



VILLAGE FETE

SATURDAY
14th June

1pm-4pm

Wistaston Church Lane Academy

• TOMBOLAS • GAMES • FOOD
AND DRINKS • ARENA ACTS
• ICE CREAM • CROWNING OF
THE NEW ROSE QUEEN • AND
MORE •

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk

***SPRING* 'ROUNDABOUT'**

2025 ISSUE 177

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk

A Wistaston Community News and Events Publication Circulation 4500



THE MAGAZINE FOR PEOPLE LIVING 'ROUNDABOUT' WISTASTON

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Look us up on our website at
www.hopesandbeams.org
 Or call us on (01270) 255355

Hopes and Beams, Broad Street Crewe. CW1 3UD
 (formally Broad Street Infants School)



EDITORIAL FOR SPRING 2025

Hopefully Spring is around the corner - it certainly has been a long time coming! Thank you so much to everyone for the continued splendid support you give to Roundabout in whatever capacity, for without your contributions and advertisements and our wonderful deliverers, it could not exist!

Please send in your articles, photographs etc. for our Summer edition, due out in early June 2025 by the 15 April.

Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane.
01270 569126
eileen@bamberuk.com

Ian Gould 07971 649110
accounts.roundabout@wistastoncommunity.co.uk



Dates for your Diary 2025

Check what is happening in Wistaston over the next few months. Keep looking on facebook and notice boards for updates etc. Initially though, jot these dates down in your diaries.

Wistaston Village Fete - Saturday 14 June 2025.

Flower and Produce Show - Saturday 16 August 2025

Annual Duck Race - Saturday 6 September or alternative date - 13 September

Fireworks - 1 November 2025 - Brittles

Remembrance Service: 9 November at 3pm in the Memorial Hall

Christmas Concert: Friday 5 December, St Mary's Church Hall



The Laurie Twiss Award

To all young writers of Wistaston - write a story or article of your choice - real or imaginary, fact or fiction. The winner will keep for one year the Laurie Twiss Trophy plus a Gift voucher and pen. The second and third winners will also receive vouchers and pens.

With your entry, please include your name and address, telephone number, age, school attended and title of your story/article.

Entries should be submitted by 31 July 2025 to: Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane, Wistaston, or email eileen@bamberuk.com

The editor apologises for incorrect dates on one of the advertisements of a Christmas event in our Winter edition. Entirely the editor's mistake.

Wistonian of the Year

Huge congratulations to Kate Blake-more , Women and Girls Champion/CEO Motherwell Cheshire who was awarded the Wistonian of the year last night.

Kate has worked tirelessly to create charitable foundations that support local women and families in need through difficult times. This includes the Motherwell charity founded over 10 years ago that's based at their registered CIO offices, 54-56 Beech Drive, Wistaston. Kate has recently won the Contribution to the Community award at the South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce. In the week before Christmas her Motherwell charity donated 50 panto tickets, 12 tablets, 30 hot water bottles, 20 blankets, 60 winter coats, 12 Christmas trees, over 50 hat, scarves and gloves to local families in need. They have a 'free shop' handing out baby clothes, period products, donated school uniforms and even girls end of term prom dresses, all based at its Wistaston offices on Beech Drive. No charges are made for providing these items which our local community members donate, dropping off the above items at the shop. Kate's Motherwell organisation now has over 70 volunteers and staff who currently support around 110 individuals, aged from 14 to retirement age, each week with their mental health, educational, advocacy and family care and clothing needs. She specialises particularly in counselling female victims of abuse and domestic violence. Kate has developed several professional counsellor training and seminar courses covering topics such as how to support women through difficult times of miscarriage, infant loss, mental health impact of the menopause, coping and supporting through child removal, post natal care, adverse childhood difficulties, birth trauma, women's safety, best practice for women in sport. See these courses at <https://kateblakemore.com/training-courses> She is Chair of the Cheshire Womens Collaboration working with local councillors and MP's to share their findings and provide a voice for women. Kate runs the Motherwell Cheshire Womens Day annual seminar events at Crewe's Cheshire College. She is also a Trustee of the plans to erect a Statue For Ada project in Crewe. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-6630281>

Kate is an extraordinarily driven and inspirational woman, born, raised and very actively involved in the needs of our community.



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150 Hospital Street, Nantwich, CW5 5RY.
Tel: (01270) 661593

Cafe Wells Green



Open every
Friday morning
10am to 12 noon
tea coffee biscuits chat
at Wells Green
Methodist Church
(next to Leonard Bros vets)
All welcome

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Wistaston Parish Councillor **Contact Information**

ST. MARY'S WARD (Five Councillors – 1 Vacancy)

Diane Houston	c/o Mrs Sarah Turnbull (Parish Clerk) 07720 293704 cllr.diane.houston@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
David Lucas	23 Rectory Close, Wistaston, CW2 8HG 01270 664916 cllr.david.lucas@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
Derrick Millington	9 Chesterton Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EA 01270 664471 cllr.derrick.millington@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
Bob Squirrel	6 Beaumont Close, Wistaston, CW2 8BU 01270 569803 cllr.bob.squirrel@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

WISTASTON GREEN WARD (Four Councillors – 3 Vacancies)

Julia Robinson	2 Fuller Drive, Wistaston, CW2 6GU cllr.julia.robinson@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
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WELLS GREEN WARD (Three Councillors)

John Moore (Chairman)	50 Laidon Avenue, Wistaston, CW2 6QH 01270 661924 cllr.john.moore@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
Graham Roberts	29 Berkeley Crescent Wistaston CW2 6QA 01270 568521 cllr.graham.roberts@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
Margaret Simon	c/o Mrs Sarah Turnbull (Parish Clerk) 07783 927447 cllr.margaret.simon@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
	<u>CLERK TO THE COUNCIL</u>
Sarah Turnbull	104 Church Lane, Wistaston, CW2 8ER 07301 026335 clerk@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

Wistaston Gardeners Society

Monthly meetings are held at Wistaston Memorial Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of the month starting at 7.30pm.

