

• Chair: JEANINE PLAIN-JONES •

Please email documents for the Newsletter to: dorridgeresidents@gmail.com

>>>> We are back online with a new website. Please visit ddra.org.uk for updates <<<<

KDBH Neighbourhood Forum Update

We are delighted to confirm that the KDBH Neighbourhood Forum has been successful in its bid for community infrastructure funding (commonly known as NCIL) from Solihull Council.

The award of £10,000 provided equally from Dorridge, Bentley Heath and Knowle Wards enables the Forum to continue its important work and press ahead with a number of community engagement projects including:

- Resident consultation on prioritisation of Community Infrastructure Projects.
- 2. Extensive consultation and engagement with the community following the publication of the Inspectors' recommendations on the Local Plan.
- 3. Updating the Neighbourhood Plan following approval of the Solihull Local Plan.
- 4. Substantially increasing Forum membership including younger members.
- 5. Review and refresh of Community Actions set out in the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Creation of a master-plan for the KDBH area (including highways, parking, cycle routes, pedestrian routes etc) in association with residents, residents organisations and Solihull Council.

Congratulations are also extended to the other successful NCIL bidders in our area:

- Knowle & Dorridge Cricket Club: development of a second pitch at the main ground and accompanying new pavilion with changing facilities (£48,000)
- Knowle & Dorridge Cricket Club: clubhouse redevelopment project (£20,000)
- Dorridge Scout Hut: Roof modification and replacement (£15,000)
- Northern Gateway to Knowle: landscape; public realm improvements (£9,960)

Governments Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill: Reforms to National Planning Policy The Government is currently proposing changes to national planning policy which could have significant implications for the two large housing sites proposed in Knowle - at Hampton Road (198 houses) and at the 'Arden Triangle', between Station Road and Warwick Road (660 houses). The changes relate to housing development on protected green belt land and to housing densities.

Although specifically relevant to the Knowle sites, the outcome of the proposed changes may have far - reaching consequences for the entire KDBH area as they directly affect green belt land and are proposed at housing densities which residents have previously expressed as too high for our area.

These sites are still being assessed by Government Inspectors as part of the Solihull Local Plan Review and to date they have signalled that they consider these sites are suitable and appropriate for housing. That is despite local residents not knowing what will happen to the proposed relocation of Arden Academy, provision of a new Primary School or the future of Knowle FC. The changes in national planning policy are expected to be announced very shortly, and if confirmed, are likely to present a final opportunity for



tyre service HOLLAND CORNER, LODGE ROAD, KNOWLE TEL: 01564 772234 343 STRATFORD RD, SHIRLEY TEL: 0121 745 5592 ALIGNMENT, BRAKE (HECK & REPAD SUSPENSION SERVICE, FULL CAR SERVICING FULL CAR SERVICING STATION

TYRES TUBES

FLECTRONIC WHEEL



the KDBH Neighbourhood Forum to make further representations to the Inspectors before they issue their recommendations to the Council. We are aware that some bodies, such as the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (CPRE) and Berkswell residents' organisations, are lobbying for some housing sites in their area to be dropped.

The Forum will shortly be issuing more of the background to this together with a consultation document for residents to have a say on various options on how they should respond.

Please look out for the consultation document issued to its Forum members, made available to the general public via social media channels and also highlighted on their website - **www.kdbh-np.org.**

Are you not yet a member? Join for free on the website.

Dorridge Probus Club

A Probus club is a local association of retired and semi-retired business and professional people from all walks of life. The name is an amalgamation of the abbreviation of the words Professional and Business.

Probus started in the 1960s and is now a world-wide organisation. Its aim is to provide a regular forum for retirees to meet in non-political, non-sectarian, non-profit, autonomous clubs to meet others with similar levels of interest, make new friends, and maintain and expand their interests.

Dorridge Probus Club started in 1975 as Knowle and Dorridge Probus. Increasing numbers led to Knowle forming their own club, and the two have coexisted amicably ever since.

Dorridge Probus meets at Copt Heath Golf Club on the first Tuesday of the month starting at 12 noon for 12.45, with a meal first followed by a talk. Our informative and entertaining talks cover a wide range of topics including subjects of local and current interest. Ladies are invited to our June and December meetings.

