WINTER 'ROUNDABOUT'

A Wistaston Community Council Publication

2016
ISSUE 144



Wistaston's Autumn Sunset

A Happy Christmas to Everyone

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EDITORIAL FOR WINTER 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 our 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 Spring edition, due out in early March, by 15 January. **See page 6 for Dates for your Diary.**

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

Geoff Poppitt
19 Byron Way
01270 569642

Wistaston Community Council's Fireworks Evening went off brilliantly with full report on page 25. It was superb for everyone to be able to take part in the procession which this year with Pochins expertise and help we were able to do. The Community Council are very appreciative of those who helped to make it so successful - Wistaston Parish Council Redshift Radio, Gekostar Fireworks, Wistaston Scouts, Glows North West, the Brittles Committee for the venue, the marshalls and everyone who came and gave a hand to ensure it went ahead. Entry to the Fireworks was by donation.

The Community Council also organise the Village Fete, the Flower and Produce Show, the Christmas Concert and for each event they fully realise how important is everyone's help. For the Fete everyone enjoys to see the Rose Queens in their beautifully sparkling cars which are a joy to behold but the drivers after all the time and effort they have put in probably didn't receive the profuse thanks they should have done. Can we thank them now.

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 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, to arrive by 31 December 2016.

We, the undersigned, nominate:
Name……
Address……
Proposer - Name ……
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Seconder – Name ……
Address……
Seconder – Name and Address……..



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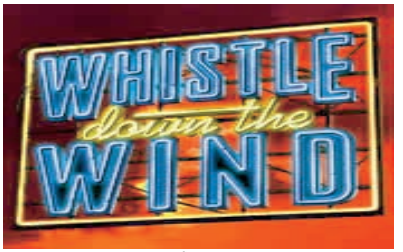
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Wistaston Parish Council **Chairman's Report**

1. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE www.wistaston-np.org.uk

Our steering group have completed the final draft and it is hoped to resolve any minor issues at our November meeting. This will then be submitted to Cheshire East Council for Regulation 14 Consultation. We will be circulating a copy of the policies on the website www.wistaston-np.org.uk

We are disappointed that no response has been received from developers and land owners to date.

The Secretary of State's approval to the housing development on 'Witter's Field' adjacent to Church Lane for 330 houses will have a significant effect on our community and many of the key problems identified in our joint discussions with Cheshire East and resident groups have been ignored. We are reviewing our Neighbourhood Plan in light of this development to examine what are the effects and whether our policies require change.

2. CIVIC SERVICE

Our Civic Service for 2017 will be arranged during February. This will be held at St. Mary's, we anticipate a full attendance including civic dignitaries and our Church Lane School Choir. When our date is confirmed this will be communicated on our website and notice boards

3. DOGS

We have had reported concerns on the number of dogs left to roam freely on our open recreational area at Joey the Swan together with many faeces droppings which should be properly bagged and deposited in the allocated collection bins. We would appeal to all users to ensure controls are appropriate and deposit waste.

4. WOODLANDS (COLLEGE FIELDS)

Significant antisocial behaviour is occurring both in daytime and early evenings. We ask residents to report incidents immediately to the police (999) to prevent serious accidents

5. COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

We have two vacancies available one in the Wistaston Green Ward and one in St. Mary's 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 15th December 2016, 19th January and 16th February 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend mine and your Council's best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Cllr. J. Moore Chairman



Dates for your Diary

Friday 9 December Christmas Concert in St Marys Church Hall Wistaston
Monday 26 December Boxing Day Walk - 10.30am from the Memorial Hall
Monday 16 January 2017 Community Council's AGM at 7.30pm
Saturday 17 June 2017 Wistaston Village Fete
Saturday 19 August 2017 Flower and Produce Show

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Councillor Contact Details:

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
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 (1 vacancy)	
John Edge	119 Field Lane, Wistaston, CW2 8ST	661329
Thomas Kilkenny	15 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EN.	650045
Ken Parish	12 Riverside Grove, Wistaston, CW2 8QF	650280
Andrew Woolley	37 Langdale Road, Wistaston, CW2 8EY	651378
Clerk to the Council		
Mrs. Andrea Cross	4 Arundel Close, Wistaston. CW2 8EY	652098

****

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 the years as age group league champions and cup winners in the youth leagues, culminating in the open age team being first division champions and again winning the Crewe & District FA Vase Trophy for a second year in succession.

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.

