

Book Club

Our last meeting of this season was on 31st May. David Brazier was there to sign copies of his book ‘**Alone**’ and we had a little celebration both of this and of the end of our first season. During the summer we are going to be reading whatever we fancy but are planning to make a note of it on Facebook (or the new web page if it’s open). We would welcome suggestions from any-one so if you’ve read a book that you’ve enjoyed (or not as the case may be) tell us all and it might help us to choose our summer reading.

I’m planning on catching up with some Nevil Shute, who I haven’t read for a long time. Some are trying some more of the Barchester Chronicles, by Trollope. I would heartily recommend anyone to try any of Melvyn Bragg’s books, just such lovely, well-constructed writing. We are also trying books out of our ‘comfort zone’, as this is what we’ve done over the winter and even if we’ve not enjoyed all the books, we’re pleased to have added a new dimension to our reading. So if you have a favourite book or want to suggest anything, put it on Facebook, or send a message to one of us for us to post. Everyone is always welcome to come along to the monthly Book Club - you don’t need to have been before, we are not ‘exclusive’ and the Facebook banter was just joking! Our first meeting of the winter will be on 27th September when we will be discussing what we have read over the summer so it’s going to be a lively and busy session. We’ll also be choosing the next book for us all to read. We hope to see you there!



A traditional village fête jam packed full of fun for all the family. This year the fete will be opened by BBC Radio Derby’s Aleena Naylor, who will crown the fête queen following a parade from the children of Findern Primary School. The afternoon will be filled with activities, with a band playing on the Village Green and performances by local children. We have stalls from crafts, plants to massage treatments, an array of food stalls to tickle your taste buds, lots of fun games and children’s rides plus lots of involvement from local community groups. Things you can do before the date – **Get Baking** your entry for the Findern Fête ‘Bake Off’ for your chance to get a rosette and becoming the overall winner – judged by the Findern WI. This year’s categories are Cakes, Tray Bakes, Cookies, Tarts, Biscuits, Scones and Children’s Category. Visit Mercia Marina Reception and buy some raffle tickets, lots of great prizes. We welcome everyone and we hope to see you, our neighbours from Mercia Marina, for a lovely afternoon.

Sunday 15th May saw a sunny get together at the Community Bikes’ stand. Bike users came to have a go. Kev and Angie are the mainstay behind his great service but Kev says “without the donations of bikes from moorers even to be used as spares, the Community Bike Share wouldn’t have been so successful” and his thanks go also to Mercia Marina for the supply of bike shelters and spares. The photographs, by Kev, show various bike-abouts amidst a lot of laughter Our own Stig also came along to add a bit of class and celebrity to the day!



For comments and contributions, please contact Jo—07973711431 or jojames46@gmail.com

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Mercia Marina’s Craft Group put on a display of traditional canal crafts and other crafts they get up to, at this year’s Willington Arts Festival. They were based by the canal in the village and the working boat Princess Anne, brought down by her owner Roger Titterton, formed the centrepiece of the display. There were many visitors including lots of friends from the Marina who came along for a chat and to enjoy the lovely weather. Sue Eales managed to sell plenty of raffle tickets for the lovely Union Flag rag rug she has made with all proceeds going to marina charities, tickets are still available.



Jean Pugh alongside Princess Anne



Jean with Sue Eales by the Craft Exhibition
(Photography by Phil Pugh)

Jean Pugh writes: “Thank you to everyone who gave up the whole of their weekend or a few hours to come down to the display to help or just have a chat and sit in the sunshine. Also the 'support team' who fetched and carried for us. I must mention a few by name, Sue and Pete for taking their boat ‘Joe’ down, Pete in particular for putting up with all us females demanding coffee and biscuits, Lee Bartlett for not chucking me in when I told him we didn’t have room for his boat (sorry Lee), Celia Kind for keeping track of my glasses. I think we would all agree no matter which Marina event you attended this weekend the true star was Tony Preston He must have arrived home exhausted Thank you Tony I don’t know how you did it and you did it all with a smile. While I’m at it a big thank you to the man without whom none of this would be possible, James Brindley for engineering the beautiful Trent and Mersey Canal, our home. Sorry if I’ve missed anyone out but I love you all.”

