Autumn 'ROUNDABOUT'

A Wistaston Community Council Publication

2014
ISSUE 135



Idyllic Constable country disturbed by a balloon! This superb photograph, though, was taken near the Brittles in Wistaston by Jonathan White

The Magazine for People Living 'Roundabout' Wistaston

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk

Circulation: 4100

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For further information call Iain or Jane on
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Editorial :

With very many thanks to everyone for the continued splendid support you give to Roundabout for without your contributions and advertisements it would not exist! The Wistaston Community Council is also very appreciative of the support that you give to all the events organised over the year.
Please send in your articles, photographs etc. for our Winter edition – due out in early December – by 15 October 2014.

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

Geoff Poppitt
19 Byron Way
01270 569642

Dates for your Diary for 2014 Wistaston Events

Saturday 6 September Annual Duck Race
Saturday 1 November Firework Display
Sunday 9 November Remembrance Service
Friday 5 December Community Council's Annual Christmas Concert
Saturday 13 December Memorial Hall's Christmas Concert with Crewe Concert Band

The Summer Fete 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 Community Council is very conscious of the thanks due to everyone involved in its success especially the Revd Mike and Mrs Sarah Turnbull for the use of their garden. This year was a superb Village Fete with a lovely Rose Queen, Lucy Rowlands and a splendid retiring Rose Queen, Naomi Barker who had worked hard over the year raising money for her chosen charity, Alder Hey Children's Charity. We send Lucy very best wishes for her year ahead.

Wistaston Community Council's Annual Village Fireworks Display Saturday 1 November 2014

Our annual village fireworks display starts, as usual, with the judging of the traditional Fancy Dress and Pumpkin competitions at 5.45pm on the Triangle at the junction of Westfield Drive and Park Drive.
This will be followed by a torch-light procession (please bring your own torches) which leaves at 6.00pm to the Brittles for the Fireworks display at 6.30pm. The actual firework display will be provided by Comet Fireworks.
The Scouts will be providing refreshments and will be serving burgers and hot dogs as well as hot and cold drinks
We would like to thank Wistaston Parish Council who have kindly provided their support to allow this event to go ahead. Entry is by donation and all profits will go to a charity.





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WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – LAND OFF CHURCH LANE

A Public Inquiry is scheduled on the 5th August 2014, to discuss the first planning application currently under appeal by Gladman Developments. A second proposal has also been submitted by Gladman. This contains only minor changes and your Council has again objected to this development. It is important to note if residents have concerns they should contact Cheshire East Council either on tel. no. 0300 123 5014 or website www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/planning This is a separate application and previous comments made will not be considered for this latest scheme.

2. HIGHWAY ISSUES

We continually have concerns raised about road conditions, potholes, lighting, weeds in gutters and street cleanliness. Residents are reminded how to report faults by contact to Cheshire East Highways on 0300 123 5020 or their website www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/roadworksandhowtoreporthighwayfaults

3. SPEED WATCH

We hope to see our newly formed group active in the near future, mainly to operate on the Middlewich Road. As we regularly receive complaints regarding speeding vehicles we would welcome new groups. Training and high visibility jackets are provided. Interested? Please contact our Clerk.

4. COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

We have vacancies in both Wistaston Green Ward and St. Mary's Ward. Interested residents should first contact our Clerk in writing with a brief résumé.

5. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings at 7.30 p.m. at Wistaston Memorial. Next meetings are on 18 September, 16 October and 20 November 2014.

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
Derrick Millington	9 Chesterton Drive, Wistaston CW2 8EA	664471
Abigail O'Donnell	51 Broughton Lane, Wistaston CW2 8JR	663745
Ray Westwood	550 Crewe Road, Wistaston CW2 6PP	569844
	WELLS GREEN WARD	
Ian Hodkinson	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)	
Peter Edwards	6 Grizedale Close, Wistaston CW2 8NY	567693
Ken Parish	12 Riverside Grove, Wistaston CW2 8QF	650280
Clerk to the Council		
Mrs. Andrea Cross	4 Arundel Close, Wistaston CW2 8EY	652098

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Wistaston in Bloom : Spring brought good mixed weather for bringing the bedding plants on, but as often happens, a hot spell in early June immediately after planting out resulted in a slight set back. However all was ready for the judging of the North West in Bloom on the 8 July which this year celebrated the 50 years of the **Royal Horticultural Society**, the main sponsors for the event.
Our own judging of residents' front gardens has taken place and the results for 2014 are:-

Wells Green Ward

1st Mr & Mrs G Cordall	474 Crewe Road
2nd Mr & Mrs G Nuttall	521A Crewe Road
3rd Ivy Savage	80 Laidon Avenue

St Mary's Ward

1st Mr & Mrs L Clough	7 Lydgate Close
2nd Mr & Mrs J Gray	57 Milton Drive
3rd Susan Houghton	19 Westfield Drive

