

THE WISTOW WARBLER

Wistow village web-site: www.wistovillage.info

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2010

Editorial

Welcome to what is my penultimate issue of the Warbler. There is some good news, as someone has stepped forward with a view to carrying on producing the newsletter from next year; more details in the Autumn edition.

John Dransfield

NEW MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

This year was an election year for the Parish Council and nominations were invited from residents. There were six nominations for the seven positions on the council, so these automatically became councilors with the seventh being co-opted. Previous councilors Deborah Rice and Richard Cook did not stand this time, and many thanks go to them for their past efforts on behalf of the village over the last few years.

The new councilors are Debbie Booth, of Bridge Street, and our district councilor Peter Bucknell who joins the council once again. Good luck to Debbie, and thanks to Peter for his continuing commitment.

CRICKET TOURNAMENT 2010

The Wistow Cricket Tournament will be held this year on Saturday 4th September, and it is hoped to have the usual four teams fighting for the Coles Ashes. Play will start at 12.00 noon on Porch House Field. Anybody wishing to play please contact either John Wadsworth on 822541 or Carol MacInnes on 823131. If there is enough support this year then a competition will be run for the juniors.

WISTOW IN BLOOM UPDATE

The fund-raising quiz held at the village hall on 17th April was again very successful and made a profit of over £193. Thanks to all those who attended on the night, and also to all of those people who couldn't make it but kindly gave a donation; it's much appreciated. In order to be

able to fund winter planting it has been decided to hold another quiz on Saturday 18th September, and it is likely that quizzes will be held twice a year from now on.

Another brilliant event was the Open Garden at Wistow House on Sunday 13th June; many thanks to Lesley and Roger Telling for not only opening their garden but also for all the work that they put in to have their garden looking so wonderful. There was a lovely relaxed atmosphere with many people staying for ages to stroll around the beautiful grounds, take advantage of the tea and cakes on offer, and, particularly for the children, to look at the baby alpacas and touch the alpaca wool.

The open garden raised over £335 which exceeded all expectations and it has been decided that this event will be held every other year (ie even years). This is so as to avoid clashing with the Church Heritage Weekends which are held in odd years and during these years other events will be considered, for example cheese and wine evenings; more information next year.

Amongst the activities that are being planned for the coming months are:-

- Planters around the two "Wistow" signs at the top of Mill Road, complementing the planter already installed at the sign near the bridge
- Re-planting all of the existing planters around the village
- Two manger baskets to be installed on the bus shelter
- Bulb planting on and around the Green

These, and any other future activities, will happen when seasonally appropriate and as funds allow.

A flower arranging course was run by Lesley and Michelle on June 29th and was another great success with 14 people attending. It is hoped that another couple of course will be held during the run up to Christmas with provisional dates of December 10th and December 17th. Please note that prior booking will be necessary for these courses as numbers will be limited to 12 per session and unfortunately it will not be

possible to accommodate those who do not pre book.

Once again, a big thank you to Lesley Telling for her energy and initiative in continuing with Wistow in Bloom, and to both Lesley and Roger for their generosity in sharing their garden. Don't forget that volunteers are always very welcome to help with various future activities, both fund-raising and hands-on, which are all for the benefit of everyone in our village. For more information phone Lesley on 823553 or speak to any of the other members of the organizing group (Tricia Elton, Jill Wadsworth, Chris Bentley, Sue Green, Jenny Head and John Dransfield).

UPDATE FROM OUR LOCAL POLICING TEAM

Foot Patrol Surgeries are now being held in our local towns and villages by our PCSOs. The next ones planned for Wistow are: July 28th, 7-8 pm; September 8th, 7-8 pm; and January 5th 2011, 2-3 pm. During these surgeries our PCSOs will walk round the village and will stop to chat to anyone they meet about any aspects of local policing that people want to raise. Look out for them on these dates if there is anything you want to ask or you have any points to make.

Information is now available on the Cambs police website about the Rural Community Action Team (RCAT). This is a county-wide resource and deals specifically with crime and disorder in the rural areas of Cambridgeshire. The team is made up of both PCs and PCSOs who are committed to dealing with issues that affect rural communities. These can include anything from the theft of £100,000 plant machinery, hare coursing, fly-tipping, right through to dealing with illegal raves. They work alongside your local neighbourhood policing team to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in rural areas. To find out more about the Rural Community Action team and what they've been doing recently you should visit <https://www.cambs.police.uk/about/rcat/>

Earlier in the year you may have noticed a number of police vehicles on several of the county's major routes. This was due to a national ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) day of action. More than 100 officers took part in the Cambridgeshire operation supported by colleagues from Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Suffolk, Essex and Norfolk. More than 34,000 vehicles went through the ANPR cameras, with 3% of those scanned being 'hits' for criminality or motoring offences.

NPR works by scanning number plates, this is then cross checked within 1.5 seconds with data on the Police National Computer. It checks to see if the vehicle is taxed, insured or wanted in connection with a crime. When a marker comes up on a vehicle, officers will stop the vehicle to investigate if an offence has been committed.

