

WINTER 'ROUNDABOUT'

2022 ISSUE 168

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk



A Wistaston Community Council Publication Circulation 4300

THE MAGAZINE FOR PEOPLE LIVING 'ROUNDABOUT' WISTASTON

*Wishing everyone a very
Happy Christmas &
New Year*



Church Lane, Wistaston - See page 4 for further details.



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EDITORIAL FOR WINTER 2022

Hoping everyone is looking forward to the Christmas festivities and activities in Wistaston. The Winter Editorial continues on page four but meanwhile on this page we would like to remind you that we need your help to choose our and your 2022 Wistonian of the Year.

Wistonian of the Year

The award of Wistonian of the Year has been made for over 40 years now and has been given to so many active and helpful volunteers and residents of our wonderful community. Wistaston Community Council was formed from the village group which in 1977 organised the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebration. Three years later in 1980 we awarded the first Wistonian of the Year to Gladys Byrne who had been so instrumental in organising the village Silver Jubilee events. A full list of winners can be seen on our website at: [Wistonian of the Year - Wistaston Community Website](#)

Each year in December we ask, primarily through the Roundabout magazine and now through our Facebook page, for nominations for the award from any organisation, group, or individuals in, or associated with, Wistaston. Nominations are then considered by Wistaston Community Council selection committee and the award is made at our AGM in January.

The winner of the award has usually contributed to village life over several years or has recently done something that is notably worthy and deserving of recognition. The award is then given for one year and the winner receives a commemorative shield to keep.

During the year the Wistonian of the Year is then invited to take part in the WCC village events and may well be involved in other events in Wistaston. We hope that the award and taking part in village events is fun and while not too onerous does help recognise the individual's contribution and the wider activities in Wistaston.

If you know of someone who has helped and contributed to our community of Wistaston and should be recognised for their contribution, then please nominate them by completing this form and sending it with a summary of the nominee's achievements to Dane Chaplow at 30 Westfield Drive, Wistaston or email

chairman@wistastoncommunity.co.uk to arrive by 4th January 2023.

We, the undersigned nominate:

Name:

Address:

Proposer - Name

Address

Seconders - Name

Address

Seconders - Name

Address



EDITORIAL FOR WINTER 2022

Thank you so much to everyone for the continued splendid support you give to Roundabout in whatever capacity, for without your contributions and advertisements it would not exist!

Please send in your articles, photographs etc. for our Spring edition, due out in early March by the 15 January

Eileen Bamber

Ian Gould - 07971 649110

31 Broughton Lane

accounts.roundabout@wistastoncommunity.co.uk

01270 569126

eileen@bamberuk.com



Dates for your Diary - 2022/2023

Christmas Concert: Friday 9 December at 7pm: St Mary's Church Hall. See page 24.

Wistaston Village Fete - Sat. 17 June 2023.

Flower and Produce Show - Sat. 19 August

Our last two events were the Flower and Produce Show and the Fireworks both very well reported by Jonathan White. Very many thanks are due to Jonathan for the events he covers and very many apologies that there isn't enough room in Roundabout to include them all. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the successful outcome of these events.



Santa's routes

Friday 9 Dec. Wistaston Poets/Teal Way

Saturday 10 Dec. Wistaston Fuller Drive Estate

Monday 12 Dec. Wistaston Lakes Estate, Fields Lane, Rising Sun Estates

Tuesday 13 Dec. Dane Bank Avenue

Saturday 17 Dec. Wistaston Laidon Avenue Estate



Our front cover picture was sent in by Audrey Astbury who was shown a copy of it by Pat Hudman. Pat lived in Wistaston Green Road, formerly Green Lane as a girl and her sister Valerie owns the original painting. It was given to Valerie by a Rolls Royce colleague of her late husband, Peter Wright, and now hangs in Valerie's home in Australia.

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Wistaston Parish Councillor Contact Information

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

Diane Houston	8 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EW.	07720 293704 cllr.diane.houston@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
Thomas Kilkenny	15 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EN	01270 650045 cllr.thomas.kilkenny@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
Samantha Perry	79 Teal Way, Wistaston, CW2 8WG	07969 339449 cllr.samantha.perry@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

WISTASTON GREEN WARD (Five Councillors – 3 Vacancies)

Ryan Moore	36 Thirlmere Road, Wistaston, CW2 8AQ	cllr.ryan.moore@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
John Scott	28 Davenham Crescent, Crewe. CW2 7RZ	07890 815941 cllr.john.scott@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

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 Kerri Wilcox (Parish Clerk)	07851 511850 cllr.margaret.simon@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk
Kerri Wilcox	20 Wybunbury Road, Willaston CW5 7JF	07871605483 clerk@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

Cheshire Wildlife Trust, South Group Meetings for January - March 2023

16th January: Birds and Wildlife of the mid Mersey Area
Speaker: Mike Roberts

20th February: Where is the Trust now and what has changed?
How does the Trust work in the community:
Speaker Andrew Stubbs of CWT

20 March: An introduction to bats. Speaker Kevin Reynolds

Wistaston Parish Council Chairman's Report

1. North West in Bloom

We would like to extend the Parish Council's thanks to the Wistaston in Bloom group, Conservation team and supporters who worked hard to win this year's awards. To win a fourth gold, outstanding award for our Joey the Swan parkland and a first win for the best Town award is a significant achievement. Congratulations to all those involved. Want to join a winning team? Helpers will be welcome, please contact Bill Heath (secretary WIB) or our Clerk.

