



NEWSLETTER

Your Community Connection

Autumn 2014 Issue 27

August Event Reflected and Remembered WW1



Soldiers from the 30th Signal Regiment, Bramcote Barracks leading the Parade through Wolvey on the way to St. John the Baptist Church.

Wolvey's WWI remembrance event took place over the three days 2nd, 3rd and 4th August marking the centenary of the outbreak of World War I on 4th August 1914. Activities centered around the Village Hall which was built as a memorial to those who fell in the Great War and culminated with a parade through the village on the final day.

Funded by the Parish Council, the event provided a fitting tribute to those who gave their lives during the 'war to end all wars'.

The Wolvey Local History Group's display included details of the individual soldiers from the village who fought and "Guarderobe" an historical re-enactment group vividly brought to life what it was like to be a soldier in 1914 and Bramcote's Signals Regiment displayed modern communications equipment.

The children of Wolvey School displayed brilliant work on the theme of WWI. Thanks to Mrs Tunnicliffe for organising this activity and to Sheila Podesta and Sally Slee for undertaking the very difficult job of awarding prizes for the best work. David Alford displayed information about the British Legion and the Youth Club

provided an activity which involved visitors making their own poppies - there were a few 'new' varieties created!

Monday was a lovely day for the parade from the School to the church. This was led by soldiers and a piper from the 30th Signal Regiment, followed by the Wolvey Scouts with their standards, other uniformed groups and the general public. More than 100 people took part in the parade.

The Reverends Terry Colling and Paul Whitehead led a service of remembrance after which the parade left for the Village Hall where a new sign, 'Lest we forget', was unveiled by Laura Ogden and blessed by the Vicar.

Refreshments were served throughout the event by members of the Wolvey Environment Group and Wolvey WI. Donations raised over the weekend amounted to a grand total of a £558.61 which was sent to the British Legion.

This was an excellent example of how the Parish Council can help facilitate community events. A big thank you to everyone.

Clerk to the Council

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Wolvey Parish Councillors

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Dee Kenrick	01455 221782
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Clare Nixon	01455 220639
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Council Meetings

To facilitate our Youth Club, Council meetings will be held in different venues:

Wolvey Bowling Club		
Monday	20th October	2014
Monday	17th November	2014
Millennium Building		
Budget Meeting		
Thursday	27th November	2014
Wolvey Bowling Club		
Monday	15th December	2014

For more information please visit

www.wolvey.org

Mobile Police Visits

From 1.15pm till 2.45pm
parked in The Square

Sunday	19th October	2014
Wednesday	5th November	2014
Wednesday	26th November	2014



More Awards for Wolvey? Oh Yes, Not Half

On September 18th, Wolvey residents were invited to Blooms Garden Centre in Dunchurch for the Annual Rugby in Bloom Awards Ceremony. The atmosphere was friendly and cheerful and after a warm welcome from Chris Worman, Rugby's Parks and Grounds Officer and an address from the Heart of England judges, Nicola Clark and Joe Hadyn, the presentation began.

With Jennifer Burton receiving a First for her front garden and The Blue Pig a First, Wolvey Surgery a First, Wolvey Stores a Third for their floral displays, it was looking like Wolvey was making a takeover bid for the whole competition. This was reinforced further by the Gold Awards for the village square, and the Wetland Reserve. As each award came Wolvey's way, there was

much hilarity and congratulation from other entrants. It really was a rewarding and fun day for everyone involved.

So next year, Wolvey Environmental Group would like to invite you all to take part in this competition, by entering your front garden, window box, hanging basket or pots. It doesn't have to be on a grand scale, just colourful and welcoming and visible from the roadside.

Come on, give it a go, look out for more details in the Spring Newsletter, or ring C o u n c i l l o r Ruth Buswell on 221324 for more details.



Switched on for Energy Seminar?

The Council is hoping to run a free Energy Seminar sometime in November. This follows residents' responses to the Wolvey Action Plan and will be open to all.

We have a range of agencies that are willing to come along and pass on information and advice on a variety of energy saving measures. These include making actual savings on your energy bills during the seminar – providing a wi-fi connection is available at the venue.

To enable us to book the seminar, we need to show the agencies that there will be enough interest from residents to make it a viable event.



