, as a permanent home for Barry Jackson's increasingly well established amateur theatre group. 'The Pilgrim Players', as they were then known became The Birmingham Repertory Company. Barry Jackson, a wealthy entrepreneur, funded the construction of the theatre, and established his professional company there.

It was the first purpose-built repertory theatre in the UK and amazingly only took four months to build. It was one of the UK's premier theatre venues and many great stars have walked the boards. There is still an original mirror from the opening of the Old Rep just before you walk on stage. One name you might remember is Arnold Ridley, probably better known to us as Private Godfrey, in 'Dad's Army'. Although an actor throughout his life, he also wrote over 30 plays, of which the 'Ghost Train' in 1923 is probably his best known.

Our next meeting at St Saviour's Church Hall is on Tuesday 5th December 2017 at 8.00pm with a presentation by Andrew Crabtree entitled "Christmas Songs and Carols". This is a return visit for Andrew from 2014 when he presented 'The History of the Piano' Visitors are most welcome at all our events – see hhfs.org.uk for details and contacts.

Jeff Cope



HAGLEY ROTARY CLUB COME AND JOIN US



First of all, our thanks to everyone who supported us and attended the cabaret night at the Hagley Community Centre, particularly to fellow Rotarian Martin Freckelton who organised the event.

As usual, the Trench Raiders were excellent and entertained us with their 2nd World War stories and songs. Our thanks also to Greg and his team from 'Our Plaice' for our delicious Fish & Chip supper. It was a most enjoyable way to raise money for the British Legion and our local charities.

By way of update, have been informed by the council that our crocuses have been planted around the village and we are looking forward to seeing them bloom in the spring. You may remember that this was part of a Rotary Purple4Polio campaign.

The purple crocus is a symbol of Rotary's worldwide campaign to eradicate polio, with its colour representing the purple dye used to mark the finger of a child to indicate they have received their life saving oral polio vaccine.

As ever, we would be delighted to welcome new members or volunteers to our group. If you have any skills or ideas about how we can raise funds to help the local community, we would be delighted to hear from you. We meet at the Stone Manor every Monday evening at 7pm for 7.30pm. (Excluding Bank Holidays) If you would like to join us, please email me at juliebanks93@gmail.com

Your continued support is always appreciated and we look forward to meeting you on our Christmas Street Collections on 16th & 23rd December.

Finally, we would like to wish you and your families, a Merry Christmas full of love, peace and happiness.

Yours in Rotary

Julie Banks

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Hagley Makes a Christmas Wish!

On Saturday 9th December, the children of Hagley Theatretrain will be raising money for the Make A Wish foundation to make children's dreams come true!

Come and experience our Taster Sessions!

| | | | |
|---------------|--------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 9.30 - 9.45 | 3-4yrs | 11.00 - 11.30 | 6-8yrs |
| 10.00 - 10.15 | 4-5yrs | 11.30 - 12.00 | 9-12yrs |
| 11.30 - 11.45 | 4-5yrs | 12.00 - 12.30 | 13-18yrs |
| | | 12.30 - 1.00 | Christmas (for all ages) |

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Village Ladies

A warm welcome to our Annual Christmas Service at St Saviour's on

December 12th at 8.00pm. We will be very happy for you to join us.

This will be followed by a shared supper in the hall

Looking forward to the New Year, we have a Quiz on **January 9th** with a talk and demonstration on Chiropractic & Massage by Jenny and Jane on **January 23rd 2018**

Do come and enjoy an evening of friendship

Toni Allison 01562 884079



HAGLEY ARTS CLUB

ART CLUB

The Club's Meeting on Friday, 8th December, is our Christmas Party evening, with buffet and entertainment by Andy Smith and his music. A very pleasant social evening with an opportunity to mix and chat with other members of the Club, a chance we don't get on our demonstration evenings.

Do hope you managed to get to our Annual Exhibition at the end of November. I will be able to report on this in the January issue and give the results of the voting for the Best Liked pictures.

Looking ahead to our next Meeting on 12th January, David Johnstone 'DJ' as he likes to be known, will be our visiting Artist and he says he will be "Working the Magic"! If you came to the Exhibition on the first evening Friday, 24 November, you will have met David as he officially opened the Exhibition for us.