2. Budgets

Your council has started the review for the next financial year. We again will aim to support our organisations who contribute so much to our community. With increased financial pressures on many we have an overriding target to set no increase in council tax based on a band D property. Full details of the review will be published for approval in our Jan 2023 Parish meeting.

3. Litter

We set out to publish from time to time details on discarded litter which blights our community and to raise awareness of the work done by our volunteer litter picking teams. It is pleasing to see a lower level of discarded dog bags and the absence of face masks.

Totals 1st January to 31st October.

	2022	2021
Green bags (small sacks)	333	317
Dog bags	168	365
Facemasks	--	744
Snap bags	38	74
Nitrous Oxide Cannisters	20	45

4. Local Crime and PCSO

Since the loss of our PCSO earlier this year support has been intermittent with temporary arrangements.

Our request to the Police and Crime Commissioner for a dedicated officer is awaited.

Crime occurrences have been a concern with increases in Anti Social Behaviour, vandalism, and theft.

Our local police officer has been addressing these concerns. However, we believe a visible presence of a dedicated PCSO will give more reassurance to our residents.

Crimes can be reported on the non-urgent helpline Tel.101

5. Speed indicator Device (SID)

We have finally resolved the outstanding work for the post installation. All the equipment and set up with the solar panel is ready and work will be carried out W/C 21st November 2022

Our plan is to conduct extended trials and results will be published in future Roundabouts. We are still planning to reintroduce our speed watch team and are looking for more volunteers. Interested? please contact our Clerk.

Cllr John Moore
Chairman

Wistaston Church Lane Academy - Report

This term, children in Year 6 have been learning about World War 2.

On the 14th October, they went on a visit to Eden Camp. This is made up of huts that tell the story of World War 2. One of the most popular huts was the blitz hut. Here are some quotes about it: "It was very scary, but enjoyable," says Matilda. James says "It was noisy, explosive and fun!"

As well as learning about the huts, they also learnt about the history of Eden Camp - how it was a prisoner of war camp before turning into a museum. A prisoner of war means soldiers that have been captured by the enemy. It was a very interesting trip altogether and Year 6 learnt a lot.

On 18th October, Year 6 had an Evacuee Day. The day was based on all the children who had to leave their homes in World War 2. The day consisted of themed activities such as: a fake air raid, a dance called the Lambeth Walk and writing a letter to their parents. For their lunch, they had sausage casserole and for dessert they had carrot cake (made by the class).

Y6 were dressed up as evacuees for the whole day. They had a gas mask box which people used in the war because of toxic gasses. Evacuees in the olden days had gas mask boxes, ration books and identification passports. When the evacuees left their parents, the police put labels on them so if they got lost they would be given back to the people who were taking care of them.

Overall, they enjoyed the day, which really brought their learning to life.

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Church Lane Wistaston – Behind the school.

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We are delighted to present another season of films that raise moral, social, political and spiritual questions, besides offering an opportunity for a brief discussion of these issues afterwards (though there is no obligation to remain once the showing has ended). Our licence does not permit us to publicly name the movies we are showing (short of a prohibitive fee), but here are some hints, while further information is available from Malcolm Crook, m.h.crook@keele.ac.uk

Sunday 11 December

Sunday 8 January

Sunday 12 February

Sunday 12 March

Older Couples Go Dancing

Not in the Public Domain

Growing Up in Northern Ireland

A Good Thief in 1960s Britain?

All movies start at 2.30pm, usually on the second Sunday in the month. There is no charge for admission, but a donation can be made. You may bring your own refreshments. Wells Green Methodist Church is situated just off the junction of Brookland Avenue with the Crewe Road, next door to the Leonard Brothers Veterinary Surgery, CW2 8EJ. We shall look forward to seeing you.

