

Wistaston Church Lane Academy Choir singing at the Civic Service recently at St Mary's Wistaston

Thank you to James Bancroft for the photograph of the Choir and Jonathan White for the Snowdrops.

SPRING 'ROUNDABOUT'

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EDITORIAL FOR SPRING 2020

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.**

Editor's apology to Willaston WI that their report couldn't be included. Contact Brenda Taylor 01270 623191 for up to date information and we'll try to do better next time. Meetings 7.30pm on 2nd Wed of each month in the Masonic Hall Willaston.

Geoff Poppitt our Financial Editor of Roundabout has decided to retire after nearly twenty years; we are very sorry he is going and we'll miss him but we all wish him a very happy and well-earned retirement.

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

Ian Gould will be taking over from Geoff.

Wistaston Community: Donations in 2019

	£
Wistaston Guides:family help	238
Dominic Faulkner (Jamboree)	250
RNLI – Bill Timon	100
Macmillan – Ray Westwood	100
Fete – Fire Service	50
Fete – Wist.Church Lane Academy	50
Fete – Cheshire Dance (DOPE)	50
Fete – St Mary's Church	50
Fete – Rock Choir	50
Cancer Research – Mike Gadsden	100
Guides (Shelving)	225
Wistaston Memorial Hall DR	350
Concert: Alana - Singer	50
Concert: Action for Children	100
Conc: Wist.Church Lane Academy	100
Concert: The Children's Society	100
Concert: St Mary's Church Hall	100

Community Events:

In December the Community Council organised the **Christmas Concert** which as usual welcomed in Christmas with seasonal entertainment. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Their next big event is the **Village Fete** which promises to be as exciting as ever but hope we have had enough rain and can look forward to a dry fete day on **Saturday 20 June.** The **Flower and Produce Show** follows next on **Saturday 15 August.**

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 26 March	AGM: Memorial Hall Management Committee
Saturday 20 June	Village Fete
Saturday 15 August	Flower and Produce Show, Church Hall.
Saturday 5 (12) Sept.	Model Boat and Duck Race
Saturday 7 November	Fireworks : Brittles
Sunday 8 November	Service of Remembrance 3pm Memorial Hall
Friday 4 December	Christmas Concert in the Church Hall

The Laurie Twiss Award



At the Flower and Produce Show last year, for the second year running Maria Price was presented with the Laurie Twiss Award. Very many congratulations Maria!
Maria is pictured with the Wistonian of the Year, John Wood and the Mayor of Cheshire East. As well as the Trophy, Maria received a Book Token, certificate and pen - to ensure she carries on with her writing!

This is Maria's exciting entry, entitled ***The Secret Garden***

It was another warm summer day and Poppy was sat on her garden bench as usual. The bees buzzed, the flowers were beautifully colourful and the sun shone brightly. Poppy was in a vibrant, yellow dress with sequins and was wearing white sandals. Her hair flowed down her back. In the corner of her eye she could see a wooden gate hiding in the bushes that she had never noticed before. Poppy ran over, curiously. It had rusted hinges and a flimsy lock. Nervously she turned the lock and with a few strong pushes it opened. Poppy entered.

Suddenly, strong, thick vines reached out and grabbed her tightly. She couldn't break free! Luckily, Poppy managed to grab a sharp slate piece from the path and she cut herself free. But they kept coming back! After a few attempts she pulled the vines out and they stopped.

Scared, she ran to the gate, however it wouldn't open. There was a strange wailing noise. Poppy's heart raced. The vines revivived themselves and motioned her way. She jumped over them, found a log and forced open the gate.

Days later she replaced the vines with flowers and repaired the garden.

****

Laurie Twiss Award for 2020: Now it's your turn! Write a short story/news item in not more than 200 words, true or imaginery and send it to us with your name, address, telephone number, age and school by the 31 July.

Greg Brereton, gregjbrereton@gmail.com
Barbara Brereton, barbbrereton11@gmail.com
Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane, eileen@bamberuk.com

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Wistaston Parish Council **Chairman's Report**

Parish Concerns.

Residents raise concerns and complaints through emails, telephone and social media to your Council Members, PCSO and Cheshire East Council (CEC) Councillors. In this Spring report I focus on 3 of the most reported concerns and actions taken. Constructive feedback would be welcome from residents to help us to make improvements.

1. Speeding Vehicles

Still a major complaint despite the efforts of our Speedwatch team and PCSO. From our reporting Data, 286 offences were recorded from Jan to Nov 2019 with the highest speeds ranging from 38 to 58 mph.