A very happy Christmas and New Year to all.

Anne Garth, 07975824100

Hagley Community Orchestra

Hagley Community Orchestra will again be accompanying the carols at the **St Saviour's Carol Service** this year, on **Sunday evening December 17th at 6.30pm.** We will also be playing 2 lovely pieces by Bach - *Sleepers Wake* and *Sheep may safely graze* - and also Andrew Downes' beautiful arrangement of the mediaeval carol, *Lully Lulla*. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you are interested in playing in the orchestra, please contact me, Cynthia Downes, Musical Director on 01562 886625 or 07545 773139. Rehearsals will be in St Saviour's on Thursdays December 7th & 14th, 5.30pm-7pm, and on the day of the service itself at 4pm.

Cynthia Downes



HCK
Badminton
Club

With over a third of this seasons matches completed, we are already having a more successful campaign than last year. The addition of some new players combined with a re-shuffling of the divisions has meant that most of our teams are now able to compete with some success in their respective leagues. Unlike last year, all teams have managed to register at least one win so far this season.

We have had our first social event of the season, a curry night in Lye, which was well supported and enjoyed by all who attended. Aside from this months' Christmas Dinner Dance, further events are planned for the New Year including a Beer & Skittles Evening and a Night at the Dogs.

Our beginners club continues to thrive, with a regular core of a dozen attendees of varying ages and ability. Anyone wishing to join us will be very welcome. This section of the club is pay and play at £5 per evening and rackets can be provided if required. No excuse not to come and give it a go. We play at Hagley Catholic School Sports Hall on Friday evenings. The beginners/ social section from 7 till 8pm which is followed by the main club night from 8 to 10 pm. (Match nights – Tuesday – 8 till 10pm) For more information regarding the beginners or main club, please contact Libby Hewitt on 07849 356894 or Sam Ryder on 07979 243957.

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Girlguiding- Walton District

Guiding has been very busy this term holding Macmillan coffee evenings, games in the dark at Beaconsfield, visiting Hagley theatre group to watch *Sister Act*, Klos to watch *Beauty and the beast*, celebrated Rainbows 30th Birthday, Christmas crafts, Pack

Holidays at Blackmore Malvern and Blackwell adventure and much more. 3rd Hagley Brownies have been learning different kinds of skills i.e. DIY, cooking and sewing. They have been making apple crumbles to eat at camp, sewing Christmas hanging decorations and learning all about the different kinds of screwdrivers and then using them along with hammers to create a funny face out of wood.

As a District several units entered the County Christmas card competition and by the standard of entries we have some very good artists amongst us. Blakedown Brownies and Guides attended their first remembrance parade and many other units went on our District outing to the Snowdome. The guides went ice skating and the Rainbows and Brownies went in Santa's Winter Wonderland where they played in the real snow, visited the animal village to say hello to Santa's reindeers and then got to watch the new fun packed Santa show. Lastly I need to say a big thank you to Angela and Steve Clemson 'our knights in shining armour' who came to the rescue when the guide leaders were cleaning out their new shed in providing much needed refreshments, new shelving and a trolley. It's good to know there are still people in the world ready to lend a hand.

Fiona Drewett
District Commissioner

Hagley Gardeners' Club

Our talk in October was almost a holiday to the South West. Three lovely gardens to visit next year, perhaps.

Marwood Hill in North Devon's rolling hills, ponds and the National Collection of Astilbes is a glorious setting. The Italian influence of Mapperton Garden to an Elizabethan Manor near Bridport in Dorset and the new Yeo Valley Organic Garden where every turn is a garden experience. This is near Blagdon in Somerset. Adrian James, a garden photographer of renown, gives the talk.

There is no meeting in December, but tickets for our annual social on 24th January are now on sale. Entry is by ticket only. Apply to Judy Iliff 01562 88358. Outside caterers will serve a hot buffet and we include wine. The evening will conclude with a talk by Nick Channer, "The Mystery of Agatha Christie".

Anyone who thinks gardening begins in spring and ends in autumn is missing the best part of the year; for gardening begins in January with the dream.

From all at Gardener's Club, Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and dream.

John Oakes Chairman

Hagley String Orchestra

My goodness, doesn't time fly, particularly when we are all enjoying ourselves playing such a wide range of music - 'Tempus fugit'!

