Autumn 'ROUNDABOUT'

A Wistaston Community Council Publication

2015
ISSUE 139



Jonathan White has captured the moment when the Revd Mike Turnbull has just transferred Lucy's crown to the new Rose Queen Rachel and her year has begun!

The Magazine for People Living 'Roundabout' Wistaston

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk

Circulation: 4100

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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 by them over the year which enables them to sponsor people with worthy causes. Please send in your articles, photographs etc. for our Winter edition – due out in early December – by 15 October 2015.

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

Geoff Poppitt
19 Byron Way
01270 569642

Dates for your Diary for 2015 Wistaston Events

Saturday	5 September	Annual Duck Race
Friday	30 October	Memorial Hall Quiz
Saturday	31 October	Firework Display
Sunday	8 November	Remembrance Service
Friday	11 December	Community Council's Annual Christmas Concert

The Summer Fete was organised this year with the kind support of Mr Graham Prince and Wistaston Church Lane Academy 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 Mr Graham Prince and the Governors of the School, the Revd Mike, as always, for crowning the Rose Queen, John White and Ken Sambrook for their superb Masters of Ceremonies. This year was a superb Village Fete with a lovely new Rose Queen, Rachel Astbury and a delightful retiring Rose Queen, Lucy Rowlands, who has worked so hard raising money for her chosen charity. We send Rachel good wishes for her year ahead.

Wistaston Community Council's Annual Village Fireworks Display Saturday 31 October 2015

Our annual village fireworks display starts, as usual, with the judging of the traditional Fancy Dress and Pumpkin competitions at 5.45pm on Park Drive at the corner of Church Lane, as last year.

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, 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. We look forward to seeing you there.





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At Hough Village Hall
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WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. LITTER PICKING GROUP

As mentioned in our last report our first group was established mainly to work in the St. Mary's Ward. They control their own timing and work plan and have achieved considerable success, making a real difference to keep the area 'litter free'. We would look forward to having more teams in the future. Interested residents should contact our Clerk.

2. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Your Council has agreed to progress our plan if resident support is available. Other local parishes are also at the preliminary stage. We again ask for more resident support and we will approach our local organisations if they can participate. This is an important programme for Parish residents, as it sets out a plan for the next 15 – 20 years. Interested? Please contact our Clerk.

3. POSTAL ADDRESSED

The Royal Mail will shortly write to all residents over our request to include 'Wistaston' in the postal address. Provided there are no significant objections the change will go ahead.

4. COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

We have 2 vacancies in Wistaston Green 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.

7th September, 15th October and 19th November 2015.

Cllr. J Moore
Chairman

Councillor Contact Details:-

ST. MARY'S WARD

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
Francesca Jones	3 Swift Close, Wistaston, CW2 8DZ	748131
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 (2 VACANCIES)

Lee Clayton	18 Cameron Avenue, Shavington, CW2 5HR	07950 481951
Thomas Kilkenny	15 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EN	650045
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

Sadly this year the village has suffered from an unprecedented increase in the theft of plants both from the flower beds and commercial premises. Not only does this diminish the visual impact in the village but puts an extra burden on the budget to maintain the features. Residents are requested to report any incidents they witness to the Community Police Officers on 01270 500222.

Nevertheless judging for the North West in Bloom did take place on the 14 July and the judges commented on the more vibrant displays and healthier plants than seen in previous years.

Our own judging of residents' gardens has taken place and the results for 2015 are:-

Wells Green Ward

1st Mr & Mrs A J Williams	22 Rope Lane
2nd Mr & Mrs R Hall	1 Kenilworth Close
3rd Mr & Mrs R Turner	7 Springfield Drive

St Mary's Ward

1st Mr & Mrs R Leeke	37 Princess Drive
2nd Mr & Mrs L Perry	26 Westfield Drive
3rd Mr & Mrs E Chalwin	16 Princess Drive

Wistaston Green Ward

1st Mr & Mrs A Peers	24 Glendale Close
2nd Mrs G Stubbs	48 Beech Drive
3rd Mrs M Lunt	4 Alvaston Cottages, Middlewich Road

Overall Winner Best Kept Garden, Wistaston Parish Cup

Mr & Mrs A J Williams 22 Rope Lane

The Best Hanging Basket Display, The Window Surgeon Shield

Mr & Mrs R Leeke 37 Princess Drive

Commercial Premises	**Community Premises**
The Brehaut Trophy	**The Byatt Trophy**
Alvaston Hall Hotel	The Tennis Club

