

Destination Duffield

The magazine for the Duffield and Hazelwood Scarecrow Trail

JULY 2026



Award for April. See page eight

Exciting
news about
this year's
Scarecrow
Trail and
village life.



A delicious
CROOTS
Hamper
See page 5

Ten brilliant scarecrow years!

2026 is a very special year for the Duffield and Hazelwood Scarecrow Trail... because this September we'll be celebrating our tenth anniversary! Yes, for ten wonderful years the Trail has brought neighbours, families and friends together to create some fantastic scarecrows which, for one week every September, bring the village to life.

It really is a wonderful and fun community event for all ages.

Our theme for this year is 'When I Grow Up'. The Trail will run from Wednesday 16th September to Sunday 20th September. Pop the date in your diaries now!

But of course, we couldn't have a scarecrow trail if we didn't have any scarecrows! And there wouldn't be any scarecrows if there wasn't a wonderful group of people who give their time and energy to make them!

So we'd like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who has been involved in making a scarecrow over the past ten years.



We'd also like to thank once again:

- The Town Street businesses that kindly sell trail maps and raffle tickets for the Scarecrow Trail
- Those big-hearted scarecrow makers who host a refreshment stop, raising money not only for the Trail, but for other charities too
- All the local businesses that so generously donate raffle prizes
- All the Scarecrow Hub and Scarecrow Tea helpers
- Adam Thompson for the website and social media

Together we make this an amazing community event!

Destination Duffield magazine is the official publication of the Duffield and Hazelwood Scarecrow Trail.

To include an article or advertisement in our next edition in **September**, please email

hello@duffieldscarecrows.co.uk or call Lisa on 07988 602570.

And note, delivery isn't left to chance; it is all tracked and delivered by a professional company.

You can also get all the latest news and updates about the Trail by following our Duffield Arts Festival Facebook page and on the website www.duffieldartsfestival.com

Thank you

Lisa and Jonathan Leach, Scarecrow Trail organisers

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Duffield Parish Council for kindly funding a gazebo and signs for the Scarecrow Trail.

It is so appreciated!

This issue's cover features the Ed Sheeran scarecrow, created in 2019 by our dear friend and much-loved community member, Lisa Singleton.

She made it with her family, and following her passing this year, we're proud to share it with you in her memory.

Be part of it!

Join in the fun!

If you live or work in Duffield or Hazelwood, we'd love you to get involved in this year's Scarecrow Trail and help make it our most colourful and memorable trail yet.

Whether you're a seasoned scarecrow maker who takes part every year, or you're thinking about creating one for the very first time, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

You can make your scarecrow on your own or with your family, or team up with friends, neighbours, or work colleagues.

How to register

To register to be part of this year's Trail you can either email Lisa Leach at hello@duffieldscarecrows.co.uk or go to our website www.duffieldartsfestival.com and fill in the online registration form. At this stage we don't need to know who or what your scarecrow will be... but to help you start planning here are a few ideas...

Our theme for 2026 is **'When I Grow Up'**, so your scarecrow could be based on what you, as a child, wanted to be when you grew up. Or even who you wanted to be when you grew up!

It could be your dream job, if you could do anything you wanted to do or be anyone you wanted to be. It could be a real-life hero or someone you have always admired and aspired to be like. Or it could simply represent the kind of person you hoped to grow into. Let your creativity flow!!

Could you spare a couple of hours?

The Scarecrow Trail team is looking for a few willing volunteers to help out on the Hub during the weekend. Just two hours of your time would make a real difference... it's easy, fun and a great excuse to meet lots of interesting people!

To volunteer, please contact Lisa on **07988 602570** or email hello@duffieldscarecrows.co.uk



Good Causes, Great Community

Every year, the Duffield and Hazelwood Scarecrow Trail donates money raised from the sale of trail brochures and raffle tickets to charities that have been nominated by our scarecrow makers. In recent years, we've supported Treetops Hospice, Bridge the Gap Child Mental Health, Brain Tumour Research, The Weston Centre and Derby Kids Camp. Thanks to your generosity, the Duffield and Hazelwood Scarecrow Trail has raised thousands of pounds for charity.

Introducing our charities for 2026...

This year, we're delighted to be raising funds for Bliss, the national charity supporting babies born premature or seriously ill and their families. Bliss was nominated by local residents and regular scarecrow makers: the Calder family. Here Lorna Calder tells us why...

