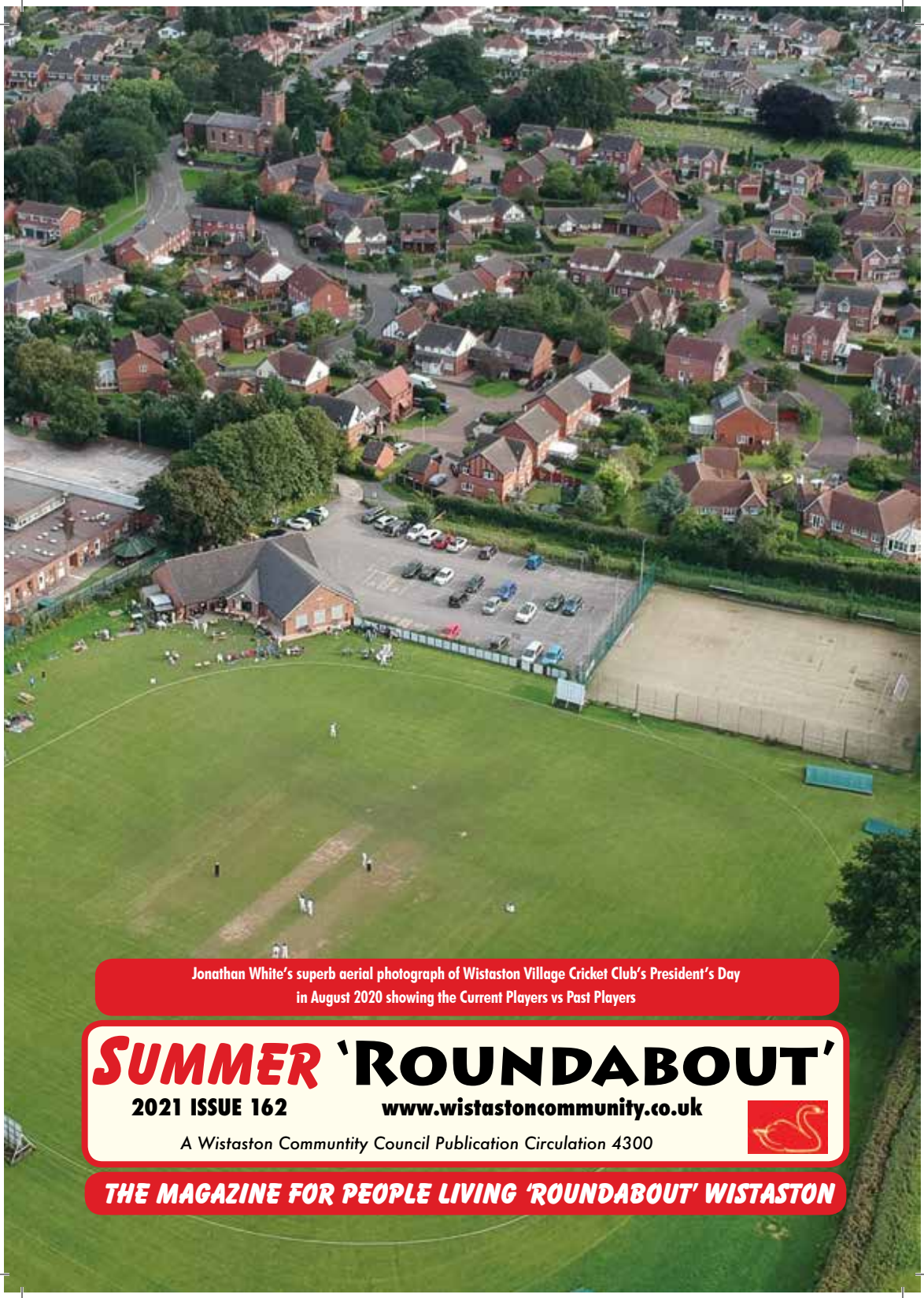


Jonathan White's superb aerial photograph of Wistaston Village Cricket Club's President's Day in August 2020 showing the Current Players vs Past Players

SUMMER 'ROUNDABOUT'

2021 ISSUE 162 **www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk**

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EDITORIAL FOR SUMMER 2021

Editorial for Summer 2021

Hoping everyone is looking forward to Summer when the situation should have improved with lock down lifted and the vaccination situation nearing completion. However we do now have the seemingly frequent appearance of new variants which will keep us on our toes for some time to come!

Apologies to readers - Part 2 regarding the Fate of the Dog in Wistaston should have been included in this edition but regrettably it isn't quite ready for going to press! Readers have informed Roundabout that the Edgerton Arms known locally as the Blazer is in Underwood Lane and not Minshull New Road.

With very many thanks to everyone for the continued splendid support you give to Roundabout even in these very straitened times in whatever capacity, for without your contributions and advertisements it would not exist! **Please send in your articles, photographs etc. for our Autumn edition, due out in early September by 15 July.**

Dates for your Diary - 2021



Dates for your Diary - 2021

We do hope that some of our events might come about this year:

Saturday 19 June	-	Village Fete - cancelled
Saturday 21 August	-	Flower and Produce Show, Church Hall.
Saturday 4 (11) Sept.		Model Boat and Duck Race
Saturday 6 November	-	Firework Display - check Autumn Roundabout
Sunday 14 November	-	Service of Remembrance 3pm
Friday 3 December	-	Christmas Concert in the Church Hall

For really up-to-date information of what is happening in Wistaston check on our website and Facebook page - you will find everything there! We really don't know what we'll be allowed to do as the year progresses but we'll try to do something for our events so watch this space!

