

Mapperley Park news

Mapperley Park Residents' Association Newsletter
No. 13 March 2008



HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY!

There are many houses in Mapperley Park which were built 100 years ago. This is the story of one which celebrates its 100th birthday this year.

The house was designed by the well known Nottingham architect William Dimmock Pratt who had already built many houses in Mapperley Park. The plans were drawn up in May 1907 and the building was completed in 1908.

The house was named Villa Mowbray by its first owner, A J Payne, who was a director of Henry Barker, Smart and Brown, a prestigious furniture shop in the city. The shop closed several years ago and now its premises on Angel Row are occupied by the Central Library. All the woodwork in the house - the panelling, the doors, fitted furniture and skirting were made in the firm's workshops.

Next to buy the house was Mr Schmidt, a merchant in the Lace Market. He also bought another piece of

land alongside to increase the size of the plot, using the extra land for a tennis court and large Edwardian greenhouse.

From the early 1930's for over 30 years the house was the home of Mr Ernest Bignall, Chairman of Meridian, with his wife Rose and eventually their three children. They left in 1966.

The next purchaser was Austin Blowers, a local Estate Agent, who lived there for just two years. Around this time the extra garden added by Mr Schmidt was sold off and another house now occupies this plot.

Finally the house was bought in 1969 by the present owners who spent the next 20 years renovating the house and bringing it back to its former glory. Since then they have spent many happy years living in and enjoying this wonderful house.

We wonder how many of the new developments in Mapperley Park will celebrate their 100th birthday?

CONTENTS

Black Sunday 5

Chairman's Report 3

Planning, the AGM, Post Office

Dragon boats 10

UK's fastest growing sport

Expedition 13

6th formers in Vietnam

Gardening Group 5

Plans for 2008

Garden Trail 9

Sunday 22 June

Memories of 8

Mapperley Park

And more invited

Neighbourhood 6

Watch

Police 6

Better facilities at new station

The case for 11
shopping locally

Small ads 15

Street Scenes 14

to be proud of

Young Enterprise 5

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION AGM MONDAY 14 APRIL
7.30pm in St Jude's Church Hall

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THE MAPPERLEY PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Chairman	Carole Ayre	962 2004
Secretary	Elizabeth Sanders	
Treasurer	David Towers	962 1513
Membership	Marcus Wakely	960 9038
Traffic	David Cummins	969 1106
Trees	David Podesta	960 3029
Crime and nuisance	Tony Stock	960 4349
Social Events	Suma Harding email: srh@trent.plus.com	
Other members	David Pemberton	844 9894
	Paul Watts	960 9964
Neighbourhood Watch and representing Private Road	Lesley Baker	960 9572
Representing Elm Close	Peter Henson	960 7561

SOCIAL GROUPS

Mapperley Park Tennis Club, Carisbrooke Drive	969 1278
Membership Secretary Cynthia Lyndo	
Magdala Tennis Club, Magdala Road	966 3047
Club Secretary Jenny Wheelhouse	
The Nottingham Bridge Club, Mansfield Road	960 7992
Mapperley Park Book Club Stasia French	910 7644
(Lively discussions about books of your choice; meets monthly at residents homes)	
Book Club 2 Sheila Reece	962 1320
Meets on 3rd Wednesday of month 1pm to 3pm	

DOCTORS

Dr Andrew Flewitt and Dr Mona Vindla	985 8552
Sherrington Park Medical Practice, 402 Mansfield Road	
Dr Mark Stevens	841 2022
Mapperley Park Medical Centre, 41 Mapperley Road	
Dr D G Black & Partners	985 8822
Sherwood Health Centre, Elmswood Gardens, Sherwood	

DENTISTS

Anil Chand, Mapperley Park Dental Care	962 4607
18 Mapperley Road (NHS & Private)	
Dr Andrew Cluskey & Dr Chris Stead (Private)	960 2717
Tavistock Drive Dental Care, 1 Tavistock Drive	
Brian Snape, Mapperley Dental Care	960 5282
431 Woodborough Road (NHS & Private)	
Dr Mistry, The Grange Dental Centre	962 3432
480A Mansfield Road, Sherwood (bottom of Private Road)	

Mrs A W Rae, Holly Tree House Dental Practice 962 2882
334 Mansfield Road

CHURCHES

St. Andrews C of E, Chestnut Grove 960 4961 & 912 0098
Main services Sunday at 10.15am and 7pm

St Augustine's Catholic Church, Woodborough Road 953 9839
Principal Mass times: Vigil Mass Saturday at 6pm
Sung Mass Sunday at 11am

St John's C of E, Mansfield Road, Carrington 962 1291
Main service Sunday at 10am

St Jude's C of E, Woodborough Road 985 6131
Sunday: Traditional service 9.15am
Contemporary service with children's groups 11am
Informal service 6.30pm

Sherwood Methodist Church, Devon Dr/Mansfield Rd 962 2616
Main services Sunday at 10.30am and 6.30pm

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Emma Dewinton (Lab) 960 8198
Michael Edwards 915 5050 or 07876 203352
email michael.edwards@geo2.poptel.org.uk
Mo Munir 969 3126
Surgery: Outside Co-op, Mansfield Rd. Third Saturday of every
month 10.30-11.30am (except August & Bank Holidays).
Telephone for advice or appointments outside usual surgery times.

