Autumn 'Roundabout'

A Wistaston Community Council Publication

2017
ISSUE 147



See article on p27

Don't forget the Duck Race

Saturday 9th September

more details on page 3.

Many thanks to Jonathan White for the Ducks.



The Magazine for People Living 'Roundabout' Wistaston

www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk

Circulation: 4100

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EDITORIAL FOR AUTUMN 2017



With very many thanks to everyone for the continued splendid support given to Roundabout in whatever capacity. Without your contributions and advertisements it would not exist. Please send in your articles, photographs etc for our Winter edition due out in early December by 15 October.

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

Geoff Poppitt, 19 Byron Way
01270 569642

The Wistaston Community Council is very appreciative of the support you give to all the events organised over the year. Thank you to everyone for their contribution towards the success of the Village Fete - Lynette and Committee who organised it so well; Pochins allowing for a smoothly run parade, the superb cars for the Rose Queens; Reg Flower for piping the Parade along; Mr Bancroft and the Governors for the use of their school; the Revd Mike for crowning the Rose Queens; Ken and John for their superb work as Masters of Ceremonies and you all for coming and supporting it.

We have now three very exciting events to look forward to: **Annual Duck Race; Village Firework Display and the Annual Christmas Concert. For further dates for your Diary see page 22.**

Our next event is the
Annual DUCK RACE and
Children's MODEL BOAT RACE
plus Charity stalls
SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER
at Joey the Swan Recreation Ground Wistaston
Stalls open from 1pm
Best Designed Boat judging at 2.10
Children's Model Boat Race 2.30
Duck Race starts at 3.15
Duck Race tickets on sale now £1

Duck Race prizes £100, £50, £25
Model Boat Race prizes (max length of boat 25 cm) £10, £8, £6
Best designed boat prizes £10,£8,£6

Watch out for updates on our website: **wistaston community.co.uk or Facebook page; Wistaston Community News and Events@Wistaston**

Wistaston Community Council's Annual FIREWORKS DISPLAY SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2017.
Fireworks Display starts with the torchlight parade, meeting on the triangle of grass on Park Drive and Westfield Drive at **5.45 for 6.00pm** prompt start. Parade arrives at the Brittles approximately **6.15** Judging Fancy Dress and Pumpkins at the Brittles around **6.20pm** and the Fireworks around **6.30pm.**
Scouts to provide hot dogs; hot and cold drinks.
Thanks to Wistaston Parish Council for their support. Entry is by donation. All profits to go to a charity.

*****

Wistaston Community Council's Annual CHRISTMAS CONCERT FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER - 7pm in St Mary's Church Hall.

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Wistaston Memorial Hall
Saturday
18 November 2017

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Wistaston Parish Council **Chairman's Report**

1. Neighbourhood Plan Update ww.wistaston-np.org.uk

Our Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Cheshire East Council (CEC) who have posted the plan along with a "Notice of Submitted Plan Proposal" to their website. The Neighbourhood Plan is now at "Regulation 16 – Consultation on Submitted Plan". CEC have consulted on the plan which ended 31st July 2017, this will be followed by a formal Examination. A local referendum will then take place allowing the voting members of the parish to accept or reject the plan. Progress can be followed at CEC Website: Wistaston Neighbourhood Plan

2. Dog fouling and control

We are continuing discussions with Cheshire East Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team. Enforcement Officers have been patrolling Joey the Swan recreation land and they are planning to hold a stall at our forthcoming Duck Race on 9th September 2017. This is part of their community involvement to prepare for a Dog Watch Campaign. The initial actions are to Engage and Educate dog owners and the general public. They have received positive feedback so far and will continue to pay passing attention to Joey the Swan recreation land.

3. Bus Service Review

Cheshire East Council has developed proposals for changes to supported bus services and flexible transport across the Borough. More information on the proposals can be found at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/busreview. This includes stopping the evening no. 8 service and the weekend no. 78 service. Your council has made representations on the impact this will have both on residents and businesses in Crewe and Nantwich.

4. Highways

Following many issues raised by public members we have agreed with Cheshire East Council Highways department to hold an open debate session. This is to be held on 16th November 2017, at 8pm at Wistaston Memorial Hall, following our Parish Council meeting. Residents are welcome to raise their concerns regarding highway matters directly with Cheshire East Council Officials.

5. Future Meeting Dates : Residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings at 7.30 p.m. at Wistaston Memorial. Next meetings are on 21st September, 19th October and 16th November 2017.

Cllr. J. Moore, Chairman

****

Wistaston Gardeners' Society meet at the Wistaston Memorial Hall monthly

Tuesday 12 September, 7.30pm - Alistair Glen - The Gardeners Christmas
Tuesday 3 October, 7.30pm - Len Tomlinson - Daffodils
Tuesday 14 November, 7.30pm - David Tideswell, Birds in the Garden
Tuesday 12 December - Christmas Party

For further information please phone 01270 665974

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Councillor Contact Details:

	ST. MARY'S WARD (1 Vacancy)	
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**
David Lucas	**23 Rectory Close, Wistaston, CW2 8HG**	**664916**
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	
Andrew Bicknell	**1 Meadow Drive, Wistaston, CW2 6RF**	**487579**
John Edge	**179 Ruskin Road, Crewe, CW2 7JX**	**07710 960598**
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 8RS**	**651378**
Clerk to the Council		
Mrs. Andrea Cross	**4 Arundel Close, Wistaston. CW2 8EY**	**652098**