Congratulations to all the winners

R Woodward, Hon. Secretary, Wistaston in Bloom

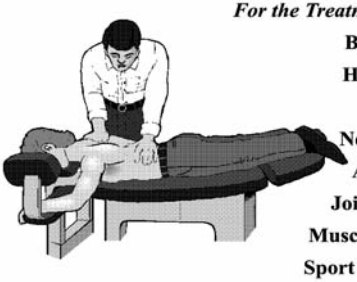
Flower and Produce Show

Just a brief reference to the Flower and Produce Show which took place on Saturday 15 August – more details next edition - a good afternoon was enjoyed by all and Mrs Gill Woodward received the Wells Green Councillors Cup for the most outstanding exhibit in Show. The photograph and background cannot do justice to the wonderful selection of coordinated colours and shades of Gill's display.



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Local Junior Badminton Club looking forward to another successful season

Shavington Junior Badminton Club restarts on Saturday 3 October at Shavington Leisure Centre. The club, which has 3 qualified coaches, offers training for all abilities for 8 to 18 year olds. The club has a great reputation for training and draws members from not only the Shavington, Wistaston and Crewe area, but also from Nantwich, Sandbach and as far away as Holmes Chapel.

The club is looking forward to another successful year, they have 3 teams that compete in the Junior League, against teams across Cheshire East – their A team were Division 3 Champions last season, and the B team were runners up, whilst the C team, which is used for the beginners held their own in a tough division. Club members also found success in individual competitions with winners in every age category of the local tournaments.

Coach Brian Horrocks said 'It is great to see beginners take to the sport and develop so quickly. One of our boys only started playing in October, yet he won the U12 Boys Doubles Trophy and was runner up in the singles. At the other end, it is satisfying to help the older players move into Senior Clubs and hold their own.'

The club meets on Saturdays from October to December, and from January to March. Beginner sessions run from 2.30 to 3.30 and the intermediate and advanced session is from 2.30 to 4.30. Anyone interested in joining can contact the club through its Facebook page or by e-mail – brian.horrocks@bentley.co.uk
There are also opportunities for those taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh challenges – in both the sport/physical and volunteering categories.

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Return of the 'long lost' (but never forgotten) Mr.Scruffy.

Helen De Falco brings us a welcome update about the redoubtable Mr Scruffy.

It must be nearly 3 years since our last sighting of Mr.Scruffy. Although many birds have been 'adopted' in the meantime, no bird has ever replaced poor Mr.Scruffy in our affections. Female blackbirds have noted my husband's movements and waited for him to go outside and when told to 'follow me' have gone to their feeding places. Some go into the green-house without invitation to collect 'bedding' material i.e. dried plant material for their nests. However, one day a few weeks ago, my husband appeared in the kitchen and announced that he had seen Mr.Scruffy – recognisable by his damaged neck feathers and timid manner. He is still being 'bullied' by other blackbirds. He appears much thinner than I remember, and still has to be fed separately with my husband 'on guard' to protect him from the nasty 'bullies'. He has been taking as much food in his beak as he could carry and we think he has been feeding a family. When they 'fly the nest' we shall see if he carries on visiting the garden where he gets almost 100% protection at meal-times.
I will keep you informed!



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The Laurie Twiss Awards for Journalism 2015



The Laurie Twiss Awards for Journalism 2015 were awarded by Wistonian of the Year, Gwyneth Brown at the Wistaston Village Fete in June when the winners were:
First prize and trophy winner: Emilymay Stockton
Second prize – Daisy Williams
Third prize – Antonia Monks
All prize winners received a book token, certificate and pen and their winning entries will all be printed in future editions of Roundabout. The girls are pictured with Gwyneth.

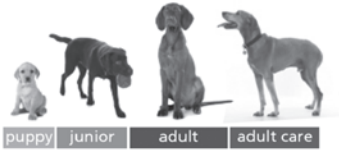
These awards are open to young people between 9 and 16 years in our area who should submit a story or article of not more than 200 words. The writing can be real or imaginary, fact or fiction. Start writing now!
Entries for next year should be submitted by 31 May 2016 to one of the following:
Barbara Brereton, 11 Barndale Close, Wistaston, Tel: 560402
Greg Brereton, 7 College Fields, Wistaston, Tel. 560194
Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane, Wistaston, Tel: 569126

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Persephone Galanis who has received sponsorship from the Wistaston Community Council in order to carry out voluntary work in Colombia continues with her impressions of Colombia.