"Nearly ten years ago, our daughter Chloe arrived too soon. She was tiny, fierce, and full of fight. Chloe showed extraordinary courage for three months, but sadly never came home. She spent her life in neonatal intensive care and Bliss was a huge support to our family, both during and after this time.

"We are marking what would have been Chloe's 10th birthday through our '#Chloe10for10' campaign; ten fundraising events taking place throughout 2026 to celebrate her life and legacy while raising money for Bliss. Already this year I've completed HYROX (an intensive fitness race), my husband John competed in the London Marathon, and we held a fundraising quiz at the Pattenmaker's Arms. We also have a community family-friendly rounders tournament planned in the village for Sunday 6th September - Chloe's actual 10th anniversary."



There's a special connection in this partnership, as 2026 also marks the 10th anniversary of the Duffield and Hazelwood Scarecrow Trail. We hope the village will join us in making this milestone Scarecrow Trail a particularly memorable one, while helping support both Bliss and the wider #Chloe10for10 campaign throughout the year.



The next delivery date for
Destination
Duffield is early September
(guaranteed delivery).



"This holiday made me feel like I could do anything."

Quote from a very happy nine-year-old at Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre.



This year we are also raising funds to support the Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre.

Since 1891, the Centre near the beach in Skegness has given thousands of local children from disadvantaged backgrounds their first ever holiday by the sea.

It provides fully funded breaks for children growing up in poverty or facing difficult situations at home, many experiencing their first ever holiday, or their first sight of the sea. Alongside good food, laughter and beach trips, the breaks build confidence, resilience and friendship, giving children space to breathe and a glimpse of a brighter world.

"I didn't want to come home. It was the best week of my life."

A very excited eight-year-old visitor

Such a great cause!



Win a delicious Croots food hamper!



To win the brilliant prize, simply let us know what you think would be a **great theme for the Duffield and Hazelwood Scarecrow Trail 2027**. Just send your suggestions (as many as you want) to hello@duffieldscarecrows.co.uk along with your name and telephone number. The winner will be chosen by the scarecrow panel. Please check previous years' themes.



Did you know?

The Scarecrow Trail is run by Destination Derbyshire CIC. It exists to promote community life and local destinations across Derbyshire, delivering projects that bring people together and celebrate the area.



Summer celebrations and gatherings deserve the best local food

Looking for BBQ inspiration? We have a huge variety of freshly made beef burgers, sausages, marinated chicken and pork and of course the best Hazelwood Hall farm steaks. Whether you are planning a family feast, a relaxed lunch in the garden or simply looking to cook outdoors, you'll find plenty of inspiration from our Butchery counter.

If you are planning a picnic, Croots have homemade quiches, sausage rolls, pork pies, scotch eggs and of course some delicious cakes and tarts for you to pick up in store. Pair that with some crusty bread from The Loaf, a selection of salads and olives and maybe a couple of different local cheeses from our counter...

And if you are looking for something sweeter, with the sun shining, we have the best fresh strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and cherries, locally picked in Lichfield. And a range of Bluebells local dairy ice cream is back and available in our farm shop in cones and tubs.

To accompany all that, Croots stock a wide range of local beers and ciders, wines and soft drinks.

If cooking isn't on the agenda, then leave it to us with one of our freshly made summer salads, homemade quiches or seasonal specials in our café. Relax, unwind with our amazing views over the Ecclesbourne Valley and make the most of the summer.

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Opportunities, belonging and making a difference



We love that the Scarecrow Trail is for everyone in our local community. Over the years, we have had fantastic entries from the Guide, Scout, Cub, Brownie and Rainbow groups in our village, meaning dozens of children have had the chance to be part of creating a scarecrow.

Here we turn the spotlight on one of the many volunteers involved in local Girlguiding, April Peake. April, who lives in Duffield, is leader of the 1st Duffield Guides unit, which meets fortnightly at the Duffield Scout Hut on Hall Farm Road. Earlier this year she was honoured with a prestigious Queen's Guide Award, the highest award young women can work towards in Girlguiding.

April grew up in the village and was a Ranger, Girlguiding's section for girls aged 14 to 18, in her late teens. "As a former Ranger, volunteering for Girlguiding is an opportunity to give back to an organisation that played a part in shaping me," said April. "I volunteer because I believe strongly in the impact Girlguiding has on young people and adults alike. As a mixed-race woman, it is important to me to help create spaces where girls feel they belong and can see themselves represented. Volunteering allows me to help create opportunities I did not always see growing up, while supporting girls to challenge themselves, build confidence, and achieve things they may not have thought possible."