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St Luke's Cheshire Hospice



We need your help

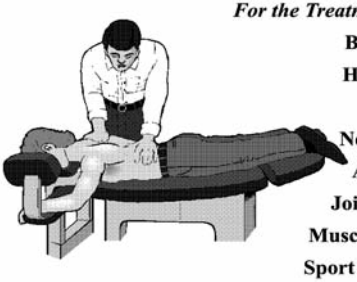
We have been offering a community Befriending Service, working alongside the Wishing Well project for a little over 2 years and it is proving really beneficial. The Befriending Service is offered across Crewe and Nantwich to elderly, isolated frail people, those with multiple or complex health issues. The aim of the service is to help reduce social isolation and loneliness by enabling individuals to feel more connected to their community through regular contact with a Befriender. The Befriending relationship is based on mutual respect and offers a purposeful, emotionally supportive relationship.

We have a growing team of amazing volunteer Befrienders, all of whom visit isolated elderly frail people across our community. Some Befrienders visit one person, others two, some even visit three. Befrienders visit for a couple of hours once a week, some visit twice a week and others spend a full day with the person they visit, usually popping out for a coffee or a visit to a garden centre; it all depends on what is right for the Befriender and the person they are visiting as each relationship is very different. Where possible we aim to match people based on shared interests as well as practical considerations, such as location, preferred day, time etc.

Our list of people wishing to have a visit from a volunteer Befriender continues to grow. Currently we are visiting 45 people, but we know there are many, many more in need of a little company. We are always looking to recruit new Befrienders - if you feel you have a spare hour or so each week and you'd like to get to know one of the lovely people on our waiting list and pop in and visit once a week then we would love to hear from you. Please contact Catherine Holligan, Coordinator on **07496073430** or **Catherine_Holligan@stlukes-hospice.co.uk**

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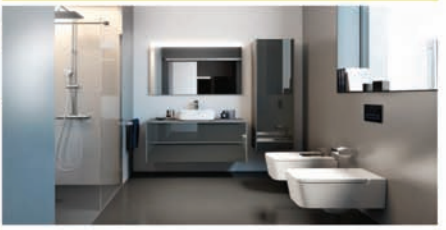
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Wistaston Village Cricket Club
(Founded 1980)

By the time this latest editorial finds its way through your letterbox, the **2017** campaign will be coming to the end of what has, at the point of writing been a "mixed bag" so to speak. At the time of producing this latest editorial **(late July)** the **First XI** have so far had only two victories from their first thirteen matches which at the commencement of the **2017** season would not have really been an option to contemplate. Compared with this corresponding point of the playing season in **2016** when **Wistaston Village** were proudly heading **Division 1 of the Chester Cricket Alliance,** life in **Division 3 of the Cheshire Cricket League** has proved more challenging. Hopefully with some nine remaining fixtures to play, they have the opportunity of securing a more comfortable position in the league……watch this space.

Our **Second XI** competing in **Division C S/C in the Cheshire Cricket League,** have in comparison experienced a better first half to their campaign, winning seven, (including a 25 point concession by their opponents) from their first thirteen matches. This affords them a comfortable mid- position in their league and hopefully with a further nine remaining fixtures they can consolidate their position in the top half of their league. Hopefully a final top five position is not unattainable……watch this space.

Correct as of 21st July 2017.

1.Cholmondeley CC 264 pts. 2. Aston CC 221 pts. 3. Langley CC 213 pts 4. Holmes Chapel CC 202 pts. 5. Prestbury CC 198 pts. **6. Wistaston Village CC 191 pts.**

Our Third XI (Sunday) participating in the **Sunday Central Division in the Cheshire County Cricket League,** are currently in fourth position in a league of eight clubs, having gained **45 points** from their first eight fixtures (including 25 points from a fixture conceded by their opponents.) With six remaining fixtures their attention will be firmly focused on gaining as many points as possible to close the widening gap between themselves and **Haslington (110 points)** who at the moment occupy third position in the league.

Our ladies cricket team **(The Swans)** are currently playing their cricket in **Divison1/2 of the Cheshire Womens' Cricket League,** where they are at present leading the way with three wins and a tied game from their opening seven matches.

Correct as of 4th July 2017.

Correct as of 4 July 2017

Division 2	P	W	L	T	Bat Pts	Bowl Pts	NRR	Pts
Wistaston Vill.	7	3	3	1	6	8	-0.60	104
Ashton-on-Mer.	2	4	0	0	16	10	-0.24	76
Leigh	8	2	6	0	19	6	-0.51	75
Oxton	6	1	3	1	10	11	-1.06	51

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

Sunday League U12 - 2017.
1.Sandbach CC 108 pts. 2. Aston CC 96 Pts. 3. Haslington CC 40 Pts. 4.Middlewich CC 28 pts. 5. Nantwich CC 24 pts. 6. Wistaston Village CC 24 pts.

Under 9 west - 2017.
1.Aston CC 63 pts. 2. Crewe CC 61 pts. 3. Nantwich CC 51 pts. 4.Wistaston Village 37 pts. 5 Nantwich CC 28 pts 6. Bunbury CC 16 pts. 7. Tattenhall CC 12 pts.

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

The cricket club holds Bingo evenings every **third Friday** of each month at the **Wistaston pavilion lounge** to raise funds for the cricket club and a warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to join us. Following the summer break, Bingo evenings will re-commence on **Friday 15th September 2017 at The Brittles.** For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either **Kevin or Pauline Jobbins (483494).**

We offer cricket to adults and junior 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: - Tel 483494** in the first instance.