Roger Woodward

Just before going to Press with the Spring Roundabout we brought you the very sad news that Roger had passed away after a short illness. Throughout his time in Wistaston he worked hard for the Community. As Wistonian of the Year a few years ago he took his duties very seriously, presenting prizes; opening fetes, selecting winning pumpkins and fancy dress at the Annual Fireworks. He was a tireless member of the Wistaston in Bloom Committee when in its very early days he designed and built many of the flower beds that are still there today. At the Flower and Produce Show he was a superb frontsman and he finished the afternoon off with an excellent auction. As well as all the above he has helped since the beginning with the distribution of Roundabouts to deliverers, as well as delivering many himself. His is a great loss and he will be very much missed in all of his activities.

WISTASTON IN BLOOM

We will proceed with our planting programme for 2021 throughout June with our main flower beds of Jacksons Corner, Westfield Drive, Bowling Green Bed, Laurel Drive, Beech Drive and Rope Lane being planted by our appointed contractor, Crewe Road Nurseries, and the remaining beds of Joey the Swan, Woodside Pub, Woodside Lane, Kings Drive plus all the planting boxes and barrels and hanging baskets being planted and maintained by the Committee.

Wistaston Church Lane Academy has requested our input into a new memorial bed being planned near to the main entrance of the school in memory of two caretakers who died suddenly in 2020. Hopefully work on this memorial garden will have progressed by the time you have read this article.

Though cancelled in 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic the Britain-in-Bloom competition will take place this year though how it will be judged has yet to be decided though in recent years judging has taken place in mid-July.
We hope to maintain the standard we achieved for the village in 2018 and 2019 when we won Gold award in both years. So it is in the interests of all residents to have your gardens, hedges and verges looking at their very best in time for the judging and hopefully we will receive another 'Gold' award.

On a sad note we have lost two of our stalwart committee members in the last twelve months. John White passed away in July last year and our previous secretary, Roger Woodward, passed away in February of this year. Roger was in at the start of the Wistaston-in-Bloom committee in 1996 and was involved in the design and construction of many of the flower beds in the village. Both members will be greatly missed.

If there are any gardeners in the village who would like to be involved in the Wistaston-in-Bloom group please contact the secretary per the phone number below.
Bill Heath
Hon. Secretary – 01270 560471
****

Cheshire Life Interview

Jonathan White who has contributed so much to Roundabout over the last many years has been interviewed in Cheshire Life where he outlined the beginning of his volunteer community journalism. At one of the Wistaston Summer Fetes he realised that a lot of hard work had gone into the success of the day and it should be documented for posterity. He started making notes, taking photographs, typing up detailed articles for Roundabout and Crewe Chronicle. Since then he has written more than 1,500 articles for local publications completely free of charge and with the sole purpose of highlighting the fantastic events in the local area and the interesting stories of the people behind them.
Alongside his volunteer community journalism he works as a learning mentor at Cheshire College, South & West, providing in-class support to young people aged 16-18 who require extra help with reading and writing.

Well done Jonathan for keeping us up to date with what is happening around us and congratulations on your excellent interview with Cheshire Life.

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Wistaston Parish Councillor Contact Information

ST. MARY'S WARD (Seven Councillors – 1 Vacancy)

Diane Houston 8 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EW 07720 293704
cllr.diane.houston@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

Thomas Kilkenny 15 Park Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EN 01270 650045
cllr.thomas.kilkenny@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk 07951 363702

David Lucas 23 Rectory Close, Wistaston, CW2 8HG 01270 664916
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Derrick Millington 9 Chesterton Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8EA 01270 664471
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Jay Revell 55 Lear Drive, Wistaston, CW2 8DS
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Bob Squirrell 6 Beaumont Close, Wistaston, CW2 8BU 01270 569803
cllr.bob.squirrell@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

WISTASTON GREEN WARD (Five Councillors – 3 Vacancies)

Ryan Moore 36 Thirlmere Road, Wistaston, CW2 8AQ
cllr.ryan.moore@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

John Scott 28 Davenham Crescent, Crewe. CW2 7RZ 07890 815941
cllr.john.scott@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

WELLS GREEN WARD (Three Councillors – 1 Vacancy)

John Moore (Chairman) 50 Laidon Avenue, Wistaston, CW2 6QH 01270 661924
cllr.john.moore@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