If you are retired and looking for an enjoyable way to broaden your knowledge in good company and pleasant surroundings with an excellent meal, then we would be delighted to welcome you to join our club. We are planning an event next year to welcome all our new members.

For more information please visit our website

https://probusclub.net/dorridge/ and if you would like to join us please contact us by email on *dorridge.probus@gmail.com*.

Notice from Solihull Hospital.

Solihull Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) for minor injuries & illnesses opened its doors to patients on 28 June 2023. Open 08.00-20.00 seven days per week, providing urgent care for common issues including: broken bones, sprains, cuts, stomach pains, rashes & minor burns.

The new facility is based on the Solihull hospital site and is available for adults & children (one year and over) . It can be accessed through NHS 111 or just by walking in.

The UTC will have a mixture of different clinical professionals delivering the service and will including emergency nurse practitioners & GPs.



WIDNEY NEWS

For a Fast, Friendly & Reliable News Delivery Service at affordable rates 2 Slater Road, Bentley Heath, Solihull B93 8AG

TEL: 01564 772097

Philip McCullough BDS Samantha McCullough BDS		
DENTAL HEALTH CARE	474 STATION ROAD DORRIDGE SOLIHULL WEST MIDS B93 8HE	
A fresh approach to a caring partnersh Telephone: 01564 77257		

Free (and nearly free) Music Concerts in the Birmingham/Solihull Area

1. Barber Institute

Every Friday at 1pm. Lunchtime Concerts - The Barber Institute of Fine Arts Currently held in the University's Elgar Concert Hall in the Bramall Music School a few minutes walk away from the Barber's own concert hall while this is undergoing ventilation improvements.

2. St Alphege Church, Solihull

Every Wednesday 1.10pm - 2pm Lunchtime Recitals at St Alphege – Solihull Parish. Tea/coffee/cake available before the start

3. Warwick Arts Centre

Historically these monthly lunchtime concerts, normally held on the second Thursday of each month, were free. These are now £5 (including a hot drink).

Forthcoming dates are 12 October, 9 November and 7 December at 1pm in the Ensemble Room.

However, the Arts Centre does hold free Jazz Friday events in the foyer every Friday from 5.30pm to 7.15pm.

4. St Mary's Church, Warwick

Lunchtime Recitals are generally fortnightly on a Friday at 1.15pm. They are free but hold a retiring collection. *http://www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk*

Forthcoming dates are 6th October, 3rd and 17th November, 1st and 15th December. They consist mostly of organ music but 3rd November is piano and 1st December is piano/lute recital.

5. Birmingham Library

Has occasional free lunchtime concerts on Saturdays in the summer, in a series called 'Lunchtimes at LoB'.

This link should give information when available: Lunchtimes at LoB: Schubert and Prokofiev - Royal Birmingham Conservatoire | Birmingham City University Please see ink at *(bcu.ac.uk)*

Are you retired or semi-retired?

Do you still want to learn and be active in a friendly and sociable setting?

Then why not come along to a taster session or two at South Solihull u3a (University of The 3rd Age)? This sociable club is one of over 1,000 u3a groups in the national u3a organisation.

South Solihull u3a is a very friendly group of retired or semi-retired people aiming to enjoy their 3rd age years, learning new skills and making new friends along the way.

We meet at 1:45 pm (for a 2:00 pm start) on the second Monday of each month at Bentley Heath Community Centre. Usually there is an invited speaker and past talks have been on a wide range of topics.

Just as important as the talk is the opportunity to meet and chat with other members over tea or coffee and biscuits. Other occasions such as Christmas and national celebrations can provide a reason for an afternoon party instead!

However, the great strength of South Solihull u3a is in the wide range of other activities that happen throughout each month. There are activity groups varying from the physical to the cerebral, from practical to scientific and the linguistic to artistic so there is something for everyone.

Our existing groups are: Walking, Gardening, "Learn, Laugh, Move" exercise class, Philosophy, a Repair Shed, Science, Local History Groups, French Conversation, Intermediate German, Theatre and Music, Art Appreciation, Play Reading, Book Clubs, Family History, Current Affairs and the very popular International Dining Club. Soon to start is an Information Technology Group to help members to learn and develop their smartphone and computer skills.





New groups can start as easily as two members wanting to pursue a new study area and others then joining in, creating the essence of a thriving, dynamic and member-orientated organisation.