After 13 rehearsals this term, we finish on Tuesday 05 December when we indulge in a longer coffee break with seasonal mince-pies. Both our soloists for this term will be with us. Flautist Anne Wilson will be playing the delightful Quantz *Flute Concerto in G*, and pianist Tony Bridgewater inspiring us with Gerald Finzi's emotional *Eclogue*. In addition, most of us are tackling the tricky solo parts in the little known sextet arrangement of Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante* - a really worthwhile challenge with such wonderful music. We'll be busy, as we've also got pieces by Henry Purcell and Gordon Jacob to get through.

Do please consider joining us for the forthcoming spring term which starts on Tuesday 09 January 2018, 10.00 am - 12.00 Noon in Hagley Free Church hall (we'll be playing a *Cassation by Haydn*). For more information, contact Haydn (no relation) Thomas on 01562 885252 or email sanhay50@mail.com

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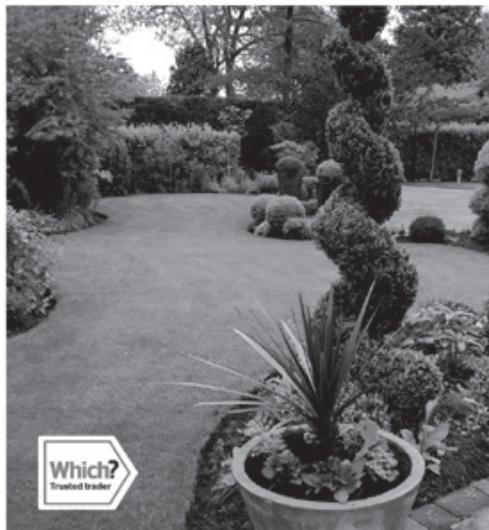
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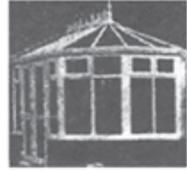
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Hagley Country Dancers

As we approach Christmas, we can look back on a very successful Autumn term. We have several new members, who are now familiar with "arming" and "siding" and "Ladies' Chain" and are getting to grips (not literally) with such complexities as the Double Figure of Eight. We always include some simpler dances to suit the less experienced.

It is all very light hearted, good fun and very friendly.

There is plenty of parking via Chapel Street. We are very grateful to the management of the Station Inn for allowing us to use their car park while the Free Church car park was being resurfaced.

Our last session this term is on December 11th, when we break for Christmas.

We restart on January 8th.

There is no charge for a first visit, subsequently the cost is £2 per person.

For more information, ring June Waterhouse, 01562 700639

Active seniors



An article by The National Osteoporosis Society recently discussed a new study on the effectiveness of twice-weekly resistance strength training on bone health in postmenopausal women with low bone density. In this study women aged over 58 took part in a supervised exercise programme where they were gradually introduced to exercises that helped to improve bone density in the spine and hip. This is great evidence for the classes we run at the Community Centre on Tuesdays and Thursday as we use these types of exercise each week.

Our more challenging classes are ideal for people who might be struggling to know what exercise to do if they are diagnosed with osteoporosis or have a family history of the condition. Even if you haven't had a diagnosis or a fracture it's never too early to work to strengthen your muscles and bone and keep yourself strong and steady for the future.

If you are interested in trying out a session then do give us a call on 07512546480 to discuss.

Classes this term run until Tuesday 12th December and Thursday 14th December and we return after the Christmas break on Tuesday 2nd January 2018.

Ring Angela or Kim on **07512 546480** or email us on activeseniorsclass@gmail.com

 Catch us on facebook on <https://www.facebook.com/activeseniorsclass/>



Friends of St John's Church

The festive music season at St. John's starts on Tuesday 5th Dec with Ex Cathedra. This has become an annual event recognised as 'a treasury of seasonal music ... performed with imagination and impeccable musicality' (Birmingham Post). More details <http://excathedra.co.uk/diary/>

You may be lucky to get some returned tickets. Call Mary on 01562 884 216.

Haybridge High School have their Christmas Concert on Wed. 13th Dec. @ 7:30 pm

The Christmas Eve Eucharist service is on Sunday 24th Dec. @ 11:30 pm. This for me is the most uplifting service of the year.