This season Wistaston Athletic has grown by adding teams at youth level and now have representations at under 11's, under12's, two under 13's teams, under 14s and under16's.

All teams have had a steady start to the season and are hopeful of more wins and extended runs in various cup competitions. The adult team so far this season has seen a consolidation following promotion to the Premier League.

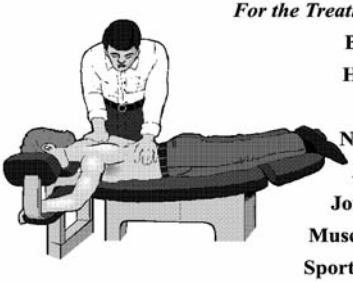
We would welcome new players in all age groups. If you are interested please contact Peter Clayton on 01270 664427

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Cricket Quiz answers: 1. Shane Warne. 2. Gloucestershire. 3. Middlesex. 4. Kane Williamson. 5. Hampshire. 6.West Indies.

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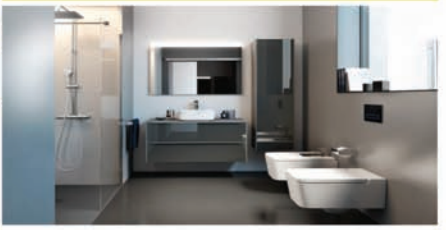
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Wistaston Village Cricket Club
(Founded 1980)

2016 has been a season which has seen **Wistaston Village Cricket Club** enjoy in the main a successful campaign on several fronts. **Our First Eleven** enjoyed a competitive season and managed promotion from their division, having a one stage lead and continually maintained a position in the top three places - a commendable effort in **The Cheshire Alliance Division 1.**

Division 1

Team	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*T*	*Ab'd*	*NR*	Cancelled	Bonus *Pts*	*Pt*	*Points*
Maritme C.C.	22	12	2	3	0	1	0	4	60		388
Cholmondeley	22	13	1	3	0	0	0	5	35		385
Wistaston	22	11	2	5	0	1	0	3	74		365

The Second Eleven competing in **Cheshire Cricket League - Division B East** had a mixed season which saw them finish just below a mid-table position.
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. Nantwich C.C (311Pts.) 2. Haslington C.C. (239Pts.) 3. Elworth C.C. (225 Pts.)
4. Macclesfield C.C. (159Pts.) 5. Wistaston C.C. (119 Pts.)
Our **Under 9's and 11'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 the future of our cricket club.
Our **Women's First Eleven** enjoyed another successful season participating in **Cheshire Women's Cricket League - Division 2** finishing runners-up to Stockport Trinity.
At the Annual Dinner Awards Alison Smith (213 runs) and Morganne Prince (149 runs) featured in the **Division Two batting** while in the **bowling department Emily MacKenzie, Alison Smith and Hannah Bratt all featured** as did **Emily MacKenzie and Abbie Adams i**n the **fielding.**
The cricket club enjoyed another excellent **President's Day** on **August Bank Holiday Monday** and on **Saturday 17th September** we held our annual presentation evening.

Winners:- 1st Eleven Batting :- George Barlow Bowling:- James Hogben
2nd Eleven Batting: - Gareth Thomas Bowling: - Mahmood Mir
3rd Eleven Batting: - Olly Botham Bowling: - Jon Bourne
Midweek Batting:- Ryan Briddon Bowling:- Emily McKenzie
Ladies Players' Player:- Abby Adams Coach's player of the year:- Hannah Bratt and Mare of the Season also to Hannah for (silliest thing to happen/be said during a game).
Under 9's Batting: Harrison Owen. Bowling: Hugh Allwood. Player of the year - Will Thomas.
Under 11's Batting:- Noah Birchall Bowling:- Luke Edwards Player of the year:- Lewis Adams
Boy of the year:- Ben Townsend Most improved player (Howard West Trophy) Will Stokes
Presidents Cup:- Alison Smith.