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The Wistaston Swans

would very much like to wish you all a very

Merry Christmas

**A New Year brings brand new opportunities, new friendships to discover,
new skill to develop and plenty of fun to be had, why not join us in 2023?**

Wistaston Swan's WI meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month, excluding August. Meetings are held at; The Brittles, Church Lane, CW2 8EZ. 7.45 pm - 9.30 pm. Membership includes; 11 meetings a year, plus access to a wide range of subgroups and special events. Additional charges may apply for some subgroups and special events. Locations of subgroups and special events will vary. The WI is open to all women aged 18 and over. Visitors are always welcome. You can email us for more information, or just turn up on the night. A warm welcome awaits. Email - wistastonswans@gmail.com



Wistaston Village Cricket Club

(Founded 1980)

Where have the last twelve months gone, a phrase often used I know, but it does seem only yesterday since I was writing the prelude to the **2022** cricketing season!! Our cricketing teams have had what could be described as a testing season in general, which the following reports will reflect.

The First Eleven - competing in **The Cheshire Cricket League Division 2** had somewhat of a very demanding season, playing in a league with eleven other teams thus creating a total of twenty-two fixtures during the playing season. By the end of the Season playing against some very strong sides their final record was **Played 22 Won 1 Lost 21** with a final points total of **46**. Some matches were very close and could have had a different result, but I am certain that the team will be stronger from their experience.

The Second Eleven - competing in **Division C South/Central** had an equally hard season competing with nine other teams. At the end of the season a final record of **Played 22 Won 3 Lost 17 with 2 fixtures conceded** with a final points total of **58** was recorded. Similarly to the **First Eleven**, the **Second Eleven** had some close results.

The Swans XI - The ladies team '**The Swans**' playing in **Division 3 West of The Cheshire Women's Cricket League** played in a smaller group with four other clubs and having played a seasons total of twelve matches finished in **fourth position** with an overall record of **Played 12 Won 3 Lost 7 with one fixture conceded and another abandoned**. A final points total of **111** was acquired.

Under 13's - our youth team in comparison had a fruitful season playing in a league of eight clubs. At the end of the season of seven fixtures they **Played 7 Won 4, Lost 2 and won 1 when their opponents conceded the fixture** gaining **65** points in total and ending runners up just **19 points** behind the Champions **Sandbach**.

Under 11's - contested in a league containing **14** other teams and ended the season with a record of Playing **13** games, **Winning 2, Losing 11 with one fixture Cancelled**.

Under 9's - Finally but not least our **Under 9's** also had an extensive playing season of **15 fixtures**. Their final tally was **Played 14, Won 1 Lost 8 Drew 1 Conceded 2 matches Won 1 by opponents conceding and Tied 1** quite a record.

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

Bingo - The cricket club holds a Bingo evening every **third Friday** of each month at the **Wistaston pavilion lounge** to raise funds for the cricket club 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 **2023** cricketing season, not only to promote but further improve on the great progress achieved over past seasons. We would particularly welcome new members from ladies, irrespective of age or ability. As previously mentioned we offer cricket to adults and juniors of **ALL STANDARDS**. Therefore if you are interested in joining our cricket club please contact **Kevin Jobbins:- Tel 483494 in the first instance**.

We are proud on being very much a child friendly club and have been re-credited with the **E.C.B. Club Mark** originally gained in **May 2005**.

John Avery "Zusammen", 13 Lear Drive, Wistaston Tel 0781 7082678

The Laurie Twiss Award



There was a splendid number of entries for this year's Laurie Twiss Award and some superbly imagined stories which made the selection process very difficult. Well done to all contestants and we look forward to next year's entries. With many thanks too for the help given by local schools.

The following worthy winners received their prizes at Wistaston Church Lane Academy :

First Prize and Laurie Twiss Trophy Winner - Samson Marsh

Second Prize - Henry Wright

Joint third prize winners : Matilda Williams and Samira Anderson

They all received a W H Smith's voucher; a pen and a Certificate. Samson in addition received the Laurie Twiss Trophy to keep for one year.

Samson's winning entry is shown below: **Jusima's Adventure**

As the sun began to set Jusima and her Aunt ventured into the bush in search of some food. Jusima looked around, her eyes trying to take it all in. Jusima, who had never seen anything more stunning in her life, was startled when a monkey and its child burst through the canopy. Her Aunt who had never come this far into the bush with Jusima, gazed in awe as a herd of antelope galloped across the plains ahead. In front of her eyes a pair of elephants started throwing themselves at each other, clearly fighting over a female. 'Look at that Aunt, those hyenas are chasing that herd of zebra' exclaimed Jusima.

As Jusima observed all these majestic creatures she asked her Aunt whether she would see any gazelles out on the plains because there were clearly none in sight. Her Aunt replied softly 'I don't think we will as this is the time of year the hunters start poaching all the creatures.' Jusima was disappointed at first but when she heard the word hunters her eyes lit up with excitement. Swept away by her imagination Jusima got submerged by trees and her Aunt was no longer in sight. She called out but the only reply was a sad and desperate cry that made Jusima curious as to what could make such a mournful sound. Venturing through the jungle Jusima came across a clearing where a baby gazelle was nuzzling a lifeless corpse which was once his mother.