Actions

a) Our Small volunteer Speedwatch team operates usually in hourly sessions 3 or 4 times a month at selected times. They use 10 Highways approved locations concentrating most on those having the highest offences. It is recognised the recorded offences are only a snapshot of the problems and numbers would be far higher if measured over longer periods.

b) Offences are reported to the Police for follow up action. Their follow up is usually by letter and repeated offenders can be fined.

c) Our PCSO supports our team with Trucam Speed checks and these are penalty offences.

d) An application to CEC for Speed Indicator Devices (SID's) was unsuccessful. Their latest policy also states no additional units will be installed. Parishes can however fund new units.

e) Our Parish mobile SID unit has been successfully trialled, a permanent location is proposed and awaiting CEC approval.

We would welcome more volunteers. Interested? Please contact our Clerk

2. Littering

A major concern with huge quantities blighting our streets and open spaces. Our litter picking records show 250 large bags were collected during 2019. In January 2020 collection was 27 bags and 100 cans (A typical month)

Actions

a) We have a dedicated litter team of 17 volunteers who operate every 2 weeks in small groups covering many areas of our Parish and also recreation open spaces. Arrangements are then made with CEC for special collection.

b) Litter is a criminal offence and requests are being made to CEC enforcement officers for advice.

c) Litter is on the increase and further teams are sought. We need coordinators and members to keep up with an increasing problem and to cover more areas.

Interested? Please contact our Clerk.

3 Dog Fouling

Residents report this as their most serious concern and it is a risk to health. We see widespread discarding of dog bags and non-bagged waste scattered everywhere in streets, pathways, grass verges and recreation areas. Bags are found hanging in shrubbery, alongside bins and in recreation open play areas. Our litter teams report shows a growing problem with a typical collection of over 60 bags per month. In January 2020 the total was 83 bags. Of greater concern are the similar levels of uncollected waste almost everywhere. Residents complain they find waste on children's shoes, pram buggy wheels and clothing. Dog owners are requested to bag it and bin it. Bagged waste can be deposited in any black or red bin throughout the Parish. **Continued on page 8**

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Wistaston Parish Council - Chairman's Report. Continued from page 6

Actions

a) We have increased available bins with 2 new locations in Church Lane, the Scout HQ entrance to the woodlands and a replacement on Beech Drive Car Park.

b) Dog fouling is a criminal offence and requests are being made to CEC enforcement officers for advice.

c) Improved signs are being reviewed.

We would ask for feedback on ideas to resolve these problems as your Council wants residents to enjoy a risk free environment on our Parish open spaces.

5. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings at Wistaston Memorial. Next meetings are on 19th March at 7.30 pm, Annual Parish Meeting 9th April at 8 pm and 21st May at 7.30 pm.

Cllr. J. Moore – Chairman

Councillor Contact Details:-

St. Mary's Ward (Seven Councillors - 3 vacancies)

Thomas Kilkenny	**15 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EN**	**650045**
David Lucas	**23 Rectory Close, Wistaston, CW2 8HG**	**664916**
Derrick Millington	**9 Chesterton Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EA**	**664471**
Bob Squirrell	**6 Beaumont Close, Wistaston CW2 8BU**	**569803**

Wells Green Ward (Three Councillors - 1 vacancy)

John Moore (Chairman)	**50 Laidon Avenue, Wistaston, CW2 6QH**	**661924**
Graham Roberts	**29 Berkeley Crescent, Wistaston, CW2 6QA**	**568521**

Wistaston Green Ward (Five councillors - 2 vacancies

Ryan Moore	**36 Thirlmere Road, Wistaston, CW2 8AQ.**	
John Scott	**28 Davenham Crescent, Crewe CW2 7RZ**	
Vicky Smith	**10 Buckingham Close, Wistaston CW2 8JE**	
	Clerk to the Council	
Mrs. Andrea Cross	**4 Arundel Close, Wistaston. CW2 8EY**	**652098**

****

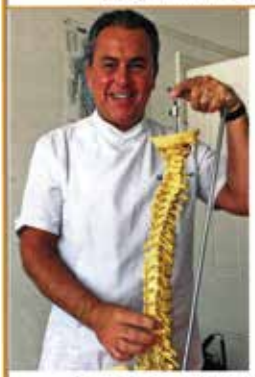
From St Mary's Wistaston. We would love to welcome you to join us for Holy Week and Easter this year. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday beginning 6 April we have Morning Prayer at 9.15am. It lasts 15 mins. Wednesday we have Holy Communion at 10am (we have this every week). Maundy Thursday at St Luke's in Willaston, Holy Communion at 7.30pm and Good Friday at 2pm we have An Hour at the Cross at St Mary's. On Easter Sunday 12 April we have Holy Communion, 9am at St Luke's and 10.40am at St Mary's. Please see our website for up to date information. stmaryswistaston.org.uk or call the office on 567119. Every blessing, Mike (Rector).

