

THE WISTOW WARBLER

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2006

Editorial

Phew, what a scorcher! Hopefully it's now cooling down a bit.

I'll give my usual reminder to everyone that I constantly need articles for future editions, and you can also advertise things for sale if you want – free of charge, of course.

John Dransfield

Fun Weekend 2006

In spite of the very hot weather the Fun Weekend earlier this month was another success with thanks as usual to Patsy and Richard Coles for the use of Porch House Field. The Jazz Beens provided the music at the Saturday Music Evening and although there were a few less people there this year it still went with a swing.

Sports day on the Sunday was cloudless with temperatures around 30 degrees C, but this didn't dampen the enthusiasm of kids or adults and there was some vigorous competition in all the events. The Richard Jiggins Tug o' War shield was won by the Last Chance Charlies, and the under 14s event by the Wistow Warriors.

Other winners included Gregor MacInnes in the caber tossing, Chris Newton in the under 14s caber, Gregor and Oliver in the egg throwing and James and Dillon in the under 14s egg throwing. The winners of the £20 prize for the Flower Pot Man competition were Veronica Barker and family for their "Little Miss Muffet"; this was a very close competition with 21 high quality entries.

This was another truly great fun weekend which raised £1,500 for Village Hall funds, and the organising committee would like to thank the many people who helped and all those who came along to give their support.

Wistow Cricket Tournament

This will be held once again on Sunday 3rd September on Porch House Field; more details will be distributed shortly by the Village Hall Committee.

The aim is to have four teams competing for the Coles Ashes and also, if there is enough support, it may be possible to have a junior event for say the under 12s. If you want to enter a team or to play then watch out for the notice that will be dropping through your letter box in the next few days or contact John Wadsworth on 822541.

THREE HORSESHOES RAISES MONEY FOR CHARITY

Julia and Gerry would like to thank all those people who have helped the pub to raise £852 so far this year for Cancer Research. This has come from the regular quizzes, raffles, bonus ball, etc.

For the rest of the year, proceeds will go towards the "old folks" Christmas dinner, and your continuing support will be most appreciated.

Incidentally, did you know that the pub is now completely no smoking throughout, except in the garden? So come along and breath some clean country air while you're having your pint.

ALL CHANGE ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

Over the past few weeks there have been considerable changes on the Parish Council.

Prior to the Open Meeting and AGM in May four councillors (John Parkinson, Andy Carlyle, John Wadsworth and Trevor Struggles) resigned for a variety of personal reasons and the Council would very much like to thank them for their past services.

Two new councillors were welcomed at the AGM; Geoff Smith, of Kingston Way, and Peter Bucknell who is our Conservative Party district councillor. Although Peter lives in Warboys he was eligible under the “three mile rule” and joined to help overcome a potential short-term problem with a shortage of councillors resulting in the council not having a quorum. For the same reason, John Dransfield agreed to delay his resignation until the council was up to strength.

At the AGM Henry Franklin was elected as Chairman to replace John Dransfield and Ted Benson as Vice-Chairman in Henry’s place; good luck to them both.

Subsequently, three people have come forward to join the council. At the Parish Council meeting in June, Richard Cook and Richard Farrar, both of Oaklands Avenue, were co-opted onto the council, while Clive Williams of Manor Street was co-opted at the July meeting. Welcome to all three, and thanks for being prepared to do your bit for the village.

As planned, John Dransfield and Peter Bucknell resigned following the June meeting. The council now has six councillors, which means that there still remains one vacancy, so please come forward if you would like to play your part.

You’ll find the names of all the Parish Councillors, with their telephone numbers, on the back page as usual.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

As reported in the last issue, one of the actions in the Parish Plan was to set up a Good Neighbour scheme. Well, this scheme is now up and running.

So if you need help with such things as shopping, dog walking, being driven to the doctors or dentists, etc, then contact Pam or Henry Franklin on 824725 and let them know what your requirements are. Also, if you would like to help with the scheme, they would love to hear from you.

WISTOW CREATES A GOOD IMPRESSION IN THE “ANGLIA IN BLOOM” COMPETITION

As most of you know, Wistow entered the “Anglia in Bloom” competition this year for the first time. The judges visited our village on 11th July and were conducted round by Henry Franklin.

The judges were very impressed by what they saw, and the Parish Council would like to congratulate everyone for their efforts in making the village look so attractive. They also made the point that they are looking for villages that are “blooming” in a general sense, not just with flowers, and they felt that Wistow qualified in this respect.

The awards ceremony will take place on 14th September; Henry will be attending and if any other people would also like to attend then please let Henry know.

The intention is to enter this competition every year from now on and this means that there will be a need for someone to take on the role of "co-ordinator". If you would like to take on this role for next year then please contact Henry on 824725. This should be a very satisfying job and whoever does it will get lots of practical support from the rest of the village.

FOR SALE

Dark oak style reproduction corner cabinet, leaded glazed door, excellent condition, £50 ono. Contact John or Denise Dransfield on 822936.

Don't Be a Victim of a Distraction Burglary

Distraction burglaries are on the increase, according to the Cambridgeshire police. These burglaries tend to target the elderly and other vulnerable people, particularly those living in sheltered housing.

The crimes are committed by burglars who operate in pairs; one will ring the front door bell and keep the householder talking on the doorstep under some pretext whilst the other gains entry round the back and steals anything of value.

The police stress that people should not be alarmed. However, they do recommend that some simple and sensible precautions should be taken to minimise the risks of being a victim. For example, if you answer the front door, make sure that the back door is locked; if someone claims to be there in an official capacity, for example they say they are from Cambridge Water, then ask for proof of identification.

Further information and advice can be obtained by ringing Shirley Simpson on 01480 428109.

Haddenham Steam Rally

If you are looking for an interesting day out in September don't forget the Haddenham Steam Rally to be held on Friday and Saturday, September 9th and 10th. The site is just north of Haddenham on the A1421 to Ely.

This is the 33rd year of the rally, with money raised going to local causes, and the Sunday also sees the heavy horse show. Both days will see numerous model and full size steam engines, bygones, trade stalls, and working demonstrations.

Volunteers Wanted for Human Nutrition Research

The Medical Research Council's unit for Human Nutrition Research (HNR) in Cherry Hinton is looking for volunteers to partake in observational and intervention studies. Factors such as the way in which body weight and body fat can influence osteoporosis and other health risks are the subjects of a current study being carried out by Ruth Burnett.

Volunteers will receive feedback about their own clinical condition and will be reimbursed for travelling expenses and time taken in participating in the study.

Ruth would very much like to hear from women who have reached the menopause and are aged between 55 and 70. For more information contact Ruth Burnett or Emily Smith on 01223 426356, or e-mail ruth.burnett@mcr-hnr.cam.ac.uk.

Forthcoming Events - Dates for your Diaries for 2006

Sunday 3rd September – Cricket Tournament, Porch House Field