Whilst I can't say I dislike the work I'm doing, I'm not entirely happy with the project. I have no schedule and hence no real work to do. As a volunteer, I'm only supposed to be supporting the professionals, but at the moment, there is little work for me. Going into international development as I have done, you can't expect to be changing the world, however, with the way things are going, I will be doing very little to enhance anyone's life. As a volunteer, I want my time to count for something and I want to achieve something. I've spoken to ICYE Colombia about this, and they had previously identified problems with the way the project is being run which has made it harder for me to volunteer successfully with Servimos. They've been understanding and I hope to change projects. If this is not possible, I will look at speaking to the project leaders and see about changing my role. Despite this blip in the beginning, I'm sure my volunteering experience will be just as fun as the rest of it has been.

Whilst I've not been here long, I've identified certain things I miss about home, and perhaps they're not what you'd expect:

-Vegetables. Colombia has the perfect climate for growing all sorts of tropical fruit. You can buy it on the street and it's cheap. A tub of freshly cut mango will set you back the equivalent of 50p. But all this delicious fruit comes at a price. There's a disappointing lack of vegetables here, for me. Even the 'salad' is made with fruit.

-So much sugar! Following on from my last point, Colombians love sugar. Sugar is everywhere and they put it in the most unlikely of places and in the strangest combinations. The coffee may as well be coffee-flavoured syrup, and they put sugar in the bread. It's not just a case of sugar in everything that seems bizarre, but their palates are tuned to a whole different frequency. Cheese topped rice pudding, anyone?

If you ask me again what I'm finding odd about Colombia in another four weeks, no doubt the list will be different than this relatively innocuous one.

Having said that, I've enjoyed the chaos and differences of Bogota so far. The nightlife is exactly what I wanted, and whilst the work may be slightly disappointing, I'm excited to see what other things Colombia can throw at me…….

We've reached the halfway mark of my volunteering. It's gone quicker than expected and it seems like a good chance for some brief reflections on my first three months, Before we get to that, I'll update you on what's been going on.

Whilst the UK was gripped by election fever, I had a different kind of fever. Sniffing and sneezing on the Transmilenio isn't the most pleasant way to spend the day. For the most part everything has been running steadily and there haven't been any major hiccups. I'm getting more comfortable in my projects and I'm pretty sure the kids like me too. I've been getting to know the communities better and understand more about my role as a volunteer. *Read more next issue:*



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Shavington Village Festival Committee
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Jack and the Beanstalk
By Long & Rawnsley :16 - 20 Feb. 2016
Children's enrolment forms available from Shavington Leisure Centre, Shavington Village Voice online at www.svfc.info from the middle of July
Children's Closing date 19 Sep 2015
Children's enrolment night 25 September. 7pm till 8.30pm at St Marks Church Hall
Adult enrolment is on Wednesday 23 Sep 8pm till 10.00pm at St John's Church Hall.
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on Wednesday 14 October
at 10am - 12 noon
in the
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Christmas Fair

Wistaston Memorial Hall

Saturday 21 November

From 10am to 3pm

Lots of stalls for gifts, cards, cakes, plants, toys and white Elephants!! Plus a Tea Room serving drinks and snacks and of course Father Christmas will be there too!

Cancer Research UK

Teddy Bear Tombola

At our Christmas Fair On Saturday 21 November

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Hunters Lodge Hotel
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present the following events;

Saturday 10 October – Lion Youth Brass Concert at Union Street Baptist Church at 7.30pm. Tickets available from David and Annette Elliott 01270 652151

Saturday 5 December – Kipling Singers Concert at Union Street Baptist Church

Tickets available from David and Annette Elliott 01270 652151

Wistaston Village Cricket Club : Founded 1980

By the time this latest editorial finds its way through your letterbox, the **2015** campaign will be coming to the end of what hopefully will be a successful season. At the time of producing this latest tome **(early July)** the **First XI** has so far had a good campaign and if the momentum can be maintained, could, hopefully secure promote when the season finishes in September.