We are a friendly group with interesting speakers. Come along as a guest for £2 and experience what we have to offer.

For further information contact Pauline Hutchings on 01270 211674

Barbara's Baby Knits

Matinee Coats, Cardigans, Hats, Pram Blankets etc.

Ages birth to 3 years

Call Barbara on 07746 800061

Wistaston Parish Council Chairman's Report

1. Budget Plan for 2025/2026 :

For a second year we face cost increases to our plans. Our target aims were to maintain and support our Voluntary and Conservation groups, repair the flower beds at Wells Green and provide a new Storage unit for materials used by the Conservation Group.

Main cost increases are:

Salaries and National Insurance £2900

Recreation and Environment £1000

Support to Voluntary Groups £1650

Flower Bed Rebuild £1000

Storage Unit £2000

With adjustments and reductions in other budgets our overall increase is over £5,446. This represents an annual increase to households of less than 5p per week (£2.24 per year) based on a Band D property.

2. Wistaston Memorial Hall : The Hall is a main focal point and community centre for our Parish. It is over 75 years old and plans have been underway for over 2 years for a new and modern rebuild. Their committee have made good progress to establish a new Charitable status and are at the stage of preparation of outline building plans.

Whilst there is considerable work yet to be resolved the committee is to be congratulated on the progress made so far.

More details on their plans and progress can be found on the Memorial Hall Website "**Rebuild Project**"

3. Litter Collection : It is disappointing to report an upsurge in discarded litter throughout our Parish during 2024

	2024	2023
Green bags (sacks)	373	311
Dog Bags	237	141
Snap bags	16	15

Thanks again expressed to our teams for their hard work maintaining our open spaces litter free.

4. Future Meetings 20th March 2025, 17th April 2025 (Annual Meeting) 15th May 2025 and 19th June 2025

J. Moore, Chairman

Play Guitar Club

Come along to sing and play with the 'Bus Pass Guys and Gals'. Guitar, Banjo, Ukulele, Mandolin, Bass, Keyboards etc. etc. If you can play guitar or any other instrument at any level we would like you to join us for two hours of great fun and enjoyment every week with a tea/coffee break at the Wistaston Memorial Hall on Mondays in April 10.30 - 12.30. Chord and Lyric sheets provided.

Howard Scott Parkin is the Musical Director and Multi-Instrumentalist who has worked in the past with Cliff Richard, Cilla Black, Noddy Holder etc. He taught and ran the biggest School of Music on the Algarve, Portugal - 'Strings & Things' for 22 years.

Howard will bring you, the Play Group, to a performance level and play at local venues for Charity. You don't have to be at a professional standard. It's a totally new experience that you can be part of so book now to avoid disappointment. Phone 07878 247744 for more details.

THREE STEPS TOWARDS A HEALTHIER SUMMER

by JO WINDEATT

Spring is here and summer is just around the corner which hopefully means warmer weather and removing a layer or two of clothes. If you're not quite ready to lose the baggy jumpers here are a few simple habits that might make it easier to embrace your summer wardrobe:

1. Ditch ultra-processed food : Not everything that comes in a jar or packet is bad - we just need to read labels. Watch out for added sugar and sweeteners, seed oils and strange ingredients. If you wouldn't find it in a traditional kitchen, give it a miss.
2. Close the kitchen: Reducing your eating and drinking window is a simple way to burn fat. Start with a 12 hour period eg breakfast at 8am, dinner finished by 8pm. Perhaps try reducing this further, 9am to 7pm. See what works for you.
3. Sleep more, stress less: everyone looks and feels better after a good night's sleep. Lack of sleep affects our hormones and can make us feel hungrier and more stressed. We all know that we should prioritise sleep and stress management. The trick is actually doing it

If you're ready to invest in yourself then working with a health coach might make all the difference. Find out more about health coaching, and how it might work for you at : **jowindeatt.com**

Easter Services at Wells Green Church

Good Friday 18th April at 9.45am

Easter Sunday 20th April:

Sunrise Holy Communion at
'Joey The Swan' 7.30am,
followed by breakfast at Wells
Green Church.

All Age Celebration with Holy
Communion at 10.30am.



All are welcome to join with us this
Easter!
Brookland Ave, Wistaston, CW2 8EJ

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Are you interested in Scouting history?



If so, you are cordially invited to visit the Wistaston Scout Centre, Elm Close, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 8RU on the weekend of 15 / 16th March 2025 to accompany us on a 'Journey of Scouting history from 1907 to more recent times', all as presented by the South West Cheshire District history team.

Doors open at 10am each day, closing at 1700 on Saturday and 1600 on Sunday.

Admission free, refreshments available, donations welcome.

For a preview, please take time to see our 5 min video on YouTube, which was taken at a quiet time before we opened our event in November 2021. Just enter South West Cheshire Scouts District archive exhibition - see what you think.