Now it's your turn - start thinking of what you could write, fact or fiction. Look out for more details in the Spring Roundabout to enter next year's Laurie Twiss Award.

Wistaston Conservation Group

Hello everyone, Just to keep everyone in touch with what we have been doing lately and hope to do.

Cheshire Wildlife Trust - Natural Wellbeing Initiative

We will soon be having some help with our work in the 'Joey Area' as Cheshire Wildlife Trust have asked if some of their volunteers can join with us to gain experience in what we do while they are taking part in their initiative.

Eventually, we hope this may give our group some more time to carry out work in the more remote parts of our woodland.

Although these parts are well away from the established pathways, we know that visitors like to explore our woodlands, and we must make sure that any potential hazards are neutralized as far as is possible.

If anyone would like to find out about the Wellbeing Initiative, contact details are:

T: 01948 820728 E: wellbeing@cheshirewt.org.uk

Himalayan Balsam

We have resumed tackling the chronic problem of Himalayan Balsam. We were unable to deal with this matter effectively last year due to the pandemic, and it had again begun to establish itself along the banks of the brook. We have cleared all the plants we could find and in so doing discovered that the water level in the brook was unusually low due to the drought, making it difficult to carry out the annual Duck Race. We cleared out quite a lot of debris that had been washed down during last winter and removed a lot of overgrown vegetation and branches, clearing the way for the race that was extremely well attended.

Bird Boxes : One of the members of our group has skilfully made some bird boxes that we have placed near to the Spinney area. It is hoped these will be used in the Spring by nesting birds to boost the songbird population.



Composting, an aid to nature.

This year we have constructed two composting bins made from Willow and Hazel cuttings in a shady coppice near to our nursery beds. Successful composting depends on a healthy balance between 'green' materials such as grass cuttings, and 'brown' materials such as tree prunings and woody hedge trimmings as well as fallen leaves, and the introduction of air and moisture by regular turning of the bin contents. This encourages bacteria to feed on the vegetation, breaking it down into the finished compost. One cause of poor results is a failure to turn or mix the contents sufficiently, as is allowing the contents to dry out, preventing bacteria from developing.

We hope to construct another bin nearby when we have the necessary materials available, allowing us to separate-out any partly composted material, to speed-up the process of using the original bins. Eventually, the rich compost will be used in the border beds at the Spinney and Memorial areas.

Memorial Area Wildflower Meadow.

Whilst clearing the brook we found some large blocks of dressed sandstone and some pieces of concrete partially buried in the stream bed. With great difficulty and a lot of shouting, we removed these and have placed them near to the memorial area adjacent to the Owl statue. The area thus marked out will be sown with wildflower seeds.



The Queen's Green Canopy.

It seemed appropriate, in view of the recent and very sad demise of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth II, to make a brief mention of the **Queen's Green Canopy** initiative that was featured in our article in the Spring edition of 'Roundabout'. This **'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'** scheme has now been extended until the end of March 2023, and this will allow people to continue to show their appreciation for the Queen's dedication to our nation.

Details online at <https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

If anyone is interested in what we are doing, have any useful suggestions for future projects, or would like to join us in our work, we are usually in the Joey the Swan area each Monday morning between 9.30 and noon. The exact location is shown on our website, that may be found by searching **Wistaston Conservation Group** on the Internet. We can also be followed on **Facebook**.

Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre

The John White Memorial Concert took place on 14th July with a performance by the Crewe Concert Band. The event was attended by his sons Jonathon and Christopher and a plaque to John was unveiled at the interval.



Update on the new Hall

The committee has been busy progressing the survey mentioned in the Autumn issue. The aim is to have it ready early 2023, and details of how you can participate in the survey will be included in the Spring issue of Roundabout.

Work has started on how the project will be funded and we have had initial talks with The National Lottery Community Fund (TNLCF). One of our members attended a course on writing grant applications, funded by Cheshire Community Action. A tip from the course was to have a quirky project name to ensure our project stands out from the many other projects requesting funding. We need your help on this, so please send us your suggestions via email or hand in at the Hall. We are looking for local building professionals to assist with specialist technical design, costings and other construction related services. If you have experience in any of these areas, and have time to support the project in the initial design stage, we would love to hear from you.

Contact for project: newbuild@wistastonmemorialhall.uk

Village Fireworks thanks to Jonathan White for article

The Wistaston Firework Display took place on Saturday 5 November and was organised by the Community Council and supported by Wistaston Parish Council. The Fancy Dress Competition judged by our Rose Queen and her attendant, Emily and Poppy Edge together with Chrys Lines and Helen Gould from the Community Council.

The winners were: 1st prize Bonny & Beau Hill as Thing 1 and 2
 2nd prize Seth Butler as Harry Potter
 3rd prize The Mummy

Pumpkin Winners: Ralph Pierpoint
 Annabelle Johnston
 Georgia Duckworth

The judging was followed by a superb firework display set up and operated by Black Lab Events and Fireworks enjoyed by several hundred people.