LADY PLAYERS REQUIRED FOR THE FORTHCOMING 2017 CRICKET SEASON

Following another productive season by our ladies eleven in the **Cheshire Women's Cricket League, Wistaston Village Cricket Club** would like to capitalize 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 **2017,** take the next important step towards playing cricket, please contact either **Pauline or Kevin Jobbins** on **01270663699**, 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. 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: - 01270 663699** in the first instance. For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either **Kevin or Pauline Jobbins 01270 663699.**

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

Just for Fun. Six of the Best

1. **As of 2015, which cricketer holds the record for most Test runs without a century?**
2. **W.G. Grace played for which county for nearly 30 years (1870–1899)?**
3. **Which first-class county club did Phil Tufnell play for from 1986 to 2002?**
4. **Which New Zealand cricketer was named '*Wisden* Leading Cricketer in the World' for 2015?**
5. **Which first class county did Charles (Phil) Mead play for between 1905 and 1936, scoring over 55,000 first class runs?**
6. **The 2016 ICC World Twenty20 was won by which country?**

Answers on page 8

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The Big Screen at Wells Green - December to March, 2016-2017

We are pleased to announce another varied season of new and classic movies with a message at Wells Green Methodist Church, Brookland Avenue, on the Crewe Road/Rope Lane junction. Come along from 16.30 onwards for a 17.00 showing, which will end with a short discussion of the film. There is no obligation to stay after the movie ends and no charge for admission, though you can make a small donation if you wish. Refreshments are also available - so do join us for an evening out at your local cinema!

Sunday 11th December - The Truman Show
Friday 23 December - Finding Nemo
Sunday 15th January – Dead Poets Society
Sunday 19th February - Brooklyn
Sunday 19th March – Suffragette

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Out-of-School Care

Breakfast club costs £4.20 and runs from 08:00am to 08:45am incorporating a light breakfast and an escorted safe drop-off at school for years 2 and below.

After school club costs £10.50 and runs from 3:25 pm to 6:00 pm. Children are collected from school (upto year 2) and enjoy a light meal and after school entertainment.

Holiday clubs run throughout the school holidays and provide childcare and entertainment for pre-school and school aged children between the hours of 08:00 am and 6:00 pm each day except bank holidays.
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Report from Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club

Another summer tennis season came to an end on 11 September when the Finals of WJTC took place. After a somewhat shaky start the weather managed to behave itself throughout the day. Friends and families turned up to support the players and they were not disappointed. Excellent tennis took place with fast and furious sets keeping up very high standards of tennis. The results were as follows:

Men's singles: *George Raiswell beat Paul Unwin*

Men's doubles:*George Raiswell and Robert Sheffield beat Nick Green and Roy Broughton.*

Presidents Tournament Final

Kath Charlesworth and Hazel Dunn beat Jean Proudlove and Marian Proudlove.

Open Doubles Final

Nigel Green and Robert Sheffield beat Arvind Anandakumar and Ryan Harper-Griffiths.

Trophies were presented after the traditional tea provided by members, families and friends.

Looking back at a past edition of *Roundabout* I came across a Finals Day report by John White, who was Chairman at the time, in which he asked 'Where are the 200 members of WJTA who paid £5 each in 1969?' Many changes have taken place since then but some things have not changed. Wistaston Jubilee tennis courts are still the finest in the area so: past members come and see for yourselves; dust that old tennis racquet out of the loft, put a cover over the computer and stop Twittering! Come along and renew your old skills; once a tennis player, always a tennis player. Many names on the Winners Board in the Pavilion are reminders of excellent players - so give it a try and enjoy the fun, fresh air and most importantly the friendship of members who will welcome you back with open arms.

See you on court! *Alice Chalwin*

Sandstone Trail charity walk by Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club

Jonathan White

Members of Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club have completed a fund-raising walk along the entire 34 mile length of the Sandstone Trail.

George Raiswell, Tony Mason and Ryan Harper-Griffiths walked a twenty mile section between Whitchurch and Tarporley on 27th August 2016 in eleven hours. George, Tony and Ryan then walked the remaining fourteen mile section between Tarporley and Frodsham, with Ben Reinhardt, Eric James and other club members, on the 15th October 2016 in seven and a half hours, despite getting lost!

During the walks they had elevated views at Frodsham, Raw Head and Bickerton Hill and took in some beautiful scenery and saw a wide range of flora and fauna.

Each member paid to participate in the walks and all funds raised will go to Sport Relief http://www.sportrelief.com/

A representative said, "It was a difficult but memorable walk with fantastic views. We have all improved our fitness levels and have the blisters to prove it! It was all for a good cause and we are so pleased to support Sport Relief in their fund-raising efforts."

Their next challenge is to take on the 35 mile Gritstone Trail from Disley in Cheshire to Kidsgrove in Staffordshire, taking in Lyme Park, Sponds Hill, Tegg's Nose, Croker Hill and Mow Cop. They plan to tackle the trail in three separate sections.