COUNCIL NUMBERS

Anti-social Behaviour	915 1135	City Information	915 5330
Cleansing Services	915 2000	Council Tax	915 4851
Abandoned cars	"	Trees:	
Dumped rubbish	"	Street	915 2264
Street cleansing	"	Protected	915 5414
Dog Warden	915 6223	Education	915 0706
Pest Control	915 6170	Drains	915 6650
Highways & pavements		Library	915 2828
(cracks & potholes)	915 6156	Planning Permission	915 5426
Building Regulations	915 5358	Pollution Control	915 6410
Public Health	915 6798	(smoke emission & noise)	
Social Services	915 5500	Street Lights	915 2211
Trading Standards	950 7910	Drugs	915 1956

If you cannot find the service you require listed above then
try the City Council switchboard on 915 5555

POLICE

Station 967 0999
Beat Officer, Mapperley Park, PC Jeanette Stasuik 07792 437306
Police Community Support Officer
Prostitution Task Force 967 0555 ext 4249
Paul O'Dwyer and Gary Morphus

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Chairman's Report

PLANNING and conservation remains at the top of the list of concerns for Mapperley Park, and I am pleased to report that the Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan, formally adopted by the Council last year, is having a positive influence in stemming the loss of garden space, over-development and infill.

Some modern designs, approved by the planners, have been very controversial and as many of you express to me your enthusiasm for them as express horror - it seems that what is, or is not, "in keeping" with the special characteristics of this conservation area, as far as style is concerned, is a highly subjective issue!

Planning Applications

Whilst that debate will crop up again and again, the Planning Sub Committee of the Residents' Association has the task of checking the weekly planning applications and submitting objections and observations where appropriate. The Sub Committee is guided by the Management Plan which itself took on board the opinions of residents expressed in your responses to the Questionnaire Consultation and Public Meeting organised by the full Committee and at the public meeting organised by the Council at which the draft Plan was presented.

In line with this, we have responded to a number of applications. These are just some examples:

- Application for development of a garage. This appeared to be intended to pave the way for a future application for inappropriate development into a separate dwelling. The application was turned down.
- An application for development of a main dwelling. This would or may have resulted in changes to architectural details and use of inappropriate materials, visible from the road. The application was granted subject to liaison with the planners concerning choice of materials and disallowing changes to the roof that would have been visible from the road.
- An application for the development of a two storey, four bedroomed house at the bottom of the garden of a fine property situated in a large garden. The application was turned down (with particular reliance upon the presumption against development in garden space, and interference with the vista from several aspects).
- Conversion of a large property into flats. We made observations about over-development of

the site and inadequate parking, although we thought the development itself was a good one and the site suitable for conversion into single dwelling units. That application was, however, successful.

- Failure to obtain planning permission before demolition.

The planners had indicated an intention to allow this development to proceed since under delegated powers they would have permitted the demolition in any event. As a result of protestations from the sub-committee, Councillor Dewinton and local residents, the Council did require the developer to obtain permission before proceeding, which we hope will give a signal that planning legislation is not there to be flouted.

- Proposal to extend and alter a house which would have resulted in part of the frontage having the appearance of a tower, dominating the plot and environs.

The application was granted but the developer was required to lower the roof line of the extension.

Local knowledge valued

We do not consider submitting responses to planning applications where any deleterious impact of a development is entirely localised. Clearly, we must restrict our area of interest to those applications which raise matters of principle relevant to the whole of our area. Even this task is difficult. Looking at a plan is one thing; knowledge of the particular site, that comes with living next door to it, is quite another. You are best placed to tell us what impact a development might have, and so we rely on you to contact us if you are notified of a planning application that, in your opinion, will offend the principles set out in the Management Plan.

Most helpful is a letter from you setting out your concerns, and even better if you can identify the guidelines listed in the Management Plan which you feel are under threat (you can find a copy of this on the Nottingham City Council's website, or at a public library. If you do not have access to either of these, and would like a copy, please contact me.)

Post Office

Closure of the Carrington Post Office is another hot topic and has been the focus of a great deal of community activity. Valiant attempts on the part of the informal campaign group to stop the closure have, so far, been unsuccessful, but I am sure that all local residents will salute the efforts of those who have put in so much time and energy. Residents of Mapperley Park have been very active in mobilising opposition and I understand that the campaign group is investigating the possibility of a legal challenge.

Your Committee has made a small donation of £50.00 out of the Association's funds by way of a contribution towards stationery and postage expenses, and have offered a further modest contribution should the group decide to continue with its efforts. We also wrote to John Heppell, MP, the Post Office, and Post Office Watch, to register local concerns about the closure.

Join the Association now

I will end this report by urging those of you who are not members of the Association to join us. I cannot stress enough how important our membership is in influencing processes like the Management Plan Consultation, and in providing us with easy lines of communication with officers of the Council and other statutory bodies. Members of your Committee have direct lines of communication with Councils and officers and it does mean that we have a means of influencing decision making on various issues.

Whilst we do not take up individual issues more appropriately dealt with by our Councillors, if anything is brought to our attention we are at least able to refer it on very quickly or to advise you on the best person to contact.