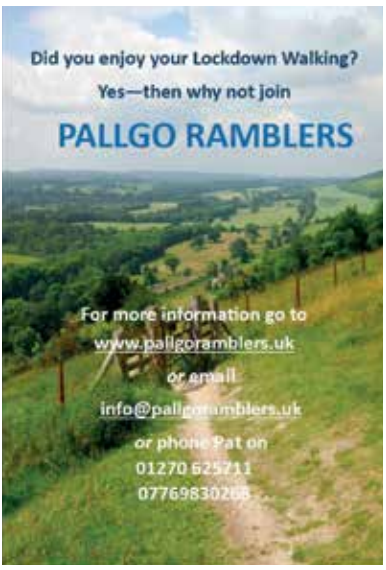
Graham Roberts 29 Berkeley Crescent, Wistaston CW2 6QA 01270 568521
cllr.graham.roberts@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Miss Kerri Condliffe 20 Wybunbury Road, Willaston, CW5 7JF 07871 605483
clerk@wistastonparishcouncil.org.uk

Many apologies to Councillor Jay Revell for putting the wrong address in the last issue of Roundabout. ***Mea culpa - editor.***

****





2021 Wonderful Villages Photo Competition

Just received information that the 2021 competition for the above has now been launched. Celebrate village life with your photographs of village halls, village and communtity life. There are certainly plenty of lovely scenes to photograph in Wistaston and win a prize for yourself and the village hall. Start snapping now - closing date 21 November 2021. Look out for more information in our next issue in September.

Wistaston Parish Council **Chairman's Report**

1. **Budgets :** I am pleased to confirm Cheshire East Council's acceptance of our next year's precept. This has been set at £61,811 based on the number of properties to ensure there will be no increase in the Parish Council tax based on a band D property.

2. **Volunteers :** After a disrupted year it is pleasing to see our volunteer groups are able to move towards a more normal routine and will be seen out and about increasing their activities.
   Littering, still a serious problem and our teams coordinated by team leaders are a major help in keeping our Parish tidy.
   Conservation working groups have been in limited action for a number of months and regularly report their programme in Roundabout.
   Wistaston in Bloom, Work on flower beds and baskets are currently under way.
   I would like to extend our Council's thanks to all our volunteer groups for the invaluable work they carry out.

3. **Joey the Swan :** Our mascot sign has recently been renovated with support from our Conservation team and the sign re-coating was organised by Brian Jones and funded by Steve Fletcher both Parish residents.
   Thanks to all those involved.

4. **Litter and Dog waste :** This issue has been regularly reported to highlight concerns on the risk to others on the amount of non-bagged and bagged waste being discarded across our Recreation and Woodland areas. We have increased the number of Bins and more collections by our Ranger; however the problems continue to grow worse.
   We wish our open parkland to be enjoyed by all but the risk to others is a serious concern.
   Included in your Roundabout is a leaflet re-issued again to raise awareness and stress the importance with our appeal to dog owners/walkers to clean up after your dog and deposit waste in the bins provided.
   More bins are planned to be added this year. Resident views, ideas to resolve this and volunteers to help with collections would be welcome.

5. **Future meetings**
   Presently all video conferencing meetings on the zoom platform of Parish Councils are suspended due to no longer being legal. Full open meetings are hoped to commence on 15th July subject to Government guidance. Further meetings are 16th September, 21st October and 18th November to be held in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Cllr J. Moore
Chairman

The Cat Communitiy Radio

Formed in January 2008 and broadcasting as The Cat Radio, the initial goal of the station was to be the provider of a full time community radio for Crewe, Nantwich, Sandbach and the surrounding villages and rural areas.
This came to fruition in February 2014 when the official broadcasting body, Ofcom announced that The Cat Community Radio was the winning bid for the community radio licence for this part of South East Cheshire.
The Cat currently broadcasts 24 hours a day on 107.9 FM locally, and also online at thisisthecat.com. We've recently gone all posh and you can now access us and via an App on both Apple and Android.

The Cat is a not for profit organisation, and all 40 people involved with the station are unpaid volunteers. However our suite of studios at Cheshire College South & West (Danebank) boasts professional standard broadcasting facilities. Being able to take advantage of such an environment allows the team to hone their presenter skills – although we are still prone to press the wrong button or leave the mic on by mistake!

Concentrating on local events and local people we've been fortunate to have some amazing guests on our shows. To hear local people talk with pride and passion about what they do and what they've achieved is both a pleasure and a privilege.

However, it's not just behind a microphone that magical things happen. The Cat FM takes it's roadshow to many external events. As a result the team get to meet so many interesting, lovely people from the local area. Covid has curtailed such opportunities, although we can't wait to pitch our gazebo at local events in the coming months. We'll even look forward to the challenge of dressing up as Twitchy, the stations mascot.

Since 2014 we have continued to build strong links with local communities by offering a wide selection of music and speech broadcasts. Our daytime output features easy listening music with a smattering of oldies. However in the evenings we have a number of shows devoted to particular genres. Country, Blues, Soul, Jazz and Rock all have their own knowledgeable presenters. In addition to the music we have comprehensive round up on local sports via our Sports show, whilst Cheshire businesses are featured on our HotDesk business magazine.