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Britain in Bloom 2022 - Wistaston wins four awards including Best Town

Wistaston has won at the 'Britain in Bloom' (North West) awards for the fourth year in succession. *Thank you to Jonathan White for article and photos relating to Britain in Bloom.*

Wistaston in Bloom won their fourth 'Gold Award 2022 in the Town Category', whilst Wistaston Conservation Group once again won a '2022 It's Your Neighbourhood Award of Level 5 - Outstanding' for the Joey the Swan parkland in Wistaston.

This year Wistaston also won the 'Best Town Award 2022' and Cheshire East Council's 'The Pride of Cheshire East Award'.

Bill and Helen Heath from Wistaston in Bloom received the awards, on behalf of the village, at a ceremony at Bolton Wanderers Football Club's The University of Bolton Stadium on Thursday 20th October 2022.

Bill Heath, Secretary of Wistaston in Bloom, said: "Members of the Bloom Group, Wistaston Conservation Group, Wistaston Parish Council, Wistaston Park Ranger Peter Baskerville, Jim Dentith from Crewe Road Nurseries, together with residents, all played their part in winning these prestigious awards. All involved are absolutely delighted in winning the awards."

North West in Bloom is the voluntary regional organisation that administers the Britain in Bloom competition in Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside, and is one of the 18 regions and Nations that comprise Britain in Bloom.

Britain in Bloom is one of the most effective, and longest running environmental competitions in the United Kingdom and each year it grows in size and importance and involves more people, groups and organisations within the community.

Since 1964, communities from across the North West have demonstrated their ability to create and maintain attractive environments that benefit residents and visitors alike.





Wistaston Conservation Group - '2022 It's Your Neighbourhood Award of Level 5 - Outstanding' for the Joey the Swan parkland, below – I-r David O'Hara (Project Coordinator, Wistaston Conservation Group) - Joan O'Hara (Wistaston Conservation Group member) - Pete Baskerville (Wistaston Park Ranger)



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All Welcome to our Festive Fundraiser!

We are busy planning two wonderful events in the run up to Christmas. The first of these is a Virtual Christmas Fair - we have a range of beautiful home-made and handcrafted items available. All of these are being donated to us by staff, service users and volunteers, with everything from gift tags to tree decorations to cakes and stocking fillers. The link for those who want to join us is www.facebook.com/groups/1706498356402751

Our Virtual Fair will run from 26th November to 2nd December and then be followed by All Wrapped Up; 1-5 on 3rd December. All are welcome to join us at our offices 54-64 Beech Drive, Wistaston. Bring your gifts to be professionally gift wrapped, enjoy a mince pie and a hot drink, listen to our wonderful choir or the sound of a solo saxophone, pick up a stunning dress for £10 or less, support some local businesses or have a go on our raffle or tombola.

We are holding these two events to raise money for our Community Share Hub, which provides essentials such as winter coats, baby hampers and school uniform as well as items such as Christmas Jumpers. This project is open to all, and not means tested. We know many will need it this winter.

Here's some amazing news: we have been match funded for these events by the Big Give. This means every pound you spend at either event will be doubled allowing it to go twice as far. It really is a great way to start the festive season!

WISTASTON GARDENERS SOCIETY

Monthly meetings are held at Wistaston Memorial Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (except April and October - 1st Tuesday), 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.



NATURE ARTICLE

Mid July and butterflies too lively in garden to stop to be identified. It is easier to watch bees filching pollen from flowers: antirrhinums, but particularly lavender. The rich orange bands of thorax and abdomen, and buff tail, prominent, are pointers to *Bombus terrestris*, a species noted for building large colonies.

Peace returns to bird-feeding stations now that fledgelings are able to feed themselves and not reliant on parents, so the raucous hunger cries of the crow family have thankfully diminished.

Earlier in the year we acquired our own version of Mr. Scruffy – a blackbird resident on our lawn, easily identified by tail missing most of its feathers. As the bulk of our birdlife is jackdaws, rooks and pigeons, this misfit certainly stood apart. As so often happens, one day it was there no more.

Mid August and a wood pigeon was seen building a nest in a neighbouring pine, preparatory to laying the anticipated two white eggs in the preferred month of August or September. Broken white eggshells are frequently seen strewn around the garden, but youngsters do appear, following parents for lessons on what to eat. Breeding season largely over, birds can be seen flocking, and late August was our first observation of swallows gathering on wires.

A dainty and pretty form of flax has appeared in two places in our garden this summer: tiny needles of leaves opposite on stem, and a flower of five sky-blue petals with pale centre, fused together. The behaviour of the plant accords with the wording in books: flowers dropping quickly and multiple blooms. A red admiral butterfly, flying around regularly in mid September, would be offspring of migrations from Mediterranean.

