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CIRCULATION 1330

SEPTEMBER 2023

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YOUR MOCAL NEWSLETTER



OAKTHORPE

THE NATIONAL FOREST

DONISTHORPE

THE NATIONAL FOREST

ACRESFORD

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Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe and Acresford Parish Council

In May 2023 we had our parish council elections and we welcomed 3 new councillors to the parish council.

As a parish council we aim to work together to make our parish a better place to live and to try and resolve issues we have within the parish, with this as a parish council it was suggested to ask the parish what their thoughts are.

First, we would like to know your top 3 issues are within the parish?

Second, what is the best thing or things about living in our parish?

Third, what would you like to see or be done to improve our parish?

Which village do you live in? [] Acresford [] Donisthorpe [] Oakthorpe [] Other As a parish council we would like to thank you in advance for your input and you can send your responses and ideas to either:

Fill out the survey on the link: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CPGZWN7

Email— manager@odapc.co.uk

or

Drop box to post your replies:

Parish Council Post box at the Oakthorpe Leisure Centre.

Post box on Acresford Memorial Grounds fence.

Next Parish Council meeting:

Wednesday 13 September 2023, 7.00pm at Oakthorpe Leisure Centre.

All are welcome to attend.

Queries can be sent to the Clerk at manager@odapc.co.uk
for consideration at the meeting.

News from Friends!

It was with a heavy heart that our scheduled 'Kings Proms' Coronation Concert was cancelled back in July due to the threat of inclement weather. We are pleased to confirm however, that the concert, although no longer a Coronation Celebration, has been rescheduled to take place on Sunday

9th June, 2024 - so put a note in your diary!

We were lucky that rain didn't stop play for our 'Pirate and Princess Picnic in the Park' on Wednesday 9th August. The free event was well attended by around 30 Pirates and Princesses who came along with parents, grandparents and carers to join in the fun and games prepared by our volunteers in glorious sunshine. We look forward to welcoming you all back same time, same place next year.





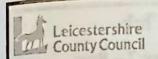
Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th September, 7pm at the Pavilion Bar, Donisthorpe. The group are always pleased to welcome new volunteers so if you can spare a couple of hours fundraising or helping on site, we would love to hear from you.

The Big Quiz returns on Saturday 28th October and will kindly be hosted by the Pavilion Bar and Restaurant as last year. The quiz starts at 7.30 pm with lots of prizes to be won and lots of fun!

There is still time to support our cause as part of the Co-op Local Community Fund. Its just £1 to open an account if you don't already have one and if you select our project as your chosen cause, funds will be donated on all Co-op products you purchase. Search: https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/74206.

Changes are afoot on site so keep your eyes peeled for the latest developments. We will keep you informed on Facebook, 3 Views News and now available on Instagram and Twitter under 'ODA Memorial Garden'.

If you would like to be involved, can help the group in any way, or would like to know more about the project, please email: friendsodamemorialgardens@hotmail.com or search groups on Facebook: Friends of the ODA Memorial Gardens, for more information.



Community orchard scheme set to bear fruit and grow a greener future

Community groups, parish councils and schools are being invited to apply for free packs of fruit trees and use them to plant new orchards.

Leicestershire County Council has launched the new community orchards programme as part of its annual free tree scheme. Under the new initiative, groups are being encouraged to apply for the free orchard packs, which contain 10 apple and pear trees, stakes and other equipment needed to establish the orchard.

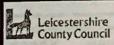
The trees can be used to create a new orchard for the local community or to help restore and boost an existing orchard. The trees must be planted on sites which are open to the public, groups must have permission from the landowner to plant the trees, and all groups applying to the scheme need to commit to maintaining and nurturing the orchard in the long term.

Councillor Blake Pain, cabinet member for the environment and the green agenda, said: "Orchards and trees play a vital role in enriching our ecosystem and improving biodiversity. The new orchards scheme gives community groups the opportunity to make a real difference to our environment and play their part in making Leicestershire a cleaner and greener place to live and work.

"The creation of a number of new orchards throughout the county gives us a unique opportunity to create green spaces that not only provide fresh and healthy produce but also serve as havens for wildlife and a boost to our goal of helping to plant 700,000 trees in Leicestershire."

Groups who would like to apply for one of the tree packs should contact the council's Forestry team on forestry@leics.gov.uk

The packs will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, and will be available for collection during National Tree Week in November.



Hospital discharge grant to support unpaid carers

Unpaid carers can qualify for a grant if they are supporting someone in Leicestershire who has recently been discharged from hospital.

Carers often incur unexpected additional costs so they can now apply for a Leicestershire County Council funded grant which is available until 31 March next year.

To qualify for the grant, carers will need to show that the cared-for person:

- Lives in Leicestershire
- Has been discharged from hospital during the past four weeks (at the time of applying)
- Needs the carer for help and support to keep them safe
- Needs a level of support that has seen additional costs for the carer since the hospital discharge.
 This includes a loss of income due to taking time off work

The council coordinated initiative will once again be administered by Voluntary South Action Leicestershire (VASL) on behalf of the county council.

Councillor Christine Radford, county council cabinet member for adults and communities said: "The first round of the grant scheme was a success, so it's great to be able to offer another opportunity for carers to access this support. "People do a wonderful job looking after their loved ones, but perhaps don't see themselves as carers or may not be in touch with the Support for Carers' service. "These are the people we are reaching out to so they have an opportunity to receive both practical and emotional support during such a stressful time."