Summer 'Roundabout'

A Wistaston Community Council Publication

2016
ISSUE 142



May Sunset at the Witter's Field tree – beautifully different every evening.
With very many thanks to Jonathan White

The Magazine for People Living 'Roundabout' Wistaston

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk

Circulation: 4100

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EDITORIAL FOR SUMMER 2016

With very many thanks to everyone for the continued splendid support you give to Roundabout in whatever capacity, for without your contributions and advertisements it would not exist and without your deliverers it wouldn't get to you! The Wistaston Community Council is also very appreciative of the support you give to all the events organised over the year.

Please send in your articles, photographs etc for our Autumn edition, due out in early September, by 15 July.

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

Geoff Poppitt
19 Byron Way
01270 569642

For Dates for your Diary see page 22.

The next event in the Wistaston Community Council's Calendar is the Village Fete. See details below and come and enjoy all the fun of the Fete.

****

Wistaston Community Council
Annual Village Fete
Saturday 18 June 2016
at Wistaston Church Lane Academy

School Hall – serving refreshments all afternoon
2.30 - 2.45 Church Lane Academy Choir
3.00 - 3.15 George Formby Duo

Fete Arena
1.45 - 1.50 Piper leads Rose Queen into Arena
1.50 - 2.00 Rector, Mike Turnbull, crowns Rose Queen
Roger Woodward, Wistonian of the Year, to open Fete

Roger Woodward, Gwyneth Brown and the Mayor .....
to judge the Fancy Dress Competition
2.15 - 2.35 Liberty Morris Dance Group
2.40 - 2.55 The Funky Choir
3.00 - 3.05 Laurie Twiss Award presented by Wistonian of the Year – Roger Woodward
3.10 - 3.30 Eskdale Hawks Falconry Display
3.35 - 3.55 X-Streme – Street Dancing
4.00 - 4.15 Hartford Gymnastics Display Team
4.20 - to announce the winner of the Best Dressed Stall

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Wistaston Parish Council - Chairman's Report

1. POSTAL ADDRESS

Residents will now have received the proposed change of address consultation letter from the Royal Mail. This has been welcomed by Parish residents and we hope you will support the change. There will be a very small number affected by a post code change. Residents outside our Parish may also be affected who have used Wistaston in their address.

2. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN www.wistaston-no.org.uk

Our steering group work is progressing well and our flyer in the Spring edition updated residents on our initial survey results. Housing and Green Gap policies have been agreed and work continues on the remaining policies. Residents can view progress of meetings and minutes on our website. We are also planning to hold a publicity stall at the forthcoming community events of the Village Fete on 18th June 2016 and Duck Race on 3rd September 2016. A further flyer update is planned for the next Roundabout.

3. DOG BINS

There have been many complaints regarding the condition of the Cheshire East bins in our Parish and that some waste is not being deposited safely in the bins. We have requested Cheshire East to provide replacement bins. Our second request to relocate a bin back to its original position part way across Joey the Swan Recreation land has been declined. The new style bin (2 located near Kings Drive Shops) will allow both general waste in addition to properly bagged dog waste. We would appeal to dog owners to please use these responsibly.

4. COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

We have received a co-option request for a Councillor to represent the Wistaston Green Ward and this will be discussed at our May Meeting. Two further vacancies are still available. Interested residents should first contact our Clerk in writing with a brief résumé.

5. THEFT FROM VEHICLES

Our local PCSO Officer Nigel Hobbs has expressed concern on the rise in theft from vehicles mainly from unlocked vehicles some of which are on driveways of the home owners. He is conducting random checks and informing owners where he finds unlocked vehicles. Residents are reminded to take care and always lock your vehicle even if left for short periods.

7. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings at 7.30 p.m. at Wistaston Memorial. Next meetings are on 16th June 2016 and 21st July 2016.

