

Piper Reg Flower about to lead our Firework Procession to the Brittles

Wishing Everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year

WINTER 'ROUNDABOUT'

A Wistaston Community Council Publication

2017
ISSUE 148

THE MAGAZINE FOR PEOPLE LIVING 'ROUNDABOUT' WISTASTON

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EDITORIAL FOR WINTER 2017

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. **Don't forget the Boxing Day Walk - 10.30 from the Memorial Hall. See page 6 for this and other 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 30. It was superb for everyone to be able to take part in the procession which this year was with Duttons expertise and help. 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 marshals and everyone who 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 Duck Race, with advice; the Christmas Concert and for each event they fully realise how important is everyone's help in whatever form it takes.

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 Dane Chaplow, 30 Westfield Drive, Wistaston, to arrive by 20 December 2017.

We, the undersigned, nominate:
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Wistaston Parish Council **Chairman's Report**

1. Neighbourhood Plan Update www.wistaston-np.org.uk
The Examiners review was completed during September which raised a number of questions. In consultation with our advisor these have been resolved. The final stage is for Cheshire East Council to set the Referendum date which may be in December 2017. Voting will be conducted as a normal election process. Residents will receive a voting card and be nominated a Polling Station. Progress can be followed on the Cheshire East Council Website: Wistaston Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Group no longer have any formal involvement in this final stage of the programme, however, a separate Campaign Group is to be established to coordinate publicity.

2. Dog fouling and control
Cheshire East Council Antisocial Behaviour Team held a stall at the Duck Race and reported they had a good response to their questionnaire for residents, details of which will be used in the ongoing Dog Watch Campaign. Cheshire East Council are also considering introducing a Public Space Protection Order across the whole of Cheshire East. It has two main requirements:

- A ban on dog fouling in all public places
- To allow authorised officers to inform dog owners to put dogs on leads if necessary, for example aggressive behaviour.

3. Street light LED Upgrade
Details have been issued that the majority of lights within our Parish will be upgraded during October to December 2017. Most of the columns will only require lanterns, however, there are a number of columns that will require replacement. It is not expected there will be any disruptions to residents.

4. Speed Watch
New members are welcome to join our Community Speedwatch Team, interested residents should first contact our Clerk.

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 December 2017, 18th January 2018 and 15th February 2018.
May I take this opportunity to wish you festive greetings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cllr. J. Moore, Chairman

****

Dates for your Diary

Friday 8 December Christmas Concert in St Marys Church Hall at 7pm
Saturday 16 Dec. The Inn Crowd at Union Street Baptist Church: 7.30pm
Tuesday 26 December Boxing Day Walk - 10.30am from the Memorial Hall
Monday 15 January 2018 Community Council's AGM at 7.30pm
Saturday 16 June 2018 Wistaston Village Fete
Saturday 18 August 2018 Flower and Produce Show, Church Hall

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WISTASTON IN BLOOM

Britain in Bloom
North West Awards 2017

The award ceremony was at the Southport Theatre and Convention Centre on Friday 3 November 2017 attended by Roger and Gill Woodward representing Wistaston in Bloom.

The Results

Wistaston which is in the 'Town' Category with a population between 6001 and 12000 received 'Silver Gilt' just one level below 'Gold'.

In the 'It's your Neighbourhood Award' we received commendations for Westfield Drive and the Parkland Area between Joey the Swan and Wistaston Green Road which was described by the Judges as a thriving area.

In addition to the above award Alvaston Hall Hotel on Middlewich Road which is in the Parish of Wistaston received a Gold Medal for its garden in the 'Large Accommodation Category' and also an award for its garden as the 'Best Large Accommodation' in the North West. Well done to Alvaston Hall.

Since no one attended the award ceremony from Alvaston Hall the awards were presented to Wistaston in Bloom who forwarded them on to Alvaston Hall.

Well done to all the voluntary groups who work in the village under the umbrella of the Parish Council: the Wistaston in Bloom Group; Wistaston Conservation Group; Wistaston Litter Pickers; Wistaston Allotments and Dave O'Hara the Park Ranger. The voluntary work of all these groups continues to make Wistaston a very pleasant village to live.

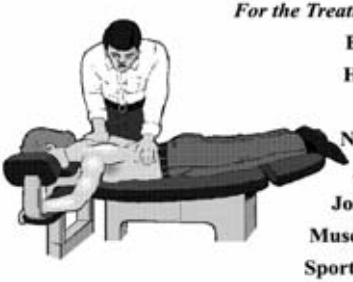
Finally I hope that you will all agree with me that the flower beds this year were the best that they have been for many years and have continued flowering well into the late Autumn. Most of the beds were planted and maintained by Crewe Road Nurseries – a job well done.

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

Councillor Contact Details:	**St Mary's Ward**	
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	**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**

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Wistaston Village Cricket Club
(Founded 1980)

For Wistaston Village Cricket Club 2017 has seen a season which, for some of our **"elevens"**, has been productive and entertaining,whilst for others a somewhat disappointing campaign. For those who read my editorial in the **Autumn** edition of **Roundabout** the **First Eleven** had not enjoyed the best of starts to their campaign. Unfortunately the rest of their campaign consisting of nine matches realised just one victory to add to their previous two successes and regretfully ended the season bottom of their league in **The Cheshire Cricket League Division 3** and relegation.

