Winter
'ROUNDABOUT'
A Wistaston Community Council Publication
2015
ISSUE 140

SEASONS GREETINGS



Edward Timpson, immediately flanked by Derrick Millington and Ray Westwood, officially opening the new pavilion extension at the Eric Swan Sports Ground on Saturday 17 October 2015 together with other key players in the project's successful outcome. Further details on pages 16 and 17.

The Magazine for People Living 'Roundabout' Wistaston

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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 over the year. Please send in your articles, photographs etc. for our Spring edition, due out in early March, by 15 January. Very many apologies too, to those whose articles would not fit into this edition; they will go on our website though. W**ith all good wishes to everyone for Christmas and 2016 from the Wistaston Community Council.**

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

Geoff Poppitt
19 Byron Way
01270 569642

Wistaston's Fireworks Evening went off splendidly from the Pumpkin and Fancy Dress Competitions to the Display itself. Read the full account on page 22. The Community Council are very appreciative of those who helped to make it so successful - Wistaston Parish Council, Redshift Radio, PA4You, Gekostar Fireworks, Wistaston Scouts, Stevo's Glows, Candy Floss producers, the Brittles Committee for the venue and everyone who came and gave a hand to ensure it went ahead.

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Wistonian of the Year

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

If you know of anyone you would like to nominate for this most prestigious award please contact two friends who are of the same opinion and complete the form below, sending it with a summary of the nominee's achievements, to Bernard Moores, 36 Sandylands Park, Wistaston, Crewe to arrive by Friday 8 January 2016.

We, the undersigned, nominate:
Name ……..
Address …….....
…….
Proposer (Name) ……
Address ……
Seconder (Name) …….
Address ……
Seconder (Name) …….

Dates for your Diary for 2015/16

Friday 11 December Wistaston Community Council's Christmas Concert at 7.00pm
Saturday 26 Dec. Boxing Day Walk 10.30 from the Memorial Hall
Monday 18 January 2016 Community Council's AGM at 7.30pm
Saturday 18 June 2016 Village Fete
Saturday 20 August Flower and Produce Show
Saturday 3 September Annual Duck Race





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WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Budgets

Your Council will be starting the Budget review for the 2016/17 financial year in November / December. We have successfully kept our costs within budget to date and will make every effort to continue this. Residents views and suggestions can be made through your Ward Councillor or our Clerk. Organisations seeking financial support should submit this in writing with accounts if appropriate to our Clerk.

2. Neighbourhood Plan

Following our appeal to residents to join a Steering Group, I am pleased to report a small group formed of 5 residents and 5 Councillors. We have held our inaugural meeting and future meetings will set out a more detailed plan of actions. Neighbourhood Plans can be valuable for communities in that through the Localism Act of 2011 communities have the 'right to plan' with powers to form land use planning policies. These enable local people to strongly influence developments through the Local Authority Development Plans. More residents are welcome to join our Steering Group and anyone interested should first contact our Clerk.

3. Questionnaire

To help with our Neighbourhood Plan we are publishing a 'Quick Survey' in this issue to gauge resident views. We would ask residents to complete this and either hand to your Ward Councillor or return to our Clerk.

5. Councillor Vacancies

We have 3 vacancies in Wistaston Green Ward. Interested residents should first contact our Clerk in writing with a brief résumé.

6. Future Meeting Dates

Residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings at 7.30 p.m. at Wistaston Memorial. Next meetings are on 18 December 2015, 21 January 2016 & 18 February 2016.

May I take this opportunity to wish you festive greetings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cllr. J. Moore - Chairman

For Councillor contact details please see page 8

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Wistaston in Bloom

As the warmer weather of October carries on it gives a warm glow of autumnal colours as the plants and trees face a late frost and retention of their leaves. Wistaston can reflect on a job well done this year with the award of a Silver Gilt in the North West in Bloom competition. The quality of the plants and the re-arrangement of some f lower beds contributed to our achievement.

Some beds have been replanted with daffodils and we look forward to a successful New Year.

Roger Woodward, Hon Secretary
Wistaston in Bloom

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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 (3 Vacancies)	
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 & District Flower Club

Wistaston Flower Club has had a very successful year having been entertained by a variety of flower demonstrators with informative talks, plenty of laughter and most importantly fantastic flowers. We have had a very full year starting in December with our annual Christmas Hamper which raised funds for the Leighton Hospital Scanner Appeal. This year we have held two workshops, with a third planned for December to encourage members to do their own flower arranging.

We generally have at least one excursion a year - this year we went to the Alrewas National Arboretum followed by lunch and then onto Lichfield for some retail therapy. We also get involved with Nantwich Show held in July; in fact member Judy Gratton our Treasurer is now the show organizer for the Floral Art section. This year our Chairman Catherine Scales achieved the highest accolade of 'Best in Show' and Judy Gratton won the Novice Trophy.

