



A happy new year to all readers!!



The Doxey play - your chance to take part and develop your skills

Last month's Doxey Times told of the grant that the Community Association had received. The idea is to put on a play in Doxey - about Doxey - with Doxey people involved at every stage and in every part of the production. As well as giving a chance for people to use their theatre skills it will give others a chance to learn these skills. There will be a series of workshops run by theatre professionals.

Some people have already called to say that they are interested, but it is not too late for others to put their names forward. If you want to act, to play music, to construct scenery, to do lighting, make videos or recordings or do any of the other jobs involved in producing a play call **Jane on 621453 or Joan on 251622.**

Work on writing the play has already started. The writer will be visiting Doxey in January and would be keen to meet residents who have interesting stories to tell about the village.

The provisional title for the play is "**Village Voices**", so look out for more news about this production in coming weeks.

If you would like a large print version of Doxey Times, call **251622.**

A shameful reception for Santa

Doxey got a bad name in the press recently for the attack on the Rotary Club's pre-Christmas visit to Doxey. Many young children were denied a visit by Santa because a group of young people threw stones at the procession and hindered its passage through Doxey.

In addition to giving pleasure to some children, this visit also raises funds for local charities. But, whatever the situation, acting violently towards visitors to the village is unacceptable. It is hoped that the incidents which have been reported will not happen again.

Important meeting of Doxey Community Association

Because of its increased activity and to enable it to apply for grants, Doxey Community Association is to apply for charitable status. Part of the process is adoption of a new constitution. This will be on the agenda at the next meeting of the Association.

It is important that anyone who has an interest in the well being of the Community Association attends this meeting to ensure that this change is given full authority.

The meeting will take place

on Wednesday, 12 January 2005

at 7.00 p.m.

in the community centre, Sutton Drive

At February's meeting it is hoped to have a speaker about the parish council. Come and find out what a parish council could do and whether you would like to be a councillor.

**'Hello' from the New Vicar of Doxey –
Rev. Paul Thomas**

I am glad to have this opportunity to introduce myself and my family. My wife is June. We have five children and a very new grand-daughter.

I was brought up in Wales and after studying at Oxford worked in the Parish of Llangynwyd with Maesteg. From there we moved to Somerset and then to Yorkshire where we stayed until coming to Doxey.

As Vicar I hope to connect not just with Doxey church but also with the Doxey community. It would be great to see you in church sometime. But if not in church, then at some other venue when June and I look forward to meeting you.

Every blessing for 2005!

Thanks to Mark and his team

The annual senior citizens' Christmas party was held in early December. About 70 of the older residents of Doxey were there to enjoy a splendid meal, good company and some singing. Many thanks to Mark Smith for organising this and to his band of helpers who prepared and served the meal and to those who provided the music.

**It's dirty, it's dangerous – please don't
leave it there**

That is the dog dirt which is often found on the pavements and green spaces in Doxey. No one likes treading in it and it can spread disease.

You **can** do something to clean up after your dog. Bags for this purpose are available free of charge at the Sutton Centre in Sutton Drive.

If you are concerned about persistent fouling by dogs let the Community Association know by calling **251622**.

Friendship Group There is no meeting in January.

**How much do you miss the Doxey
post office?**

It's about six months since the post office in Doxey closed. Now the new arrangements have settled down, The Community association wants to get a picture of how people have been affected by the closure.

In the next month or so questionnaires will be delivered to every tenth home in Doxey, asking people about any difficulties they are experiencing with using postal services. Because only about 100 questionnaires will be sent out, it is important that as many as possible are filled in and returned.

If you do not receive a questionnaire, but still wish to make your views known, you can call **Stephen on 251622** or e-mail: press@doxeyca.org.uk.

**A heart-warming community
event**

More than 40 people came to the switching on of the Doxey Christmas tree lights outside the Doxey Arms. All who took part were warmed by the community spirit on show. Thanks to Geoff Moore for his guitar accompaniment to the carols and to landlords Caroline and Patrick for the refreshments they provided for the children.

Recycle your Christmas cards

Don't just throw your Christmas cards in the bin. They can be used again if you send them for recycling.

There are various collections points in town, but there will also be boxes in the Sutton Centre on Sutton Drive and at the parish church.

Published by the Doxey Community Association. If you need further information or want to make a comment or put something in a future issue of Doxey Times, call **251622**, or e-mail: press@doxeyca.org.uk or leave a message at the Community Centre, 43 Sutton Drive.