John Avery

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

****

Just for Fun – Cricket Teasers – Six of the Best

1. An incoming batsman must be ready to face a ball within how many minutes of the outgoing batsman being dismissed?
2. Angelo Mathews plays test cricket for which country?
3. Which three counties did Ian Botham play for?
4. Which county have won the championship most times?
5. Which England captain was the first Test outfielder to take 100 catches?
6. Which county did Jack Hobbs play for?

Answers on page 14

Wells Green Methodist Church

A day of celebration – Saturday 30 September 2017

Come and join us as we celebrate 50 years of worship in our church building!

10am – a Fun morning for all with games and activities
11.45am Short service with presentation to Rainbows, Brownies and Guides (for creating our 'Anniversary Badge' - to be revealed on the day!)

12.30pm Celebration Lunch – all are invited
2pm – Concert of music from the past 50 years (Wells Green Church Choir)

A day to be together and celebrate God's faithfulness to us – please feel free to join us for any of the events on the day.



www.ropegreenmethodists.org
Wells Green Methodist Church, Brookland Avenue, Wistaston Crewe CW2 8EJ

****

Answers to Cricket Teasers:

1. 3 minutes; 2. Sri Lanka;
3. Somerset, Worcestershire, Durham
4. Yorkshire; 5. Wally Hammond;
6. Surrey.



Poppy Designs
120 Sandylands Park
Wistaston CW2 8HE
Tel: 01270 567063
30 June 2017
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 £5,039.92 so I'm delighted to have passed the £5,000 mark!

Unfortunately we've had to make the decision that with health and family commitments we will not be able to continue with large orders. We are very happy to continue making special personalised cards for our local loyal customers so please ring us on 01270 567063 if we can help with these. This being the case we have stopped our advertisement in Roundabout and will not renew our website once it expires. The money saved from both of these will be donated to Cancer Research UK each year. Thank you again – we couldn't have done it without you!

Sheila Oakes
Poppy Designs

****

Do you enjoy singing? Do you like a night out with friends?

Wistaston Singers are a community choir based in the Crewe and Nantwich area. We sing a variety of music from Musical Theatre through Chorale to Pop. We rehearse every Wednesday evening in Nantwich Parish Hall. We perform several concerts a year to raise funds for a variety of charities. We are currently looking for new members to join us for our new season starting in September. All are welcome, but we are particularly hoping to recruit some altos, tenors and basses. For more information find us on Facebook or email tonynann2@tiscali.co.uk

Sheena



The whole church family was shocked with the news that Sheena Sambrook had passed away on Friday 14 July following a short illness. Her funeral was held on Wednesday 26 July at St Mary's attended by over 300 friends and family. Bishop Peter also assisted with the service. Ken has asked me to pass on his thanks for all the prayers, messages, cards, flowers and practical support he and the family have received following their loss. *Mike (Rector)*

I would like to add that (and I'm sure all of us) have always been struck by the phenomenal amount of commitment to fundraising and active involvement with various groups and events by Sheena together with support from Ken. Here's to name a few that I know about and I'm sure there are others that we don't know about: Mothers' Union, Ladies Afternoon Group, Lent Lunches, hosting Bible Study and Lent groups, Craft group, Synod, PCC, Special Events Committee and of course Diabetes UK which latterly Sheena and Ken supported Rose Queen Emma Horne and her assistant and families with their fundraising.
St Mary's, St Luke's, the community of Wistaston, Willaston, Rope and Shavington and the wider community have been blessed with God's servant Sheena and she will be greatly missed. *Sue Squirrell*

The Wistaston Community Council would like to add to the above. In January 2012 they were delighted to present Sheena with the Wistonian of the Year Award for 2011. In the report of her award in Roundabout the following paragraph sums up what made Sheena special and why she will be missed so much.

"Over a period of 38 years Sheena has epitomised the qualities required of 'Wistonian of the Year'. She has given freely of her time and experience for the fulfilment of Christian values within the church and community, for the nurture and guidance of young people and for the support and caring attitude through her work with Diabetes UK. She has certainly made major contributions to the life and welfare of so many of Wistaston's residents of all ages over many years. Such consistent supreme efforts deserve our community's recognition and she fully deserves the prestigious accolade and award of 'Wistonian of the Year'."

Wistaston Conservation Group

The working party have again been very busy each Monday morning, both with routine, and new, projects.

Routine

Field Lane steps These steps, which were put in some considerable number of years ago, are in need of tender loving care. Recently, one of our members, Pete, decided that there were enough of us to complete the project for that day, so he went on his own, cut all the edges, and the steps, and left the steps in a much better and user-friendly condition. Thanks Pete for your efforts.

Hinging Bank path It is surprising how quickly the undergrowth takes over, almost as soon as we have cleared a path.

This path was still useable, but was much narrower than it should be. Along with the boardwalk project (see later), we have now recut all the edges and made the path as it was intended, a better place to walk.

Village Fete We had our normal stall at the village fete, with both our information boards, and plants for sale. This year we had a much larger variety of plants for sale, some grown by our own members, and several donated by members of the Wistaston community. This stall is our only source of income for the Group, so a great thank you is due to all those who gave us plants to sell; we will guarantee to use all the proceeds for the good of Wistaston in general.

