

A robin warbles in Hinging Bank Covert, Wistaston. With thanks to Jonathan White

SPRING 'ROUNDABOUT'

2019 ISSUE 153 **www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk**

A Wistaston Communtity Council Publication Circulation 4100

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EDITORIAL FOR SPRING 2019

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! **Please send in your articles, photographs etc. for our Summer edition, due out in early June, by 15 April.**

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

Geoff Poppitt
19 Byron Way
01270 569642

Dates for your Diary see page 18.
Wistonian of the Year for 2018 : See who? Page 11.



The Community Council are now organising their next event, the Village Fete, on Saturday 15 June at which the theme will be:

Space - 50 years since first man landed on the moon: the Eagle has landed

WISTASTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL	
Donations In Year 2018	
PAID TO	£
Friends of Church Lane Academy	500.00
Cheshire Border Guides (Kenya trip)	250.00
Donation to West St Christian Fellowship	250.00
Wistaston Church Lane Academy	50.00
Laura Conliffe Singer Fete	50.00
Jane Banks Falconry	50.00
DeSign Singers (Deaf)	50.00
Firefighters Charity	50.00
Dope Street Dancers	50.00
St Marys Church Hall	50.00
Rainbows (Girl Guides) Books etc	200.00
Donation - Wistaston Memorial Hall	350.00
Thomas Backhouse Expedition	250.00
Shavington Academy	100.00
Wistaston Church Lane Academy	100.00
Wistaston Conservation Group	200.00
The Childrens Society	100.00
St Marys Church Hall	100.00
Action for Children Charity	100.00
Myra Wood	100.00

The Community Council is very appreciative of your support at all our events over the year - Village Fete, Flower and Produce Show, Duck Race, Fireworks, Christmas Concert and we would welcome new people to help with these events. For more information please visit http//www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk/ or look up Wistaston Community Council on Facebook.

As well as organising events the Community Council is all about enabling people of Wistaston to have a shot at something more challenging and to be able to take up something with which our funds can help.

70 Years of Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre



South Cheshire 'George Formby' Ukulele Society and the Crewe Movie Makers

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Wistaston Parish Council **Chairman's Report**

1. NEW HOMES BONUS COMMUNITY FUND

Further to the outline plan included in your winter Roundabout, 3 projects were submitted to Cheshire East Council before the end of December 2018. These were:-

- Joey the Swan Fitness and Well-being Project
- Mains drainage scheme at the Eric Swan Sports Ground
- Speed Indicator Devices

Cheshire East Council has reported that over 200 applications were submitted for over £7 million. As the allocated budget is for £1 million, extra time is required to evaluate and short list projects for a final decision by the Cheshire East Council committee for each parish group. A decision is not expected before April 2019.

2. PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

In May this year new elections will be called for Parishes through Cheshire East. Existing Councillors will stand down and a new Council Group will be elected on 2nd May 2019. Residents interested in becoming a Councillor must fulfil at least one of the criteria shown on the nomination papers. Further information is available on the Electoral Commission's web pages or at Cheshire East Council candidate briefings. These cover how to obtain and submit candidate nomination papers, and the election processes and procedures. Entrance is limited to those who have booked their place prior to the event. Places are limited so contact our Elections Team on electoral.information@cheshireeast.gov.uk or phone 01270 685922 to reserve your place.

3. JOEY THE SWAN

We have received reports on two concerns in our recreation and woodland area. Fly tipping and litter in woodland areas requiring the Council to organise special clean up arrangements. Groups of dogs left to roam freely, which adds to the clean-up programme, which our Park Ranger has to action. Support from Cheshire East Council dog watch group for increased patrols has been requested. We would ask residents for help to report incidents to your Ward Councillor or Clerk to maintain our open spaces as a safe environment for all to use.

4. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings at 7.30 p.m. at Wistaston Memorial. Next meetings are on 21st March 2019, 11th April 2019 (Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00 p.m.) and 16th May 2019

Cllr. J. Moore – Chairman

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Councillor Contact Details:

	St. Mary's Ward (2 vacancies)	
Andrew Bicknell	**1 Meadow Drive, Wistaston, CW2 6RF**	**487579**
Gwyneth Brown	**101 Church Lane, Wistaston, CW2 8ER**	**568823**
Betty Cooke	**25 Westfield Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EU**	**569676**
David Lucas	**23 Rectory Close, Wistaston, CW2 8HG**	**664916**
Derrick Millington	**9 Chesterton Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EA**	**664471**
	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 (4 vacancies)	
Thomas Kilkenny	**15 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EN.**	**650045**
Clerk to the Council		
Mrs. Andrea Cross	**4 Arundel Close, Wistaston. CW2 8EY**	**652098**

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Wistaston Community Council - The 100 Club - 2018

This is a club organised by Wistaston Community Council with the aim of raising money for good causes within the village as well as giving members a chance of winning some decent prizes ranging from £10 to £200. It has been running now for over 20 years.

During 2018 prizes were given out as follows:-

Draw	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**
Prizes	25	25	50	25	25	100	25	25	50	25	25	25	200
Winning Numbers	20	48	5	119	107	91	26	70	108	64	18	44	84

In addition to the above, numerous £10 prizes were awarded.

Every member of the 100 Club donates £2 every four weeks (or annually if preferred) and is entered into a draw with many cash prizes available.

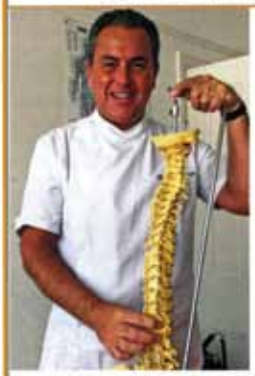
Anybody interested in finding out more or even to join us please contact John Lomax on 01270 663037 at any time.