Cllr. J. Moore, Chairman

****

Answers to Cricket Quiz on page 13

1 Greg Chappel. 2.Bangladesh 3. Sri Lanka 4.Dickie Bird 5. Mitchell Johnson 6. Durham.

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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 (2 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**



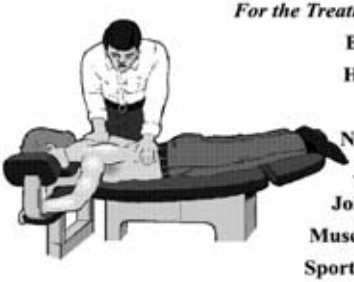
Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston
Meeting monthly at 7.30pm : Calendar for 2016

12 January	Derek Jones: Victorian Gardening
9 February	Harry Delaney: Lawn Care and Maintenance
8 March	A.G.M. and Supper
12 April	Anthony Norman – Propagation
3 May	Graham Shillabeer: Fruit for the small Garden
7 June	Jane Allison: Banquets for Bees and Butterflies
12 July	Summer Social Evening & Barry Walker Trophy: Rose Competition
9 August	Anita Wright: The Changing Garden & Beryl Fentem Trophy: Pot Plant Competition.
13 Sept.	Marcus Chilton-Jones: Garden Management 'Not Just Marigolds'
4 October	Ray Rush: Country Customs
8 November	Anne Harrison: Autumn Colour
13 December	Christmas Party

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Wistaston Village Cricket Club
(Founded 1980)

Our Ground Force week-end scheduled for the **2nd/3rd April** went ahead as planned, however the persistent bad weather of the previous weeks dictated that much needed repairs and general upkeep to the facilities at The Brittles were not completed until the following weekend. The cricket ground is in splendid condition a credit to all members who lent their time and effort in the customary pre-season build-up.

The season should have opened on **Saturday 18th April,** with our **2nd XI** hosting **Stockport Trinity Seconds,** but the previous few days' weather took its toll and the match failed to get off the ground.

Our **First Eleven** participating in **Division 1 of the Chester Cricket Alliance** commenced their campaign a week later hosting local rivals **Audlem**, while the **Second Eleven** participating in **Cheshire Cricket League Division B East** kick-started their own campaign with a visit to **Urmston CC 3rd XI.**

2016 saw our cricket club enter a team into **The Crewe and Nantwich Mid-Week Cricket League** with their first fixture played on the **27th April** against **Bourne Electricals.**

Our Sunday 3rd XI will be plying their trade in **The Cheshire County Cricket League, Division 1 Central.** Their first fixture saw them visiting **Sandbach on the 8th May.**

In the **Cheshire Women's Cricket League** our **Women's First Eleven 'The Swans'** opened their season against **Appleton CC on Sunday 24th April. The girls Under 13's and 15's squads also play in the same league.**

Our junior boys' teams (9's and 11's) will be playing in the **South Cheshire Junior Cricket League, their respective seasons commencing as we go to press.**

Follow our club's progress throughout the season on the usual links
www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk/roundabout.html and
www.creweguardian.co.uk/sport

Important news:- Followers of our cricket club will be pleased to hear that they can now follow the club on Facebook.

Wistaston Cricket Club will be holding a **Euro Football Night** with food and drink **on Saturday 11th June 2016** in the new extension pavilion at **The Brittles**. Make a date in your diaries, for what should be an entertaining and worthwhile evening.

A Race Night event has also been scheduled on our social calendar. Monitor the usual websites for updates or **contact Kevin Jobbins:- Tel 663699.**

For those readers who enjoy watching a game of cricket, why not make a detour to The Brittles on a Sunday afternoon, where you will be made very welcome.

Wistaston Cricket Club continues their search for players for the current cricket season, not only to promote but further improve on the great progress achieved over past seasons. As mentioned many times **we offer cricket to adults and juniors 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. If you are interested in joining W.V.C.C. please contact Kevin Jobbins:- Tel 6**63699 in the first instance.

The cricket club holds Bingo evenings every **third Friday** of each month at **The Brittles in the Wistaston pavilion lounge** to raise funds and a warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to join us. **Following a summer break**, Bingo evenings will re-commence on **Friday 16th September 2016.**

Our cricket club are indebted to Assurance Group PLC (Mr Andrew Morris) for their generous contribution of £180. This money will be used towards coaching within our cricket club.
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

Just for Fun – Cricket Teasers – Six of the Best

1.Who captained Australia between 1975 and 1977?
2.Which country's national team are nicknamed *The Tigers*?
3.Angelo Mathews plays test cricket for which country?
4.Who became club president of Yorkshire in 2014, replacing Geoffrey Boycott?
5.Who was *Player of the Series* for the 2013–14 Ashes series?
6.Which English county did Ian Botham end his career with?
Answers on page 6
****

Events taking place at Union Street Baptist Church Crewe CW2 7DJ

Saturday 25 June, time tbc. The choir presents a new work by Roger Jones **- Barnabas.**

Saturday 8 October 7.30pm **Lions Youth Brass bands.**

Saturday 26 November, time tbc. The traditional charity fundraiser by the **Kipling Singers** including delicious food and the famous Dutch auction.