****

Wistaston Memorial Hall (Diane-Heather 07795 821678) would be interested in any photographs of the construction of the Hall, the land prior to the build and early use of the hall in the 40s, 50s etc. Please look in your photo collections and see what you have. Thank you.

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Wistonian of the Year
Bill Heath

On Monday 20 January, Bill Heath received the Wistonian of the Year Award for 2019 from Dane Chaplow, Chairman of the Wistaston Community Council. Many congratulations Bill - a very well-deserved award!!

Bill has lived in Wistaston with his wife Helen since 1987 and was a partner in his family's clothing business until his retirement in May 2011. Since 2001 Bill has been an active member of **Crewe and Nantwich Lions Club** and President three times. This group has raised large sums of money for charities through its many community events e.g. Bonfire at Queens Park, Crewe.

Bill joined the **Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club** in 2002 and has kept the grounds in good condition with a small group of members. These surrounds have been awarded Wistaston in Bloom's Byatt Trophy in two recent years. Bill has captained and played in WJTC teams in the local league and organised other teams. He has been the Club's Treasurer since 2006 and is the current Chairman.

Bill became Treasurer of the **South & Mid Cheshire Tennis League** in 2006 and retired from that position in 2019. He impressively administered the significant finances and was greatly respected by clubs covering this large area. He continues to play tennis for the club, in the league.

On his retirement he became a trustee of the **Wistaston Memorial Hall's Management Committee**, His significant contributions to the development and maintenance of the hall have been greatly appreciated. He took on the role of Booking Officer in April 2014 and Treasurer in April 2018. These roles involve Bill's time around the hall constantly. His wife believes he lives there!

With his wife, Helen, Bill joined the **Wistaston-in-Bloom group** in 2013. They have worked tirelessly to ensure that Wistaston is a colourful and cared for place. Wistaston won the Silver Gilt award in the 'Town' category at the Britain in Bloom (North West) in 2017 and the Gold awards in 2018 and 2019. Bill became the Secretary/Treasurer in April 2016 and continues to maintain and encourage the highest possible standards at all times.

With these significant involvements within the community and for the benefits and pleasures which ensue **Bill** has made major contributions to the life and welfare of Wistaston and fully deserves the prestigious award of Wistonian of the Year for 2019.

Wistaston Village Cricket Club

(Founded 1980)

At the time of compiling this latest editorial (in mid January), the **2020** cricket season is barely three months away. Work has been carried out at "The Brittles", to ensure that perfect wickets and outfield that the cricket club takes great pride to produce will, again enable the cricket club to enjoy another successful season from April to September. Credit should be given to both our chairman **Kevin Jobbins** and **Dean Titus**, who both put in the necessary hours to ensure that our ground is in tip top condition. It is a known fact that visiting teams over past seasons look forward to playing at "The Brittles" because of our facilities, which is extremely encouraging to know.

Credit to our **2nd XI** who continued programme of integrating junior players into their senior side has paid dividends at the same time maintaining a sense of purpose to the youngsters to progress with their cricketing skills and remain with the cricket club.

The **2019** cricket season was as previously reported in the Winter edition of *Roundabout* a success on several fronts and it is fair to summarize that in the main,all of our participating teams generally enjoyed their cricket and are positive in achieving more successes in the forthcoming playing season.

The club's chairman reported that within the club, both senior and junior player availability had continued to be maintained from the previous year and promises to continue into **2020.** Unfortunately during **2019**, our ladies team '**The Swans'** had struggled with player availability. Ladies who may be reading this editorial and who may feel that they would like to play cricket with our club should contact in the first instance **Kevin Jobbins:- 01270 483494.** We, as a club,would readily welcome you and would ensure that the facilities are available for you to encourage you to join us, and enjoy your cricket.

I am sure that all players are looking forward to a productive campaign during **2020** 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 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 2020 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 (North/South)

3rd Eleven:- Stone and District Sunday Cricket League Section B (North)

Women's Eleven (The Swans) :- Cheshire Women's Cricket League Division 2

Above league information is based on previous season's campaigns.

At our presentation evening held in November, the following awards were made .

