

August 2022 Edition

We are delighted to announce that our eco-friendly holiday let is now completed on the eastern edge of the Estate. With gorgeous views looking east over the Tissington Trail to Carsington Water and beyond the High Flatts Barn conversion has been constructed by Peter Agertoft and his team from Rowsley based Peak Building Brigade. Boasting solar panels roofing and an air source heat pump the letting sleeps four and is complete with all mod cons and Wi-Fi. Our other lettings are all in the village itself with this one on the outskirts offering peace and seclusion. Our first visitors were so impressed that they said that 'were not ready to leave'. High Flatts is a great success and can be booked for weekly and mid-week breaks through our website www.tissingtonhall.co.uk

A trip to The Inco County Ground to watch Derbyshire play is always a pleasure. This June I grabbed at the chance to watch The Falcons play Northants in a T20 Vitality Blast match. On a warm evening and with a full house our group was entertained in the Living Legends Lounge (although no legends were in our number despite protestations from Messrs Horsnall and Prutton on their eligibility) as the opposition batted first. The Steelbacks' total of 186-7 was overhauled by the Derbyshire team with Leus du Plooy hitting the winning six over our stand much to our amusement. Of course, cricket has been played on the ground (formerly the Racecourse Ground) since 1785 when Edward Smedley played Thomas Hadley in a single wicket match that, apparently, ended in a fight. What would those two players have made of all the music, fireworks and razzamatazz of today's matches I wondered!

I have been a great lover of the monkey puzzle tree for some time. Indeed, I have planted one in the arboretum in memory of one of our previous dogs and another in the parkland for Freddie's 21st birthday. However, it took a visit to Cornwall for me to find out the origin of this fascinating name. On walking the marvellous gardens at Pencarrow House south of Newquay I witnessed several specimens and read in the guidebook that the owner Sir William Molesworth had imported these trees from Chile in the 1850s and, on viewing them set in the grounds, a visiting friend commented that "it would challenge a monkey to climb that" and so the name stuck although the formal name is Araucaria Araucana. There are various fine stands around our county with a particularly good one at Snelston. Look out for them on your travels and make a wish.

It is not often that we get what in the hospitality trade is 'a runner' but we had an incident at Herbert's Tearooms in June when we failed to collect the sum of £11.50 for tea, coffee and two breakfast baps. On cashing up I enquired of the staff who they thought have left without paying and we narrowed it to a pair of elderly ladies who were embarking on a Peak District walk. Did they look like the sort of people that might take paying for goods as optional? I enquired. No was the staff's response. On reflection it appears that the two simply forgot and keen to get walking they simply left the premises! However we will watch out for other runners in future with our newly installed CCTV cameras.

This past month we have lost three stalwarts of our local community. First farmer Eric Coates from Fenny Bentley succumbed to an illness fought with great bravery. Second, Les Alcock, born and bred in Tissington, died just before Well Dressings at the age of 85. With a great sense of humour and a love for Derbyshire sport Les and his late daughter Sandra were honoured on the Coffin Well-Dressing this year. And thirdly Des Humphreys, happily married to Joyce, and whose funeral needed an extra field as a car park such was his popularity. I will miss chatting to all three of them

and pass on our condolences to their three respective widows and their families. They were all Derbyshire Gents!

Photo High Flatts Barn i

Photo High Flatts Barn ii

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NB new email sirrichard@tissingtonhall.co.uk

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