Bottom three placings. Division 3

Team	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*T*	*Ab'd*	*NR*	*Bat Pts*	*Bowl Pts*	*Pen Pts*	*Points*
Wirrall CC.	22	6	6	9	0	1	0	63	64	40	246
Over Peover CC	22	4	2	16	0	0	0	72	64	10	225
Wistaston Vill. CC.	22	3	4	14	0	1	0	41	65	17	179

In contrast the **Second Eleven** competing in **Cheshire Cricket League - Division C S/C** had a mixed season which saw them finish in a mid-table position.
2017 Playing Record:- Played 22, Won 10, Drawn 1, Lost 8, Abandoned 3. Points 300. 6th position out of twelve.
Considering the circumstances surrounding some of the fixtures (three fixtures were lost resulting from not having enough players **(drafted into the Ist XI at short notice),** the **2nd XI** did remarkably well under the captaincy of **Sam Sargeant** whose sense of humour in difficult circumstances in what has been a testing season deserves a special mention. Well Done !!!
Easy to speculate but if the three matches that had to be conceded had been played I believe that a top three/four final position could have well been attainable.

Our Third Eleven participating in the **Cheshire County Cricket League - Sunday Central Division** failed to improve on the mid-table position they held in **July** and finished the season in sixth position in a league of eight teams.

Bottom three. **Sunday Central Division**

Team	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*T*	*Ab'd*	*NR*	*Bat Pts*	*Bowl Pts*	*Pen Pts*	*Points*
Wistaston Vill.	13	2	4	7	0	0	0	14	7	0	75
Runcorn CC.	10	2	2	6	0	0	0	14	8	0	56
Warrington CC.	11	2	3	6	0	0	0	12	6	0	27

Our junior teams playing in **The South Cheshire Junior Cricket League**, had mixed success with their cricket during **2017.** 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 as **champions** and subsequent **promotion** to **Division 1 for 2018.**

Final Table 2017

Division 2	**P**	**W**		**L**	**T**	**A**	**LCN**	**C**	**Bat**	**Bowl**	**NRR**	**Pts**
Wistaston Village (CH & PROM)	**11**	**4**	**6**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**15**	**15**	**-0.52**	**145**
Leigh	11	3	7	0	1	0	0		22	13	-0.45	118
Ashton-on-Mersey	11	3	6	0	1	1	0		22	14	-0.56	109
Oxton	11	1	6	1	1	1	1		19	16	-1.58	79

LCN =Lost Team conceded. C=Cancelled. T=Tied Match. A=Abandoned.
League awards for Division 2 were:- Batting and Bowling (Alison Smith) Wistaston Village (Swans) Fielding (Alison Smith) Wicket Keeping (Katie Bennett) Wistaston Village (Swans).

Presentation Evening Saturday 9th December.

N.B. Because the date of our presentation evening fell well after the time for the acceptance of editorials and coinciding with the distribution of the **Winter edition of Roundabout** it was not possible to publish all the award notifications.
+ Advance information handed to me at a meeting in late **September** was:-

Winners:- 1st Eleven Batting :- Mike Chester Bowling:- James Hogben
2nd Eleven Batting: - Samaya Muduli Bowling: - Josh Golding
3rd Eleven Batting: - **T.B.A**. Bowling: - **T.B.A.** .
Under 9's Batting:- Wilf Williams Bowling:- Sterling Marsh
Player of theyear:- Hugh Allwood

Other award winners will appear in the **Spring edition of Roundabout.** Apologies to those players who have not appeared in this edition.
www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk/roundabout.html &www.creweguardian.co.uk/sport

Lady players required for the forthcoming 2018 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 **2018,** take the next important step towards playing cricket, please contact either **Pauline or Kevin Jobbins** on **01270483494**, for more details on what our cricket club can offer you.
Wistaston Village Cricket Club would like to take this opportunity of expressing their sincere thanks to the recently opened **Co-op at Jackson's Corner** for their generous sponsorship to the sum of **£500** that will be used to purchase additional playing kit for our cricket club. This generous donation expresses their pledge to work closely with the community.
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. For more details contact Pauline or Kevin Jobbins.
We offer cricket to adults and juniors, boys and girls, of all standards and we are proud on being very much a child friendly club and 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: - 01270483494** in the first instance.
***John Avery,* Zusammen, 13 Lear Drive, Wistaston. 0781 7082678**

Finals Day at the Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club.

The Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club (WJTC) Finals Day took place on Sunday 17th September 2017, in sunny weather, on the two courts behind the Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre on Church Lane.



Bill Heath (WJTC Chairman) introduced the presentation of trophies inside the Memorial Hall:

- Men's Singles Final: Paul Unwin beat George Raiswell 6-3, 6-4.
- Men's Doubles Final: George Raiswell and Robert Sheffield beat Oliver Cox and Paul Unwin 7-6 (7-5), 6-2.
- Presidents Tournament Final: Kath Charlesworth and Ben Reinhardt beat Rose Walker and Roy Birtles 6-4, 7-6 (7-2).
- Open Doubles Final: Will Elwood and Eric James beat George Raiswell and Bill Heath 6-4, 1-6, 6-4.