So that's us at The Cat. If you would like to get involved or contribute we'd love to hear from you. Text us on 01270 266877 or email us studio@thisis thecat.com

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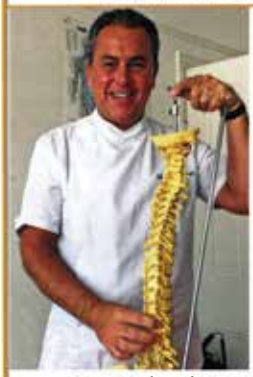
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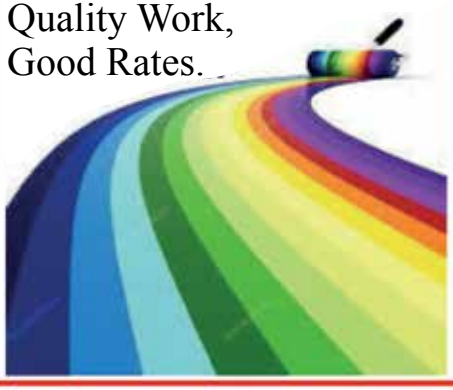
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Wistaston Village Cricket Club

(Founded 1980)

Our Ground Force week-end scheduled for the beginning of **April** went ahead as planned. Thankfully the weather was kind to us and much needed repairs and general upkeep to the facilities at **The Brittles** were completed. The cricket ground is in splendid condition a credit to all members who lent their time and effort in the customary pre-season build-up.

The season commenced on **Saturday 24th April,** and at the time of compiling this editorial, our **1st XI** hold third position in **Division 4** of the **UK Fast Cheshire Cricket League,** with **62 points** from their first three league fixtures.

Meanwhile **our 2nd XI** completing in the same cricketing league but in **Division 'D' West,** hold **ninth position** after three matches with **34 points.**

In the **Cheshire Women's Cricket League Division 3 West** our **Women's First Eleven 'The Swans'** will open their season away to **Hawarden Park** on **23rd May.**

Our 3rd XI competing in the **Stone and District Cricket League - Sunday Section B (North) currently** are leading the table with **32 points,** after two matches played.

The junior members of our cricket club. In 2021, our junior members have already started their respective campaigns in the **South Cheshire Junior Cricket League.**

Under 9's : Excellent start with **12 points** from their opening fixture away to **Haslington C.C.**
Under 13's : In a close game our **under 13's** lost by **3 wickets** at home to **Haslington C.C.**
Under 15's : Our **Under 15's** gained **12 points** from their first fixture away to **Alsager. C.C.**

Follow our club's progress throughout the season on the usual links :-
www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk/roundabout.html and
www.creweguardian.co.uk/sport

Important news:- Followers of our cricket club will be pleased to hear that they can follow the club on Facebook.
For those readers who enjoy watching a game of cricket, why not make a detour to The Brittles on a Sunday afternoon, where you will be made very welcome.

Wistaston Cricket Club continues their search for players for the current cricket season, not only to promote but further improve on the great progress achieved over past seasons. As mentioned on many occasions we offer cricket to adults and juniors of *ALL STANDARDS* therefore if you are interested in joining our cricket club please contact Kevin Jobbins:- Tel 483494 in the first instance.

The cricket club holds Bingo evenings every **third Friday** of each month at the **Wistaston pavilion lounge at The Brittles** to raise funds and a warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to join us. We hopefully look to re-start our Bingo evenings sometime in the latter part of 2021. When a firm date has been announced, full details can be found through usual channels. **For more details of our Bingo evenings please contact either Kevin or Pauline Jobbins (483494).**

We offer cricket to adults and junior of all standards and we are proud on being very much a child friendly club and have been re-credited with the **E.C.B Club Mark originally awarded in May 2005**. Interested in joining W.V.C.C? Please contact **Kevin Jobbins: - Tel. 483494** in the first instance.

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

Just for Fun - Six of the Best

1. **How many minutes before play should the umpires take the field?**
2. **In which town is the Essex County Cricket Club based?**
3. **Who was the first West Indian cricketer to be knighted?**
4. **Name the cricket player who was nicknamed 'Harmy'?**
5. **Which was the longest test match ever played?**
6. **Which trophy is awarded to the winner of the West Indies vs England Test Series?**

Answers on page 26

****

Tennis Summer League starts as lockdown eases - *From Jonathan White.*

The Slazenger South and Mid Cheshire Tennis League (Summer 2021), consisting of men's doubles, ladies doubles and mixed doubles divisions, commenced on Tuesday 4th May 2021.
The League start was delayed by a few weeks due to government Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. Players are asked not to socialise off court and to wash their hands before entering and after leaving the courts.



The Clubs participating are Acton Bridge, Alsager, Audlem, Bunbury, Congleton, Cuddington, Goostrey, Hartford, Holmes Chapel, Nantwich, Nantwich Farmers, Tarporley, Winsford, and Wistaston.

Wistaston A won 6.5-1.5 against Goostrey A on 4th May in their first Men's Division 2 match of the Summer League on their two courts behind the Wistaston Memorial Hall & Community Centre on Church Lane in Wistaston. Wistaston A consisted of Oliver Cox, Ryan Harper-Griffiths, Chris Raiswell, and George Raiswell. Wistaston are also fielding teams in Men's Division 4 (Wistaston B) and Men's Division 5 (Wistaston C).

After the victory George Raiswell, Club captain and Wistaston A captain, said: "It was great to be back playing competitive matches and the summer league brings so much fun!"