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2nd May 2016

Dear Editor
I would like to say a big 'thank you' to all my local customers for enabling me to continue sending Poppy Designs donations to our local Cancer Research UK branch. Since we started the donations now amount to £4,835.12 so I'm creeping up to my next target of £5,000!
Unfortunately we've had to make the decision that our days at the Village Fete are over but we are still enjoying making our wedding invitations, golden wedding invitations and personalised birthday cards, notelets etc. In fact, if there is anything stationery that you'd like – give us a call on 01270 567063
Thank you again – we couldn't have done it without you!
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The fundraising Fashion Show Co. Ltd. Nottingham

Report from Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club

Early in 2016, young member George Raiswell decided for the forthcoming Sport Relief programme to organise a tournament within the Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club and with the help of family and colleagues he arranged a Round Robin doubles tennis event selling raffle tickets and collecting prizes.
Everyone who entered gave a donation, played against each other, and at the end Ben Reinhardt and Paul Sheeky were the overall winners. A grand total of £181.25 was collected for Sport Relief. This isn't the first time that George has given his time and thought for charitable causes. Well done George! See photo below from Jonathan White.
Two men's teams have been entered for the South and Mid Cheshire League. Good Luck to everyone and Happy Tennis!



Prior to the Easter weekend an exciting letter arrived for founder member **Ernie Chalwin** to advise him that he had been appointed to the rank of **Chevalier in the Ordre Nation-al de la Legion d'honneur** for his involvement in the Liberation of France during the Second World War. Within the letter was this beautiful medal which will be formally presented to him in due course. This is a prestigious hon-our - congratulations go to Ernie. Ernie served as Membership Sec-retary and Treasurer for WJTC for 14 years before retiring from this post.



The 35th South West Cheshire (Wistaston) Scout Group Hut

The 35th South West Cheshire (Wistaston) Scout group hut - http://www.wistastonscoutgroup.org.uk - at Bluebell Wood, Elm Close, Wistaston has been open to visitors every Saturday afternoon in March 2016.

The hut, officially opened on 25th September 1971, was demolished in April this year. The new hut, which will cost nearly £200,000, is to be built in its place and is due to open by Christmas this year. The facility is used by 35th South West Cheshire Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, along with an Explorers (14-18 year olds) group. Congratulations are due to all those who collected, subscribed and raised the enormous sum for the new building, which will involve Scouting for future generations.

Former District Commissioner Gerald Newbrook has been on hand to answer questions about the hut and Scouting in general. Gerald was the first Scout in the South West Cheshire group in 1958 and is still involved in Scouting. He helped to setup this year's 'Gang Show' at the Crewe Lyceum Theatre.

Visitors were able to view the kitchen, main hall, meeting room, and equipment store. There were also display boards showing architectural drawings of the new hut.

Former members of the 35th South West Cheshire Scouting organisation were able to remember the many happy occasions and events which emanated from this building. So many memories.

Many thanks to Jonathan White for this article and illustrations below of the proposed new scout hut.



Wistaston Conservation Group

You may remember that in the last issue of Roundabout I noted that not all of the jobs we accept and carry out can be classed as conservation. In fact, our motto "to preserve the natural features of Wistaston for future generations ", does not necessarily concern conservation either.

To this end, our Group is considering whether we really are a conservation group any more, and whether another name would be more appropriate for what we now do.

If anyone has any ideas about a name change for our Group, providing it is printable, we would be more than happy to consider these suggestions.

Our main task over the past few weeks has been the completion of the clearance of the area alongside the main path from the recreation ground to the Wistaston Green Road carpark. We have received a lot of comments concerning this job, almost all positive, with a lot of walkers saying how much safer they feel walking this path now that the overgrowth has been cut back.