On a depressing note, a call in September from Mrs. Temple of Caernarvon Road revealed that neither she nor husband was sighting birds any more despite fully-stocked feeders. As many times stated, it is the corvids and the pigeons that rule the roost in Sandylands Park. Has anyone else noticed a fall-off?

The glut of acorns should be attracting the shy jay, but all we get is those pestilential squirrels.

Late September and a reappearance of molehills, while windfall rotting pears bring return of long-absent blackbird – but not Mr. Scruffy.

Our thanks to all contributors.

Trevor and Hilary Clowes

Tel. 664358 email handt136@talktalk.net

Wistaston Flower Club

The Memorial Hall

First Wednesday of each month (excluding January) at 2.30pm

In September we welcomed Delyth Price with “The Wonder of Wales” and in September Sioned Hughes with her title “Under the Influence”. Both demonstrations were fabulous with stunning raffle prizes to take home,

Our December demonstration is on 7th December where we will be entertained by Karen Schofield with her title “Key to Christmas”. This is bound to be a fabulous afternoon and visitors are more than welcome.

A workshop has taken place for members making a floral foam free arrangement. A Kusudama card flower was constructed and dried plant material placed inside.

For more information about our activities please contact Caryn Murray (07530682196 or carynmurray24@gmail.com) or Judy Gratton (07506022709 or judy.gratton@live.co.uk).



Christmas Services at St Mary's

All at St Mary's wish you a happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. We would like to invite you to join us for a Christmas service or two over the festive period.

Up to date details will be posted on our Facebook page (facebook.com/stmaryandstluke) in a few weeks. Here are the services which are confirmed:

Carols on the Green 5pm Saturday 17 December

Nine Lessons and Carols 7pm Sunday 18 December

Crib Service and Nativity 5pm on Christmas Eve

Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve (start time to be finalised - please check Facebook nearer the time)



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(any restrictions permitting)
on the
Annual Boxing Day Walk
10.30 - 12.00
Monday 26 December
Starting from the Memorial
Hall Car Park

All welcome - Dogs in Xmas coats
especially welcome.
Any queries phone
Eileen 01270 569126

Wistaston Community Council
follow us on facebook



**WISTASTON
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL**

*Wistaston
Christmas Concert*

9TH DECEMBER, 2022 | 7:00PM
ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL WISTASTON
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REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT THE INTERVAL
£5.00 EACH ON THE DOOR.
CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER ARE FREE.
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Do you know your local u3a?

u3a is an international organisation, where members form interest groups dedicated to learning on a self-help basis. The Crewe and Nantwich branch of the charity runs groups (many of which meet in venues in Wistaston) in subjects/interests as diverse as the members who enjoy them, from Local History, Art Appreciation, Scottish Dancing and Line Dancing to Music Appreciation, Poetry, Medieval History and Philosophy. There are groups for those who want to be active - Badminton, Walking, Gym, Table Tennis, Cycling and we started a new sport - Pickleball in July, held at Crewe Lifestyle Centre. For those who want to keep their brain active, there are Bridge groups, Chess, Mah-Jong, a Quiz group and language study groups. We have Book Reading groups, Sewing and Embroidery groups, Craft groups, including a forthcoming Christmas Crafts, Art groups and even a Computer Drop In session to answer any members' questions around technology. In Autumn 2021, we started a MOTO group - Members on their Own, for members who, for whatever reason, attend u3a events alone. This group is very successful, with members suggesting and attending meals out, theatre visits, cinema visits, trips to cities and even a planned holiday to Scotland for Burns' Night. Our recently appointed Events Officer, Nigel Bahrani, has just started planning with the Social Activities Team, membership of which is available to any u3a member, as long as there is a place in the group.

Whilst u3a has a very informal structure and is run by members for members (all committee members and leaders are volunteers), there are always opportunities to help out with membership support on a one-off basis or by joining the committee. New members are always very welcome. The only criteria to join the u3a is that you no longer work full-time. Membership of Crewe and Nantwich u3a is very reasonable £5 for the rest of 2022, with attendance at each group being £1.50 a session. (Social events are priced separately, at cost.) Why not give us a try? Visit the website to find out more or send me an email.

For more information see candnu3a.org.uk

Sue Steele

Development Officer (development@candnu3a.org.uk)

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 Richard Farrall for further information on 01270 - 624649 or visit www.creweandnantwichramblingclub.org.uk

Caddick Construction help to marshal up fund-raising to help save Wistaston Community parade

Caddick Construction, currently building a new three-storey office for Radius Payment Solutions at Arden Square on Crewe Business Park, has sponsored a training event for local community volunteers.

The Caddick team has agreed to support Wistaston Community Council (WCC) by arranging and funding NRSWA Streetworks' training for the volunteer traffic marshals, securing the future of the village processions, which has been a well-loved feature of village life for more than 40 years.

