

Winter 'ROUNDABOUT'

A Wistaston Community
Council Publication



2012
ISSUE 128



2012 Wistaston Firework Display -
Jonathan White

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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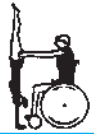
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Editorial

With very many thanks for all the continued splendid support you give to Roundabout for without your contributions and advertisements it could not exist! Please continue to send in your articles for our Spring edition – due out in early March – by 15 January 2013.

Eileen Bamber Geoff Poppitt
31 Broughton Lane 19 Byron Way
01270 569126 01270 569642
email: eileen@bamberuk.com

*With all good wishes to everyone for
Christmas and 2013 from all members of the
Wistaston Community Council.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR 2012/2013

Friday 7 December	Christmas Concert
Thursday 20 December	Jubilee Christmas Concert
Monday 21 January	Wistaston Community Council AGM
Friday 8 March	Spring Concert with the Kipling Singers
Saturday 15 June	Village Fete
Saturday 17 August	Flower and Produce Show
Saturday 7 September	Duck Race

The Annual General Meeting of the Wistaston Community Council will be held in the Wistaston Memorial Hall on Monday 21 January 2013 at 7.30pm and a warm welcome is given to everyone who would like to attend. Come and see what the Community Council is about! And then join us!

The Wistaston Community Council organises village events with some of these being run for charity. The Summer Fete, held in June, is organised in conjunction and with the kind support of St Mary's Church and is the biggest fund raising event of the year. The Wistaston Community Council is very conscious of the thanks due to everyone involved in its success and especially to the Revd Mike and Mrs Turnbull for the use of their garden.

With the proceeds of our fund raising events the Community Council aims to help individuals or groups where a small donation would help with their local efforts. If you think we can help and you would like to know more send your details to Eileen Bamber, details above, for the consideration of the Community Council. The Community Council also organises the Flower and Produce Show, Fireworks Display the December Christmas Concert and the Spring Concert.

We look forward to the many events planned ahead by both the Community Council and the Memorial Hall Management Committee.

Wistaston Community Council's



Annual Christmas Concert

WILL BE HELD THIS YEAR ON

Friday 7 December 2012

in St Mary's Church Hall

*All the profits from this event will be donated
to children's charities*

The following poem has been submitted to
Roundabout by Dorothy Hall of Wistaston Green

Christmas Time

*What does Christmas mean to us?
Does it mean a lot of fuss,
Gifts to buy and cards to write,
A Christmas Tree with candles bright,
A turkey plump, mince pies to bake
With outward signs we all partake,
We rush around, no time to pray,
'Oh, that can wait another day'.
But stop awhile, just think it out,
What Christmas Day is all about,
The day a tiny child was born,
In stable bare and so forlorn.
The King of Kings who reigns above,
Came down to bless us – with His love.*



Wistaston Community Website:
www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk
Wistaston Community Council

Christmas Services from St Mary's and St Luke's

Here we are heading towards Christmas once again! As the season brings with it its inevitable busyness, why not schedule in some time for celebrating the real meaning of Christmas? Below are our Special Christmas Services for this year, it would be great to see you at one of them. For all our regular services please visit our website: stmaryswistaston.org.uk, follow us on Twitter: @maryandluke or see the Notice Board outside church. I hope you have a peaceful, restful and holy Christmas.

15th December (Saturday)

6.30pm - Carols on the Green (outside the Church Hall) - why not come and sing some carols as we prepare for Christmas?

23rd December (Sunday)

6.30pm - A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols - a traditional service of carols and readings

24th December (Monday)

6.30pm - Crib Service including the Nativity Play - a retelling by our young people of the Christmas Story - not to be missed - get there early as it gets busy!

11.30pm - Midnight Holy Communion

25th December (Tuesday - Christmas Day)

9am - Holy Communion (St Luke's, Willaston)

10.40am Holy Communion for Christmas for all the family.

Mike Turnbull



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WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. COMMUNITY PRIDE AWARDS

I'm pleased to report Wistaston's success in this year's awards. In Community Pride we achieved runner-up in the village category and a 'Little Gem' award was presented for the bowling green. In North West in Bloom we were presented the Silver Award in the best kept town category. Congratulations and thanks are expressed to the Wistaston in Bloom volunteer group, the Bowling Club, residents and businesses who made these awards possible.

2. DIAMOND JUBILEE SEATING

As reported in the autumn issue, the second seat has now been installed on the frontage by St. Mary's Church

3. CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

We have to report a serious spate of vandalism of graffiti on units and floor, extensive litter and broken glass. This has been happening during weekends. We have had a positive response to our request for more attention and visits from Police and Community Support Officers and this is on-going. The clean-up process is taking some time and the playground has had to be closed on a number of occasions. Any residents who can help with information to prevent these occurrences are asked to report to our Clerk (details below) or the Police on telephone no. 101

4. STRATEGIC REVIEW

Your Council recently reviewed the subcommittee's report on Parish activities and responsibilities. This was set up to examine what changes should be considered to improve working practices and provide further benefits for the community. Financial implications are to be considered by our Budget Working Group during November / December and presented for the Council's approval at our January meeting

5. RESIDENT CONCERNS

Residents routinely request contact details for Cheshire East on highway issues. This can be made on telephone no. 0300 123 5020. The local highways officer for Crewe is Phil Grocott.

6. COUNCIL MEETINGS

All residents are welcome to attend Council meetings which are held at 7.30pm in the Dudley Room, Wistaston Memorial Hall. Next meeting dates 20th December 2012, 17th January 2013 and 21st February 2013.

Best wishes for the festive season and happy new year

Cllr. J. Moore CHAIRMAN

Councillor Contact Details:-

ST. MARY'S WARD (1 VACANCY)

Joyce Bond	
23 Freshfields, Wistaston, CW2 6QD	569423
Gwyneth Brown	
101 Church Lane, Wistaston, CW2 8ER	568823
Betty Cooke	
25 Westfield Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EU	569676

John Hatfield	
25 Nessina Grove, Wistaston, CW2 8EL	569624
Derrick Millington	
9 Chesterton Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EA	664471
Ray Westwood	
550 Crewe Road, Wistaston, CW2 6PP	569844

WELLS GREEN WARD

Ian Hodgkinson	
432 Crewe Road, Wistaston, CW2 6QN	661601
John Moore (Chairman)	
50 Laidon Avenue, Wistaston, CW2 6QH	661924
Graham Roberts	
29 Berkeley Crescent, Wistaston, CW2 6QA	568521

WISTASTON GREEN WARD (3 VACANCIES)

Ken Parish	
12 Riverside Grove, Wistaston, CW2 8QF	650280
Pam Williams	
5 Hardy Close, Wistaston, CW2 8DY	663479

Clerk to the Council

Mrs. Andrea Cross	
4 Arundel Close, Wistaston. CW2 8EY	652098
(email: wistastonpc@tiscali.co.uk)	

Wistonian of the Year

This is the time of year when Wistonians look at those around them and ask which residents of the village have made a major contribution to its life and, maybe, its welfare. Age is not a consideration.

If you know of anyone you would like to nominate for this most prestigious award please contact two friends who are of the same opinion as yourself and complete the form below, sending it with a summary of the nominee's achievements, to the President of Wistaston Community Council, 25 Sandylands Park, Wistaston, Crewe to arrive by the 5 January 2013.

We, the undersigned, nominate:

Name

Address

Proposer (Name)

Address

Seconder (Name)

Address

Seconder (Name)

Address

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WISTASTON GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Gill Adlington uses a completely new method of painting to produce some beautiful artwork. Starting from a prepared canvas she demonstrated how a scene can be produced with relatively little skill. People attending Gill's courses who have never considered themselves artistic have been amazed at the result of their efforts. The scene appeared as if by magic in the skilful hands of Gill – firstly the sky, then the trees and finally the waterfall. The brushes used are somewhat larger than normal and quickly transform the blank canvas into a delightful picture. Gill very kindly left the piece to be raffled for Guild funds. It proved to be a very entertaining evening.