If you are interested, please contact Councillor Clare Nixon on 220639 by 26th October 2014 or see the insert on other ways you can respond.

Just call me! Dial a Ride Trial for Wolvey

The Parish Council are endeavouring to set up a DAR – Dial a Ride – service for the over 60s and villagers who are 18 or over and have a disability to access the main Surgery in Tilton Road Burbage. The Surgery has open access sessions to a GP on a daily basis from 8.00am to 10.30am where no appointment is necessary.

The Council is hoping to establish a service to access these sessions three times a week. At present DAR schemes are licensed for the elderly and those with disabilities, but the constitution could be changed so that all villagers could access the service if this preliminary trial proves to be successful!

So, how does it work? It starts with a phone call to DAR and to request transport to Burbage Surgery. Your request is logged and a driver despatched to pick you up at

your home address and take you to your destination. If you are a wheelchair user, then an adapted vehicle will pick you up. You might have to share your ride with other passengers, but the cost will only be £3.40 for the return journey and if you need a carer or escort they will not pay. If you are travelling with your wife or husband, only one of you will pay. Your driver will expect you to have the exact fare (as they do not carry change) and this will be forwarded to DAR.

The Council needs to know what the demand is likely to be for a DAR service. If DAR is something you, a friend or relative would use please ring Councillor Dee Kenrick on 221782 or see the insert on other ways you can respond.

Don't forget that DAR will be a 'use or lose it' scheme.

Council Prepares for Christmas Switch On

Unbelievably, the festive season will soon be upon us and The Parish Council is planning once again to erect a Christmas tree in The Square. This will as usual be a visual treat festooned in glittering lights and baubles to brighten up the darkest of winter nights.

This event is always very popular and thoroughly enjoyed by the whole community regardless of age. As last year, there will be attractions to suit all including a merry go round, children's lucky dip and craft stalls.

The Big Switch On will be performed by Mark Pawsey MP on Sunday 7th December at 6pm. and will be accompanied by carol singing and the Bulkington Silver Band. Afterwards the usual refreshments will be served in the village hall including mulled wine, tea, coffee and mince pies.

This wonderful evening is only possible due to the efforts of a group of volunteers and new members are most welcome. If you can spare a couple of hours to help decorate the tree or help preparing the village hall and serving refreshments on the evening, please get in touch with one of the Parish Councillors or our Clerk.

Wetland Signs Off

In recent months, the fencing surrounding the Wetland Reserve has been used for commercial advertising, promoting local events and campaigns.

The Parish Council has decided that unauthorised posting cannot continue and that all unauthorised signs must be removed.

Any person or organisation wishing to attach notices or signs to the fence must first contact the Clerk to the Council for permission.



A Summer of Highs and Lows

The Wetland Reserve was more vibrant than ever this season. Many reeds and beautiful grasses exceeded six feet in height. Close by greenfinches assembled their nests in the roof of the hide whilst butterflies and dragonflies were everywhere.

In August the latest 'mothwatch' was held. This was once again very successful with twenty six species recorded including some that had not been included in Wolvey before. Owls were frequently up, out and about and the water voles are still present and correct!

Unfortunately, during the summer, access for the public to the sights and sounds of this lovely area had to be closed. Wear and tear to the boardwalk treads means

that they do not now meet safety requirements. However, we are in negotiations with the suppliers and we aim to redress this situation as soon as we possibly can.

A generous donation has been made to WEG (Wolvey Environment Group) by Mrs M Martin, for the purchase and planting of daffodils along the grass verge beside Bulkington Road. This will provide a splash of colour and be a fitting memorial to her husband Dr Graham Martin who died earlier this year.

We are looking for new members to join our group. The tasks we do are diverse and interesting, the company is good and the work rewarding, especially when awards are given, as they were again this year.



A display of poppies at the Axe and Compass traffic island, sewn by the Environment Group, blossomed just in time for the WW1 commemorations in early August. They were planted as part of WEG's project to improve the environment for pollinating insects.

Give Councillor Ruth Buswell a call on 221324 for details of our next meeting and tasks. We look forward to seeing you.

Youth Club Booms and Blooms

Poppy-making at Wolvey's WWI commemorative exhibition weekend by YC members made a colourful display in the village hall on the day.