Himalayan Balsam As I write this report in mid July, we are in the middle of our annual balsam pull. Because of our hard work in the past, the area from Joey-the-Swan to the fourways is relatively free of balsam, and only needs a small amount of work each year.

Last year we started to tackle the area below Field Lane which proved to be a massive job, partly because it has not been done before, and partly because of the dense undergrowth in the area. We are in the middle of clearing this area again, and hope to have it completed by the time you read this article.

I would like to record special thanks to those members of our working party who, knowing the hardships of this job, still turn up each week, and, despite the undergrowth of bramble, and the wasps nests, still come out to make Wistaston a better place to live.

New Projects

Tree nursery Most of the trees we plant are given to us by organisations such as the Forestry Commission and Cheshire Wildlife Trust, and we recently had a large number of small whips donated to us.

These whips are not yet big enough to be planted out in our woodlands, and so we have built ourselves a tree nursery to bring these whips on, for transplanting in 1 to 2 years time.

If anyone has any SMALL trees which they do not want, or are in the wrong place, we can always find a place for them in the locality. Just let one of our members know, and we will do the rest.

Hinging Bank boardwalk As any of you who walk our paths will know, there is one area of the Hinging Bank path which is very muddy for most of

the year, due to water running down the bank, and so, some years ago, a boardwalk was constructed across the boggy area. Over the years, due to the amount of water draining under the area, the boardwalk has suffered, and was in need of TLC.



We were asked by the Parish Council whether we would be prepared to undertake the rectification, provided they footed the bill for all the materials, to which we agreed.



To cut a long story short, we decided that the boardwalk was in a worse condition than originally thought, so we decided to do a complete job, remove the whole boardwalk, put in a pipe across the wet area, then completely rebuild the whole unit.
To complete the job, we have fitted chicken wire to the surface, so that the wooden surface does not become slippery in wet weather.



The job is now complete and many of the local walkers have congratulated us on a fantastic job, something we love to hear.



Thanks are due to the Parish Council for their financial support to this most worthwhile project.
As usual, if you have any conservation issues to discuss, or if you would like to come to see what we get up to, and possibly join us, either contact one of our Group, or come along any Monday morning; we meet at 0930 with coffee at 1100. Our whereabouts each week are noted on our website at www.wistastonconservationgroup.org.uk.
John M Wood, Chairman.



100 YEARS AGO – in the WW1
Battle for Passchendaele
- another British Soldier is buried in Flanders Fields

My Grandfather, Henry George Collett who was born 23 July 1884 at number 8 Cornwallis Street Burslem was the eldest child of Henry George & Alice Collett and married Hannah Slater in 1912 at St Paul's Church, Dale Hall, Burslem. They had two children, Alice and Henry George, my father.
Following the outbreak of the First World War Grandad enlisted into the army in May 1915 but was not called up for training in Aldershot until June 1916, when he became Private Henry George Collett 173779 Driver, Royal Engineers.

January 1917 finds him in France, assigned to 2nd/1st Buckinghamshire Battalion of the Oxford & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry as Private 6256. February 15 he was transferred to "B" Company 1st/1st Bucks Btn. Ox & Bucks Light Infantry as Private 267061 where he remained for the rest of his military career.
Two days later he is reported as being in the field with his Battalion and by 28 February the battalion was in support trenches at Bios Achille. Following various other movements by 20 March George and his battalion cross the River Somme by a newly constructed Pontoon Bridge at Bazincourt and then entered the town of Peronne, which had been destroyed by the retreating Germans. Unfortunately by 24 March George was taken ill and transferred to No 5 General Hospital in Rouen. 29 March Battalion records report George as being transferred back to England on His Majesty's Hospital Ship Gloucester Castle, nick named "Go Slowster Castle". 30 March it set sail from Le Havre destined for Southampton with 399 casualties on board of which 300 were Stretcher Patients. The sea was described as rolling and sometime after 10pm and in mid Channel, the Gloucester Castle was torpedoed by U Boat UB32 commanded by Kapitanleutnant Max Viebeg.



The ship was evacuated and all but three persons on board were saved. Although photographs show the ship as sinking, it was towed back to Southampton for repair and was used again in the Second World War. To date it is not known where George was hospitalised or convalesced. Battalion records state on 23 July 1917 George embarks on a troop ship at Southampton and disembarks in Rouen, 24 July to start his second tour of duty in France and Belgium. By 30 August he is back with his battalion in 'B' Company which was involved in the Passchendaele Campaign.

After further training, the Battalion War Diaries for 27 September puts the Company in Ypres, Belgium and were in reserve to the rest of the Brigade who had taken over their former sector at St Julien; a village about 12 miles north east of Ypres.
29 September George wrote his last letter to his wife Hannah; four pages.
In it, he refers to being moved up the line and not having much time to send letters and that he was writing under enemy artillery fire with old Fritz dropping bombs around them. This was the first letter or post card that he had written home that mentioned anything about the conditions in which he was actually serving.
The Battalion moved to and from the front line on a daily basis and on 7 October they had just returned to Dambre Camp, when they were bussed out to Wieltji and then marched through St Julien, to take up their front line positions by 2.am on 8 October.
"B" Company was (right front line) in a trench 400 yards east of Winchester Farm. It was reported that shelling through the night was heavy and the rain came down in great lumps. The area where the engagement took place is today bordered by a triangle of roads, Wallemolen Straat, Water Straat and Stroombeek Straat and lies about a mile south of the town of Poelkapelle.
It was during this engagement with the enemy that George was seriously injured with shrapnel wounds to his head and legs and a fracture to his femur.
He was taken to No 4 Casualty Clearing Station known as Dozinghem where he died Tuesday 9 October 2017 and was buried in the adjacent Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Westvleteren, Belgium. His grave location is Plot 9 – Row J – Grave 10. **There are 3174 Commonwealth First World War burials in Dozinghem Cemetery.**
George left behind his wife Hannah, daughter Alice aged 3 years and son Henry George aged 2 years; so the children never knew their father.