Any enquiries, please email - archiveteam@swcscouts.org.uk

Wistaston Flower Club

**Meetings held at The Memorial Hall, Church Lane Wistaston at 2.30pm
(1st Wednesday of each month (excluding January, August & November))**



In October we had a fabulous demonstration from a National Demonstrator Vanessa Wellock from Ilkley called 'Bringing Colour to Grey' – Vanessa was funny and had some fabulous stories to tell as she created her amazing arrangements – I think the one story which we all found very amusing was about her very FAB U LOUS steel toe capped boots which have become her signature wear for demonstrations. The story goes that she was competing in a very prestigious Flower Show and was told as the marquee was a construction site and

that she would have to wear hard hat, and steel toe boots – well she said they just could not be any old steel capped boot if she had to wear any at all – so she found herself the boots in the picture. They are quite a Statement, and are now as famous as Vanessa is, and are expected at all her Demonstrations. Wistaston Flower Club is not all about Flowers – It is 1 ½ hours of fun and laughter, funny stories and an insight into the World of a Demonstrator. We do have a great afternoon.

December was our Christmas Demonstration from Leanne Williams from Welshpool who is an Area Demonstrator, and her demonstration was called 'Sparkle and Shine' and as you would expect had a real Christmas Theme. Lots of members and visitors took home beautiful arrangements for their homes after a successful raffle of the spectacular arrangements.

2025 Welcomes our 1st Demonstration of the year in February, and our AGM. March is Dawn Weaver from Chester (National), her Demonstration is called "Floral Innovations" so please come along and join us.

We are so looking forward to welcoming Old and New Members so please come and spend an enjoyable couple of hours with us here at Wistaston Flower Club – For more information about our activities or meetings please contact Caryn Murray (07530682196 or carynmurray24@gmail.com)



St Mary's Wistaston

The 5th March is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent and to celebrate Ash Wednesday we have two services at St Mary's, one at 10am and another at 7pm, both are Communion services and both have the opportunity to receive Ashes. Ashes are seen as a sign of penitence and are a central, yet optional, part of an Ash Wednesday service. As we continue through Lent we see the clocks spring forward on 30th March and on that 4th Sunday of Lent celebrate Mothering Sunday.

The final Sunday of Lent on 13th April is called Palm Sunday and it's when we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem as recorded in Luke 19, this then leads into Holy Week. During Holy Week we have a service on Maundy Thursday (17th April) at 7pm at St Luke's in Willaston (Coppice Road) followed by a service for Good Friday (18th April) at 2pm at St Mary's. On Easter Sunday (20th April) we have a service at 9am at St Luke's and 10:40am at St Mary's. You can watch all services from St Mary's live on our YouTube channel at youtube.com/StMarysWistaston1. Of course, you would be welcome to join us at any of our services and more information can be found on our website, stmaryswistaston.org.uk, or by calling the office on 567119. With best wishes, Revd Mike (Rector).

Sustainability is the word at Motherwell Cheshire



Baby Bank Pop Up, May 20th 12 - 2pm

54 Beech Drive, Wistaston

Open to all the community!

Crewe Women's Day

Saturday 8 March 2025 10am - 2pm

At Cheshire College South and West - Crewe Campus

54-64 Beech Drive Wistaston, Crewe, 01606 557666

Wistaston Village Cricket Club

(Founded 1980)

May I wish all the readers of Roundabout a somewhat belated happy and healthy New Year. As I compile my latest cricketing editorial (in early January) it is hard to believe that in barely three months, another cricketing season will be upon us. Hopefully the severe weather that we are experiencing at the moment will be a distant memory when our cricket club commences their **2025** campaign in **April** and continues until **September**. When the weather becomes less intrusive, essential preparations to our wickets and outfield would have been put into place under the guidance of Head Groundsman **Kevin Jobbins** ably assisted by club members **Mark Bourne** and **Dean Titus**.

Despite the atrocious weather we have had, currently the work already carried out on our wickets and outfields has been productive and as the club continues to ensure that our playing facilities are in tip top condition it will ensure the club's standard is maintained and cricket can be enjoyed by members and visiting cricket teams. As mentioned previously, it is a known fact that visiting teams over past seasons look forward to playing at "**The Brittles**" because of our facilities, which is extremely encouraging to know.

The **2024** cricket season as previously reported in the **Winter** edition of "**Roundabout**" produced a demanding campaign on several fronts and it is fair to summarize that in the main, our participating teams generally enjoyed their cricket and are positive in achieving a productive forthcoming playing season. Forthcoming season: **The First Eleven** will be competing in **The Cheshire Cricket League Division 3**.

The Second Eleven will be competing in **The North Stafford South Cheshire Premier Cricket League Division 8**.

Our junior teams, the future of our cricket club, will be competing in their respective leagues within **The South Cheshire Junior Cricket League**. The aforementioned leagues may be subject to any re-structuring prior to the commencement of the playing season. Any changes will be reflected in the **Summer** edition of **Roundabout**.

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk/roundabout.html and
www.creweguardian.co.uk/sport

for Junior Summer training (Under9's to Under13's) will commence between 6pm and 7.30 pm at The Brittles from Friday 25th April 2025.

Wistaston Village C.C. will also be running an All Stars, programme for 10 weeks, commencing on Friday evenings, 9th May will be available and for new players who are most welcome, introductory sessions will be available from 25th April 2025 and 2nd May 2025.

Senior Winter Nets commenced at The Cricket Barn, Aston CW5 8DP 8th January 2025 until 1st April 2025, every Wednesday 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm.

The 2024 Senior Cricket Awards were held at The Brittles on 9 November.
1st XI Awards:- Batsman:- Gareth Barnes, Bowler:- Mathew Baty, Captains's Award:- Pisandu Sampath.

