VERDON Views

NEWBOLD VERDON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER ISSUE 37

EDS SPOT

This is our first publication of 1994 and we wish all our readers "A Happy and Prosperous New Year".

You may notice that we have altered the format of the Verdon Views and we should be interested to hear your comments. Don't forget that we always require items of interest to the village. Have a go at writing and article yourself or contact one of the Team with the basic information and we'll write it for you.

We should like to thank all our contributers to this issue for their magnificent and prompt return of our article sheets. We shall be circulating new article sheets for the next issue shortly.

Remember with all the break-ins to keep your eyes peeled.

ON THE VERDON BEAT

The recent burglaries in the village over the Christmas holidays and since, have spurred me to put pen to paper again.

I know from first hand experience the heart ache caused when you return home to find a window or door open, and your hard earned possessions have been stolen.

Some of the items probably of minimum monetary value, but of great sentimental value to you and your family. The emotional scars take a long time to heal. What can be done to reduce the chance of your home being broken into, and protect your property? Well, as you may guess, there is no simple answer. A determined thief will take a great deal of stopping. But it is important to remember that most burglaries only take a few minute, are committed by the opportunist thief, and occur during the day time. Gone are the days when most households contained large families, with grandparents at home, and probably, Mum at home some of the day. With changing times more households are empty during the day giving greater chances to the burglar. Here are three aspects of the problem worth considering: 1. Eliminate the tell tale signs that your house and property are vulnerable. This includes the simple things like not leaving your milk out all day, or paper in the letter box. Lock the garage doors and sheds, as these places often give the thief ready made tools to attack your property. It is also important to remember that in 3 out of 10 burglaries, the thief does not have to force his way in! Apart from burglar alarms, lighting can be a good deterrent. An outside light working on a ray is worth considering. I like the idea of the use of time switches to switch lights on and off at different times, and in different rooms. It gives the house the appearance of being occupied. 2. Mark your valuable items with your post code by the use of an ultra violet pen. Did you know there is a Post Code Package available from Coalville Police Station , Milechoice in the village and Bosworth Post Office priced 99p? Now that's good value at today's' prices! You could even consider photographing certain items such as jewellry. These ideas will not only help to deter the thief, but assist in tracing any property that may be stolen. 3. Finally I do believe the best deterrent is still the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (N.H.W). I know some of you are considering the scheme in the village, and by the time you read this article a meeting on the N.H.W will have been held in the school. But if you did not attend, don't worry, I know either Sgt Mick Studley at Coalville Police Station, or your local beat officer, Rog Simmons, will be only too pleased to help. There is even a N.H.W. Co-ordinator in the village. N.H.W. is a positive commitment to act against crime in the community. It gives the feeling of greater security, with street signs and neighbours keeping an eye on each others property. There is also a practical aspect of lower insurance premiums from some insurance companies. So let us all learn by what has happened. It would be nice if the community spirit that has been built up in the village could expand and continue, by all of us reporting anything suspicious, or out of the ordinary. It's not being nosey. It's what village communities are all about, and neighbourhood Watch is all about. I believe that anything which reassures the vulnerable members of our community and, at the same time, actually helps to improve life in the village, is well worth consideration. Inspector Mel Suart.

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NEWBOLD VERDON
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF MY CAT

In the Summer my cat called Jules plays in the back garden. My cat is a full pedigree Persian and she doesn't go on the front.

I feed my cat Whiskers which is chunks and biscuits and she also eats chicken, turkey and what ever we have to eat or leave. We also bath my cat. We brush her and talc and powder her. Jules likes to play with her ball and sleep in her basket.

In the winter my cat stays in side and plays with us and her ball and she also sleeps in her basket and eats in the winter.

Kelly Leach Aged 10

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PUZZLERS by
Amie (10) and Lisa (11)

I have a face, two hands but no legs.
What am I?

A CLOCK

I have four legs, a back, two arms and two knees.
What am I?

A CHAIR

I've got four legs. I live on a farm.
I eat grass.
Who am I?

A COW

A TRIBUTE TO ETHEL HART



Ethel and Reg

MRS ETHEL HART

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mr Reg. Hart and family on their sad loss of Ethel: a well known and much loved lady of Newbold Verdon.

Ethel, one of four sisters, was born in Newbold Verdon on 3rd August, 1918.

Whilst attending Broomleys College, she passed the examination for entry to Loughborough College, but because of finances at the time, she was unable to take up this place.

She became a Lance-Corporal in the A.T.S. and was posted to Beverley, where she met Reg. Reg was posted abroad and their courtship continued by letter. In 1945 Reg returned and they were married by special licence at Newbold Verdon Church.

They have two children and two grandchildren. Ethel was well known for her poetry having two books published, in 1974 and 1987. Her poetry has appeared in the Leicester Mercury and Hinckley Times and she has also contributed to our own Verdon Views.

In September last year, she won Second Prize in the Co-op "Ozzy Owl" Competition and a prize of £1500 worth of holiday vouchers. Unfortunately she was unable to enjoy her prize, but we understand that the family will spend the vouchers this Summer. I'm sure this would have pleased her very much.

The village will miss her cheerful involvement and we are pleased to publish her favourite poem.

'The Helping Hand'.

THE HELPING HAND

If we try our level best
With others to be kind
And other people's problems we can see,
If we give a helping hand to others in distress
We often find that giving has brought us happiness
And if we can also accept a helping hand
In the spirit that's intended, and try to understand
Then we can be receiver, and the giver too
And the helping hand of friendship, will always see us through.