On 11 November 1996 I visited Grandad's Grave and believe that I was the first member of the family to do so. Very little was known about George, so since that visit, I have researched both his family and military life in considerable depth. I have been most fortunate to have visited his grave a further eight times and each visit holds many special memories of the things I experienced and the people fromvarious countries I had the pleasure to meet. Many are now very good friends.
To commemorate the 100 years of his death, I shall be visiting Belgium once again and plan to walk his last march from Wieltji to that front line trench on 8 October 2017 and be at his graveside on the 9 October - exactly 100 years to the day.
Robert George Collett (Bob) of Wistaston.

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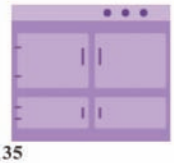
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Wistaston Church Lane Academy - **Summer Term Events**

Building Extension

Our building extension has now finished! The project has been on the go for the last few months and we can now announce the completion of a new, larger, warm and welcoming school office, an additional entrance to the infant hall, a new school library, extra offices and storage space! It's such an exciting development and unlocks so much more potential for the school.

Town Sports

In June, our town sports team competed in the Crewe and Nantwich Town Sports alongside twenty-five other schools. We are pleased to announce that we won! Although we competed in Group A, we managed to win enough events over both the track and field to get first place. All the pupils represented the school really well and their resilience and determination was a real inspiration for all watching. Well done to all who competed, we are so proud of you!

Sports Days

Although we had to rearrange our junior sports day, it was a real success. It was brilliant to see all our pupils competing in a range of races. The support that they showed each other was fantastic to see and we want to say a huge thank you to all the parents who came and showed their support - particularly the parents who helped by bringing gazebos as it was such a hot day! The infant sports day was another success. All the infant children competed to the best of their ability and it was brilliant to see so many parents there . Thank you to all the parents, staff and children for making these days great!

Shakespeare Rocks!

The children in Years 5 and 6 put on a play to end our Summer term called 'Shakespeare Rocks!'. It was a great opportunity for pupils to showcase their drama and acting skills, and they didn't let us down! All the actors, light and sound technicians and prop managers worked so hard to put on a professional performance and really showed how working as a team really helps to produce a real quality performance.



Dates for your Diary



Saturday 9 September - Village Duck Race
Friday 13 October - Crewe Movie Makers Film Entertainment
Tuesday 24 October - Annual Hall Quiz in the Memorial Hall
Saturday 4 November - Annual Fireworks
Sunday 12 November - Remembrance Service in the Memorial Hall
Thursday 23 November - Crewe Concert Band Concert in the Memorial Hall
Friday 8 December - Annual Carol Concert - St Mary's Church Hall

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Nature Article

Our first signs of summer were a blue butterfly over the allotments at Jackson's Corner in April, with either swallow or martin on 20th overhead. It is good to see our swifts returning to the skies above the mews in Church Lane. A sparrow hawk was seen nestling under a neighbour's shrubs around this time, with prey, but, although the bird had whisked through, we didn't see the kill.

On 28th April a rabbit scurried across the front garden of a house in Church Lane: of interest as we rarely see one and presume it was wild. A corpse was seen at a later date in the road, so maybe bunny didn't last long.

Jonathan White sent in a worthy photograph of a hedgehog encoun-



tered along the walkway between Crewe Road and Lear Drive in the early hours of a late April day. He described it as a 'prickly British icon' and nicknamed it Spike.

Mid May saw the annual starling explosion in our garden, with parents feeding their young from our fat- blocks. Of interest was the regurgitation of food by a wood pigeon to its chick: the food a substance we've read to be 'pigeon's milk' stored in the crop.



In June Joyce and Andrew Booth photographed a red-legged partridge in their Freshfields garden. This breed is also known as the 'French' partridge as ancestors of the stock were introduced from France a few hundred years ago when over-shooting had reduced the common partridge in Britain. The bird can be found on heaths and farmland in our particular part of the country, identified by its black and white

eye-stripes and especially distinctive barred flanks. Exposed eggs during incubation leads to heavy predation, necessitating a large clutch. Upwards of a dozen eggs may be laid in two different scrapes, hen on one, the other left to the cock; and the young run almost as soon as hatched.

On 21st June Alan Littler 'phoned to mention a couple of raptors swooping for prey in the woods off Valley Road. He asked our opinion as to what the raptors might have been and our best guess was buzzards.

On 22nd June a young colourless great spotted woodpecker, lit up solely by its red crown, appeared pecking in the soil beneath our crab-apple tree. It advanced by degrees to the fat-block then bark. Perhaps the adult we see so much of has bred locally. Four to six eggs is a normal clutch size.