Wistaston Green Ward

1st Mr & Mrs P Maddock	'Cherrystone', Middlewich Road
2nd Mr & Mrs C Bone	56 Sandhurst Avenue
3rd Mr & Mrs M Fox	12 Magdalen Court

Overall Winner Best Kept Garden ,Wistaston Parish Cup
Mr & Mrs G Cordall 474 Crewe Road

The Best Hanging Basket Display, The Window Surgeon Shield
Mr & Mrs H Spencer 6 Chatsworth Close

Commercial Premises
The Brehaut Trophy
The Woodside

Community Premises
The Byatt Trophy
The Church of Latter Day Saints

Congratulations to all the winners
R Woodward, Hon. Secretary

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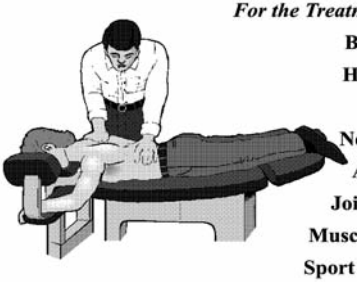
Cancer Research UK

As well as organising their Christmas Fair at the Memorial Hall, Crewe and Nantwich Local Committee of Cancer Research UK will hold a Coffee morning in the Parish Rooms in Nantwich on Saturday 29 November. If you are interested in learning more or would like to volunteer, please telephone Margaret Smith: 01270 626904.

Collections in our area are as follows:
September 5/7 Collection at Aldi, Nantwich
September 13 Nantwich Street Collection
Sept.26/28 Collection at Morrison's Nantwich
Oct. 17/19 Collection at Morrison's Crewe
Nov. 5/8 Collection at Crewe Lyceum
Nov.21/23 Collection at Aldi,Nantwich Rd
Nov.29/30 Collection at Tesco
Dec.12/14 Collection at Aldi, Nantwich

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Brian Charlesworth



It is with great sadness that we report the death of Brian Charlesworth, a stalwart of the Wistaston community who gave of his best to everything he was involved in.

Brian was born in Crewe and was apprenticed in his father's business which he and his brother eventually took over. He was a skilled craftsman who made everything to a standard worthy of its place; church, hotel, home or garden. His creations for the garden were works of art highly sought after.

Brian came to Wistaston in l974 with Thelma and their children, Tim and Sarah, and he became an active member of the Wistaston Community Council being made a very worthy Wistonian of the year in 2009. He built many of the flower beds to be seen around the village and played a great part in building the Brittles Pavilion.

Brian was a member of the Vagrants Cricket Club and a life-long Manchester United supporter. He and Thelma both enjoyed concerts particularly jazz singers at Manchester's Free Trade Hall. He was also a long-standing member of the British Legion. He will be greatly missed.

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Hands off Wistaston

Hands off Wistaston wish to thank everyone who delivered 3000 leaflets and the 500 plus residents who responded to Gladman's second application to build 300 homes some of which will be three storey on Witters Field even though their first application is still at the appeal stage. The latest information on the 'Witters Field' appeal is that it started on the 5th - 9th August it was reconvened on Tuesday 26th for three days, third parties including the HOW group were able to make their submissions on Wednesday 27th and the site visit took place on Thursday 28th. We are now awaiting the Inspectors decision.

Unfortunately after a robust campaign by HOW Cheshire East Council agreed in favour of the applicant to build 11 homes on the Rectory garden. We call upon residents to continue to support our campaign to prevent any mass development in our village.

Chris Wainwright

****

Dear Readers, I would like to take this opportunity to let my friends and customers know that although I missed the Village Fete this year I am still making cards and donating to Cancer Research UK. Peter sprained his ankle and couldn't help - but is recovered now so if you missed stocking up on your cards or notelets give me a ring on 01270 567063 and come and choose from the comfort of my settee. With many thanks, **Sheila Oakes, Poppy Designs.** Full letter on Community Council's website.

Ministers Musings

'Lest we forget'

The last time I was in London, I took the opportunity to look again at the statues erected above the west door of Westminster Abbey – ten figures of Christian martyrs of the twentieth century, drawn from every continent and different denominations. They remind us of the cost of being true to one's beliefs, and of the continuing persecution of those who dare to stand up for what is right.

November is a month of remembrance, inspired by the Church's historical remembrance of all its unnamed saints and all the faithful departed at the beginning of the month. And then of course, there is Remembrance Sunday, this year commemorating 100 years since the start of the 'war to end all wars' – what a sad irony that title has today…

The Christian Martyrs of the Twentieth Century commemorated outside Westminster Abbey challenge us to expand our remembrance to include all who have made great sacrifices for the benefit of others. Each one represents many other victims of tyranny, fanaticism, dictatorship, prejudice and brutality. They include Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, murdered in 1977 by the troops of Idi Amin for his opposition to the unchecked violence of the security forces. Archbishop Oscar Romero, who stood out against the oppression of the poor and the abuse of human rights by a repressive government, shot at the altar in 1980 while saying Mass. There are also the human rights leader, Martin Luther King, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, one of the leaders of the German Christians who refused to make an accommodation with the Nazi regime.