We have recently planted several trees in the area, which have been donated to improve the area, and we have now planted an area of wild flowers such as Foxglove, Feverfew, Forget-me-not, etc. There is now an area where we have scattered a native wildflower seed mixture, which has been kindly donated free of charge by a company called Grow Wild. We look forward to a blaze of colour in the area in the not too distant future.

One thing we were amazed at whilst clearing this area, is the number of saplings which were unable to grow due to lack of light. These are now showing renewed growth, as is an apple tree, which was completely covered in by the overgrowth, and is now blossoming, and, hopefully will bear fruit this year, unless the bullfinches get the flower heads first.

We have again completed a general tidy-up of the Wistaston Green Road carpark, cutting back the edges, etc. We have had to call in Cheshire East on several occasions recently, due to fly-tipping on the carpark and surroundings. PLEASE, IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO DISPOSE OF, DO IT LEGALLY, AND TAKE IT TO THE PYMMS LANE REFUSE SITE.

Continued over page..



These aren't John's working party photos but show the area that they are keeping in good condition for us. Thank you to John and his team and thank you to Christine Howarth for her photographs.

An excerpt from Emilymay Stockton's prize winning Laurie Twiss entry for 2015. Who will win for 2016?

'Emilymay Stockton, 28 year old champion has made a return for the 2024 Olympics. She is a determined champion with the world record of nine seconds and is ready to battle this year.

The nerves were killing them. Everyone was excited and hoping a world record would be broken…..
The girl who had been practising hard; the girl who wanted to show what she could do; that girl was Emilymay Stockton who was in for a surprise….
Excited as she saw her family amongst the crowd – it was like a dream come true. She set foot on the ground; the nerves were crawling up the athlete's back; everyone could see it in their faces; the crowd went silent, silent.. ten seconds to go; 5..4..3..2..1

A Great Start!! WOW! Hewit from Germany is in the lead but Stockton is edging there … Williams, a new athlete from Scotland is jumping too high to catch up; well… Molly Sloan is in joint lead with Stockton; what is going to happen? ……'

Well done Emilymay - you could be there in 2024! Look out for the Autumn issue to find out the winner of the 2016 Laurie Twiss Award. Start writing now for 2017!

****

Conservation Group - continued from previous page

Further work has been done to improve, and clear, the paths through our woodlands, especially in the Old Covert area. We have also cleared several drainage channels in the Woodside area where the paths have been wet and muddy, due to the water not being able to flow away.

Many of you will remember the model railway, adjacent to the Beech Drive carpark. Since the track was removed, the area has been badly neglected. We have spent the last weeks clearing all the broken fencing, and generally tidying up the area. We now await a decision by the Parish Council on the future of the area, prior to any further work being done there.

As usual, we will have our stall at the Village Fete on Saturday, June 18th. Please come and see us there; we will have a good selection of plants and shrubs for sale, many having been grown by members of the Group especially for the show. Sale of these plants is, basically, our only source of income, and all the money raised will be used to make Wistaston an even better place to live and enjoy. If you have any conservation issues, please come and discuss them with us; we may not be able to answer all your questions, but we will probably know someone who can.

Finally, if what you read in this article is of interest to you, maybe you would like to join us. Come along to our stall, or contact one of the members of the Group, we are always happy to welcome new members, especially if you have relevant knowledge, or are a dab hand with a spade!! Our website, at www.wistastonconservationgroup.org.uk has contact details, and also where our working group will be active during the coming weeks, - Mondays at 0930.

Enjoy the summer, and the local wildlife.
John M Wood, Chairman.

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Report from Wistaston Church Lane Academy

Geremy Burrows - York Residential

On Wednesday 27th April, Wistaston Church Lane's Year 4's set off on a fabulous residential to York! They got to climb all the steps of Cliffords Tower (That was super high!), view the National Railway Museum, enter the Jordvik dig and even had time to go in 'The Shambles'! The children were very well behaved and represented the school really well!