In August we were introduced to the very valuable services of the North West Air Ambulance. Victor Crawford is a volunteer fund raiser for the organisation, "Care for the Air". His responsibility is to raise the public profile in Cheshire – which operates from Barnton. They need to raise £4 million annually to remain operational. Funds are raised from corporate sponsors and groups. There are 18 air ambulance services in the UK who work together. The North West has seven air ambulances and makes 19,000 missions each year. The Charity was formed in 1999 incorporating Lancashire, Cumberland, Greater Manchester and Cheshire covering 5,500 square miles, flying in daylight only with five incidents a day rising to ten in the summer, averaging six throughout the year. The paramedics are employed by the NHS and each flight has one pilot and two paramedics. They prepare each day for readiness. The critical time for rescue is known as the "Golden Hour", the time in which treatment and removal of critically ill people to hospital can be the difference between life and death. The patient could be suffering from anything from a heart attack to injuries sustained in a mountain accident. Without this immediate help an individual could die or be affected for life.

A few technical details which may be of interest are:

- Ambulances travel at 150mph
- Operates 365 days a year (unless the weather is too bad)
- Looks after a population of nearly 8 million

We can never know when this service is needed, we just trust and hope that should such an emergency occur they will be there doing a wonderful job. A collection raised an extra £56 for which our speaker was very grateful.

September saw our annual harvest table and social evening and an auction raised £50 for Guild funds.

Going comprehensive was the topic for October when Mr Monks ex Crewe Boys' Grammar School Headmaster enlightened us on the transition from Secondary and Grammar to comprehensive education. There had been protracted debate regarding the formation of comprehensive schools with many people firmly against the proposal. Mr Monks himself discussed the unfairness of the selection system and commented that many bright pupils missed out on a higher education. Compared with grammar schools many secondary moderns were poorly equipped leaving the pupils at a distinct disadvantage, possibly for the rest of their lives and leaving with no recognised qualifications. The merger was fraught with problems, not least of all going co-

ed. Eyes widened at the thought of 11 year old girls and boys mixing. It soon became apparent that whatever the anxieties of the adults may have been, the pupils thoroughly approved of the idea. It took some years for the new system to become fully functional, merging by gradual degrees and was extremely hard work for all concerned to make the transition as smooth as possible for the pupils.

The education system is still going through turmoil with new systems appearing regularly. We can only hope that all children today will be well educated and have all the best opportunities to equip them for a successful life.

Also in October a group of ladies from Wistaston Green and Nantwich Guilds headed for the Kings Hall Stoke-on-Trent for the annual Federation Social Evening. Each year the guilds compete in a competition with a theme decided upon by the Federation Committee and this year it was Shakespeare. The tables were artistically decorated with various aspects of Shakespeare's works and times, including some excellent models of the Globe Theatre. The evening was opened by the Lord Mayor of Stoke who commented on the creativity and talent of the ladies.

Following the business of the evening the guest speaker was introduced - Lesley Smith, Curator of Tutbury Castle. Lesley is a very popular speaker who acts the part of her subject and dresses in period costume for effect, where she insists that accuracy is paramount. Following her performance she speaks eloquently on the historical facts of that period. On this occasion her subject was Ann Hathaway of whom very little is documented but she gave us a wonderful insight into the life she led, how she met William Shakespeare and her existence with, and mainly without, him. In his long absences in London and elsewhere she spent much of her time with her stepmother. She was eight years older than William and illiterate but he saw her as his inspiration for many of his writings. At the time of his death women did not receive an inheritance but it is believed that William bequeathed to her "his second best bed". Rather an odd bequest one would have thought but we are told that the best bed was always reserved for guests, leaving us with the thought that although he seemed to neglect her he really did love her. She herself died relatively wealthy, owning farms and property.

Lesley is a wonderful performer in all its senses. She acts with warmth and sensitivity, and her in-depth knowledge of the period covered is second to none - always a joy to watch.

Dates for the diary –

December 6th – Slides of Dorothy Clive Gardens – Mr Zdenek Valkoun

2013

January 3rd – New Year Party

February 7th – My Fair Lady – Mr Colin Bell

March 1st – AGM followed by Fish & Chip supper

Our meetings take place at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month at St Mark's Church Hall, Bramhall Road, Wistaston Green, Crewe, if you come along you will be made most welcome.

Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre

Chairman's Report

The last four months of 2012 have witnessed several activities in, and for, the hall:-

Saturday 1st September - The 17th Annual Duck Race and Children's Model Boat Race event was exceptionally well attended, and well organised by the hall's management committee. 53 model boats and 800 plastic ducks meandered and bobbed along the stream at the Joey-the-Swan recreation ground. £755 was raised, which will be used to eventually purchase stage curtains for the stage at the hall. Please book Saturday 7th September 2013 for the 18th Duck Race.

Thursday 18th October - Over 100 people attended the hall's Jubilee Proms Concert, with patriotic and rousing music provided by the Crewe Concert Band, with the musical director Albert Dunseath. 'Rule Britannia' and 'Land of Hope and Glory' have rarely been sung so enthusiastically and loudly! The band and the hall shared the £404 proceeds.

Tuesday 23rd October - Fifteen teams of four members participated in the Annual Hall Quiz. Quizmaster Geoff Armitage was ably assisted by Sheila Armitage, Tom Jones and Glenys White. The half-time refreshments were organised by Audrey Astbury and her team. The eventual champions were 'The Hall Stars' (52 points) captained by Brian Edge with John Lomax, Alan Brown and John White. The trophies were presented by Sheena Sambrook, Wistonian of the Year. In second place were 'Four in the Corner' with 47 points and third were 'The Scrabblers' with 46 points. A total of £152 was raised for the new 'Curtain Fund'.

Sunday 11th November - The annual Service of Remembrance was held with a packed hall. The service was taken by Rev Mike Turnbull, Rev Ken Sambrook and Fr Martin Moran. The Royal British Legion was represented by Bob Cowan (Parade Marshal), Stuart Kay (Standard Bearer) and Alan Brereton (President, Crewe Branch). Jack Gresty played 'The Last Post' and 'Reveille'; his great uncle Derek Gresty died at Bari on 2nd December 1943 aged 23 years. A tribute was paid to Sergeant George Alfred Hinton, who died on 26th November 1940, aged 28, while flying a Bristol Blenheim Mk IV from RAF Thorney Island, Sussex. The collection was given to the Royal British Legion.

Thursday 20th December - A new venture will take place - a Jubilee Christmas Concert with the Crewe Concert Band, under the musical director Albert Dunseath, starting at 7:30pm. Programmes @ £6 will be on sale at the door to the hall. Santa will be there!

Please note that the rooms at the hall are available for hire, via the **Booking Officer, Herbert Locke MBE**, telephone 01270 665664, at competitive rates **£11 per hour** for the main hall and **£8.80 per hour** for each side room.

Best wishes for the festive season

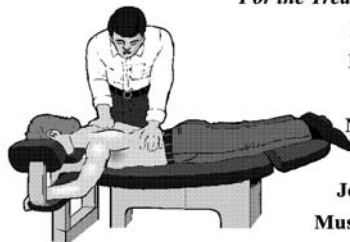
John C White
Chairman

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Wistaston Annual Hall Quiz

On Tuesday 23 October 2012, 15 teams of 4 people participated in 6 rounds of 10 questions, during the Wistaston Annual Hall Quiz for the Fred Lorimer trophy.

The quizmaster was Geoff Armitage ably assisted by markers Sheila Armitage and Meurig Jones and scorer Glenys White.

The raffle was organised by Herbert Locke MBE for prizes which were all kindly donated.

The half-time refreshments were organised by Audrey Astbury, Olive Williams, Sue Brown, Margaret Beresford, Kathleen Conroy and John Astbury.

The winning team was 'The Hall Stars' with 52 out of a possible 60 points. The team was captained by Brian Edge with John Lomax, Alan Brown and John White, who were presented with the prestigious Fred Lorimer trophy by Wistonian of the Year Sheena Sambrook. In second place were last years champions '4 in the corner' with 47 points. 'The Scrabblers' came third with 46 points.