One of the most inspiring of these heroes for me is the Polish Franciscan priest, Maximilian Kolbe, a prisoner in Auschwitz. When a prisoner from his block escaped, the commandant ordered that ten prisoners should be locked in an airtight cell as a reprisal and left to die. One of those selected begged to be spared because he had a wife and children, and Father Kolbe stepped forward to take his place.

'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends' – words of Jesus that we shall recall on Remembrance Sunday. The statues above the abbey door illustrate them powerfully. In November, old comrades will think again of the sacrifice of those who died alongside them in war, but we can <u>all</u> ponder the vision of the future that inspired them and countless others who have striven, often against enormous odds and at great personal cost, to make our world a fairer, better place.

Because true remembrance is not simply a navel-gazing exercise, true remembrance does not leave us looking back at the past; true remembrance should motivate all of us to renewed efforts to preserve all that is good in our society and change what is bad, and increase our prayers and activity in the pursuit of justice, freedom and peace for all.

Blessings,

Steve

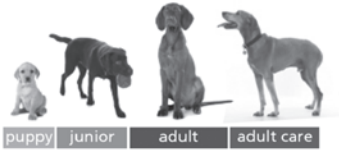
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Missing: Two speakers and an amplifier/microphone belonging to the Wistaston Community Council. They were borrowed last year and have not been returned. Would whoever has them please ring 07931 557070 and they will be collected. Thank you. Dane Chaplow, Chairman, Wistaston Community Council.

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Wistaston Young Drama Group

Wistaston Young Drama Group, who are celebrating 20 years in existence, have won Best Youth Production at both Nantwich and Wilmslow Youth Drama Festivals, with Liam Black being awarded Best Performer at Wilmslow.

This was the first time that the senior group had entered the festivals, performing *Blackout* by Davey Anderson. The play was directed by Michaela Warrilow.

Wistaston Young Drama Group, based in the Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston provide drama activities for children aged 6 - 18. We provide a fun and safe environment with an opportunity to make new friends. Classes are run by professionally trained drama leaders and lessons include creative movement, structured improvisation, drama games, language development and voice coaching which aims to build confidence, improve concentration and creativity.

Places are available. Why not give us a try? The first session is free.

For further information regarding the classes contact Margaret 01270 668233 or Judy 01270 650341, or by email wydg@hotmail.co.uk
Further information and updates can be found on our website
www.wistastonyoungdramagroup.weebly.com



The Laurie Twiss Awards for Journalism 2014

The Laurie Twiss Awards for Journalism for 2014 were awarded by Wistonian of the Year Eileen Bamber to their talented recipients at the Wistaston Village Fete in June. The winners were:
First prize and trophy winner: James Glass for *Diplomatic turns Traumatic*
Second prize – Dominic Scott for *Ship plays Hide and Seek*
Third prize – Holly Abbotts for *'Kaptain' Kidnapped*
Highly Commended – Natalie Palin for *Ship shot under*
All prize winners received a book token, certificate and pen. The winning entries will all be printed in future editions of Roundabout.

Laurie Twiss was a popular and well-loved member of the Wistaston Community Council who for many years was editor of the Wistaston Roundabout. When he died in 2002 it was decided to honour his memory by putting on a competition linked to journalism in his name. These awards are open to young people between 9 and 16 years in our area and involves submitting a story or article of not more than 200 words. The writing can be real or imaginary, fact or fiction.
Entries for next year should be submitted by 31 May 2015 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

With many thanks to Jonathan White for the above article.

We hope after reading James Glass's superb First Prize winning entry, printed below, you will all be inspired to enter next year's Laurie Twiss Award.

Diplomatic Turns Traumatic

Prince James was kidnapped two weeks ago and hasn't been seen since. He was last seen on the Indian Ocean off the coast of Samahlia at 6.40pm
He was on a diplomatic trip to discuss the problems about the trade between Samahlia and the United Kingdom. He was 10 minutes away from the port when a Yamaha speedboat pulled out from behind a rock and pounced on the ship and ransacked everything including the personnel. The other two men got away just in time and are the reason for this detailed information. If you happen to know any more useful information please call 01270 668143.

King Michael said he was absolutely broken hearted that his one and only son had been kidnapped. WHY! WHY! Another very important person was sad to see James go and this was Queen Jane. These were her words 'I knew as soon as his ship left the shore that I shouldn't have sent my one and only on a diplomatic mission to Samahlia, the most dangerous sea port on the Earth'.