Thomas Cheetham - Upcoming Summer Fair

Every year at Wistaston Church Lane Academy, the school holds a magnificent Summer Fair. This year our Summer Fair is going to be held on Friday 8th July from 5pm until 7pm. All children and parents at the school are invited and it's a great time to meet other adults, children and develop friendships. Parents /Carers and children also get the opportunity to play on our new school play equipment, eat and drink refreshments and play team games such as rounders. We hope to see you there!

Libby Evans - Delamere Trip

On Wednesday 4th May, Year 3 went on a school trip to Delamere Forest! The weather was really nice and sunny and it didn't rain once! The activities the children did were orienteering, building dens and even starting fires from steel scratching sticks and cotton wool! The nights were filled with campfires and marshmallows, which made everyone that didn't go very jealous! The dorms had bunk beds in them and there were approximately 10 people in each dorm. Everyone who went really enjoyed the trip.

Alice Barratt - Smoke Busters!

Year 5 had a superb opportunity to experience 'Smoke Busters' this year. This extraordinary activity was held in the Summer term and was run by Crewe Fire Station. We got a chance to have a peek around an authentic fire engine, ask questions of firefighters and learn about fire security and people's real-life stories. We learnt how important it is to have a fire plan at home so everyone can stay safe if you have a fire at home too.

George Valentine - Manor Adventure

The residential was completely stunning, probably the best one yet! It had loads of different things to do and it was non-stop! For example, climbing, abseiling, canoeing, kayaking, rifle shooting, archery and caving! This trip is definitely worth it, its epic! My favourite activity was abseiling!

Rebecca Nield - Primary College

Each year, Year 5 pupils attend Primary College to learn about possible jobs they want to do when they are older. Primary College is held at South Cheshire College and the children really love it! It is a series of workshops that get us thinking about our dream jobs and we have a go at them! Some examples from this year are: hairdressing, cooking, brick-laying, policing, falconry and lots more. I can't wait for it to start this year!



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Wistaston's Morris Men at the Village Fete

Did you know that Wistaston used to have its own Morris Men? Where are they now? Can anyone name them all? It would be great if they could make a come back?

Wistaston's Village Fete has come up with some startling events over the years. What are your favourites and do you have any photographs?

Meanwhile enjoy the events put on in Wistaston for your delight on the list below and especially look forward to seeing you all at the Village Fete.

****

Dates for your 2016 Diary of

Wistaston Events

Thursday 16 June The Queen's Birthday Concert

Saturday 18 June: Village Fete

Saturday 20 Aug: Flower & Produce

Saturday 3 Sept: Annual Duck Race

Tuesday 25 Oct: Hall Quiz

Saturday 5 Nov: Firework Display

Sunday 13 Nov: Remembrance Service

Friday 9 Dec: Christmas Concert

Annual Duck Race and Children's Model Boats Display and Race

Saturday 3rd September 2016

Stalls for local organisations, with no charge, open from 1pm

Display of Children's Boats 2pm with prizes.

Children's Model Boat Race starts at 2.30pm. with prizes.

Duck Race tickets will be on sale from 1pm with prizes £100; £50; £25:

For more details please phone 01270 661484

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Nature article for Roundabout, Issue 142

Leucism, or the appearance of white feathers in birds, gets a frequent mention, and we have researched the condition. This abnormal plumage lacks melanin pigment owing to cells responsible for melanin production being absent, and is a genetic condition. Melanin gives strength to feathers, so weaker feathers are easily lost, leaving the bird vulnerable to attack, weather and possibly breeding success.

In January and before, neighbours reported the sound of owls in the general area of Jackson's Corner: the 'kee-wick' and 'twoo' suggestive of 'tawny'. Sparrowhawks made an appearance in Sandylands Park on 17 Feb and 2 Mar, the March appearance being a male; but the mewing of buzzards in the skies is somewhat inconstant.

We are grateful to Andrew and Lynda Lob of King's Drive for mention of a kingfisher in Gresty Brook near Joey the Swan in late February. We have had only occasional reports of such sightings in our watercourses and are so glad the streams remain clean enough to support fish.