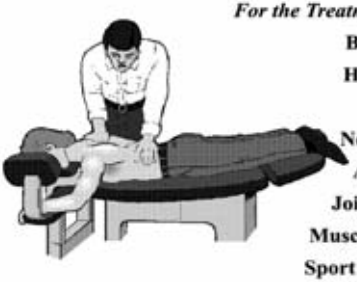
Our traditional Cream Tea was held in August followed by renowned speaker Ruth Moore Williams from Llangollen. In October we held our annual coffee morning with a variety of stalls from home made crafts and cakes to bric-a-brac where visitors enjoyed browsing and catching up with old and new friends over coffee. In November our AGM followed by a Luncheon was held at Crewe Golf Club with delicious food and a mini flower demonstration ended the afternoon.

We look forward to our final demonstration of the year when we will be entertained by Jane Pugh. Next year 2016 we will be celebrating our Emerald Anniversary.

We are a thriving, friendly club and a warm welcome is extended to visitors and members at our club meetings which take place on the first Wednesday of each month with the exception of January at 2.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Church Lane. For further details please contact the Secretary on telephone 01270 668800.

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Christmas Church Services and Events

St Mary's Wistaston

The days of Advent are a time of preparation for the celebration of Christmas. Often this preparation takes the form of frantic shopping, visiting and more shopping! Perhaps this Advent take some time to reflect upon the real meaning of Christmas, of a baby born in a stable, born to be King, born to be our Saviour...
We have services leading up to, and over, Christmas which I'm sure would help you think about the above whilst still leaving time for shopping, visiting and shopping! Please feel free to join us for any or all of these services. Either way, may I take this opportunity to wish you a peaceful Christmas.
Mike Turnbull (Rector)

19th December, Saturday
6.30pm - Carols on the Green
Outside Carol Singing around the church and hall
20th December, Sunday
6.30pm - Nine Lessons and Carols
A traditional service of Readings and Carols
24th December,Thursday Christmas Eve - 6.30pm - Crib Service including the **Nativity Play**. *Always a popular service! Please arrive early!!*
11.30pm - Midnight Holy Communion
The first Holy Communion of Christmas

25th December, Friday Christmas Day
10.40am Holy Communion for Christmas for all the family
If you're a youngster please bring a toy to show!
For further details of all our services and events:
www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk
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facebook.com/stmaryandstluke
Church Office - 01270 567119

Wells Green Church

Sunday 20 December
Family Carol Service – 10.30am
Christingle Service – 6.00pm
Tuesday 22 December:
Children's Christmas Fun Day
10am - 2pm
Christmas Day Service:10.30am

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New Life Church Fuller Drive

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Saturday 5 December
Christmas Fair at Fuller Drive
1 - 4pm
Sunday 20 December
Carol Service at Fuller Drive: 11.00am
Fireside Carols at Bethany Centre, Lime Tree Ave, Coppenhall : 5.30 – 7pm
Christmas morning, Friday 25 December
Family Service - 10am

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Concert at Union Street Baptist Church

Union Street, Crewe
Presented by
The Kipling Singers
on Saturday 5th December starting at 7pm.
Tickets £7 including buffet
Proceeds to Betamindes and Union Street Church

Wistaston Village Cricket Club (Founded 1980)

Full version on Community Council's website: Link as follows:
http://goo.gl/LNQIPX

2015 has been a season which has seen **Wistaston Village Cricket Club** enjoying in the main a successful campaign on several fronts. **Our First Eleven** enjoyed a competitive season and unlike the previous season had none of their fixtures abandoned through bad weather. Finishing third was a very commendable effort, (just eleven points from a runner's up position) in **The Cheshire Alliance Division 1.**

Leading batting averages:-

Player	Games	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
G.Barlow	13	13	2	402	127*	36.55
J.Stokes	20	18	1	475	100*	27.94
M.Chester	20	20	3	465	102*	27.35

*** Not Out**

Leading Bowling averages:- Qualification 100 overs:-

Player	Overs	Maidens	Wickets	Runs	Average	Best Bowling
J.Hogben	250	57	62	713	11.50	6-29
K.Thornhill	159.4	48	43	542	12.60	5-39
M.Kingdom	205	48	49	680	13.87	5-30

The Second Eleven competing in **The Cheshire Alliance Division 3** had a remarkably successful season, by gaining promotion **by one point** over close rivals **Appleton** who achieved the runners up position to **The Mellor Braggins League** for the **2016** season. **Congratulations to them on their excellent achievement**.

Our Third Eleven participating in the **Cheshire County Cricket League - Division 1 Central,** had a comfortable season finishing fifth in their league.

Top five positions:-

1. Alderley Edge C.C. (387 Pts.) 2. Elworth. C.C. (312 Pts.) 3. Nantwich. C.C. (292 Pts.) Haslington. C.C. (275 Pts.) 5. Wistaston C.C. (266 Pts.)