By Ethel Hart

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N. V. C. A.

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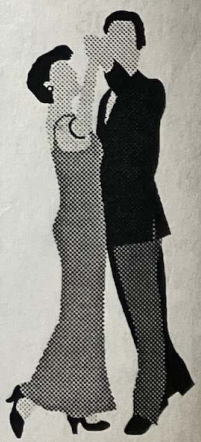
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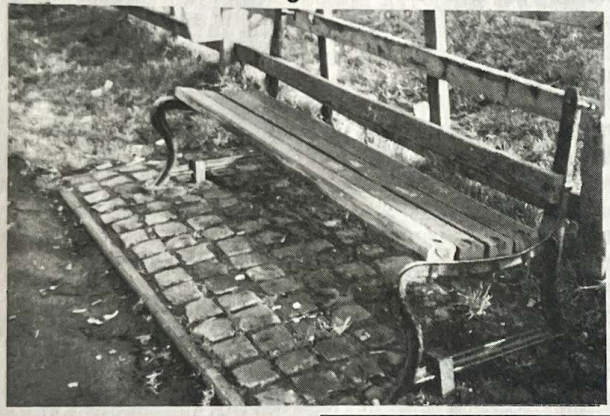


NVCA NEWS

N.V. SOCIAL DANCE CLUB

The Social Dance class at the Community Centre on Thursday evenings proved to be so popular, that the existing group of dancers voted to form the NEWBOLD VERDON SOCIAL DANCE CLUB.

The evening is very informal and friendly. New dances are taught and practised from week to week. Old Time, Modern and Sequence Dances are all attempted, so don't worry if you've never danced a step. Everyone is so friendly and ready to help. You can attend on a casual basis paying £1.25 per 2 hour session, or you can pay for the full term at £1 a session. Do come along. It's great exercise for all ages.



VERDON IN BLOOM

First of all, a sincere thank you to all who helped with last year's efforts.

Generous cash donations were once again sufficient to meet the full cost of the floral displays. We were a little disappointed with the content of the baskets and will certainly insist on a more suitable and varied mix of plants this year.

Sadly, we had fewer people volunteering to do the watering than ever before. Unless we can recruit more waterers this year, we may have to cut back on the number of baskets hung, or have them on display for a much shorter period.

It has been suggested that clubs, groups, churches and any other organisations in the village, may be willing to assume watering responsibilities for one complete week. Would your members be willing to help in this way? If so, please complete the appropriate section of the VIBA leaflet which will be distributed throughout the village, late March/early April.

Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Paul French

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEWBOLD VERDON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13TH APRIL AT 7.30 P.M. AT NEWBOLD VERDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME

VANDALISM

Can we stop the vandalism going on around the village. This is a photo of the seat on Dragon Lane. Unfortunately the village rate payer has to pay for its repair.

Newbold Verdon Community Association Tote Draw times 7pm, 19 Mill Lane on the last Wednesday of the month.

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NVCA NEWS

FAMILY CHRISTMAS II DONATION

Family Christmas II raised £300 towards an unspecified charity.

After a long discussion, the Committee agreed to give the money to LOROS.

Mrs Carole Wood, pictured receiving the cheque from Mel Suart, said that LOROS was a charity for local people, which relied on charity for most of its income.





She explained how LOROS's role was not only to support the terminally ill and help them to end their days with dignity, but also to support their families in coping with associated problems.

The Verdon Views' Team agreed to deliver the LOROS Newsletter with our next issue.

VERDON PLAYERS

The next production by the Verdon Players will be the rip-roaring 1040's farce "See How They Run", written by Philip King.

This will be presented for three nights only: 7th, 8th & 9th April at Newbold Verdon Community School at 7.30 p.m. nightly. Tickets, price £2.50 with concessions at £1.50, will shortly be available from Milechoice on Main Street, any Drama Group member or by phoning 823777 or 823910.

Give us your support - apart from the time, effort and expense involved in staging a show, it is very disappointing acting to rows of empty chairs and the laughter of a full-house audience is usually quite infectious! What have you got to lose? You can always ask for your money back (though we can't guarantee that you'll get it!). The school hall and new community lounge are very pleasant places in which to spend an evening and can now offer both refreshment and licensed bar facilities. Rehearsals are now in full swing with the cast desperately trying to learn their lines whilst, at the same time, endeavouring to be in the right place at the right time! Although most members of the drama group are involved in this production, the whole thing is being overseen by Ruth Jordan, and those of you who have been to previous shows will know that, when Ruth is at the helm, a good show is almost guaranteed.

Talking of members, the Verdon Players would really like to see a few new faces joining the group. We are particularly looking for younger folk in the teens and twenties age groups, though anyone with an interest in acting, production or back stage work will be more than welcome - the only qualification needed is enthusiasm! We meet every Tuesday night in term time at the above venue from 8 - 10 p.m. and present a show during April and October each year, so why not come along and get involved - we would love to see YOU!

The Verdon Views' Team would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to JOYCE GODDARD, who has unselfishly given hours of her time to collect the advertisements and accounts from our advertisers. We are very grateful for all your help over the past few years Joyce. Many thanks.

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Sunday	Closed	Closed

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WE SPECIALISE FOR HOME PARTIES

1st NEWBOLD VERDON SCOUT GROUP

The committee would like to thank all who supported and helped at our Barn Dance on New Years Eve.