In the meantime I would like to thank all 100 Club members for their continued support.

John Lomax Promoter

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Wistonian of the Year for 2018: John Wood

At a recent Wistaston Community Council meeting we were all very pleased that the 2018 Wistonian of the Year award, presented by Ian Gould, went to **John Wood** who certainly deserves the award. John has lived in Wistaston for many years and is a member of Wells Green Church and a popular member of Wells Green choir.



However it is because of his work with Wistaston Conservation Group that he was nominated for the prestigious Wistonian of the Year award.

John with a team of volunteers led by David O'Hara works every Monday, come rain or shine, throughout the year to enhance the appearance of our beautiful parkland in the Joey the Swan area. Walking through this area is an absolute delight. There are information boards detailing the flora and fauna – instigated by John along the way and at the Wistaston Green end there is the Millennium Bridge also instigated by John.

Overr the years the workload has been a real challenge but the results of this committed work party are obvious wherever you look.

In his role as Chairman John compiles a regular report on progress in our local magazine Roundabout. This in itself is a pleasure to read and another indication of his time and dedication. John's presence and enthusiasm is also apparent in his attendance at the village events with his stall of plants to sell, raising funds for the Conservation Group. It is small wonder then that 'Joey the Swan Parkland Wistaston' was awarded an outstanding certificate from the 'Britain in Bloom' competition.
Congratulations to John - an extremely worthy winner.

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Laurie Twiss Award 2019
Calling Wistaston's budding writers!

Write a story or article in under 200 words. This competition is open to young people in our area aged from 9 - 16.
The winner will be able to keep for one year the Laurie Twiss Trophy plus an additional prize. It's your choice of material – real or imaginary, fact or fiction, so do get into writing mode now. Please include the following information with your entry: Name and address, Telephone number, Age, school attended and title of story.

Entries should be submitted by **31 May 2019 to one of the following:**
Barbara Brereton, 11 Barnwell Close
Greg Brereton, 7 College Fields
Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane
Good Luck with your writing!

Wistaston Village Cricket Club

(Founded 1980)

At the time of compiling this latest editorial (early January), the **2019** cricket season is barely three months away. Work has been carried out at 'The Brittles', to ensure perfect wickets and outfield to enable the cricket club to enjoy another successful season from April to September.
The **2018** cricket season was as previously reported in the Winter edition of 'Roundabout' a success on several fronts and it is fair to summarise that all of our participating teams enjoyed their cricket and are positive in achieving more successes in the forthcoming playing season.
There is much to look forward to when the first matches commence in late **April 2019.**

I am sure that all players are looking forward to a productive campaign during **2019** and that our winter nets will help them to hone their skills to this effect. By the time my latest editorial wings its way through countless letter boxes, the cricket season will be only barely a month away from commencing (from information available at the time of this editorial first fixtures for most of our senior sides are due to begin from **late April.**)

For 2019 our senior teams will be playing in the following leagues:-
Ist Eleven: UK Fast Cheshire Cricket League Division 4

2nd Eleven: UK Fast Cheshire Cricket League Division C (South)

3rd Eleven: Stone and District Sunday Cricket League (Div 2) *
Women's Eleven (The Swans): Cheshire Women's Cricket League Division 2
*** Provisional subject to league confirmation.**

Indoor nets for our juniors and ladies commenced on 11th January.

The following awards were made at our Presentation evening last November - unfortunately too late to be included in the previous editorial.

Ist XI - Batting - J.Allwood. 2nd XI - Bowling M.Bourne. 3rd XI - Bowling B.Wooley (also League Bowling Award), Well Done ! Most Improved Player - J.Bourne. Hat Trick Award - N.Hobson. Ladies Player of the Year - J.Regan. Most Improved Player - K.Benett.

<u>Committee Members elected for 2019.</u>
Chairman: Andy Whitehurst. Vice-Chairman: Ned Townsend. Vice-Chairman: Keith Thornhill.
Secretary: Tristan King. Treasurer: Fiona Nobrega. Club Welfare Officer: Kevin Jobbins. Junior Manager: Tanith Allwood. Ground Rep: Dean Titus. Stone and District League Rep: Mark Bourne. UK Fast League Rep: Steve Collins. Junior League Rep: Sam Sargeant. President: R.Titus. Groundsman: Kevin Jobbins. 1st XI Capt: Josh Allwood. 2nd XI Capt: Sam Sargeant. Sunday XI Capt: Mark Bourne. Ladies Manager: Zoe Davies. Ladies Coach: Steve Lawson. Under 9's Manager: Keith Thornhill. Under 11's Manager: Kevin Jobbins. Under 13's Manager: Sam Sargeant. General Members: John Avery, Paul Lewis, David Gregg and Ryan Briddon.

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

We offer cricket to adults and junior 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: - 01270 483494** in the first instance.

For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either **Kevin or Pauline Jobbins 01270 483494.**

John Avery

'Zusammen', 13 Lear Drive, Wistaston. Tel 0781 7082678

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Just for Fun. Six of the Best. Answers on page 18

1. Which England captain was the first Test outfielder to take 100 catches?
2. Who did Ray Illingworth replace as England's chairman of selectors?
3. Which two counties did Dickie Bird play for?
4. Which West Indian player turned out for Antigua in the 1978 World Cup?
5. Which English county has Brian Lara played for?
6. Which country do Donald, McMillan and Cronje play for?