Fixtures, results and tables are updated during the year via the League website:
http://www.smctennis.co.uk
For further information relating to WJTC please visit their Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/WJtennisclub , or phone: 01270 560471

Wistaston Conservation Group

Wistaston's New Owl



Our group have erected a sculpture of an Owl that had been made and kindly donated to the community by Sandie Wilson a local 'Chainsaw Artist' and carved from a piece of wood left over from routine tree felling.

We decided that an appropriate place to display the owl was near to a Rowan tree planted in memory of John Wood where it can be enjoyed by all who use the area.



The Wistaston Village Sign

Originally donated by Eric Swan the Wistaston metal sign which was last refurbished in 2008 has been re-sprayed with white powder coating. A local business owner, Steve Fletcher of Crewe Road, generously met the costs and Brian Jones a fellow Wistonian kindly transported the heavy sign back and forth in his pick-up truck. Our thanks go out to these two gentlemen.

The result is in keeping with the beauty of the area and in good time for the Spring and Summer season 2021.

Dave O'Hara has made some bird boxes and together with other donated boxes has installed them in the recreation area.

Hedge cutting has been carried out beside the Beech Drive car park before the nesting season started in earnest.

New Pond and wetland.



The area around the pond requires a lot of our time. We have been clearing undergrowth to allow spring flowers to flourish, pruning trees and buddleia and continuing creating a long windrow. Lately we are extending the feeder watercourse back from the pond through a drainage ditch into the woodland beyond. As this area opens up bluebells and wood anemones, *seen here*, can be enjoyed growing in lovely scattered patches. Eventually it is hoped that this area can be enjoyed by everybody, both residents and our visitors.

The Trouble with Trees

Now and then people out walking will ask about the safety of our larger trees, quite often when one has fallen across the brook, when it becomes more noticeable.

One of the complications we have with our recreational area is that where there is water there are also lots of trees. Usually the trees are not a problem and we and the parish council are always striving to keep on top of any potential problems but the trees on the banks of Wistaston Brook can become problematic. The two main reasons for this is neglect; not on the 'Joey' side of the brook but on land not controlled by Wistaston Parish and the fact that the water currents undercut the banks of the brook and cause tree-roots to become unstable.



Consequently from time to time a tree or part of it will fall; the good news being that they invariably fall away from the bank in which they are rooted and thereby are unlikely to be a threat to anyone. A tree if left in the brook will gather debris and eventually cause a blockage and further damage to the banks so our group will always try to prevent this by removing as much of the tree as possible to maintain the flow of water. Any parts such as the trunk, root ball or larger branches that are too heavy for us to deal with are removed by the Environment Agency who usually dispatch a work team quite promptly to deal with the problem. *Above can be seen part of an old tree having fallen into the brook.*

Post Winter Clean-up



Each Spring one of the jobs we carry out is cleaning up the debris that has been washed down the brook and deposited in the area around the brook opposite to Wistaston Hall. This area is quite flat and acts as deposit point for all sorts of items. We have found on previous occasions full garden fence panels, items of garden furniture, children's ride-on toys, even a full-sized refuse bin and the heaviest item known is an actual wooden railway sleeper that shows the force of the water here in full winter flow.
We have now tidied this area, shown here, ready for the Summer.

Come and see us.

If anyone would like to speak to us about what we do they can contact any of our members shown on our website accessed by searching the name of our group on the internet or by coming along to see us working on most Monday mornings. Details of where we will be on any particular Monday is shown on our website during the previous week.
We normally stop work for a coffee break at 11am so if you wish you can join us for a drink and biscuits.

Stay safe and enjoy our little bit of countryside.

The 2020 Laurie Twiss Award

In the last edition of Roundabout we printed Poppy's, Maria's and Edward's winning entries. Now we print Lukas and Chloe's superb entries.

Real-Life Superheroes – Chloe Day : Wistaston Church Lane Academy

Throughout the last three months in lock down, many people have struggled with money problems and other issues. But struggles or not, our Key Workers, have kept going, putting themselves at risk for our lives. These are our Real-life Superheroes.

During the period of home isolation, due to COVID-19, it has been difficult for many. Lives have suddenly changed, people unable to fully do their jobs. With schools closing, I found myself stuck at home. It seemed great for the first couple of days - facetiming my friends, doing school work in my PJ's. It was like a miracle. But then the days turned to weeks and weeks turned to months. I had started to miss my friends a long time ago, but now I had started to miss school! It wasn't all that great anymore. I hadn't left my front-door in what felt like an eternity, but I understood it was for the safety of the public. There were numerous people who were affected more than me though, unable to achieve money for their family. People who were able to carry out their jobs were Key Workers, our new heroes.

Shop workers have gone the least congratulated, even after all their extremely hard efforts to keep our cupboards stocked up as before. Many members of the community have refused to follow shops new conditions, however no matter how much pressure they are put under, it doesn't affect their passion to help customers. Another vital service that has gone unnoticed is the waste disposal workers. Without these incredible citizens, we would be ill due to the stench of our leftovers. We should also spare some time to consider the hard efforts from our care workers. A fair amount of these heroes have deeply considered staying in the homes with the old or young they work with, just to protect them (and their family) from the disease.