With twelve matches played, they are nestled just behind the leaders **Stretton,** whom they played at The Brittles in their last latest match, (just prior going to press). In a close match, **Wistaston** won by 18 runs, **a result that placed them just eight points behind the leaders.**

Division 1

Team	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*T*	Ab'd	*NR*	Conc Pts	Pts
Stretton	12	9	1	2	0	0	0		252
Wistaston	12	8	0	4	0	0	0		244
Appleton	12	8	2	2	0	0	0		242
Glazebury	12	8	0	2	1	1	0		235
Holmes Chapel	12	7	2	3	0	0	0		223
Stalybridge St Pauls	12	7	0	5	0	0	0		191
Saughall	12	3	2	5	0	2	0		166
Pott Shrigley	12	3	2	6	0	1	0		146
Westminster Park	12	2	0	7	1	2	0		133
The Groves	12	2	1	8	0	1	0		128
Trafford Metrovick	12	2	0	10	0	0	0		121
Tranmere Victoria	12	3	0	8	0	1	0		120

Our Second XI competing in Division 3 of The Cheshire Alliance, have had an equally successful start to the season and at present are leaders of their division, ahead of Appleton with eleven matches played.

Division 3

Team	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*Ab'd*	*NR*	*Conc Pts*	*Pts*
Wistaston II	11	8	1	1	1	0		211
Appleton II	10	6	2	2	0	0		201
Hartford	11	8	2	0	1	0		198
Heaton Mersey Vill.	11	5	2	4	0	0		186
Westminster Park II	11	5	0	6	0	0		178
Mossley	11	3	2	4	2	0		156
Trafford Metrovick II	11	4	1	5	1	0		148
Kerridge	11	4	1	5	1	0		140
Knutsford II	11	2	1	6	2	0		119
The Groves II	11	2	0	8	1	0		109
Pott Shrigley II	11	1	2	7	1	0		69

The Under 9,11,13 have been competing in their respective leagues in **The South Cheshire Junior Cricket League,** enjoying their cricket with mixed success.

Our **Under 18's** playing in the **Mid-Cheshire East League** is in second position behind Davenham after two matches.Our **3rd XI** which currently plays in the **Sunday Division 1 (Central) of the Cheshire County Cricket League, are currently holding third position from playing eight matches.**

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

Our Womens 1st XI, formed only in **2013** are enjoying a successful season at the time of going to press in the Cheshire Women's Cricket League - Division 2, also in a **20/20 campaign and cup fixtures.**

Division One	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	Cancel'd	Bat Pts	Bowl Pts	Total Pts
Appleton	8	6	2	0	0	3	7	160
OAKMERE	8	4	3	1	0	12	10	136
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL	**7**	**4**	**2**	**0**	**1**	**12**	**4**	**124**
TRAFFORD MV	6	3	1	1	1	2	3	102
ASTLEY BRIDGE	8	2	4	0	2	15	14	95
DIVISION TWO								
DIDSBURY	9	6	1	0	1	7	1	191
WISTASTON VILL.	**9**	**6**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**6**	**3**	**159**
STOCKPORT TRIN.	7	2	4	0	1	14	13	85
HAWARDEN PARK	8	1	6	0	0	6	12	33
OXTON	8	0	8	0	0	7	20	27
DIVISION THREE								
BREDBURY ST MRKS	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	75
LEIGH LYMM	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	25
OUGHTRINGTON PK	4	0	2	0	0	5	2	22
NORTHOP HALL	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	-6

T20 WESTERN DIVISION	Played	Won	Won by Conc.	Lost	Lost by Conc.	Total Points	Net run rate
WISTASTON SWANS	**3**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9**	**0.48**
CHESTER BOUGHTON HALL DEEMONS	4	2	1	1	0	9	1.28
HAWARDEN PARK	3	1	0	2	0	3	-0.96
OAKMERE KATS	3	1	0	1	1	2	1.25
OXTON	3	0	0	3	0	0	-2.33
T20 EASTERN DIVISION							
APPLETON TIGERS	3	3	0	0	0	9	2.79
STOCKPORT TRINITY FIRE	3	2	0	1	0	6	0.52
DIDSBURY SWORDETTES	3	1	0	2	0	3	-0.32
TRAFFORD MV	1	0	0	1	0	0	-4.83
BREDBURY SAINTS	2	0	0	2	0	0	-2.1

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 18 September 2015 at The Brittles.**

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

Report from Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club

We are now over half way through the Tennis year at the Church Lane courts situated at the rear of the Memorial Hall. Three men's teams played in the summer season of the South and Mid-Cheshire Tennis League and it is proposed to enter two teams in the winter league starting in September and finishing early 2016.

If anyone is interested and only able to play during the Winter Season the fees for the period 1st October to 30th March 2016 will be available at 60% of the Annual Fees. Play is available all the year round on the two floodlit courts. For any other information regarding the club please contact Mr Bill Heath, Secretary/Treasurer on 01270 560431.

