

THE WISTOW WARBLER

Wistow village web-site: www.wistowvillage.info

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2011

Editorial

To start 2011 we would like to wish all readers a slightly belated 'Very Happy New Year' to you and yours. Welcome to our first Warbler, a little larger than normal but for those who know us well no surprises there.

Clive and Fran Williams

WISTOW BRIDGE

Work on the bridge is now complete, but not to everybody's satisfaction. The next issue is the state of the green and exits from the village around the bridge. On the plus side, the end result is that there are plans to remove the lumps and bumps on the exit from the green to the bridge.

The Phantom Gate Planter?

First there was one, now there are two!! On investigation, the answer is the bridge Contractors/Highways Department has installed these, and will maintain them. They are we believe a visual width restriction and will psychologically slow down traffic . . . *well maybe.*

However, just over the bridge, on the Toll side, water still collects and forms a small pool that may be treacherous in freezing weather; the County Council has been informed and has said they will sort this out. *In the meantime please be careful and aware.*

SAVE OUR POSTMAN - KIM GURDLESTONE

Due to Post Office re-organisation of the night staff, postman, Kim, may be re-routed. The nightshift postmen are being replaced by machines. The seniority of postmen who will no longer be working nightshift entitles them to put their names forward for daytime rounds, and two have already elected Wistow and Little Raveley. Kim really does not want to leave his route and indeed after him serving Wistow so well over the past decade he would be sorely missed.

Sue Ray has taken it upon herself to organise a petition, which most of you all kindly signed. Sue needed to send this to the Post Master General on Friday and apologises if she has missed you - but, there were at least 200 names on the sheets and enough to state the case.

Sue will keep us all 'posted' and suggests that if the response is negative, we all e-mail or send letters to add more fuel to the fire.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM MESSAGE

Please be aware of your 'speed' as 'The cops are out with their speed guns,' Cambridgeshire Police are clamping down on speeding through villages and country side roads. *Slow down.*

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO THE VILLAGE HALL - UPDATE

As you will know from previous information circulated around the village and the open sessions held in the village hall last year to view the proposed plans, the Management Committee is seeking to carry out alterations to the hall. The aim is to preserve the old chapel whilst at the same time enlarging and upgrading the hall to provide a facility for the village more in keeping with modern requirements.

We now have planning permission to build new toilets, kitchen, store and lobby to the side and rear of the present hall. This will allow for the removal of the rear wall of the old chapel into the existing kitchen and toilets to extend the floor area of the hall by approximately 50%. This has not been an easy or straightforward process due to the limited size of the plot and the fact that the old chapel is a Grade II listed building.

Currently the Architect is drawing up plans and specifications for building control approval. These incorporate sustainable sources of energy, improved insulation and reinstatement of the original slate chapel roof. This will provide an opportunity to remove the false ceiling to expose attractive internal wooden cladding and stained glass bullseye windows in the gable ends.

Just to get where we are, has cost several thousand pounds. It has only been possible to finance these preliminary stages due to the help

and support of The Village in giving so generously at the fund raising events held over the past few years.

Clearly the challenge now will be to finance the alterations. The Committee is currently actively looking for sources of grant funding (but if anyone has a spare few thousands in their back pocket this will be gratefully received). More practically, if anyone would like to help or has ideas for raising funds, then we shall be pleased to hear from you.

For more information or to have a look at the plans, you are welcome to get in touch with John Wadsworth on 822541.

"AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHAPE YOUR COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (CCS) provides a wide range of community-based health and social care services across Cambridgeshire including adult social care services on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council. From 5 January to 30 March 2011, the Trust is undertaking a public consultation on becoming an NHS Foundation Trust, which will give thousands of local people the opportunity to become Members of the Trust and really influence how local services are developed. The Trust genuinely wants to hear what people think click on the link below to read a summary:

<http://bit.ly/eESf1o>

For further information, contact Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust's communications team on 0800 013 2511 or 01480 308216 or email FT@ccs.nhs.uk"

CANCER RESEARCH

A very happy evening was spent Wassailing at the Three Horseshoes, organised by Cancer Research UK. A big thank you to Gerry and Julia for their hospitality and generosity in providing refreshments. Music was provided by the 'St Peters' Upwood Hand Bell Ringers organised by Deanna Philips and Jeremy Carter accompanied the carol singing on his melodeon; thanks to them, and everyone involved for making the evening so special.

Our next event will be the 'Big Breakfast' do, look out for the posters and join us if you can.

