

# THE WISTOW WARBLER

Wistow village web-site: [www.wistovillage.info](http://www.wistovillage.info)

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2010

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## Editorial

Since I announced in last quarter's edition that I was planning to stop doing the Warbler in the autumn, a number of people have said they are sorry to see it end. No-one has yet said that they are prepared to take it over so, if you want to see it continue and you want to give it a go, then let me know.

John Dransfield

## **ANOTHER LONDON MARATHON RUNNER**

We now have another Wistow man running the London Marathon. Garry Crosby, of The Grove, is running this year's London Marathon on 25<sup>th</sup> April in aid of The Prostate Cancer Charity. One man dies every hour from Prostate Cancer and Garry hopes to raise £2000 during his 26-mile run through London. If you would like to support him and help the fight against Prostate Cancer, please make a donation at [www.justgiving.com/garrycrosby](http://www.justgiving.com/garrycrosby).

## **HAVE YOU VISITED THE NEW SHOP YET?**

The new shop run by Ray and Shirley Burton at Hillside Farm has now been open for several weeks; surprisingly, there are still many people in the village who have yet to call in to see what's on offer.

They are open from 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, Monday to Saturday, and are now stocking a range of garden equipment and plants, including fruit trees. Ray and Shirley are keen to hear your suggestions for what they should stock, as they aim to satisfy the needs of the village.

So, if you haven't been in yet, go along and see what's available and have a chat about what the shop might offer in the future.

## **OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW EQUIPMENT AT THE PLAYGROUND**

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May there will be an official opening of the new playground equipment at the playing fields. The event will last from 12.00 pm to 3.00 pm with the official opening being at 1.00 pm. Tea and coffee and also a barbeque will be available. The special guest will be our MP Shailesh Vara who is also shadow Deputy Leader of the House of Commons

## **RELAUNCH OF WISTOW IN BLOOM**

You are all aware that the previous Wistow In Bloom team was disbanded last year, with no-one at the time coming forward to keep it going. Well, like a Phoenix rising from the ashes, a new team has been formed and is being co-ordinated by Lesley Telling; if you don't know Lesley she's Jamie's mum and lives at Wistow House on Bridge Street. Many thanks to Lesley as this resurrection is entirely down to her energy and enthusiasm.

Lesley is a floral designer specialising in large events, mostly in London, and also has extensive knowledge and experience in landscaping and horticulture in general. She has devised a plan for the village which represents a departure from previous years in that it will be more focused on natural planting.

You will have noticed that work has started already with the new planted display under the Wistow sign as you drive down from the toll. The main aim is to construct substantial new displays around the village and the next phase will be two similar planters under the Wistow signs at the top of Mill Road. Volunteers to join the team will be needed to help maintain and replant these displays seasonally with the aim to create permanent features throughout the year, and eventually to reach a standard high enough to consider re- entering the Anglia In Bloom competition; note that plants will be funded by WIB and won't cost the volunteers anything.

A series of fund raising events will be happening over the coming months to enable the planting scheme to be maintained and extended. The first of these, in line with past WIB tradition, is a Quiz Night to be held in the village hall on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April, 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start. There will be a bar and nibbles will be provided, and the idea is to have teams of 4 people. Tickets are £3.50 per person and can be obtained from Jill Wadsworth (tel 822541) or Sue Green (tel 824873). Another date for the diary; on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June there will be an Open Garden Day at Wistow House. Tickets will be available soon, the admission price (still to be confirmed) will include tea/coffee and cake; there will also be home-made cakes available for purchase.

Also, following a presentation by Lesley to the parish Council, they have very kindly agreed to pledge £200 which will be available to be drawn on as necessary in the future; the aim at present is to raise initial funds from fund-raising initiatives.

You will also no doubt have noticed that a volunteer Working Party has been busy on the village green. This is the start of the process of smartening up the green by repositioning plants and bulbs and repairing the damage caused by the bridge contractors and the flooding.

Hopefully the efforts of a small number of volunteers will inspire you to join the team (many hands make light work, etc) and after all it is for the benefit of everyone in our village. For more information phone Lesley on 823553 and we look forward to meeting many more of you over the coming months.

## **MORE UPDATES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The closing date for applications for Allotments will be August 30<sup>th</sup> 2010; the Parish Council will notify successful applicants following the Parish Council meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

The Parish Council Annual Open Meeting is on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Come along to find out what is going on and have an opportunity to ask questions.