Join us @ 7:30pm on Sat. 6th Jan 2018 for our Twelfth Night Celebrations - Music, poems etc. with a free buffet and wine. Everyone is most welcome. So if you have friends or family staying with you please all come along. A bonus this year will be the first chance to hear the new 45 piece hand-bells being played.

Richard Scarth for the friendsofstjohns@hagleycofe.co.uk



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HAGLEY W.I.



The speaker at the October meeting was Jean Hadley on the The Fistula Clinic, Ethiopia. This proved to be a most interesting, moving and inspiring talk on the work begun by a husband and wife, both doctors, from Australia. They went to Addis Abbaba, Ethiopia for a short visit and never left when they realised how much they could help to improve the lives of young women and girls who had been left with such distressful injuries after prolonged childbirth.

Their efforts have grown so much more than dealing with the surgical need. Clinics and midwifery services in other parts of the country have been provided and the prospects of many of the women have been improved.

When the women leave the hospital they are given a new dress and a large blanket to take home. The Knit and Knatter groups project for some months has been to knit such large blankets and seventeen blankets were given to Jean for her to send to the clinic.

As well as the monthly meetings with interesting speakers we will be enjoying a Christmas Lunch at Barnt Green Cricket Club - an event that is eagerly looked forward to each year.

Hagley WI meets at Hagley Community Centre at 2pm, usually on the second Monday in each month although in January it will be the third Monday - the 15th.

If you might be interested please come to a meeting or contact Megan Bury for further information on 01562 885215.

Megan Bury



St. John's Hand & Tower Bellringers

We are witnessing a Renaissance of hand bell-ringing in Hagley. At a rally in the Community Centre on 21st Oct, five teams came together to play a selection of 30 tunes and what a performance it was. One team from Kingsbury was set up in the early 1950's. Another from Stone in Staffs had 116 bells to play. The lady on the lightest bell had one of a dozen bells to pick up as each of the tunes progressed. In all there were 343 bells in

total in use by all the teams. My favourite tunes were "All people that on earth do dwell" and the "Match of the Day" theme. The Halesowen team finished the event off with a medley including the "Dam-busters March". Our Hagley Hand-bell Ringing Team was fantastic. They have been going just 3 years and their performance was comparable to the other teams.

On Twelfth Night Sat. 6th Jan 2018 7:30 pm at St. John's church by Hagley Hall, the new Hagley bells will be played in public for the first time. They will have 45 bells in total making up two & half octaves. Halesowen ringers will join them for a medley of Christmas music. There will also be other music, poetry etc. and a buffet with wine. Entry is free and everyone is most welcome. So if you have friends or family staying with you please all come along.

Contact us via: ringers@hagleycofe.co.uk

Richard Scarth

Hagley Theatre Group



Our production of Sister Act, staged at the Community Centre 11-14 October went very well with standing ovations for some of the performances. The cast mastered the different musical genres the show embraces from traditional hymn singing to gospel and rock-and-roll as the chief protagonist Disco-diva turned nun, Deloris, helped her fellow sisters find their voices. Congratulations are due to first time director Beth Smith and her small band and hardworking supporting crew. The Youth Section members are now back to their usual meetings, training their singing voices and honing their acting skills, as they await news of what the next show will be. If anybody would like to join the group both adult and youth (age 11 (year 7 after Xmas) - 18) then leave a message on 07907 457217 or e-mail (hagleytheatregroup@gmail.com). Best wishes to you all for a happy Christmas and New Year.

Tony Forrest

Tel: 01299 402989



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VILLAGE INFORMATION

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Date: 9th December 2017

Hagley Community Centre DY9 0NW

Price per child: £7 – one accompanying adult – FREE

Extra adult £2, Children under 3 – FREE

- Calling all Harry Potter fans! Welcome to Hagley's first ever Hagwarts event on 9th December
- Grab your floo powder and transport yourself down to the Hagley community centre which will be transformed into the wizarding world of 'Hagwarts'. Meet your favourite characters and receive a prophecy and a present from Dumbledore himself.
- Our fantastic magician Johnny Bamboozle will wow you with his tricks and you'll have the chance to try out some potion making and wand wizardry of your own.
- Our experienced team of face painters and local henna tattooist will wow you with their artistic talents.
- Dress up as your favourite character and enter our costume competition Hashtag Hagwarts! Simply upload a selfie to Instagram with the Hashtag Hagwarts and Professor McGonagle will pick the winner. There will be some great prizes including a Kindle and themed merchandise up for grabs.
- Enjoy our fantastic themed snacks, mulled wine and cider for adults in our 3 Broomsticks café area as well as Butterbeer for kids
- Free treat and Polyjuice for kids on entry
- Weather permitting; there will be an outdoor tent area and Quidditch game outside.