Photography Club

Ian Francis says: The next meeting of the Photography Club is on the 20th June and as it is so close to the longest day I thought it would be a bit of fun to go out into the marina and take some photos. We will not go far, only within 100m of the Cafe but it would be a great chance to have a play and get a few tips along the way. So please bring your cameras, charged with empty SD cards! And enter the Comp! →



Photography Competition



Congratulations to Ellen Yallop for winning the April Competition with this great photo of a stunning sunrise Send your June entires to Lucy (lucy@merciamarina.co.uk)



Neil and Jane Wakeham and their “Save Our Bees” initiative was the focus for a lovely piece in the Tillergraph recently. It talked about the work they are doing to raise awareness and practical action like planting bee friendly plants and raising funds through a coffee morning. Look out for Information on the Big B Day - Sunday 3rd of July.





Bionical’s 24-hour Charity Spin on the Bandstand

Start: 2pm, Friday 17th June. Finish: 2pm, Saturday 18th June

The Special Olympics GB (recognised by the International Olympic Committee) are for people with intellectual disabilities of **all ages and abilities**. The coaching and competition programme is **community-based and year-round**. There is a **non-elite competition** pathway from local to international. **It is not just about sport**. The Special Olympics integrate health, wellbeing, education and social inclusion into all their programmes and strands of work. Find out more – and how you might get involved – on their Facebook page “Special Olympics Great Britain”



Graham McIntosh (l),
Damian Byrne (r)

or their website www.specialolympicsgb.org.uk
All of those at the Bionical’s offices at Mercia are getting involved, led by Graham McIntosh and Damian Byrne. **Damian (Group Head of IT)** says: “As with most people I’ve been into cycling from an early age, remembering the time my mum first let go of me when riding my first bike. Fast forward to 20/30 years later & letting go of my own children’s bikes. My love of cycling has taken me to working alongside Sky and British Cycling, planning and leading rides in and around Derby and also now being a Commissaire, similar to a referee, at the Velodrome in Derby, providing support to the youth omnium events as well as volunteering at other events. My love of cycling also led me to Bionical, having met Mac on a bike ride, happily chatting away about the world, never thinking that 7 months and an interview later I’d be working alongside him, here at Bionical.

“I’ve always been up for a challenge, in 2014 I took part in the ‘Three Peaks Challenge’ for charity, which didn’t come without its own challenges, raising around £10k for Action for Children.
“Taking part in the Bionical Spinathon, I’m obviously hoping to raise lots of cash but in addition, enjoy doing so by raising awareness for Special Olympics GB, Bionical’s chosen charity, building on an already fantastic team and some friendly rivalry”.

Graham McIntosh, Bionical CEO says: “Bionical has chosen to support the Special Olympics GB to help raise the awareness of such an incredible charity which has touched the hearts of some members of the Bionical staff, from volunteering to caring for those who have an intellectual disability – which unknown to most is the most common disability in the UK. By holding the 24 hour Spinathon, Bionical hope to raise funds which will help to support one of the newest branches of the Special Olympics soon to open in Derby, and by giving adults and children who live close by, the benefit in taking part and being accepted as an athlete in their own right.”

All members of the Mercia and local communities are encouraged to lend their support and be involved. Sponsor the riders, come and support them during the 24 hours or, if you fancy it, be one of the team of riders yourself! And, it’s planned that one of the Spin Bikes will challenge people to pay a fee and have a go at registering the fastest mile or highest wattage during the 24 hours! So if you’re up for a challenge, get in touch with talk Paula Reynolds at Bionical.



Our thanks for Midland Chandlers for their support for the Newsletter which has continued now for over six years.