Event organiser John White said, "We had another enjoyable and successful community event, which raised £152 for hall funds. We thank everybody who supported this annual event for the Fred Lorimer trophy".

John White



Photo of 'The Hall Stars' receiving the Fred Lorimer trophy from Wistonian of the Year Sheena Sambrook.

Police Band stuns crowds in Germany

Talented police musicians did "Cheshire proud" as they performed to tens of thousands of music lovers in Germany.

After weeks of rehearsals members of the Band of the Cheshire Constabulary travelled to Bad Schlemma in Germany to represent Great Britain at the world renowned Europaisches Blasmusikfestival over the weekend of September 22nd.

The three-day festival saw the band perform to more than 20,000 people who danced on tables and partied into the night as they enjoyed a packed programme of modern day hits, marches and rousing drum solos. The band have worked hard to raise funds and have completely self-funded the trip.

To kick start the festival the band, dressed in traditional police uniform, marched through the crowds to the beat of the Corps of Drums followed by a parade of hundreds of musicians from across Europe.

The three day trip saw the 40 musicians, who are from many walks of life, including police officers, nurses, teachers and professional musicians, performing percussion solo Sing, Sing, Sing, bringing the house down with Carnival de Paris before being joined on stage to the finale Victory from Michael

Flattley's "Lord of the Dance".

Musical Director and former Cheshire Police Inspector David



Woollam praised the musicians for their performance, saying they had done "Great Britain and Cheshire proud"

"The band have been excellent ambassadors for brass bands and for Great Britain and Cheshire," said Insp Woollam (ret). "They played excellently and enjoyed every second and it's looking like we will be asked to go back again next year."

The band has members from Wistaston and the surrounding areas and regularly play at concerts in the Crewe and Nantwich area.

Report supplied by Rachel Flint and Rob Richardson

New Life Community Church

One of the most popular pantomimes at this time of the year is Cinderella. The story centres around a young girl who is enslaved by her corrupt stepmother who keeps her in the house to clean and cook while her step sisters are allowed the freedom to do as they please.

For Cinderella it seems to be a hopeless situation. The odds are stacked against her but someone arrives to bring hope to her life and enable her dreams to become a reality. The Fairy Godmother is able to bring about a transformation that opens the door for Cinderella to realise her ambitions and aspirations.

The story of the birth of Jesus Christ that we celebrate over the Christmas season equally has elements of hope and transformation connected to it. Despite being born into socially unacceptable circumstances with the threat of death from the unscrupulous King Herod, his birth brings joy and purpose to the lives of shepherds and the Magi who responded to the call to search for the truth of who Jesus was and is. This applies to those who do the same today.

I believe that we too have the opportunity at this time to bring hope to other people's lives. True hope is not found in money or material possessions but rather through relationships, friendships and people who care enough to make a difference. Here are some suggestions that we might use to enhance a person's life today:

- Visit a lonely neighbour with a card or gift.
- Help someone achieve a dream that has never been fulfilled.

- Offer your help to someone facing challenging circumstances.
- Tell someone who works behind the scenes how much you appreciate the work they do.

We might find our own lives are changed as well!

Happy Christmas!

Rev Andy Taylor

New Life Community Church

Fuller Drive, Wistaston CW2 6TH

www.newlifecentre.co.uk info@newlifecentre.co.uk

Christmas Services at New Life Community Church

Sunday 23rd December 11.00am - Children's Christmas Presentation

Sunday 23rd December 6.30pm - Carol Service

Tuesday 25th December 10.00am - Christmas Morning Family Service

Sunday 30th December 11.00am - Family Worship & Sunday School

Note - there is NO Sunday evening meeting on 30th December

Monday 31st December 11.15pm New Year's Eve Thanksgiving Service



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'Ministers musings' from Wells Green

'A recipe for success?'

I truly believe that laughter is a gift from God. I love anything that makes me laugh, and in particular I love the old-school sitcom, filled with brilliant writing and clever jokes rather than the reliance on swearing and shock-factor which regrettably seems to characterise much of what is called "comedy" today. I have complete box sets of The Good Life, Porridge, Open All Hours, Dad's Army and The Vicar Of Dibley – to name but a few...

Have you ever watched the BBC sitcom, 'The Vicar of Dibley'? It includes a character played by Liz Smith, whose culinary creations are feared by the rest of the villagers. To their consternation, she sees no reason why chocolate cake shouldn't contain marmite. My wife might agree with her (I can't stand the stuff on anything!).

With any dish we make, there are some ingredients which are automatically added, and others which would make an unlikely mixture to say the least. And yet in some ways, not nearly as unlikely a mixture as the ingredients Jesus came up with to create the Church. Peter was an impulsive individual who often misunderstood Jesus' message and denied he even knew him. James was known for his fiery temper. Matthew was a tax collector, one of the most hated professions at the time. And Simon was a member of a revolutionary band of freedom fighters committed to driving the Romans out of Israel.

We might think such people were more likely to come to blows than work together for a common cause. Yet each of these people and countless more were taken and used by God to create his Church.

The same is as true today as it has ever been. At Wells Green Methodist Church we have an unlikely mixture of people - people of different ages, from different backgrounds, with different personalities, experiences and outlooks (and possibly a few nuts!). What we have in common is our faith in Jesus, who calls each and every one of us to be welcoming and loving to anyone who we meet. You don't have to fit a particular mould, or be a certain type of person to join in with this wonderfully diverse bunch - why not give us a try yourself?

Every Blessing, Steve

Christmas Services at Wells Green

Sunday 2nd December 9.30am GIFT SERVICE

Join us at our ENERGISE Service held on the first Sunday in each month for young families.

The Salvation Army will be with us to receive gifts of toys and food to be distributed to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Sunday 16th December 6pm HOLY COMMUNION led by Rev. Steve Ingrouille.

This will be a silent service - an opportunity to spend some time away from the bustle of the season to reflect and be refreshed.

Sunday 23rd December 6pm Carol Service.

CHRISTMAS DAY 10.30 am

Christmas Day celebration

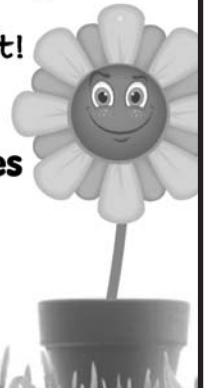


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Nature article for Roundabout, Issue 128

Foremost, this issue, is Cynthia Boston (Fuller Drive), a regular contributor over the years, with the fox she's reported before, stretching itself on her lawn on 26 July.

The beauty of immature birds continued with us into August, the brown backs of adolescent starlings contrasting with the dark belly spotted with white, so bearing the first signs of adulthood: a startling (or should we say 'starling?') 'sky at night' effect. September, however, saw the end of family groups.

A pair of local wood pigeons, able to breed at any time of year, were courtship cooing in August, and holding twigs, just when the rest of the avian scene falls silent. On 6 August a sparrowhawk crashed into our window, surviving and flying off. The very next day one was seen perched on the bare branch of a tree across the road, and in October a chance peek caught a sparrowhawk devouring prey on our front lawn. On 12 August a heron flew low over the house, mobbed by crows. It settled for some minutes in a neighbour's tree, possibly eying a pond, but – the familiar story – you look away for a moment then it's gone you know not where.

Just short of the pruning season house sparrows began building up flocks in the burgeoning back-garden bushes. Late September was still bringing odd swallows, but our last swifts, noted for their August departure, were not seen after 22nd of that month. A raven was spotted by Trevor, over Sandylands Park, mid-afternoon on 6 September, and on 10th our tree surgeon stopped by to tell us he, too, had seen one over Wistaston.

Alan Fairhurst of Windermere Road, like us, claims to have had

a great black-backed gull in his garden: one he recognised as a regular caller. Alan has spent years studying local buzzards and has contacted us twice over them. He hopes to produce notes for inclusion in 'Roundabout', to see if anyone can add to his observations.