Many thanks for donations of raffle prizes and trifles. The barn dance was a great success and enjoyed by many people of the village. The Scout group have just lost a lot of their 200 club members, and are looking for replacements. If you would like to join the 200 club please contact one of the committee. All the money collected goes towards equipment for the Scout Group and you get the chance of winning a small cash bonanza.

Pam East Committee Member.

CUB NEWS

The Newbold Verdon Cub Pack have all recently gained a very important badge.

Mr Nick Hancock very kindly gave up his free time to train the boys in First Aid. Over 4 weeks we learnt about slings, dressings, how to stop bleeding and everyone had a turn on a resuscitation dummy. We also visited Narborough Ambulance Station which was very interesting. Just before Christmas we visited Harvey House in Barwell where we sang carols and took gifts for the residents who made us very welcome. The year ended with a successful and enjoyable (if a little noisy!) joint Christmas party with the Scouts.

Akela

YOUTH CLUB

Did you know that there is a thriving Duke of Edinburgh Award Group at Newbold Verdon Youth Club?

At present there are 3 candidates at Bronze level and ★ candidates at Gold. Several of the Gold group are involved in a community project at Narborough Bog, a nature reserve run by the Leic's Trust for Nature Conservancy. Narborough Bog is an area of reed bed, meadow and woodland and has been included in the list of sites of special scientific interest since 1952. Since 1975, the area formerly occupied by the reedbed has been decreasing in size and many other plants are colonizing the newly formed "fen". The area is rich in all sorts of wildlife, insects, birds, plant life and mammals. The group from the DOE Award Scheme are involved in woodland maintenance, repairing and building fences and gates and a variety of other activities. Next time you turn over in bed at 9am on a Sunday morning, spare a thought for the young people, working in the cold, wind and rain (the weather is usually bad on alternate Sundays) to help conserve an important part of our heritage. Anyone interested in joining or offering help to the group, please make contact via Newbold Verdon Youth Club, held at the school on Wednesday evenings 8pm to 10pm.



SCOUT 200 CLUB

After successfully operating the Scout Group 200 Club for a number of years, Delyse and Fred Gilbert have handed it back to the Scout Executive to run.

At its last meeting, the Group Executive recorded its thanks to them for their efforts in raising so much money for Group funds. The group are now looking to recruit new members - so if you like a little flutter in a good cause, join us. To join you need to be over 16. It costs just £1.00 each month, with the chance to win up to £40.00. The actual prizes(there are three each month) vary dependent on how many members we have. There is also an annual draw, at the New Year Function, with three equal prizes of up to £100 each. We will collect your monthly subscription, so its very easy - we even deliver the prize - in cash - to your door. So, if you'd like to join, telephone Nigel Trotman on 822181, and we will do the rest.

JOIN THE SCOUT 200 CLUB - THE ODDS ARE BETTER THAN THE POOLS!

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THE CO-OPERATIVE WOMEN'S GUILD

The Co-operative Women's Guild has been meeting for the last 36 years and meet every Thursday in the Miners' Institute at 7.30 p.m.
Our programmes are varied and we try to cater for all tastes. We are known in the village for the work we do in entertaining the Over 60's to supper and free raffle. I am not sure for how many years, but quite a long time now.
We do promote the Leicestershire Co-operative Society as they are very generous towards our Group and help us in many ways. Although we do not insist you are a member of the Society, we try to encourage you to be.
It has often been asked - How do you manage to find things to do each week? Well we do, although not a speaker every week, as you will see from the Programme. We do welcome new members. You will feel at home, I am sure, at your first meeting and hopefully you will want to join with us.
I have listed our programme for the next few weeks------See anything of interest to you?????
10th Feb. Annual General Meeting
17th Feb. Games Evening (Cards, Scrabble, etc)
24th Feb. Brian Fossick of Rainbows' Charity.
3rd Mar. Any ? Panel
10th Mar. Call My Bluff
17th Mar. Derek Bewes - Talk on Local Canals
24th Mar. Bring & Buy Sale
31st Mar. HOT X BUNS. Easter Comp.
7th Apr. Visit to Verdon Players
14th Apr. Faith Supper
21st Apr. Quiz Evening
28th Apr. Visit to Cropston Water Centre
Doreen Statham(Secretary)

NEWBOLD VERDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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Calling all Newbold Verdon and Barlestone Ladies - if you would like to have an evening out each month and meet new friends (or perhaps join old ones) why not come along to a WI meeting at Newbold Verdon Church Hall.
Try to forget our stuffy WI image: we try to keep our business side down to a bare minimum and concentrate on enjoying ourselves. We have a good range of speakers and our outings are second to none - ask any of our members, better still come and see for yourself, you will be made very welcome.
You don't need to be able to knit, sew, crochet, cook or be approaching 90 to join us. We make sure our competitions are easy and definitely not compulsory. We could do with new, young (and young at heart) people to bring new ideas, we like to move with the times!
Our next meeting is on Monday 14th March and our speaker will tell us all about Reflexology. The next event will be our Institutes Birthday Celebration at the Hercules Inn and, hopefully, a fashion show by "Sequins" in April. We have already been to the Haymarket to see Carousel, so as you can see there is quite a lot going on. So, come and help us shake off the "Jam and Jerusalem" image, today's WI is much more about friendship and enjoyment, plus every opportunity to try anything new as we have our own college with courses on most subjects and very often learning days at WI House in Leicester. Whatever you need we hope we can provide.
What more can we tell you? Come and find out what the WI is Really all about. Don't forget! Every second Monday of the month at 7:30pm at St. James' Church Hall, Newbold Verdon. (No meeting in February).