Craft Club

The craft club will continue to run throughout the summer on the first Wednesday and third Tuesday of each month. It is open to anyone on the marina and their friends; just come along with whatever you are currently working on and join in the chat. If you can’t knit, crochet or have your eye on another craft, there will always be someone there happy to help you. We have gentlemen members as well as ladies so we really are open to everyone. If I’m not around then either Carol, Jean or Maxine will be there so come along whenever you’re able you will be made most welcome. **Nancy Harman**

Willington Surgery
Would like to invite patients to the surgery for a
Health Information
Event

Wednesday 22nd June
4.00pm-6.30pm

Please join staff and patients to browse round the stands providing information on:

- Dementia
- Xpert Diabetes Education Programme
- Arthritis and other painful conditions
- Healthy Living
- Including: Walking for Health Programme; Active Nation Programme; New to Exercise Scheme; Weight Loss; Nutrition; Psychology of Eating; Local Slimming and Exercise Groups
- Healthwatch

Bookable talks:
• Dementia at 4.15pm and 5.15pm
• Open questions with Practice Manager and GPs at 4.30pm and 5.30pm
Please phone surgery to book a place

Let's make Willington Medical Practice Dementia Friendly

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Temporary Road Closure
Findern Lane, Willington



WHEN: 20 - 24 June 2016 between 2100hrs and 0730hrs
WHERE: Findern Lane, Willington adjacent to the level crossing
REASON: To facilitate level crossing upgrade works.
ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: Either via Frizzams, Buckford and Health Lane and onto Willington Road or through Findern and onto Heath Lane, Willington Road. Access will be maintained, whenever reasonably possible, on the affected length of road. The road will re-open as soon as the work is finished. This may be earlier than advertised.
Derbyshire County Council apologises for any inconvenience caused while work takes place. Anyone needing further information should ring Call Derbyshire 01629 533190.

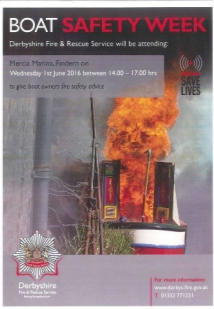
Mercia Community Street Party

On the 11th June we will be celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday with a Community Street Party. Tables and chairs will be provided by the Marina, bunting has been creatively made by the craft group and we can all provide the food and atmosphere. This is a ticket only event and tickets for those who booked in with the Office by the closing date of the 31st of May will be available shortly. Your ticket not only helps us with numbers but will also have a number on it and during the day we will have a surprise for one lucky ticket holder. Please remember to bring your ticket to the event. On the day, tables and chairs will be arranged around the area by Facilities Block 2. They will be set so that pontoons are grouped together. Tables can sit 6-8 people but you can place several tables together if you want to include larger groups. You now need to talk to your neighbours and friends and work out what food you want to eat during the party. Arrange between yourselves who is making what or who wants to buy things- no one wants six plates of cheese sandwiches and no cake! Mick Coupland has kindly offered the use of a refrigerated van for the day for food and desserts. The overall plan is that it's just like a big picnic Fuddle, where we all share the food on our tables. Remember that you also need to bring your own drinks. We will have a raffle on the day and have some excellent prizes. There is also a sheet in the office where you pick a number to try and win the fabulous quilt made by two members of our community. All monies raised will go to our chosen charities. We do have flexibility if the weather is not great on the Saturday as we have the chairs and tables for the whole weekend but we have ordered sunshine for the 11th.
!!! See You There !!!



Boat Safety Week

This is a national event for the Fire & Rescue Service and we are very pleased that Derbyshire Fire & Rescue will be visiting the marina on Wednesday 1st June from 2-5pm. They will have a marquee and invite people to come up and ask questions. Crucially, they hope to have enough team members for some firefighters to walk the jetties and offer on-the-spot personalised advice, including – where invited – to have a quick look through boats at positions of stoves, fire extinguishers and alarms; how clear the exits are and whether they are padlocked from the outside when the boat is occupied. They hope to have some free smoke detectors to hand out. Everyone should treat their alarms as one of their loved ones and give them an annual present of a new battery, whether the test reveals one is needed or not. Further, the gift of a new battery should be given on a memorable day such as your own birthday. Give yourself and your loved ones the gift of life. Come along to chat to them and gain some invaluable advice.



Golden Windlass



John Lousvet’s nomination for a Golden Windlass by Terry Evans for his work in obtaining the public defib was unanimously accepted!

Cats, Collars & Bells



Marina Cats allowed to roam must wear collars with bells.