Wistaston Conservation Group

Once again the Group has had a very productive time, with an average of 8 members out every Monday morning in all weathers, although the weather has been really kind to us recently. The only drawback to this really dry weather is that the ground has been very hard, and thus has made some of our planting sessions very difficult.

Joey the Swan pond. For those who have been keeping an eye on the 'new' pond, which the Group built some 18 months ago, you will have noticed that the growth has been fantastic, in fact much too fantastic, and so we decided to have a complete clear-out. A lot of the rushes have been removed, and the centre of the pond dug out to a better depth for wildlife. Several new plants have been put in, and the edges built up, to allow hopefully for even more depth of water. A new drainage channel has been dug, and all the drainage ditches further up the reccreation ground cleared, with the hope of more water ingress. If you look at the pond now it doesn't look good, but given time, we hope it will be a much better local amenity for both people and wildlife.



Earlier this year, after we had cleared an area of overgrown Willow, the cut stems were planted near to the pond, most of which are now growing well. Two of our members decided to have a go at Willow weaving and have now produced an attractive hedge across the top of the bank. We never envisaged such talent in our Group.

Path clearing and edging Several of our paths had become very overgrown and the width available for walking was going down to an unacceptable level. We have spent a lot of time and effort cutting back the edges and any overhanging branches, and have strimmed away much of the overgrowth.



The circular path around what was originally intended as a pond some years ago, at the entrance to the old filter beds, was very badly overgrown, making the path virtually unusable. We have now cut back all the overhanging branches and the grass edging has been tidied up, making the path useable again.

Woodside covert edge About 3 years ago, the Group built a line of "natural" hedge, using the brushwood cut from other areas of the local woodland. Due partly to age, and partly to vandalism, this hedge has become much less of the pretty site we intended, so we are presently (early November) removing it. In its place, we are planning a Beech hedge, using trees kindly donated by the Forestry Commission, and we have now planted daffodil

bulbs in front of it, kindly donated by the Parish Council. By the time you read this, most of this work will be complete, but the benefit will not be obvious until next spring and summer.
It is our intention to continue this hedge and bulb planting all the way up the bank until we meet up with the daffodils we planted last year, when we have enough whips and bulbs available.



Tree planting As noted above, we have been fortunate to receive a fairly large number of native tree whips, donated to us by the Forestry Commission. We are presently engaged in planting these in various areas of Wistaston, especially on the edges of Woodside Covert near to the children's play area, on the "island" at Joey the Swan, and also in Old Covert, where many of the trees were cut down due to old age. This will hopefully allow for the woodland to regenerate for the benefit of both people and wildlife.

Wistaston Green Road carpark A job which we seem to have inherited due to general neglect, is the care of this carpark. We assembled one Monday morning to do a full clean up, but as the work progressed we were dismayed at the amount of fly tipping which has gone on recently in this area. In that morning, we cleared a double bed mattress, bicycle, lawnmower, filled both refuse bins, and 2 other large bags. When all this rubbish had been cleared, the main job of the day was completed, with all the edges cut back, the paths to the carpark cleared, and all the grass areas strimmed.
This fly tipping is an ongoing problem in our area, which is totally unnecessary, and unacceptable, as there is the Council refuse yard not more than a mile away. If you have rubbish to dispose of, PLEASE use the amenities provided, rather than leaving it for others, volunteers, to clear up.
As always, if you have a conservation issue, or you perhaps have an idea of a way of improving the natural features of Wistaston, we would love to hear from you. Either contact one of the Group, or come and meet us on Monday morning. Contact details, and where we will be working on that day, are noted on our website www.wistastonconservationgroup.org.
As this will be the last Roundabout of 2016, I would like to thank all the Group working party members for all they have achieved this year, and David O'Hara for keeping us all fully employed (the work list just seems to get longer every year) to make Wistaston a better place to live. *John M Wood*, Chairman.
****

Spotted through a window

Mrs Monica Clough of Lydgate Close, Wistaston writes that on the afternoon of 2nd June 'I was reading my paper and suddenly glanced up to see to my amazement, sitting on the window sill, looking in, was a sparrow hawk. After a minute or two he decided to preen himself and after several minutes of this flew off. Something really wonderful to remember.'

Winners of the Laurie Twiss Award for 2016



Winners of the Laurie Twiss Award for 2016.

In this edition of Roundabout we print George Edge-Robinson's article which gave him second place in the Laurie Twiss Award. All winners received a Certificate, Gift Voucher and Pen. This competition is 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. Start writing now for 2017 – you have until next May! You can choose, fact or fiction. Jessica Shaw whose winning entry was printed in the last edition of Roundabout chose fiction but George as you can see below, chose fact.

