

THE WISTOW WARBLER

Wistow village web-site: www.wistovvillage.info

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2009

TIME OUT TOTS

Time out Tots would like to thank everyone who supported their cake stand at the Fun Weekend: to the parents of the children at the group, who provided some fabulous cakes, to the Village Hall committee who kindly provided the stand free of charge, and to all the lovely people of Wistow who generously bought the produce. Over £70 was raised which has been spent on much-needed safety mats and some new games.

TOTs run every Thursday morning, 9.30 to 11.30, during school term time. For enquiries or ideas phone Mel on 823749, or just go along for a warm welcome.

DENNY GARTON

The family of the late Denny Garton, and in particular his sister Kitty, would like to thank everyone who attended the church service, and whose generous donations in memory of Denny raised £297 for MAGPAS.

WISTOW CRICKET TOURNAMENT 2009

English cricket may be having its up and downs but the Wistow Ashes Tournament seems to be going from strength to strength. This year it was played out on 19th September on a glorious autumn day. The four teams assembled earlier this year at 11.00am; as there was no junior tournament this allowed more time for a few more overs for the senior games.

In the first match the Shorties Showoffs, captained by Jason Short, beat the Wistow Wannabies captained by Chris Newton. Graeme MacInnes then led out the MacInnes Invitational against Andrew Harding's Wistow Warriors with the Invitational emerging the winners. The 3rd place play off between Wistow Warriors and the Wannabies saw the Wannabies winning.

This was followed by the final between the Showoffs and Invitational and what a final it turned out to be. This

game had everything, some very good batting and bowling and some excellent fielding. The Invitational opened the batting and with several good knocks reached a total of 106. In reply the Showoffs started steadily against some tight bowling but later their big hitters got amongst the runs. The Invitational fielders pulled off some remarkable catches, two on the boundaries which gave the umpires difficult decisions which went one in favour of each team.

By the end of the 12 overs tension rose as the Showoffs got close to the Invitational total and by the last ball required 6 to win. A massive hit put the ball into the crowd at the mid wicket boundary to clinch it for the Showoffs. Game over and an excellent end to a hard fought match and a splendid day.

Congratulations to Shorties Showoffs who will now hold the Coles Ashes Trophy for the next year but well done to all the teams, each of which provided players who put in some very good performances. There were some fine performances from several of the younger players, none more so than Matthew Taylor who made a significant contribution with both bat and ball. There were a number of contenders for the Man of the Match Award but Matthew's excellent fielding put the trophy in his hands. Congratulations to him for producing such a good all round performance.

Many thanks to all those who took part and to the many helpers who made the day possible. Particular thanks to Patsy and Richard Coles for making this idyllic setting available to us once again and for all the hard work they do throughout the year to help us stage these Village Hall events.

WISTOW IN BLOOM

In 2009, Wistow improved to a "medium" Silver award in the Anglia in Bloom competition. Wistow also won a special "Bio-diversity" award for the bird recognition leaflets and bird feeding stations around the village; this was achieved against some serious competition in this category, including Thurrock Council. The judges' report also mentioned how impressed they were with the floral displays around the village, and commented that they felt the whole of the village

environment had markedly improved over the last few years as a result of the "In Bloom" initiatives.

Sadly, however, as reported in the last Warbler, this will be Wistow's last entry. In the last issue I asked for feedback from the village; several people responded expressing regret that Wistow in Bloom was likely to fold, but no-one has come forward who is prepared to take on the job of leading the committee in the future. So, as of now, Wistow in Bloom has been disbanded.

Some assets, including a strimmer, have been donated to the Village Hall committee. It has been decided to leave the various tubs, baskets, troughs, etc in place; these will be looked after in the future by volunteers. Some already have "owners" but more volunteers would be very welcome; please contact John Dransfield (822936) or Jill Wadsworth (822541) if you'd like to take over a tub.

Finally, a big thank you to all those people in the village who have contributed in any way, however small, to our success in the Anglia in Bloom competition but, more importantly, to improving the village environment. Particularly to Pam and Henry Franklin who have put in a great deal of effort, and best wishes to them on their forthcoming move to Warboys. Incidentally, if anyone wishes to re-launch Wistow in Bloom in the future, then they should contact John or Jill for information.

INK JET CARTRIDGES FOR SALE

Jean Duke has 5 ink jet printer cartridges for sale, all for the HP Photosmart 2575 and all unused and sealed (although 2 have had their packets opened). They consist of:- 3 X Tesco Black (H150, HP no. 336), and 2 X Tesco Colour (H140, HP no. 342). These cost £68.85 new and are offered at £25 for the five. You can contact Jean on 822848.