The warmth of August was more appealing to butterflies, if our garden is any yardstick, than the indifferent conditions of July, since that July stalwart, the gatekeeper, was totally absent until August, both at home and in the countryside during our Sunday walks. Some peacocks joined the gatekeepers, but it was the balmy days of early September that persuaded small tortoiseshells to stick around the marigolds. Marigolds on the allotments behind Sandylands Park are also attractive, in the evenings, to silver 'y' moths. The warmth of 17 September brought four commas and one red admiral to our own plot.

We believe a southern hawkker dragonfly, *Aeshna cyanea*, one of our larger dragonflies, with green body, visited our small pond on 7 September. It landed on the concrete surround, dipping its tail into the water, we suspect ovipositing. This species has a habit of favouring small ponds and of not always depositing eggs in sensible places. Whether it was behaving sensibly with us we don't know! It didn't linger long enough to endure a photoshoot.

Now that autumn tints encapsulate the trees it is time to enjoy fungi forays, so go seek your fly agarics.

Our thanks to all contributors.

Trevor and Hilary Clowes

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Wistaston Conservation Group

It seems on the face, that the past year has been relatively unproductive, as we have not had any major projects to get our teeth into, like the Jubilee footbridge, or the Information Boards and Benches, etc.

However, I have just come back from a walk along our footpaths, and looked at some of our smaller projects, and I have to say that we **HAVE** made a difference.

Our benches are well kept, and well used, and our information boards continue to help local people, and visitors to the area, to enjoy what Wistaston has to offer them.



The car park on Wistaston Green Road is now much tidier, after all the hard work our team has put in, and our information board can now be seen!!

The pond in Rookery Bank Covert is now much more wildlife-friendly, with a lot more light getting in to the water, and a constant supply of water draining in to it from the Beech Drive area. Flag iris and other flora are now becoming established, so next year will hopefully see a much more interesting wildlife habitat; maybe dragonflies and damselflies will make it their home.

Himalayan Balsam, an emotive subject, is now under control in the Joey-the-Swan area, and the Valley Brook path as far as the new Greenway is now much more under control, although there will be a lot more work in this area next year.

I was also really pleased to see that the paths were relatively free from litter, although our team has not been out for some weeks. This, unfortunately, is a subject which needs constant attention, and hard work, to keep on top of. If only we could make people realize how easy it is to take their litter home, or put it in the bins provided, litter picking teams would no longer be required.

My one concern, again, is that of dog poo, being put in the black bag, but then either thrown in the undergrowth, or even worse, hung on a tree branch for all to see. There are two much better options; to put the poo in the bag, and place the bag in the bin provided, or take it home for disposal, or dispose the poo in the undergrowth without the bag, where it will be broken down by bacteria, beetles, etc. In a bag in the undergrowth, or on the tree, it will be there until either the bag breaks down (years), or someone else picks it up and puts it in the relevant bin. **PLEASE, DOG LOVERS, HELP US TO STAMP OUT THIS UNACCEPTABLE AND UNHEALTHY SITUATION.**

Winter will soon be upon us, and our jobs will be more difficult, with the ground hard and the weather against us, but we will still be out there "to preserve the natural features of Wistaston for future generations".

John M Wood,
Chairman, Wistaston Conservation Group.



Wistaston Young Drama Group

Members of Wistaston Young Drama Group are pictured in rehearsals for their Christmas production, *Toad of Toad Hall*, by A A Milne and adapted by Kenneth Grahame.

The play will be performed at the Players' Theatre, Nantwich in December and will include all members of the group aged between 6 and 16. Classes are on Saturdays 10.30am – 12.45pm at the Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston and new members are always welcome.

Coaching is provided in a fun and safe environment by professionally trained drama leaders. Lessons include creative movement, structured improvisation, drama games, language development and voice coaching which aims to build

confidence,
improve
concentration
and creativity.

Why not give us a try? Classes are £6.00 per week, part payable in advance. Free taster sessions are available for new members

For further information regarding the classes contact Margaret 01270 668233 or Judy 01270 650341, or see our website www.wistastonyoungdramagroup.weebly.com



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Wistaston Church Lane Primary School Report

The Whole School

Flower and Produce

Kindly, Mr. Armitage has come into our school and has been a brilliant judge for our competitions. The pupils, who are now in year six, have thoroughly enjoyed taking part. They designed some amazing Olympic torches. All years are very grateful that Mr. Armitage has given up his time to decide the winners. The lower years will be excited when it's their turn!

New playground features

Over the past few weeks our school has been really lucky! On the playground, a company has made some brilliant markings, such as a map of the world, a times table grid and a darts chart. They have also placed down a flat obstacle course. A year four child quoted 'I love the new playground markings, they're great!'

Clubs

Netball, football, athletics and homework club are just a few of the very many clubs that Church Lane has to offer. Two new clubs have recently been added to the enormous list. As well as basketball, there is also dance. All the children are getting stuck in and we all appreciate it very much. Also thank you very much to all the people running the clubs.

Trim Trail

All the children who attend the school spend all the time they can on our brand new, fantastic and awesome trim trail. Even the teachers can't resist a sneaky go! Each year has a different day to explore the brand new features, which are; wobbly logs, the rope walk, a narrow plank of wood and the swinging ropes. A teacher said, 'Why can't there be a staff day too?'

Eco Council

Well done to the new members of the eco-council, as you have done a great job. One member said 'It's been a fantastic experience going on all these trips. I can't wait until the next one.' They applied to be in the team by writing down some reasons why they think that they should be part of the council. Anyone could enter however only two could be chosen from each year. They have done an outstanding job and have really represented our school well.

Reported by Helen Robertson and Leah Chapman

Foundation and Key Stage One

Even though we have only been in school for a couple of weeks, the foundation classes have settled in really well to their new school routine. A few of their favourite things include playing in the water and sand tables, writing, colouring and putting on puppet shows that other children really enjoy. Surprisingly, some children like the 'letter' homework that they have been recently getting. They also said that they like the actions to go with the words! The

foundation classes will be doing a Christmas play (perhaps for the first time) with year one, every one hopes they enjoy it!

Year One have also been doing some interesting things. Miss Jones, a new teacher has been getting to know the children. The topic the children have been working on this term is Autumn. As a treat the children went to the woodland to take a closer look at leaves and Miss Jones rewarded them by letting them have a leaf fight! Also Miss Pearce's class worked with year 1 to complete a story swap. Miss Pearce read to Y1 and Miss Jones read to Y6.

Year 2 have been doing a topic called Famous People. The children have made giant paintings of their favourite celebrities. Also Y2 have had a themed dressing up day where they came as their favourite celebrities. Some of the costumes included: Lady GaGa, David Beckham and Harry Styles.

Also, in key stage 1, a big bounce has taken place. This is where everyone bounces on a bouncy hopper for about five minutes. It was a sponsored bounce, raising money for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. Basically, it was so they could get a feel of what exercise a child (or adult) with Cystic Fibrosis has to do. All of the teachers are very proud of the children, so are their parents! They did a brilliant job; consequently, they were rewarded with a sticker. Some children said that they wished that their teacher had done it as well (poor teachers!)...

Report by Faith Simpson and Brianna De La Haye

Key Stage Two

Even though the school year only began a short time ago, Key Stage 2 has already witnessed lots of exciting events and school trips. Here are a few that everyone has really enjoyed.

Year 3 went on a wonderful school trip to Cadbury's world and tasted lots of delicious chocolates. They had a fantastic day eating and eating chocolate! One pupil quoted "this was an amazing day and I really enjoyed tasting all the chocolate. It was a great day!" Year 3 arrived back with lots of interesting stories to share with their family and friends.

Year 4 had just as much fun visiting Chester Zoo. They took their cameras and money and had a fabulous time. One child said "I absolutely loved today! I particularly enjoyed watching the monkeys grooming each other and swinging around!" The bad weather didn't put anyone off!

Year 5 have started something very exciting every Monday. They have started having swimming lessons. The year 5s travel by coach to Nantwich pool where they swim. They are split up into 3 groups and have their lesson where they are greeted by their teachers. A year 5 pupil quoted "I love going swimming every Monday as it's a great experience and it's really fun swimming with your friends."