Wistaston C players displayed the shield they won as winners of the Division 5 Spring division in the South and Mid Cheshire Tennis League: http://www.smctennis.co.uk/ . They received their shield at the South and Mid Cheshire Tennis League's Presentation Day at Hartford Tennis Club on 10th September.

Refreshments were provided by members of the club.

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

With thanks to Jonathan White for the above report.

Memorial Halls Annual Quiz - with thanks to Jonathan White



In the evening of Tuesday 24 October fourteen teams participated in six rounds of ten questions at the Memorial Hall's Annual Quiz for the Fred Lorimer trophy. The Quiz setters, for the fifth time, were Peter and Christina Wainwright and the raffle for which all the prizes were kindly donated was organised by Glenys White and Meurig Jones and made £69. The refreshments were provided by Audrey and her team. The winning team for the second consecutive but fourth time was 'Four in a Corner'.The Fred Lorimer trophy wa presented to the winning team by Peter and Christina Wainwright. Event organiser John White said 'we had another enjoyable and successful community event which raised £200 for the Hall funds.'

Report from Wistaston Church Lane Academy

Chester Zoo: In October, Year 3 went on a trip to Chester Zoo. They had a superb time and saw lots of animals such as tigers, bats, rhinoceroses and elephants! "My favourite animals were the monkeys because they had funny faces!" said Luke, Y3CW.

World Book Day: In September, everyone in school took part in World Book Day where they dressed up as their favourite book character. The people who were the best dressed received books as prizes!

E-Safety Talk: In Mid-October, a police officer called Amy Fletcher came and told Years 5 and 6 how social media can sometimes be dangerous. She told the classes how most social media apps have an age restriction of 13 or older such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat and Instagram.

Years 3 and 4 Christmas Play: Years 3 and 4 will be doing a Christmas play which will be Aladdin! Year 4 are taking the lead roles whilst Year 3 will be dancing to the songs. Both year groups will be singing. The songs, which sound brilliant, are 'Just Three Wishes' 'Wishy Washy Laundry', 'The Chase', 'Something is Going Together Perfectly' and 'A Day in the Market Place'. The classes are really excited to perform the play!

The Lion Salt Works: In October, Year 5 visited the Lion Salt Works. This was a very interesting visit where they learned how salt was made and had an exciting tour around the factory! They learnt that the correct name for salt water is brine!

Year 2 Harvest Play: Earlier this year, Year 2 performed their harvest show. Before they started, the children were nervous and excited. After everything was done, some were slightly embarrassed. The costumes were amazing. We're all hoping for another Harvest performance next year!

Foundation and Year 1 Christmas Fun: This year, the Infant Christmas play is "A King Is Born". Year 1s are doing the arts, songs and lines and Reception the singing and actions! Everyone has extraordinary costumes and they have a dress rehearsal in two weeks. All the parts have been given out and the children are all VERY excited to perform it! ***By Lyla and Harry (Y5G)***

****

To all Wistonian dog owners. I live not far from Wells Green traffic lights on Crewe Road and most of the time I work from home.

Generally this is very enjoyable but sometimes it becomes unbearable due to dogs barking, I know what you are thinking but I love dogs, my daughter has one, my next door neighbour has one and most of my friends have one, my issue is not that a dog barks but the length of time people let them go on and on…..

My next door neighbour has a dog but you very rarely hear him and when he does bark he is stopped pretty quickly, however there is a large dog (German Shepherd I think) who is sometimes left to bark for what seems forever and there is also another which sounds like a smaller dog who gets left to bark and bark several times a day, the first time is generally between 7 and 7.30am, this particular dog can bark for up to half an hour at a time! Please don't leave your ball of fluff and fun to bark forever it just isn't fair to your neighbours.Thank you.

Wistaston Conservation Group

Our numbers have been somewhat smaller over the past few weeks, as some of our working party decided to go AWOL; they called it holidays. My Managing Director used to say that every day at work was a holiday for him, but not many of the staff agreed with his sentiments.

Some of the projects we have done recently;

Woodside Covert (old model railway area)

This area has been sadly neglected since the model railway club vacated the area, some considerable number of years ago.

Last year we decided to remove all the broken fencing from the path side of the area, laid the hedge, and planted it all up with Hawthorn, which is now growing well. We also planted some Rowan to further improve the hedge.

This year, we have done a lot of work on the recreational ground side of the area, cut out a lot of the brash, and laid the hedges. We will again be planting up the hedge with Hawthorn, to bulk it up, which may well have been completed by the time you read this.



Photo shows newly laid hedge, awaiting further planting.

Tree planting

We have been fortunate to be given a large quantity of tree whips from the Forestry Commission and Cheshire Wildlife Trust, for which we are most grateful. Some of these have already been planted, and a good number healed in for planting at a later date. Unfortunately, Hawthorn does not seem to be available from these sources at present, so we are having to purchase these for our hedge project **(see above).**

Himalayan balsam control

Due to our regular control of this invasive species over the past years, a fair percentage of our area only needs a few plants removing. However, the area below Field Lane as far as the stream, from Hinging Bank covert to the Wistaston Green Road car park is a major problem.