Our **Junior Under 9's. 11's and 13's** enjoyed mixed successes within their respective leagues, gaining experience for future seasons. Feedbacks from respective coaches indicate that cricket was enjoyed by all participating, which bears well for our club's future.

Our **Women's First Eleven** enjoyed another successful season, **retaining the T20 Divisional Competition** won the previous season and against the same opponents **Chester Broughton Hall.**

Wistaston Swans 100-4 from 20 overs (Hannah Thornhill 26 ret, Katie Haszeldene 20 n.o) . Chester Broughton Hall Deemons 80-5 from 20 overs (Beth Nicholson 22 n.o., Hannah Thornhill 3-14). Unfortunately a week later the **Swans** lost to the same team in the **Senior Knockout Cup Final.**

Wistaston Swans 33 a.o. - Chester Broughton Hall Deemons 34-1.

In Division 2 Cheshire Women's Cricket League, Wistaston Swans finished runners up to **Didsbury** which collectively reflected another excellent season by the **Swans.**

Cont'd on page 15



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Cont'd from page 13

At the Cheshire Women's League Evening on 26 September, Wistaston Ladies brought home four trophies. The Western Division T20 League cup, the T20 League Cup together with the trophy for most T20 runs scored in a season - Laura Newton and lastly Best Fielder award in the League - Hannah Thornhill. Well done everyone.

President's Day

Despite the weather it was a really great turnout for our President's Day. The U9's and U11's had their own games in the morning followed by the U13's having a pair's game (Parent & child) that was enjoyed by all. The 12-a-side T22 mixed President's vs Chairman's game was great fun for spectators and players - the Chairman's eleven narrowly winning the game. Many thanks to all who supported the club today as players, spectators and the committee who prepared the ground, ran the bar and BBQ and provided cake and hot drinks on a chilly day.

The cricket club held their Awards Night at the new Brittles pavilion on Saturday 7th November full details of awards will appear in the Spring 'Roundabout'.

Lady players required for the forthcoming 2016 cricket season

Following another productive season by our ladies eleven in the Cheshire Women's Cricket League, Wistaston Village Cricket Club would like to capitalise on the past two seasons and would welcome new members from ladies, irrespective of age or ability, who have harboured the idea of playing cricket but have neither had the opportunity nor self-belief of taking the next step. Be part of hopefully further successes in 2016 and take the next important step towards playing cricket by contacting either Pauline or Kevin Jobbins on 01270 663699, for more details on what our cricket club can offer you.

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

We offer cricket to adults and juniors (boys and girls) of all standards and we are proud on being very much a child friendly club and we have been re-credited with the **E.C.B Club Mark originally awarded in May 2005**. Interested in joining W.V.C.C? Please contact **Kevin Jobbins: - 01270663699** in the first instance. For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either **Kevin or Pauline Jobbins 01270663699.**

***John Avery,* 'Zusammen', 13 Lear Drive, Wistaston, Tel 0781 7082678**

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An update on Mr Scruffy by Helen de Falco

What a lovely sight – Mr Scruffy having a bath!

Shortly after my last article, Mr Scruffy was seen feeding his 'baby' with the other parents – how his confidence has grown. He has also been seen taking a bath but only when the 'bullies' were not around. He would shake himself dry and then look around. I said he was checking for the bully but my husband said he was looking around for female admirers! However we have not seen him since – perhaps he achieved his aim and did find an admirer.

On another note, my mother at Jacksons Corner saw a wood pecker feeding on the nuts just outside her window. The red feathers indicating that this was a Great Spotted Woodpecker.

NEW COMMUNITY SPORTS HALL HAS THE 'WOW' FACTOR

Edward Timpson MP, Minister of State for Children and Families, officially opened the new pavilion extension at the Eric Swan Sports Ground on Saturday 17/10/15.
Between 80 and 100 residents were on hand to see him cut the ribbon and unveil the stunning new facility for our village. See front cover.
Also present were representatives from the major funders for the project 'Sport England's Inspired Facilities Fund', and 'WREN' who award grants from the Landfill Community Fund. Debbie Gold and Richard Smith the respective grant managers for the funders expressed delight with the building and the community turnout for the opening. Both requested photographs for their web sites and Richard Smith suggested he would try to get WREN'S North West Grants Panel to meet in the building.

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Edward Timpson praised the community effort which had gone into the project and emphasised the potential the facilities have for encouraging greater physical activity among the general population. More about that later.