Year 6 had an exciting day in school. They had to dress up as an evacuee from World War 2 as it was evacuee day. They arrived at school dressed up. They were greeted by their

teachers and taken inside. The two teachers acted as two World War 2 teachers. They were very strict and even gave people the cane! (Not really) All of the children had to carry gas mask boxes at all times in case of a gas attack. Two people who were evacuees during the war came in and gave a lovely speech about their life during the war. The children thought this day was one of the highlights of the year so far; one pupil quoted "evacuee day was amazing and I would love to do it all over again."

Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 all had an amazing day back at the beginning of the year. They had a special dress up day. They dressed up as characters from 'Where's Wally', a children's cartoon book. They all looked amazing, even some of the teachers dressed up too! During assembly everybody got the chance to see the range of costumes. Foundation dressed up as Elmer the multi-coloured elephant and they too had a great time. The children all had a great day and it is definitely one they will remember.

Reported by Abigail Welsh and Georgia Duckers

Wistaston Church Lane Primary School Pumpkin Competition

On 28 October pupils from Church Lane Primary School took to school the pumpkins they had grown from seeds provided by Wistaston Community Council.



Pumpkin entries



The results were:

First - Louie Rickard whose pumpkin weighed 17³/₄ kgs;

Second - Polly Hudson with an exhibit of 8kgs;

Third - Harry Fearnley with a pumpkin weighing 6¹/₂ kgs;

The three winners received cash prizes and a winner's certificate. Everyone who entered received a certificate showing they had done so.

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Wistaston Fireworks Display

Saturday 3 November 2012

The 35th Annual Wistaston Fireworks Display took place on Saturday 3rd November 2012. The event began with the judging of the children's best pumpkin and best fancy dress competitions at the Park Drive/Westfield Drive Triangle after which the procession, led by bagpiper Reg Flower, proceeded to the Eric Swan Sports Ground, also known as the Brittles, for the fireworks display. Entry to the fireworks was by donation and all profits this year will go to the 35th South West Cheshire, Wistaston Scout Group, (<http://www.wistastonscoutgroup.org.uk/>), as they are raising money towards the building of a Jubilee Headquarters at Bluebell Wood for use by Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. Over £600 was raised last year for 'The Ray of Hope', a Crewe-based charity which supports the neonatal unit at Leighton Hospital & other local hospitals, so it is hoped that a similar amount of money can be raised this year. An estimated one thousand people attended the event.



The results of the children's best pumpkin competition, judged by Sheena Sambrook (Wistonian of the Year) and Gwyneth Brown (Wistaston Parish Council), were:

1st prize (£5 and a certificate) - Jack Bickerton with his Thomas the Tank Engine themed design.

2nd (£3 and a certificate) - Harry Valentine.

3rd (£2 and a certificate) - Ethan Bossons.

There were 11 entrants.

The results of the children's fancy dress competition, also judged by Sheena and Gwyneth, were:

1st prize (£5 and a certificate) - Jeremy Burrows as a monster.

2nd (£3 and a certificate) - Lewis Rossiter as a skeleton pirate.

3rd (£2 and a certificate) - Lucy Brunt as a little witch.

There were 15 entrants. It is the fourth year running that the Rossiter family have won a competition prize.



Are you looking for something to do on a **Wednesday Morning?**

'Stepping Stones' play group meets every 2nd and 4th

Wednesday (during term time) at St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston between 10:00 and 11:45. Cost is £1.50 per family but the first visit is free.

A morning at Stepping Stones will include:

Play time - Adults can relax with tea or coffee while watching their children play

Music time - Singing and having fun together

Story time - Listening together

Activity/ craft time - Adults and children busy together

There is a baby corner with toys suitable for the little ones as well.

Winter Dates

12th December 2012
(Christmas Party)
9th January 2013
23rd January 2013
13th February 2013
27th February 2013
13th March 2013
27th March 2013

Stepping Stones

St Mary's Church Hall
Church Lane, Wistaston
Tel: 567 119 (Church office)

Stepping Stones is open to all with children between the ages of 0-5. Each meeting, during which you remain responsible for your child, is aimed at providing you with a happy, constructive time together.



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Geoff Armitage submitted this unusual and delightful Christmas Story which was written several years ago under his pen name Joshua York.

An Oft Told Tale

You ask me stranger why I step outside my inn each night
And raise my head towards the heavenly light
Which long has bathed both here and every clime
It is to help my thoughts leap back in time.

This act I ritu'lly perform only at this time of the year
For then one chamber of my mind shines true and bright and clear.
I then recall a night o'erfilled with such sweet charity
And live each moment of it with the greatest clarity.

The sky that night was like a deep blue velvet curtain
Bejewelled with a myriad twinkling stars and one for certain,
Bigger by far than all its neighbours, I attest,
Moved 'cross the heavens and o'er this inn roof came to rest.

Ah. Husband dear! You stand not here alone I see.
Are you recounting that great moment in our history
When times and lives were greatly changed as well as ours?
So hopefully we watch again to seek fresh portent in the stars.

That night, some thirty years or more in time ago
This town of Bethlehem lay deep in slumber 'neath a starry glow.
My spouse and I stood here outside this busy inn
To shed our cares so that our own sweet slumber might begin.

So it was we heard the rattle of a donkey's hooves
Echoing along the stony street between its rooves.
Then, as it neared and came into our view
We saw it was accom'nyed by its ownerstwo!

A man and maid, and she it was who rode upon the beast.
A sight full strange, to say the very least!
Then, as they moved into the light that hung above the door
We saw the maid had reached her time and more

'Be quick man,' cried my spouse. 'Our inn's been full for many a day
But tucked behind we have a stable warm and stacked with hay.
A bed there we can make, sweet smelling, soft and warm
And close beside a manger cot in which to lay her infant's form.

And so it was, behind a tight shut stable door
The mother's first born son slept deep on fresh strewn straw.
As we had swathed the child within each swaddling band
Mary had said, 'His name is JesusThis is the Lord's command.'

We turned and, with many a tender backward look
Directed silent feet towards our own warm nook.
Only to find our path with great determination barred
By singing, dancing shepherds in our yard.

'Be off with you,' my husband cried, 'A newborn babe lies there
within.'

'We know! We know. We know' they sang. 'Come let us in.'
We stood there, arms akimbo, 'til they told a more coherent story,
How on a frosty hillside they had seen a heavenly choir descend and
rise again in glory.

One mighty angel, whose lone flight had preceded all the rest
Told these rough herdsman how that night with heavenly love was
blessed.

He bade them haste to Bethlehem. There in the stable of our inn
they'd find

A newborn baby; the Saviour of the World and all mankind.

I never thought I'd see such rough hewn men tip-toeing through a
stable door

And stare, their eyes full wide with adoration, wonder, love and awe.
But sheep upon a windswept winter hill cannot be left long
unattended.

Our rustics left and to their flocks a quieter way they wended.

We turned away ... to find approaching us a murmuring throng
A multitude of torches flaring as they surged along
To stop before us. Then ... with deep respect they stood aside
While our astounded eyes with disbelief were opened wide.

With dignity from out the flamelit crowd
Rode three great kings each on a charger proud.
The tallest of them all, a truly royal Nubian, by skin
Stood high up in his stirrups to gaze above the inn.

He turned and pointed upwards, joyfully shouting to his friends
'It seems to me this Bethlehem inn is where our journey ends.'
Full wise these kings as they with countless questions plied
The pair of us about the family and their babe inside.

'This child is more than truly royal. He is the King of kings' they said.
'Take us to Him that we might kneel in deep respect before his
manger bed.'

There on the straw they laid their gifts of myrrh and frankincense and
gold.

Then with their mission well fulfilled these wise men three departed
on their chargers bold.

We left with stable door tight shut. Looked up and found the star
had gone.

For sure the Bethlehem night had now become a darker one
Stranger! When later you depart our inn this day
Carry our story with you. Retell it often all along your way.

Joshua York 2001

Report from Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club

The finals of Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club were held on
Sunday 16 September in very windy but dry conditions. The
quality of play was excellent.