To finish, we hope that the influx of ladybirds on our broad beans means they are feasting on the blackfly!
Our thanks to all contributors.
Trevor and Hilary Clowes
Tel. 664358 email handt136@talktalk.net

A Wistaston Memorial Hall Fund Raising Event
An evening of Film Entertainment with:



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Cheshire Wildlife Trust - **Talks in Autumn 2017**

1. *A Year at a Moss* by Barry Probin

Wednesday 18th October 2017 at 8:00pm

A talk by **Barry Probin** who spends much of his time leading groups and giving talks on Whixall Moss. It is a fascinating habitat attracting butterflies, dragonflies, birds, wild flowers and grasses.

2. *Forty Years of Watching Wildlife* - Talk by Dave Emley

Wednesday 15th November 2017 at 8:00pm

Dave Emley was a member of Keele University where he took a keen interest in the flora and fauna, as well as giving many years of support to the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. He was awarded the British Empire Medal in the 2017 New Year Honours list for services to higher education and natural history.

Venue: **Methodist Church, Hospital Street, Nantwich CW5 5RP.**

Cost: £3 per person including refreshments.

Places are limited so to be sure of a place contact Irmgard Ralfs on 01270 624835.

Rotary Club of Crewe

What is Rotary:

Rotarians are men and women of all ages, from all walks of life. Anyone is welcome to pop along to a Rotary Club.

Some are formal some are less formal with a relaxed attitude and dress code. Come along to one of our information evenings to find out more about Crewe Rotary Club. Rotary fits into your family and work life and there are no heavy rules and regulations.

Rotary club members offer new skills, expand their social network, make new friends and have lots of fun at the same time.

Crewe Rotary Club meets at Hunters Lodge Hotel on Sydney Road:

1st and 3rd Thursday Lunchtimes 12:30pm to 2pm

2nd and 4th Thursday Evenings 7pm – 9pm

Call in between 7 and 9pm on the following Information Evenings:

Thurs. 30 November 2017, Thurs. 29 March 2018, Thurs.31 May 2018.

Visit our Website Rotary Club of Crewe, or Facebook Rotary Club of Crewe or **Telephone 01270 501241 or 01270 623525**

Wistaston Young Drama Group

Wow! The older group participated in the Nantwich Players Youth Festival in May. The task was to produce a piece of drama not less than 20 minutes in length to be performed at Nantwich Players Theatre.

The event was staged over three days with eight groups taking part. Every entry was adjudicated by Brian Rawlins, an expert in his field, and feedback was given to every group participating.

Our children, under the guidance of Kelly-Ann Davies, presented a devised piece of Drama titled "Walt". The storyline revolved around Walt, an experienced pilot, who is critically injured in a plane crash at an air show. It explored the use of modern technology including mobile phones, computers and hacking. Using choreography the children became a computer and even Walt's thoughts as he made his recovery.

Giving his feedback Brian Rawlins said that he had found the piece modern and refreshing embracing the future rather than the past. The group displayed fantastic teamwork and it was clear that they had all enjoyed the experience of being in a theatre.

The results were announced at the end of the festival. Two of our children were nominated for individual performance awards and the devised piece won the **Adjudicators Special Award for an innovative piece of devised drama.**

We are so proud of our children and would like to thank them and their parents for supporting us. Thanks also to Harry for providing his support to the group. **See our young talented group on the cover!**

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. The sessions start with drama games and activities. 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

The Big Screen at Wells Methodist Church

October 2017 - March 2018



We are pleased to announce another season of movies with a message, to be shown on the third Sunday of the month at 5.00pm, at Wells Green Church on Brookland Avenue (but please note we start at 4.00pm on the second Sunday in December). Refreshments are available from 4.30pm beforehand and there is a short discussion after the film (though there is no obligation to stay). Admission is free, but a donation towards costs of the viewing licence can be made.
Unfortunately, licence regulations prevent us from naming the specific film we are showing, but further details can be obtained from Malcolm Crook 01270 662077 or email m.h.crook@keele.ac.uk

Sunday 15 October A contemporary military and moral thriller involving the possible use of a drone against terrorists

Sunday 19 November A recent hit based on the bitter experience of a social security claimant in northern England

Sunday 10 December Post-war classic about the cargo of a wreck off the Scottish coast **(to start at 4.00pm)**

Sunday 21 January A comedy-drama based on an Indian family who re-locate to France to open a restaurant

Sunday 18 February An Irish priest in a remote coastal parish faces a death threat from one of his flock

Sunday 18 March **T**wo soldiers return home to resume their lives in Edinburgh, in this screen adaptation of the popular musical.

We look forward to seeing you!

My name is Charlotte Rhodes, I was the Wistaston Rose Queen in 2009. I had a wonderful year and really enjoyed the community work I undertook raising money for Bliss - the sick and premature baby charity.



Now eight years on I am still undertaking voluntary work and have my biggest challenge yet. I am volunteering with Raleigh International on a community project in rural Nepal for 10 weeks from June to August. In preparation for my work, during April and early May I raised some money to go towards Raleigh's work. We organised a charity car wash, cake sales and a garden party at my home, as well as events at my University. I was thrilled also to receive a very generous contribution towards my fund raising from Wistaston Community Council.
I have had what felt like an endless amount of vaccinations, my visa has arrived from the Nepal embassy and I have now all the equipment I need. So it is nearly time for me to grab my enormous backpack and say goodbye to Wistaston for a few months. When I get back I hope to have some tales to tell about Raleigh's work. *We wish Charlotte all good wishes for her trip to Nepal.!*

The Berkeley Academy Report



This term children at the Berkeley Academy have celebrated yet another KEEE themed week – Knowledge and Understanding of the World. Children from all year groups learnt about different faiths and beliefs from around the world and also focused hugely on our British Values: Mutual Respect and Tolerance; Democracy; Individual Liberty; Rule of Law.