Derrick Millington Chairman of Wistaston Sports and Leisure Association (WSLA) thanked the major funders for their generosity and also thanked the Parish Council and Cheshire East Council, for their help. He also praised the effort put in by numerous volunteers to bring the project to a successful conclusion. That last bit particularly, rang a bell for the twenty or so people who have wielded their paint brushes and rollers on the internal decoration.
The opening was a little premature as the room divider, which will enable use by more than one group at the same time, has not yet been fitted. However that did not stop the unveiling of plaques on the doors of the two rooms. The old room has been named the 'Brian Charlesworth' room in memory of Brian who was a major figure in the fitting out of the changing rooms in the original pavilion and for a number of years a WSLA committee member. The new room has been named the 'Bob Comley' room in memory of Bob who was a keen Cricket Club member who constructed the sight screens and who was a founder member of WSLA.

Use of the New Facility

The Eric Swan Sports Ground is currently well used by the affiliated clubs who are linked to WSLA. The Cricket Club run up 10 teams and up to 50 football matches are played each season.

However there is considerable scope for greater use of the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), and the pavilion extension will create an increased capacity for social activities.

The WSLA committee have been considering the situation and have decided to explore the possibility of setting up a 'Wistaston Active Leisure Group' to be based at the ground. This would enable individual residents to take advantage of the facilities. At this stage we would not wish to dictate how such a group would be run (it would be up to the group itself) but we can see the group having access to the pavilion and the MUGA for up to 12 hours/week and a whole range of activities being promoted.

Suggestions to date have been: Table Tennis, Indoor Bowls, Darts, Walking, Football, Tennis, Bingo, Quizzes, Netball, Exercise Classes, Dance or just a quiet chat. The group would be open to any resident but we envisage the over 35's forming the majority of the membership.

The WSLA committee would like to hear from residents on this suggestion. If you feel a community hub of this type is needed in Wistaston and/or you would like to meet people in pleasant social surroundings and/or you feel you ought to take a little more exercise this is maybe what you are looking for. If it is, or if you would just like to know more, please give me a ring on 01270 569844 or E-mail me on rash550@talktalk.net or alternatively visit our web site at www.wistastonsportsandleisure.co.uk to read more about us and to use the 'contact' facility.

I would be very happy to show people around the ground and pavilion and explain a little more about the idea. This is a real chance to get a club 'drop in' facility for the area. Don't let the opportunity go by without giving it some serious thought.

*Ray Westwood, W*SLA Treasurer



Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club Finals Day 2015 by Jonathan White

The Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club (WJTC) Finals Day took place on Sunday 13th September 2015, in sunny weather, on the two courts behind the Memorial Hall. Bill Heath, WJTC Chairman, introduced the presentation of trophies to the following:

Men's Singles Final: Oliver Cox beat George Raiswell 6-3, 7-5. Trophy presented by Bill Heath

Men's Doubles Final: Robert Sheffield and George Raiswell beat Paul Unwin and Jonathan White 7-6 (7-5), 6-1. Trophies presented by Alice Chalwin, WJTC President

Open Doubles Cup Final: Oliver Cox and Tony Mason beat Robert Sheffield and George Raiswell 3-6, 6-4, 6-3. Trophies presented by Margaret Maddock, WJTC Vice Chairman



Veterans Doubles Final: Eric James and Roy Birtles beat Bill Heath and Richard Goodwin 6-3, 6-1. Trophies presented by Margaret Maddock

Presidents Tournament Final: Roy Birtles and Jean Proudlo beat Eric James and Marion Proudlove 6-3, 6-1. Trophies presented by Bill Heath

Junior Singles Final: George Raiswell (photographed) beat Ryan Harper-Griffiths 6-2, 6-3. Trophy presented by Bill Heath.

Most Improved Junior: Ryan Harper-Griffiths. Shield presented by Bill Heath. Ryan, aged 13 and a pupil at Kings Grove School in Crewe, regularly attends the weekly club nights and is an enthusiastic member of the club.

Refreshments were provided by members of the club, under the supervision of Alice Chalwin and Margaret Maddock

Photos from Finals Day have been uploaded to Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/photos/jonathanawhite/albums/72157658592573775

For WJTC membership details please contact Bill Heath, Tel. 01270 560471.

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Wistaston Athletic

The football club was established in 2005 and has gained Football Association Charter Standard status. We provide grass roots football at youth level between ages 11 to 18 playing 9v9 format and 11 a side with teams in the South Cheshire Youth League, progressing through to open age in the Crewe Regional Sunday league.

We have had some successful achievements during years as age group league champions and cup winners in the youth leagues, culminating in the open age team being the current holders of the Crewe & District FA Vase Trophy.

Our home matches are played at the Eric Swan Sports Ground on Church Lane in the village using The Brittles pavilion facilities. We are also members of the Wistaston Sports & Leisure Association.

Going in to half term break, the under 12's team has had a successful start to the season with four wins and a draw from the five games they have played so far. The under 13's team has also started successfully with five wins and a draw from their six games. The under 15's unfortunately have not started so well with only one win from five games but remain hopeful of more wins throughout the season. The open age team has started in tremendous form with nine wins from nine league games along with three wins from three cup games to remain unbeaten in all competitions so far.