If you think this may interest you and you believe that your third age should be fun, busy, sociable and give you new opportunities to learn, then have a look at our website **www.ssu3a.org** and afterwards, get in touch with Richard Walton, the Membership Secretary at

membershipssu3a@yahoo.com

There are new potential friends out there waiting to hear from you, so come along to our upcoming meeting on Monday 13th November when we have a talk on "Place Names in Warwickshire and Worcestershire". You will be made very welcome!

What are you doing on 27th December?

Nothing planned? You know that you will have probably eaten one too many mince-pies. You know that you will have watched too much TV. You know you ought to get out into the fresh air to stretch your legs.

For these reasons, and perhaps many more, why not join us on our **Post Christmas walk** on Wednesday 27th December, from Dorridge Village Hall (where maps can be collected and your donation made) for a gentle 3 or 6 mile sign-posted stroll around our lovely countryside.

Bring your friends - bring your dog - all ages are welcome. Children will enjoy finding the hidden lions in our Festive Safari. Everybody will enjoy a well - earned drink and bite at Dorridge Cricket Club at the end of their walk. The weather forecast is for a bright sunny day (we made that bit up but everything else is true).

For more information visit www.knowleanddorridgelions.com

A message from Knowle and Dorridge Lions

Thanks to the generosity of our many local supporters, Knowle and Dorridge Lions were delighted to be able to present a cheque for $\pounds1000$ to the Lapworth Group of the Riding for the Disabled Association.

The Lapworth Group run weekly sessions throughout the school year for a group of 8 children from the local Springfield House school. In addition to the 5 ponies that the group hires for the children to ride they also provide lessons on 'Charley' the mechanical horse.

The cost of hiring Charley to use throughout the year is £960 so it was great to be able to cover this cost for 2023/4 with some additional funds towards the purchase of new riding hats for the children.

Thank you to everyone who supports Knowle and Dorridge Lions, whether it be through taking part in our Fun Run, Festive Walk or Bikeathon or simply supporting us with a generous donation. Only with your help are we able to respond to requests for support from such great local organisations as the Lapworth Riding For The Disabled Association.

Santa's Sleigh 2023.

Knowle & Dorridge Round Table are thrilled to confirm the dates and routes for the 2023 Santa Sleigh.

Santa will be joining the switch-on events for the local Christmas lights and then he'll be taking to the streets to bring joy to the kids and raise money for good causes.

Our team will be out on the streets every Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday walking almost every road in B93. Please check out the full detailed route plan on our website *kandd.org.uk/santa*.

If we're not covering your road, please come and see us on one of the many nights we are out and about. As we're all carrying less cash nowadays, we will be also using online and SMS donation tools, details of which will also be available on our website.







TEL: 01564 770560 SANTASFIELDS.CO.UK



We will be donating some of the money raised from this year's Santa Sleigh to Edwards Trust, a local charity who provide support to bereaved children and young families.

Last year, through the fantastic support we received from the wider community at Dorridge Day, Beer Festival and Santa Sleigh, we were able to donate £20,000 to Springfield House special school to renovate sensory and de-escalation rooms. We will be sharing more details about this soon.

Over recent years, we have also been able to fund defibrillators around the B93 area and help the local Scouts, Sea Scouts, and Challenge Action Group with money for new equipment and essential maintenance. We have donated to volunteer organisations including the Warwickshire Search & Rescue team and the Solihull Blood-bikes, and we have also provided funds to a number of local individuals to buy specialist disability equipment.

The Arts Society Solihull

The Society is a registered charity, a constituent member of the The Arts Society and exists to promote an interest in the arts though a range of lectures, tours and events.

We offer a range of lectures – this year we have learned more about modern dance, the Rijksmuseum and the harp and its history. Visits have already taken place to the Glass Museum, Stourbridge, Bletchley Park and Laskett Gardens with a guided walk of Cirencester in July.

Holidays are also arranged with a three day visit to Cardiff planned for September. The year ends with a very popular Christmas lunch at Copt Heath Golf Club.

The Arts Society Solihull might be for you if you are interested in any of the above.