If you happen to have any other knowledge of what happened to Prince James please contact 01270 668143 as soon as you can. 'The sooner we find him the sooner we can rest, these pirates could be anywhere.' King Michael is quoted as saying.

Fund Raising for St Lukes (Cheshire) Hospice

Saturday 18 October
Coffee Morning in Parish Rooms
Nantwich
Doors open 9.00am
*****
Saturday 25 October
The Wistaston Singers
at
Nantwich Methodist Church
at 7.00pm

Light refreshments and Raffle

Tickets: £6

from Brian Simpson: Tel: 650699
and Norma Simpson: Tel: 625399

Cancer Research UK

Christmas Fair

Wistaston Memorial Hall

Saturday 15 November

From 10am to 3pm

Lots of stalls for gifts, cards, cakes etc. plus Tea Room serving Drinks and snacks and of course Father Christmas will be there too!

N S P C C
FASHION SHOW
at
Hunters Lodge Hotel
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Thursday 18 September
at 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Tickets £5
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Cancer Research UK
Teddy Bear Tombola

at our Christmas Fair
on
Saturday 15 November

Do you have any soft toys or teddies that need a new home?

Please phone Jean Pass on Crewe 215651 and I will arrange to collect them from you

Wistaston Village Cricket Club.
(Founded 1980)

By the time this latest editorial finds its way through your letterbox, the **2014** campaign will be in its last throes. However, at the time of producing this latest tome (early July) the **First XI** have so far had a reasonably successful campaign lying joint fifth in their league with eleven matches played:-

Division 1

Team	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*Ab'd*	*NR*	Conc Pts	*Pts*
Wilmslow	11	6	1	1	3	0		193
Stretton	11	5	1	2	3	0		180
Port Sunlight	11	5	2	2	2	0		171
Saughall	11	5	1	3	2	0		170
Holmes Chapel	11	4	0	5	2	0		159
Wistaston	11	4	1	3	3	0		159

Our **Second XI** competing in **Division 3 of The Cheshire Alliance,** have had a similar start to the season also lying joint fifth in the table after eleven matches played.

Division 3

Team	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*Ab'd*	*NR*	*Conc Pts*	*Pts*
Mellor	11	6	1	1	3	0		198
Port Sunlight II	11	6	1	1	3	0		187
Eastham	11	5	2	2	2	0		167
Mossley	11	5	1	2	3	0		161
Wistaston II	11	5	0	4	2	0		155
Hartford	11	4	2	3	2	0	-5	155

The Under 9, 11, 13 have been competing in their respective leagues in **The South Cheshire Junior Cricket League,** with the Under 11's especially having a good season lying fourth in their league.

Our **3rd XI (Sunday**) which currently plays in **Division 3 East,** are currently holding third position from 16 matches.

Our Womens 1st XI, formed only in **2013** are having a varied season; at the time of going to press they have enjoyed success in both their own division and when playing against opponents from other divisions as well as a **20/20 campaign and cup fixtures** in the Cheshire Women's Cricket League - Division 2.

On the social front, the cricket club held another successful social evening on 31st May (Curry night), with all proceeds being channelled into the cricket club.

Further similar theme evenings are scheduled for the future – watch this space.
www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk/roundabout.html **and** www.creweguardian.co.uk/sport

President's Day was held on Sunday 17th **August at the Brittles**. Good food and drink were dispensed on the day to all visitors, and as an added attraction, **The Cheshire Alliance League's Men's 20/20 Cup Final** was contested **(which was a feather in the club's cap)** together with club match between **The Wombats XI and our Ladies XI.**

On Friday 22nd August, the Brittles further hosted an MCC Ladies match. All proceeds from this auspicious event were also channelled back into the cricket club.

Our end of season Presentation Evening is scheduled for **Saturday 13th September**, the venue being **St Mary's Church Hall.** (The date and venue are provisional and may be subject to change.) Full details will be circulated nearer the time and again please check our websites or contact either **Kevin or Pauline Jobbins (663699).**

The cricket club holds Bingo evenings 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. Following the summer break, Bingo evenings will re-commence on **Friday 19th September 2013 at The Brittles.**
We offer cricket to adults and junior of all standards and we are proud on being very much a child friendly club and 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: - Tel 663699** in the first instance.
For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either **Kevin or Pauline Jobbins (663699).**

John Avery

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

****

Wistaston & District Flower Club invite you to a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 15 October in the Wistaston Memorial Hall at 10.00am to 12noon

****

Wistaston Memorial Hall Bowling Club

Fun Race Night

at

Wistaston Memorial Hall
Church Lane, Wistaston

on

Friday 19 September 2014 at 7.00pm
Entrance by ticket only - £5

Union Street Baptist Church
Crewe
present the following events:

Saturday 4 October
Lions Youth Brass Concert
Starting at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm (Price not confirmed yet)

Saturday 22 November
Kipling Singers Concert
Time and price not confirmed yet.

