



March 2014 Parish News

Keep yourself informed and involved

There is always something going on in the Old Town. Some big events, some small with much to tempt people out of their homes. For instance :

Monday 3rd March 5.00 - Street meeting in Butlers Gap with local Police officers. If you have any concerns just turn up and talk to them.

Saturday 8th March 9.30 - 12.30 Old Town Hall Museum - E.S.C.C. Will explain the forthcoming changes to Street lighting. Most light bulbs will be swapped. The yellow sodium lamps will now have white LED lights. Some street lamps will be switched off from midnight. £280,000 should be saved in electricity every year.

Website www.hotra.org.uk

David Woolf who looks after our website has created a vibrant noticeboard. The Agendas and Minutes of the monthly meetings of the management Committee hold details about the current issues affecting the Old Town. The 3 noticeboards and Parish News page are all intended to help local people stay in touch.

HOTRA's Trading Scheme

By showing your membership card you can now save money with over 2 dozen local traders. For instance you can save 10% at Lloyds Pharmacy (prescriptions and baby goods not included). BUT you need to show your current years membership card.

Ecclesbourne Glen

One of the truly wonderful aspects of living in the Old Town is the Country Park. Used by 100's of people every day throughout the year it is a place to refresh and inspire. Sadly last winter there was a landslip beneath Rocklands caravan park. This has been added to by a more serious landslip. The footpath there has been closed. ESCC will repair it !

Making the Old Town look better

Over recent years HOTRA have been involved in significant improvements to the built environment - Butlers Gap, the multi use games area and children's playground on Pelham beach and currently Winkle Island.

Credit is also due for enhancements to DeeDay White. Starting with the corner garden opposite the Jenny Lind, then opposite Bourne Stores in front of the scrapyard and further along with the giant wheelbarrow. Bright planting adds to the Old Town charm. All attractively planted and maintained these are cheerful examples of volunteer led efforts. The High Street Traders have helped with the costs. The lych gate at the top of

All Saints churchyard was a more complex challenge.

Now DeeDay has embarked on efforts to restore a former lifeboat the Priscilla Macbean. Strongly supported by Tush Hamilton and others, you can see work in progress near the Lifeboat station. Again High Street Traders have made a donation towards the costs. When completed the Priscilla Macbean will be put on permanent display. One possible site is at the start of the Old Town opposite Lower Torfield Allotments. Thanks DeeDay.