Due to the dense bramble, and other species, removal of this invasive species is a big problem. Many of our working party were covered in scratches or wasp stings, as we found several wasps nest during this work, and they do not like to be disturbed!!

This control is a never ending task, but we will not be beaten by it.

Bulb planting

As last year, we have been given a large quantity of bulbs of several different species by the Parish Council. The ones we planted last year gave a great show of colour on the hill up from Joey-the-Swan towards the Woodside, so we have now continued that planting further up the road with Daffodils.

We have also planted several areas around the children's play area with Daffodils, Narcissi, English Bluebells, Snowdrops and Crocuses, including the area behind the information board.

Information boards



The area around the front of the information board at Joey-the-Swan, and the one on the Wistaston Green Road car park, have deteriorated recently, and needed a lot of TLC. In order to make the areas better looking, and more user-friendly, we are now putting new flagstones down, and are projecting to further plant up these areas in the near future.
Photo shows new flagging, awaiting planting at rear.

Joey-the-Swan pond

Those of you who read this article regularly, will remember that our Group put in a circular path and bridge, and dug a new pond, where there used to be just a boggy area. The speed of growth around the new pond has taken us all by surprise, and so the whole area needed a lot of TLC. We have now cut back all the edges of the pond, strimmed and cleared the paths and bridge, and planted several more species of water plants in the pond.

Path clearing

Without sounding facetious, trees drop their leaves about this time of year. This tends to make our woodland paths slippery in wet weather, and so our annual clearing of the paths is under way, to make them more user-friendly.

Litter picking

As most locals know, litter is a continual problem, and so we have got together with several other groups, and the local public, to do a major litter pick in Wistaston. This effort is being organised as I write this, so hopefully I will be able to write a complementary note about the event in the next issue.

Village Fete/Duck Race

We again had our usual stall at the Village Fete, where we offered advice on conservation issues and had a plant stall, which brought in much needed funds for our Group to continue our work in the area. At the Duck Race we only offer advice. This year the event was sponsored by the new Co-op on the main road at Jackson's corner. We were very pleased to receive a cash donation from this sponsorship, for which we offer the Co-op our grateful thanks.

Photo shows our stall at the Village Fete.



As usual, if you have any conservation issues you would like to discuss, or have any ideas for improving the natural features of Wistaston, either contact one of the Group, or come along and meet us on a Monday morning. We meet at 0930, with a coffee break about 1100, so if you time it right you may just be in time for a free coffee and biscuits.

Where we will be working is normally noted on our website at www.wistastonconservationgroup.org.uk.

John M Wood, Chairman.

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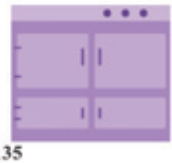
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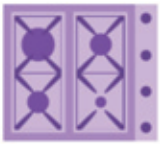
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Report from The Berkeley Academy

We have had a fun and busy start to our school year at The Berkeley Academy. Our new reception children have settled in well to life at school and they are already becoming independent learners.

Our first few days at school involved our Emotional Awareness element of the Berkeley KEEE. This involved all children mixing with their house teams and getting involved in a variety of arts, music and dance activities whilst learning about the importance of a positive mindset.

Year 1 children at the Berkeley Academy have been learning all about animals and humans this term and are all looking forward to their trip to the farm at Reaseheath College.

Our year 2 children have been learning all about the great fire of London and comparing the story to the great fire of Nantwich. The children are looking forward to learning even more during their trip to the Nantwich museum.



Year 4 have begun planning their Enterprise week where they are focusing on raising money for the Guide Dogs. They have planned a glow dress up day and cake sale for the school as well as a tea party for parents where they will be sharing what they have been learning.



We have also taken part in European Languages week. Each year group chose a country in Europe to learn about. We then shared our facts and songs in an assembly to the whole school.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our first half term and are looking forward to the exciting plans we have in the run up to Christmas!





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Nature Article

July saw starling-like flocks of dozens of jackdaws taking off late afternoon we suspect from feeding-grounds to roost sites: quite a spectacle, but with no tealeaf meanderings of mesmerising patterns for which our speckled 'friends' are renowned. A garden mole made several mounds in the soft sandy soil by our greenhouse. When the hills were flattened they quickly returned and we felt privileged and sorry when the activity eventually ceased. We had hoped to witness a nose pushing the ground up, but were disappointed. The movement made the ground so much easier to work as is the case with ants easing removal of the pretty, 'though fibrously tenacious, trailing flower of yellow oxalis. It proves that creatures definitely have their uses provided they are in the right place.

On 26 July a female sparrowhawk whisked over the front-garden tree but failed to kill as alarmed tits escaped. On 31 July two buzzards flew low through the front, under the tree, over allotment hedgerow and away. Robert Paine of Valley Cottage, Valley Road, thinks the raptors seen by Alan Littler in the woods were likely to have been sparrowhawks as they are so common in that area. Our guess at 'buzzards' was because we'd only ever seen sparrowhawks singly.

Sparrowhawks seem to have claimed the spotlight in this edition, with various reports. In August Joyce and Maurice Bailey of Swift Close were excited by such a bird taking possibly a sparrow, spending time to devour it before finally flying off, leaving only feathers which a tidy-minded Joyce brushed up and binned. For the Baileys it was the first really interesting nature event experienced after thirty-seven years of living in Wistaston.