George, who attends The Berkeley Academy, is photographed at this year's Remembrance Service after laying the cross in memory of Roy Berryman Edwards at the front of the Memorial Hall.

Day of Disaster

In June l942, Roy Berryman Edwards and John Martin Howard U.S.N were blown up by a booby trapped mine at Corton near Lowestoft.

Roy was born in Britain in 1903. John on the other hand was born in the USA in 1918.

Lieutenant Commander Roy Berryman Edwards D.S.O was training Ensign John Martin Howard U.S.N. on how to dispose of a mine. Bravery brought them to this mine on this beach.

On this tragic day, on the beach of Corton there was a report of a mine that had been dropped into the sea and washed ashore there. They called for Lieutenant Commander Edwards and young Ensign Howard to dispose of the mine. The mine was 2.5 metres long and was full of dynamite and explosives. They tried to defuse it but then it blew up and killed both of them. The next day they were buried at sea together.

They will be remembered for their bravery. Sylvia, Roy's daughter, sent me a wooden cross to put at the front of the Memorial Hall on Remembrance Sunday 8th November 2015.

I was proud to be chosen to lay the cross at the front of the Memorial Hall – 'we must never forget them'. *George-Edge Robinson*

Wistaston Community Council 100 Club

The Council has agreed that for 2017 again the prizes will be as follows: Draw 13, Dec £200. Draw 6, June £100. Draw 3 and 9, March, September £50 each with a £25 prize at all other draws.

Every draw will also have at least 5 of £10 prizes. At draw 13 this number will be adjusted to achieve approximately 50% in prize monies and 50% to the Community Council to help fund its events and donations. The above assumes that membership remains at around 100 members . Vacancies exist in the Club if anyone wishes to join in just let a committee member know or use the WCC website to make contact., thank you.

I thank all members for joining the Club during 2016. Also I wish to thank the 5 collectors for their hard work collecting funds and finding new members throughou the year.

I will be retiring as the Club Promoter at the end of this year due to personal problems and Mr Lomax will replace me. Again thank you all on behalf of the Community Council.

Bernard Moores

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The LATH (Looking After The Homeless) Group held *A Gala Autumn Concert* at Wistaston Memorial Hall, Wistaston on Saturday 22nd October 2016.

The concert featured ukulele collective *The Ukey Monster* https://www.facebook.com/TheUkeyMonster - who performed an eclectic combination of popular songs in a quirky, energetic and upbeat style. There were vibrant vocal harmonies, Ukey sizzling solos, luscious licks and big bass grooves from Deep Purple to Lily Allen, Michael Jackson to Motorhead, and Chuck Berry to Pink Floyd! There was also a raffle and free light refreshments.

Proceeds from the concert will go to The LATH Group, who have converted the disused former 'Bed Centre' shop at 38 High Street, Crewe into a drop-in centre to help homeless, vulnerable and lonely people. The centre features a recreation area, lounge area, computer facilities, telephone service, toilet block, kitchen and dining area.

The LATH Group developed from an idea obtained from a talk by a Salvation Army Officer in 2009, to a full blown registered charity, offering sustenance, advice and assistance, and practical support to the most vulnerable in the community.

The LATH Group is run entirely by unpaid volunteers and most of its funds come via donations and its own fundraising, with some corporate support by way of groceries from Marks & Spencer, Morrisons, the SPAR shop (Rope Lane), and other support from the FRESH Group of businesses.

Bernard Potter (Chair of The LATH Group) said, "Fundraisers like this are so enjoyable for all concerned, contribute valuable funds for our cause, and hopefully raise awareness of what we are about"

For more information relating to The LATH Group, including ways in which you can help please visit their website: http://www.lathgroup.org.uk or email info@lathgroup.org.uk

Jonathan White, Wistaston





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Report from Berkeley Academy We have had a busy first few weeks at The Berkeley Academy!

The whole school have taken part in an Emotional Awareness Week. The children were mixed into their house teams from year 1 to year 6. Several workshops took place throughout the week with outside groups coming in to work with the children. At the end of the week the children celebrated their work in an assembly, showcasing pieces of music, dance, drama and art!



Within year groups children created their own games in which they could compete against each other, again in house teams. The children demonstrated great leadership and teamwork skills as they took on roles of umpires, coaches and participants.

