

THE WISTOW WARBLER

Wistow village web-site: www.wistovvillage.info

THE WISTOW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2006

Editorial

Very unusually I'd like to start this edition with a gripe. I am totally fed up with tractors driving over the grass in front of my house. Everytime this happens I have to spend time straightening it out, and then it takes weeks before the grass grows again. The last straw was a few weeks ago when I put it right in the morning, went out, and then came home to another deep set of tyre tracks.

I'd be most grateful if all of the farmers would instruct their drivers to keep their tractors on the road and keep them off the grass – everybody's grass, not just mine, this is a general Mill Road problem.

John Dransfield

LATEST ON THE PARISH PLAN

Now that the Parish Council is back to full strength, responsibilities for the Parish Plan actions are in the process of being re-allocated. However, there has been some progress on a number of the actions:-

Traffic Calming: An application for funding has been submitted to the County Council, presenting the case for why this is necessary in Wistow. At some point in the future, proposals for a scheme will be put to the village for consultation.

Additional Pillar Box: The Parish Council has written to the Royal Mail to request an additional pillar box to be sited towards the top of Oaklands Avenue. A response is awaited.

Village Signs: The working group has finalised the design of the village signs, which will depict an agricultural scene and will include the church. The idea is to have two signs, one at each of the entries to the village. Quotes have been

obtained for the production of the signs and an application has been submitted for lottery funding.

Communications: Richard Farrar is in the process of setting up a Wistow Village web site. See the article below for more details.

WISTOW VILLAGE WEB-SITE NOW LIVE

Wistow's very own new web-site is now live, and can be found at www.wistovvillage.info. The site has been created, and will be maintained, by Richard Farrar, with initial funding being provided by the Parish Council.

Among the many features on the site are:-

- free adverts (items wanted or for sale)
- forthcoming events
- minutes of Parish Council meetings
- all back issues of the Wistow Warbler
- full text of the Parish Plan
- and much more

Sponsors are being sought to help to fund the web site. This will cost £50 per annum, and you will get a banner headline on the site advertising your business. Any surplus will go to parish funds.

This web site is intended to be a resource available to, and used by, the whole village. So, keep visiting it and using it. If you have any views or suggestions, or you would like to be a sponsor, then please contact Richard on 822444 or by e-mail at info@wistovvillage.info.

A Further Request to Dog Owners

Some residents of Oaklands Avenue have expressed their disgust at the way in which the pavements and verges are regularly, and liberally, covered in dog poo. This problem is not confined to Oaklands, other areas within the village also suffer from this effect.

All dog walkers are asked to take plastic bags with them and to clear up any mess their dogs might make on pavements, verges, greens, etc within the village. It's no trouble, the bags are free, and there is a bin specifically for disposing of them at the junction of Harris Lane and Oaklands Avenue.

Many dog walkers already take care. So, if the rest did, then in future we could have Wistow as a dog poo free zone. Wouldn't that be a lot more pleasant for everyone.

Another Invitation for People to Quote for Cutting the Grass Around the Village

Every year the Parish Council spends a considerable amount of money paying for grass cutting in certain areas of the village.

Early next year the Parish Council will decide whom to employ for the 2007 season and tenders will be invited for carrying out this work. If there is anyone who lives locally who would wish to undertake the work then the Parish Council would very much like to hear from you; sooner rather than later.

If you are interested then contact David Titmarsh, Clerk to the Council, on 822517 and he will let you have a specification of the work (locations, frequency of cut, etc) and will advise on how you should submit your quote.

WISTOW 2006 CRICKET TOURNAMENT

Yet again the weather was kind, and on 3rd September the rain cleared and bright blue skies saw another great day of fun cricket, with an entertaining commentary being maintained by Tom

MacInnes. It started in the morning with the junior matches, organised by dads (Rob White, Dickie Hunwin, and Steve Jenkins). There was keen competition between the teams, which saw The Big Ears beating The Winning Guys to take home the Wistow Junior Trophy.



The junior event players with the trophy

It would have been great to see more budding Freddie Flintoffs taking part in the junior event. So, come on, start thinking about getting your teams organised for next year's tournament.

The afternoon saw four teams, captained by Jason Short, Andrew Harding, Paul Barker and Graeme MacInnes, keenly fighting for the title. With the last ball of a thrilling final, Jason Short's eleven walked off with the Coles Wistow Ashes, while Andrew Harding was presented with the "Man of the Match" award after two fine sessions with the bat. Overall, it was probably true to say that the batting was of a higher standard than the bowling!

Porch House Field was once again an ideal setting for this quintessentially English occasion, and big thanks go to Patsie and Richard Coles for again allowing the use of this picturesque venue. The Village Hall Committee would also like to thank all of the many people who helped out in any way and also all the players and supporters who made it such a special day.

THE PARISH COUNCIL NOW BACK TO FULL STRENGTH

The final vacancy on the Parish Council has now been filled following the co-opting of Chris Leigh, of Manor Street, at the council meeting on 30th August. Good luck to Chris, and many thanks for stepping forward to serve the village in this capacity.

Do You Need Private Maths Tuition?

Don McFarlane BSc, of Church Street, is offering home tuition in mathematics in Wistow in the evenings. Rates are £25 per hour up to GCSE level and £30 per hour for "A" level and Further Maths.

If you are interested, or would like some more information, then phone Don in the evening on 823707.

Hang-out Centre for Young People in Wistow..?

In response to feedback in the Parish Plan, the parish Council is looking into an initiative to provide an organised venue for under 18s. This could include, for example, facilities in the village hall for an internet café and other activities of your choice. However, this would depend on the level of desire and support within the village, and would need to comply with any regulatory requirements.

The next step is to get feedback from young people and parents about the type of facilities that would make for a successful youth venture, and also volunteers, both adults and youngsters, to form a core team to develop and manage the centre. A feedback form will be published on the Wistow web site for you to use; if you don't have access to the internet, phone Geoff Smith on 824911.

FINAL NOTES ON THE "ANGLIA IN BLOOM" COMPETITION

The awards ceremony was held on 14th September in Thurrock and was attended by Pam and Henry Franklin on behalf of Wistow. Over 300 people were present representing cities, towns and villages from all over East Anglia.

The winner of the "village" section was Filby, in Norfolk, with Wistow receiving a

certificate of achievement. In particular, Wistow was commended for: lack of litter, graffiti, vandalism and dog fouling (but see the separate article on this!); hanging baskets; the Flower Pot men competition; the attractive appearance of the churchyard, cemetery and pub; the amount of sustainable planting around the village; general tidiness; and the amount of information available on the notice boards.

So, pats on the back all round. Pam and Henry have the full report if anyone wants to see it.

It was mentioned in the last Warbler that Wistow will be entering future competitions. Pam Franklin is prepared to lead a small co-ordinating group to plan for next year, so if you want to get involved please phone her on 824725.

Does Anyone Have the Tug-o'-War Shield?

The Village Hall Committee has lost track of the Fun Day tug-o-war shield. If anyone has it at home it would be very much appreciated if they could please contact Carol MacInnes on 823131.

Forthcoming Events - Dates for your Diaries

November 10th 2006 – Cancer Research Celebration Dinner Dance, Marriott Hotel (for tickets (£30) ring 812415)

Plant Sale (mid May 2007) and Car Boot Sale (mid June 2007) –in aid of village hall funds, final dates to be announced later

Wistow Fun Weekend – Saturday and Sunday, 14th and 15th July 2007

Cricket Tournament – Sunday 26th August 2007