On a positive note Dave O'Hara confirms that there is still an egret down at Joey the Swan, plus a kingfisher and a family of voles.

Into September and we were still getting young goldfinches accompanying adults onto our feeders. Trapping and caging in Victorian times, for their song, drastically reduced numbers of this bird, before the Society for the Protection of Birds (then not 'Royal') intervened to prevent the practice, and the species is well established today. Teasels and thistles abound with these delightful songsters and it is rare not to see or hear flocks pass over on a country walk. Also in September we were visited by a rock dove, the ancestor of our racing and urban pigeons. Two broad black wing-bars and neck feathers of pink and green grant this bird a striking appearance.
At 6.15am 20 September, while walking her dog, Mary Gallimore saw a barn owl on the roof of a car in Rope Bank Avenue but it flew before a photograph could be taken. Well done Mary. It shows what can be achieved if up and out early.

The magpie, regarded by some as a menace, is useful in tweaking the tails of squirrels, to force them away, as evidenced in our own garden. Bird and mammal were salvaging a glut of fallen acorns; squirrel to bury and cover for future retrieval, magpie to devour there and then. Squirrel had tail tweaked till it totally cleared the area: no need for human intervention. Magpie is our friend.
Our thanks to all contributors.
Trevor and Hilary Clowes : Tel. 664358 : email handt136@talktalk.net

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The Big Screen at Wells Green Methodist Church, December 2017 - March 2018

This is a reminder for the remainder of our season of movies with a message, usually shown on the third Sunday of the month at 5.00pm, at Wells Green Church on Brookland Avenue (but please note it will be 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 (tel. 01270 662077 or email m.h.crook@keele.ac.uk)

Sunday 10 December	A post-war classic about the alcohol cargo of a wreck off the Scottish coast
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	Two soldiers return home to resume their lives in Edinburgh, in this screen adaptation of the popular musical

We look forward to seeing you!

Service of Remembrance, Memorial Hall, Wistaston

The Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre was filled to capacity on Sunday 12th November 2017, as the village remembered those who made the ultimate sacrifice in two world wars.

A guard of honour was organised by Beavers, Cubs and Scouts from the Wistaston Scout Group, who welcomed Parish Councillors from Wistaston. The Service of Remembrance was taken by three local ministers - Rev Mike Turnbull and Rev Ken Sambrook (St Mary's Church) and Rev Denise Harding (Wells Green Methodist Church).

The impressive poppy arrangement on the stage was displayed by Mrs Elizabeth Russell (Wistaston Flower Club).

The names of the sixteen men from Wistaston who perished during World War 2, were respectfully read by Mrs Barbara Brereton.

The Wells Green Church choir, led by their musical director Mrs Myra Wood, added quality to the music and hymns.

Jack Gresty played 'The Last Post' and 'Reveille'; his great uncle, Radio Officer Derek Aubrey Gresty died at Bari, Italy on 3rd May 1944 aged 24 years.

A wreath was placed at the front of the building by the hall's President, John Cooke, accompanied by Scout George Edge-Robinson who placed a cross in memory of Lieutenant Commander Roy Berryman Edwards DSO, sent by his daughter Mrs Sylvia Hammond, from Kent.

Chairman of Wistaston Parish Council, Cllr John Moore, read 'In Flanders Fields' by Lt Col John McCrae MD, written in 1915. The hall's Chairman, John White, paid tribute to one of Wistaston's sixteen fallen heroes – Lance Sergeant George Powell, Royal Corps of Signals, who died on Monday 27th May 1940, aged 21, during the Dunkirk Evacuation. He lived on Broughton Lane in Wistaston and is buried in Hazebrouck Communal Cemetery, France.



The collection at the service was £315.67 for the Royal British Legion.

With many thanks to Jonathan White for the above article.

Wistaston Young Drama Group

Wow!

Following our successes at the Nantwich Youth Festival we were invited to participate in The ArtsFest at All Saints Church, Stewart Street, Crewe on 14th October 2017.

The older group performed *"The Boy"* based on their experiences of starting high school. Issues such as settling into a new environment, falling out and finding friends, and that families are important, were explored. This production was facilitated by Charlotte Green.

The younger group performed *"Magic Twig"* and *"Turtle Tug"* written by Julia Donaldson. This production was directed by Margaret Boschi and assisted by Helen Amery.

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.



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

Reflections on my trip to Cambodia - **Matt Astbury**

Going away for a month to a country half way across the world with a group of people you barely know is a huge challenge for most people. As you would expect this comes with a few hurdles to get over. It would be difficult enough in a westernised country but in a developing country with a completely different environment it can be really tough. Almost everyone suffered from traveller's diarrhoea or other minor issues at some point during the trip which meant people running to the toilet was not an unusual sight. People running out of toilets was pretty common too thanks to the ever present spiders and insects.



Despite all this, my trip to Cambodia has been without doubt the best thing I have ever done. Every day there was something incredible to experience. The highlights of the trip were definitely the breath-taking views around every corner as well as going into the schools to teach and spend time with local kids, their energy is inspiring.