WCC is a local volunteer fund-raising group which organises local events, including the village fete and a quarterly village magazine. All proceeds are used to support local good causes, local groups and charities working in the community.

The group was originally founded to mark the late Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 and has been running two local processions for more than 40 years. However, in 2015 health & safety requirements changed, meaning the short road closure for the parades could only be put in place by suitably qualified people, such as a professional traffic management company. This proved to be unaffordable, costing more than the event was raising.

Fortunately, two of the volunteers agreed to undertake the necessary training and marshal the events but that training expired during the Covid pandemic so WCC was again faced with the same dilemma of using a professional traffic management company or funding the re-training itself. Luckily, when the Caddick team heard about the dilemma they stepped in to arrange and fund the training.

Richard Chaplow, Chair of Wistaston Community Council, said: "We are delighted by this exceptional support from the Caddick team, which will enable us to continue running the very popular Rose Queen and Lantern parades, which have been enjoyed by two generations of local families. The help in organising the training and paying for it is hugely appreciated. Professional traffic management costs in the region of £750 per event, which wouldn't be feasible for us. Thanks to the help of the volunteer traffic marshals this support from Caddick will actually be worth over £7,500 to us over the 5-years the marshals are now qualified for, so is hugely significant for us."

Photo shows l-r Richard Chaplow and Rob Dutton receiving the cheque from Faye Chilekwa, Social Value Manager at Caddick's Warrington Office.

Nick Holliday, Caddick's Project Manager for the Radius Payment Solutions project, added: "It's great that we can offer much-needed assistance to a local initiative by supporting the Wistaston team and funding the Streetworks' qualification. It has ensured that the Community Council can continue to deliver its fund-raising events which passes on huge benefits to the local community."

Radius appointed Caddick Construction to deliver its new £14.6m facility, which will provide 41,043 sq. ft office space as well as 128 parking spaces, 25 of which will have electric vehicle chargers installed and operated by the Radius's fast-growing e-mobility business.

With thanks to Jonathan White.





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MONDAY-FRIDAY
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Wda **Wistaston Drama Academy**

A place to grow • a place to be • a place to belong

Drama for the Community

Our members have returned following the summer break and are working towards a Christmas production.

It is fabulous to see their creativity and sharing of ideas. They have been concentrating on developing their characterisation and are producing some outstanding work.

We are planning on taking the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts Examinations in 2023 which will give experience in a formal structured environment.

As well as working on basic stagecraft, voice work and general performance we provide the young people with the opportunity to explore their creative skills and working as part of a team. Our sessions are fully interactive and great fun!

Are you interested in having fun with your friends whilst showing off your dramatic side?

If so, then Wistaston Drama Academy would be delighted to meet you.

We are always interested in welcoming young people from our community aged 8 onwards to be part of this long standing, award winning drama group.

We meet every Saturday morning from 10.30am to 12.45pm at Wistaston Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston CW2 8ER.

So, don't delay! We have limited places available to join this vibrant, energetic, creative drama group!

Looking forward to meeting you soon.

For more information:

www.wistastonyoungdramagroup.com

Weebly.com

email: wydg@hotmail.co.uk

or contact Judy 07506022709 or 01270 650341



willaston **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

At our September meeting Willaston WI enjoyed a heartwarming talk by Janet and Graham Walton, proud parents of the World's first sextuplet girls. Six little miracles born in November 1983.

WI members and many visitors were kept entertained by Graham's talk as he shared their story of becoming parents to six girls. Graham, with some humorous moments, gave an insight into the pregnancy, the birth, the homecoming and how their news was difficult to imagine and had the world's reporters pointing cameras at their every move.

Janet and Graham insisted that each girl was an individual in their own right, all have different personalities and they were never dressed identically until they started school wearing the same uniform. The talk was inspiring and extremely interesting which kept the members and visitors totally engaged. Janet and Graham are now very proud grandparents of 3 grandchildren and yes, you have guessed, they are all girls!

In October Michael Martin gave a talk entitled 'Tax, Care and Toyboys' detailing the ways in which an intended bequest can be forfeited. A useful and informative evening.

A new Committee was elected at the November AGM and afterwards members had the choice to make a Christmas wreath, a hand painted glass table decoration or Christmas cards. This made for an enjoyable and sociable evening.

On 15 December we are looking forward to a Christmas Lunch at Crewe Golf Club.

Meetings are held at The Acacia Suite (The Masonic Hall) Willaston CW5 7ER on the second Wednesday of each month, excluding December at 7pm for 7.30. Visitors/new members are very welcome to attend any meeting on a 'try before you buy' basis and can be sure of a warm welcome. Please telephone Jan Warnes on 01270 663881 or Brenda Taylor on 01270 623191 for further information or simply turn up.