****



Annual Boxing Day Walk 2018 : over thirty local walkers and six dogs enjoyed a gentle stroll in Wistaston on the morning of Boxing Day 2018 (Wednesday 26th December). The event was organised by Helen Gould and led by Ian Gould, who are both members of the Wistaston Community Council. The route lasted for ninety minutes over 3 miles of fields. The first-ever 'Best dressed dog award' was won by 'Peggy' the lurcher, who won a bag of doggy treats.

Ian Gould said, 'The walk took place on a beautiful morning in Wistaston. We all enjoyed the chat and met some new dog walking friends. We hope to see you all again at Wistaston Memorial Hall, Church Lane at 10:30am on Boxing Day in 2019.'

Thank you to *Jonathan White for narrative and photograph.*

Wistaston Conservation Group

Firstly, I am pleased to say that our numbers are increasing, especially our hard-working Monday morning team. We have had two new members recently, and one who has come back after absence due to family reasons. We welcome them all, and hope they enjoy both the work and the camaraderie of the team. For the last few weeks our average attendance on a Monday morning, despite some bad weather, has been 10, so we have been able to do so much more to keep the area in a good state for our locals to enjoy. We have had a lot of comment about the work we have done, almost all positive, which makes our hard work so much more worthwhile. KEEP THE POSITIVE COMMENTS COMING!!

Recent Projects:

1. **Main path**: We have now completed the work on the main path across the recreation ground having cut back all the path edges and cut back the trees and shrubs which were encroaching on the path. We have also removed the brash which had grown up around several young Oak trees so as to allow the Oaks to grow straighter and better.



2. New Pond: We have done a lot of work around the new pond which is now looking much better as there is a lot more water flowing down the valley and keeping the pond topped up. The area around the pond has been cleared especially of all the logs which had been dumped after several fallen trees had been cut up.



The bank behind the area is now our priority project and we have:

a. Cut back all the bramble which was gradually strangling all the other natural features,

b. Coppiced the Elder to give it chance to regenerate: many of them had a lot of dead in them as they have not had any TLC for many years,

c. Planted many native plants, trees and shrubs on the area cleared including Beech, Holly and Yew trees which have been removed from other areas of overcrowded woodland.

3. Improvements to 'railway area' woodland.

We have recently planted over 100 Hawthorn whips around this area which we were able to purchase due to a kind donation by the Wistaston



Community Council - see below.

Car parks

There is still a very big problem of fly-tipping on our car parks, especially the one on Wistaston Green Road, which means that we have to spend a lot of time on a Monday morning tidying up, and then putting the rubbish out for the Council to collect. This is so annoying as there are two rubbish bins on site, and the local refuse site is only a few minutes drive away. Please either put your rubbish in the bins or take it to the local refuse site.

Dog fouling

As I have noted many times before, there is still a very big problem with dog fouling, especially when the poo is placed in a black bag and then either left around or thrown into the trees.We were pleased to see that the Council are now deploying staff to patrol the area, and they are prepared to fine any dog owner who fails to clean up after their dog. We hope that the new initiative by the Council will help to solve this disgusting habit.

Community Council Grant

We wish to give a very big thank you to the Wistaston Community Council for their generous cash donation from the proceeds of the firework display. This grant has allowed us to purchase the whips noted above, and we are intending to upgrade our personal protective equipment from the rest of the money. THANK YOU AGAIN.

I would like to finish by thanking our Monday team for all the hard work they have put in during 2018, and especially David O'Hara, our project manager, and Parish Council warden, who is standing down from his warden duties in April. Thank you to you all, not just from me, but from all the people of Wistaston.



As usual, if you have any conservation issues you would like to discuss, any ideas to improve the Wistaston locality, or you would like to consider joining us, either contact one of the Group or come along and meet us on a Monday morning. We meet at 0930, with a welcome coffee break at about 1100, so if you time it right you may be in for a free coffee and biscuits. Where we are working on any Monday is usually noted on our website at

www.wistastonconservationgroup.org.uk

John M Wood, Chairman

Nantwich & District Scottish Society: Burns' Dinner and Dance

Nantwich & District Scottish Society held their Burns' Dinner & Dance on Saturday 26 January in Sandbach Town Hall. This annual event is held on the nearest Saturday to the 25 January – the birthday of Robert Burns. Mrs. Jackie Spence, President, welcomed those present and hoped everyone would have an enjoyable evening.



The Committee make every effort to keep this occasion as traditional as possible. The 'Toast to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns' was proposed by the Rev. Andrew Taylor, who is Chaplain and member of the Nantwich Society. The 'Toast to the Lasses' was given by Mr. Andrew Locke and the 'Reply on behalf of the Lasses' was given by Miss Anne MacDonald, both of whom are members of the RSCDS Cheshire Branch based in Tarporley.

The haggis was piped in by Mr. Ken Unsworth from Liverpool and the 'Address to the Haggis' was given by Dr. Sheila Holdsworth, also a member of the Nantwich Society.
Seventy-three members and their guests attended. A traditional meal of haggis, neeps and tatties was served followed by a mixed programme of Scottish dances. The evening ended with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.
We always welcome new members. If you are interested please contact our Secretary, Mrs. Christine Grove on 01270-781137 or visit our website www.nantwichscottishsociety.co.uk.

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Aluminium Can Collection Bins - article by *Jonathan White*

Wistaston Scout Group (35th South West Cheshire) has set up new aluminium can collection bins in Wistaston to raise money for their Group.
The new bins are located on the car park at Wistaston Memorial Hall (Church Lane); outside Wistonia Stores (Kings Drive); and outside the new Co-op (Crewe Road).
The Group also has aluminium can collection bins on the car park in front of the 'Spar' convenience store on Rope Lane, Wells Green.
Thus far the Group have collected around £8,000 worth of aluminium cans, but would like more to support their activities.
'Recycling aluminium uses only around 5% of the energy and emissions needed to make it from the raw material bauxite.' Source: https://www.recyclenow.com/
Recyclable aluminium cans will have the 'alu' symbol printed somewhere on them. Aluminium cans are also not magnetic.
For further information relating to the Wistaston Scout Group, please email Gerald via: ges@optical3d.com

Ray Westwood



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Ray Westwood who has played such an important role in the life of Wistaston.