The NHS have been on the frontline this whole time. They have put their lives on the line to save us. We asked Dr. Chris B. from Leighton Hospital what the team have been like through this tough experience. He said this "The team have been amazing. There have been lots of major changes to the wards and how we now have to work. It has not been easy, a lot of us have gotten sick, some seriously so and we have seen many succumb to the virus. We have seen many recover too; some that we didn't expect. We have learnt a lot, and if there is another peak, we will be prepared."

Life in Lock Down on Lear Drive - Lukas Tutt - Wistaston Church Lane Academy

Introduction: Coronavirus, coronavirus, coronavirus. The only word said at the moment is coronavirus. But soon, it will be gone. This is an article to tell you what it was like living in lock down to keep safe from coronavirus.

The bad things : The bad things about lock down might be you are stuck at home and you can only go to a certain number of places like walks to Wistaston Park. Or it could be you cannot see any family or friends apart from video calls. This may sound awful. You might have missed school, work and even getting a haircut. Luckily there are some good things about lock down.

Good things : If you are a gamer like me, you will get lots of time on computer games like Fortnite, Overwatch and iPad games such as Zooba! It is also good that every day you might go down to the park to play football with your Dad or have music practise with your Mum. Do you like staying at home all day? Or do you like going to school or work? Or is it better to have just a bit of both?

Keeping in touch : Different ways you may keep in touch might be talking to people on zoom or on a computer game like Fortnite. I sometimes do a video call to my Grandma and Grandad and sometimes my cousins. You might also get a phone call from your teacher. My dad has virtual video calls every week for work. There are lots of different ways to keep in touch with people. Have you been phoning up your friends and family?

Typical Day

7.30am I get up
10.00am We start school Maths (White Rose Maths plus my teacher's extension)
11.00am Break time football with Elodie my sister.
11.30am to 12.30 pm English (BBC Bitesize, watch a few videos then do a task.)
12.30 to 1.30 Lunch relax on iPad.
1.30 to 2.00 Wash up (I get paid!)
2.00 to 2.30 Sax prax.
3.00 to 4.00 End of day. Sometimes we go for a walk e.g. Duck pond with baby swans and ducklings.
6.00 Tea
8.00 Bed

Conclusion: When I look back on lock down, I will remember this time for staying with my household every day but not seeing any friends. I did like getting lots of time on computers, but I really missed playing football with my friends and cuddling my little cousins. I hope lock down never happens again!

You did have a very busy time but it all sounded extremely enjoyable. Thank you Lukas for your lovely pictures sent in with your article - I wish they could have been shown here.

****

Now it's your turn!

The Laurie Twiss Award 2021 - 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 July 2021 to one of the following:

Barbara Brereton, 11 Barnwell Close :
Greg Brereton, 7 College Fields :
Eileen Bamber, 31 Broughton Lane : eileen@bamberuk.com

Good Luck with your writing!

The Berkeley Academy
Laidon Avenue
Crewe CW2 6RU

In March, to celebrate British Science Week, we had a whole school Science day. All children, from Nursery up to Year 6, dressed up as scientists and investigated the question "where is the Science in our school?"

EYFS had fun exploring where Science is in the outdoor area. Nursery enjoyed mixing different materials in their mud kitchen. Reception found out that you can make music with water in a glass. They varied the amount of water and realised that the more water there is in a glass, the higher the pitch of the sound will be.

Our Key Stage 1 classes discovered where the Science is in the bathroom. Year 1 learnt all about the importance of washing our hands to get rid of germs through an experiment with soap, pepper and water! Year 2 classes planned their own investigations to see which substances clean best and how bubbles get their shape. They concluded that bubbles are always spherical and that vinegar is the best substance for cleaning dirty pennies.

In LKS2, the children were finding out where Science is in our classrooms. Year 3 had lots of fun planning investigations to find out what the best conditions are for a plant to grow. They have taken their plants home to look after. Pupils in Year 4 tested materials to find out how best to protect an egg falling from a height – it got very messy! They also learnt about chemical reactions and made their own mini volcanoes.

UKS2 children spent their day looking for Science in the kitchen. Year 5 children planned an investigation to see why we need to keep milk in the fridge. They also looked at methods to clean dirty water to make it drinkable. Our Year 6 children investigated the best insulators to keep food warm. They found that tin foil was the best insulator.

Both children and staff had a fantastic day and learnt lots about the Science all around us. We are super scientists at Berkeley!







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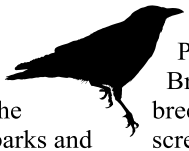
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Nature Article



Picking up from the last nature article a fox was also seen in Broughton Lane, this one at night-time. Leading solitary lives out of the breeding season, dog foxes choose winter to seek out the vixens. Eerie barks and screams emanating from both sexes denote mating and will sometimes explain mysterious nocturnal noises.