Stop Press

News from Guiding Units

The Brownie unit from Wells Green Methodist Church will have spaces available from January.

For more information please contact Teresa Hoper on tjhoper@googlemail.com

Wistaston Singers

Annual Christmas Carol Concert



3pm Saturday 10th December 2022

Come and join us at St Stephens Church Gainsborough Road Crewe

Tickets priced £7 (£3 under 16 years old) includes a wonderful refreshment buffet during the interval. The concert lasts about 2 hours. As well as performing a number of beautifully arranged Carols and Christmas music, there is plenty of opportunity for you to join in and sing traditional carols with us.

Tickets are available on the door but may be reserved or purchased in advance from Mandy Ramsden - 07920 449543.

Can't wait until then or want a taster?

We are singing carols at Minshull's Nursery and Garden Centre on Saturday 26th November, 10am -11am and on Thursday 1st December, 6pm -7pm.



Crewe Nature Kindergarten

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Wistaston's 40th Annual Flower and Produce Show Saturday 19 August 2023

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 or varieties.
- F7. A Single Stem of any Flowering Plant (not in schedule) in a vase.
- F8. Single Geranium Head in a Vase
- F9. Six French Marigolds, any variety or varieties.
- F10. A Shallow Bowl of Floating Flower Heads - arranged for effect.
- F11. A Vase of Mixed Flowers - home grown.
- F12. A Cactus.
- F13. A Geranium in a Pot - with saucer.
- F14. A Begonia in a Pot - with saucer.
- F15. Flowering Plant in a Pot, with saucer, excluding plants from Class 19.
- F16. A Foliage Plant in a Pot, with saucer.
- F17. Six Fuchsia Heads on a Board.
- F18. A Fuchsia in a 9cm Pot, with saucer, any variety.
- F19. Alpine Garden - 25cm x 25 cm max.

Section V - Vegetable Classes.

- V1. A Vegetable not on Schedule - please specify on entry form.
- 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. Five Ripe Tomatoes - not cherry variety - on a Plate.
- V7. Nine Shallots - Large - over 30mm in diameter.
- V8. Three Round Beetroot - tops trimmed to 8cm.
- V9. One Vegetable Marrow - with stalk.
- V10. One Lettuce - roots shown
- V11. One Cucumber - with stalk.
- V12.. A Truss of Tomatoes - not cherry variety - some ripe..
- VA3 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 Dwarf 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.) *Themes to be*
- A2.) *Agreed but A2 must be Petite, 25cms overall..*

Section H - Housecraft Classes - please cover entries with transparent covering.

- H1. A jar of Home Made Strawberry Jam;
- H2. A jar of Home **Made Jam - not Strawberry**
- H3. A jar of Home Made Chutney.
- The above three items to have cellophane covers only.*
- H4. Three pieces of Shortbread
- H5. Five Square Flapjacks
- H6. Five Jam Tarts
- H7. A Plate of Five Chocolate Butterfly Cakes
- H8. A Lemon Drizzle Cake baked in a loaf tin.
- H9. A Cheesecake, approx.20cm in diameter presented on a plate.
- H10.A Victoria Sponge Cake - read Rule 19 carefully.
- H11 Five Cheese Scones
- H12 A Quiche , approx. 20cm in diameter, presented on a plate.
- H13.An Apple Pie approx.20cm in diameter, short crust pastry top and bottom, presented on a plate.
- H14. Five Decorated Cup Cakes.

Section W. Beverages.

- W1. A Bottle of Home Made Fruit/Vegetable/Flower Wine 75 ml bottle, not from a kit.

Section Y - Hobby Crafts - 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.

Section C - Children's Classes

- C1. Pre-school - **My Favourite Flower**
- C2. Under 12's - A Miniature Garden in seed tray (approx 6 x 8 inches).
- C3. Under 12's - A Greeting Card
- C4. Under 12's - A Decorated Plant Pot
- C5. Under 12's - A Vegetable Fruit Creature

Parish Council Photographic Competition

Free to enter

Class A: A Typical Snapshot.

Class B: A Cardboard Framed Enlargement.

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

Entries to be with the Show President by 8 August 2023.

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.

Gwyneth Brown, Show President

101 Church Lane Wistaston CW2 8ER Tel: 568823



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**Candlelight
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Sunday 18th December
7.00pm

Christmas Morning
Sunday 25th December
10.30am

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email: info@newlifecentre.co.uk

web: www.newlifecentre.co.uk

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Wistaston in Bloom and Wistaston Conservation Group have struck Gold again!



Bill and Helen, Wistaston in Bloom, with their GOLD awards



All four awards shown here: David and Joan O'Hara , Wistaston Conservation Group, Pete Baskerville, Park Ranger, Helen and Bill Heath, Wistaston in Bloom, John Moore, Wistaston Parish Council