

Congratulations to Steve, Donington's Community Park Warden

Last year IDEA nominated Steve Pulfer, our volunteer park warden, for the Brewers Fayre Local Hero's Award which recognises the contribution that selfless individuals make in giving their time and hard work to improving their community for the benefit of others. Steve has been working tirelessly throughout 2009 in Flinders Park keeping it clean and tidy, carrying out maintenance tasks, and checking that the many pieces of play equipment are in good working order. And so we were delighted to learn that Steve had been selected from amongst a large number of deserving entrants to receive an award along with a cheque for £1000. Steve was presented with both by Jon Terrell, area operations manager for Brewers Fayre, at a ceremony held in Peterborough on Thursday 17th December - see photo. Steve said afterwards "I was delighted to win the award and would like to publicly thank Bev Philp and all those on the committee at IDEA who nominated me". Echoing the thoughts of all the IDEA Committee, Bev replied "I am really pleased for him. It's wonderful that his commitment to the park has been recognised and our heartfelt thanks to him for helping to make it a place enjoyed by so many in our community." The money will be managed by IDEA on Steve's behalf to pay for various things which will make a big difference with his continuing efforts in Flinders Park.



In Memoriam

Julie Panks will be sadly missed by all who had the pleasure to get to know her through her support of IDEA. Julie was married to Jim who is an IDEA director and she was a staunch help particularly at fundraising events. Working mainly behind the scenes, she gave her time willingly to help us not just raise money but also raise awareness of IDEA and its community projects. Her sudden loss has affected many of us deeply and our thoughts go out to her family & friends, and in particular to Jim as he continues to recover in hospital.

Jack Roper will be sadly missed by all who know him through his support of Donington in Bloom. Jack was a loyal and hard working supporter with the Bloom group and his efforts in the Market Place will be enjoyed by so many for a long time to come.

Without the support of people like Julie and Jack so much in the village would go undone. They have given of their time, shown support to others, and worked hard without seeking any recognition or praise. They are our unsung heroes too.

'Matthew Flinders, William Petrie, and the Petrie Rocker' by Paul Hai

How, you might well ask, is the construction of the Giza Pyramids linked to Donington? Captain Matthew Flinders was born in Donington and his grandson became Professor Sir William Matthew Flinders Petrie. In 1895 Petrie was excavating within the temple grounds of the woman Pharaoh Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari and came upon a covered hewn out rock pit. This pit was filled with building tools and some wooden models of "unknown use".

The wooden models have become known as "Petrie rockers" and these are the key to how the Red Pyramid at Saqqara and the Pyramids at Giza were constructed. My name is Paul Hai and I live in Australia. During university research in 2006 it dawned on me what "Petrie rockers" are.

Four "Petrie rockers" surround a Pyramid block. The outside rope only is hoisted and the lobes make positive engagements with Pyramid steps. Consider the steps as "racks" and this is the first application known of "rack and pinion mechanics". A single "Petrie rocker" is a "pinion-pulley lobe quadrant". There is no pulley like this in the modern world. Petrie died in 1942 in Jerusalem unknowing he had excavated component parts of an ancient Egyptian pulley and

the answer to extremely efficient Pyramid constructions. The mechanical efficiency of the pulley is 2.8 which means that a 2500 kg Pyramid block can be hoisted with just 900 kg of lifting effort. The pulley operates on steps and makes all ramp theories for Giza constructions null and void. If only I could tell Petrie and Matthew Flinders! There is much more information at my website at www.haitheory.com