For further details contact David and Annette Elliott on 01270 652151

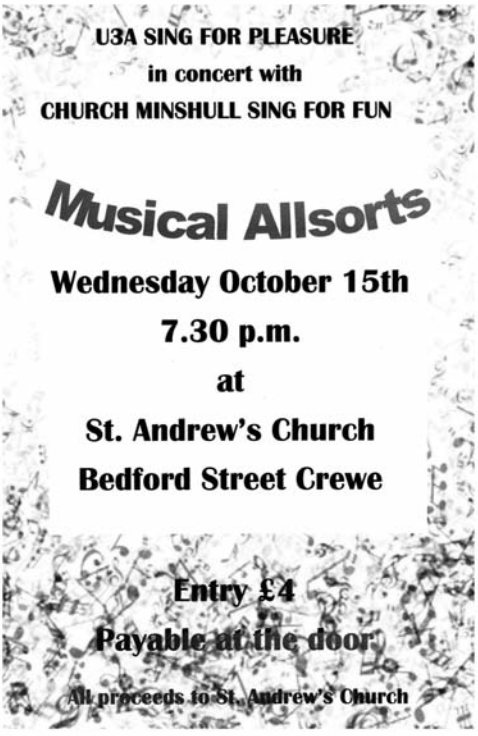
Report from Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club

The summer weather over the past few months has been welcomed at the Wistaston courts as member have made the most of settled conditions by arriving earlier than normal to be sure of getting some games in before the temperature rose. Consequently we had a record number of players at each session.
WJTC have entered three teams for the Winter League and we wish them every success.
At the Village Fete in June there were record crowds, the sun shone and the unique tennis game from the Club proved once again a popular attraction for children and parents alike.

Plans for the re-painting of the two courts are in hand and will take place in the summer months.
At the moment the grounds are in immaculate condition with tubs ablaze with colour due to the efforts and hard work of club members and their families.
Any further information regarding any aspect of the WJTC can be obtained by contacting Bill Heath membership secretary on 01270 560471.

Finals Day will take place on Sunday 14 September at which trophies will be awarded to the successful players.
Happy tennis everyone! *Alice Chalwin*
****





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Crewe Movie Makers (formally known as Crewe Cine & Video Club) is an established group of enthusiastic film makers that has been meeting for over 40 years. Our meetings are a forum for sharing knowledge and having fun exploring all aspects of movie-making from how to create compelling storyboards to mastering the art of 3D filming. We have an active programme of visiting speakers, organised competitions and technical master classes. We design our programme to cater for all our members and any chosen subject is explained so that everybody understands. Some members get together to make short movies while others like to turn their own footage into entertaining productions.

So if you would like to find out about new techniques to turn your family or holiday footage into more entertaining productions or want to explore the latest advances in technology which assist with the different aspects of short film-making then please come along as we welcome everyone, whether you are a beginner or an experienced film-maker. You can watch your production on the big screen in all its glory, with the latest high definition projection and sound systems.

Crewe Movie Makers meet on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday of each month from September to May, at Wistaston Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 8ER. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm prompt start.

For more information visit our website at www.crewemoviemakers.org.uk

****

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Friday 19 September 10.30am – 12pm.

Hospital Tour
Wednesday 17 September 4 – 6pm
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World's Biggest Coffee Morning
Friday 26 September; 10.30am/12.30pm

Annual Members' Meeting
Monday 13 October
Town Hall, Sandbach 2.30pm – 4.30pm

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Nature article for Roundabout, Issue 135

It was June before we were aware of our local swifts, and then not until 18th. Our first encounter was 10th May in Nantwich; the screaming not failing to alert us on alighting from the car.

Foxy tales keep on coming: Joyce Rawlings (Park Drive) informing us of a small adult fox sneaking up her garden from the direction of the stream, early afternoon on 26 May, stopping within fifteen feet of the house, sniffing the air, then lying on the lawn. It yawned a few times, groomed itself, curled up for a while in full sun, then trotted down to the patio to lie in the shade of a holly bush. After about fifteen minutes it wandered off towards the stream and was gone. Joyce's other items of news are the frequent sighting and hearing of a nuthatch and the thrilling spectacle of great spotted woodpeckers throughout Saturday, 28 June. The 'peckers demolished half a container of nuts and returned on Sunday; the nuthatches later. The downside is Joyce is not allowed to hang out washing! She is a lucky lady since there is no shortage of the more common birds in her garden, either.

June and July brought what is, for us, the comparatively rare visit of a 'great spot', a flash of its wings holding back the would-be onslaught of the families of feisty starlings. It's interesting to watch the 'pecking order' playing itself out. We believe the 'pecker to be female - no red nape and less red on belly.