Men's Singles Jonathan Braithwaite

Veterans Doubles Roy Birtles
Eric James

Doubles Diane Mayman
Jonathan Braithwaite

Men's Doubles Alan Whittingham
Chris Raiswell

After the traditional Finals Day tea the Trophies were
presented to the successful players who gave us an afternoon
of excellent tennis.

Alice Chalwin

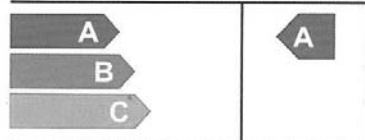
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Wistaston Village Cricket Club (Founded 1980)

2012 should have been the year that produced promotion for our 1st XI to the **Meller Braggins Cheshire Cricket League**, from **The Cheshire Alliance Division 1** however a combination of indifferent play in their final matches, coupled with the abandonment of five fixtures, finally left them twenty-six points adrift in their division, a bitter pill to swallow, having lead the division for much of the season.

Our **Seconds** in **The Cheshire Alliance Division 3** finished second from bottom and will be competing in **Division 4** for **2013**.

The **Under 9, 11 13 and 15 junior teams** have been competing in their respective leagues in **The South Cheshire Junior Cricket League**. The **Under 9's and 15's** enjoyed successful seasons, finishing third and joint second in their respective divisions. The **Under 18 junior team** had a very successful season finishing second in their league.

Our girls team (**Under 13's**) who are competing in **The Cheshire Girls Cricket League** also enjoyed their cricket and finished fourth in their division. On the subject of girl's cricket within the club, I would like to take this opportunity of announcing our intention of forming a women's cricket team.

Our **3rd XI (Sunday)** which plays in **Sunday Division 4 West** enjoyed a good season finishing a commendable **fourth position** in their division:-

	P	w	l	tn	t	wcn	d	c	BatP	BowlP	Pen	Pts
Northwich CC	16	7	1	0	1	2	3	2	24	11	0	298
Alvanley CC	16	8	3	0	0	2	1	2	7	9	0	282
Warrington CC	16	6	3	0	1	2	2	2	11	15	0	262
Wistaston Village CC	16	7	6	0	0	1	1	1	19	21	0	249
Oxton CC, Cheshire	16	5	7	0	0	0	2	2	15	16	0	174
Tranmere Victoria CC	16	3	7	2	0	1	2	1	28	23	0	142
Ashley CC, Cheshire	16	3	7	0	0	1	1	4	6	2	0	138
Bowdton Vale CC	16	2	7	0	0	1	1	5	5	18	0	135
Mobberley CC	16	2	2	8	0	0	1	3	16	8	0	17

3rd XI Individual Performances

(a) Batting

NAME	INNINGS	NOT OUTS	RUNS	AVE
J.Stokes	7	2	220	44.00
R.Briddon	7	1	219	36.50
Y.Galanis	8	3	161	32.20
M.Davies	5	1	117	29.25

(b) Bowling

NAME	OVERS	MAIDENS	RUNS	WKTS	AVE
A.Smith	56.5	8	135	17	7.94
N.Hobson	58.6	15	183	17	10.76
A.Heaton	114.7	18	392	24	16.33
John Cotton	79.2	8	261	13	20.08

From a personal viewpoint, The Wombats XI had a stop / start season not playing their first game until mid-July and having matches cancelled through weather or the opposition cancelling. Despite this the team finished with a record – Played 7 won 2 Drawn 2 Lost 3, which if nothing else shows will-power.

PLAYERS REQUIRED FOR THE FORTHCOMING 2013 CRICKET SEASON

Following a recent club meeting, it has been decided that Wistaston Village Cricket Club would like to form a women's cricket team. The natural way forward is to gauge whether there are sufficient numbers of women, irrespective of age or ability, who have harboured the idea of playing cricket but have neither had the opportunity or self-belief of taking the next step.

Past editorials in the "Roundabout" magazine have reflected the successes of our young girl's cricket team and now the club feel the time is right to form a women's team.

We have always offered cricket to juniors and adults of all standards, so if you really would like to take the next important step towards playing cricket, please contact either **Pauline** or **Kevin Jobbins** on **01270 663699**, for more details on what our cricket club can offer you.

Our end of season Presentation Evening was held at St Mary's Church Hall on Saturday 15th September and was well attended by both players and junior's parents.

Awards for 2012 were:-

Group	Batting Award	Bowling Award
Under 9	Luke Brett	Charlie Collins
Under 11	Cedric Francis	Johnathan Bourne
Girls Under 13	Hannah Bratt	Morganne Price
Under 13	Nathen Danskin	Lewis Palin
Under 15	George Gallanis	George Gallanis
Under 18	Jack Stokes	George Dickinson
1st Eleven	Waived	Keith Thornhill
2nd Eleven	Jack Stokes	Martin Brown
3rd Eleven	Jack Stokes	Alex Smith
Wombats	Dave Powell	Hannah Thornhill

Player of the year (Howard West Trophy) – Nathen Hobson

President's Trophy – Dean Titus

Junior Club Girl – Hattie Parr

Junior Club Boy – Andrew Haig

Girl U15 player of the year – Hannah Thornhill

Boy U15 player of the year – Nathan Hobson

INDOOR NETS – 2013

Please be aware of the commencement of indoor nets for 2013.

Under 9s, 11s, 13s Boys and Girls & New Ladies

Start Tuesday 29th January 2013 – Venue:- Brine Leas

School 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Under 15s, 18s & Seniors

Start Saturday 5th January 2013 – Venue:- South

Cheshire College 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

The cricket club holds Bingo evenings every **third Friday** of each month at the **Wistaston Pavilion Lounge** to raise funds and a warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to join us.

We offer cricket to adults and juniors of all standards and we are proud on being very much a child friendly club. We have been re-credited with the **E.C.B Club Mark originally awarded in May 2005**. Interested in joining W.V.C.C? Please contact **Kevin Jobbins**:- **01270 663699** in the first instance. For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either **Kevin** or **Pauline Jobbins** **01270 663699**. **John Avery**

SPECIAL NOTICE Special Christmas Bingo and Quiz night.

A special bingo and quiz evening will be held on Friday 21st December 2012 for The Wistaston Village Cricket Club at The Memorial Hall



Food and drink will be available on the night.

Further details from Pauline and Kevin Jobbins on 01270663699

An update on Mr Scruffy R.I.P. Mr Scruffy?

I wish I had not complained about being 'stalked' by Mr Scruffy in my last update because we have not seen him for several months and are fearing the worst. Previously he has disappeared and then re-appeared some time later but never for this long.

A female blackbird took his place for a short while and other birds come to his favourite feeding place between the shed and the wheelie bin – in fact I was putting the rotary clothes line in position and thought Mr Scruffy had returned when the momentary distraction caused a lack of concentration on my part and I managed to take a chunk out of my thumb! This resulted in a great deal of discomfort and dressings needing changing every 48 hours!!

Any news of him would be welcomed. Helen De Falco

Sing along to Christmas Carols and Songs with



Christmas Classic Cabaret

***** Includes mulled wine & mince pies *****



Shavington Village Hall



1st and 2nd December 2012

Tickets available from

Tracey: 01270 669329 Or Laura: 0754 3830 683

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Come and Meet Father Christmas and

Lots of Christmas stalls!!!

On 6th December 2012

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Shavington



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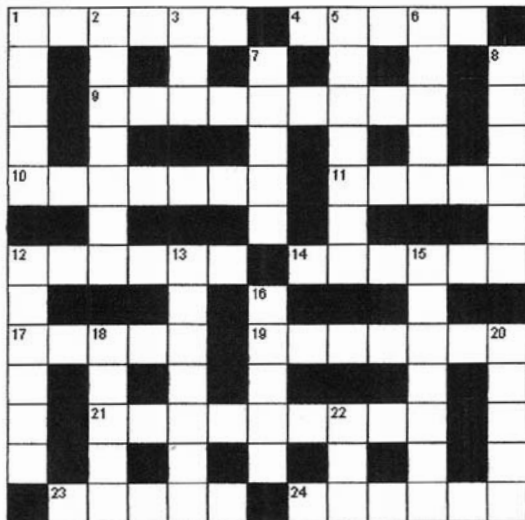
Contact: Rob McIntosh
Email: rob@rjmit.net
Website: www.rjmit.net

Designer & web host for:
www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk

The screenshot shows the Wistaston Community Website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, News, Events, Noticeboard, Gallery, Clubs & Societies, Links, Contact, Get Involved, About, and Search. The main content area includes a 'Welcome to our website' message, a 'Latest News' section with several news items, an 'Upcoming Events' section, and a 'Weather Forecast' section. The website is designed with a clean, professional layout and includes a search bar and a footer with contact information.