Year 1 had a visit from *Pets at Home*, Crewe this term to kick start their topic on *'Who lives on our planet'.* They had the opportunity to have a hands-on experience and learn about different animals and how to look after them.

Children in Year 3 went to the Dewa Centre in Chester for the day to learn all about life as a Roman Soldier! The children had a fantastic time and all returned as *Brave Roman Soldiers!*



We are looking forward to another busy half term in the run up to Christmas!

New Car drop off update: Work will soon begin on a new 40 vehicle car park and drop off zone. This will improve safety for our children and reduce the need to park on the surrounding roads which can upset our local neighbours. It will be built in two phases and once complete the area will be closed off during the school day so it can be used as a playground. Work is expected to begin within the next few weeks. Both the Head and Chair of Governors have worked closely with the Local Authority to secure planning permission and a grant of £70,000 towards this work.

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Nature Article

End of summer brings a scruffy washed-out appearance to birds post breeding season and moult. Moult brings impairment of flight, necessitating maintenance of a low profile for fear of increased risk of predation. The lack of colouration means it can be more difficult to distinguish adult birds from growing young, especially with the tit family where faded yellows, blues and buffs show little contrast when masked by the leaves of trees. A deviant, the long-tailed tit, will be the earliest to build its nest in the new year. In winter these tits form tight flocks and, as so small, huddle together to keep warm on cold nights. Nest-building will start in February: elaborate domed constructions taking several weeks to fabricate before egg-laying late March to May. Books tend to tell us these tits seldom visit gardens, being very much woodland birds, but from our own experiences we believe times have changed.

The frenzy of parents feeding very young and hungry chicks is past, so mornings are quieter, especially with the jackdaws where the well developed young are seen at last without their seniors, foraging for themselves.

Some warblers leave our shores in August, although the majority depart September/October, changing from an insect diet to sugar-rich fruits for energy reserves to assist passage to Europe or Africa. The only courtship rituals available to witness would seem to be of wood pigeons, a pair on our neighbour's garage roof seen to indulge in close to human behaviour - bills meeting as in a kiss and the combing with bill of the crown of a head akin to our hand caress.

Tony Beeston of Church Lane tells us that early one evening in mid July, while shaping his conifers, he was inundated with swifts, swallows and martins, on account of his disturbing insects. In September we were both aware of the deep voice of a raven and confirmation of their presence was given by Tony with a report of four on 7th and two on 9th. Further to this, Dave O'Hara saw one fly over towards Church Lane from Jackson's Corner; another being heard at the top of a large conifer at the day nursery. This latter flew past towards the church, calling, thence flying off with another (presumably that first one) over the fields. We never used to expect to encounter this corvid: the one with the loud honk and long conk. Our largest crow, and a bird associated with wild remote regions, the raven is becoming more common outside its traditional habitat.

Allan Scholes (Broughton Lane) was aware of a buzzard in early October daily taking flight from the same perch on a tree at the bottom of his garden. Late morning of 3 October a young fox lay sunning itself in the raised vegetable patch, another joining it and the pair play-tussling for about an hour. Since then there have been daily visits and although Allan's wife has a studio within 30' of the veg/fox bed the foxes ignore her. Joyce Rawlings, Park Drive, rejoices (no pun intended!)

in getting her September bats back, albeit in small numbers, seeing them several times at dusk over three weeks. At month end only one was left, but one is better than none, says Joyce, who has only been 'buzzed' once.
Butterfly-wise, it has been a poor year for anything but whites; a speckled wood and small tortoiseshell in the garden, once taken for granted, real treats this summer. Our concentration now, as autumn takes its toll, is on ridding the house of desiccated woodlice and dying daddylonglegs.
Our thanks to all contributors.
Trevor and Hilary Clowes
Tel. 664358 email handt136@talktalk.net
****

Wistaston Fireworks Display Saturday 5th November 2016 with thanks to Jonathan White
The 39th annual Wistaston Fireworks Display took place on Saturday 5th November 2016 at the Eric Swan Sports Ground off Church Lane in Wistaston.