An uplifting comment on our personal absence of normally frequent birds was made by Liz and Richard Camm who live close to the 'Rising Sun'. Their winter has embraced lots of goldfinches and chaffinches, although with the confession that this is unusual for them. Regular were all our common tits, plus bullfinch, pied wagtail, spotted woodpeckers and jays. The now rare greenfinch has made appearances, but Liz and Richard are aware of the impact on this finch of trichomonosis. Liz points out that planting for pollinators not only attracts insects to gardens but also increases food available for insect-eating birds. She has made a rewarding effort herself in this direction. A 'bee' symbol on seed packets or plant labels, she informs, denotes 'pollinator friendly' and even the smallest garden can prove attractive if it only sports, for example, lavender in a patio pot. A probable peregrine falcon over nearby fields was an exciting 'spot' for Liz and Richard on 7 March.

To start the New Year our January song thrush took up residence in the allotment trees of Sandylands Park late in the month. We've read that January is the month this thrush is acknowledged to start its singing which lasts well into summer. Is the rook smarter than the jackdaw? We have a rook that appears to hook the feeder to the bough, expending less energy in eating through not continually flapping wings to balance. Accident or trick?

16 March, late on, in the habit of starlings, around two dozen jackdaws settled briefly in a tree in the allotments hedgerow, having flown around haphazardly, before the final 'off' – the first time we'd witnessed this behaviour in the crow family. They continued this behaviour, to a lesser degree, into April.
For a change of tack, before the latest lock down it was cheering to spot ivy in flower, albeit in poorly perceptible pin-pricks of primrose hue: oddly a plant that blooms in winter and fruits in spring. To refute a myth, we have read that ivy is no strangler of trees, only using them for support, and its competition for nutrients from the soil is not considered a great problem.

18 March and the clear skies brought five buzzards wheeling high, increasing sightings of fewer birds since. 23 March and a pair of siskins taking a refreshment break. These birds often pass through in March en route for northern breeding grounds. 3 March and a first taste of spring with brimstone and peacock butterflies at Christine Howarth's (Broughton Lane). 27 March and our first notes of spring with chiffchaff. The brief interlude of unseasonal warmth at March's end brought our initial sightings of white, tortoiseshell and brimstone butterflies, an orange-tailed bumblebee and an emerald shieldbug, no doubt in keeping with the rest of Wistaston!

Our thanks to all contributors.

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

From St Mary's Wistaston
Signs of Hope.
On 23 March 2020, a few hours before the country was placed in to a first Lockdown, I conducted a wedding for a couple who were due to be married a couple of weeks later. All the legal preliminaries were in place so from a text to me at 2pm Alana & Joe walked down the aisle at St Mary's at 4pm with only their mums in attendance as witnesses. It was to be the last wedding I was to conduct until 29 May 2021. Signs of hope, we all need them at the moment don't we, what would yours be? After postponing and rescheduling so many weddings during 2020/21, this was a real sign of hope for me. It's not that things are back to normal, I know that, but to conduct a wedding once again, to share in a couples joy, is fantastic and I look forward to other celebrations that will take place this year at St Mary's.
Did you know that since the first Lockdown we have livestreamed our Sunday morning services? Even though we are now open again we still do. You can join with us online at bit.ly/youtubestmarys1 or come and join us in church, both begin at 10:40am. You can find more details on our website at stmaryswistaston.org.uk.
Best wishes,
Revd Mike

WISTASTON JUBILEE TENNIS CLUB

The Club is situated behind the Memorial Hall in Church Lane with two floodlit hard courts.
After three months of lockdown the club opened for play on 29 March following restrictions and guidelines from the Government and the Lawn Tennis Association. Hopefully the Club will open fully on the 21 June with no restrictions in place.

Membership fees for the 2021/22 year remain unchanged from the previous year and will apply until 31/03/2022 and are as follows:
£75 Adult - aged 18 and over
£55 Student - aged 18 and over and in full-time education.
£40 Junior – aged under 18 and in full-time education
£25 Off-Peak – Monday to Friday 2pm to 6pm (Adult/Student/Junior)
£175 Family – Up to two adults and all under 18's in full time education.

For further information contact:
Bill Heath – Membership Secretary 01270 560471
George Raiswell – Club Captain – 07552 789492
Junior Coaching is available – contact George Raiswell.
Bill Heath
Club Chairman and Membership Secretary

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Wda Wistaston Drama Academy

Drama for the Community

In line with the government's guidelines we were able to reopen on 24th April!

We have welcomed some new members to the group and it was lovely to experience the buzz and creative activity in the room. With all the windows and doors open and the sunshine flowing in it was a fabulous session. Well done all!



Following the easing of lock down our aim is to provide a safe and stimulating environment to promote healthy well being to our members. 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. Our sessions are fully interactive and great fun!

Are you interested in having fun with your friends whilst showing off your dramatic side? If so, then Wistaston Drama Academy 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.

Due to the social distancing element still being in place we will be keeping our numbers to a maximum of 12 in each group.

So, don't delay, come and join us in this vibrant, energetic, creative drama group!

Looking forward to meeting you soon.