Christmas Cryptic Crossword

- provided by John Avery



Across

1. Bank employee, who can say (6)
4. Balance found in muesli bran (5)
9. Crumbling old places fell down (9)
10. Not as old as that confused Reno guy (7)
11. Plenty of land in tarmac resort (5)
12. Opposed to poetry (6)
14. Purloins duck between beginning and end of shifts (6)
17. Last letter in some game (5)
19. Tolerates some token duress (7)
21. Alter code when moved (9)
23. One of the Earps, sounds interrogative at first (5)
24. Shuffle a paper then come into view (6)

Down

1. Sum up tall youth, essentially (5)
2. Let cure become a lesson (7)
3. Find a fish in a wee lake (3)
5. Begins tantrum in a moment (7)
6. Palindrome instrument (5)
7. Found in large scale drama crowd (5)
8. Hesitates to use spa turbulence (6)
12. Committee on a ship (6)
13. Evidence of injury, allow for redness (7)
15. Shorten a river crossing (7)
16. Serenity, sounds like part of something greater (5)
18. Noblieman with ponytail is before his time (5)
20. Grasp earnest weapon, essentially (5)
22. High point found in octopus (3)

Send your completed Crossword to Eileen Bamber, address on page 3, by the 15 January and the person with the first correct crossword drawn out of the hat will receive a £5 voucher.

The Berkeley Primary School

Another exciting year has begun at The Berkeley - we have bought some iPads for our children to use and the Friends of Berkeley have also bought some Kindles!

We have a range of themes being covered across the curriculum. Some children are learning about Ancient Egypt; others are learning about Toys. The Year 5 and 6 topic is Earth and Beyond.

Year 5 and 6 have recently been on their residential visit to Robinwood in Lancashire. A great time was had by all as the children faced their fears and worked hard as a team. They enjoyed activities such as climbing, raft building and trapeze.

Music is an important part of the curriculum at Berkeley and this year we have a huge number of pupils taking part in Brass, Woodwind and guitar lessons. Alongside this, we have the choir rehearsing for the Shavington Christmas Concert.

The school football team is progressing through the league well and will be taking part in the quarter finals soon. We would like to wish them luck!

Written by the School Council

WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL BOWLING CLUB



Quiz Night
on Friday 1st February 2013, 7pm

at the Memorial Hall Wistaston

Open to All

Teams of Four Maximum

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or Chris on 569692

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New Life Community Church
Fuller Drive Crewe CW2 6TH
Contact: Marion Oliver: 01270 652372
email: maoliver8@tiscali.co.uk

More words of wisdom from Maureen Craig:

All about Verrucae

Q. What is a verruca (verrucae in the plural)?

A. Quite simply a wart. Harmless and certainly not life-threatening! They can appear on any part of the body. On the feet they are referred to as 'verruca pedis'.

Q. What causes them?

A. They are a viral infection, most commonly picked up in wet areas such as swimming pool surrounds. The virus enters through broken skin, even the tiniest unnoticeable graze.

Q. What do they look like?

A. Usually a small cauliflower shape with tiny black dots, often covered with hard skin.

Q. Do they hurt?

A. Some not at all. Most people are not aware that they have them. The most uncomfortable form of verrucae tend to be on the soles of the feet. Due to weight-bearing a callous often forms over the verruca. It is this that causes the discomfort.

Q. Is there a cure?

A. As a verruca is a viral infection, the body's own immune system will eventually see it off. In the meantime, it is necessary to make the conditions as inhospitable as possible. As verrucae make lots of hard skin, firstly it is necessary to remove as much of this as possible.

A chiropodist/podiatrist will do this by shaving down any overlying callous. This is a painless procedure. The area is then painted with a mild caustic solution. This will dry to a film and does not need to be covered or kept dry. A pad may be applied immediately behind the verruca just for immediate comfort. The patient will then be given the remainder of the solution and advised to apply this daily, but only after first abrading the area with either a foot file, emery board or pumice stone to further reduce the hard skin. Bleeding may occur when the verruca is filed as it does tend to take up tiny little blood vessels. This is no cause for alarm. In fact, this can be a good thing because the anti-bodies in the flowing blood can attack the virus and help it on its way out. It is important, however, that if bleeding does occur that the area be washed with soapy water and dried on a clean towel. The caustic solution may then be applied. This will form a protective film over the area.

Q. What about cross-infection?

A. Do not pick with the fingers. Wipe or dry the shower or bath after use and – if going swimming, wear flip-flops before entering the pool. Apart from this, no other precautions are necessary.

The Laurie Twiss Trophy for Journalism – 2013

Calling all Wistaston's budding journalists! Write a story or article in not more than 200 words that could be printed in next Winter's Roundabout. The competition is open to young people in our area with ages ranging from 9 – 16 years.

The winner will be able to keep for one year the Laurie Twiss Trophy for Journalism together with an additional prize.

It's your choice of material - real or imaginary, fact or fiction – so do get into writing mode now. Good reporting!

Please include the following information about yourself:

Name and address:

Contact telephone number:

Age:

School attended:

Title of Article/Story:

Entries should be submitted by 15 May 2013 to one of the following:

Barbara Brereton, 16 Prior Close, Wistaston, Tel: 569861

Greg Brereton, 7 College Fields, Wistaston, Tel: 560194

Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane, Wistaston, Tel: 569126



Wistaston Jubilee Proms Concert Thursday 18 October 2012

Over 60 people attended the Wistaston Jubilee Proms Concert on Thursday 18th October at the Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre, Church Lane, Wistaston.

Do you have a recording of Wistaston Players production of 'Table Manners'?

Crewe Cine & Video Club are seeking to find a film which was recorded by us and performed by Wistaston Players some time ago.

The recording is a production of 'Table Manners' by Alan Ayckbourn, which was performed in the Church Hall and recorded over two nights, I understand.

If you have a copy, or know of anyone who might have a copy, maybe you could call Mike Hassall 01270 666119.

Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

(Crewe Area) covers Crewe, Nantwich, Sandbach, Alsager, Wistaston, Willaston, Holmes Chapel etc.

The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month (note date change in January due to Bank Holiday - New Year's Day). We meet at 2pm in Wells Green Methodist Church Hall; £1 entrance fee which includes tea and biscuits and we have a very interesting programme for 2013.

In September Mr Michael Murphy (from the Wirral) gave us an insight into the History of Harrods, Selfridges and other stores where some of the shop assistants were well provided for and others were not. It was well-illustrated with photographs of the owners and workforce, showing some of the very smart costumes worn.

In October Dr Graham Dodd gave us a well presented power point presentation of life in the Nantwich area in Tudor Times; looking at the work available at the time, 1580, population 1800. Brine springs for the salt trade, Love Lane originally in Oat Market, Beam Heath where animals were grazed, Welsh Row (Frog Row). Black cattle from Wales traded for salt, Pinfold in the Town Centre. I was particularly interested to know that St Mary's, such an imposing building today was subservient to Acton. Snow Hill was named after salt production for table salt and in Cheese making. The fire of Nantwich 10 December 1583 when 150 properties were destroyed.

We are looking forward to our next talk by Dr Raymond Buss on Western Australia and making us think about next Summer. Our Christmas Party is on the 4 December.

We were pleased to welcome Chris Hughes from Eggheads and to hear about his companions on the Quiz programme and a short insight into his Railway working life. I'm pleased to say Chris has agreed to give another talk in May entitled Random Railway Reminiscences including his hobby working at the York and Crewe Railway Museums.