Bagpiper Reg Flower led the procession from the Park Drive/Westfield Drive triangle to the Eric Swan Sports Ground off Church Lane (behind Church Lane School, Wistaston). The judging of the children's best pumpkin and best fancy dress competitions then took place and were followed by the fireworks display.
The results of the children's best pumpkin competition and children's fancy dress both judged by Wistonian of the Year, Roger Woodward, assisted by Gwyneth Brown, were:
Pumpkins:
1st - Bella Ullmer, aged 4, with 'Fred'.
2nd – Millie.
3rd – Mia.
Fancy Dress
1st prize – Harry Baxter, aged 2, who was dressed as a firework with numerous lights.
2nd prize – Annabel as Pudsey Bear.
3rd prize – Poppy as a vampire.
Costumes also included several fairies, witches, a crocodile, a ghost, and a ghoul.



Locally-based online community radio station RedShift Radio - http://www.redshiftradio.co.uk/ - for the seventh year running generously provided, setup and staffed the PA system before the fireworks and played music during the display. RedShift Radio presenters Kelly-Ann Davies and Liz Southall got the crowd warmed up before the display.
Professional fireworks display specialist Gekostar Fireworks - http://www.gekostarfireworks.co.uk/ - setup the fireworks display.

Children's best fancy dress competition winner Harry Baxter, see above, was given the honour of officially starting the display. Fireworks used during a magnificent 11 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 and 'Glow's North West' sold children's flashing novelties.

Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre Chairman's Report

The hall continues to be well used by over **thirty groups**, from toddlers at a musical morning to mature folk at our quiz.

The new kitchen, constructed by Rob Anson's company, was officially opened on Thursday 27th October with a ceremony, ribbon-cutting and coffee in room. The hall's committee is most grate- ful for the grants from the Wistaston and Rope Parish Councils, as well as proceeds from the Duck Race and Quiz. The new kitchen cer- tainly has a mod- ern ambience with modern equipment.



The Annual Hall Quiz took place on Tuesday 25th October, involving fourteen teams in exciting competition for the Fred Lorimer Memorial shield. The quiz questioners were Peter and Christina Wainwright. Refreshments were supervised by Audrey Astbury. The raffle was organised by Glenys White and raised £93. At the end of the closely contested six sections, two teams tied for first place with 50 correct answers. After the tie-break round the winners were the **'4 in a Corner'** team (Andrea Ollerhead, Chris White, Meurig Jones and John Booth); who were presented with the shield by the hall's President, John Cooke. The runners-up were the 'Tennis Aces' from WJTC (Bill, Tony, Trevor and Richard). The £200 raised went towards the cost of the new kitchen.

The Annual Service of Remembrance was held on the afternoon of Sunday 13th November in the hall. The service was led by the local ministers – Rev Mike Turnbull (St Mary's Church) and Rev Denise Harding (Wells Green Methodist Church). The music was provided by Myra Wood and the Wells Green Church choir. Roger Woodward (Wistonian of the Year) read 'In Flanders Field' and Jack Gresty played 'The Last Post' and 'Reveille'. The collection was for the Royal British Legion. A tribute was made to one of Wistaston's sixteen heroes – **Captain Reginald Frederick Tucker RE**.



If you would like to hire the Memorial Hall for an event or meeting, please contact **Bill Heath Tel. 01270 560471**.

Our Management Committee members send you their best wishes for a happy festive period.

John White, Chairman, Tel. 01270 661484

Wistaston Young Drama Group

The children presented their end of year showcase to a packed Memorial Hall in July. The senior group presented *The Audition*, and the junior group *The Good, The Bad and the Nerf Gun.* Both pieces were written by the children Rehearsals will begin for the next production, yet to be confirmed. After our fantastic production of James and the Giant Peach we are sure it will be just as fabulous!

We have been invited to participate in Holly Holy Day in 2017.

The photograph shows two of the children in a scene from *The Good, The Bad and the Nerf Gun.*



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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Weston Light Display

Christmas Services at St Mary's Wistaston.
Fancy singing a Carol or two in December? If you do we have two Carol Services and plenty of other services with Carols in them! 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)

17th December - Saturday
6.30pm - Carols on the Green
Outside Carol Singing around the church and hall

18th December - Sunday
6.30pm - Nine Lessons and Carols
A traditional service of Readings and Carols

24th December Saturday - 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 Sunday - 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
@maryandluke
facebook.com/stmaryandstluke
Church Office 01270 567119