Finally, because we are the largest Residents' Association in the City, our annual general meeting is always attended by representatives of the Council and the police, and at least one of our local councillors, giving you a perfect opportunity to make your views known and to ask questions - some individual issues are taken up by councillors and officers as a direct result of your attendance at that meeting. So please think about joining - the cost is very modest and our strength in numbers (about 350) is a vital component of our influence. Encourage your neighbours to join too!

Meet us at the AGM

We'd love to hear from the enthusiastic volunteers out there with energy and ideas (contact any member of the Committee - see the inside cover for contact details) and come and see everyone at the AGM at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 14th April at St Jude's Church Hall - enjoy a glass of wine with your neighbours and find out what's going on in your area!

TO JOIN THE RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION PLEASE USE THE
FORM ON THE PRINTED LEAFLET
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NEWSLETTER

Member Interview

Craig Muller - NSRC Member



Q. Why did you join NSRC?

A. I've always played a lot of sport but due to work commitments I was struggling to fit as much as I would like into my life style. I joined Nottingham Squash Club because it had everything I wanted under one roof e.g. squash courts, a gym, Sauna steam room and of course a bar!! It means that now I can come here after work and do as much or as little exercise as I like, most importantly it's all in one place.

Q. Do you have to be a squash player to join NSRC?

A. No not at all. Before I joined I was just an occasional squash player, I played football at a high level but had injuries and didn't want to spend as much time in the wind and rain as I used to! My intention initially was to use the gym and other extra facilities so even if you've never played squash there's no reason not to join.

Q. Is NSRC what you expected?

A. Yes and No. Yes in the sense that when I had the tour I realised that NSRC was a top class squash facility, with excellent extra leisure facilities. So I knew that it would suit my fitness requirements well.

However, what I wasn't expecting was the extra benefits that being a member of NSRC has provided. E.g. other gyms or sports facilities can feel quite impersonal and detached from you as an individual. At NSRC you quickly become known by name by the management and bar staff. Also the other members are very quick to talk to you and introduce themselves. As a result every time I walk into NSRC I can guarantee that I'll see somebody I know, can have a chat with or even share a drink.

The numerous social events at NSRC help this, which are a fantastic way to meet even more people, make new friends and even build business contacts. As a result I now have an ever expanding and busy squash diary as well as a full social Calendar. Becoming a member of NSRC has changed my lifestyle completely!

Q. Would you recommend NSRC to a friend?

A. Absolutely, I already have! As I said earlier it doesn't matter what you want from a membership at NSRC, the management team at the club can provide it. You can get involved in as much or as little as you like depending on what you're after. NSRC is so much more than just a squash club and I'm so happy I chose to join.

No Joining Fee During April

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NSRC, Tattershall Drive,
The Park, Nottingham NG7 1BX
Tel. (0115) 941 7022

www.nsrc.co.uk



THE BEST ALL ROUND

The Gardening Group Grows!

By Lorna Weir



Members of the Group making Christmas wreaths

INTEREST and enthusiasm in the Mapperley Park Gardening Group continues and at the end of 2007 we were pleased that the group had 46 household members.

We had a varied second half to the year starting with a visit to St

Anne's Allotments at Hunger Hills. A large and intrepid group traversed some difficult terrain in very warm weather to see a number of community and school allotments. It is amazing that such a vast area of green land survives in the City.

In September the group visited Jed Brignall's house in Radford and found the artistic owner as fascinating as her garden.

October's event was a visit to the Tropical House at Woodthorpe Grange followed by a very successful plant swap hosted by Suma Harding. Paul Reed gave a talk about the development of his garden in November and this will be followed by a visit to see his garden in Woodborough in June. The year was cordially ended by a Christmas wreath making session in Helen Archer's kitchen. This most festive occasion resulted in some beautiful wreaths and some very happy participants - the gluhwein was delicious!

In 2008 we have a full programme planned with a variety of talks, visits, a tree walk and a flower arranging demonstration. We

are looking forward to visiting two members' gardens, one in Mapperley Park and one in Lambley. Our "Big Day Out" will be a much requested coach trip to Gardener's World at the NEC Birmingham on June 13th. We are still on the waiting list to visit Highgrove House (Prince Charles's home) and we hope that it will not be too long until we go.

I would like to thank all our members and the committee for their enthusiastic participation and especially those who have hosted an event in 2007.

You don't have to be an expert gardener to join the group, so if you would like to spend some quality time with your neighbours, meet new people and enjoy some of our events in the coming year please contact Lorna Weir on 960 3897 or by email at loraweir2002@yahoo.co.uk

Black Sunday on Lucknow Drive

By David Towers

December 9th, 2007

THE electricity went off on Lucknow Drive at 1am - in the middle of the night.

The owner of No 35 reported the fault at 3am. Shortly afterwards, workmen were on the scene, and they diagnosed a blown fuse, which they replaced and it blew again. The workmen were going off duty, so we had to wait for the next shift at 8am.

The problem was now pronounced to be a 'cable fault' - a term which covers a multitude of 'sins' in the same way that doctors use 'virus infection'. It

was probably just an old cable which had failed. Now the task was to trace the fault, insert a new section, connect it up and turn the electricity on again.

During the morning, there was some effort to locate the fault, boring holes and using various meters. There also seemed to be a lot of 'sitting around'. A digger had been brought along, and this started work in the afternoon, digging a long ditch on the pavement outside Len's house, near Mapperley Hall Drive.