On February 22nd the committee is presenting the cheque for £54,000 to Prof. Neil at the Cancer Research Institute in Cambridge to buy the Immunostainer to speed up research into Prostate Cancer.

All of the committee would like to thank everyone who loyally supports us, and gives so generously to Cancer Research UK. Your help is greatly appreciated. We wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.
Sally Wilson

Village Shop

Shirley and Ray Burton continue to sell a wide range of fresh produce and other items in their Farm Shop in Mill Road and are to be congratulated on their success in these times of financial unrest

WISTOW IN BLOOM LATEST

The two workshops held before Christmas on Wreath Making and Flower Arranging were very successful, with everyone who attended having an enjoyable time, and the feedback has been very positive.

Planting of spring bulbs on the Green, mainly mixed colour crocus, is planned to take place in mid-February. The next bit of visible activity will be the creation of two wooden planters at the signs by the entry to the village at the top of Mill Road, like the one as you enter the village from the Toll.

Events Planned for the Year:

Lesley will be giving a talk to the WI on the evening of **9th March**.

Spring Quiz which will be held in the Village Hall on **Saturday 9th April**, 7.00 for a 7.30 start, and as usual there will be nibbles and a bar.

A **Wine & Cheese** afternoon at Wistow House on **Sunday 12th June**, between 3.00pm and 7.30pm; donations of cheese and savouries will be greatly appreciated. This is being held this year instead of the open garden in order to avoid a clash with the Church Heritage weekend, with the open garden at Wistow House probably returning next year. A **Christmas Bazaar** is likely to be held in November (provisional date **19th November**), so watch out for more details about these.

Article by John Dransfield.

DOG DO'S IN WISTOW

(Letter From a Disgruntled Villager)

I write regarding the owner of an obviously large dog who regularly walks their animal down Harris Lane. This totally inconsiderate and irresponsible person allows their dog to foul the lane along the path where everyone walks and does not clean up after them. All responsible and considerate dog owners then get tarred within the same brush. Ok it's not a pleasant task but then you should not have a dog if you are not willing to clean up their mess. It is not the fault of the dog. It is the fault of the owner. Is this person aware that apart from the anti social aspect a child who may step in or fall in the mess could pick up the disease toxocara Canis, If the dog has not been wormed regularly the disease can be passed on to humans and lead to blindness. Who would want that on their conscience.

Poo bags are available at the vets free of charge and I believe they are available from Shirley and Ray at the village shop also free of charge. This is a lovely village to live in, please let's keep all paths and walks in and around the village a clean and pleasant place to be for everyone.

Terri Eggleston and "Truffle"

Please report any known offenders to Animal Welfare officers on 01480 388298.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Why not join a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme or become a co-coordinator and start a new scheme in your area? What is Neighbourhood Watch? One aspect is helping to reduce crime and the fear of crime by working in close harmony with your local Police Officers. Neighbourhood Watch is not "peeping toms" a saying voiced many times but showing an interest in the community and our neighbourhood making it a better place to live and work.

If you want to know more ring me, Angie, and I will be happy to visit you and answer any questions and hopefully set up a scheme in your road. Working as a team makes sense.

Ring 01480 300726 or send an email to: angiew1@ntlworld.com

CREATIVE WISTOW

We know there is a lot of creative talent within Wistow - so why not come out of the closet and show off your hard work. Along with Richard and Patsy Coles we are hoping to organize a Wistow Art and Craft exhibition in the Spring - please get in touch if you would like to exhibit.

Richard & Patsy Coles: 823542

Fran & Clive Williams: 823576

MANY THANKS to Tony Bish who adds the emblem to the flags flying at the Church - an old custom gladly not lost.

OUT AND ABOUT

INNOVATION IN ST IVES.

The doors are now open to the green houses so book your visit to explore the houses, with four themes - energy efficiency, renewable energy, water efficiency and biodiversity, which are the essential ingredients to the Green House Project. Visitors will learn of practical and inspiring ideas on how to make their homes warmer, brighter and cheaper to run whilst reducing the impact on the environment by lowering their carbon emissions. See for yourself how the technologies work, learn more about the innovative building energy management system and explore the sustainable gardens which cater for a diverse range of wildlife. The children and young at heart can explore the houses by following the eco treasure hunt.