2nd XI Awards:- Batsman:- Henry Springthorp, Bowler:- Carl Thorpe, who also won the League Award, Captain's Award:- Charlie Smith. Development XI Batsman:- Charlie Smith, Bowler:-Adam Skidmore. Captain's Award:- Ollie Lamberton.

Ladies Hardball Awards:- Batsman:- Nicki Jarvis. Bowler:- Anna Bourne. Captain's Award:-Lisa Taylor. Congratulations to you all.

New players are always welcome so just get in touch, email us at wistastoncricketclub@outlook.com

Due to the cricket club's **A.G.M.** not being held until late **January**, details of our election of officers for **2025**, will now appear in the **Summer** edition of Roundabout.

The cricket club holds Bingo evenings every **third Friday** of each month at the **Wistaston Pavilion Lounge** to raise funding, and a warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to join us. For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either **Kevin or Pauline Jobbins 01270483494.**

Wistaston Cricket Club continues their search for players for the current cricket season, not only to promote but further improve on the progress achieved over past seasons. As mentioned on many occasions we offer cricket for adults and junior of ALL STANDARDS therefore if you are interested in joining our cricket club please contact Kevin or Pauline Jobbins 01270483494. Take that all important first step.

We offer cricket to adults and junior of all standards and we are proud on being very much a child friendly club and we have been re-credited with the E.C.B Club Mark originally awarded in May 2005.

For those readers who enjoy watching a game of cricket, why not make a detour to The Brittles on a Sunday afternoon, where you will be made very welcome.

John Avery.“Zusammen”, 13 Lear Drive, Wistaston
Tel 0781 7082678

Just one film left in the Wells Green selection of films:

Sunday 16 March at 2.30pm : The First Women's World Cup

Further information from Malcolm Crook, m.h.crook@keele.ac.uk

Wistaston Conservation Group

Hello everyone. Here is our latest account of what our group have been doing, but first one of our recently joined members would like to tell you of their experiences with us.

Having lived in Wistaston for 24 years, we have been privileged to have enjoyed the open spaces and woodland that make up the Joey the Swan park land with our children: weekend walks, football kick a rounds and rugby throwing practices, even a bit of sledging. During this time we have witnessed these beautiful spaces being both developed and nurtured for the benefit of all; from the wildlife area near the play area to the planting of memorial trees; from the spinney and its bird feeders to the walk ways created so we can wander along the brook at any time of year and explore the woodlands.

So, on retiring, we prioritised getting involved with the Wistaston Community Conservation Group and made a brief enquiry to one of the volunteers who were working around the memorial trees during one of our Monday morning walks. Equipped with a spade, a trowel, an all-weather coat and a pair of wellies, we joined the group a few weeks later and were welcomed with warm and friendly smiles. Two months later, it has become a wonderful way to start the week: a morning of fresh air; friendship and chat; being at one with nature whatever the weather; doing a bit (or a lot) of exercise and making a difference. We've planted saplings and foxgloves; helped create nursery beds with woven willow; weeded 'Wood henge' and made a bug hotel; tidied areas, re-surfaced the walkways and cared for the memorial trees. There's something for everyone to feel valued and a part of the group and there's no previous gardening or conservation knowledge required. If you are looking for a way to get involved in the local community and can spare a Monday morning, we'd highly recommend joining the conservation group.

One Monday Morning in November.

There was a lot of activity on Monday the 11th of November last year, when we had twenty members present. A record number.

That morning, as we had so many people present it was possible to catch up on our ever lengthening list of work requiring attention. During the very wet Summer we had decided to vacate the southern end of the Old Model Railway Site due to poor drainage and heavy clay deposits trapping water that was making the place difficult to maintain, or even to walk on at times, despite our efforts to repair the collapsed drainage system.

At the northern end that is much more 'habitable' we started to lay-out new nursery beds, having removed and replanted most of the 'whips' that had now matured, using the contents of our compost pens as mulch.

Some cleared the pathways of leaves and fallen branches, others cut back encroaching undergrowth, a constant problem during most of the year, and a few

trimmed willow screens at the Spinney.

One small team of three decided to do something about trees very close to a kissing gate giving access to the fields and footpaths leading towards Nantwich, much used by people walking their dogs.



We are always alert to the possibility of dangerous situations arising with a view to preventing them before they occur. One such situation was that ivy had accumulated on the trunks and branches to such an extent that winter ice and snow could have given sufficient weight to bring them down on people below while their attention was focused on using the aforementioned gate. These trees were cleared of the ivy most likely to prove dangerous.

Most work was nearing completion in time for our usual coffee break at 11.00am. That morning as it was Armistice Day, we delayed our break and held a two minutes silence in remembrance.



If anyone would like to discuss with us the work we do, or suggest future projects they will find us working each Monday morning usually in the Joey the Swan area. We start at 9.30am and finish slightly after mid-day. Our exact location may be found on our website, or displayed on the notice board at the Church Lane entrance.