We would welcome new players in all age groups, if you are interested contact Peter Clayton on 01270 664427

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Reminiscences of Wistonia (James's) Nurseries

We are fortunate to have the memories of Anne nee Peters who worked at Wistonia Nurseries situated across from St Mary's Church Hall until the mid-70s where Windsor, Caernarvon and Edinburgh Roads now stand. The nurseries were such an essential part of Wistaston, selling everything in their little general store as well as the wonderful supply of flowers and plants which Anne now tells us about.

'When people look back at their memories of Wistonia Nurseries run by Gilbert James (Gill) who always wore a cravat and deer stalker hat they will probably recall the busy shop selling everything you could ever need; if a customer requested something they hadn't got, it would soon appear on the shelves. In the shop were jars of pickles for sale which were much sought after especially at Christmas. People did not realise 'Nellie' queen of the pickles sat in a pickle parlour peeling buckets of onions. At Christmas she could not keep up with demand so I was called in to put them in their jars – a job which I detested!

Perhaps people did not realise the nursery attached to the shop was thriving, employing at least five full timers and several seasonal staff. When we arrived for work Gill was always busy and welcomed us by our nicknames he had chosen. I was Anna p loop a Conga. If you think that sounds odd you should have heard the others!

The nursery grew hundreds of outdoor lettuce in a six week rotation. Every Monday women would drop young lettuce plants in rows followed by the men who would plant Cos, London, lettuce, Webbs Wonderful now Iceberg, and flats. We worked rain or shine and from planting to harvest it took six weeks. Large greenhouses filled with tomatoes which were picked early in the morning, the paths were then hosed down to create humidity and the smell was amazing. Chrysanthemums, daffodils, tulips iris and freesia, dahlias were all grown as cut flowers. Cutting and bunching daffodils was my favourite job - in a lovely warm greenhouse when it was cold outside surrounded by daffs.

This produce supplied our own shop and many other local shops – it was in such high demand because of its freshness.
Visits were made to Manchester wholesale market. The van would be loaded late in the afternoon ready for the produce to be taken to Manchester in the early hours of the following morning.

Bedding plants were grown from seed in their thousands; several women would sit pricking out the seedlings into wooden boxes – they were sold by the dozen wrapped in newspaper – not a plastic multi-pack in sight! There was a giant fired soil sterilizer that resembled a human cannon ball machine! The soil was shovelled in at one end and shot out at the other where men would fill the wooden boxes to keep the prickers-out supplied. We used to compete to see how many boxes we could complete in an hour - usually seven or eight. When I began pricking out Foreman Tom Brereton carved me a Dibber out of a piece of wood and told me to 'look after it'. I still use it today, nearly fifty years later.

Continued on page 28



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Wistaston Fireworks Display Saturday 31 October 2015
By Jonathan White

The 38th annual Wistaston Fireworks Display took place on Saturday 31st October 2015 at the Eric Swan Sports Ground off Church Lane in Wistaston. It began with the judging of the children's best pumpkin and best fancy dress competitions, which were followed by the fireworks display. There was no parade this year, due to health and safety issues, but bagpiper Reg Flower performed in front of the school and at the sports ground.

The results of the children's best pumpkin competition, judged by Wistonian of the Year, Gwyneth Brown, assisted by Eileen Bamber, were:
1st prize - Mia O'Donnell
2nd prize – Jack Bickerton
3rd prize – Purdy Jones.

The results of the children's best fancy dress judged by Gwyneth Brown and Eileen Bamber, were:
1st prize – Megan Bone in her skeleton costume
2nd prize – Ellie-May Baxter in her dragon costume
3rd prize – Lewis Rossiter in his bat costume.

Locally-based online community radio station RedShift Radio - http://www.redshiftradio.co.uk/ - for the sixth year running generously provided, setup and staffed the PA system before the fireworks and played Halloween-themed music during the display. Presenters Kelly-Ann Davies and Liz Southall (aka 'Bizzy Lizzy') from RedShift Radio got the crowd warmed up before the display.

Professional fireworks display specialist Gekostar Fireworks - http://www.gekostarfireworks.co.uk/ - setup the display. Children's best fancy dress competition winner Megan Bone was given the honour of officially starting the fireworks. The fireworks used during a magnificent 14 minute display took 12 hours to setup and included shells, cakes, mines and Roman candles.

The 35th South West Cheshire, Wistaston Scout Group - http://www.wistastonscoutgroup.org.uk - served hot and cold drinks and food during the event, whilst Wistaston Community Council members sold candyfloss and 'Stevo's Glows' sold children's flashing novelties.

The event was organised by the Wistaston Community Council and funded by the Wistaston Community Council and the Wistaston Parish Council. Entry was by donation and several hundred people attended the event.