Twice in the night have we heard foxes: firstly, a bark towards the end of June (Trevor), and the early hours of 4 July (Hilary), this latter bloodcurdling shrieks sounding very close.

We've welcomed a new wild flower to our garden, which we haven't introduced ourselves, and it will no doubt seed and spread in keeping with our violets and forget-me-nots. It is the ladies' mantle (*Alchemilla vulgaris*), common in damp habitats and suddenly appearing between our pinks and lungwort - the fault of some bird, perhaps. It bears stalks of tiny greenish petal-like sepals, the leaves cloaklike, hence the name. Reading tells us the plant was prized medicinally in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, an essence from it drunk to staunch intestinal bleeds. The roots are said to taste of parsnips - but we won't bother trying them - we have enough of the real thing on the allotment!

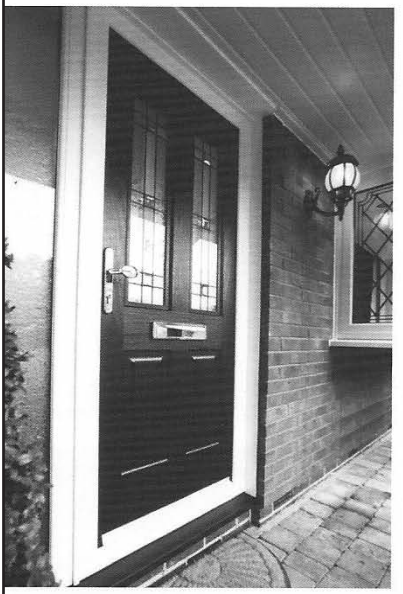
For anyone especially interested in birds we can recommend the South-east Cheshire Ornithological Society (SECOS). Illustrated talks are held the second Friday of the month between September and April at Ettiley Heath Church Community Centre, 7.30 p.m. and there are monthly Sunday outings. Membership and visitor fees are very reasonable and further details are obtainable from ourselves or the website: www.secos.org.uk

Our thanks to all contributors.

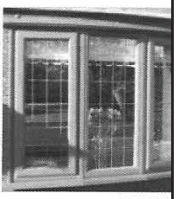
Trevor and Hilary Clowes
Tel. 664358 email handt136@talktalk.net

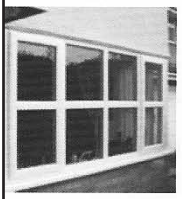
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Wistaston Conservation Group

Due to the holiday period, our working parties have been rather small lately, and so our list of jobs to be done has increased rather than decreased, as we would have hoped.
Our main focus over the past months has been on the footpaths, especially in the woodlands, where we have spent a lot of time redefining, and cutting back, the edges where the undergrowth has encroached on the path surfaces, making walking the paths more difficult.
One area where we have made a considerable improvement is the path through Hinging Bank Covert, where we have used the old concrete fence posts which were removed some years ago to define the path edges. At present, it looks a little man-made, but the flora will soon creep over them, and make them disappear. When the posts ran out, not literally, we have used previously felled timber to complete the job. We have now to finish the wiring of the timber in place, to make a much better pathway for all to enjoy.

The big job at the moment is our constant battle to control Himalayan balsam along our streams. This 'pretty pink plant' was introduced into Britain in the Victorian age, as a nice new garden novelty. Unfortunately, it has a habit of spreading like wildfire; each flower containing in the region of 100 seeds, which explode if allowed to ripen.
These seeds are carried by the streams, and the plant then colonizes everywhere down-stream, to the detriment of all other plant life.
We have the area around Joey-the-Swan fairly well under control, due to several years of hard work by the group in pulling out all these plants, but the area downstream, near to Field Lane, and across Wistaston Green Lane along the Valley Brook path is covered with the invasive species, and is proving a very big job to control for our small group of volunteers.
It is a never ending task to try to keep this problem under control, but all we can do is our best to remove as much as possible before the seed has a chance to set, and further colonize our area.

If, whilst you are out walking our paths you see a Himalayan balsam plant, please pull it out or at least break off the flowering heads, to stop the seed from setting. Everyone removed will help to control this blight on our environment, and make our job of control just that little bit easier.
As I have already stated, we are a small group with a very long list of jobs to be done, so if you find that you have a bit of time to spare, especially on a Monday morning, we would be glad of your help. We meet at 0930 most Mondays, meeting point on our website, so come along and see whether you can help. Coffee is always available about 11 am. Hope to see some new recruits in the near future.
Our website is www.wistastonconservationgroup.org.uk, where you will find details of our working parties and contacts.

Also, come and see us at the Duck Race on Saturday September 6th.

Photos: 1. Himalayan balsam
2. results if not controlled, Valley Brook path 3 years ago.
3. new path through Hinging Bank Covert.

See across:

John M Wood, Chairman.

