

THE WISTOW WARBLER

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2005

Editorial

I'm thinking of having a section for items for sale and items wanted in future editions. Please let me know if you want me to put anything in; if there's no interest then obviously this won't happen.

John Dransfield

A NEW CIRCULAR FOOTPATH WALK

From this Spring a new circular walk is being made available for public access by the kind permission of John Bance. The walk branches off from the existing public footpath to Bury and will be way-marked by John and cut around 3 or 4 times per year during the growing season. The new path will provide a circular walk of around 2 miles.

If you are planning to use the path you can find a map pinned to the Public Notices notice board on the bus shelter.

Part of the rationale for the path is to provide buffer areas for the benefit of wildlife and so it would be much appreciated if dogs could be kept on leads. This new path will be a "permissive path" and therefore does not create a new permanent public right of way.

WISTOW FUN WEEKEND

The annual fun weekend will be held this year on Saturday and Sunday, 16th and 17th July, and as usual will take place in Porch House Field with the kind permission of Patsy and Richard Coles.

On the Saturday the music evening sees a return to traditional jazz with music by the Jazz Beans. Tickets are £7 on the night, £6 if booked in advance, with reduced rates for children; there is a limit of 300 tickets so book early!

Sports day on the Sunday will follow the usual format but with some new attractions including a "Flower Pot Man" competition. Admission is by programme at £3 per family.

Tickets and programmes can be obtained from Carol MacInnes (823131) or Jean Duke (822828) and will also be sold around the village from early June.

The Village Hall Committee is always very grateful to the many people who volunteer to help every year at this event. However, more help is always very welcome, so if you wish to run any attractions or provide some muscle power to set up and clear away then please contact a member of the committee.

AWARENESS OF WHAT THE PARISH COUNCIL IS DOING

In their responses to the Parish Plan questionnaire a number of people were of the opinion that the Parish Council did not do enough to publicise its activities and decisions.

For those who are not aware, there are two ways in which anyone who is interested can easily find out what the council is up to.

Firstly, following every Parish Council meeting, the minutes are posted on the notice board on the bus shelter for everyone to read.

Secondly, anyone is free to attend any meeting of the Parish Council; although members of the public cannot participate in a meeting they can hear all that is discussed.

While we are on the subject of the Parish Council, it is often a cause of frustration that places are hardly ever contested in a ballot. It would considerably enhance democracy in the village if more people were prepared to put themselves forward as candidates and were properly elected in a contest; the parish councillors would then genuinely be "yours".

So come on and put your names forward (give Dave Titmarsh a call) and let's have some real elections in the future.

CANCER RESEARCH'S "BIG BREAKFAST"

Cancer Research held a "Big Breakfast" event in the village hall on Friday March 4th and, despite the blizzard conditions on the day, was "standing room only". The event raised an impressive £300 to contribute towards the £11,500 raised by the local committee so far this year.

And don't forget to go along to the village hall on May 14th for the "Second Gear Sale" to get all your nearly new clothing bargains.

NEW LANDLORDS AT THE THREE HORSESHOES

As you will all know, David and Catherine have sold the Three Horseshoes. In their 18 months here they have developed the pub into a popular and thriving business and I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the best for the future. They will be a hard act to follow.

Their only regret, apart from having to leave, is that there are many people in the village who still don't use the pub; so come on, support your own local! For those who didn't make it, their final going away party at the pub on Saturday 9th April went with a bang and not a little emotion.

The new owners, since April 13th, are Gerry and Julia Berry and we wish them a long, happy and successful stay in our village. They come from North London and, like David and Catherine, are making their first venture into the licensed trade. Gerry previously worked on the London Underground as a station manager, while Julia is a nurse.

They are keen to become an integral part of our community, and will shortly be sending round a questionnaire to help them better understand the types of activities and events that people in the village would like to see being offered by the pub.

REMINDER ABOUT UPWOOD YOUTH CLUB

Last year we gave some information about Upwood Youth Club, which is open to all youngsters in school years 7 to 11 who attended Upwood Primary School.

The club is flourishing having grown to around 100 members and meets every Friday evening, usually in Upwood village hall.

Many youngsters in Wistow are eligible to join so, if you haven't yet been along, why not give it a try. To find out more you could visit the new website www.youthclub.upwood.org or alternatively contact Kate or Bob on 815475, e-mail youthclub@upwood.org

WISTOW PARISH PLAN UPDATE

Following on from the analysis of the responses to the questionnaire, the next step in this process will be an Open Day to be held in the village hall on Saturday 11th June between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm. Everyone from the village is urged to go along.

At this event there will be displays and visual presentations to illustrate the main themes from the questionnaire responses, and there will be the opportunity to discuss these, and other views you may have, with members of the Steering Group. Following on from this, a final report and action plan will be produced, the deadline for this being the end of September.

More details of the Open Day will be circulated to everyone nearer to the time.

THE RESTORATION OF THE CHURCH WALL

By the time you read this, work should already be under way on the section of the church wall down Parsonage Street, involving a mixture of renovation and renewal. This work is expected to be complete by the time of the Heritage Weekend in June.

The remaining length along Church Street will follow, involving the renovation of the stone sections and the complete rebuilding of the brick sections.

A number of groups from the village have undertaken projects connected with the wall's restoration including the Toddlers Group, the Seekers and primary school children, the W.I., and the Friendship Group. Some of the village teenagers have also produced a film and video record of the wall's reconstruction.

On Saturday 9th April around 20 children from the village, aged between 3 and 10, and with around 25 enthusiastic parents joining in as well, carried out a fun investigation of the wall. This involved measuring and drawing a section of the wall, searching for small creatures, and identifying them with the help of representatives of the countryside classroom. They also divided into two teams to colour in, and then hide, paper moths and beetles; they then had to find them, demonstrating the effectiveness of small creature camouflage.

This habitat will be destroyed when the wall is rebuilt, and it will be interesting in the future to see if the small beasts return to their former home.

THE CHURCH HERITAGE WEEKEND

This year sees the biennial Heritage Weekend at the church, to be held on the 18th and 19th of June.

As usual this is the weekend when volunteers open their gardens to the public; if you have not previously opened your garden but would wish to do so this time then please contact Helen Buddle on 823121.

At the church there will be the usual Flower Festival, teas and refreshments, and an assortment of stalls.

This year there will also be a special display of the work from the projects mentioned above in connection with the church wall restoration. These should be extremely interesting so make sure you go along.

Forthcoming Events - Dates for your Diaries for 2005

Saturday 7th May 10.00 – 4.00 – “Second Gear” clothes sale, village hall, in aid of Cancer Research

Saturday/Sunday 18th/19th June – Church Heritage Weekend and Open Gardens

Saturday 16th July – Musical Evening

Sunday 17th July – Sports Day