Sometimes, the lights between Mapperley Hall Drive and Len's house were on, and at other times

they were off. Between Len's house and two thirds of the way down Lucknow Drive there was darkness - well, it isn't very light during the day on December 9th! Those living at the far end of Lucknow Drive, close to Magdala Road had no disruption.

By 4pm it was really dark. Some of the workmen left taking their equipment with them. Two employees of Eon, however, continued to work, one at each end of the trench under artificial lighting and extra spotlights from a nearby van.

Most household equipment requires electricity. We have an

electric cooker and kettle, electric water heating and the central heating requires electricity. So, with the power off, we were keeping warm beside a single gas fire and boiling water on a bottle gas camping stove (unused for over 25 years). We even used it for cooking our lunch - beef in a bag with fresh vegetables.

Then, just after 6pm, the lights came on, our burglar alarm started to ring - it doesn't like the mains being switched off - and we were back to normal at last.

After 17 hours without it, one really appreciates electricity.

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News from the Blues

By PS Bruce Clarke

We have settled in well at our new building, the former Lloyds TSB Bank. We like it and you seem to as well! There is a significant increase in people coming in to see us compared to when we were down the road.

We do still have one or two wanting to make a deposit or change holiday money but we are also getting people requesting directions, handing in found property, reporting suspicious activity, asking advice or reporting crime. This is excellent and the amount of work it has generated has pushed forward plans for a permanent member of staff working on the counter. We will then be able to publish our opening hours.

The new station stands in a prominent place in the community, making it a lot more visible. The substantial amount of glass on the

front of the station also means that people can see that we are in and at work. This reassures the 'good' and deters the 'bad'.

The Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) team has moved in with us, and Karen Allsopp and the committee now work from an office in the station, which helps to maintain our working relationships. In addition, we have access to all the NHW CCTV cameras directly in our main work area and we are using the footage to its full potential. The cameras recently installed outside the station also provide better coverage further up Mansfield Road.

In the near future I look forward to having staff from the City Council's Area Management team working with us in the station. Being close to our partners can only improve the services we provide and

will help provide quick and simple solutions to your issues.

Following Christmas your home probably has some new gadgets and electrical goods. We want to help to ensure your property remains safe and would ask for one of your New Year resolutions to be to have your goods marked with SmartWater and to register them at www.immobilise.com. Please call into the station or speak to one of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams for more details.

I want to close by asking you to take reasonable steps to protect yourself and your homes, to help us in our fight against crime.

Remember: "Shut it. Lock it. Light it!"

PS 906 Bruce Clarke
Beat Manager Sergeant
Tel: 0115 967 0999
Ext: 4372
Mobile: 07792 437301

MPRA Supports Neighbourhood Watch

At its meeting on 19 November the committee of Mapperley Park Residents' Association voted to donate £100 to the Sherwood and Mapperley Neighbourhood Watch Association as a contribution towards their running costs. Here **Tony Stock** explains why the committee took this decision and provides information on the activities of Neighbourhood Watch.

Achievements

A perception survey of local policing.

This survey provided a big wake-up call to the constabulary and was a significant factor in the development of community policing in the City.

Installation of CCTV in Sherwood

A grant of some £10,000 was obtained from the City Council to install a system covering part of the Sherwood shopping area. This system has been used successfully to combat crime and anti-social behaviour, and, according to

residents, has made them feel much safer in Sherwood.

Set up and staffed a contact point in Sherwood and been instrumental in establishing a new police station in Sherwood, which also accommodates the new contact point. This has greatly enhanced local policing as the officers are now based in Sherwood and no longer have to travel from the Oxclose Lane police station to their beat.

Has developed a computerised system for recording crime and anti-social behaviour, in confidence, which is accessed by the police and is used by them in

targeting their activities on a weekly basis. This system also allows residents to obtain information on criminal activity within their own street, and in the surrounding area.

For many years Neighbourhood Watch has manned a contact point in Sherwood, which is now located in the new Police Station (the old Lloyds Bank Building). Given the impressive success of Neighbourhood Watch your committee fully endorses its activities and has reinforced this support with the donation of funds to support its continued activity.

In Brief

LEAVES

Last autumn the City Council took a long time to clear the leaves. If it happens this year please inform Michael Edwards or Emma Dewinton.

NOTICE BOARDS

Do you think we should have notice boards in Mapperley Park advertising local events?

MOSS ON PAVEMENTS

This appears to be a real hazard for walkers and joggers. Can anything be done about it?

ST JUDES RECYCLING

St Jude's car park has been damaged by recycling lorries. The centre may now be closed as the church is struggling to repair the car park.

POT HOLES

If you see potholes in the road please inform the City Council.

CANCELLED COFFEE MORNING

The volunteers at the Ukrainian Centre apologise for the one occasion when the coffee morning did not take place. The centre is run by volunteers from the Ukrainian Community and there was a problem with communication on that day.

POST OFFICE

Congratulations to all the public spirited Mapperley Park residents who signed the petition to keep the Post Office open. We regret that it was decided to close such a valuable local amenity.

DIRTY HANDS BAND

Local band released their single but sadly have now stopped performing as two members are now studying at the Sorbonne in Paris - but watch this space!

BUS FARES

Do you think it excessive that a single adult fare into town costs us £1.40.

Beginners to the Business World

WE ARE a Young Enterprise company consisting of twelve boys in their first year sixth at Nottingham High School. Young Enterprise is a charity scheme, which gives thousands of teenagers across the UK the chance to build and operate their own businesses for one academic year.