In March we were pleased to receive a pair of song thrushes in addition to the sixteen species we regularly attract, and up to five siskins were faithful to our feeders that same month - those delightful little greenish birds that are particularly common this year in gardens of those who participate in the local ornithological society's winter survey.
Mammalwise, we thank Maureen and Graham Roberts (Berkeley Crescent) for the report of two foxes on their rear lawn in early January, which they presumed to be adults as they sloped off towards Salander Crescent covert.
Amphibianwise, Mick and Helen Pierce (Sandylands Park) proudly announced their first frogspawn imminent on 9 March, about the same time as our own. It's Mick and Helen's best year for spawn production, with at least ten frogs seen and enough spawn for several 'normal' years. Even Helen's presence gardening didn't deter the frogs from 'getting their act together' (to use our terminology!) The eventual warmth and sun of 16 March brought eight frogs to the surface of our own small pond and two lovely dollops of 'tapioca pudding' shortly ensued.

Turning to more recent events, 1st April (no kidding) and a small flock of fieldfares passed over: must be leaving our shores soon for summer in Scandinavia. Possibly a racing pigeon joined our wood pigeons on the grain on 3rd April. We couldn't see a ring as the legs were obscured by blades of grass, but it was black and white, very much the colour of a black-backed gull in miniature.

A chiffchaff in the allotments hedgerow of Sandylands Park has been heartily singing since 6th April and these summer migrants are common in the countryside now. No one's reported swallows and we've not seen them locally although they turned up at the Sandbach flashes in March. Sunday, 3rd April, was our first of the year: 1212' up on Ecton Hill in the Staffs. Moorlands of all places - no farm, no water, no flies!
Our thanks to all contributors.
Trevor and Hilary Clowes : Tel. 664358
email handt136@talktalk.net

Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre Chairman's Report

We welcome a new trustee to the hall's Management Committee – **Alan Davies**, who will represent the University of the Third Age (U3A) – the hall's most frequent hirer.
Our major plans for this year include:
Refurbishment of the kitchen. The Wistaston Parish Council has given a generous grant towards this project.
Modernisation of the unisex toilet.

Four forthcoming events in 2016 are:
Thursday 16 June. **The Queen's Birthday Celebration Concert** with the Crewe Concert Band and two guest artists – David Clews and Chris White. Please come and enjoy this concert starting at 7.30pm. £6 entry fee payable at the door - including light refreshments. There will also be a raffle. Come and celebrate our Queen's Special Birthday with patriotic music and entertainment. You might even wear your special costume for the occasion! A queen hopes to be present – our Rose Queen Rachel of Wistaston.

Saturday 3 September. Our **Annual Duck Race and Children's Model Boats' display and race**, starting at 2pm. Local organisations are invited to book stalls, with no charge, open from 1pm. There will be a display of the children's boats at 2pm with prizes (£10, £8, £6) for the best designed boats. The children's model boat race will start at 2.30pm with prizes for the first three boats to finish (£10, £8, £6). Duck race tickets will be on sale from 1pm. Purchasers of the first three duck tickets to complete the winding course will receive £100, £50, £25. The whole event is being generously **sponsored** by **Wistonia Electrical & Security Ltd** via director Nigel Huxley to whom we are most grateful.
Tuesday 25 October. The **Annual Hall Quiz** starting at 7.30pm. Teams of four per table @ £10 per team. The quizmasters are Peter and Christina Wainwright. Can last year's champions – Treble Chance – complete a double?

Sunday 13 November. **Service of Remembrance**, starting at 3pm in the main hall. We will remember all those people killed in conflicts. The Memorial Hall was opened on 26 March 1949 in memory of the sixteen men from Wistaston who perished in the Second World War. **'We will remember them'.**

At the recent **AGM** the **eight officers were elected**:
President: John C Cooke
Vice Presidents: Norman Bentley and Glenys White
Chairman: John White – Tele: 661484
Vice Chairman: Brian Edge
Treasurer: Maureen Bellis
Booking Officer: Bill Heath – Tele: 560471
Minuting Secretary: Glenys White
Wistaston's emblem the swan is all around. What if the legend had been about a Canada goose called Marmaduke? It hasn't got quite the same (cygnet) ring has it?
J C White, Chairman,
Tele: 01270 661484

Wistaston Young Drama Group

Following the performance of *James and the Giant Peach* we have had some lovely feedback from parents saying how much they enjoyed watching. The children were fantastic and everyone including the audience helped pass "the peach" along to the stage. (see photograph)

Classes have restarted with some fabulous new drama activities and games. The younger children have made hand puppets and then invited their parents in to watch an improvised story.