Dane Chaplow, Chairman from the Wistaston Community Council, said, "The children's pumpkin and fancy dress competitions were well supported. We had a great turnout at the Eric Swan Sports Ground with superb fireworks from Gekostar and excellent music, as always, from RedShift Radio. We thank our supporters and volunteers for their help and the public for attending this annual event".

The Wistaston Community Council desperately requires new members to help organise next year's Fireworks Display, as well as other Wistaston-based events such as the Summer Fete, Flower and Produce Show and the Christmas concerts. Please visit http://www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk for further information if you would like to join.

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Nature article for Roundabout, Issue 140

In response to our mention of house sparrow numbers falling Brian Wrench of Milton Drive brings glad tidings. He has numerous nest boxes and his sparrows are happy to breed close together, producing two or three clutches of eggs. Perhaps, like ourselves, Brian has an abundance of thick shrubbery or hedging, appealing to sparrows for protection. The house sparrow, originally from Africa, is supposed to have come to Europe with our early farming settlers. It is classed as a town bird and is fairly sedentary, not moving far from its place of birth; but despite its preference for a life close to man we are often surprised how many we see in locations distant from housing.

The colder mornings of mid September saw a sudden influx of adult birds now far removed from the breeding season. A treat to see a mix of tits: blue, great, coal and long-tailed, in good numbers; even an odd nuthatch, once again. Interestingly, one of our bird-books tells us that nuthatches are known to associate with tits outside the breeding season. Like the house sparrow the nuthatch is fairly sedentary and has the crafty habit of wedging the harder varieties of nut in cracks in trees, to hammer open with its dagger-like bill. As anticipated, coal tits make a bee-line for the nut-hanger or seed-hopper, then as speedily depart to feed elsewhere or bury the item. They are, of course, essentially a bird of conifer forests.

We are grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Temple of Caernarvon Road for their print photographs of a speckled jackdaw that frequents their garden. They wonder if it could be the same bird that we see, but we think ours is less mottled on the back. It is not unusual for birds to have colour variations, but this year has been our first experience of such in jackdaws.

Holding on through September small tortoiseshell, red admiral and speckled wood butterflies, enlivened by the warmth of the daylight hours, were keen to loiter on garden marigolds. The tortoiseshells, their numbers augmented by continental insects, will hibernate in sheltered places, to emerge and mate the next spring. We should feel privileged to receive visits from speckled woods since, as the name implies, they do prefer woodland, the dappled appearance good camouflage among leaves.

Our rogue wild plant this summer looks to be a ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) according to the book, from the daisy family and much taller than the rest of the flowers from the seeds in the marigold packet whence it came. The stems are reddish, the leaves deeply pinnate (like those of the French marigold it should have been), but with flower heads inconspicuous, greenish and on spikes. Ragweed's origin is given as North America, so how that little seed found its way into our marigold packet is anybody's guess.

October's magic moment must be a handsome fox crossing our lawn 8 am ish on 9th, so no longer are we so envious of the residents of Broughton Lane *et al*.

Our thanks to all contributors.
Trevor and Hilary Clowes
Tel: 664358 email handt136@talktalk.net

Hands Off Wistaston update from Graeme Worrall

It certainly seems a long way from spring now and just when we thought things had gone quiet, we've got more developments to update you on.

Cheshire East Council have rejected a second application by Gladman to build houses on Witters Field, after their first application was eventually refused on appeal. We have now learned that Gladman have gone to appeal over this second application.

Once again it is really important that we as members of the community show the Planning Inspector how much we all want to save Witters' Field from development. Please email or write to the Planning Inspector on the details below by no later than December 15th, outlining your opposition to development on the field. Please quote reference number APP/R0660/W/15/3136524 and planning reference 14/3024N. Please also include your name and address on your letters or emails.

The Planning Inspectorate can be contacted via email at Helen.skinner@pins.gsi.gov.uk or in writing to Ms Helen Skinner, The Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol BS1 6PN.

You may remember that the developers Harlequin had proposed to build houses on the land off Wistaston Green Road. Cheshire East Council had rejected the planning application which then went to appeal. Disappointingly the decision of the planning inspector is that he has allowed the development to go ahead.

Your local councillors and members of the Hands Off Wistaston residents group have met with Michael Jones, the leader of Cheshire East Council, to discuss what we can do now. Councillor Jones has told us that Cheshire East will be seeking a judicial review into this decision. We'll bring you more updates as this progresses.

The Local Plan, which is the framework that the Council produces to show where development will and won't be allowed, is still in development and is slowly going through the motions to being approved. One thing we can all do to help protect our local green spaces from development is write in to the Council to express our support for keeping our Green Gap land in Wistaston free from development for all the community to enjoy. If you do want to write, the details to do so are below.