He lived in Wistaston for most of his life with his wife Sheila and their three children. He was until 2011 a Cheshire East Councillor representing St Mary's Ward, Wistaston and during this time he helped hundreds of residents resolve many issues and helped to improve services in the community. He was also a County Councillor and in 2011 was made an Honorary Alderman for his dedicated service to public life. As well as chairing many local committees for children's services and schools he was also a local school governor and a member of Wistaston Community Council.

Ray had been Chairman of Wistaston Sports and Leisure Association, WSLA and played a major part in both the funding and organisation of the construction of the multi-use games area and the recent extension to the clubhouse enabling excellent new facilities to be enjoyed by many local residents, particularly children.

Ray helped whenever possible at the annual village fete as well as volunteering to help at many local events and last year he became the 2017 Wistonian of the Year an award which really was long overdue.

****

Shires Symphonic Wind Orchestra

Inaugural Concerts in aid of Mid Cheshire Hospitals Charity.
This is a brand new wind orchestra with the first concert on:
Saturday 2 March 2019 at 7pm - Treatment Centre, Leighton Hospital, Middlewich Road, Crewe CW2 5GR
Also on **Saturday 9 March** at 7pm - St Andrew's Church Bedford Street Crewe CW2 6LG
Tickets £8, £6, £2 - https://www.eventbrite.com/o/shires-symphonic-wind-orchestra-17695570941

2019 series in St Mary's Church Nantwich

7pm Saturday **22 June 2019** Ryebank Piano Trio; Jonathan Ellis Piano, Duncan Reid Violin and Isabel Williamson Cello
7pm Saturday **13 July 2019** Linda Merrick Trio; Linda Merrick Clarinet RNCM Principal; Andrew Bassey Bassoon and Jonathan Ellis
Details of further performances in this series in the next issue.
Tickets £12, £5
More information from **Andrew Bassey**
www.sswo.org.uk www.worlestonmusicschool.co.uk

WISTASTON IN BLOOM

Last year Wistaston won 'Gold' in the Britain-in-Bloom (North West) competition. The first time we have ever won the Gold Award in many years of entering the competition.
We will do our best to win the Gold award again in 2019 but please remember this is a village effort, not just attractive flower beds but also the essential work of the Conservation Group; the litter pickers; the Park Ranger and of course residents maintaining their gardens all combine to present Wistaston looking at its very best to the judges of the competition and of course to residents and visitors.

Judging for Britain in Bloom will take place in early July so the village should be looking at its best by that date.

Wistaston has its own competition for the best front garden in each of the three wards in the parish, namely Wells Green, St Mary's and Wistaston Green with an overall winner of the best front garden in the village plus an award for the best hanging basket display and the best garden on both commercial and community premises.

Judging is by members of the Wistaston in Bloom Committee and the awards will be presented at the Flower and Produce Show on Saturday 17 August at St Mary's Church Hall.

Happy gardening
Bill Heath
Secretary, Wistaston-in-Bloom

****

Dates for your Diary - 2019

Tuesday 26 March - celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the opening of the Memorial Hall
Thursday 28 March - Memorial Hall Annual General Meeting at 7.30pm
Saturday 15 June - Wistaston Village Fete
Saturday 22 June - Memorial Hall Concert - to be confirmed.
Saturday 17 August - Flower and Produce Show, Church Hall.
Saturday 7 September - Model Boat and Duck Race
Tuesday in October - Annual Hall Quiz
Sunday 10 November - Service of Remembrance - 3pm
Saturday 6 December - Christmas Concert in the Church Hall

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Answers to Just for Fun - Six of the Best from page 13
1. Wally Hammond **2.** Ted Dexter **3.** Yorkshire and Leicestershire **4.** Viv Richards**.**
5. Warwickshire. **6.** South Africa

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Call us on 01270 252 700 or visit our new website at www.cheshire-conservatories.co.uk

St Mary's, Church Lane

Please join us at **St Mary's to celebrate Easter this year.** We have a quiet reflective service on **Good Friday (19 April) at 2pm** and an **All Age Easter Celebration on Easter Sunday (21 April) at 10:40am.** For further details please visit our website (stmaryswistaston.org.uk) or call the office on 567119.

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Commonwealth War Graves at St Mary's

We are proud and humbled to be the final resting place of some of the local men who gave their lives in World Wars 1 and 2 for our freedom. Many thanks to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) for the new signs to mark this. You can view the records of the graves in the churchyard on the CWGC website (http://bit.ly/cwgcstmarys). You may also be interested in the War Memorial Centenary Project which we are running in partnership with Wistaston and Rope Parish Councils and are hoping to complete this year. The project will give better access for all to the War Memorial so we may help current and future generations remember the sacrifice made by our local young men and women. You can find more details and plans for the project on our website: http://bit.ly/stmwarmemorial.



We need around £4,000 to complete the project (£6,000 has already been given or pledged). If you, or perhaps your employer (if they are local) would like to give/pledge towards this project we'd be very grateful - please call (01270 567119) or email office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk for further details.

Kind regards

Revd. Mike Turnbull



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Maureen Craig
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Wistaston, Crewe CW2 8EJ

Tel: 01270 567983

website: www.toesrus10.co.uk

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Free Parking in front of surgery.
Bus stop one minute away.