Our forthcoming programme for 2013

8 January

(Second Tuesday due to New Year's Day Bank Holiday)

Mr John White 'Nantwich Revisited' with slides.

5 February - Mrs Janet Bradshaw

'The Gilt on the Gingerbread'. (Medieval England) in costume (History Interpreter from Tatton Park). Have a laugh with Janet.

5 March - 'Nantwich Past and Present'

illustrated talk by Mrs Sue Church

2 April - Mr Derek Jones,

'A Shropshire Lad' telling us about his life in South Shropshire. An illustrated talk – he has many funny stories to tell!

Our trip to Ludlow was enjoyed by all despite the floods. We stopped at Dobbies Garden Centre for coffee etc and some even had breakfast!! Then we met the flooded roads between Shrewsbury and Ludlow. I'm glad we were in the coach some cars were being towed and it was raining heavily. At Ludlow the rain had eased and we sorted out different cafes, restaurants and pubs. During our meal the 'sun' put his hat on

and we had sunshine for the rest of the day. The driver found another route to Shrewsbury but we still saw badly flooded areas and railway tracks.

We are a friendly group which was originally set up for Civil Servants and partners. We welcome visitors and recently retired Civil Servants from various departments.

Grace Harding
Chairperson

Wistaston Memorial Hall Bowling Club Report

We have come to the end of another bowling season – and what a season it has been – wet and cold. Several of the league teams reported only four games played in the dry.

This year our doubles matches instead of being played on one or two days were played at members' convenience while also being played by the time allowed for each round. This was to save playing three matches on the same day if it was raining. This was not very good as it required four people to agree on a date for the match. Next year we will have a maximum of two games, with another round played on another date.

We have four teams in the Sandbach League and four in the Crewe Nantwich Veterans Bowling League. We thought that we would have to drop one team but we think that has been averted.

The winners of the competitions were:

The George Bryant Trophy:

Mr P Howarth and Mr P Hope

Runners up: Mr C Shaw and Mrs M Jones

The Gladys Heap Trophy:

Mrs A Smith. Runner up Mrs J Stubbs

Mixed Doubles Handicap:

Mrs A Smith and Mr J Cooke

Runners up: Mrs B Cooke & Mr J Shone

Men's Doubles Handicap

Mr M Shone and Mr D Dobson

Runners up: Mr S Carter and Mr D Young

Ladies Singles Handicap

Mrs M Forbes; Runner up Mrs A Smith

Non Winners Cup

Mr A Forbes; Runner up Mr D Dobson

Men's Singles Handicap

Mr W Chadwick; Runner up Mr A Whittingham

Green Championship

Mr W Chadwick; Runner up Mr F Dickin

Contributed by John Cooke

Wistaston's 31st Annual Flower and Produce Show

Saturday 17 August 2013

Now the seed merchants' catalogues are dropping through people's letter boxes it is time to display the schedule for 2013's show so that exhibitors can set about deciding what classes to enter. The Show Committee wish you all well and hope to see a heap of entries this year.

Section 1 - Flower Classes

1. Bowl of Sweet Peas, mixed colours, 15 stems minimum.
2. A specimen Rose in a vase.
3. Three Large Gladioli, any variety or varieties.
4. Three Small Gladioli, any variety or varieties.
5. Three Pom Pom Dahlias, any variety or varieties.
6. Three Cactus or Semi-Cactus Dahlias, any variety or varieties.
7. Three Decorative Dahlias, any variety or varieties.
8. A Single Stem of Any Flowering Plant (not on schedule) in a vase.
9. Six Asters, any variety or varieties.
10. A Single Geranium Head in a vase.
11. Six French Marigolds, any variety or varieties
12. A Shallow Bowl of Floating Flower Heads – arranged for effect.
13. A Vase of Mixed Flowers – home grown.
14. A Cactus.
15. A Succulent
16. A Geranium in a Pot – with saucer.
17. A Begonia in a Pot – with saucer.
18. A Flowering Plant in a Pot - with saucer – excluding plants from Classes 21,22,23.
19. A Foliage Plant in a Pot – with saucer.
20. Six Fuchsia Heads on a board.
21. A Fuchsia in a 9cms Pot – with saucer – any variety.
22. A Fuchsia in a 14cms Pot – with saucer – any variety.
23. A Standard Fuchsia – with saucer – any variety.

Section 2 - Vegetable Classes

24. A Vegetable not on Schedule – please specify on entry form.
25. Five White Potatoes on a Plate – any variety.
26. Five Coloured Potatoes on a Plate – any variety.
27. Six Potatoes on a Plate – two varieties - three of each colour.
28. Six Pods of Peas with some stalk.
29. Three Onions – roots shown – see rules.
30. Three Onions – roots shown – not to exceed 225 grams each – see rules.
31. Six Carrots – tops trimmed to 8cms.
32. Five Ripe Tomatoes- not cherry variety - on a Plate.
33. Nine Shallots – Large.
34. Nine Shallots – Small (not exceeding 30mm in diameter)
35. Three Round Beetroot – tops trimmed to 8cms.
36. One Vegetable Marrow – with stalk
37. One Lettuce – roots shown.
38. One Cucumber – with stalk.
39. A truss of Tomatoes – not cherry variety - some ripe.
40. A truss of a Named Variety of Cherry Tomatoes on a plate – some ripe.
41. One White Cabbage – roots shown.
42. Five Ripe Cherry Tomatoes on a plate – variety to be named.
43. Six Runner Beans – with some stalk.
44. Six Dwarf Beans – with some stalk.
45. Three Courgettes – each with some stalk.

Section 3 - Wistaston Parish Vegetable Display

46. A Collection of Five Different Classes of Vegetables.
47. A Display of Salad Items - home grown - on a round dinner plate.

Section 4 - Flower Arrangements

48. 'Artistic Adventures' - Modern – Maximum width 30cms.
49. 'Summer Splendour' - Maximum Width 46cms
50. 'Flower and Fabric' – Maximum Width 46cms.
51. 'Back to Childhood' – Petite - 25cms Overall.

Section 5 - Harvest Basket

52. A Basket containing Fruit, Flowers and Produce not to exceed 46cms in width and length, height not restricted.

Section 6 - Children's Classes

53. Pre-school year – to be decided by Church Lane School in June
54. Year 1 children – to be decided by Church Lane School in June
55. Year 2 children – to be decided by Church Lane School in June

Section 7 - House Craft Classes

56. A Jar of Homemade Strawberry Jam. Cellophane covers only.
57. A Jar of Homemade Blackcurrant Jam. Cellophane covers only.
58. A Jar of Homemade Lemon Curd. Cellophane covers only.
59. Three pieces of Shortbread.
60. Five Square Flapjacks.
61. Five Jam Tarts.
62. A Plate of Five Chocolate Butterfly Cakes
63. Five Carrot Cake Squares – iced tops.
64. A Date and Walnut Cake – baked in a Bun Loaf tin.
65. A Victoria Sponge Cake - please read Rule 20 carefully.
66. Five Cheese Scones.
67. A Quiche - approximately 20cms in diameter – presented on a plate.
68. An Apple Pie - approximately 20cms in diameter - shortcrust pastry top and bottom – presented on a plate.
69. Five Decorated Cup Cakes.

Section 8 - Hobby Crafts

70. A Cross Stitch Picture 15cm x 20cm maximum.
71. A Miniature Scare Crow 30cm maximum height.

Parish Council Photographic Competition

- Class 1. A typical Snapshot.
- Class 2. A Cardboard Framed Enlargement.

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

Entries to be with the Show Secretary by 12 August 2013.

All entries for this competition are free.

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, contain the right amount of ingredients. No judge likes to place a N.A.S. (Not As Schedule) ticket against an entry. Ours is not a cut throat show. In fact it is renowned for its friendliness and help between one competitor and another but there have to be rules or the whole thing would be chaotic. Let us all hope for good growing conditions in the new year.

Gwyneth Brown President & Geoff Armitage Hon. Secretary

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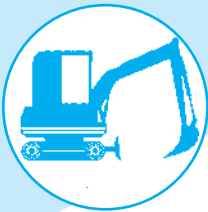


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