Wistaston Community Council

42nd

Flower & Produce Show

Saturday 16th August 2025

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

SECTION F: FLOWER CLASSES

- F1. Bowl of Sweet Peas, mixed colours, 15 stems minimum
- F2. A specimen Rose in a vase
- F3. Three Large Gladioli, any variety or varieties
- F4. Three Pom Pom Dahlias, any variety or varieties
- F5. Three Cactus or Semi Cactus Dahlias, any variety or varieties
- F6. Three Decorative Dahlias, any variety of varieties
- F7. A Single Stem of any Flowering Plant (not in schedule) in a Vase
- F8. A Single Geranium Head in a Vase
- F9. Six French Marigolds, any variety of varieties
- F10. A Shallow Bowl of Floating Flower Heads, arranged for effect
- F11. A Vase of Mixed Flowers, home grown
- F12. A Cactus or Succulent
- F13. A Geranium in a Pot (with a saucer)
- F14. A Begonia in a Pot (with a saucer)
- F15. Flowering Plant in a Pot (with a saucer) excluding plants from Classes F13/14/17/18
- F16. A Foliage Plant in a Pot (with a saucer)
- F17. Six Fuchsia Heads on a board
- F18. A Fuchsia in a Pot (up to 15cm, with a saucer), any variety
- F19. Alpine Garden 25cm x 25cm maximum

SECTION V: VEGETABLE CLASSES

- V1. A Vegetable not on schedule (please specify on entry form and label exhibit)
- V2. Five White Potatoes on a Plate, any variety
- V3. Five Coloured Potatoes on a Plate, any variety
- V4. Three Onions – roots shown, not to exceed 225 grams each (**see rule 21**)
- V5. Six Carrots – tops trimmed to 8cm
- V6. Nine Shallots – Large (over 30mm in diameter)
- V7. Three Round Beetroot – tops trimmed to 8cm
- V8. One Vegetable Marrow – with stalk
- V9. One Lettuce – roots shown
- V10. One Cucumber – with stalk
- V11. Five Ripe Tomatoes (not cherry variety) on a plate
- V12. A Truss of Tomatoes (not cherry variety) – some ripe
- V13. A Truss of a Named Variety of Cherry Tomatoes on a plate – some ripe
- V14. Five Ripe Cherry Tomatoes on a plate – variety to be named
- V15. Six Runner Beans – all with some stalk
- V16. Six French Beans – all with some stalk
- V17. Three Courgettes – each with some stalk
- V18. A Single Pot of Three Different Herbs

SECTION D: WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL VEGETABLE DISPLAY

- D1. A Collection of Five Different Classes of Vegetables

SECTION B: HARVEST BASKET

B1. A Basket containing Fruit, Flowers & Produce – not to exceed 46cm in width and length; height unrestricted

SECTION A: FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS (Please read rule 20)

A1. “Women’s Rugby World Cup 2025”

A2. Arrangement in an unusual container– not to exceed 46cm in width and length; height unrestricted

SECTION H: HOUSECRAFT CLASSES-Please cover entries with transparent covering

H1. A Jar of Home Made Jam – cellophane/muslin covers only

H2. A jar of Home Made Marmalade – cellophane/muslin covers only

H3. A Jar of Home Made Chutney - cellophane/muslin covers only

H4. Three Pieces of Shortbread

H5. Three Square Flapjacks

H6. Three Jam Tarts

H7. A Plate of Three Chocolate Butterfly Cakes

H8. Three slices of a tray bake (to be named on plate)

H9. A Lemon Drizzle Cake baked in a loaf tin

H10. A Victoria Sponge Cake – **Please read RULE 19 carefully for recipe**

H11. Five Decorated Cup Cakes

H12. An Apple Pie approx. 20cm in diameter, short crust pastry top and bottom, presented on a plate

H13. Three Cheese Scones

H14. A Quiche – approx. 20cm in diameter, presented on a plate

SECTION W: BEVERAGES

W1. Bottle of Home Made Fruit/Vegetable/Flower Alcoholic Drink (please name)

W2. Bottle of Home Made Fruit/Vegetable/Flower Non-Alcoholic Drink (please name)

SECTION Y: HOBBYCRAFTS (Please read Rule 18)

Y1. Any craft not on schedule (please specify on entry form)

Y2. A Knitted Toy

Y3. A Crochet Toy

Y4. Cross stitch

Y5. A Painting – own original work, A4 max size, unframed

Y6. A Decorated Plant Pot 10cm-15cm diameter pot

Y7. A Woodcraft item (please specify type and size on entry form)

Y8. A Homemade Garment, on a hanger if applicable (Please specify type on entry form)

SECTION C: CHILDREN'S CLASSES

C1. Pre-school – “My Favourite Flower”

C2. Under 12's – A Miniature Garden in a container not exceeding 20 cm

C3. Under 12's – A Greeting Card

C4. Under 12's – A Decorated Plant Pot

C5. Under 12's – One Decorated Cup Cake

PARISH COUNCIL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Class A: A Typical Snapshot (printed)

Class B: A Cardboard Framed Enlargement

Prize money will be £5, £3 and £2 in both classes.

Entries to be with the Show Secretary by 9th August 2025.

Please read the schedule and the rules very carefully to make sure your entries are in the correct class, are trimmed as directed, are the correct size, and contain the correct amount of ingredients.

Show Secretary Tel: 07720 505815

Email: WistastonShow@gmail.com

Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre

General Update

This spring we would like to highlight the wonderful organisations that use the hall. Please visit our website www.wistastonmemorialhall.uk and click on the clubs and societies to see what's going on.

A recent new addition is The Old World Gaming Group. This is what the organiser had to say.

'The Old World gaming group was started as a way for players of the latest version of Warhammer fantasy to get together to play. Wargames is a table top game played by two or more players. Miniatures are used to represent units in a battle, imagine a game of chess but instead of a pawn you have a unit of troops. Instead of a king you have a model general. While the group was started to play one specific game created by the Warhammer company there are many more games both from the same company and other companies across the world. In an effort to fully utilise the Memorial Hall in Wistaston we join with another local group based in Shavington so they get more chance to play and we can fill the hall each evening. Wargames involves so much more than just the playing of the game as players will buy, build and paint their armies and can spend many hours doing this.