During the recent months several members have been raising money for their favourite charities. Club Captain Tony Mason chose an unusual way by completing a 15 mile walk following the route of a London Underground tube, but above the ground! By using this unique way Tony and a friend raised over £200 for the Marie Curie Cancer Fund at the same time seeing parts of London they hadn't seen before.

One of our Junior members, George Raiswell, with the support of his family and friends organised a Tournament to raise funds for Comic Relief and in August Ben Reinhardt raised funds for Leukemia Research by playing in, with other club members, a twelve hour Tennisathon. These members are to be congratulated for their admirable achievements raising valuable funds at the same time as enjoying tennis.

Well done to all three members

Happy Tennis days

Alice Chalwin

Postscript from Jonathan White after the Tennisathon: Numerous members of Wistaston Tennis Club took part and 24 sets (201 games) were played during the event. Ruth Reinhardt provided the refreshments.

£100 was raised for the charities Marie Curie Cancer Care and Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research. Organisers Tony Mason and Ben Reinhardt said that they would like to thank members of Wistaston Tennis Club for their support throughout the 12 hours and the friends and family who made such generous donations to the two charities

****

Wistaston Village Fete

With very many thanks for Jonathan White's coverage of the Fete.

The Piper led the procession into the Arena where Lucy Rowlands in her speech stated that over £5000 had been raised to be shared between her two charities - 35th South West Cheshire Scout Group and Cancer Research UK. Mike Turnbull then passed the crown from Lucy to the new Rose Queen, Rachel. It is this moment that has been snapped up by Jonathan and can be seen in our cover photo. This year's Wistonian of the Year, Gwyneth Brown then opened the Fete.

There was a good selection of Children's Fancy Dress with the winner being Poppy dressed as a Hawaiian girl. The arena then swung into activity beginning with the 35th Scout Group, followed by the Hartford Gymnastics, The Alison Gallacher School of Dance, Liberty Morris Dance Group with the choirs , Scottish and Irish Dancers in the Hall. There were 30 stalls representing local organisations and charities plus refreshments in the Hall Altogether it was a splendid afternoon and even the early afternoon rain couldn't dampen everyone's lively spirits..

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Manor Way allotment site

Following the appointment of a committee to manage the Manor Way allotment site, there has been a lot of activity to bring the plots on the site up to a higher standard.

In conjunction with local contractor, Frizells, a 'partnership' has been formed with Manor Way to develop the site as a pilot, which may then extend to other allotment sites within Cheshire East Council.

The first phase on the Manor Way site was to try to improve the drainage and appearance; a pond was dug to help drain part of the site and this has now been landscaped by some of the plot holders (see below). The pond has also attracted a variety of wildlife, which includes ducks, heron, newts and frogs

A car park has also been installed to allow plot holders to park and to provide better access.

A second phase is planned for later this year, which will extend the internal road and water pipe network to the end of the site, along with resurfacing the existing roads.

Further development is also being looked at with potential funding from a lottery grant

Manor Way is one of the few allotment sites within Cheshire East Council that has vacant plots, which cost £35.00 per annum, plus a £20.00 returnable key deposit.

If any readers are interested in taking a plot would they please contact the Site Warden **John Pilkington on 07934 963263**





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Wistaston Conservation Group

My notes this issue are rather second hand, as I have not been well over the last few weeks and thus have had to leave the working of the team completely to David O'Hara – what's new, I hear him say!!

This time of year brings the joy of Himalayan Balsam bashing. As noted in earlier issues, we seem to be winning in certain areas, Joey-the-Swan for example, but there are other areas where a lot more work will be needed to control (if control is really possible) this invasive weed, especially across the other side of Wistaston Green Road and below Field Lane. The definition of weed is a plant in the wrong place but Cheshire is a long way from the Himalayas and most of us wish that the Victorians had not thought it a good idea to bring this plant to the UK. In their gardens it probably looked great but totally smothering our stream edges that is a different proposition altogether.

With constant hard work over several years we hope to have most of the areas of Wistaston under control from this 'lovely pink' problem.

When we located our benches along the footpath from the recreation ground to Old Gorse Covert, the project manager (it wasn't me!) didn't realise how quickly nettles, etc grow under them and last year two of the benches had nettles poking through the latts, not a very comfortable situation for anyone wishing to have a rest. When we relocated one of the benches we saw sense and concreted underneath it, solving the problem. We have recently concreted under the other benches so that anyone wishing to use them should be able to do so in comfort.