Call 01480 388315 or 01480 388304

To book an appointment to view either or both of the houses

For more details visit

www.greenhouseproject.co.uk

BUBBLES SWIM SCHOOL

Harpers Health and Fitness Club at Wyboston Lakes St Neots

Swimming lessons for children

aged 4 months and upwards

Tues and Weds mornings

Thurs afternoons

Contact Carla Tel: 07968 856318

LIBRARY SERVICES

As you may be aware, Government has given Cambs County Council 14% less main funding, leaving library services under threat, Warboys being one under review. *Read latest press release and cabinet report via Library Service Review website.*

Ramsey library will be opening in the Spring and a survey is running to find out what customers would like opening hours to be. *Visit Library Service website to complete the questionnaire.*

NEW MANAGEMENT AT THE CROWN INN BROUGHTON

For those of you who like to explore local surroundings along with fresh air and exercise we highly recommend a walk across the footpaths to Broughton and take refreshment at The Crown Inn, where you will find a warm welcome from the new Management Team.

RAMSEY ARTS FESTIVAL QUIZ

5 May at Ramsey Golf Course

Teams up to 6 people Tickets £2.50

Bill Tel: 812022 Elsbeth Tel: 711181

or School Plus Shop Gt Whyte

Ramsey

PEAS – There is a national campaign titled ‘Yes /More Peas’ which is to encourage people to use frozen peas more often and in more imaginative ways. To help promote the campaign, a cookery book has been published. To obtain a free copy go to <http://www.pea>

JOKES CORNER by RGP
‘Doctor, Doctor – I think I’m a clock’
“Well don’t get wound up about it”

‘Doctor, Doctor – will my measles be better by next week?’
Well, I don’t make rash promises”

WISTOW READERS RECOMMEND:

Mutiny on the Bounty’ from the bestselling author of **The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas** – **John Boyne** (*A new and invigorating take on the Bounty story*)

‘Room’ by Emma Donoghue (*a story of a mother and son whose love lets them survive the impossible*)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – DIARY DATES

Pub Quiz.

Last Wednesday of each month.
8 for 8.30pm
The Three Horse Shoes.

The Big Breakfast – Cancer Research *Look out for posters coming soon*

Wistow in Bloom

Sat. 9th April Quiz in Village Hall
7.00 for 7.30pm
Sun. 12th June Wine & Cheese at Wistow House 3.00 –7.30 pm
Christmas Bazaar (Provisionally Sat. 19th November)

Ramsey Arts Festival Quiz

5 May Ramsey Golf Club

Music Night and Fun Day

Weekend 16-17 July (*more details in next issue of ‘The Warbler’*)

1940’s Weekend

August 20-21 To be held at new site ‘Wood Lane, Ramsey’

September – Cricket (date & details in next issue of ‘The Warbler’)

LOCAL SERVICES

'Three Horse Shoes'

Great Local public house
with good food and Adnams ale.
Contact. Gerry & Julia
Tel: 822270

The Farm Shop.

Mill Road.
Shirley and Ray Burton.
Tel: 822492

Local Garden Services

All aspects of garden work.
Ray Burton, Mill Road.
Tel: 822492
Mobile. 07741 224630

Motor Services;

Car servicing, MOT and repairs.
Orchard View Garage,
Hillside Farm, Mill Road
Contact Gary Burton
Tel; 07595 507441.

Carpentry and Decorating

Bespoke furniture, etc. made to your
individual requirements. Design
assistance supplied. Member of the
Guild of Master Craftsmen.
Contact: Clive
Tel. 823576 Mobile. 07973 138136

Mobile Library Services

2nd and 4th Tuesday each month
T junction of Church Street and
Bridge Street 10:30am to 10:50am

WHAT'S NEW.....

Picture Framing

Richard Coles at Porch House,
Manor Street, is now able to offer
a picture framing service to villagers.
Building on his photography hobby,
Richard was commissioned to produce
a collection of black and white
photographs which he has printed
and framed himself.
Contact Richard Tel: 823542.
r.coles1@btinternet.co m

Plant Advice

Richard Farrar has launched a web-
site with a friend giving advice on
gardening

Please visit ... www.plantadvice.co.uk

Patsy's Walkers

'Walk and talk in the countryside'
Meeting last Monday of each month
1 o'clock at the bus stop
Contact Patsy Coles Tel: 823542

Stitch & Bitch / Knit & Natter

Get together for a chat, and finish
those projects along the way
Meeting 2nd Monday of each month
7.30pm at Orchard House Manor St
Contact Fran Williams Tel: 823576