<u>Senior Sides.</u>

Ist XI - Batting - Ben.Clarke. Bowling -Nathan Hobson. 2nd XI - Batting-Paul Lewis. Bowling - N.Birchall, Anna Bourne, Freddie Wooley. Captains Award Mark Bourne.

3rd XI - Batting - Nathan Hobson. Bowling - Tristan King. Ladies Player of the Year - Katie Benett. (League Wicketkeeper award) Well done Katie.

Junior Sides.

Under 9's - Outstanding Player- Sam Hough. Under 11's - Batting and All rounder Award - Henry Springthorpe. Bowling Award - Ed Kinsey. Under 13's - All rounder Award -Luke Edwards. Bowling Award- Hugh Allwood.

Note:- Our Under 13's campaign during 2019 was a joint team effort with Aston, C.C. The batting award went to Mary May, (Aston). Well Done Mary.
Team of the Year:- Under 11's who reached the South Cheshire League Cup Final. Fantastic effort!!!

Committee Members elected for 2020.

Chairman :- Andy Whitehurst. Vice-Chairman:- Keith Thornhill.
Secretary:- Tristan King. Treasurer:-Fiona Nobrega. Club Welfare Officer:-Tanith Allwood. Junior Manager:- Tanith Allwood. Ground Rep:- Dean Titus. Stone and District League Rep:- Mark Bourne. UK Fast League Rep:- Steve Collins. Junior League Rep:- T.B.C. Mid-week League Rep:- President:- R.Titus. Groundsman:-

Kevin Jobbins. 1st XI Capt:- Ryan Briddon. 2nd XI Capt:- Andy Whitehead. Sunday XI Capt:- Mark Bourne. Mid-week XI Capt:- T.B.C. Ladies XI Capt:- T.B.C. Ladies Manager:- Zoe Davies. Ladies Coach:- Steve Lawson. Under 9's Manager:- Keith Thornhill. Under 11's Manager:- Kevin Jobbins. Under 13's Manager:- Tanith Allwood. Press:- John Avery.General Member:-David Gregg.

Senior Team Captains:-

Team/Position	1st XI	2nd XI	3rd XI	Ladies XI	M/W XI
Captain	Ryan Briddon	A. Whitehurst	M.Bourne	TBC	TBC
Vice -	George Botham	TBC	Tristan King	TBC	TBC

Junior Managers/Coaches

Team/Position	Under 9's	Under 11's	Under 13's	Under 15's
Manager	K.Thornhill	Kevin Jobbins	Tanith Allwood	TBC
Coach	David Gregg	Chris Jobbins	Peter Owens	TBC

Note:- All Mid-week matches to move to Wed. evenings. Senior training to move to Thursdays.

Important:- Summer Cricket Practice evenings:-

Juniors:-Friday evenings commencing 6.15pm Seniors:- Tuesday evenings from 6pm onwards and Ladies:-Thursday evenings 6pm onwards.

2020 celebrates the cricket club's 40th Anniversary and a club event to celebrate this occasion will take place in the Summer. A game consisting of old, current and ladies members will be organized as part of the club's celebrations.

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. For more details contact Kevin or Pauline Jobbins - 01270 484494. **We offer cricket to adults and junior of all standards** and we are proud on being very much a child friendly club and we have been re-credited with the **E.C.B Club Mark originally awarded in May 2005**. Interested in joining W.V.C.C? Please contact **Kevin Jobbins: - 484494** in the first instance.

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

Wistaston Conservation Group

Firstly, I have to report that our working party took a rest over the Christmas and New Year period; Shame on them!!
I am pleased to say that the Group is growing, as this last period we have averaged 11 in the working party, with a record of 14 out 2 weeks running. This has meant that we have been able to do more than one job each week.
Thanks are due to all members of our working party for all the hard work that they do, sometimes despite the weather.

Updates

1. Hinging Bank boardwalk : This had been damaged, partly by the amount of traffic it takes, and probably partly by vandalism. The chicken wire on the surface to stop the boards becoming slippery in wet weather, was badly in need of attention. We have now completed the repairs, and have re-covered the surface with a galvanised welded mesh, which should stand up to a lot more wear and tear than the original chicken wire.

2.Rookery Bank Covert: You may remember in the last issue the note and photos of the clearance of the edges of Rookery Bank Covert. We have now used a large number of the tree whips from our tree nursery, and planted up all the cleared areas. The World Climate Change conference has suggested a major tree planting project all over the world; we are doing our bit towards their goal.