Treatments by appointment

Nature Article

Michael and Christine Howarth of Broughton Lane have bucked the trend in butterfly species visiting in 2018, reporting, of note, orange tip, brimstone, peacock, blue and comma; the star being painted lady. In keeping with general observations, however, they do declare a host of whites. Birdwise they have enjoyed bullfinches and have heard a woodpecker drumming by the brook at the bottom of the garden, end December. Special sights were a surprise bee on mahonia, 29.12, and snowdrops in the lane 28.12. Our only special sight was a peacock butterfly across the Dee from Glyndyfrdwy station on the Llangollen Railway on 28.12., but that hardly constitutes an item for 'Roundabout'!

Joined, no doubt, by birds of northern and eastern Europe, starlings made mini daylight murmurations in the village in November, Bonfire Night day seeing a flock of almost two dozen ravenously feeding on our front lawn – a habit of starlings – a sudden fall then as quickly away. We heard a chattering passage of fieldfares flying over early that month: thrushes from northern Europe which we expect to see mingling with starlings in farm fields as winter progresses. A male sparrowhawk scattered birds in our tree on 20.11., sitting for a few minutes before scything off into neighbouring bushes. This bird gained legal protection in 1966 following extensive persecution by gamekeepers; numbers seemingly on the rise. 29.11. again saw a male sparrowhawk in the tree: we didn't see it come or leave.

The cold snap of November brought teens of goldfinches, jackdaws and wood pigeons to our frontage, and we welcome back, after a long absence, a regular twosome of the elusive pied wagtail. As many as eight magpies visit us: handsome intelligent birds. Despite their reputation as robbers of young in other birds' nests, their main diet is insects and grain. A pair have taken to nesting in our hedgerow trees so perhaps our hedgerow is responsible for current high numbers as magpies lay four to seven eggs. Easily forty jackdaws , along with the odd rook assembled in the hedgerow trees 7.30ish on the 1 December : a typical 'Hitchcock' presence.



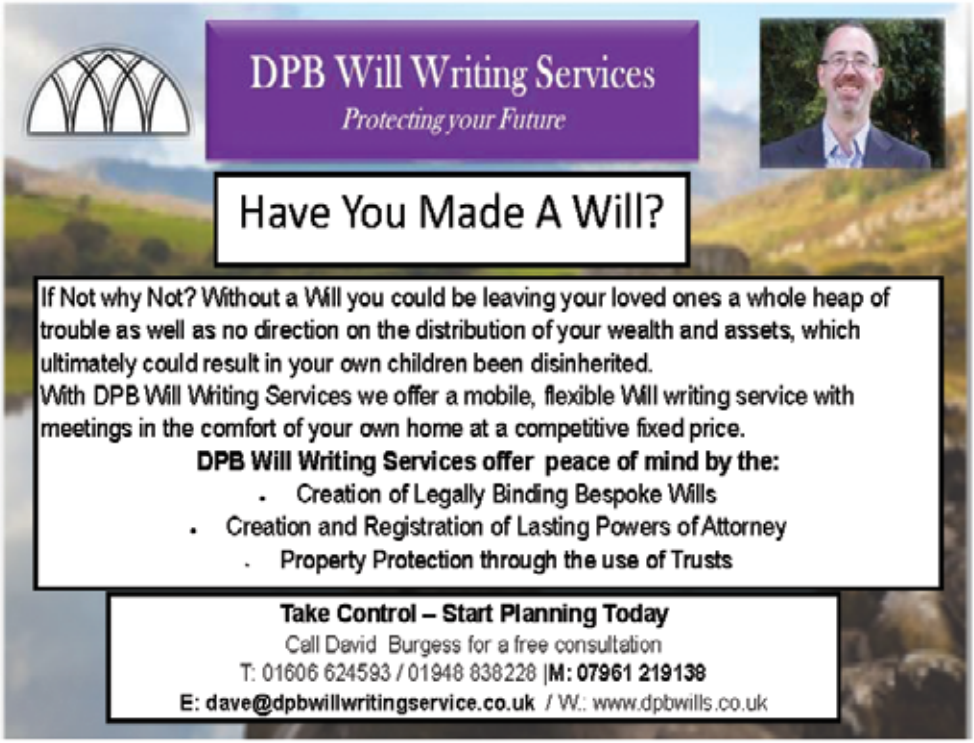
In late November Lynda Simmons took a photograph from her bedroom window of an egret in a tree, looking dejectedly at the Kingfisher Reach building site.
She had seen three kingfishers locally during the summer although she admits they could well have been the same bird..

On Boxing Day a pair of long-tailed tits were caught mating in our tree – suspect rather early – but it's a funny old world.
In January Jim Beresford of Lear Drive photographed a pied Blackbird in his garden and a buzzard taken on Joey the Swan.





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



Nigel Hobbs, Wistaston's PCSO writes: *Hi and welcome to my article for the spring issue:*

It only seems a few weeks since I was writing my last article. During the past few weeks there has been a rise in reported scams with some residents being conned out of thousands of pounds. Visits have been made to those affected and reassurance provided to them. These types of scams are getting more sophisticated, long gone are the letters informing you that you have won the lottery from some obscure country and to claim it you have to send them some money (admin fees) and your bank details so they can transfer your winnings; please be aware that any of the well-known companies such as SKY, BT, EE, PAYPAL, HMRC, DVLA etc. will not ring you, to ask that you allow them to install programmes onto your computer which allows them to access your equipment, neither will they send emails saying i.e. 'you are due a refund' of some sort and to get it you have to confirm your details by following a link attached to their email. Whilst these emails are very convincing please take time to read them as very often the grammar and spelling will give them away as scams as they are usually very poorly written and spelt. If you feel you have been affected by a scam please contact:

ACTIONFRAUD : National Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting Centre 0300 123 2040

and they will then contact the police to make us aware.