For more information : www.wistastonyoungdramagroup.weebly.com

email: wydg@hotmail.co.uk or contact Judy 07506022709



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Wells Green Methodist Church holds an open air Good Friday Service in the Grounds of the Oblate Retreat Centre, Broughton Lane

On Good Friday, 2 April 2021 the Revd Den Harding led the worship in the grounds of Wistaston Hall for Wells Green Methodist Church. Permission to use the grounds was kindly provided by Father Lorcan O'Reilly, Director of the Oblate Retreat Centre. Revd Den Harding said that there was the joy of seeing friends for the first time in many months and a sense of rejoicing at being able to gather together and to sing for the first time since March 2020. Thank you to *Jonathan White for text and photo.*



Report from Wistaston Church Lane Academy

On Friday 14th May, we welcomed Andrew Moffatt to Church Lane to talk about the 'No Outsiders' scheme and why he created it. 'No Outsiders' is about not leaving people out and treating everyone as you would treat your friends. He created it because his school had lots of differences and he wanted to make sure everyone was being treated fairly. He recognised that differences are fabulous because everyone is unique in their own way.

When Mr Moffatt came in, he taught 'No Outsiders' lessons to everyone in Year 2 to Year 6. He taught us about never leaving people out, by reading stories and showed us pictures of people in schools being kind to others, for example making sure everyone has someone to sit with at lunchtime.
At Church Lane, we think everyone should treat people with kindness and respect like this and that no one should feel like an outsider or be left out. ***By Amelia and Ella***

In Year 5, some pupils have been taking part in a 'No Outsiders' public speaking competition. Here are some comments from two people who took part:

'No Outsiders' is when you feel different and left out. Year 5 have been competing in a 'No Outsiders' public speaking competition and I took part and spoke about a time I felt like an outsider. I felt nervous as I had to speak in front of many children and some adults. Even though I was nervous, I faced my fear and did it – ***Bayley.***

Being an outsider means that you are unique and being unique means you're different. Different is good because if we were all the same life would be boring. I competed in the 'No Outsiders' public speaking competition and spoke about moving schools. I felt like an outsider because lockdown was announced after my first day and instead of having the opportunity to make new friends, I was put in a situation where I was on Zoom calls with people and teachers I didn't know. Luckily, that has all now changed! When I was talking I felt nervous and scared, but I'm glad that I had the opportunity to challenge myself and go out of my comfort zone – ***Isla.***

****

Crewe and Nantwich Rambling Club

Rambles take place on Sundays throughout the year. There is a choice of 6, 9 or 12 miles. Travel by coach with pick-ups at Nantwich, Wistaston and Crewe. There are also Thursday morning walks throughout the year on a four weekly basis, travelling by car and the option of a pub meal after the walk.

Our rambles have been suspended under the National Lockdown Rules. However, Sunday walks have now resumed in the local area, albeit following certain restrictions. Travel by coach will be unlikely for a while yet. New members are very welcome - please contact Richard Farrall for further information on 01270-624649 or visit www.creweandnantwichramblingclub.org.uk.

****

Answers to Just for Fun questons on page 13.
1. Five. 2. Chelmsford. 3. Frank Worrell. 4. Steve Harmison. 5. The fifth test at Durban (South Africa vs England 1939. 6. The Wisden Trophy.

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and our facebook page:
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Our weekly newsletter, which outlines our programme of regular events, can be found on our website: www.newlifecentre.co.uk
If you need to talk, you can email us: info@newlifecentre.co.uk or contact me directly on 07713 840179
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Wistaston's Flower and Produce Show : Saturday 21 August 2021

Important Changes due to COVID

In order to reduce the risk of Covid transmission, some changes have been made for the 2021 Show. The show will comply with the government rules in place at the time but hopefully we will be able to put on an albeit reduced show this year. Keep an eye out on our website, Facebook page and posters for updates.

To exclude money handling, there will be **NO COST OF ENTRY** for any classes and there will be no prize money awarded but we know you are all much more interested in the coveted prize certificates!

ONLY 1 ENTRY PER CLASS per competitor will be allowed except where specified.

There will be no refreshments served.

There will be no Raffle or Auction at the end of the show this year.

Face masks must be worn indoors. Hand sanitisers will be provided in the hall.

The Housecraft and Beverages classes will not be included in this year's show.

All entries forms must be submitted in advance no later than Thursday 5 August and can either be delivered to the Show President using the form available at local stores or an electronic copy of the entry form is available on the WCC website www.wistastoncommunity.co.uk which can be emailed to: wistastonshow@gmail.com

Entrants will be notified before the day of their allocated time slot for staging of entries in order to allow for social distancing.

It is envisaged that a one way system will be put in place for public viewings.

So that those who are unable to attend don't miss out we plan to put up photos of exhibits online and on the website/Facebook/WCC notice boards after the show.

Schedule of Classes

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 variety 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. A 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 Classes F13/14/17/18.
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 25cm max.

Section V - Vegetable Classes.

V1. A Vegetable not on Schedule - please specify on entry form. You may enter more than 1 type.
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 Y: Hobbycrafts (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 10cm-15cm diameter pot
Y5. Any craft not on schedule (please specify on entry form; you may enter more than one craft)

Section C: Children's Classes (free to enter)

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

Parish Council Photographic Competition :free entry

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 8 August 2021.

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
Entries may also be emailed to wistastonshow@gmail.com

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