Children took part in many activities and workshops hosted by several visitors. Classes organised games and activities and even had afternoon tea!

Year 1 have undertaken their enterprise project this term where they hosted several games at break times in which other pupils could participate. They decided to host a Wimbledon themed project which was thoroughly enjoyed by all! At the summer fair they also ran a stall selling strawberries and cream, and Wimbledon 'deuce'.



Year 5 children have also had fun celebrating the end of their Ancient Greek topic by hosting a Greek Day. Children came to school dressed as Ancient Greeks and took part in many activities throughout the day: shield making, cooking, food tasting and competing in the Greek Olympiad!



WISTASTON IN BLOOM

I hope that you will all agree with me that the flower beds in the village this summer were the best that they have been for many years and I wish to extend my thanks to Crewe Road Nurseries and to the Committee members who worked on the beds for a very successful display.

Judging of Wistaston for 'Britain in Bloom North West 2017' took place on the 17 July and I would like to thank the voluntary litter picking group for the work carried out prior to judging and also to David O'Hara, the Park Ranger, who walked around with the Judges showing the work carried out by the Conservation Group. The results will be awarded in October.

As in previous years our own judging of residents' front gardens took place and the results for 2017 were as follows with the awards presented at the Flower and Produce Show in St Mary's Church Hall on Saturday the 19 August.

Wells Green Ward

1st	Mr & Mrs A Williams	22 Rope Lane Wistaston CW2 6RD
2nd	Mr & Mrs G Cordall	474 Crewe Road Wistaston CW2 6PZ
3rd	Mr & Mrs N Ashford	8 Wellswood Drive Wistaston CW2 6RE

St Mary's Ward

1st	Mr & Mrs B Wrench	67 Milton Drive Wistaston CW2 8BX
2nd	Mr & Mrs W Evans	9 Swift Close Wistaston CW2 8DZ
3rd	Mr & Mrs L Perry	26 Westfield Drive Wistaston CW2 8ET

Wistaston Green Ward

1st	Mrs G Stubbs	48 Beech Drive Wistaston CW2 8RE
2nd	Christine Wilding	7 Wistaston Avenue Wistaston CW2 8QR
3rd	Mr & Mrs A Yuill	37 Waldron Gardens Wistaston CW2 8UT

Overall Winner Best Kept Front Garden – Wistaston Parish Cup
Mr & Mrs A Williams 22 Rope Lane Wistaston CW2 6RD

The Best Hanging Basket Display – The Window Surgeon Shield
Mr & Mrs R Leeke 37 Princess Drive Wistaston CW2 8HS

The Best Garden on Commercial Premises – The Brehaut Trophy
Alvaston Hall Hotel Middlewich Road Wistaston CW5 6PD

The Best Garden on Community Premises – The Byatt Trophy
Wistaston Memorial Hall Bowling Club

Congratulations to all the winners.

As a footnote if there are any gardeners in the village who would like to get involved in the Wistaston in Bloom group for 2018 please contact me:
Bill Heath, Hon. Secretary 01270 560471

Reflections on my expedition to Cambodia - **Its people**

One of the most amazing parts of my trip was the people I met over in Cambodia. Due to its difficult political history, most of Cambodia suffers from extensive poverty. I was shocked to find most of the houses outside of the two major cities have no running water, many don't have any form of toilet. People are forced to go to the toilet in bushes near their homes even at night or in extreme weather. This leads to poor hygiene and leaves the people exposed to dangers such as snakes and spiders. This is why half of our work involved building toilets for rural homes, something we take very much for granted.

Cambodia has a very young population as a result of its difficult past. Consequently, there are not enough people of working age to build a stable economy. This is made worse by the fact that a significant number of those old enough to work are unable to do so, due to injuries caused by land mines left behind from the Vietnam war. I saw several groups of people who had suffered in this way busking to try to make a living.



Despite all the difficulty the people in Cambodia are some of the most positive and happy people I've met. The children were always smiling and looking to get involved with whatever we were doing. Whilst working on the site of a school the children would come over during their breaks, some of the older kids even got involved in the work we were doing. Many of us took things for the children to play with, I took along some tennis balls which were very well received. Whilst we were on break during our site work we would often play with the children, who were always keen to learn new games.

The people of Cambodia have very little, living with just enough to survive. However, they were always very welcoming to us and extremely generous. I found it incredibly humbling that although they had so little, the families we

continued overleaf...

were building for brought us watermelons every day. While it may not seem much, considering what we have back in the UK, this was a huge, generous gesture from them.



All this made me really reflect on my own life and the privileges we take for granted. We have so much yet we constantly feel the need to get more and update what we have. The people of Cambodia have next to nothing, but are content and positive in a way that is quite rare in the UK.

Matt Astbury

Matt's reflections will be concluded in our next edition.

Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club (WJTC) - **Summer 2017**

The Summer 2017 season of the South & Mid Cheshire Tennis League - http://www.smctennis.co.uk - finished in early August. Wistaston had three men's teams in the doubles leagues: Wistaston A finished second-bottom in Division 2, Wistaston B finished sixth in Division 4 and Wistaston C finished fourth in Division 5. The South & Mid Cheshire Tennis League Presentation Afternoon takes place at Hartford Tennis Club from 12 noon on Sunday 10th September .