We are looking to expand the numbers of games played and already have some new players due to come along and play a game based on historical armies. If you would like more information about Warhammer or Wargames in general, feel free to pop along to one of our club nights or contact the organisers via email exilespainting@hotmail.com. We meet monthly'





Rebuild Update

Exciting news, at the time of writing it's 31st January 2025 and we have just collected the first draft of plans for the new Hall from our architect Clive Tucker at Bower Edleston. Once the Hall Management Trustees have considered the plans, they will be circulated to Hall users and posted on the Rebuild page of our website. We can't wait to share them with you. We will arrange open days at the Hall to provide the opportunity for you to view and discuss the plans with the Hall Management Trustees.

Please check our website www.wistastonmemorialhall.uk where we will post details of the Open Days. The design brief for the new Hall can be viewed on the Rebuild page of our website.

There is still a long journey ahead of us, starting with obtaining planning permission and seeking funding before we have to say a fond farewell to our existing Hall. Timescales will become clearer as we progress through 2025.

If you would be interested in being involved in either the day to day running of the Memorial Hall or the Rebuild project, we would love to hear from you. Contactus@wistastonmemorialhall.uk

Thanks to Jonathan White for the above photo.

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INTRODUCING GREEN MAN MORRIS

If you were at the Garden Party in neighbouring Willaston in the summer or if you visited Blackberry Fair in Whitchurch on 5th October you may have seen us dancing and wondered who we are. Well, we are **Green Man Morris** and we are your local mixed Border Morris 'side'.

It's a good way to keep fit while having a lot of enjoyment – here's what one of our members says:

I only took up Morris Dancing recently, having secretly wanted to try it for a long time; finding a friendly local group was the push I needed. We have had such a lot of laughter trying to learn the dances, and I have exceeded my step count effortlessly on practice evenings.

My fellow dancers couldn't be more friendly, and Sue, the foreman, is an excellent and patient instructor. The 'side' is blessed with several talented musicians who play the melodeon, recorder and tin pipe so we always have live music to dance to.



I love the fact that we are keeping alive one of our few national traditions, and that it involves music and dance, and is all about teamwork, community and having fun. I also like the link to nature and the countryside. And I have loved making the costume and individualising it with seasonal greenery and flowers for wassails, and 'dance-outs' in summer at local fairs, carnivals and pubs.

The history of Morris Dancing is obscure; according to Wikipedia it has roots as far back as 1448. The name is believed to be derived

from 'moorish' meaning foreign or exotic in its widest sense, and Morris dances were performed in royal courts from this time; it is thought that in the 16th century they imported significant Italian influences. From the restoration of the crown in the mid 17th century the peasantry embraced Morris dancing as the spring-time festivals were restored, and it continued as a vigorous tradition until the Industrial Revolution; by the late 19th century it was largely a memory in most places, so several English folklorists began a revival movement in the early 20th century which saw an explosion of new groups in the 1960s. Early groups tended to be all male but history shows that back in the 1500s many women danced Morris, so women's and mixed sides have been reinstated across the country.

Continued Overleaf:

There are several different traditions within Morris; our group – **Green Man Morris** – is part of the Border tradition, which is located along the England/Wales border and has a looser and more vigorous style than some; we (men and women!) wear ‘tatter-jackets’ which are waistcoats decorated with strips of ribbon or fabric, a black hat with feathers, and bells on leg garters. We tend to colour our faces for performance, though full blackface has rightly been prohibited since the Black Lives Matter movement. We use sticks in our dances, whereas some traditions use swords, handkerchiefs or other implements, and some wear baldrics, braces, clogs or other traditional gear.

We practise on Tuesday evenings, alternating between the Goodwill Hall in Faddiley and Church House (Scout Hut) in Claypit St, Whitchurch. New dancers are always welcome - no experience needed, as are musicians.

Amber Middlemiss, October 2024

Contact greenmanmorrishough@gmail.com or find us on Facebook, or at www.greenmanmorris.org



SCAN THIS FOR THE GREEN MAN MORRIS WEBSITE



see across on page 23

Grey Wagtail





NATURE ARTICLE

No sooner was the last article submitted than there came the realization that swallow twittering was silenced and there was little in the skies beside the querulous squawking of jackdaws and gulls on the scrounge. Then, after a lull, mass flocks of various species of birds were flying over, seeming larger this year. Breeding season over, these flocks will sometimes be solely winter migrants as winter takes a hold, or our own residents boosted by some of their own kind from farther afield. Fewer feeding birds 'chez nous' probably means the milder weather obviates the need to seek other than their natural diet.

Joyce and Andrew Booth reported fifteen to twenty redwings flying over Freshfields in early November, which must have been a wonderful sight.

Stormy 7.12, for good reason, brought few birds to feeders, but nine long-tailed tits made it – a species weaving such an elaborate and cosy domed nest that the tit has to fold its tail to enter. We've read that parent birds are often helped to feed their young by adults who have failed to nest.

One day Hilary went out to inspect two robins rolling over on the lawn, entangled and tiring. At her approach the pair disentangled themselves and flew away. We know how antagonistic robins are towards each other, defence of territory their prime preoccupation, but also understand that rival birds tend not to fight to the death: this event came close, we sense.

Thanks again to Andrew Booth who, close to Christmas, caught a fleeting glance of a rarely-seen grey wagtail in his garden. The visit was too fleeting for a photograph, but Andrew contributed one taken some years back, which shows how colourful this bird is.