We, along with two other groups at our school, have taken on this challenge and since October have held weekly meetings, some advised by a professional

businessman sponsored by Young Enterprise. However, within the group we are each tasked with different responsibilities concerning production, marketing and finance so that we can experience the workings of business first hand.

The company name is Synergy and our plan is to offer simple and affordable website design for businesses who would normally be put off by the high costs of existing professional web-design companies. A personal webpage is a

very desirable asset for any business and there seems to be no shortage of businesses who might be interested in our service.

We are in fact already completing a website for our first paying customer. We have of course invested in marketing our idea and purchasing the necessary software. We intend to run a school social event, whose profits we can use to develop our web-design service. As well as this, we pledge to donate 25% of our profits to helping a local

young cancer sufferers' charity.

The Young Enterprise scheme gives us this opportunity to learn through personal experience how business works and hopefully our company will be successful. Please visit our website at www.synergyyegroup.co.uk

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Down Memory Lane

Tony Ricks

It's always interesting to hear about the area in days gone by. We hope to make this a regular feature and would be grateful for your contributions.

The memories for this issue were sent to us by Tony Ricks of Cyprus Road.

I AM told that I was born on the first floor, facing west, at 7, Ebers Grove at 3.30am on October 17th 1923. Our medic, at the time, was Dr. Vernon Taylor who lived at, practised and dispensed from the house on the south corner of Ebers Road and Mansfield Road. His brother was Aubrey Taylor, a consultant.

From this time, every year until 1939, we would spend four weeks during the summer at Sutton on Sea on the Lincolnshire coast.

My parents were members of Clumber Lawn Tennis Club. This was next to the railway where Clarendon College now stands.

An early memory, circa 1927, is of the shops and businesses on Mansfield Road. From south to north:

1. Marsden's. J.D. Marsden, who lived on Magdala Road, had a chain of grocery shops, the main branch being at the top of King Street.

2. Newsagent's owned by Howitt Beardall. From here I had 'Skipper' and 'The Children's Newspaper'. I still have papers from the same shop, now run by Michael Johal.

3. Ellis the Chemist. This was Jack Ellis.

4. Butcher's at the corner of Mansfield Road and Selkirk Street.

5. Ratcliffe's. An off-licence on the opposite corner.

6. Miss Keating's School (now Mountford House School).

When I was five I was sent to a small school, The Laurels, on Magdala Road, opposite the end of Cyprus Road. The school was run by Miss Ruddell. It was thought too dangerous for me to cross Mansfield Road to go to Miss Keating's school!

Around this time, I had scarlet fever. I remember that, once I had recovered, my room had to be sealed and fumigated for 24 hours with sulphur candles!

Also at this time, the 'Ebers Grove Gang' started to form. Other members were John Dickinson, Sheila and Joan Ritchie, Len Baxter, Joan Watson, Kathleen Gunn, Donald Miller and Peter Haake. We set up a 'string and can' telephone between myself and Peter and one between Peter and John. In order to protect our territory, we learned the signed alphabet to communicate across the road when in ambush!

During the summer, every evening, at 6pm we were visited by Bromley's ice cream tricycle. Eldorado also tried, but he was chased out for invading Bromley's pitch and did not return!

One great sport in the winter was sledging down Ebers Road and trying to reach Mansfield Road. We only ever managed to get as far as Zulla Road! Much later we used the south pavement of Mapperley Hall Drive, starting at Lucknow Drive.

We had another haunt. There were no houses between Cyprus Road and those on Carisbrooke Drive; this area was known as 'The Fields'.

At Easter 1932, I left Miss Ruddell and went to the Grammar School. I went to school on the tram to Forest Road. The fare was 1/2d!

Later I was allowed to cycle to school. To solve the problem of crossing Mansfield Road, I would follow Ebers Road, Zulla Road, Thorncliffe Road and cut-through to Chestnut Grove and on to Forest Road.

In 1936 we moved to 24, Tavistock Avenue. Little of note happened, as I was involved in school, activities and homework, until September 3rd 1939 when we were on holiday at Sutton on Sea.....

(To be continued!)



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Mapperley Park Garden Trail set for Sunday 22 June

By Lorna Weir

HAVE you enjoyed a lovely afternoon visiting gardens in The Park or a local village? After a very pleasant afternoon last summer following the garden trail in The Park, I thought it would be fun to open our gardens in Mapperley Park. So on Sunday June 22nd 2008 a group of residents will be opening their gardens to the public from 1.00pm to 5.00pm. We hope that it will be a very happy and interesting afternoon both for the visitors and the garden owners. The proceeds of the day will go to two

local charities, SHE and Sutherland House School.

Our plans are in their infancy but in December we held an initial meeting to gauge interest among residents and we hope that at least seven gardens will be open.

We are hoping to provide refreshments in the garden at Mapperley Hall, as it is spacious and accessible.

We would also like to have a plant stall, sell local honey, have some live music in one garden and try to involve local children in an activity.

More gardens wanted

We would love to have some more gardens open so please would you consider this? Your garden does not need to be at National Trust standard! Mine certainly isn't, but I hope to enjoy sharing it with others who like gardens.

Ideally there should be a variety of gardens open: small, medium, large, modern or traditional.