Another activity was to make the tallest hat possible from newspaper and sellotape and then for one of the team to walk the length of the hall balancing an OXO cube on top! There was quite a scramble to the finish line! (see photograph)

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







Pupils from Wistaston Church Lane Academy beside their Mural in the Royal Arcade Walkway in Crewe

Crewe's best kept secret! The above mural which is startlingly beautiful was painted in the Royal Arcade Crewe late last year and contains drawings by pupils from Edleston Primary School and Wistaston Church Lane Academy and includes the Bentley Motors logo, Joey the Swan, Queens Park, a train, a football and Joseph Locke who was the Civil Engineer responsible for laying out the original town.

Local teenager Sean Moulton brought its plight to the attention of property developers Redefine International.

This regeneration project is supported by Crewe Town Council and Cheshire East and the artwork was by One Red Shoe.

Thanks to Jonathan White for the above information, Wistaston Church Lane Academy for the photograph and congratulations to everyone involved in its production. The Arcade has been really transformed. It could be the start of a new Crewe.

Conclusion from Persephone

If you were to ask me if I felt that my time volunteering made an impact, I would have to answer no. I know that my skills as an employee are more than playing cards for hours a day with fourteen year old boys….. This isn't necessarily the fault of ICYE, but having volunteered for the past four years, I know just how much work a volunteer can do. I also recognise that it must be hard for charities and foundations to take on international volunteers who can barely string together a sentence in Spanish at the start, like me, and few skills that are actually useful to the projects they work with. Having said that, the work was only one part of my experience; I met some incredible people; Colombians, volunteers, travellers. They were brilliant people and all had their own stories and I know I will keep in contact with them. **I think what made the whole seven months worth it for me were the people I met.**

Now the hard part starts for me: the job hunt. Having been to Colombia, I am determined to work in the third or the public sector. I don't feel I could get the same satisfaction in my work if I am not helping people.

I will always look back on Colombia as a great time of my life and I hope I'll be able to go back very soon as there's still so much I have yet to see. It's a truly fabulous place and if you get the chance to visit, you should. I'll also spend a couple of lines advocating voluntary work. Without the opportunity to volunteer, I would have never considered going abroad and having these experiences. I wholeheartedly believe that volunteering is a great way to enrich your life by opening you up to new adventures, new people and places. The best part of it is hearing from the people you've helped, how their life has moved forward from your impact. I don't know if anything can beat a genuine 'thank you'.

Many, many thanks to Persephone for giving us such a wonderful insight into her time in Colombia together with the superb photographs she sent us.

La Candelaria - historic Bogota below.





Report from Persephone in Columbia

We have been following Persephone's fascinating letters over the past few months and they have given us a window onto a world we know very little about especially regarding the following two topics, lack of running water and drugs. Persephone experienced the lack of water when Cazuca's supply ran out.

'The part of the community where I work has running water, kind of portable, serviced by a large water tank located in the middle of the neighbourhood. However, when it runs out, it runs out. The residents have no idea when it will return. Could be hours, could be days. Thankfully, the water company has a contingency plan for this kind of event. Water tankers come up the mountain and the residents have to go with whatever large vessel they can find to get a proportion of the water. With Cazuca being up one of the mountains flanking the city, these people have to haul large buckets uphill or steep stairs. Normally, the Police have to supervise. This particular time, the water had been gone for one day and a group of particularly angry residents blocked the main street with their buckets because the water tanker still hadn't reached them.