3.Tree Nursery : Having used a lot of the saplings which we were growing on in the tree nursery, see above, I was recently in the right place at the right time. The Cheshire Wildlife Trust were clearing an area at their HQ, where a number of saplings had been stored. Rather than have them thrown out, I suggested that Wistaston was a good place for them, so we have been able to restock the tree nursery, thanks to CWT.

Routine Projects :

a. Our paths need attention every year once the trees have finished dropping their leaves in autumn. We have now cleared all the woodland paths, and by the time you read this we should have completed the cutting back of all the edges of the main recreation ground path. The steps in Old Covert have been thoroughly cleared, and we hope to renew the shale surfaces when we can obtain the necessary material. What was used originally is no longer available.

b. Water is always a problem in this country, often being where it is not wanted, and refusing to flow to where it is. We have now recut the drainage channels to our ponds, and have drained several areas of the woodland paths.

c. Wistaston Green Road carpark has again been completely strimmed and all the edges cut back, so the whole area looks ' lived in' again. **See next page for 'before and after' photos.**





d. Dave O'Hara has published his bird siting report for 2019, which is available should anyone wish to read it. Thanks Dave for your efforts.

New Projects : Hinging Bank Covert steps: The steps down into Hinging Bank Covert from the main recreation path have stood up well to use for several years, but were recently noted to be in need of considerable TLC. The Parish Council asked us to take on this job. We have now completed the job, having completely removed the old steps, put in new ones, and cleaned up the area alongside the new steps.





Conservation Presentation

I have recently put together a Powerpoint presentation on the work of our Group, have presented it once, and have two more bookings. If any local organisation would be interested, please get in touch.

Thanks and praise

We have recently received a good number of thank you comments about the work we are doing, especially on our Facebook pages. Such comments are gratefully received, and make the work much more satisfying to realise that local people appreciate what we are doing. It is also nice when people come to say how much they appreciate what we are doing when they see us out there on a Monday morning. Keep the praise coming!!

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

My parents (Vic Roberts and Gwen Chadwick), who were both born in Crewe, had planned to get married in 1938, but were wondering where to live. By chance, one evening after work, when my father was travelling home by bus, his friend William Yoxall (a local builder) climbed on board; 'Guess what', he said, 'I've just bought the Berkeley Towers estate for £3500. You can choose whichever plot you like, provided I build the house.'





So, in August 1937, my father selected his plot and William Yoxall started to build the house. My father was a keen gardener, therefore he chose a plot on the outside of Berkeley Crescent, with a large rear garden facing south. The architect was a near neighbour, Frank Tomkinson, who designed the house based on my father's guidelines : a Dutch-style mansard roof, and room dimensions that had been chosen to provide 'internal proportions' which gave him the most comfort.

After the house was completed, and my parents married, I arrived on the scene in February 1940, just after the outbreak of the second World War. (I was actually born in Kingslyn nursing home, on the corner of Crewe Road and Church Lane.) My earliest memories as a child are playing in our garden, and a barrage balloon at the Crewe end of Berkeley Crescent. My father was an Air Raid Warden for the area and had a hut opposite our house; there was an Anderson shelter in the garden of 490 Crewe Road (at the Nantwich end of the Crescent), and a brick shelter in the orchard of 23 Berkeley Crescent, (where No.25 now stands).



As a result of the war, our house was one of the last to be built on Berkeley Crescent, so I grew up with farmland at the rear, and on the west side of our house. As a result, my friends and I used to play in the fields, and build dams in Swill Brook, which used to have lots of Sticklebacks swimming in it. Also, firmly in my mind, are memories of the winter of 1947 when the depth of snow reached the top of my head. Another early memory is of the milk being delivered by a horse and cart where the milkman dipped a scoop into a churn

then poured it into my mother's jug; the milk came from Broughton Farm on Rope Lane which I think was owned by the Calderbank family.

My mother was a school teacher hence, because of the shortage of teachers during the war, she was asked to return to work. So, at the age of three, I started going to school, initially sitting at the back of classes of older children, just listening and fiddling about. Eventually, having completed my education, I worked in the construction industry, mainly on roads, railways and power stations. This involved much travel, and my wife and I, together with our children, spent many years overseas - particularly in Africa, South America and India. However, we've always returned to Wistaston; eventually in 1978 we purchased my parent's house on Berkeley Crescent, and they moved to a dormer bungalow on Chesterton Drive.