Email: ProgrammeOfficer@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Letter: Miss Kerry Trueman, Cheshire East Local Plan Programme Officer, C/o Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe CW1 2BJ

Thanks for all your support!

Wistaston Young Drama Group

Rehearsals are well under way for our next production *James and the Giant Peach* which will be performed in January at the Memorial Hall. Pictured are some of the children improvising the characters in the play.



After the successful performance of *King George* during the Holly Holy Day celebrations in Nantwich, we have been invited to participate in the 2016 event.

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

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The Big Screen at Wells Green - December 2015 to March 2016

Screenings take place on the third Sunday of the month with the exception of Sunday 13 December. An extra screening has been arranged especially for children in the Christmas school holidays. For all films doors open at 4.30 for a 5pm start..

Sunday 13 December	The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
Wednesday 23 December	Polar Express
Sunday 17 January	12 Angry Men
Sunday 21 February	The Railway Man
Sunday 20 March	The Way

Refreshments will be available beforehand and a brief discussion will follow the screening. There is no charge but you may wish to make a small donation to church funds. We have tried to select a variety of recent and classic movies with a message which we hope you will enjoy watching. Do join us.

Rev Steve Ingrouille

Wistaston Conservation Group

Another really successful summer and autumn season for the group with an average of 8 volunteers every Monday morning despite the weather to continue to make Wistaston a nicer place to live.

Just as I sent copy for the last issue I had word of two interesting sightings in Wistaston.

1. The White Letter Hairstreak butterfly was seen again on Knapweed on the filter beds area.
2. A single Common Spotted Orchid Dactylorhiza fuchsia was seen in the area but the actual whereabouts was kept secret to protect the plant.

I spent a long time looking for both these but was unsuccessful. See photos, thanks to Maggie Harrison.





Our main task recently has been the thinning out of neglected areas of our woodland. A lot of the trees were so hemmed in, lacking light that the only signs of life were at the extremity of long branches. We have only cut them in to a level from which they will regenerate and show much healthier growth in the future.

We have had some complaint that we have cut out too many trees especially Blackthorn as there have not been many sloes to pick this year. Anyone who thinks this, only has to go and look at the area of woodland which we cleared last year: sure, there are no sloes this year but just look at the regeneration of the area in just one year, project your imagination 2 or 3 years hence and I think you will agree that our work was worthwhile.

Having cut the trees and shrubs all the timber has been used to build natural hedges and barriers. Good examples of this are on the left side of the road up the Joey-the-Swan bank towards the Woodside and along the left side of the path through the Woodside Covert. Nothing goes to waste!

We were given an allocation of free trees by the Cheshire Landscape Trust, in association with the Tree Warden Scheme. As the CLT no longer exists there are no more free trees from this source to keep our woodlands in good order. However the Parish Council have come to our aid and are sponsoring us for the purchase of the trees we can no longer obtain from the CLT. Our Project Manager David O'Hara has ordered 145 trees to be planted later in the year and our thanks go to the Parish Council for this kind gesture.

About 3 months ago I was doing some voluntary work at the Cheshire Wildlife Trust at Bickley Hall and was given a number of tree whips which were left over from a large planting job. These have been planted behind the natural hedge up Joey-the-Swan bank so as to strengthen the brush hedge and make it more secure. Thanks again to the CWT for their help in this matter.

Continued over

Wistonia Nursieries - Continued from page 20

Before knocking off time in Winter, Gill and Tom would discuss the temperatures for that night. Men would be waiting for instructions to stoke up the boilers, light heaters etc. to protect greenhouses where daffodils, cyclamen, poinsettias, azaleas, bowls of hyacinths etc. were ready for Christmas. If it was going to be a particularly cold night there was a rota when one of the men would return at midnight to stoke up the boilers. Gill was also on this rota. Sadly the nursery closed in the seventies – I don't know exactly when. Mr and Mrs James retired and the land was sold for building. Everything was auctioned off.
A sad end to a thriving enterprise.'



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Wistaston Conservation Group - from previous page

A recent job we were asked to take on by the Parish Council was the erection of 2 new kissing gates. This is not really conservation but our regular band of volunteers are happy to take on tasks which improve the local environment. The two new gates are at the end of Laburnum Avenue and of Hawthorn Lane. The former replaced a similar structure from which recently the gate had been taken off and stolen.
If you have any conservation issue or if you would like to see what we get up to when we meet each Monday morning at 09.30 but where we meet depends on where we are working that day. Our whereabouts and contact details are noted on our website at wistastonconservationgroup.org.uk

*John M Wood C*hairman Wistaston Conservation Group

****

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For further details please contact:
John White 661484

Laurie Twiss Trophy for Journalism

Write a story/article in not more than 200 words. The competition is open to young people in our area with ages ranging from 9-16. It's your choice, fact or fiction so get into writing mode and please send your entry to one of the following by 31 May 2016:
Barbara Brereton, 11 Barndale Close,
Greg Brereton, 7 College Fields,
Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane

Church Lane Academy – Christmas Term Report

On Thursday 22nd October, the school choir and some pupils from Year 5 performed a harvest assembly for the Key Stage 2 parents. This included a talk by Reverend Mike Turnbull; guess the name of the fruit and vegetables, and performances from the school choir. Thank you to everyone who donated food which was given to Nantwich Food Bank.