Another thing I have begun to explore is Bogota's drug culture. Apart from the small proportion of travellers that come here and engage in 'drug tourism', the drug situation is a massive problem painfully visible everyday on the streets of the city. There is an area called 'El Bronx' which is just a few streets away from the main historical centre and you could call it a little piece of hell. From the Transmilenio line, the start of this area is visible as a literal mound of rubbish piled to form a kind of stinking boundary with murky figures who shuffle past. I've never been there, nor do I want to go, so I watched a documentary on youtube about this place. Essentially, El Bronx comprises of a tiny part of the city; a matter of streets. This place is where you go to buy your drugs, your stolen items, women. This is not just a red light district, it is an extremely nasty place. It's controlled by two mafia groups who are connected to the paramilitaries. It has its own internal code of conduct, so as not to scare away customers, and anybody who breaks the rules is punished severely. It runs 24 hours a day, all year round. It's essentially a pit of human degradation, without hope for the people who go there. The one thing I find the most bizarre about El Bronx is that it runs right next to the military recruitment centre and just one block away from police headquarters. The authorities know exactly what goes on but turn a blind eye as it keeps the very worst of the city in one place. In 2013, the police conducted an operation to clear. According to the documentary in a matter of hours El Bronx was functioning exactly the same as it was before. The worst part about this place is that once you get sucked in, you probably will never get out.

The human cost of El Bronx is visible from the dirty, helpless people who wander the streets, leaning against lamp posts, mouth gaping or they just sleep where they fall.

See previous page for conclusion.

Wistaston's 34th Annual Flower and Produce Show Saturday 20 August 2016

Now the seed merchants' catalogues are dropping through people's letter boxes it is time to display the schedule for 2016's show so that exhibitors can decide what classes to enter. The Show Committee wish you all well and hope to see a heap of entries .

Section 1 - Flower Classes

1. Bowl of Sweet Peas, mixed colours, 15 stems minimum.
2. A specimen Rose in a vase.
3. Three Large Gladioli, any variety or varieties.
4. Three Small Gladioli, any variety or varieties.
5. Three Pom Pom Dahlias, any variety or varieties.
6. Three Cactus or Semi-Cactus Dahlias, any variety or
7. Three Decorative Dahlias, any variety or varieties.
8. A Single Stem of Any Flowering Plant (not on schedule) in a vase.
9. Six Asters, any variety or varieties.
10. A Single Geranium Head in a vase.
11. Six French Marigolds, any variety or varieties
12. A Shallow Bowl of Floating Flower Heads – arranged for effect.
13. A Vase of Mixed Flowers – home grown.
14. A Cactus.
15. A Succulent
16. A Geranium in a Pot – with saucer.
17. A Begonia in a Pot – with saucer.
18. A Flowering Plant in a Pot - with saucer – excluding plants from Classes 21 & 22.
19. A Foliage Plant in a Pot – with saucer.
20. Six Fuchsia Heads on a board.
21. A Fuchsia in a 9cms Pot – with saucer – any variety.
22. A Fuchsia in a 14cms Pot – with saucer – any variety.
23. Alpine Garden – 25cm x 25cm. maximum

Section 2 - Vegetable Classes

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

Section 3 - Wistaston Parish Vegetable Display

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

Section 4 - Flower Arrangements

48. Titles for this section will be in the Schedule
49. As above
50. As above
51. As above

Section 5 : Harvest Basket

52. A Basket Containing Fruit, Flowers & Produce: not to exceed 46cms in width & length; height not restricted.

Section 6 : Children's Classes

53. Pre-school year - To be decided.
54. Year 1 Children) To be decided by Church Lane
55. Year 5 Children) Academy in June

Section 7 - House Craft Classes

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

Section 8 - Hobby Crafts

70. A Cross Stitch Picture 15cm x 20cm maximum.
71. A Painting. Own original work: A4 Size max: Unframed.

Parish Council Photographic Competition

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

Prize money will be £5, £3 and £2 in both classes.
Entries to be with the Show Secretary by 15 August 2016

All entries for this competition are free.

For 2016 it is agreed that people who work in Wistaston or are first year Domestic Science students at Dane Bank College or are plot holders on either of the Willaston or Wistaston Allotments and all members of Wistaston U3A Groups may enter the show.

Please read the schedule and the rules very carefully to make sure your entries are in the correct class, are trimmed as directed, are the correct size, contain the right amount of ingredients. No judge likes to place a N.A.S. (Not As Schedule) ticket against an entry. Ours is not a cut throat show. In fact it is renowned for its friendliness and help between one competitor and another but there have to be rules or the whole thing would be chaotic. Let us all hope for good growing conditions.

The Committee wish to thank The Peacock Nurseries, The Fireplace Warehouse and Wistaston Gardeners Society for their support again in 2015.

Gwyneth Brown, President *Bernard Moores*, Hon. Secretary

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