As the General Election is being held on 6<sup>th</sup> May, our Parish Council Elections will now be held on 27<sup>th</sup> May. If you would like to stand for the Parish Council election then you need to get your nominations in ASAP, the likely closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> April. You can get nomination forms from Patsy Coles.

Water Main Renewal; Cambridge Water Company have notified that they are planning to renew the old water main on the Hill. Work is due to begin in spring/early summer. Minimum disturbance for water supply customers and inconvenience for road users is their aim throughout the renewal works, however, it is inevitable that some disruption will result. Any interruptions to supply will be kept to the minimum and householders will receive advance notice in writing of the date, time and duration of any planned interruption. They have apologised for the short notice but have resources available to complete the work. Plans are available from Patsy Coles if anyone would like to see them, they will also be available at the Open Meeting.

## **CANCER RESEARCH UK**

The Big Breakfast this year was held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March and once again the faithful bacon and butty eaters arrived to support this fund raising event. The Bring & Buy table was full of bargains, there were some lovely raffle prizes and the atmosphere was bubbling. Thanks to everyone who supported this event yet again to raise £238.

Instead of a Pink Party this year the aim is to hold a Blue Party in aid of Prostrate Cancer. This will be at the Three Horseshoes, just watch out for the posters. Also, to celebrate 25years since the formation of the local CRUK committee, a special Silver Ball is being held at the Marriott Hotel, Huntingdon on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010. Further information from Sally Wilson (tel 823217) or Jill Wadsworth (tel 822541).

## **DIGITAL CAMERA COURSE**

Are you happy with your digital camera photographs or would you like a chance to improve them under a professional tutor? Keith Waterston, who lives in the village, a professional photographer and Senior Lecturer at Huntingdon Regional College, has kindly offered to run a course in the Village Hall but also with practical instruction and projects around the village. This will be in three sessions 11<sup>th</sup> May, 26<sup>th</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

Cost will be £15 which will go to village hall funds as Keith has most generously offered his time free. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity please ring John Wadsworth on 822541. Numbers will be limited and therefore it will have to be first come first served.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR THE VILLAGE HALL**

The Village Hall Committee is planning the usual round of events over the next few months:-

### **Plant Sale: Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May 12pm to 3pm**

Large range of bedding plants and perennials available at very competitive prices.

### **Music Night: Saturday 17th July 6pm to 10.30 pm**

Come along with a picnic and enjoy some lively music and dancing.

### **Fun Sports Day: Sunday 18th July 2pm to 6pm**

Whole range of stalls, competitions and races – a real family fun day for all.

### **Wistow Cricket Tournament: September DTBA**

The Coles Ashes will be up for grabs again.

The above events will be held in Porch House Field, Manor Street with the kind permission of Patsy and Richard Coles.

Please make a note of these dates and come along and enjoy the fun and help to support these traditional village activities.

## **HISTORY OF WISTOW**

A new and exciting part of the Wistow village website has been established entitled Wistowpedia. Wistowpedia, which takes its name from Wikipedia, will eventually tell you everything you ever wanted to know about the history of Wistow, and maybe something you didn't.

This new section of the village website can be found at [wistowvillage.info/wistowpedia](http://wistowvillage.info/wistowpedia) and was established earlier this year by the Wistow History Society, a group of people with a common interest in finding out about the history of our village. The History Society meets in the pub on a regular basis and always welcomes new members. Originally

the aim of the Society was to produce a printed history, until an insightful person floated the idea of a website and from that eureka moment Wistowpedia was born.

The theory behind Wistowpedia is to produce a history of the village written by people who live in the village about Wistow and its people. The site is as historically accurate as possible, containing both social and political history of the village through the years. It is hoped by all in the History Society that you will find something that is of interest. Please take a look and any feedback and comments would be welcome. To find out more, to find out how to get involved, or to provide any historical information that you may have, please contact Althea Walker on the History Society email [wistowhistory@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wistowhistory@hotmail.co.uk), or phone John Dransfield on 822936.

## **Forthcoming Events - Dates for your Diaries for 2010**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April - Wistow in Bloom Quiz at the Village Hall, 7.00 for 7.30 pm

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Parish Council Open Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May - Plant Sale, 12pm to 3pm Porch House, Manor Street

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Official opening of the new playground equipment, 12.00 to 3.00 pm

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June - Open Garden at Wistow House in aid of Wistow in Bloom

Saturday 17th July - Music Night, 6pm to 10.30 pm, Porch House, Manor Street

Sunday 18th July - Fun Sports Day, 2pm to 6pm, Porch House, Manor Street

Friday, 22nd October - Silver Ball in aid of Cancer Research, Marriott Hotel, Huntingdon