As part of her Queen's Guide Award, April created a foodbank project in Duffield, giving local Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers the chance to learn how it worked and contribute urgently needed items. She also continued training in taekwondo as a black belt, delivered a countywide mental health workshop, completed her licence to lead residential trips, and mentored new leaders across Amber Valley.

Taking on a new role

Since completing her own award, April is now volunteering as the Queen's Guide Award Adviser for Derbyshire, supporting other young women as they begin or continue their own journeys. Just last month she took over the role of Ecclesbourne District Commissioner, an exciting opportunity to lead a dedicated team of volunteers delivering guiding across the local area.

"I have been a member of Girlguiding for three years," said April. "In that time, I have gone from joining as an adult member to becoming deeply involved as a unit leader, mentor, and now county adviser and district commissioner. It is amazing how quickly Girlguiding can become such a meaningful part of your life."





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Autumn Charity Ball

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18:30 - 23:55

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BLACK TIE

Tickets
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/
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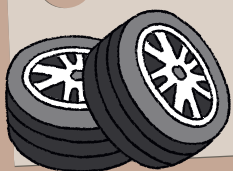
Bringing play to life at Duffield Meadows

Rhian Bromage, OPAL Curriculum Lead, tells us about the difference it's making.

"At first glance, an OPAL playtime may look rather like organised chaos: children rolling tyres, carrying crates and planks and playing with loose bits of fabric. Look closer, however, and something far richer is taking place.

Children are constructing dens, castles, ships and secret hideaways; collaborating, problem-solving and bringing imaginative worlds to life. Beneath the mud and laughter is a carefully considered approach to play, rooted in creativity, exploration and the outdoors.

to donate items: contact
01332 840305
enquires@duffieldmeadows.
derbyshire.sch.uk



Playtimes at Duffield Meadows Primary School are looking a little different these days — and wonderfully so. Over the past year, the School has begun implementing the UK-wide OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme, an approach that is transforming the way our children play, explore and learn together.



OPAL helps schools rethink playtime, seeing it not just as a break between lessons but as a vital part of childhood. Duffield Meadows, surrounded by fields and natural spaces, is building a more open-ended landscape using loose parts: materials like crates, pallets and tyres that children can move, adapt and transform into a seat, a den or an outdoor shelter.

Rhian continues, "Since introducing OPAL, playtimes have taken on a new energy. Children who once struggled to find their place are more engaged, forming new friendships, and staff are seeing children return to class happier, calmer and more ready to learn. Through balancing, building and problem solving, children build confidence and resilience in ways that can't be taught using a worksheet.

"We'd love our local community to be part of this. If you're a business with safe surplus materials, or a resident with items you no longer need - wooden crates, pallets, tyres, pipes, rope, logs and more - we'd be very grateful to receive them. Every donation helps us create a richer environment where children can play, thrive and grow."

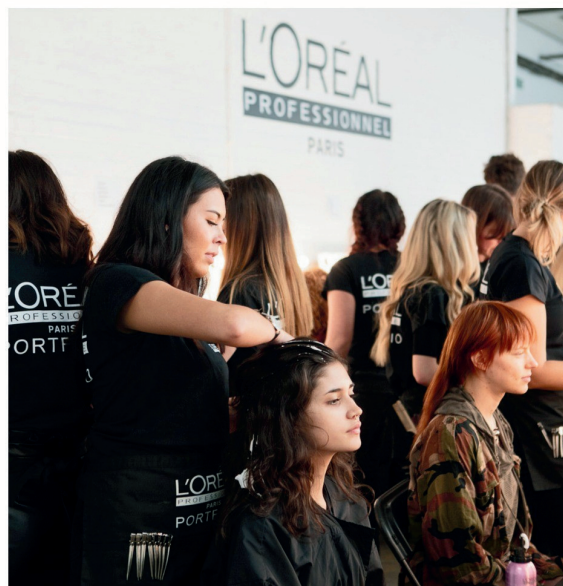
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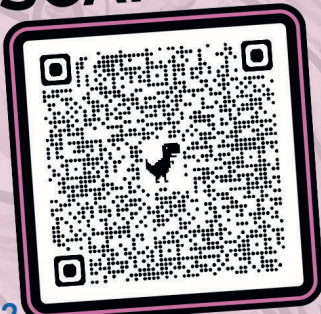
Friday & Saturday 12pm-12am

Sunday 12pm-10pm

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