WJTC Finals Day takes place from 12 noon on Sunday 17th September 2017 on their two courts behind the Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre, Church Lane.

Wistaston A captain strikes the ball during a Summer 2017 season league doubles match.



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

From *Jonathan White*

Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre
Chairman's Report

The Wistaston Memorial Hall was opened on 26th March 1949 in memory of the sixteen men from Wistaston who died in the Second World War. However we must never forget the men and women who perished in other conflicts around the world. Recently, tributes were paid to those who died at **Passchendaele** during the Third Battle of Ypres (31st July to 10th November 1917). 35,000 were lost in Ypres Salient. 12,000 graves are at Tyne Cot. 56,000 names are recorded on the Menin Gate Memorial. Two men from Wistaston died during this campaign – **Private Alfred James Burrows**, 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers was killed in action on 17th August 1917, aged 18 years, during the Battle of Langemarck. He was the son of William and Elizabeth Burrows, Mount Pleasant Farm, Wistaston. Commemorated on Tyne Cot Memorial. **Private John Piggott**, 11th Battalion Cheshire Regiment, killed in action on 1st August 1917 during the Battle of Pilckem Ridge. Born in Wistaston and commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres, Belgium with no known grave. We will remember them.

The **twenty** trustees on the hall's committee continue to manage and maintain the hall which is used by 30+ groups.

The **Charity Dog Show**, in aid of the Cinnamon Trust, was organised by Leonard Brothers' Veterinary team on Saturday 29th July and was a new successful venture.



We are planning to have a **defibrillator** installed at the front of the hall and have been fortunate to receive a grant of £1,300 for this project from **Baker Wynne & Wilson** (estate agents) 25 years anniversary pledge – thank you. **Simon Morgan-Wynne** pictured presenting cheque to John White.



Our future activities :

Saturday 9th September – Duck Race and children's model boat display and race, organised this year by the Wistaston Community Council.

Fri 13th Oct: Film show by Crewe Movie Makers. £5 with light refreshments. 7.30 start.

Tuesday 24th October :Annual Hall Quiz organised by Peter and Christina Wainwright for the Fred Lorimer Memorial shield. £10 per table of 4, including refreshments at 7.30.

Sunday 12th November: Service of Remembrance, starting at 3pm. A tribute will be paid to Lance Sergeant George Powell who died on 27th May 1940, aged 21 years.

Thurs 23rd Nov: Seasonal Concert by Crewe Concert Band with Musical Director Glen.

Thus it can be seen that the Wistaston Memorial Hall is well used and well managed for the benefit of all Wistonians and local communities. Contact our **Booking Officer**, **Bill Heath** on **01270 560471** if you would like to use our three rooms.

John C White, Chairman - Tel. 01270 661484

The Laurie Twiss Award for 2017

The winners of the Laurie Twiss Award are as follows:

1. Jasmine Mitchell *Going to the Airport*
2. Will Evans *Stranded*
3. Molly O'Riordan *Fear*

Highly Commended

Seth Vaughan *Bobby the Dragon*
Hannah Evans *Fairy Dust*
Annabel Louise Berry *Hercules and the Mousehole*



The prize winners received their awards at the Berkeley Academy and they are pictured here - from left to right. Molly O'Riordan, Hannah Evans, Will Evans and Seth Vaughan. Unfortunately the winner of the Trophy, Jasmine Mitchell, was away. All the winners received a certificate, book token and pen. The judges emphasised that they had great difficulty in selecting only six winners.

Budding Journalists of Wistaston - start writing for next year and send in your entries by May 2018. More details later.

Jasmine's winning entry - *Going to the Airport*

Today we are going to the airport because we are going to Dubai on holiday. This morning when I woke up at 8.00 we all had pancakes with sugar and lemon juice. Then we all did our packing till 8.45; then we put all of the bags and suitcases in the boot and left for Manchester Airport.

When we finally got there at 9.45 it took dad forever to find a parking space. When we found one we took all of our luggage out of the boot. I sat on the biggest yet lightest suitcase and my big brother pulled me along. Meanwhile dad and mum each had two huge suitcases and bags. I was still helping though because to be fair I did have a reasonably big bag as well then we had to wait in a queue for half an hour; then we had to take nearly all our clothes off and go through the metal detector machine. We had to put our bags on a conveyor belt so they could be loaded onto our plane. We each chose a snack and a drink. I had my favourites – Strawberry Ribena with some Smarties.

We boarded the plane at 11.40. Luckily for us this was a two-seater so I sat with my mum while my brother sat with dad in front of us. Then we took off. At first my ears popped really badly but eventually they stopped and settled. I read for about 15 minutes then they started bringing lunch out. It was ham sandwiches with some apple slices, yoghurt and also a chocolate Swiss roll. I went to sleep for 5 hours and when I woke up I did some drawings then I read until my big brother told me to look out of the window and I saw DUBAI. When we landed we went to the hotel and unpacked. Me and my brother then went to the water park!



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Fuller Drive, Crewe CW2 6TH
tel: 01270 664225
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An Elim Pentecostal Church Registered Charity No. 251549

Elim

Messy Fun for families with children aged 11 years and under
Everything, including refreshments is Free!

Messy Church

Our Autumn Sundays:
17th September
15th October
19th November
3.30pm - 5.00pm

STOP PRESS

Noah's Ark

From September, our hugely popular toddler group will open for TWO sessions
THURSDAYS (term-time only)
10.00am - 12.00noon
1.00pm - 3.00pm

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