This year, Wistaston Church Lane Academy will be performing a selection of brilliant Christmas plays! The children in the Foundation stage and Year 1 will be performing 'Angel Express', the Years 2 and 3 children 'Straw and Order', and finally, Years 4, 5 and 6 a family favourite, 'Scrooge'. The school wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and happy new year!

Years 6, 5 and 3 have been on some unique and enjoyable school trips this term. Year 6 went to Eden Camp in Yorkshire to look at how people lived during the Second World War. This included looking at shelters and many artifices from the time. Year 5 went to Nantwich Museum to look at how the Tudors lived here. They went on a tour around Nantwich to look at the differences between Tudor and mock Tudor buildings, and completed a range of workshops at the museum. Finally, Year 3 went to Chester Zoo and pupils were amazed to see some scary, but cute, animals!

On the 6th November, all year groups completed a 'Wista-Hunt!' There was also a coffee morning for parents and carers. It was a wonderful event and we were raising money for Winston's Wish and Macmillan. Both charities have supported children and staff in school. We raised a total of £1860!! and thank everyone who supported the event.

Once a year, the school holds a coffee morning when parents and grandparents can visit. socialize and have a good time. It's a really nice chance for parents to get together for tea and coffee and raise money for our school. The coffee morning raised £240! Thank you to everyone who came to our coffee morning and for bringing in cakes to sell. Also this term, children in Year Five were delighted to see their designs for a mural - see below -installed in Crewe Town Centre and pupils from our School Council laid a poppy wreath on Armistice Day. Reported by ***Eloise, Alice, George, Rebecca and Thomas.***



Wistaston Remembers by *Jonathan White*

The Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre was filled to capacity on Sunday 8th November 2015, as the village remembered those who made the ultimate sacrifice in two world wars.

A guard of honour was organised by Beavers, Cubs and Scouts from the 35th South West Cheshire Scout group, who welcomed councillors from Cheshire East and Wistaston. The Service of Remembrance was taken by four local ministers - Rev Ken Sambrook, Rev Mike Turnbull, St Mary's Church, Wistaston, Father Martin Moran, Oblate Retreat Centre and Rev Steve Ingrouille, Wells Green Methodist Church. The impressive poppy arrangement on the stage was displayed by Mrs Elizabeth Russell of Wistaston Flower Club and the names of the sixteen men from Wistaston who perished during World War 2, were respectfully read by Mrs Barbara Brereton.

The Wells Green Church choir, led by their musical director Myra Wood, added quality to the music and hymns and Jack Gresty played 'The Last Post' and 'Reveille'. His great uncle, Radio Officer Derek Aubrey Gresty, died at Bari, Italy on 3rd May 1944 aged 24 years.

A wreath was placed at the front of the building by the hall's President, John Cooke, accompanied by Cub George Edge-Robinson who placed a cross in memory of Lieutenant Commander Roy Berryman Edwards DSO, sent by his daughter Mrs Sylvia Hammond, from Kent and the hall's Chairman, John White, paid tribute to one of Wistaston's sixteen fallen heroes – Lieutenant Ronald Arthur Hulse, Royal Artillery, who died in Egypt on 17th June 1944, aged 29. He lived at 'Oaklands', Manor Avenue, Wistaston and attended Nantwich & Acton Grammar School.

The collection at the service was £287 for the Royal British Legion, which was represented by Alan Brereton.



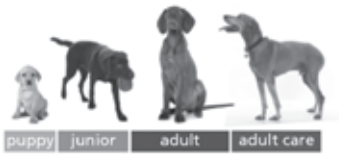
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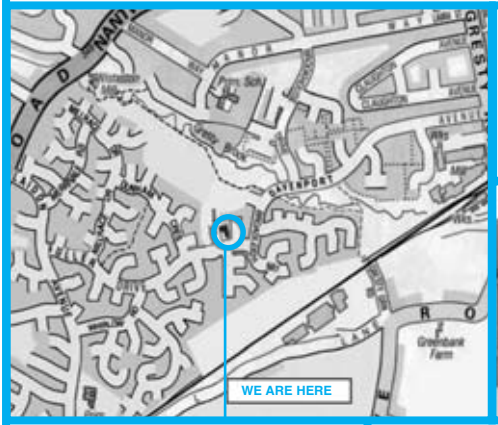
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