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Our church magazine "Contact" is available each month in both our churches.

We're now on **Facebook**: To find us search for **hagleycofe**

Fri 1 Dec: **Messy Church Christmas** - St Saviour's Hall 3.15 - 4.45 pm. Play, art and crafts, refreshments, and lots of fun for children of any age with a parent/carer.

Tue 5 Dec: **Ex Cathedra Music by Candlelight** – St John's 7.30 pm

Thur 14 Dec: **Mothers' Union Advent Service** – St Saviour's 2.00 pm

Thur 21 Dec: **Christmas Holiday Club** – St Saviour's 9.00 am – 3.00 pm. Bring a packed lunch. Registration forms are available in St Saviour's foyer.

Everyone's very welcome to join us this Christmas time!

| Date | Mornings at St John's | Mornings at St Saviour's | Evenings |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| 3 Dec Advent Sunday | 10.30 am Holy Communion | 9.30 am Morning Praise | 6.30 pm Advent Carols St John's |
| 10 Dec Advent 2 | 8.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am Morning Prayer | 10.45 am Holy Communion | |
| 17 Dec Advent 3 | 8.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am 9 Lessons and Carols | | 6.30 pm Carol Service St Saviour's |
| 24 Dec Christmas Eve | | 10.45 am Holy Communion | 5.00 Crib Service St Saviour's 11.30 pm Midnight Communion St John's |
| 25 Dec Christmas Day | | 10.30 am Parish Family Communion | |
| 31 Dec Christmas 2 | | 10.45 am Parish Communion | |

To find us search for **Hagley CofE**
- we hope you "like" our new page.



10.00 am Holy Communion each Thursday at St Saviour's

Merry Mulled Wine Recipe

Ingredients:

- 750ml bottle of red wine
- 1 slice clementine
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 star anise
- 3 dried figs
- 4 cloves
- 3 black peppercorns
- 50ml of brandy

Method:

1. Pour the wine into a large saucepan. Add the clementine, cinnamon stick, star anise, dried figs, cloves and black peppercorns. Very gently heat the pan until it's simmering and then turn the heat off.
2. Remove the whole spices and peppercorns, and then stir in the brandy. Serve into mugs and add a slice of clementine to serve.

Recipe courtesy of BBC GoodFood

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HAGLEY VILLAGE NEWS

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■ DEADLINES

For both advertisements & editorial copy the deadline for submission:

BEFORE NOON ON 1ST OF PRECEDING MONTH

i.e. before noon June 1st for July edition.

■ ADVERTISING

Adverts must be in the following format:

- **minimum 300dpi .jpeg or .pdf**
- **1/8 page - Sizes 4.6 x 6.4cm (hwx)**
- **1/4 page - Size 9.2 x 6.4 cm(hwx) - portrait or 4.6 x12.8cm (hwx)-landscape**
- **1/2 page - Size 9.2 x12.8cm (hwx)**

Payment in full must be made with submission of copy, a small charge may be made for any midterm alterations.

Send all adverts to: advertising@hagleyvillage.org

Tel: 07527 226383

Editorial may be reproduced on the village website

HAGLEY VILLAGE DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

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We run fun, friendly football sessions, which meet most early learning objectives in a pressure free environment.

Full details of all our sessions, times, venues and prices can be found at www.littlekickers.co.uk (Go to 'Find A Class') and you can enrol here too subject to availability.

And as a reader of this magazine we are happy to invite you and your child along for a free, none obligation taster to enable you to see what all the fun is about! Just give us a call on 07545 236917 or email dhomer@littlekickers.co.uk and quote the Hagley Village News to arrange this.