I am still getting regular complaints about inconsiderate parking and speeding, for which ongoing enforcement is taking place in the form of fixed penalty notices or getting vehicles removed for parking issues, utilising the speed watch group, placing SID (speed indication device) out, the use of the trucam (enforceable speed camera and/or the camera van) in areas where complaints have been received. If any local residents would like to volunteer a couple of hours a month to take part in the community speed watch scheme, please contact me on the details below; all training etc. will be provided. The group is very active at present and new volunteers are always very welcome. There has been a change to the facebook and twitter feeds, as I also cover Willaston the name of these accounts has been changed to -

Facebook Wistaston and Willaston Police :
twitter @WistWillPol

Please feel free to sign up to the Cheshire alert; this is a system where details are sent out to those residents who don't have/use facebook or twitter, the link is - www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk

Once signed up emails, messages and information will be sent out to all recipients and followers regarding issues affecting residents in the Wistaston area. Please feel free to email me on nigel.hobbs@cheshire.pnn.police.uk regarding any issues that are affecting you and your community; you can also tell us what matters to you by going to www.Cheshire.police.co.uk/priorities and fill in the online form. I have a number of beat meetings/surgeries set up for the coming weeks when you can speak to me on a one to one basis about any issues that are affecting you in your local area. Check out the Parish Council's noticeboards and website, Cheshire police web site (click on local policing then on Wistaston and Willaston) for the dates & times.

Wistaston Young Drama Group

Drama for the Community



Our members have recently shared their learning through drama at The Players' Theatre in Nantwich. Their presentation included poetry, improvising and exploring the history of pantomime.
This gave the members a fabulous opportunity to experience working in a theatre with a stage, lighting and sound. It was a fabulous event much enjoyed by all.
As well as working on basic stage-craft, voice work and general performance we provide the young people with the opportunity to showcase an annual theatrical production alongside partaking in the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art examinations.

Are you interested in having fun with your friends whilst showing off your dramatic side?
If so, then Wistaston Young Drama Group would be delighted to meet you. We are always interested in welcoming young people from our community aged 8 onwards to be part of this long standing, award winning drama group.
We meet every Saturday morning from 10.30am to 12.45pm at Wistaston Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston CW2 8ER
So, don't delay, book your place and come and join this vibrant, energetic, creative drama group! Looking forward to meeting you soon.
Free taster session for new members.
For more information :
www.wistastonyoungdramagroup.weebly.com
email: wydg@hotmail.co.uk
or contact Judy 01270 650341

We are a friendly club which meets on the first Wednesday of each month (with the exception of January) at 2.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston. We have had a fabulous year being entertained by some talented floral demonstrators, each creating several beautiful floral designs accompanied by interesting talks and plenty of laughter. At the end of the afternoon all the arrangements are entered into a raffle, with lucky winners taking home some stunning flowers.



Autumn and Christmas Workshops

During the afternoon, our sales table offers many varied items including plants, gifts and floristry supplies. Refreshments are also available.
Alongside our monthly meetings we have visited attractive gardens and places of interest. We have enjoyed workshops where we learnt new skills and picked up fresh ideas. We participated at Nantwich Show in the Floral Art section with members scooping several prizes. In August we enjoyed a Cream Tea with a most entertaining speaker. Our Annual General Meeting was held in November at Crewe Golf Club. The meeting was followed by a delicious lunch and a talk by Kathryn Cronin of Fierce Blooms.
We would like to extend a warm welcome to visitors and new members. You don't have to be a flower arranger, just come along and enjoy an entertaining, relaxing afternoon with us. Bring the voucher below to enjoy a free taster session. For additional information please contact Jean Jones on 07795555492, jmj57@hotmail.co.uk or visit our Facebook page - Wistaston Flower Club.

….....

Wistaston and District Flower Club
Bring this voucher with you for a free taster session

Name ……..…..……..…….

Valid for one visit February, March or April 2019



Holy Week and Easter Services

at Methodist Churches in the Rope Green Mission Area

www.ropegreenmethodists.org

Holy Monday 15th April

10am – Prayers – Willaston

7pm – Prayers – Wells Green

Holy Tuesday 16th April

10am – Prayers – with friends from Chorlton

7pm – Prayers – Shavington

Holy Wednesday 17th April

10am – Prayers – Betley

7pm – Prayers – Wells Green

Maundy Thursday 18th April

10am – Maundy Thursday Prayers - Shavington

7pm – Maundy Thursday Holy Communion – Wells Green

Good Friday 19th April

10am – Good Friday reflection — Shavington

2.30pm – Ecumenical Service with St Margaret's Betley (outdoors)

7pm – Good Friday – Willaston

Easter Sunday 21st April

At Joey the Swan 7.30am Revd Den Harding

Breakfast in Wells Green Church Hall 8.15am

Early Holy Communion 8.45am Wells Green Church Hall Revd Den Harding

Shavington 10.30am All Age Worship Revd Den Harding

Willaston 10.30am Holy Communion Revd Helen Stubbs

Wells Green Movies With A Message 'Risen' at 5pm

Betley 6.30pm Mrs Belinda Moles

The South Cheshire Orchestra



has vacancies for players of the Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Double Bass and French Horn.

If you play, the Orchestra would like to hear from you.

Registered Charity Number 1002015

Facts about the Orchestra

Origins:
Formed as an informal group in March 1973, becoming the South Cheshire Orchestral Society in June 1975.