Although we've lived in some wonderful places on planet earth, (including three years by the Victoria Falls on the Zambesi River), we still think Wistaston is the best place. It has a wonderful community spirit, and is blessed with over 50 clubs, groups, societies, amenities, institutions, etc - at my last count! I still love the town of Crewe, despite its current struggles; and of course Nantwich is the best town in the world.
We are well blessed; the area has many miles of quiet lanes to cycle along, we have Delamere Forest to the north, the Peak District to the east, Long Mynd to the south and the beautiful Clwydian Range of hills to the west; not to forget Bickerton Hill, which we've walked a million times. Finally, dear old Crewe station with its six railroad tracks leading to all points of the compass. As my father used to say:
'The beauty of Crewe is that it is easy to get away from!'

Graham Roberts, who describes himself as a simple South Cheshire Country Boy or more specifically a Wistaston Hayseed and below the house as it is now where he celebrated his 80th birthday. Congratulations Graham!





Wistaston Community Council: 100 Club 2019

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 2019 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	25	74	38	1	91	118	26	60	113	55	58	77	27

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

Every member of the 100 Club donates £2 every four weeks, annually if preferred, and is entered into a draw with many cash prizes available each month. Anyone interested in finding out more or even to join us please contact John Lomax 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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Hello Wistaston!



A little note from your local officers PCSO Sophie Jebb Bowman and PC Clark.

1: SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT BOOKLET. We recognise that not all residents are active on social media. We have created a social media booklet, and placed it in community settings, for those who do not use social media, can see the community engagement side of the work we do in your areas, alongside our day to day crime prevention and identification.

2: WISTASTON YOUTH GROUP. Dedicated members of the community are in the process of setting up a Wistaston Youth Group and they need more volunteers willing to assist. The name is WYG! If you are interested in helping this movement, can you please email PCSO Sophie Jebb Bowman on Sophie.jebb@cheshire.pnn.police.uk to register your interest. Wistaston is expanding, with further housing developments and additional populations. Therefore, we recognise that a youth provision in the heart of Wistaston, will support the reduction of anti-social behaviour and boredom of the young people in our areas.
Many young people have already been spoken to regarding this movement, and are excited for the future developments.

3: NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME: We already have neighbourhood watch schemes in place across Wistaston. However, a connected community, is a safer community! There is always room for improvement. If you are interested to join please visit cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk for more information, or contact your local PCSO who will come and visit to assist.

4: CHESHIRE POLICE ALERT: Please feel free to register for Cheshire Police Alerts, in which you will receive news, local crime information, local crime prevention advice about your area. Please follow the link below.
http://www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk

A final note…

5: CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT: A thank you to the local community for the continued support across Wistaston. We have been rolling out a Certificate of achievement award, in recognition of the residents going above and beyond. A resident of LEAR DRIVE won the January award, and February is being awarded to the Community Speed Watch members.

Always call 101 in a none emergency, to report a crime or 999 in an emergency or if a crime is in progress. You can message your local officer on Sophie.jebb@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or alternatively call 101 asking for PCSO Sophie Jebb Bowman 22915. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook ‘Wistaston and Willaston Police’.

Sophie Jebb Bowman 22915

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chrisjones452@btinternet.com

Maureen Craig
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website: www.toesrus10.co.uk

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Nature Article

Flocks of birds overhead on a regular basis during November have been untidy undulating flights of goldfinches, fieldfares with their short rapid wing-beats, and starling clouds building up early in the month. Small starling flocks were seen well before dusk, always seeming to know where heading: bound, as we have learnt, for those mass murmurations so popular with onlookers.

The collective name for rooks is 'parliament' owing to the birds sociable nature, flock-feeding and formation of often permanent colonies. Rooks are not common in gardens, but there is a slow accumulation of numbers with us from ones and twos to six at most. They are savage feeders when grabbing hold of an enmeshed fat-block or ball, as other members of the crow family, notably jackdaws, have learnt to do, but with far more delicacy. A rook has been seen to detach a block from the bough by standing on the bough and yanking the wire attaching feeder-cage to anchoring loop upwards until the loop rises off its fixture. This behaviour could be accidental or learning by trial and error, since it is easier for the rook to perch on something solid rather than wasting energy by continually flapping its wings to try to hang onto cage. The aim, we feel, is merely to raise the food to the bough, not necessarily to drop it to the ground since the thud of the cage hitting the ground scares the rook away. The rook's natural diet is a mixture of grubs, seed and fruit, and there is a defined pecking order. The highest-ranked feeds first, i.e. strongest when they fight for their space. A pecking order exists with our more frequent visitors - wood pigeons - which is similar to that of hens, with actual pecking of each other. We notice on our lawn the amount of aggression shown between individuals.