Malcolm Bescoby, Michael Blood and Elizabeth Robinson, who have opened their gardens very

successfully before, have kindly offered to advise us and help us with their expertise and the organisers will be arranging insurance to cover the event.

.. and more helpers

If you would like to be involved in any way either by opening your garden, baking cakes, with publicity, by providing plants to sell or by helping on the day, please contact either Lorna Weir, telephone 960 3897, email lornaweir2002@yahoo.co.uk or Malcolm Reece on 962 1320.

Invitations to Ladies

Fashion Show and Lunch on 7th March from 11am

This is a big fundraising event, to be held in the Belgrave Rooms, Goldsmith Street on Friday 7th March and in aid of the British Red Cross. Included are coffee, Champagne reception, luncheon, a fashion show named 'Spring into Summer' and a jewellery auction.

For tickets (£30) telephone 0115 962 3168 or 0115 928 4346

Pamper Evening on 6th March

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE Hospice on Woodborough Road is holding a 'Ladies Pamper Evening' on Thursday, 6 March from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. Your support will help the Hospice to continue its valuable

work in providing care and support for local people with life limiting illnesses.

On this evening you can indulge yourself with one of the mini therapy sessions - Hot Stone and Indian Head massage,, Aromatherapy, Reflexology, Reiki and Shiatsu, given by professional complimentary therapists. Or you can try some taster beauty treatments by expert

beauty advisors including Clarins - mini make overs, facials, eyelash, eyebrow and nail treatments. Find a perfect gift from stalls showing jewellery, cosmetics, handbags, scarves, designer clothing, handmade chocolates etc.

Tickets: £8.00 in advance (£10.00 on the door) including refreshments. Tel 0115 910 1008 .



Mainly for Ladies Fundraising
In aid of the British Red Cross



**Spring
into
Summer**

Fashion Show
Friday 7th March 2008

Belgrave Rooms,
Goldsmith Street, Nottingham
11am - 3pm
Coffee & Champagne Reception
Luncheon
Fashion Show
Jewellery Auction

Tickets are priced at £30
and are available by calling
01159 823 188 or
01159 284 348.

Mainly for Ladies Fundraising needs new committee members!
We arrange fundraising events that are of particular interest to women -
fashion shows, seasonal shopping fairs, concerts etc. We support a
variety of charities and need to expand our group of lively organisers.
To learn more please call Clare Moore on 0115 9623183.

Attention

All men and women
Working from home Retired
Child free for a few hours

MAPPERLEY PARK COFFEE MORNINGS

2nd Monday in the month
10.30am - 12noon
at the Ukrainian Centre

The Ukrainian Centre is the old BUPA building on
Mansfield Road, opposite the end of Mapperley Hall Drive

Regularly attended by about 25
Next meetings
March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9
July 14, August 11, September 15

Out with the kids.....or without them!

IT has been brought to our attention that many of the meetings and group events, which are advertised here in the newsletter, are aimed at the older generation and exclude those of you who are at home with young children. We would like to rectify this but need your help!

As far as we can establish, there is currently no official 'Mapperley Park' group for parents with babies/toddlers. If you know of one, or can recommend a local group, please let us know. Otherwise, why not get together and 'create your own'!

It would be a great way to meet your neighbours and make new friends and would be incredibly helpful for anyone new moving into the area.

It could be an informal get together over coffee at home or a larger gathering elsewhere. Perhaps you could arrange a 'child swap' system, where parents take turns to look after each other's children for a few hours, allowing a welcome break for shopping or the gym!

If any of you would be interested in helping to set up a group, either formal or informal, please let us

know. We can put you in touch with other interested parents and see what can be done!

In the meantime, take a look at www.betterdaysout.co.uk - a fantastic web site which, as well as listing all the current local groups in Nottingham, has some excellent ideas for trips out and activities for children locally.

Without them

Of course, there are other times when you need to get away from your little ones for a well deserved evening out! We all know how difficult it can be to arrange a

babysitter for such occasions.

We know that there are a number of nice, responsible teenagers (girls and boys) in Mapperley Park who currently take on babysitting duties within the area.

The problem is how to go about putting the needy parents and the babysitters in touch with each other!

One thing you might try is using the small ads section of Mapperley Park News? Private advertisements are free to residents. Place an ad, either offering or requesting babysitting services, by contacting the editorial team.

It's a garden, not a building plot!

By Alice Tate



I TAKE great pleasure in admiring the beautiful gardens around Mapperley Park - the pretty flowers, lush lawns and of course the lovely variety of trees. What a shame it is when residents look to their gardens as a financial asset rather than a place of relaxation and enjoyment. The increased number of gardens now sold and developed is such a shame for this area of conservation. It is particularly upsetting when those who have made the money, then totally sell up and move - not even around to see the damage this type of decision makes.

My family roots in Mapperley Park date back to around the

year 1900 with relatives residing on Elm Bank, Magdala Road, Cyprus Road, Carisbrooke Drive, Carisbrooke Avenue and Arlington Drive. My earliest memories of Mapperley Park are cycling to my granny's house along tree line roads and admiring the beautiful surroundings. I also remember the delightful garden I played in with a spectacular selection of highly scented rose bushes. I have always loved the area for what it is - an area of conservation.

So please, if you have just looked out of your window and seen cash outside instead of a haven known as a garden - think again!