Rehearsals:
Take place on Sunday mornings at The Memorial Hall, Wistaston, Crewe, commencing at 10.00 a.m. and finishing at 12.15 p.m., with a maximum 15-minute break at 11.00 a.m.

Repertoire:
Wide-ranging from light music to mainstream classical works.

Concerts:
Performs a maximum of three concerts in local public venues in the south Cheshire area.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE ORCHESTRA, PLEASE SEND DETAILS TO:

mail@southcheshireorchestra.org.uk

OR TELEPHONE RAY BANKS ON CREWE (01270) 569542

Wistaston Church Lane Academy

Careers Week

This January we held a careers week for the children across the whole school. The intent of the careers week was to open our pupils minds to the vast range of jobs and careers there are in the world. We also wanted to teach them about the skills and knowledge needed for each job to prepare them for their futures.

Miss Kinsey did a fantastic job of organising the structure of the week and getting guest speakers to come in. Laura Smith, the MP for Crewe and Nantwich, came into KS2 and did an assembly on her role and took some tricky questions from our pupils! We had Crewe Alex FC also come in to talk about football and the roles of the staff that support the club. We want to say a special thank you to all the parents and organisations that gave up their time to come into school to talk about their jobs and lead workshops too!

For one day during the week, we ran a carousel of activities taught by our teachers that built a range of skills that are important such as team-building and creativity. These activities were taught in mixed classes so pupils that wouldn't usually work together had the chance to.

Having spoken to pupils about the week they said that they had learnt about jobs they didn't even know existed and it made them think about what they want to be when they grow up. They also said that it was good to hear Mrs Smith MP talk about her role and that it made them think about British Values, especially democracy.

****

South Cheshire Orchestra

Reg.Charity 1002015

Spring Concert

Saturday 30 March 2019
at Nantwich Methodist Church
Hospital street
at 7.30
Programme to include
Music for the Royal Fireworks;
The Water Music
by Handel

Tickets £6 (children free) and further details from Ray Banks 01270 569542

Wistaston's 37th Annual Flower and Produce Show Saturday 17 August 2019

Schedule of Classes

Entry fee - 30p per class. Children's Classes Free. First Prize for each class £2

Section F - Flower Classes

F1. Bowl of Sweet Peas, mixed colours, 15 stems minimum.
F2. A specimen Rose in a vase.
F3. Three Large Gladioli, any variety or varieties.
F4. Three Pom Pom Dahlias, any varity or varieties.
F5. Three Cactus or Semi-Cactus Dahlias any variety or varieties.
F6. Three Decorative Dahlias, any variety or varieties.
F7. A Single Stem of any Flowering Plant (not in schedule) in a vase.
F8. Single Geranium Head in a Vase
F9. Six French Marigolds, any variety or varieties.
F10. A Shallow Bowl of Floating Flower Heads - arranged for effect.
F11. A Vase of Mixed Flowers - home grown. .
F12. A Cactus.
F13. A Geranium in a Pot - with saucer.
F14. A Begonia in a Pot - with saucer.
F15. Flowering Plant in a Pot, with saucer, excluding plants from Class 19.
F16. A Foliage Plant in a Pot, with saucer,
F17. Six Fuchsia Heads on a Board.
F18. A Fuchsia in a 9cm Pot, with saucer, any variety.
F19. Alpine Garden - 25cm x 25 cm max.

Section V - Vegetable Classes.

V1. A Vegetable not on Schedule - please specify on entry form.
V2. Five White Potatoes on a Plate - any variety.
V3. Five Coloured Potatoes on a Plate, any variety
V4. Three Onions - roots shown, not to exceed 225 grams each. See Rule 21.
V5. Six Carrots - tops trimmed to 8cm
V6. Five Ripe Tomatoes - not cherry variety - on a Plate.
V7. Nine Shallots - Large - over 30mm in diameter.
V8. Three Round Beetroot - tops trimmed to 8cm.
V9. One Vegetable Marrow - with stalk.
V10 . One Lettuce - roots shown
V11 . One Cucumber - with stalk.
V12.. A Truss of Tomatoes - not cherry variety - some ripe..
V13. A Truss of a Named Variety of Cherry Tomatoes on a plate - some ripe.
V14.. Five Ripe Cherry Tomatoes on a plate - variety to be named.
V15. Six Runner Beans - all with some stalk.
V16. Six Dwarf Beans - all with some stalk.
V17. Three Courgettes - each with some stalk.
V18. A Single Pot of Three Different Herbs

Section D - Wistaston Parish Council Vegetable Display

Dl. A Collection of Five Different Classes of Vegetables..

Section B - Harvest Basket

B1. A Basket containing Fruit, Flowers & Produce - not to exceed 46cm in width and length; height unrestricted.

Section A - Flower Arrangements - please read rule 20.

A1.'A Summer Arrangement'
A2. 'Flower Arrangement With Ornament' - petite 25cms overall.

Section H - Housecraft Classes - please cover entries with transparent covering.

H1. A jar of home Made Strawberry Jam;
H2. A jar of Home **Made Jam - not Strawberry**
H3. A jar of Home Made Chutney.
The above three items to have cellophane covers only.
H4. Three pieces of Shortbread
H5 Five Square Flapjacks
H6 Five Jam Tarts
H7 A Plate of Five Chocolate Butterfly Cakes
H8 A Lemon Drizzle Cake baked in a loaf tin.
H9. A Cheesecake, approx.20cm in diameter presented on a plate.
H10.A Victoria Sponge Cake - read Rule 19 carefully.
H11 Five Cheese Scones
H12 A Quiche , approx. 20cm in diameter, presented on a plate.
H13.An Apple Pie approx.20cm in diamter, short crust pastry top and bottom, presented on a plate.
H14. Five Decorated Cup Cakes.