I noted recently that we were intending to complete a woodchip path around the new pond at Joey-the-Swan but we ran out of woodchip before we could finish the job. By the time you read this the path should have been completed, thanks to a load of woodchip from a locally removed tree; we always like to recycle as much as possible.

Those who read this article regularly will possibly remember that I asked for suggestions for a name for the new pond at Joey-the-Swan, with a bottle of wine for the winner. I hereby announce that the winner was Mr (or Mrs) NOBODY, as I did not get a single suggestion and thus had to drink the wine myself!! Like the innominate tarn in the Lake District the pond will go unnamed, for the time being at least.

As usual, if you are interested in what we do, we meet at 0930 each Monday morning with coffee at 1100 so why not come along and check us out. Our venue changes weekly, depending on the job in hand, but is noted on our website at www.wistaston conservation group.org.uk
We will also have an information stand at the Duck Race on Saturday 5 September at Joey-the-Swan, so come and have a chat.

John M Wood
Chairman

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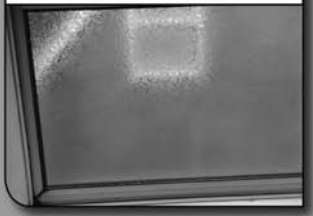
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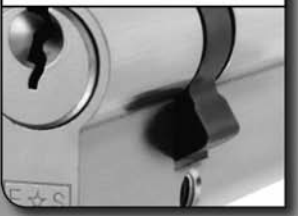
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Nature article for Roundabout, Issue 139

On polling day there were swifts squealing over Nantwich: often the first evidence of them for us in the vicinity, and it was not until 15th of the month that we recorded them in the familiar location of our own St. Mary's church. Our 'personal' first swallow was 7th May over Wistaston Green Road. The numbers do not seem to have bulged, but thankfully they are plentiful enough in the wider countryside.

Occasionally in the spring we have picked up the sweet fluid warble of blackcap, reviving the memory of the female seen earlier in the year. There was no sighting, despite the sound, of this relatively shy bird. A chiffchaff was detectable in the neighbourhood of Jackson's Corner allotments in May, rendering its unmistakable scissor-sharpening monotonous notes, which continued into June. We've no evidence of over-wintering here of the chiffchaff, allegedly the earliest warbler to return to our shores. Also around the allotments the dunnock's thin undulating song is a constant presence.

According to results of the winter garden bird survey, undertaken in the main by members of the local ornithological society, starling and house-sparrow numbers continue to dwindle. We are pleased, therefore, that both species are breeding successfully near us. A sparrow pair, evicted from the terrace-boxes by bees, are managing to rear young in the roof of the bird-table, and in mid-July may even be into a third brood. Fat-blocks are helping to sustain starling families, the youngsters, nut-brown, without the dark speckled plumage of the adults.

It seems apt, following our great spotted woodpecker coverage in the last article, to present yet another mention of this fine bird. We are grateful to David Elliott of Broughton Lane for photographs of this 'pecker' nesting in an old apple-tree at the bottom of his garden, a chick visible in the nest-hole - see photos on page 25.

Fourteen may be the highest count of frogs in our small pond, the hotter days enticing several out to line the surround, well camouflaged by green weed.

Mammalwise, a bonus for us was a monster hedgehog among our allotment gooseberry bushes, early July: such a treat as the few we see are flat in the roads. There are signs of mole activity in our easily workable sandy soil and a neighbour's cat brought one home as a trophy.

We are grateful to Gerry Rainbow for the picture of a butterfly of the 'blue' family in Broughton Lane. The intense dark wing margination suggests 'holly', but it is only a guess. Gerry says butterflies are not common in the lane this year and we have seen few around us. Gerry's other contribution is a grey wagtail behind Tesco Express: like last time's kingfisher proof of watercourses clear enough to be of interest to our wildlife.

Cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), the earliest umbellifer to flower, with its reddish lower main stem and fretwork leaves, bringing its umbels of snow to the hedgerows, is gone by July, to give way to later members of this highly complex plant family. Now that summer reaches its zenith we can enjoy the contrasting hues of the wild flowers on our lawns, from the purple of the self-heal to the white of the clover.

Our thanks to all contributors.

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



Annette sighting the nest hole (arrowed).



Woodpecker at the nest hole



The Woodpecker chick in the nest hole.

****

Successful return from the Special Olympics



Our local special Olympics team returned successfully from their American visit.