To begin the new year, New Year's Day brought commotion to the visiting birds when a sparrowhawk dived through the hedgerow to the allotments of Sandylands Park, too far away to judge success at a kill. Although many yards distant the sudden shock scattered both finches and larger birds from our tree, with someone sounding the alarm. Birds have to be 'all eyes', continuously on predator alert.

Morning is well broken before goldfinches arrive in allotment trees, unlike blackbird who sits around in the dark. Goldfinches are the most numerous of our personally local finches, arriving with a giddy flight pattern where they almost collide. They perch easily at feeders while our chaffinches, in lesser numbers, always prefer the ground. We search eagerly for bramblings among the chaffinches, but so far in vain.

By way of digression, our first confirmed sighting of a winter thrush was a redwing beside the canal at Cheddleton on 1 December, officially first day of winter. Title of walk had to be 'Winter's first on winter's first'!

A late entry has been a report from Noni Peters of Mulberry Road, with photo of a feral parakeet, a bird not recorded for a long while. Noni has also photographed a fox.





Feeding of foxes has gone on for ten years, while blackbirds and magpies have dried dogfood sprinkled with cider vinegar to keep all healthy. Should we be taking tips?

Our thanks to all contributors.

Trevor and Hilary Clowes. Tel. 664358 email handt136@talktalk.net

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Wistaston Gardener's Society: Memorial Hall, Church Lane; 7.30pm monthly

March 10 AGM and Supper

April 14 David Taylor Spring Watch

May 5th Barry Smith Dahlias

June 9th Jane Allison Shrubs for all Seasons

For more information contact Lynette 07780577951

Cheshire Wildlife Trust - Evening Talks 2020

'British Wildlife - Hedgehogs and the WildAid Foundation Trust' by Charlie Pass 18th March 2020 20.00 - 22.00

Venue: Methodist Church, Hospital Street, Nantwich CW5 7BX
Cost:£3 including refreshments.Contact: Irmgard Ralfs 01270 624835

A place to grow • a place to be • a place to belong

Wistaston Young Drama Group

Drama for the Community

In November our members performed at the Service of Remembrance, Wistaston Memorial Hall. They narrated a montage of war poems which was greatly enjoyed by all.

Our end of year production 'A Christmas Carol' was performed at Nantwich Players Theatre. The show opened with an improvisation where each member played their character in 'A Christmas Carol', firstly waiting to catch a bus and then asking 'Miss Scrooge' for wages. This was then followed by the main production. It was a wonderful experience for our members to share with their families and to perform on stage with lighting and sound. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



During 2020 the group will be taking their London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts examination in Choral Speaking.

As well as working on basic stagecraft, voice work and general performance we provide the young people with the opportunity to explore their creative skills and working as part of a team. One of our members has said that Drama has increased her confidence in other areas including school activities.

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 7 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 SESSON WITH THIS ARTICLE.

For more information :
www.wistastonyoungdramagroup.weebly.com
email: wydg@hotmail.co.uk or contact Judy 01270 650341

****

Wistaston Singers Celebrate 20 years' singing!
Concert in aid of MacMillan Cancer Relief

The Wistaston Singers Choir was first formed 20 years ago as a church choir based at St Mary's Church, Wistaston. Over the years it has spread its wings and now has over 50 choir members, men and women (sopranos, altos, basses and tenors) of all ages.
Their repertoire ranges from musical theatre and contemporary popular pieces to classical and church music. The Choir performs a few concerts per year at various local venues and rehearses weekly in Nantwich.

To celebrate its 20th anniversary the Choir is joining with **The Cheshire Constabulary** band for a concert at **St Mary's Church NANTWICH on Saturday 6th June starting at 7pm**. Ticket are £12, including refreshments and are available on the night or from the Church Shop in advance. All proceeds from the concert will be going to MacMillan Cancer Relief.

If you are interested in joining the choir please contact Jill Oakes 662940.



Choir relaxing and chatting during the interval at a recent concert

Playing a social card game in Wistaston!

Card games are old hat. Nobody plays card games anymore. Card games are for the old. **Well, I disagree.**

I enjoy playing Bridge at the Brittles each Thursday evening in a very social environment.

Bridge? That's only for the toffs and intellectuals isn't it? **No!**

Bridge is still widely played, not only in the UK but throughout the world.

There is a drawback to Bridge however, there's no technology involved. No mobile phones, tablets or games consoles are needed. Personally, I see this as a strength rather than a weakness though I'm sure there are many youngsters who'd disagree.