Hedgehog Streets

The hedgehog is a wild mammal that needs little introduction; there is nothing else even remotely like it in the country although on the European mainland it has to be referred to as the western hedgehog to differentiate it from a relative in the same genus, the eastern hedgehog. Though it is a familiar neighbour to us all in the UK, it is becoming scarcer every day; it has in fact dropped from an estimated 36.5 million in the 1950s to less that one million today. This decline rivals and even surpasses that of the endangered tiger.

However we can make changes to our own habits that will encourage the hedgehog population. Hedgehog Street is a national campaign jointly organised by the People's Trust for Endangered Species and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and as I have recently signed up as a Hedgehog Champion with this project, I will do what I can in the local area.

One purpose of this national project is to encourage neighbours to look at their gardens and ensure hedgehogs can come and go between them; this opens up a wider territory for the food (beetles, slugs and other creepy crawlies) that the hedgehog needs to eat each night. If you want further information on how to do this then please get in touch with the Hedgehog Street officer at Henry.Johnson@ptes.org.

I'm also submitting any hedgehog records that people can share; any time you see them, whether alive or the unfortunate victim of road kill please let me know; I can be contacted via email at onthisrock@hotmail.co.uk. The records will go to the national survey as part of the hedgehog street campaign to monitor the population. I'm also more than happy to offer any advice on how to improve gardens for the hedgehog.

Further reading:

Hedgehog Street Homepage: http://www.hedgehogstreet.org/
Hedgehog factfile: http://www.mammal.org.uk/hedgehog
Tiger Factfile: http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/15955/0

Jack Riggall

****





D-Day Commemorations in Normandy

The Corps of Drums of The Cheshire Constabulary Band http://www.cheshirepoliceband.co.uk/Corps_of_Drums.htm combined with the West Yorkshire Police Brass Band http://www.westyorkshirepoliceband.org.uk/ to perform at the recent D-Day commemorations in Normandy, France.

They played in front of tens of thousands of spectators, Veterans of the D-Day landings, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the Prince of Wales during a five day tour of the British and Canadian sectors of the beaches and were based in Benouville.

On 5th June they led the march across Pegasus Bridge before playing to the Prince of Wales at the Pegasus Memorial Museum, they then led the 9th Battalion of the Parachute Regiment after their commemorative jump.
On 6th June – 'D-Day' 70th anniversary - in the morning they played at Gold Beach and gave a stick lifting rendition of the Royal Marines Regimental March when leading former Marines at Juno Beach. In the afternoon of the same day they led the parade into Arromanches and played in front of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge at a concert broadcast on BBC One.

Wistaston resident, Robert Richardson, aged 42 who is a drummer with The Corps of Drums said, 'It was the opportunity of a lifetime to perform in front of members of our Royal Family and to meet with some of the gentlemen who landed on the beaches of Normandy. It was a privilege and an honour to perform during the commemorations.'
The Corps of Drums can be seen at the Kings Shilling Walk commemorations in Queens Park, Crewe on Sunday 3rd August and at a World War I commemoration concert at Nantwich Civic Hall on Sunday 5th October.

Article by Jonathan White and photo by Robert Richardson



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The Big Screen at Wells Green

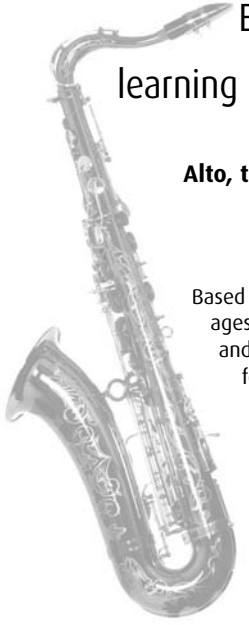
We have recently installed projection facilities at Wells Green Methodist Church, in Brookland Avenue, which enable us to show films with full screen and sound, free of charge (though donations are welcome). As you will see from the list that follows, we have chosen movies which raise some interesting questions (and there will be a short discussion after the film for those who wish to take part).

Refreshments are also available, so do join us at 5.00pm on the dates below, over the next six months, and enjoy the Big Screen at Wells Green in Wistaston.

Sunday 19 October	5.00pm	The Kite-runner
Sunday 16 November	5.00pm	Patch Adams
Monday 22 December	5.00pm	Frozen
Sunday 18 January	5.00pm	Field of Dreams
Sunday 15 February	5.00pm	Philomena
Sunday 15 March	5.00pm	To Kill a Mocking Bird

****

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17 – 21 February 2015
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from the middle of July
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Children's enrolment night 26 September. 7pm till 8.30pm at St Marks Church Hall
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Happy Scottish Dancing at Hankelow