Dear Wistaston friends,
I am the 'new' Methodist Minister for Wells Green, Willaston, Shavington and Chorlton Churches. I am very excited to be back in South Cheshire as I was born and brought up in Haslington, where my Mum still lives. I hope to make your acquaintance as the months go by - meanwhile please accept my invitation to any of our events over the Christmas and New Year season - you will be most welcome! Wells Green seeks to be a welcoming and friendly church, and is always glad to make new friends and to serve the community around us. Please **take a look below** and at our new website for details of services and other events - www.ropegreenmethodists.org and let me know if I've missed anything too...
God bless you, your homes, and your families, with peace and joy.
Revd Den Harding
Wed 14th Dec Choir Concert 7.30pm for Action for Children
Friday 16th Dec 4pm to 6pm, Choir (and others) Carol singing at Crewe Station for Action for Children.
Sunday 18th Dec at 6.30pm Carol Service led by Rev Den Harding (carol sing-a-long from 6pm)
Friday 23rd Dec - Children's Fun Day 11am to 3pm - booking required - Malcolm Crook 01270 662077
Friday 23rd Dec - Christingle Service 3pm - all welcome!
Friday 23rd Dec - Showing the film 'Finding Nemo' - come for 4.30 ready for a 5pm start. Refreshments available and no admission charge:donations welcome
Saturday 24th Dec 11.15pm Holy Communion (at St John's Methodist Church Shavington)
Sunday 25th Dec 10.30am Christmas Day celebration for all - with chocolates!
Sunday 1st Jan 10.30am New Years Day service (at St John's Methodist Church Shavington)
Sunday 8th January 9.30am Service
Sunday 8th January 10.30am Service

Report from Wistaston Church Lane Academy

By Mathieu Southern, Jessica Shaw, Wilf Jones, Poppy Russell, Sam Bond, Imogen Foden, Rawdon Jones, Oscar Peel, Chloe Brereton and Isaac Stubbs.

Our Nantwich Topic Trip As part of our local Tudor topic we visited Nantwich. We did lots of activities including; a quiz around the museum - have you visited? It's fantastic!; a tour around Nantwich, made medicine herb balls and tried writing like a Tudor with quills- that was hard and messy! It was a great experience, now we can go to Nantwich with our families and teach them lots of new facts!

Art Day We have had the amazing opportunity to study Kandinsky. He did abstract art, which inspired Year 5 instantly! We looked at his work and then tried out our own. We used paint, pencil, marker pen and pastel crayons to create our unique pieces. Our artwork will be displayed in a gallery later in the year.

Swimming Here at Wistaston Church Lane Academy we have been busy each Monday swimming at Nantwich Baths. We have all been improving! Everyone has achieved a distance award whether it be 5m or 1 mile. Well done Year 5!

Spelling Bee This term the whole School has taken part in a Spelling Bee competition. After the initial rounds, each class had 12 children compete in this Year's Spelling Bee. Each round of anagrams, boggle and letter related activities whittled down more children, until a tense final spelling round!

Gener8 Gener8 is an amazing experience for the whole of Year 5! We get to use our imaginations to create an Afternoon Tea. Each team comes up with their own theme, artistic cakes, sandwiches and team name. Just before Christmas judges will be coming in to taste and judge our Afternoon Tea on enterprise skills such as; teamwork, marketability and taste. We even have to do a pitch like in Dragon's Den! The winner gets to eat Afternoon Tea at a restaurant!



CREWE ROTARY Christmas Santa Float Dates

December	Main route	Start point	Start	Finish
Mon 5	Wistaston. Ennerdale Riverside	Woodside	1800	2100
Tues 6	Manor Way, Gresty	New Life Centre, Fuller Dr	1715	2100
Wed 7	Alton St. Valley Rd estates	Mountbatten Court	1730	2100
Thu 8	Coppenhall Ln,Marshfield Rd	King George Playing Flds	1730	2100
Fri 9	Hungerford,Poets,Sydney	School Crescent	1800	2100
Sat 10	Wistaston Fuller Drive	New Life Centre	1630	1930
Sun 11	Minshull New Road	Beechmere	1530	2100
Mon 12	Haslington 1	Layby on Primrose Ave	1730	2100
Tue 13	Coppenhall-Sedgemere, Parker Rd	Sedgemere Ave	1730	2100
Wed 14	Ruskin,DaneBank,Gainsborough	St Stephens	1745	2100
Thu 15	Middlewich Street Estate	The Elms	1745	2100
Fri 16	Wistaston - Poets, Church Lane	Yew Tree Road	1730	2100
Sat 17	Wistaston Rope Bank	The Raven	1630	1930
Sat 17	Market Centre			
Sun18	ASDA			
Mon19	Haslington 2		1745	2100
Tue 20	Underwood Lane,Mablins Lane	Captain Webb	1745	2100

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