Many people also believe it to be complicated and difficult to learn. Well, to a degree, this is true but that's what makes the game so fascinating. The game requires a certain degree of skill which builds over time. This is because each game you play is unique. Each game throwing up new challenges which you need to conquer.

Is Bridge only for the older generation? **Certainly not.** The game is played by all ages and is quite often played within our Universities.

The first time you play Bridge you will almost certainly make mistakes. However, you will learn from these and take steps to ensure you do not repeat them. Discussions and friendly chats often take place following a game, which makes for a very social occasion.

The game is also very versatile in that it can be played socially, competitively or even for money. I used to play in the Birmingham Business league and later, on the train between London and Andover coming home from work. As mentioned earlier, I now play at the Brittles each Thursday and enjoy it very much. Am I an expert – No! Do I make mistakes – oh Yes! But I'm still learning from them. You never really stop.

Should you be interested and like to know more, then our club at the Brittles is being advertised in this issue of Roundabout. You may be new to the game or even had previous experience, it makes no difference, all are welcome.

****

Social evenings in Wistaston.

Your local Bridge club invites you to join their Bridge evenings held each Thursday at the Brittles. Bridge is the ideal therapy to get you out of the house and exercise those little grey cells. It's a game of skill rather than luck and fun to play.

I don't know how to play Bridge!

Don't worry, lessons on how to play are being given at the Brittles Sports Pavilion in Wistaston, each Thursday evening at 5.45pm for one hour. Interested? Contact Paul Johnson on 650593.

First lesson commences: 16th April 2020
Lessons will be free until the end of April.
Further lessons will be just £1.00 each per lesson.

I know how to play Bridge!

Then come along and join us. Play commences at 7.00pm for around 3 hours (Free refreshments available).
If interested, please contact Paul Johnson on the above number.

We look forward to meeting you.

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The Up and Under Foundation Rides



Get ready for some cycling fun in June this year. Let's face it everyone loves a challenge and when you've got a chance to combine getting a bit fitter, having some fun with friends and helping some youth groups it looks even more interesting. Hundreds of people have taken part in the Foundation Rides since they started in 2013 and they've raised £1000s to support disadvantaged young people. We have no idea how many kgs of weight loss they've resulted in, but we do know there have been lots of smiles.

For the first five years the rides took place on a single day and were quite hearty affairs. Since 2019, the format has changed to be far more inclusive; whether you are a first-time cyclist, an occasional commuter, or a tanned and sinewy Tour de France type.
How it works is simple: you think of a challenge that suits your desire, ability and available time. You register for the Rides online and commit to raising a sum of money. During June you have 30 days to complete your challenge and raise some cash to do some good stuff. The challenge is up to you, ride around the block, to work once a week, ride every weekend with your family, stack up the height of Snowdon or, as one person did last year, ride the equivalent of Crewe to Paris. Share your experience with other participants online, arrange to ride together and if you raise £30 (yes only £1/day) you'll get a cool custom medal. Come and join us.

All the money raised goes to support The Up and Under Foundation. It is a Crewe-based charity which supports disadvantaged South Cheshire children in gaining access to adventurous outdoor activities. In the past two years funds raised by the Foundation Rides have helped to provide financial assistance to schools, scouts and youth groups which meant that more than 400 youngsters were able to take part in activities they would have otherwise missed out on. To do this we have spent more than £16,000.
To keep up this good work we need your help please enter the 2020 Foundation Ride at www.foundationrides.co.uk

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CREWE AND NANTWICH RAMBLING CLUB

Rambles take place on Sundays fortnightly throughout the year. There is a choice of 3 walks of approx 6, 9 and 12 miles. Travel is by coach (no booking required). Pick-ups at Nantwich, Wistaston and Crewe.

There are also monthly Thursday morning walks travelling by car with the option of a pub meal after the walk.

OUTINGS PLANNED IN MARCH TO OVER HADDON AND RIVINGTON, NEAR BOLTON. IN APRIL TO ASHBOURNE AND IN MAY TO BAKEWELL AND HAYFIELD.

New members very welcome. Please contact Richard Farrall on 01270-624649 or visit www.creweandnantwichramblingclub.org.uk


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BRAND NEW TODDLER ROOM OPENING IN MARCH!
HUNTSBANK FARM, 356 CREWE ROAD, WISTASTON

Wistaston's 38th Annual Flower and Produce Show Saturday 15 August 2020

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.) *Themes to be*
A2.) a*greed.*

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)
C2. Under 12's)
) Themes to be
C3. Under 12's .) agreed
C4 . Under 12's)
C5. Under12's)

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 2020.

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

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