Dragon boat club looks to welcome new members

NOTTINGHAM'S only dragon boat club, Notts Anaconda, is inviting people with any amount of experience or none at all to come

and try their hand at one of the country's fastest-growing sports.

The club is holding an open day at 10am on Sunday 13 April when

anyone interested, with any level of sporting ability or experience, is welcome to come and have a taste of the dragon boating.

One of the strengths of the club, and the sport, is the wide variety of people it brings together, and Notts Anaconda includes people of both genders and all ages from

many different backgrounds. The clubhouse is next to the Britannia Rowing Club near Nottingham Forest football ground at Trent Bridge.

To find out more, turn up to the open day at the clubhouse, call 07905 149511, email us at newpaddlers@nottsanacoda.co.uk



HISTORY has it that dragon boat racing originated in China over 2,000 years ago. The boats raced today are 40 feet long and are constructed from glass fibre, rather like large canoes. Wooden gunwales and seats help to retain a traditional look, and the boats are fitted with a colourful dragon's head and tail, plus the drums for racing. A crew consists of around 20 paddlers sitting side by side, with a helm to steer the boat and a drummer to keep the rhythm. Dragon boat racing is becoming one of the most popular sports in the world. In the UK alone it is estimated that 41,000 people in 850 crews take part in events throughout the summer.

Use it or lose it

The case for shopping locally

By Mark Cox

SADLY, the recent campaign to save Carrington Post Office failed and, in the absence of a last-minute reprieve, the branch will close some time before March. John Heppell MP has stated publicly that he feels the consultation process was flawed and has promised to pursue the matter with both PostWatch and the Post Office.

Credit must be given to those Mapperley Park residents who took time to put pen to paper. In particular, we should thank Ann Booth, Sue Mitchell, Christine Drew, Mr & Mrs John Robinson, Mr & Mrs Stephen Lowe, Suma Harding, Carole Ayre and Mike Pressman for their efforts - as well as the countless residents who

distributed leaflets and helped to generated awareness.

Whether we lose our Post Office or not, let these recent events be a warning to us all. We should support our local traders, or risk losing them. The next time you put mileage on your car and burn fossil fuels in order to save a few pennies at a large supermarket, please first consider the fantastic range of local shops on your doorstep.

Local shops mean jobs for local people, bouyant house prices, convenience for those without transport and fuel-saving for the ecologically-minded. Without a well-supported parade of shops, Mapperley Park and Carrington will fast become soulless dormitory suburbs on fast-moving main roads, with much less sense of community.

Put your old discs to good use

THIS year's Blue Peter Appeal is called DISC DRIVE. It supports the work of Barnardo's in the UK and it's a simple but effective initiative. You just donate your

unwanted CDs and DVDs to your nearest Barnardo's fundraising shop which is acting as a collection point. See www.discdrive.org.uk for details.

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Adventures and achievements in Vietnam

LAST Summer I was fortunate enough to take part in a World Challenge Expedition to Vietnam as a member of a team of 17 boys and 3 adults from my school. After two years of preparation, training and fundraising, we were all rewarded with a trip of a lifetime with many unforgettable experiences.

Our first days in Vietnam were spent acclimatising to the hot and humid climate, or moreover the vast quantities of sweat that we would perspire on a daily basis! However it was also in this first stage that we learnt the basics and importance of teamwork. We all did our part to help with the organisation of food, transport and accommodation, whilst a dedicated team of accountants kept the expedition under budget.

Over the expedition we went trekking in three different areas, each with entirely different terrain. The most gruelling was undoubtedly that of sweltering rainforests in Cuc Phuong, but the bizarre jungle wildlife that we saw there could not match the stunning views of our treks in the Northern highlands. Here we trekked for five days, wandering over paddy fields and enjoying the slightly more moderate



climate (owed to the higher altitude) and indeed also the hospitality of the Vietnamese villagers who lodged us for the nights.

Travelling from place to place we often found ourselves in the county's capital, the main transport hub for the wonderful train network, which we got to know very well after many journeys; one of which ranks as the least comfortable of my life, having lasted 23 hours! Spending time in Hanoi however was a great way of recharging our batteries (both figuratively and literally to keep our digital cameras working!).

There was no shortage of amazingly cheap restaurants, suitably

furnished with air conditioning and English menus for tourists such as ourselves and offering a huge range of delicious Vietnamese cuisine. When we ventured off the beaten track however, we had to rely on frantic drawings and hand gestures to keep fed when the Vietnamese words became too difficult to pronounce!

The most rewarding part of the expedition was however the so called project phase where we spent four days at a school for disabled children on the outskirts of Hanoi. The playground and classrooms were in need of refurbishment so all twenty of us worked solidly to meet

a number of requests that had been set to us by the school. We were completely successful; installing a new bike shed for use by the pupils and staff and clearing large areas of the playground, which were overgrown. We also spent £800 (a small fortune in Vietnamese terms), raised by a non-school uniform day at our school, on a truckload of new playground toys and learning materials for the pupils.

On completing the project we headed straight for Ha Long Bay, the chosen location of our R&R phase. Having remained under budget for the whole trip, no expense was spared and we hired a private boat to take us on a two-night cruise around the beautifully tranquil bay, which is listed as a World Heritage Site. The water was lovely, the food was fantastic and the company was great; it would have been perfect had it not been raining! Nonetheless, it was a superb end to our adventure and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those in the Mapperley Park area, who through one way or another, helped me raise the money towards this unforgettable experience.