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NEWBOLD VERDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Newbold Verdon WI's first speaker for 1994 was Mr Tim Taylor, a Ceramist.

He was most amusing, telling us about his work, how he built his own kilns and how he produces all his hand-built ceramics which he sells at craft fairs. While he was speaking he was making a country cottage ready for drying and firing. We all enjoyed his demonstration. A vote of thanks was given by Mrs M Proctor and Mr Taylor judged the competition, this month's being "a favourite pot". Mrs M Heap was the winner.

The Institute has a variety of events planned, including a theatre trip this month, a celebration meal in March at a local pub and a fashion show in April. Next meeting is 14th March when Fiona Power will speak on Reflexology. A friendly welcome is extended to any ladies wishing to join us for one evening a month. Details about our Institute can be had from the Press Secretaries on Desford 823354 or Desford 822766. Our meetings are every 2nd Monday in the month at 7:30pm in the Church hall.

NEWBOLD VERDON JAZZ CLUB

The Jazz Club played out 1993 with a special Christmas Extravaganza on Friday 17th December.

Our Guest band was the ever popular Zenith Hot Stompers, who once again thrilled a very packed hall with their music. (Apologies to club members in the bar and snooker room for taking away your tables and chairs, sometimes when you were sitting on them). As always with the Zenith, humour plays a great part, and once again we were treated with a visit from Santa Claus, alias Derrick the drummer, whilst the band played a Christmas medley.

During the evening the Ratby Co-op Prize band dropped in to see us and their Christmas offerings provided an enjoyable contrast of musical styles.

The New Year started on Friday January 7th with another of the Midlands great favourites - The Eagle Jazz Band another showband whose accent is on humour. Founded forty two years ago, they are like a vintage wine; They improve as the years go by. It was evident from the first bar of their first tune, "Just a little while to stay here", that the band were on top form. During the first set, a variety of tunes from the stirring Sousa march, "Under the Double Eagle" to "Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines" combined with jazz classics displayed their versatility.

The second set commenced with banjo player Ian, doing a cabaret spot with his ukulele. His versions of George Formby's songs were not always the words one usually hears on record! Four 'volunteers' from the audience then took part in an impromptu skiffle session, which included myself and Phil Long from the village on castanets and tambourine, and two other gentlemen on washboard and kazoo. our version of "My Old Man's a Dustman" will not cause Lonnie Donegan to lose any sleep.

Notable during the second set was a storming version of "Tiger Rag" which had the fans on their feet applauding. The evening finished with the band's unique version of "The Dam Busters March". The sound effects to this are provided just on the instruments. Tony Hobson on trombone providing the most realistic Lancaster bomber diving at full speed onto the target.

We have a full programme throughout the year (and into next year). March 4th brings the Savannah Jazz band from Huddersfield, their style is based on the Armstrong, Oliver, Jelly Roll Morton Classic Jazz Style. April 1st our visitors are from Plymouth; Roger Mark's Armada Jazz Band play swinging Dixieland.

If you want details of future events, or details of club membership please give me a ring on Desford 822676. Incidentally tickets are on sale behind the bar at the club.

John Ryde.

RAINBOW CLUB

Rainbow club is a Mums and toddlers group who meet on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month from 1:30 to 3:00 pm in the hall behind the Baptist church.

We are only a very small group and would welcome new members to keep us "alive"! We have toys and numerous activities for the older toddler. Tea & coffee etc. for everyone for only 50p.

For more details contact Sue Page, 64 Arnolds Crescent or Carol Measom 823081. Even better just pop in and see us on a Monday.

PETER PAN

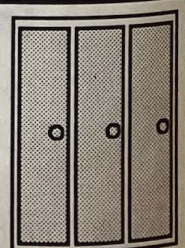
Playgroup

Church Hall Brascote Lane Newbold Verdon

On Wednesday December 15th 1993 we took the playgroup children to see Santa Claus.

The coach arrived and we climbed aboard, the driver took us into Leicester via the clock tower to see the Christmas tree and decorations. We continued onwards to Children's World where Santa was feeding his reindeer at the rear of the building. We waited excitedly for his return.

The children asked Santa if he could visit Newbold Verdon on Christmas Eve. All of the children received a small present from Santa before singing

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a Christmas song to him. After refreshments we returned to the coach and travelled back to Newbold Verdon.

On Friday afternoon December 17th we held our Christmas party in the church hall. During the afternoon the children were entertained by Aunty Kay, the children helped with some of the party tricks. Before our surprise visitor arrived the children ate their tea of sandwiches, crisps, cakes, jelly and ice-cream followed by lemonade and squash. Santa appeared and gave each child a present and listened to further requests for Christmas Day. Everybody went home tired but happy after an enjoyable afternoon.

If anyone would like their child to join the playgroup, they are very welcome to call and see us or ring Sandra on Desford 824705 for further details.

CHATTERBOX

The Chatterbox Club Mums and tots group meet every 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday of each month (school term) at St. James' Church Hall, from 1:30pm until 3:00pm. Cost only 60p.

Lots of toys to play with. A drink of orange and a biscuit for the children and a cup of tea or coffee for the adults. Everyone Welcome.