The weather was extremely kind to our U3A Scottish Dancing Group at Hankelow Summer Fete on June 22 where we really enjoyed dancing, as you can see from our happy smiling faces. We were also very pleased that the Fete raised £1500 for MacMillan Cancer Support.
The U3A group is now looking forward to continuing dancing at our normal venue, Acton Parish Hall, on Tuesday afternoons when the new U3A year restarts in September. If you would like to try Scottish Dancing, then contact Peter Marshall, or come along to the U3A Open Day at St Thomas More School in the morning of August 15, or come along to Acton Parish Hall 2 pm Tuesday afternoons from September 2nd. You don't have to be Scottish (most of us aren't) nor do you need to bring a partner. Peter Marshall 01270 214695 Email: petersmarshall@talktalk.net
Alternatively, come along to Nantwich and District Scottish Society at Wistaston Memorial Hall on Monday evenings from September 8 where you can also enjoy learning Scottish Dancing. Come along at 7.00pm and give it a try. Check out our website for further information, http://www.nantwichscottishsociety.co.uk/ or contact our Secretary Christine Grove 01270 781137 for more details or Peter Marshall as above.

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Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre

Annual Duck Race and Children's Model Boat Race

Saturday 6 September 2014 at the Recreation Ground, Joey the Swan

Stalls open from 1.00pm
Children's Boat Race starts at 2.30pm
Duck Race starts at 3.30pm

Also a competition for the best designed boat – phone John White, 661484 for details.

For a stall, free of charge, please contact Glenys White 661484

Superb First, Second and Third prizes

The proceeds to go to Memorial Hall funds

Must See Musicals

Our next production will be 'A Christmas Carol' based on the novel by Charles Dickens. This year we are staying local and will be staging this musical at Shavington Village Hall on the 20-21st December 2014 for four performances. Matinee & Evening on Sat 20, Matinee & Evening on Sunday 21 and perhaps an evening performance on Monday 22 December. It will be a fantastic way to bring Christmas in for everyone!
If you would like to be a part of the show and can commit to Monday and Thursday rehearsals, then join us in September. Dates for auditions for main parts will be advertised soon. More information about MSM, A Christmas Carol or rehearsal times can be obtained from Linda Green, 01270 664928 or 07712163970

Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre: Chairman's Report

During the summer several improvements have been made in order to maintain our building which was opened in March 1949 in memory of sixteen Wistonians who perished in the Second World War.

The heating system has been modernised by replacing eighteen radiators and four thermostats by Rob Anson of R.W.A Plumbing.

The disabled toilet has been modernised by Graham Barton of Barton Property Services.

The car park area has been re-lined. The car park at the hall is for the main use of people involved in the hall, bowling club and the tennis club and users do so at their own risk.

The hall's management committee members wish to forward their sincere gratitude to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning at 14 Westfield Drive on Thursday 17 July. A total of £408.10 was raised which will be used towards the funding of the disabled toilet improvement.

Our next event will be the Duck Race and Children's Model Boat race at the Joey the Swan recreation Ground during the afternoon of Saturday 6 September. There will be twelve stalls run by local charities and organisations. The designs of the children's boats will be judged and boats then launched into the brook for the exciting race with prizes for the first three craft. The race involving up to 900 plastic ducks will follow with prizes of £100, £50 and £25 for the first three places. Come to see ducks at the 'Swan'!

On Friday 31 October we will hold our Annual Hall Quiz for the Fred Lorimer Memorial Shield. Teams of four @ £8 per team will try to beat last year's winners 'Four in a corner'. The quiz questions have been set by Peter and Christina Wainwright, accompanied by Peter's jokes.

The annual Remembrance Service will be held at the hall, starting at 3pm on Sunday 9 November. This year there will be a tribute to Lieutenant Ronald Arthur Hulse, 91st Regiment, Royal Artillery who died on 17 June 1944 aged 29 years and is buried in Egypt. Further details of this brave hero would be appreciated.

A Christmas Concert will be held at the hall on Saturday 13 December starting at 7.30pm featuring the Crewe Concert Band under their Musical Director, Albert Dunseath.

The newest member of the hall's management committee is T. Meurig Jones who will represent the local community.

If you wish to hire rooms at the Memorial Hall please contact Bill Heath on 01270 560471.

Best wishes

John C White 01270 661484

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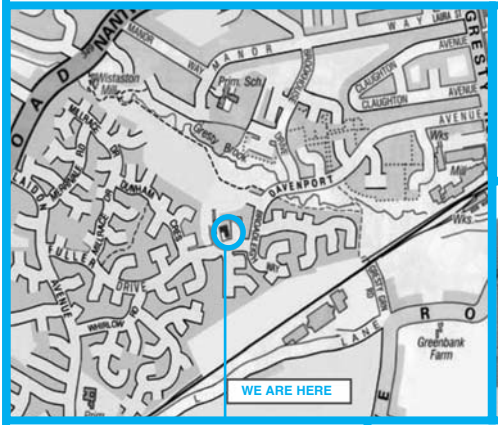
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