Your membership fee, currently £55, includes ten lectures a year, all of which take place in the Core Theatre at 11:00 usually, but not exclusively, on the first Wednesday of the month. You may join at any time of the year and members may bring a guest along. There is no fixed fee for guests but a donation to the Society (suggested £6) can be paid on the day.

Through support from our Heritage Volunteers, work has been completed at both Knowle Parish Church and Packwood House.

We provide financial support through Young Arts to schools and youth organisations who might struggle to find sponsorship for their activities elsewhere.

Please look on our website for more information about the Society www.theartssocietysolihull.org.uk

New 20mph speed limits introduced

Please be aware of the three new 20mph speed reductions, one on Widney Road that extends beyond Bentley Heath School from below the shops to the top of Widney Road the second past Dorridge School on Station Road from before the crossing to beyond the shops and the third on Mill Lane past St George and St Teresa Primary School.

It is very noticeable that many cars are still ignoring the signs and speeding on these stretches. Please observe this limit to make the roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

Heartstart session Friday 17th November 7-9pm

We are holding another of our popular Heartstart training sessions at Dorridge Village Hall on Friday 17th November, 7 - 9pm.

We hope that as many people as possible will come along and learn what to do if they see someone collapse.

Knowing how to assess the situation, call for help and administer early basic resuscitation all greatly enhance the victim's chances of healthy survival, so the more of us who know what to do, the better for everyone.









We don't know in advance when or where these things are going to happen, or who will be there looking on. It could be you, and it really helps if you know what to do!

The sessions are led by our local First Responder Terry Flower and the FastAid team who bring videos for instruction, and dummies to practise chest compression and other techniques on.

The team give their time for free – there will be a bucket available at the session for cash donations to FastAid to put towards equipment and other things they need to continue to operate.

DDRA sponsors the event by paying for the hire of the Hall.

If you would like to attend this training session, please email Jane Holt at dorridgeresidents@gmail.com

If you receive the newsletter after the date of the event we hope to be running another session early in the new year. If you would like to attend this session, please email Jane as above, and she will contact you directly once the next session has been arranged.

Message from West Midlands Police

Car crime is a problem in our area.

Recently police left letters at properties encouraging residents to check their CCTV, report and forward pictures of offenders to shvehiclecrime@ westmidlands.police.uk with a view to identifying and apprehending offenders.

If your car was targeted please report this via 101 or via web chat.

Always take time to ensure that your vehicle is securely locked and, if you have CCTV, check that it is working properly. If your car has keyless entry purchase a 'Faraday pouch' and keep your keys in it when at home to ensure that the transmitter is blocked so that your car does not open accidentally or that the signal from your keys cannot be picked up by would-be thieves.

Bentley Heath Christmas Lights Switch-On

The Christmas lights switch-on event is

Thursday November 23rd at 4.30 pm

We have a half hour programme which includes community carol singing, a live band, a special guest spot featuring 'Sing!Bentley Heath', and last but not least, Father Christmas - with plenty of extra time at the end for photo opportunities with the big man himself!

We would like to thank Steve of 'Santa's Fields and Steve's Christmas Trees' for generously supplying the Christmas trees for our community centres in Dorridge and Bentley Heath.

Dorridge Christmas Lights Switch-On

to Illuminate the Festive Spirit is Monday November 27th from 5.30pm

The most anticipated event of the year is just around the corner, and Dorridge is all set to usher in the holiday season with a spectacular display of Christmas Lights which will be a magical evening for the whole community.

This year's event promises to be bigger and brighter than ever, featuring an array of delightful attractions for visitors of all ages. From mouthwatering food stalls to a real ale & Prossecco bar and a mini fun fair, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

But that's not all! We are thrilled to announce that Dino Baptise and Matt Tovey from The World Famous Jam House in Birmingham will be gracing the stage with live Christmas music, filling the air with melodies that will warm your heart.

Santa Claus himself will be making a special appearance, and he'll be in charge of hitting the big red button to illuminate the festive lights. The joy and wonder on the faces of the children are sure to be a sight to behold!

Family Care Trus



Our Specialist Day Centre is based in Dorridge. We offer over 25 years of experience in care. We provide social stimulation and all aspects of personal care. Let us support you!!