Section W. Beverages.

W1 A Bottle of Home Made Fruit/Vegetable/Flower Wine 75 ml bottle, not from a kit.

Section Y - Hobby Crafts - Please read Rule 18

Y1. A Knitted Toy
Y2. A Crochet Toy.
Y3. A Painting - own original work, A4 max size, unframed..
Y4. A Decorated Plant Pot.10-15cm diameter pot
Y5 Any craft not on schedule. Specify on entry form.

Section C - Children's Classes - free to enter.

C1. Pre-school - My Favourite Flower
C2. Under 12's - A Miniature Garden in seed tray; approx. 6 x 8 inches.
C3. Under 12's - A Greeting Card.
C4 . Under 12's - A Decorated Plant Pot.
C5. Under12's - A Vegetable/Fruit Creature.

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 8August 2019.

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, Show President
101 Church Lane Wistaston CW2 8ER Tel: 568823

Golden Memories

Dementia & Alzheimers Group

at

The Broad Street Project
Broad Street, Crewe, CW1 3UD

Making Golden Memories in a warm friendly club

Golden memories is a place to relax with friends, and is especially suitable for those with dementia or Alzheimer's and their carers.

Have a bit of fun as well as plenty of tea, coffee and cake and there are all sorts of activities including dominoes, draughts, boccia, table football, indoor curling, in fact there is something for everyone. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

Our next sessions are:

Tuesday December 11th
Tuesday January 8th and 15th
Tuesday February 12th and 26th
Tuesday March 12th and 26th

10am to 12 noon

All Welcome

Contact (01270) 255355 for more details

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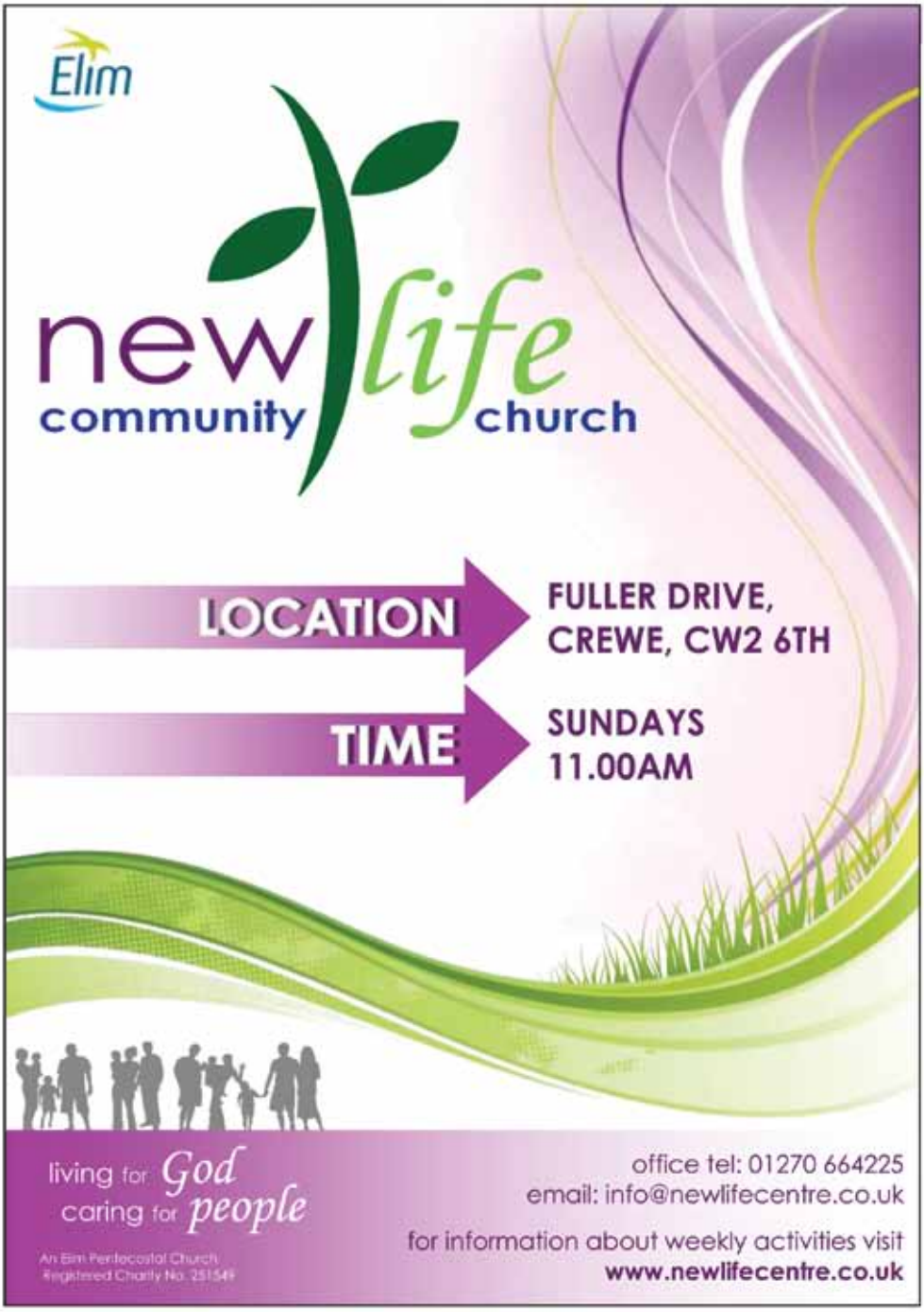
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