Even on a normal project day, the sense of family within the group and the non-stop laughs made it almost impossible to feel down, even with the extreme heat and tiredness. There wasn't a single day that didn't feel like it improved me as a person. From the sense of achievement on project, to the astounding attitudes of the local people and how much they appreciated the work, especially with the heart-breaking stories of S21 Security Prison and the Killing Fields, I feel as though I have grown in a way I never could have expected.

Since returning home, I have very quickly got back to the comforts of my normal life in the UK, as well as the stresses of A-levels and Uni applications! However, I feel that I have grown greatly and now view the world differently; I have come to appreciate the luxuries and technologies of western society learning not to take these things for granted.

Cambodia continued

The expedition was a life changing experience and my memories of Cambodia will stay with me forever. I hope to be able to travel more in the future and to continue to explore the world. However, I feel a strong bond with Cambodia and am definitely planning to go back. I aim to study medicine and with any luck, when I return I will have the opportunity to continue helping the people by working as a medic in local clinics.



Matt Astbury, Team Surya, Cambodia Aug 2016.

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 7pm and 9pm on the following Information Evenings:

Thursday 30th November 2017, Thursday 29th March 2018, Thursday 31st May 2018.
Visit our Website Rotary Club of Crewe, or Facebook Rotary Club of Crewe or Telephone 01270 501241 or 01270 623525



Weston Christmas Light Display

Supporting the 'Donna Louise Children's Hospice' since 2013

1st December - 28th December
6.15pm - 9.00pm everyday

Visit Santa every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening
and the last few days before Christmas

Carters Green Farm, Jack Lane, Weston, Nr Crewe. Cheshire
(Turn right straight after bypass bridge coming from Weston Village)

Everyone Welcome!

In 4 years we have raised an amazing £40,000!

For more information contact 01270 586754 or
email info@westonlightdisplay.co.uk

Sleigh Selfie • Santa's Grotto • Mince Pies
Sweets & Chocolate • Music & More!

Christmas Services at St Mary's Wistaston.
The constant refrain of Christmas, in carols and readings, is that God is with us. In whatever situations you find yourself this Christmas, God is with you - you need only turn to him and ask to know his presence. Please join us to celebrate God With Us.

16th December - Saturday
6pm - Carols on the Green.
Outside Carol Singing around the church and hall

17th December - Sunday
6pm - Nine Lessons and Carols
A traditional service of Readings and Carols

24th December Sunday- Christmas Eve
6pm - 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 - Christmas Day
10.40am Holy Communion for Christmas for all the family.
If you are a youngster please bring a toy to show.

Please see us on social media, for further details call 01270 567119.
www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk
@maryandluke
facebook.com/stmaryandstluke
#GodWith Us



Wistaston - **Fireworks**

The 40th Annual Wistaston Fireworks Display took place on Saturday 4th November 2017 at the Eric Swan Sports Ground off Church Lane,Wistaston.

With very many thanks to Jonathan White for his spendid coverage of the 40th Anniversary of this popular event.

It began with a procession - led by bagpiper Reg Flower - from the Park Drive/Westfield Drive junction to the Eric Swan Sports Ground off Church Lane (behind Church Lane School). The judging of the children's best pumpkin and best fancy dress competitions then took place and were followed by the fireworks display.

The parade was once again supported by Dutton Contractors who loaned road signs and cones. Dutton Contractors carry out road works in the area on behalf of Scottish Power and Cheshire East. This is their way of giving something back to thank the community for bearing with them during the works.



The results of the children's best pumpkin competition judged by Gwyneth Brown, were:
1st prize – Bella Ullmer
2nd prize – Felicity Rowland
3rd prize – Mia O'Donnell.

The results of the children's fancy dress competition, in which there were several fairies, witches, ghosts, ghouls, werewolves - judged by Gwyneth Brown were:
1st prize – Poppy Tonkinson as a superb Guy Fawkes with a headdress of fireworks.
2nd prize – Edward Matthews as a Grandma-eating Werewolf
3rd prize – Abigail Poulter as a terribly frightening ghoul.

Locally-based online community radio station RedShift Radio - https://www.redshiftonline.org/ - for the eighth year running generously provided, setup and staffed the PA system before the fireworks and played music during the display.
Professional fireworks display specialist Gekostar Fireworks - http://www.gekostarfireworks.co.uk/ - set up the fireworks display.

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.

The event was organised by the Wistaston Community Council and funded by the Wistaston Community Council and the Wistaston Parish Council. Entry was by donation and very many hundreds of people attended the event.

Dane Chaplow, Chairman of the Wistaston Community Council, said, "The whole Wistaston Community Council Parade and Fireworks Spectacular *was spectacular* – a fantastic evening indeed. Firstly I would like to thank everyone from the Community Council and to myriad others who came to help and make it our most successful Street Parade and Fireworks event to date – we could not do it without you. The crowd was huge – probably the biggest yet and the comments after were all very positive. My thanks also go to Wistaston Sports and Leisure for the use of the Brittles Sports ground, Gekostar Fireworks for the fabulous fireworks display, Redshift Radio for providing the sound and commentary and Kell, our wicked witch. Finally to the community of Wistaston who came in their many hundreds to watch."