Our Christmas party took place in early December. Most of the children wore fancy dress and a prize was given to the best child in fancy dress. Emma Johnson, aged 4, who was dressed as a clown won the competition. The children were then entertained by BJ the Clown. They then tucked into the food and, at last, Santa appeared with a present for every child.

We would like to thank everyone who donated items and helped with our Christmas Bazaar, also thank you to the Methodist Church for lending us their clothes rail.

We Mums went to the Bulls Head in Ratby for our Christmas meal and some of our Mums expressed their singing talents on the Karaoke machine.

Lots of features for the New Year, including dried flowers, children's clothes, bouncy castle, summer outing and teddy bears picnic.

Please Join Us.



JACK AND JILL

Playgroup
Dragon Lane Newbold Verdon

A belated happy New year to everyone and, especially to all those who donated a prize towards our raffle, a BIG thank you to you all.

Without your donations our raffle would have been a little meagre but with all your help we were able to raise £231, even though there were other Bazaars on that day.

Back to playgroup business. We are hoping to have a trip on a Rosie and Jim barge, also a treasure hunt within the village for items i.e. church, bus stop, post box etc. and then, at Easter, a grand hunt for eggs that the children will have decorated themselves.

We are also organising talks from a dentist and a doctor, and then in the Summer term we shall hold a sports day for the children. It is Jack and Jill's 4th birthday and so we thought we would have a night out. We have booked a skittles night at The Swan. If anyone is interested in tickets please ring Maryanne or Janet on the numbers below. There will be various fund raising events over the course of the next few months and we hope the village support will be as before.

If anyone is interested in the playgroup, please don't hesitate to come down or, alternatively, phone Maryanne on 824694 or Janet on 822266.

JUBILEE INN

JUBILEE INN

OFFERS A WARM WELCOME

WITH THE FINEST OF

MARSTON ALES

COME AND JOIN US

Kath and Tony

JUBILEE INN

JUBILEE INN

CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS SPOT

OBITUARY

Newbold Verdon Swimming Club slipped quietly into the annals of history at 11:30 am on Saturday 11th December 1993, after two years of haemorrhaging of funds.

Conceived in 1971, or was it 1972, it was the brainchild of Phil Powell, which flourished in it's infancy and positively blossomed in it's youth, attracting some fifty or sixty swimmers each week.

During it's peak years the need for Lifesavers produced a band of enthusiasts who gained the R.N.L.S Bronze Medallion and Bronze Crosses.

Some even went on to gain the Award of Merit.

Who could possibly forget that Arctic April evening when a hardy few passed their Outdoor Medallion. It is rumoured that the examination fees were invested in stiff whiskies all round, so close were some candidates to succumbing to hypothermia.

The enthusiasm was such that Pat Pateman led a team of lifesavers in competitions as far afield as Boston, that's Lincolnshire of course, not Massachusetts.

A sponsored swim raised a healthy sum for Jimmy Saville's Stoke Mandeville appeal and Graham Fisher chauffeured a party of children to Stoke Mandeville to present the cheque to the great man himself.

Several hundreds of children learned to swim through the club and whilst there is no doubt that our latest recruit Ben Blackery will learn to swim it is a great pity that it will not be as a member of Newbold Verdon Swimming Club.

Middle age crept on almost un-noticed as the age profile increased, with fewer and fewer of the younger generation joining.

In the declining years other interests prevailed, together with the trend towards a more sedentary lifestyle, so membership declined to the point where the club was no longer viable.

Faced with the inevitable and all financial reserves having been expended, the decision was taken at an extraordinary meeting on 1st December 1993 to lay the corpse to rest.

To all members past and present, particularly those who saw it through to the end, thank you for your support.

A Founder Member.

BRIGHT HOUR

Baptist Church "Bright Hour" meet alternate weeks.

We go through the main door of the Church and meet in the schoolroom, where there is always a warm welcome to all members and anyone who would care to join with us.

After the service we have tea and cakes. Do come and join with our "Happy band".

Speakers for March and April March 2nd: Open meeting March 16th: Rev. P Farrands - Leicester March 30th: Mrs A Webb - Barlestone April 13th: Rev. Harry Sutton - Oadby April 27th: Open meeting

Mrs N A Hill 71 Main St., Newbold Verdon

EVERGREEN

The Evergreen is a group of senior citizens who meet at the Baptist Chapel on a Tuesday at 2:30 pm twice a month.

We start with a prayer and then have a cup of tea and biscuits. We chat among ourselves over our cup of tea and then have a game of bingo, we do not play for money only a small prize. We do have a small bring and buy. After that we finish with a prayer and then make our way home.

We are a self supporting group and everyone does their best towards running the club.

Irene Twigg

BAPTIST CHURCH

Services for March and April

March 6th United Lent Service - Baptist Mr D Voice 6:00pm
March 13th Mothering Sunday No Evening Service Mr D Voice 10:30am
March 20th United Lent Service - St James 6:00pm
March 27th Evening Service Mr D Voice 6:00pm
April 1st Good Friday Service - Baptist Mr D Voice 7:45pm
April 3rd Family Service - Easter Day Mr D Voice 10:30am
April 3rd Evening Service Mr D Voice 6:00 pm
April 10th Evening Service Mr D Voice 6:00pm
April 17th Evening Service Mr D Owen 6:00pm
April 24th Evening Service Mr D Voice 6:00pm

The Bright Hour at the Baptist Church Meeting on alternate weeks at 2:30pm - Everyone Welcome

Sunday Club for young people meet at the Baptist Schoolroom on Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Drop in at the Baptist Schoolroom every Thursday morning 10 - 11am Do come along and meet your friends over a cup of tea or coffee.