> Tel: 01564 771179 www.familycaretrust.co.uk



Hosting the event, as always, is the charismatic Mat Bullock, who will ensure that the evening is full of excitement and holiday cheer.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to kick off the holiday season in style. Gather your family and friends and join us at Dorridge on November 27th for a night of enchantment, live music, and the magic of Christmas.

For more information, visit our social media page:

www.facebook.com/dorridgexmaslights

See you at the Dorridge Christmas Lights switch-on!

Knowle Christmas Lights Switch-On

Wednesday 29th November

Please see www.knowlesociety.org.uk for details

KDBH Bus Action Group

This group continues to meet to discuss how we can best lobby for improvements to our local bus services.

In September we wrote to Jon Hayes, Head of Bus at Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) asking him to meet with us and others from our local community, as there is widespread dissatisfaction with the current levels of service.

We were very pleased that a number of other local community groups

(DDRA, KDBH Forum, Knowle Society, Visit Knowle, Knowle & Dorridge Rotary Club) agreed to be signatories to our letter, confirming that this is an issue across our community.

News of timetable change:

A7/A8 – South Solihull Circulars via Knowle, Dorridge, Hockley Heath Blythe Valley & Cheswick Green

From 29 October 2023, this Landflight service will operate with some changes:

- Sunday buses will operate between Solihull and Blythe Valley bus terminus via Dorridge only. Alternative Sunday services are available:
- For Blythe Valley Park: A9 Blythe Valley Park to Kingshurst via Solihull, Olton (operated by Stagecoach)
- For Cheswick Green: A5 Cheswick Green to Solihull via Dickens Heath (operated by Landflight)

Bus tickets can be used on any bus in the West Midlands.

- Your best alternative is to change to the Landflight A7/A8 (South Solihull Circular) at Stratford Road which stops at McDonalds.
- Purnells Way/Longdon Road will no longer be served from 7pm. Your best alternative is to catch services from Station Road.
- · Buses will serve Stroudley Road on Blythe Valley Park
- The last bus of the day from Monday to Saturday will be approximately one hour earlier

Johnsons Alfa Romeo and Fiat

Four Ashes Road, Dorridge, Solihull B93 8NE Tel: 01564 731 531

www.johnsonsalfaromeo.co.uk www.johnsonsfiat.co.uk

When the new timetable is available it will be linked to TfWM web site. If you have any questions, needs or complaints, please contact TfWM at PO Box 9421, BIRMINGHAM B19 3TR.

(Tel: 0345 303 6760 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 8am to 6pm: Wednesdays, 10am to 6pm: Saturdays, 9am to 1pm: Sundays and Bank Holidays, Closed).

The new timetable for the A7/A8 service can also be downloaded from our website *www.ddra.org.uk*

Christmas Fair at St Philip's & St James Church

Saturday 18th November 10.00am – 2.00pm

There will be lots of home-made crafts, Christmas gifts, raffle and much more. Refreshments are also available.

Reminder:

Bentley Heath lights switch on Thursday 23rd Nov from 4.3pm Dorridge lights switch on Monday 27th from 5.30pm Knowle lights switch on Wednesday 29th Nov from 4pm

.....

A new editor for the March edition of this newsletter is needed as the present editor is stepping down.

If you would like to have a go please drop a line to dorridgeresidents@gmail.com

The editing task is not onerous as all news items are submitted well in advance.

The editor's job is to check the quality of the items and submit them to the printers.

Only basic computer skills are needed, as the layouts are arranged by the printers...



Have you paid your Residents' Association subscription: £4 per person per year? Standing Order preferred, make payments to DDRA, Sort Code 40-19-34, Account Number 91006347. If you choose this option please e-mail: dorridgeresidents@gmail.com with your name, address and details of the payment, using your surname as reference.

If you prefer to pay membership of £4 per person per calendar year by cash or cheque (payable to DDRA) please deliver to our Membership Secretary Jane Holt at 217 Widney Road, Bentley Heath B93 9BW

NAME (Print)	Email / Tel Number		20
ADDRESS			Post code
$\label{eq:amount} \mbox{Amount}(s)\mbox{enclosed subscription}(s): \ \mbox{\pounds} \ \ldots$	Donation: £	Total: £	

NOTE - the advertisements in this Newsletter are the responsibility of the advertisers, any products or services advertised cannot be guaranteed or endorsed.

PRINTED BY PAPER & PRINT • 0121 745 3214