Wistaston - **Flower Club**

Wistaston Flower Club have been entertained this year by nine demonstrators of either National or Area level creating beautiful floral designs, informative talks with plenty of laughter and most of all these designs are raffled off at the end of the afternoon. There is a sales table with floral art accessories also bring and buy of unwanted gifts. Alongside our monthly meeting visits are made to attractive gardens and places of interest, workshops are also held for members to create designs for their own homes. We participate at Nantwich Show in the Floral Art section and this year in conjunction with St Bart's Church, Church Minshull in a Floral Flower Festival on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd December. Coffee mornings are held where ladies can purchase and mingle and chat with friends over coffee. Our traditional Cream Tea is held in August where everyone can enjoy delicious home-made scones with cream and jam and being entertained by a speaker. Our Annual General Meeting is held in November where for the past few years a hot lunch and either a mini flower demonstration or speaker has followed the AGM . We are a vibrant thriving afternoon club and a warm welcome is extended to visitors

Wistaston Flower Club meet on the first Wednesday of each month, with the exception of January at 2.30pm at the Memorial Hall, Church Lane. You don't have to be a flower arranger just having a love of the beauty of flowers is enough.

If you would like to join us at our 6th December or our 1st February 2018 meeting please bring this article along when you can gain free entrance. For additional information please contact Christina Wainwright Phone: 01270 668800 or w.w.w.nafascheshire.org.uk

Cheshire Wildlife Trust South Group
Evening Talks in Spring 2018

January 17th 2018 8pm
'Protecting Wildlife in Cheshire' a talk by **Sarah Marson, Cheshire Police Wildlife officer** about her work of dealing with wildlife crime.

February 21st 2018 8pm
'Wildfowl of the World' an illustrated talk by the well known TV photographer **Michael Potts**

March 21st 2018 8pm
Ray Jackson talks about the work of **Lower Moss Wood Wildlife Hospital and Educational Nature Reserve**

Venue: Methodist Church, Hospital Street, Nantwich
Cost: £3 including refreshments
Contact for further information : Irmgard Ralfs on 01270 624835

Crewe Rotary Christmas Santa Float Dates

4th December to 21st December



During December 2017 Crewe Rotary Club will yet again be showing Santa around the streets of Crewe, Willaston and Haslington. Due to the generosity of the people in 2016 Crewe Rotary Club have been able to support around 40 local charities.

Last year we introduced a tracker which enabled people on Social Media to follow our progress on the night and all our dates are published on the website and Facebook pages. Santa Float – Rotary Club of Crewe or Rotary Club of Crewe.

We are aware that as not everyone has access to Social Media we list here the dates and areas:

December

Mon 4th	Wistaston Ennerdale, Riverside.
Tues.5th	Gresty Road - Manor Way
Wed.6th	Alton Street, Mountbatten Court end Valley Road and estates.
Thurs.7th	Marshfield Bank, Coppenhall Lane.
Fri. 8th	Elm Drive, Lime Tree Avenue Estate
Sat. 9th	Wistaston Rope Bank
Mon.11th	Hungerford Road Estates
Tues.12th	Haslington 1
Wed. 13th	Ruskin Road,Dane Bank Ave.
Thurs.14th	Coppenhall: Sedgemere Parkers Road
Fri. 15th	Poets Wistaston
Sat. 16th	Wistaston, Fuller Drive
Sun. 17th	ASDA – Day Time Leighton Estate – Night Time
Mon. 18th	Haslington 2
Tues. 19th	Underwood Lane, Mablins Lane
Wed. 20th	
Thurs 21st	ALDI
Fri. 22nd	TESCO
Sat. 23rd	Morrisons

'Pebbleart' is making an artistic impact in the Crewe and Nantwich area. What is Pebbleart? Jonathan White explains:

The Pebbleart project was started in Morecambe by Jacky Burns with participants encouraged to paint a rock, write Pebbleart on the back and hide it in the hope of making a stranger smile when it's found.
Pebbles from craft shops or public places are taken home and painted with acrylic paints or permanent pens. The pebbles are then hidden or placed in public places such as next to a path, a park bench or even on a high street.
Anyone who finds a painted pebble can leave it where it is for someone else to find, rehide and take a photo of it for a Facebook group page, or take it home and keep it if they wish.
A national 'Love on the rocks uk' Pebbleart Facebook group now has 40,000 members and has resulted in local Facebook groups being started across the United Kingdom in recent months.



Sharon Cattell from Wistaston said, "I discovered the 'Love on the rocks uk' Facebook group and thought that Pebbleart was a great way to entertain my children with combining painting when it's wet and walking when it's dry. The children love to do arts and crafts and also love walking. We have hidden Pebbleart in Wistaston, Wolstanwood, Delamere Forest and Cat Bells in the Lake District. We even hid one in a Hobbycraft! I set up the 'Love on the Rocks Wistaston (Crewe & Nantwich)' Facebook group to hopefully get the local community involved. We love to see when someone posts where Pebbleart has been found and a photo - hopefully it makes the finder smile as well."