A fondness of wood pigeons for seedheads of ivy finds our local populations twisting themselves upside-down among the plants, to glut on the berries.

While window-cleaning on Christmas Day Hilary was aware of significant bird-song: was the mild weather lulling birds into thinking it was time to get territorial ahead of the breeding season? They were in for a shock! But why haven't January's hard frosts yet brought us some of our shyer birds? Our only treat has been a jay. Our readers have surely seen something more exciting.

Our thanks to all contributors.

Trevor and Hilary Clowes

Tel. 664358 email handt136@talktalk.net

The 8th of January was one of the coldest and iciest nights of this winter so far. However, a good number of members and several visitors attended the first meeting of 2025.

Following a New Year welcome from Jenny Hodkinson, President, and short discussion on events for the coming year which this year will include our own WI Show in October, Andrew Ridgeway entertained us with a 'Virtual Tour of Nantwich'. His talk was accompanied by many photographs illustrating changes over the years in the very old settlement. His light hearted talk included the origins of many common sayings including 'it's raining cats and dogs' and 'cocktail sticks'. The enjoyable evening concluded with tea, cakes and announcement of raffle prize winners, and winners of the competition for the funniest Christmas Card.

In January the sub-committee arranged an enjoyable visit to the Ten Pin Bowling Alley in Crewe. The monthly lunch was held at The Red Lion at Wybunbury.

In February members will visit Nantwich Museum where Andrew Ridgeway will give an organized tour. This will be followed by lunch at Pillory House. At the main February meeting Alison Long will give her talk titled 'Boarding School Knickers'.

The monthly meeting is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at The Acacia Suite (The Masonic Hall) Willaston CW5 7ER at 7pm for the meeting to begin at 7.30pm. Visitors, potential new members are very welcome to attend on a try before you buy basis and can be sure of a warm welcome. If you would like more information, see Willaston WI Facebook or telephone Jenny Hodkinson on 07854 869325 or Brenda Taylor 07484 100456.

CREWE & NANTWICH RAMBLING CLUB



Rambles will normally take place on Sundays fortnightly throughout the year. There is a choice of approx 6, 9, or 12 miles. Travel by coach with pick-ups at Nantwich, Wistaston & Crewe.

There are also Thursday morning walks throughout the year on a four weekly basis, travelling by car with the option of a pub meal after the walk.

New members are very welcome - please contact Brenda Farrall for further information on 01270 624649 or visit Club Web Site www.creweandnantwichramblingclub.org.uk/

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Madame Klara

Conclusion

Life in post-war Europe, was a hideous jumble of humanity; some of it hardly human at all. Klara's family could not return to their beloved Kosow; instead they had to join the displaced persons camp at Coburg near Hamburg, where they had to wait and wait and wait....

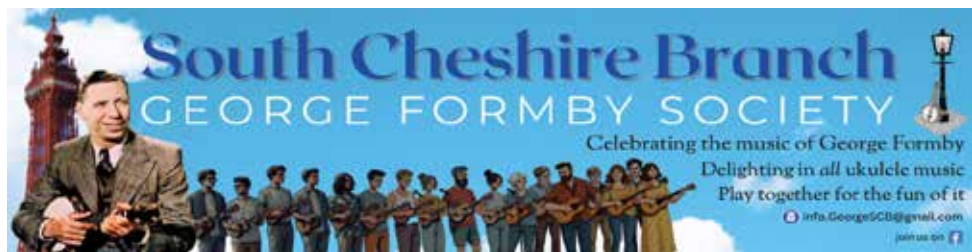
And what of their father Joseph? He had escaped the Gestapo and managed to find a way out of Poland, through Germany and down into Italy. He was captured, tortured in the most cruel fashion, escaped and managed to enlist in the Polish contingent fighting under the leadership of his country's greatest hero, General Anders. So it was that he played his part in the dreadful battle that surrounded Monte Cassino. At last Monte Cassino did fall and at the end of hostilities Joseph began searching for his family. His journeyings brought him to Britain where he heard via the British Red Cross that his family were all safe.

In 1948, three long and weary years after the war had ended, Joseph and his family were re-united and the whole family moved to Nantwich into the refugee camp at Doddington where they met many more of their countrymen and women. The children began their education and Klara with her sister, Sophia, were sent to boarding school in Cheltenham.

Here, as well as rapidly improving her standards in education, young Klara found that she had a natural flair for hairdressing. When this came to light she was in great demand by all the other girls to style their hair and help with 'Make-up' especially when important occasions happened along. So adept did Klara become that on leaving school she resisted all family opposition and moved into the world of hairdressing salons. Here flair was not enough: hard work and long hours were the order of the day. With fierce determination she trained hard and gained high qualifications.

At last Klara moved into her first salon. This was in Bramhall Lane here in Wistaston. But this was not the end of the road, for Klara's ambition was to become a designer of hair-styles. This meant competition work and the one real competition ground was London where her opponents were of the highest and toughest calibre. She entered competition after competition to find that her work had come to the attention of Raymond (Mr. Teasy Weasy of T.V. and Grand National fame) who then began to advise her.