Mads Neumann

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Looking after our heritage

A three-bedroom Victorian end terrace in Mapperley Park is currently for sale at £245,000 - with no off street parking, no loft conversion, no steam oven, no downstairs loo and no gold-tipped railings. Investments in bricks and mortar will always be safe in areas where environment matters as much as amenity and where understatement is seen as something distinctly smart.

Our neighbourhood is crammed with unique houses, many with illustrious pedigrees. But most were conceived to be uniform in appearance, or to be part of a harmonious street scene. Such homes, when maintained in the spirit of their original designs, have timeless appeal and are very pleasing to the eye.

Ebers Grove is a super example of a Victorian workers' terrace with intact Bulwell stone walls, iron railings and gates. Many owners here have chosen a jolly array of heritage paint colours for their woodwork. There is a wonderful community

spirit and a sense of pride in the street which is doubtless helped by the retention of pretty, open, well-maintained front gardens.

Similarly, the almshouses at Chestnut Grove (pictured) are a

joy to behold; philanthropic house building at its best, where the trustees have maintained the open plan landscaping and avoided the temptation to introduce intrusive vehicular access.

Sadly, the aesthetic value of harmonious terraces and street scenes is often forgotten. Unsympathetic replacement windows and roof tiles, poorly-proportioned extensions, out-of-scale boundary fences and concreted front gardens are mercifully rare in Mapperley Park.



The Almshouses, Chestnut Grove

Vigilance

However, we must remain vigilant of such development and be mindful of the heritage with which we are entrusted.

If you want to know more about how your house was built and the style movement it represents, I recommend *The Victorian House Explained*, *The Edwardian House Explained* and *The 1930s House Explained*; all well-illustrated paperbacks by Trevor Yorke and available from Amazon or Waterstones.

You can also find out more about our Conservation Area status at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/mapperleypark_alexandrapark/conservationareamanagementplan

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CHESS CLUB IN MAPPERLEY PARK

meets on Friday evenings at 6pm at the Ukrainian Centre, Mansfield Road. For further details please contact L Werchola-Jurkiw on 078 3736 2549.

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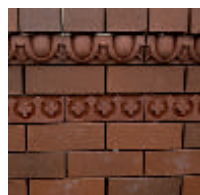


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Smart Lipo - the less invasive route to fat reduction

Jo Martin, Clinical Director,
Mapperley Park Clinic

NOW that our minor operations theatre is up and running we are introducing Smart Lipo - a new and rather exciting method of fat removal, using a laser rather than a traditional liposuction tube.

This less invasive method requires only a small incision in the skin to allow a 2mm tube containing a tiny fibre optic cable to be

inserted. The laser light then destroys the fat cell membranes, causing them to empty out the fat, which has been liquefied by the laser. At this point the fat can be aspirated gently to remove it or left in place, in which case it is then carried to the liver, processed as normal dietary fat and excreted. Pressure garments and a low fat, low carbohydrate diet are then required for two weeks after the procedure.

Having had my lower abdomen treated before Christmas I see continuing improvement week by week and I am now

deciding which area to have treated next!

This method is perfect for people who are not obese but have areas of fat which do not respond to diet and exercise. The perfect amount of fat to be treated at one time is about 500mls, or two fistfuls. It is extremely effective and safe as long as it is in the right hands so all our Smart Lipo procedures will be carried out by a fully trained Plastic Surgeon. Prior to treatment, all interested clients will be carefully screened for suitability and assessed as to expectation of results.



Born again skin
(Hallelujah!)

Mapperley Park, Registered in 1993, was the first medically led laser clinic to open in the East Midlands. All treatments are carried out by highly trained medical professionals and the clinic was among the first to be inspected by the Healthcare Commission with inspection scores consistently amongst the highest in the country.

The clinic boasts a long history of firsts over the last fourteen years and is delighted to add the Pixel laser treatment to the list.

Treatments available at Mapperley Park Clinic

Skin rejuvenation and removal of fine lines, Laser hair removal, Nd:Yag and Pixel lasers for acne and acne scarring, full range of injectables including Restylane, Perlane, Lareesse, Sub Q, Sculptra and BOTOX®, Glycolic, TCA and Obagi peels, removal of facial and leg thread veins by laser and sclerotherapy, Endovenous laser treatment of varicose veins, removal of skin tags, moles, cysts, warts and verrucas, BOTOX for excessive sweating, hair

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www.mapperleypark.co.uk
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Pixel Laser Skin Resurfacing

Another First for Mapperley Park Clinic

The "Lunch Time Laser" is the holy grail of the aesthetic world and we would all love a maximum impact, minimum down time, long lasting treatment. The reality is now closer than ever.

A revolution in laser technology has now enabled skin resurfacing to be done with only a couple of days of down time.

While traditional resurfacing lasers and deep peels require two weeks off work, the new Pixel laser is carried out as a series of three sessions with only 48 hours of redness after each session.



Before



After

Available for face, neck, chest and hands this laser is the first skin resurfacing option for non-facial areas. It is ideal for treatment of lines, wrinkles, pigmented skin and acne scarring and also firms skin. Improves texture and reduces pore size.

If you would like your skin to be born again, simply call:

0800 975 4451


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