The photo shows our Olympic Team proudly displaying their Medals at The Extinguishing Ceremony of The Olympic Flame at Crewe Academy.

The Academy Team represented 4% of the G.B. Team and won 20% of the G.B. Medals.

Thank you again to Wistaston Community Council for supporting us both.

Sophie and Felicity.

Wistaston Young Drama Group

We are twenty-one years young!

Pictured are Margaret Boschi (founder) and the children celebrating with a birthday cake.

Wistaston Young Drama Group were invited to entertain the residents of Richmond Village, Nantwich in July. The children performed the story of Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves, an extract from Arabian Nights. It was a fabulous day and the children enjoyed the experience.

Our Christmas production will be James and the Giant Peach - we will be starting rehearsals in September and it's not too late to join us for this fantastic experience.

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. We are an inclusive community group.

We meet on Saturdays from 10.30am to 12.45pm

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



HOLLY FAIR

Saturday 7th November
11.00 am to 2.00 pm

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ALL WELCOME

Frenchtastic Lessons for Children come to Wistaston

Local mum of one, Claudia Johnston is launching her new Frenchtastic language classes at the New Life Community Church, Wistaston. These classes are aimed at young children 4-7 years old. Claudia has a Degree in Modern Languages and is fluent in French, having studied, worked and lived in Dijon, France.

The After School Frenchtastic Club runs on Weds (during term time) at 3.50pm starting Weds 2nd September. The term costs £30 and there are discounts available for siblings. All new students receive their first class FREE!

For more information contact Claudia on 07714 251968 or at claudiaj@frenchtastic.co.uk
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TheFunkyChoir.com

Formed in March 2010 TheFunkyChoir.com is a faith-based, not-for-profit, community choir. First rehearsals took place in September 2010 with a focus on soul, jazz, rock, blues, reggae, R&B, pop and country music, performed with a hint of gospel harmonies. Whilst the choir is organised and run on Christian Principles, it is not a religious organisation, nor is it attached to or a part of a church. However the faith element is fundamental to the choir.

The choir was founded by Brent Robinson who became a Christian himself in 1998 at the age of forty-eight. He felt he was being led to form a choir following a vivid dream in October 2009. As he had no musical training or background in choirs this seemed a strange thing to do. In spite of trying to dismiss and ignore this calling, he finally relented and began the process of setting up the choir. Given Brent's lack of experience in choirs this took a lot of research and networking. Five years later, the choir has almost 80 members and performs regularly in the South & East Cheshire areas.

The choir exists to serve the local community which it does in several ways:

It performs concerts in the local community to help other organisations/groups raise funds.

It performs concerts within the local community to entertain specific audiences such as residents in care homes, retirement villages, community groups etc.

It seeks to engage with all sections of the community, especially the elderly, the disadvantaged, the needy and youngsters.

It performs concerts within the local community to support larger community-focussed projects, often singing to the general public

The choir itself is a 'community' and aims to provide a warm, welcoming and friendly environment in which individuals can feel at home and valued. The choir seeks to build confidence and self-esteem amongst its members.

In 2014 TheFunkyChoir.com delivered thirty-five (35) concerts and will deliver in excess of forty (40) in 2015. We feel this is a major contribution to the community and a good sign that we are valued. The choir does not charge fees for performing and so relies entirely on donations to survive. However, whilst performances are important, choir members are not required to perform in concerts and there are NO auditions. Just coming along to Thursday rehearsal nights is okay as long as you enjoy it.

Open to anyone over the age of sixteen, our current membership covers all age groups and several generations. There are no membership fees either. Instead, members make weekly donations and help us to raise the funds necessary to function and operate effectively.

Most choir members have little or no musical or choir experience but our excellent Musical Director, Jenny Casby and her very capable assistant Grace Allwood have a real talent for helping raw, untrained voices to cause the hairs on the back of your neck to stand on end at times. However the choir is not about achieving musical perfection (although we do receive very positive feedback following performances). More important is that members enjoy themselves and see that our mission is being achieved – To Soften Hearts, Lift Spirits, Raise Hopes and Build People through music. We also promote the health benefits of singing in a choir having discovered that there are no fewer than nineteen conditions for which researched evidence exists to support the claim that singing really helps.

