

DONYATT DESPATCH

Donyatt's own newspaper – January 2006

DONYATT'S NEW NEWSPAPER

WELCOME to Donyatt's new newspaper. This new venture is supported by the Steering Committee for the Village Plan, it will contain all the news about the numerous topics underway. Additionally, we will also let you know what has been going on at Parish Council meetings, other activities throughout the village and a list of dates for your diary. We hope that over time many of you will subscribe to this newspaper sending us ideas, articles or photographs – we want to publish news about the village that you want to read.

We would like to take the opportunity to give our thanks to Margaret Morton, who, for the past eleven years, single-handedly and from her own pocket, edited and printed the previous A5 newsletter. Margaret's contribution to Donyatt has been invaluable in providing a means to let villagers know what is going on. Margaret is retiring from editorial work and taking a well earned rest – we all wish her well.

Village Hall Survey

Well done everyone for completing the forms. There was a 72% response, which is terrific. Full details of the results will be in the February edition of the Despatch so watch this newspaper.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME FOR DONYATT & SEA

The Neighbourhood Watch (NW) scheme is now up and running with a Coordinator and six Local Coordinators. They, in turn, routinely pass on information about local crime incidents or potential criminal activity to NW members in the village and are also able to send information to the local Police.

Many hundreds of these schemes have been set up across the country, generally by small residential groups. They assist the police by acting as their "eyes and ears" at a very local level. The idea is that any activities which seem suspicious or even just unusual can be easily reported to the local police, and, in established NW areas, very substantial reductions in crime levels have

resulted. Thus, if you see anything odd occurring or suspect electronic crime, let your local coordinator know as soon as possible. The information will be immediately passed up the line.

The Avon and Somerset Police tell us that we live in the safest part of the country, consequently people should not view this scheme as any basis for concern, rather it should be seen as a move to give reassurance to everyone. Meanwhile, to help prevent crime, the police regularly feed information down to us concerning current problems in our general area so that we can be alert to potential incidents. Information may relate to such things as burglaries, car theft, telephone fraud

"scams" involving credit cards etc.

By now, NW members should have received at least three police reports. If not, or you're interested in joining the scheme, please contact your Local Coordinator:

Jan Chalon - Church St: 55187
Brian Harper - Park: 52994
Tony Hayward - Sea: 259 142
Stephen Taylor - Donyatt Hill: 52308
Tony Taylor - Lower Village: 57227
Dick Thomas Pound: 55272

So, be on the lookout. By the way, **most insurance companies will now give us a welcome reduction on our household premiums.**

Tony Hayward - Coordinator

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Christmas quiz results: 13 teams competed; 1st: Kitchen Crew, 2nd: Thatcher's team (2005 winners) Many thanks to Pat Anderson for setting and asking the questions, and to all other helpers. With your support £75 was raised for club funds.
Skittles league Two fine wins for the Pound Team, beating Lower by

35 pins, and the Upper Team, who beat the Farmers (2005 winners). Upper team still unbeaten and firm favourites for the title.

Talk at the Village Hall: Dr Andrew Tresidder will talk on his experiences as a General Practitioner and his interest and use of alternative medicines. **Friday 12th January at 7.45**

RECREATION AREA NEWS UPDATE

The project, started by Richard Whitefield in 2002, is nearly complete. The big news is that the Trim Trail is now installed and here are our first happy customers.



The Sunday breakfasts are going well. On 5th November, the first in this new series, 95 breakfasts were served and on 3rd December that figure rose to 101. The food and the service were excellent - well done all

the helpers. It is hard work - non stop from 7.30 a.m. to 12 noon. The breakfast dates for early 2007 are: 4th Feb, 4th March. **Please note:**

There will be no BIG Breakfast in January.

Because of a stipulation in the grant funding we are required to run the recreation initiative as a limited company. The Directors are: David Willis (Chairman), Richard Coles (Secretary), Andy Watson (Treasurer) and George Busby. A large number of other people have given valuable help over the years for which we are very grateful. However, we find there is some reluctance to attend Committee meetings! We would like to have more people involved, particularly parents, and with children taking an active role in running things and making decisions about how they would like the area to develop.

We want to make maximum use of this facility for the whole community. What happens next? A football team? A pitch with goalpost(s)? A shelter for older kids to hang out in? Swings? Basketball? Rounders? **Let us know what you would like.**

David Willis (Chairman) 01460-53297
email: dandpislebank@tiscali.co.uk

A SPECIAL TREAT FOR DONYATT

Thanks to Gervais Bellamy, the Heritage Theatre will be bringing their latest production to Donyatt Village Hall on **Friday 26th January** at 7.30 pm. Proceeds will go towards new seating for the Village Hall.

Re-live the great days of the Music Halls. Hear their story and sing along in a Victorian/Edwardian setting. Enjoy a hot supper. Drinks available throughout the performance.

Tickets £7.50 including supper.
Available from Sea Farm Shop and John Grabham (01460 52129).

Community Speed-Watch News

In the nine months since Donyatt started it's Community Speedwatch operations it has become one of the strongest groups in the South West area. This is due to the professional-like dedicated team of 16 volunteers from the village who are prepared to stand by the roadside in extremes of cold and heat trying to make Donyatt a safer and more pleasant place to live in.

On an average day about 300 cars an hour drive one-way through the village, about ten drivers each hour are reported exceeding 36 mph. Of course it would be ideal to have a patrol out all day every day as those luminous jackets remind people to check their speed, but the reality is that with 3 or 4 patrols out each week by teams who are all police trained, more and more people are aware of Speedwatch in Donyatt.

If you have an hour to spare in a month and would like to know more about helping Speedwatch please call:
Jan Chalon on 55187

HOLIDAY REFUSE COLLECTION - revised DATES

Weekly food waste etc. Tues 26 Dec to **Thursday 28 Dec**
Weekly food waste etc. Tuesday 2 Jan to **Wednesday 3 Jan**
Fortnightly refuse collection: Wed 3 Jan to **Thursday 4 Jan**

CHURCH ROOF FUND Please leave any old/broken or unwanted umbrellas in church porch -thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY-Wed 3rd Skittles: Pound v Sea -
Bell Inn Broadway.

JANUARY-Fri 12th Talk by Dr Andrew Tresidder
7.45 Village Hall

JANUARY-Wed 17th Skittles: Sea v Farmers
Bell Inn Broadway

JANUARY-Mon 22nd Parish Council meeting
Village Hall 8 pm

JANUARY-Fri 26th History of the Music Hall
Village Hall 7.30

JANUARY-Wed 31st Skittles: Upper v Park
Bell Inn Broadway

CLOSING DATE: 24 January for next **FEBRUARY DESPATCH**— contributions welcomed
Please send copy to any of the EDITORS: Preferably by email - thank you.

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