CANCER RESEARCH EVENTS

Cancer Research are now embarking on their winter events, starting with the Pink Party at the Three Horseshoes on October 30th starting at 10am and finish at 11.45. Next event will be the Mulled Wine Evening at the village hall from 7pm to 9pm on Friday 27th November, a change of date from the last Warbler edition. Posters will be displayed around the village and everyone is welcome to

join us for refreshments, sale of Christmas cards and gifts, a Christmas raffle and chance to chat and welcome the start of Christmas activities.

Carol singing will be around the Christmas tree outside the church again on Monday 14th December 2009, hopefully with some music, and starting at 6pm promptly to accommodate the younger members of the village, finishing about 7.15pm. Then there will be a warm welcome at the Three Horseshoes for mulled wine and mince pies courtesy of Julia and Gerry. Please come along as last year there was a wonderful turnout; please bring a lantern or torch to read the carol sheets. Father Christmas may also be bringing some small gifts for the good children.

WISTOW BRIDGE

At last, work is about to start on renovating the bridge. According to Cambridgeshire County Council the bridge will be closed for one weekend at the end of November with work commencing on Monday 2nd November until Friday 4th December.

RAMSEY, WARBOYS & DISTRICT VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Would you like to help in your local community? Have you got extra time on your hands? Do you want to make a difference? Why not become a VOLUNTEER? Volunteering is a great way to make new friends, learn new skills or impart your skills to others. It's a good way to integrate into the local community. You can give as much or as little time as you want; even a couple of hours a month will be of help.

There are all sorts of opportunities so there is something to suit everyone from 18 years old upwards. Surveys have proved volunteering is good for you, with 63% of 25-34 year olds and 62% of over 65s saying volunteering helps them feel less stressed, while 71% of volunteers who offer their professional skills and experience say volunteering helps combat depression.

Nearly half of all volunteers say volunteering has improved their physical health and fitness.

The Volunteer Centre also runs the local Community Car Scheme from the Ramsey office. In brief this is a scheme using volunteer drivers to help people who are unable to drive or do not have access to public transport or have mobility problems. They can take you to the doctors, hospital appointments, shopping, hair dressing appointments etc; there is a charge of 40 pence per mile payable to the driver to cover their costs. They are always looking for more volunteers so please contact the office in Ramsey for more details and eligibility. There are information posters in the local libraries or simply call in to your local Volunteer Bureau at Ramsey for an informal chat to see what is available, or look at the 'do-it.org.uk' web site for volunteering opportunities near you.

Contact details: Methodist Church, High Street, Ramsey, PE29 1AA, Mon-Thurs: 10am-12pm. Telephone: 01487 814117
Email volunteers@ramvol.fsnet.co.uk

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE PART IN SPEED WATCH?

Speed Watch is a scheme that has been set up in conjunction with the police and the Road Safety Partnership to encourage people to reduce speeding traffic through their communities. The scheme is operated by local volunteers who use radar guns to check for speeding, and advisory letters are sent to the owners of vehicles found to be driving at excessive speeds. You may have seen them in Wistow a few weeks ago.

More volunteers are needed in order to continue to run this very effective scheme which helps to slow traffic and make our roads safer. Two types of volunteer are needed:-

- People who are prepared to be part of a team operating the speed checks, for which full and ongoing training is provided.

- People who will identify areas where speeding is a problem and coordinate between the local council, residents and Speed Watch.

For more details on how to become a volunteer phone 08454 564564, leave your details, and someone will get back to you. Or access the website <http://speed-watch.org>.

DO YOU REMEMBER WISTOW TOLL HOUSE?

Mrs Grainne Farrington, of the Milestone Society, would like to hear from anyone who has information about the Toll House that used to stand on the B1040 at Wistow Toll. The B1040 was once a turnpike road and its history can be read in detail in "The New Bridges" by local author Bridget Flanagan. Mrs Farrington is compiling information on Cambridgeshire toll houses, with a view to writing an article, and would very much like to find any pictures or photographs of the old Wistow toll house. You can contact her on 01480 475626, and the society's website is www.milestone-society.co.uk.

Mrs Farrington is our local representative of the Milestone Society, is always interested in information about milestones or boundary markers, and is happy give illustrated talks to local groups.

RAY BURTON SERVICES

Ray Burton, of Mill Road, undertakes all aspects of garden work. Contact Ray on 822492, or on his mobile 07741 224630.

Forthcoming Events - Dates for your Diaries for 2009

Friday 30th October – Pink Party at the Three Horseshoes for Cancer Research, 10-11.45 am

Friday 27th November – Mulled Wine evening at the Village Hall in aid of Cancer Research, 7-9 pm
(Note – new date)

Monday 14th December – Carol Singing at the Church, 6-7.15 pm