Ten arrests were made for reasons including: going equipped, possession of an offensive weapon, drug offences, and theft of a motor vehicle. Also, 34 vehicles were seized for offences including no tax or no insurance. This is all part of ongoing work to ensure the lives of people using the county's roads to commit crime and road offences are constantly disrupted. The police are on the county's roads on a daily basis and would warn anyone driving illegally to think twice.

THANKS FROM THE HISTORY SOCIETY

The History Society would like to thank all those people who have contributed towards the developing picture of our village's past. In particular, thanks go to Ray and Shirley Burton for old photographs of the village; to Patsy and Richard Coles for allowing access to the deeds of Porch House; and to Joe Howes, Jack Lindsell, Peggy Glover and Flo Moulds for sharing their memories with Dave Titmarsh. Also to Richard Farrar for providing access to the evolving history on the Wistow village website.

WISTOW FUN WEEKEND

At this years Music Night on Saturday 15th July we were entertained by a new band, Boozedaddy. The five members of the band, led by a lively singer, created an excellent atmosphere which soon got the audience up on their feet. The overall reaction was that they were one of the best bands that have played for us. As in previous years the BJs started off the evening and kept the mood going though the intervals. Boozedaddy finished off the evening with a guitar number, well known to some of the older rockers. This was a classic which started slowly but built up to a mind-blowing finale and ended the evening on a real high.

Sunday Fun Day dawned bright and windy but once all the gazebos were in place and tied down the field was soon ready for what turned out to be a successful and well-supported afternoon. This year we included a bouncy castle, which with the water slide was popular with the youngsters. The Competition Tent saw

slightly less entries than on previous years although the miniature garden competition, organized by Wistow in Bloom, produced a lot of imaginative and well constructed entries. As is now traditional, several scarecrows appeared around the village in the run up to the weekend and, although the numbers were down on last year, a lot of effort had been taken to produce some amusing figures.

The races were hotly contested and it seemed that most of the children on the field were willing to take part. Certificates were awarded to the race winners and "took part" certificates offered to all the pre-school children. The winners are unfortunately too numerous to mention here but congratulations to all and indeed to all who took part with such enthusiasm.

The Village Hall committee must thank all the judges, helpers and supporters without whom it would not be possible to stage the Fun Weekend. We rely entirely on Patsy and Richard Coles for the use of their field and facilities and on their hard work to prepare the field for the event. For this we are continually grateful.

Finally listed below are the winners of the field events and competitions:-

Field Events (Winners received certificates) -
Catching Raw Eggs

Under 14 boys: Jordan Hunwin & Marco Fiore, 26.25m

Under 14 girls: Kayleigh Hunwin & Molly White, 12.60m

Adults: Oliver & Tom Reed, 69.50m

Skimmers

Joint Under 14s: Louis Harold & Sophie Mcgarthy, 15 points

Adult: Andrew Harding, 16 points

Competition Tent (Winners awarded a rosette; prizes to winners of photographic competition kindly donated by Keith Waterton) -

Best Photo taken in Wistow: John Shrewsbury

Best montage of W.I.S.T.O.W: Richard Farrar

Best Jar of Pickle : J Roper

Best cake – Joint Winners: Ann Juggins & Judy Shrewsbury

Best Pot of jam: Margaret MacLeod

Mr/Mrs Veg. Head – Joint Winners: Tegan Clarke & Charlotte Cox

Best Miniature Garden: Rose Jenkins (Prize awarded by Wistow in Bloom)

Scarecrow Competition

1st - ' Peg Leg' (The Walsh family, 5 Kingston way)

2nd - ' Bob the Builder' (The MacInnes family, Ross House, Church St)

Joint 3rd – 'Builder's Tea Time' (Saffron Wingad, 16 Kingston Way) and ' Old Boy' (Duke family, Fleur De Lys, Church St)

EVERY MUG COUNTS IN WISTOW

The residents of Wistow are invited to get together with friends, family and colleagues on Friday 24 September for Macmillan Cancer Support's World's Biggest Coffee Morning!

Last year hundreds of coffee mornings across Bedfordshire raised almost £81,000 to improve the lives of people affected by cancer. Taking part couldn't be easier, and you don't have to hold a big event and raise hundreds of pounds. Invite your neighbours in for a coffee, encourage colleagues to bake cakes in the office or if you belong to a club or group simply take donations in return for refreshments at your meeting.

You don't even have to organise a traditional coffee morning if it doesn't suit you; how about a light lunch, cheese and wine evening or even a garden party. If you can't organise your own event be sure to find out where public Macmillan coffee mornings are taking place in your local area. Check out community notice boards, local press and Macmillan's online events finder at macmillan.org.uk/coffee for details.

To raise some money, and a smile, for people affected by cancer register now by calling 0845 602 1246 or visit macmillan.org.uk/coffee

Forthcoming Events - Dates for your Diaries for 2010

Saturday 4th September – Wistow Cricket Tournament, Porch House Field

Saturday, 18th September – Quiz Night in aid of Wistow in Bloom, Village Hall

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

Friday December 10th and Friday 17th December – Flower arranging courses (pre-book with Lesley Telling on 823553)