Eventually, with so much experience behind her Klara opened a salon in High Street, Crewe and, not long afterwards, another was opened in Nantwich. However, she could not resist the pull of Wistaston and in 1980 she moved to a new business complex in Kings Drive. Klara had learned more than hairstyling during the formative years of her career, for the design and décor of the new business were her own and installed to her own very high standards. The salon is now a flourishing business; efficient and well known for the kind thoughtful and considerate attention its clientele enjoys. **Dołgie to za lata od Kosowa - Kosow was a long time ago!**
From an article in Roundabout Spring 1986



Toe-tapping Fun Awaits at South Cheshire Ukulele Night

Music lovers are in for a treat as the South Cheshire George Formby Society prepares to strike up the band for its next Ukulele Fun Night - a lively open mic concert packed with community spirit and uplifting tunes. The event takes place on Friday 28th February 2025, at 7:30pm, hosted at Wistaston Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston CW2 8ER.



For just £2 per person, guests can enjoy an evening of toe-tapping music, with talented society members and enthusiastic newcomers taking to the stage. While the ukulele is at the heart of the show, other musicians will also join in, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all.

Adding to the fun, the night includes a tea and biscuit interval, offering a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours, as well as an exciting prize raffle to round out the evening.

Founded in 1994, the South Cheshire George Formby Society has been dedicated to keeping the legacy of the legendary British entertainer alive for over three decades. What began as a small gathering of fans has grown into a thriving community, celebrating Formby's music and the enduring charm of the ukulele.

Under the leadership of Gail and Simon Kinrade, the society continues to flourish.

For those who can't make it this time, the society has plenty more music-filled evenings lined up in 2025: 28th March, 25th April, 23rd May, 27th June, 25th July, 22nd August, 26th September, 24th October, 28th November, and 19th December.

The Ukulele Fun Night is open to all - For more details, please visit <https://southcheshiregeorgeformby.com/> or email info.GeorgeSCB@gmail.com.

Thank you to Jonathan White for the above article and photograph which happens to be Jonathan's 2,500th local news story in his 19th year of community journalism! very many congratulations Jonathan.

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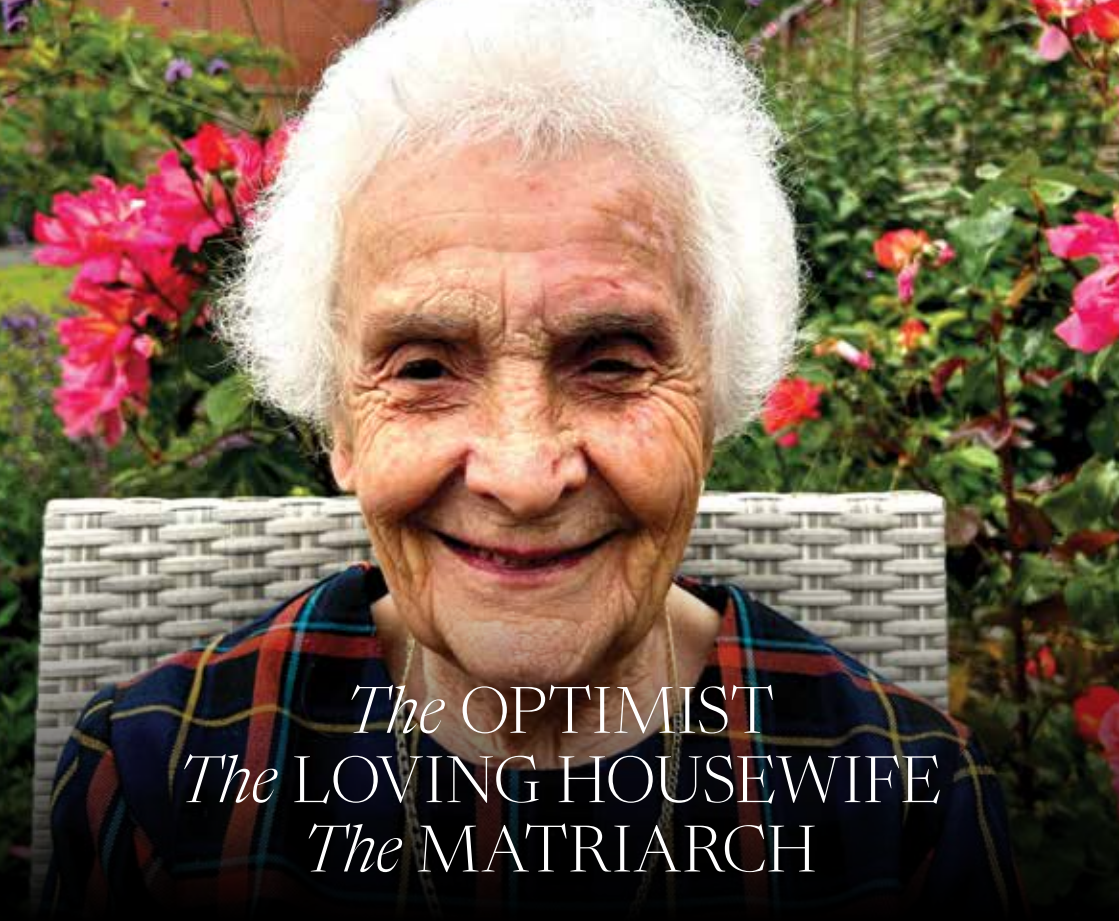
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When I was 80, I was widowed, and I came to live in Crewe so I could be closer to my granddaughters. I then came to Richmond Villages Willaston (as I thought) for a fortnight holiday - but I never went home! I didn't know

I had dementia so, if I've got it, I don't know when it started!

I'm very lucky to have my granddaughter and daughters working here - what more could I want? It's lovely - the staff support me with shopping, the washing, the ironing - they help me with absolutely everything. You're very well looked after. I don't think 'ohhh it's just another day....!'. I think 'I'm at home' and that's exactly what I feel like here.

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