The choir meets weekly for rehearsals at The Georges Community Centre in Crewe. More information can be found at our website or our Facebook pages or by calling Brent Robinson on 07944 953243. http://www.thefunkychoir.com/

https://www.facebook.com/pages/TheFunkyChoircom/145746735479088

Wistaston Church Lane Academy Report August 2015

Wistonia University and College

The second half of our summer term began with Wistonia University and College. For three Friday afternoons pupils in the infants tried three different practical activities. Pupils in the juniors had the option to choose a university course to study. There were 24 choices, from knitting to falconry, from cookery to car valeting. We are very grateful to Shavington High School and Malbank School for running several courses between them, and allowing students to assist with our courses as well. Local businesses support us, including Reaseheath College, Nantwich Library, Sainsbury's and Bridgemere Garden World. We are always looking for volunteers to assist with the University – if you're interested then please contact the school office.

End of Year Assemblies

All year groups put together an end of year assembly for parents and pupils. This year each year group included music from our Kodally music lessons, work from our Design & Technology lessons, French and Shakespeare.

Transport Day

Transport Day was a great success for pupils in Year Two who had the chance to explore an ice cream van, a rally car, tractors, emergency vehicles and a helicopter all of which visited us on the school field.

Year Six Vs Staff Matches

This year there was no contest – the Year Sixes beat the Staff in both netball and football in our end of year tradition.

Junior Quiz

Our annual Junior Quiz was a big success with a close run contest between a Year Five team and a Year Six team. The best dressed table was won by a Year Three team with a Year Four team coming very close to winning.

Sports Day

Our Infant Sports Day was won by Mow Cop and our Junior Sports Day was won by Peckforton for the third year running - see below.



Leavers' Events

We were extremely sad to see our Year Sixes leave us in July. They enjoyed their Prom at Wychwood Park, their Presentation Evening and their bowling visit. We wish them, and all members of staff who are moving on, every success in the future.

Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre
Chairman's report

The nineteen trustees on the Hall's Management are continuing to maintain and improve the facilities offered by organisations and groups which hire our hall.

During the summer, our plans have been:

- to decorate the outside of the hall.
- to decorate the plinths in all three rooms.
- to decorate the eight noticeboards.
- to setup a Wi-Fi system at the hall.
- to plan a complete new kitchen.

The hall is used by thirty groups on a regular basis; our main hirer is the U3A (University of the Third Age). Please contact our Booking Officer – Bill Heath – on tel. no. 01270 560471 – to hire the hall.

Three events are being held:

- **Saturday 5th September** – the annual **Duck Race and Children's Model Boat Race** at the Joey the Swan Recreation Ground. The guests of honour are Rachel Astbury, the Wistaston Rose Queen and her Attendant.

- **Friday 30th October** – the **Annual Hall Quiz**. Why not enter a team of four for £10 at the Memorial Hall? Pit your wits against the General Knowledge questions set by Peter and Christina Wainwright. Could your team defeat last year's champions – 'The Scrabblers' – and take home the prestigious 'Fred Lorimer Shield'? Questions vary from 'Name the Queen's eight grandchildren' to 'Which is the world's largest island?' The quiz starts at 7:30pm and refreshments will be served at half-time.

-**Sunday 8th November** – the A**nnual Service of Remembrance** starting at **3pm**. The collection will be given to the Royal British Legion. This year, a tribute will be given to one of Wistaston's sixteen heroes who perished in WW2 – **Lieutenant Ronald Arthur HULSE**, 91st HAA Regiment, Royal Artillery who died on 17th June 1944, aged 29. He was a former pupil at the Nantwich & Acton Grammar School, now Malbank High School.

Wistaston Memorial Hall was officially opened by Lady Barlow on Saturday 26th March 1949, in memory of the sixteen men from Wistaston who died in the Second World War.
John C White, Chairman

Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre
Annual Duck Race and Children's Model Boat Race
Saturday 5 September 2015 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

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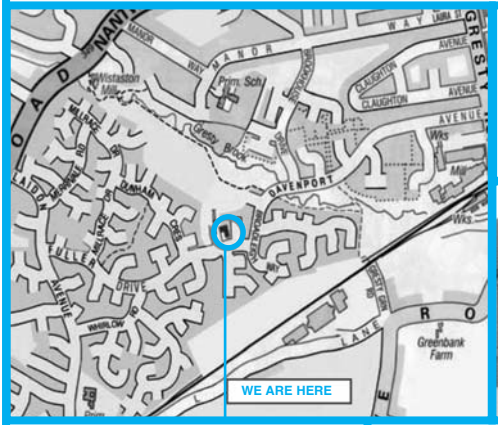
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