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WISTASTON GARDENERS' SOCIETY

at the **Memorial Hall, Wistaston**
meeting monthly at 7.30pm
For more information contact
Keith Wilford 01270 665974

January 9	Anthony Norman:	Evergreens for Small Gardens
February 13	Anita Wright:	Four Seasons
March 13	Annual General Meeting and Supper	
April 10	Jane Allison:	A Country Walk
May 1	Michael Walker:	Update on History: Trentham
June 5	Judy Popley:	A Prospect of Arley
July 10	Summer Social Evening & Barrow Walker Rose Competition Trophy	
August 14	Graham Shillabeer	Winter Colours
	Beryl Fentem Trophy :	(Pot Plant Competition)
September 11	Robert Barlow:	Gardening in Shady Places

Wistaston's 36th Annual Flower and Produce Show Saturday 18 August 2018

Entry fee - 20p per class. Children's Classes Free. First Prize for each class £2

Section 1 - Flower Classes

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

Section 2 - Vegetable Classes.

20. A Vegetable not on Schedule - please specify on entry form.
21. Five White Potatoes on a Plate - any variety.
22 Five Coloured Potatoes on a Plate - any variety.
23. Six pods of Peas with some stalk
24. Three Onions - roots shown, not to exceed 225 grams each. See Rule 21.
25. Six Carrots - tops trimmed to 8cm
26. Five Ripe Tomatoes - not cherry variety - on a Plate.
27. Nine Shallots - Large, over 30mm in diameter.
28. Three Round Beetroot - tops trimmed to 8cm.
29. One Vegetable Marrow - with stalk.
30. One Lettuce - roots shown
31. One Cucumber - with stalk.
32. A Truss of Tomatoes - not cherry variety - some ripe.
33. A Truss of a Named Variety of Cherry Tomatoes on a plate - some ripe.
34. One White Cabbage - roots shown.
35. Five Ripe Cherry Tomatoes on a plate - variety to be named.
36. Six Runner Beans - all with some stalk.
37. Six Dwarf Beans - all with some stalk.
38. Three Courgettes - each with some stalk..

Section 3 - Wistaston Parish Council Vegetable Display

39. A Collection of Five Different Classes of Vegetables.
40. A Single Pot of Three Different Herbs.

Section 4 - Flower Arrangements - See Rule 20

41. 'Hat for Ascot.'
42. 'Disney'
43. .'By the Light of the Silvery Moon'
44. 'Flower Arrangement with Ornament' - Petite. 25cms overall.

Section 5 - Harvest Basket

45. A Basket containing Fruit, Flowers & Produce - not to exceed 46cm in width and length; height unrestricted.

Section 6: Children's Classes (Free to enter. Entries to be with the Show President by 9 August.)

46. Pre-school - theme TBC
47. Year 1 chilldren - theme TBC
48. Year 3 children - theme TBC
49. Year 5 children - theme TBC

Section 7 : Housecraft Classes

50. A Jar of Homemade Strawberry Jam) cellophane
51. A Jar of Homemade Chutney) covers
52. A Jar of Homemade Lemon Curd) only.
53. Three pieces of Shortb read
54. Five Square Flapjacks.
55. Five Jam Tarts.
56. A Plate of Five Chocolate Butterfly Cakes.
57. A Lemon Drizzle Cake baked in a loaf tin.
58. A Date and Walnut Cake - baked in a loaf tin.
59. A Victoria Sponge Cake - Read Rule 19 carefully.
60. Five Cheese Scones
61. A Quiche, approx.20cm in diameter, presented on a plate
62. An Apple Pie approx. 20cm in diameter, short crust pastry top and bottom - presented on a plate.
63. Five Decorated Cup Cakes.

Section 8 - Hobby Crafts

64. A Cross Stitch Picture - 15cm x 20cm maximum
65. A Painting - own original work. A4 max.size, unframed.
66. A Decorated Plant Pot. 10cm-15cm diameter.

Section 9 Beverages

67. A bottle of Home Made Fruit/Vegetable/Flower Wine - 75 ml bottle, not from a kit.

Parish Council Photographic Competition

Free to enter
Class A: A Typical Snapshot
Class B: **A Cardboard Framed Enlargement.**
Prize money will be £5, £3 and £2 in both classes.
Entries to be with the Show President by 9 August 2018.

Please read the schedule and the rules very carefully to make sure your entries are in the correct class, are trimmed as directed, are the correct size and contain the correct amount of ingredients.

***Gwyneth Brown,* President**



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Christmas at New Life is all wrapped up!



PERFORMANCE BY 4FRONT THEATRE COMPANY

Christmas Castaways

With songs, silliness and loads of festive family fun join our castaways as they remember how to celebrate Christmas.
Combining traditional pantomime with the message of the nativity.

Friday 15th December 6.30pm £1

Carols by Candlelight

Enjoy complimentary Christmas refreshments, before relaxing with carols, and celebrating the Christmas story

Sunday 17th December 6.00pm

Refreshments from **5.30pm**

Christmas Family Service 11am
Sundays 17th & 24th December
With youth and children's presentations

Christmas Morning 10am - 11am
Monday 25th December
Bring your favourite present!

new life community church

Every Sunday
11am for Family Worship

New Life Church, Fuller Drive, Crewe CW2 6TH

tel: 01270 664225 email: info@newlifecentre.co.uk web: www.newlifecentre.co.uk

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