DEADLINE DATE FOR VERDON VIEWS ARTICLES

9th APRIL

THE TEAM

Colin & Marilyn
822221
Brian
824036
Gail
822183
Janet
823123
John & Marion
822805
Julia
822870

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REMARKABLE ALOE VERA

Introducing a remarkable plant ALOE VERA

Aloe who? Some of you may recognise the name from the inclusion in some beauty products, but do you know the real strengths of this, one of the worlds most powerful healers? Indigenous to the hotter climates, we missed the opportunity to use, and so benefit from the plant before we became civilised and drew back from natural remedies. Now as attitudes are changing, A.vera is gaining popularity as its properties become more widely known. Aloe Vera (A.barbadensis) or True Aloe, is a semi-tropical succulent, a member of the Lily family although classified as a vegetable! It can be grown in this country only as a house plant, a basal growth of fleshy, serrated leaves of a dark green with pale horizontal stripes. It has a stunning list of enzymes, minerals and vitamins. Including B1; B2; B6 and B12, the latter now known to be essential for personal health and well being. A.vera is also a natural antiseptic; antibiotic; analgesic (drug which remove pain) and an infection fighter too. Columbus wrote on one of his journeys "All is well, the Aloe is on board". From the days of Ancient Egypt the jelly like sap found within the leaves has been used externally for skin problems such as eczema and ulcers. Injuries were cleaned and healed by packing the open plant leaves around the affected area. In Cuba the popular cold remedy is made from Aloe with sugar and rum. Malaysians and Jamaicans bind a slab of Aloe to their forehead to relieve headaches. There is now an international Aloe Science Council who follow the research and production of Aloe products, they also give an award of purity so that we have some guidance when buying, look for the seal of approval. Modern medical journals from around the world show a wide variety of illnesses and diseases which have been greatly eased if not cured by using Aloe in its many prepared forms. If you have one of these plants do not leave it lurking in the loo, put it on the kitchen window sill and use it for cuts, grazes, burns and rashes. Just break the end off a leaf and apply to the affected area. Its also good for acne, cold sores, insect bites and dry skin. The plants are not easy to come by, if you have difficulty or need one identified, phone Marion Negus on 8249667.

GARDENING SPOT

Well, if it is not cold and wet, its even colder and frosty.

But you can still find jobs to do in the garden. Check trees & rose ties, make sure all stakes have a sound base and that ties are not too tight. While you are out, and if the conditions allow, look around your borders to see if any thing newly planted has been lifted by the frost. That includes ones put in last Autumn. Look also at the taller plants that have ridged stem, these can suffer from wind rock. Roses are particularly at risk, the wind will rock the plant from side to side as the stem cannot flex. This make a hole around the base of the plant, if this is left, the plant is now vulnerable to frost and pest damage at root level. A quick heel in will solve both problems. Now how about sorting out that pile of seed trays and pots that have been gathering cobwebs. Oust the inhabitants and clean with Jeyes fluid or the like. The spiders will soon find another spot to lurk in and you will need those trays soon for the half hardy flower seeds that need sowing in Feb. These are the ones that need a long growing season, such as: Begonia, Impatiens, Petunias and Salvias. You need to maintain a minimum of 65F. If you have room for a fruit bush or two now is the time to plant. Look for the thornless blackberry hybrids. Note that any fruit bush does not have to go in a special fruit plot, they will grow very well amongst your flowers. You will have less of a problem with pests as the flowering plants will attract the good guys like the hoverflies and lady birds. Just give the plants an extra feed in Spring and water in dry Summer spells - if we get any! Happy gardening.

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Jill Smith 201908

CRIME PREVENTION NEWS PROTECTING YOUR HOME

Many householders over the country now realise the importance of taking precautions to protect their home.

In three burglaries out of ten, the thief doesn't even have to use force to get in. Here are a few crime prevention points...

Burglar Alarms: Visible burglar alarms make the burglars think twice.

Front Doors: Fit a lock to British Standard BS3621.

Patio Doors: Some types require supplementary locks.

Louvre Windows: Louvre windows are especially vulnerable.

Windows: Two out of every three burglars enter through a window. So fit locks on ground and first floor windows.

Garages: Never leave a garage or garden shed unlocked, especially if it has a connecting door to the house. Lock ladders inside the garage or shed to stop a thief using them to reach inaccessible windows. If there is no room inside, chain or padlock them horizontally to a stout bracket on an outside wall. Remember if you leave your garage door open and inside it is showing your lawnmower, freezer, mountain bikes etc, the thief soon gets to know where his next lawnmower or bike is coming from.

Side Passages: Stop a thief getting to the back of the house, where he can work with less chance of being disturbed, by fitting a strong, high gate across the passage.

Visibility: If you plant bushes or shrubs, make sure they do not obscure the view of your property to provide cover for a thief.

Mortice Deadlock: Fit a mortice deadlock which meets British Standard 3621 - look for the British Standard Kite Mark. A deadlock can be opened only with a key, so a thief cannot smash a nearby panel to open the door from inside; if the thief enters through a window he can't carry your property out through the door. The Crime Prevention Officer at your local police station can give you a list of local locksmiths. Ring Coalville Station 0530 836300 ext 3074 or contact your local police beat officer.

