

THE WISTOW WARBLER

Wistow village web-site: www.wistovillage.info

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2007

THE CHURCH HERITAGE WEEKEND 2007

This year sees the biennial Church Heritage Weekend, to be held on the 23rd and 24th of June. At the church there will be the usual Flower Festival, teas and refreshments, and an assortment of stalls.

This is also the weekend when volunteers in the village open their gardens to the public. It's always nice to have some new gardens to see and admire in addition to the lovely gardens that are usually open; if you have not previously opened your garden but would wish to do so this time then please contact Helen Buddle on 823121.

Proceeds from sales, and the £1 fees for touring the gardens, go to church funds. But it's more than fund-raising, it's an excellent social event, and if you are new to the village it gives you the chance to meet lots of people. So, everybody, come along.

GET YOUR PORK ORDERS IN

Once again Patsy and Richard Coles will have fresh pork available this year so get your orders in now; the pigs will be ready around July. Phone them on 823542.

The breed of pig is Oxford Sandy & Black, and this is the first year that they have been 100% bred and reared by Patsy and Richard.

Do You Need Private Maths Tuition?

Don McFarlane BSc, of Church Street, is offering home tuition in mathematics in Wistow in the evenings. Rates are £25 per hour up to GCSE level and £30 per hour for "A" level and Further Maths.

If you are interested, or would like some more information, then phone Don in the evening on 823707.

CANCER RESEARCH BIG BREAKFAST

On behalf of the local committee of Cancer Research UK, Sally Wilson would like to thank everyone who attended the Big Breakfast held at the village hall on Friday 23rd March. It was a very enjoyable and successful morning which raised just over £320.

Everyone on the committee appreciated the support and generosity of everyone to the events held in the village, with all the money raised going to fund ongoing research.

WISTOW FUN WEEK-END 2007

The Fun Week-end will be held this year on Saturday and Sunday 14th and 15th July on Porch House Field; as usual, thanks go to Patsy and Richard Coles for making this lovely setting available once more.

Music Night on the Saturday will this year feature a rhythm and blues band called On Route, and there will also be a short session at the beginning of the evening from a local musical duo. Why not take along a picnic to have with family and friends, and let your hair down and have a dance!

Sports Day on the Sunday will, as usual, have something for all the family; side shows, competitions, swing boats, face painting, slippery slope, etc. Field events will include egg throwing, caber tossing, and of course tug o' war. The main features, of course, are the races for the children, but the adults are not left out. Even if you're not competing, why not go along and enjoy the atmosphere, perhaps with a drink from the bar.

Hopefully flower pots will have been saved from last year as the increasingly popular Flower Pot Man competition will be held once again in the week before the event. Let's see the biggest and most imaginative competition yet.

Don't forget that the Fun Weekend is a major fund-raising event for the village hall and, as usual, there will be a raffle; more prizes are needed and if you would like to donate a prize then please contact a member of the Village Hall Committee.

TUG O'WAR TROPHY STILL MISSING

The Tug o' War is a traditional event at the Fun Weekend, the winning team being presented with the Richard Juggins Trophy. Unfortunately the shield has still not been returned to be engraved with the names of the 2006 winners.

This is another appeal to anyone who has the shield, or knows of its whereabouts, to please contact John Wadsworth (822541), Carol MacInnes (823131), or any other member of the Village Hall Committee.

WISTOW YOUTH CLUB UP AND RUNNING

Wistow Youth Club is now up and running. Meetings are held on Thursday evenings and cater for two age groups; 5 to 10 year olds from 6.00 to 7.00 pm, and 11 to 19 year olds from 7.00 to 9.30 pm.

A meeting was held with Cambridgeshire Youth Council and was attended by Samantha Newton, Veronica Barker, Christopher Newton, Marcus Crockett, Lewis Roberts, Stacey Roberts, Laura Smith, Alice Manwaring, Sophie Rice, Alex Boulton, Leanne Jenkins, Luke Jenkins and Chris Sykes. The very good news is that they were successful in being awarded a grant of £3,500 to set up the club.

Volunteers are being sought to join the Youth Club Committee to help with the successful running of this new venture. If you are interested, or require more information, please contact Veronica Barker or Samantha Newton on 823373, or Sophie Rice on 822205.

Also, if you have any games that you could donate to the youth club then these would be very gratefully received, as would any offers to give talks or organise events and activities. Call Veronica or Sophie if you have anything to offer.

More Changes on Wistow Parish Council

After three years on the Parish Council, the last year as Vice Chairman, Ted Benson has decided to retire and he attended his last meeting at the end of March. Many thanks go to Ted for his work on behalf of the village. A new Vice Chairman will be elected at the Annual General meeting to be held on 24th May.

To replace Ted, Gordon MacInnes was co-opted onto the council at the meeting on 24th April. Many thanks go to Gordon for stepping forward to keep the council at full strength, and everyone wishes him all the best for the future.

Incidentally, please note that the dates of Parish Council meetings have been changed, and are now normally held on the last Tuesday of each month rather than the last Thursday.

Also, don't forget the Parish Council Open Meeting on Thursday 24th May (yes, this one is on a Thursday!) at 7.00 pm when you have the opportunity to hear what has been going on and also to put your questions to the council.

THE LATEST ON WISTOW IN BLOOM 2007

This is the latest, following on from the News Letter that was circulated a few weeks ago; if you've lost your copy you can get another by phoning Pam Franklin on 824725.

10 bird boxes have now been sponsored at £5 per box, each of these boxes being made and installed by Les Elmore; volunteers are still wanted to supply and/or plant wild flowers on the bank opposite the pub; and don't forget to do your entry for the competition for the cover of the portfolio that will be submitted to the judges.

A pond-dipping morning has been arranged for Saturday 12th May; this will be from 10.00 to 12.00 am, meet at the pond at the back of The Grove. Which ponds end up being dipped will depend on water levels. Amongst other possible events being considered for this year are:

- a hanging basket competition
- sun-flower and/or pumpkin planting for kids

(watch out for further details in due course)

The Quiz Night held in the village hall on 14th April was well attended, everyone had a good time, and around £277 was raised towards WIB funds. Incidentally, if you enjoyed that quiz, why not go to the charity quiz at the pub; these are held on the last Wednesday of each month with proceeds currently going to Cancer Research.

Lastly, an apology for the false impression created in the newsletter that the trees on Mill Road outside Richard Juggins' farm were going to be removed. As far as is known there is no intention to remove any of these trees, and this would only happen if Huntingdonshire District Council deemed them to be unsafe.

IS ANYONE INTERESTED IN PLAYING BRIDGE?

I am toying with the idea of trying to form a Bridge Club in Wistow. At this stage I haven't really firmed up on any plans, but I would definitely be thinking of "social" bridge rather than competitive; in other words, we would be looking to have fun and relaxation in convivial company, rather than intense competition.

It should be open to all levels of player, including those who have never played; if there are people who want to learn from scratch I'm sure we could get them started.

If you are interested then please give me, John Dransfield, a call on 822936. It would be good to hear from those of you who are familiar with organising bridge evenings so that we could make a reasonable fist of getting started.

Forthcoming Events - Dates for your Diaries for 2007

Plant Sale - 12th May (in aid of village hall)

Parish Council Open Meeting – Thursday 24th May, 7.00 pm, Village Hall (followed by AGM)

Car Boot Sale – 10th June (in aid of village hall)

Church Heritage Weekend and Open Gardens – Saturday and Sunday, 23rd and 24th June

Wistow Fun Weekend – Saturday and Sunday, 14th and 15th July

Cricket Tournament – Sunday 26th August