Automatic Deadlock: This automatic rim deadlatch locks automatically when the door is closed but could be opened from the inside without a key. At the turn of a key the lock is prevented from being opened from the inside.

Hinges: Last but not least, check that the door hinges are sturdy and secured with strong, long screws. For added security fit hinge bolts - around £3 each. These help to reinforce the hinge side of a door against the use of force.

Any further advise or assistance can be obtained by ringing 0530 836300 and asking for: Sgt Mick Studley Ext 3071 PC Nigel Doughty CPO Ext 3074 or myself on extension 3072.

Well, that's all for now. Keep them locked, and keep them out.

Terry Farmer Vice Chair Crime Prevention Panel Coalville Sub Division

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANK YOU

Jane, David & Christine Vallis would like to thank everyone for turning up at the Community Centre on the 23 December and wish everyone a Happy New Year . See you next time.

DOG DIRT

Dear Editor,

As I travel around the village, it is apparent we have many idle, uncaring and filthy dog owners in our midst, who have no interest in the environment or other peoples feelings and property.

The village is just one enormous dog lavatory, and must rate as one of the filthiest in the country. I am not alone in my views, just today two other people have expressed similar views which have prompted my writing to you.

What is the solution? No amount of unenforceable bylaws or little notices on lampposts are going to deter the offenders. Firstly, no one can blame the dogs, it is the selfish owners who are responsible. These are the people who should be shamed. One angry gentleman, who is a keen amateur photographer, tells me that he is taking photos with a telephoto lens of offending dogs and their owners and is looking for somewhere to hold an exhibition of his work. Perhaps someone could suggest a venue for these works of art. Another angry lady I saw cleaning up the front of her house is looking to return the deposits to their owner through the letter box. Yes, as residents we are angry, and we want something done. Have any of your other readers got any suggestions, apart from Newbold Verdon entering the "Doggy Droppings of The Year Contest", with a chance of representing Britain in the European Finals. Let's hear from you dog owners as well.

Name and address supplied.

The Hamster Hunt

The cat creeps into the bedroom,
He jumps upon the table.
He knocks the cage off.
The door bursts open,
The hamster hurries out.
The cat tries to pounce,
The hamster gets away,
He runs down the stairs.
As he reached the door,
The cat makes a jump
Every thing goes quiet,
The little boy runs in.
He gives the cat a smack
And puts the hamster back.

Leanne Orgill & Kelly Leach
Aged 10.

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NEWS NEEDED

Regular readers of the Leicester Mercury will be aware that there is a middle page extra, dealing with local news in the Hinckley area.
There is a section under Village Voice that print news by village headings, and I have become the correspondent dealing with Newbold Verdon.
Basically I am asking for your help to put Newbold Verdon on the map, with snippets of news about people and happenings in the area.
People are interested in Family reunions, golden and diamond wedding anniversaries, retirements of well known personalities such as teachers, postmen and milkmen.
Personal achievements of local people, someone may have won an award, a prize or overcome an illness, disability or a setback, or displayed physical or intellectual prowess.
I would also like to hear of fund raising events, jumble sales, public meetings, carnivals, community projects, self help groups, litter campaigns, vandalism and crime etc...
All stories are submitted to the Editor for consideration (and editing), so I shall be pleased to hear from you.
As well as the Mercury I am a registered agent for Kleeneze so it does give me a chance to have a natter about people and events as I work around the village with the homecare catalogues.
I mention this because of peoples concern about safety and security, and suspicion of people knocking on doors. Now that the Mercury are printing my photograph you should be able to recognise me.

Please contact me on Desford 822676 with any likely stories and events, or information about Kleeneze.
John Ryde.

LOCAL BOY SIGNS FOR NOTTS COUNTY

Neal Bateman signed associate schoolboy forms for Notts county Football Club on 20th November 1993.
Neal who spent all day at the club was introduced to the manager Nick Walker and some first team players. He was also treated to lunch in the executive club and then watched the first team league game.
Neal now plays for the Notts County Under 14 squad at centre half. The team recently won the Nike Cup area final and went to London on Sunday 23rd January to play the All England final, which they won 4 - 0.
During May the team will be going to Holland to play in the European Final.
In his 'spare' time Neal plays for Oadby Town Under 14s.
His friends and family would like to wish him their very best wishes for his future career.



CROSS COUNTRY
February 5th

After the cross country race at Burbage Common in January with conditions being very heavy and muddy, this race at Old Mill School Broughton Astley was tame.

Again lots of boys and girls from the Primary School battled it out. Once again, everybody had a good time and the results are as follows:

Year 3/4 Girls
Annika Wilmot, 2nd; Katie Niciecki, 10th; Kirstie Loomes, 11th; Sara Brookes, 26th; Holly Morgan, 29th; Emma Mitchell, 33rd.

Year 3/4 Boys
Gareth Tallbott, 2nd; Alan Morgan, 17th; Sam Carpenter, 21st; Adam Willett, 22nd; Paul Davies, 34th; Charlie Upton, 51st; Matthew Hancock, 61st.

Year 5/6 Girls
Hannah Crowley, 9th; Luanne Faulkner, 26th.

Year 5/6 Boys
Daniel Fowkes, 5th; Alan Hodgkinson, 13th; James Trotman, 24th; Chris Davison, 25th.

It was also prize giving day, being the last of the



school's competitions for the season. There were two prize winners from our school this season. They were Annika Wilmot who gained 2nd overall position in the year 3/4 girls race and Gareth Tallbott who came 1st overall in the year 3/4 boys race.

These two children, and others who have run well, will represent the Hinckley area against the best from other areas in Leicestershire at the County Championships in March. We will publish these results in our next edition.

The Verdon News Team would like to congratulate the prize winners for their efforts and also a big thank you, from the children, to Keith Potter who has trained the children throughout the winter.

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THE WINNING TEAM

The team in final preparations before the final of the Hinckley Times 5 a-side competition. A very tense few moments where we try to remain calm. Doing themselves justice and enjoying themselves is all that is expected. Bribery with chips often works

How they got there

Burbage June 1 v 5 N.V, Steven M 1, Jason O 3, Graeme M 1.
Old Mill 0 v 0 N.V
Battling Brook 1 v 2 N.V, Jason O 1, Daniel F 1.
N.V 3 v 3 Westerfield, Jason O 2, Daniel F 1.
N.V 5 v 0 Greystokes, Greame M 1, Jason O 2, Steven M 2.
N.V. 3 v 2 Westerfield (Sudden Death) Jason O 1, Greame M 1, Steven M 1.

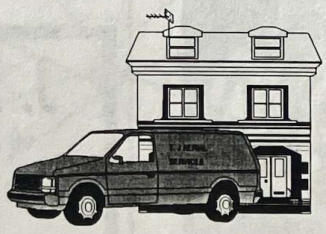
The victorious team having deservedly and successfully won the Hinckley Times 5 a-side competition for the Hinckely area. Their style of football was based on a simple pass and move when in possession of the ball, getting goal side when they hadn't got the ball and a tremendous will to support each other.

Newbold Verdon School, for the 3rd time in 6 years having won the competition in a thrilling final against Sketchly Hill C.P.S. On the 2nd March as the Hinckley Area Champions they will play in the County Finals at Granby Halls Leicester against other area champions
Teacher Mike Staunton

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Left to Right Daniel Fowkes, Adam Wykes, Greame Morgan, Jason Osborne, Steven Mitchell, Alan Hodgkinson

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POLYBIUS' CIPHER

The Romans invented many new ciphers, as they found it very useful to be able to send secret messages. One of the ciphers, invented by Polybius, a Greek who served the Romans, replaced plain text with numbers. This is how it was done. Draw a 5 x 5 grid (25 squares in all). Now write one letter of the alphabet in each square. The letters X and Y are placed in the same square. Now number the columns and rows. To encipher a message write down the row number followed by the column number of the square in which your letter lies. In the grid shown The letter N becomes 34. To make your code unique use different row and column numbers or jumble the letters of the alphabet up. Try and decipher the following words using the grid shown. 15 11 44 45 15 43, 12 51 34 34 54, 13 23 24 13 31, 15 22 22, 13 23 35 13 35 32 11 45 15. Of course the cipher is quite easy to crack once you know how it works. See if you can recreate the grid used to encipher this message. 18 12 58 58, 19 14 42 12, 79 14 39, 44 73 59 12, 49 13 73 49 72 12 19, 54 44 53 48, 49 53 43 44 12 13. A blank grid has been provided for you to use. Answer in next issue.

	1	2	3	4	5
1	A	B	C	D	E
2	F	G	H	I	J
3	K	L	M	N	O
4	P	Q	R	S	T
5	U	V	W	XY	Z

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Newbold Verdon U-12 REPORT

The U-12 Football Team are unbeaten in the League so far.

This is down to good management and excellent team performances from the lads on the field. On 6th February, we played and beat one of our nearest rivals, beating Ashfordby 2 - 0 away. The lads played some good football, especially the second half. With six matches left to play, we have a good chance on winning the League.

Keep up the good work Young Eagles. Many thanks to Mel Talbot for running the line for the Club, and once again to the parents who turn out each week to support the team.

Manager: T. Freestone

DIARY OF EVENTS

Fri. 4th March	Savannah Jazz Band NV Jazz Club Tickets:John Ryde 822676	
Sat. 5th March	10 - 12 Brownie Spring Fayre at Scout Hut	
Sun. 6th March	6 p.m. United Lent Service- Baptist	D. Voice
Sun. 13th March	10.30a.m. Baptist-Mothering Sunday NO EVENING SERVICE	D. Voice
Mon. 14th March	W.I.(Fiona Power-Reflexologist)	
Sat. 19th March	8 - 12 ★NVCA ANNIVERSARY DANCE★ at the Community School Tickets: Tel:822805	
Sun. 20th March	6p.m. United Lent Service-St. James	
Sun. 27th March	6 p.m. Baptist Evening Service	D. Voice
Fri. 1st April	7.45p.m. Good Friday Service: Baptist	D. Voice
Sun. 3rd April	10.30a.m. Baptist Family Service:Easter Day 6.00p.m. Baptist Evening Service	D. Voice
Thu. 7th April) Fri. 8th April) Sat. 9th April)	"SEE HOW THEY RUN" 7.30p.m. Verdon Players Drama Group at N.V. Community School	
Sun. 10th April	6p.m. Baptist Evening Service	D. Voice
Wed. 13th April	7.30p.m. ★NVCA A.G.M. (Open meeting)	
Sun. 17th April Sun. 24th April	6p.m.Baptist Evening Service 6p.m.Baptist Evening Service	D.Voice D.Voice

★★The Bright Hour at the Baptist Church Meetings alternative weeks at 2.30p.m. Everyone welcome★★