They are now looking forward to future events like the twilight challenge to experience the high wires course and aerial-trekking at Beaumanor Hall, Leicestershire during October. Back in Wolvey, tag rugby is planned for the next Club session on 20 October, led by sports coach, Paul. Plus, table tennis with Steve Hobley and a range of other activities – crafts, games, music. Youth Club welcomes new members each month – any young person of 11+ years

can just come along - 7.15-9pm at the Village Hall.



Club members: Caitlin Boyle (plus cousins), Megan Hughes, Shara Pinkerton, Amie Woodroffe and Katy Tunnicliffe help exhibition visitors create poppies.

As a result of our Action Plan consultations, many of you professed an interest in joining a **Neighbourhood Watch Group.**

The Parish Council has contacted Rugby NHW who provide a link which explains the purpose and role of the Watch.

Please visit www.rugbynhw.co.uk and keep a look out for more information on our web site.



Should the Wetland be Designated as a Local Nature Reserve?

The Wolvey Old Cricket Field Wetland Reserve was purchased by Wolvey Parish Council to preserve and protect this rare natural environment for present and future generations of Wolvey residents. Since that time it has achieved numerous awards and much acclaim.

Thanks to the dedication of the volunteers of the Wolvey Environment Group the Reserve is regularly surveyed by ecologists and visited by people from a wide area. It now has a thriving colony of water voles and more than 600 species of moth have been identified, some of them rare.

It has also been dedicated as a Queen Elizabeth II Fields in Trust.

The Parish Council believes that if possible, it would be beneficial to the future of the site if it could be designated by Natural England as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR). As this is a statutory designation, it gives a very clear signal of the local community's commitment to nature conservation.

Local Nature Reserves provide many benefits for people and wildlife. Their purpose is to:

- * Increase awareness and enjoyment of the natural environment
- * Provide an ideal environment for everyone to learn and study nature
- * Help to build relationships with national and local nature conservation groups
- * Protect wildlife habitats and natural features

- * Provide an opportunity for people to become involved in managing their environment
- * Offer a positive use for land
- * Help in the managing and protecting the site.

The site already fulfils many of the roles of a LNR, but as part of the rigorous application process it is necessary to carry out a consultation to demonstrate the importance of the site to the local community.

We would therefore be grateful if you could answer the simple survey that is part of the insert in this Newsletter.

Clerk's Corner

The Wolvey Parish Council's **Action Plan**, which was sent to all residents with the last newsletter, will be used to guide the Council in its activities for the coming months. We were proud to learn that this has been sent by WALC (Warwickshire Association of Local Councils) to all Parish Councils in Warwickshire as a guide to best practice.

However, the Action Plan time scales can only be a guide as, inevitably, other matters arise that eat into the Council's time. The Council constantly reviews and updates its policies in light of new legislation to ensure it acts lawfully. Also local issues such as the problems with the Wetland boardwalk and the proposed threat of a Windfarm in Wolvey crop up to fill the Council's agenda. Unfortunately, these may also incur additional expenditure as expert advice is required to assist the Council in making informed decisions.

The Council will soon be considering its **Budget** for the year 2015-16. It is always a challenge to ensure enough funds are available for the Council to operate effectively but to keep its portion of the

Council Tax to an acceptable level. The Action Plan will guide much of the Budget decisions, but the Council is always open to suggestions from residents if you have any ideas for projects that might improve life in Wolvey.

Traffic speed monitoring in Wolvey is again one of the police priorities for the coming three months. This was agreed at the recent Fosse Community forum held in Wolvey Baptist Chapel.

The Parish Council's **annual accounts** for the year ending 31st March 2014 have been audited by the external auditor, Grant Thornton. The report received has found no matters of concern. The annual return was published on the village notice board and the Parish Council website.

For any information about the Parish Council, please contact me by email on parishclerk@wolvey.org or by telephone on 01455 246494.

Margaret Cartwright
Clerk to the Council

Wolvey Parish Council Grants and Donations 2014

Local organisations that have not already applied during 2014 are invited to apply for a Parish Council Grant.

Applications to be received by the Clerk before October 20th 2014.

Further information can be obtained at www.wolvey.org or the Clerk to the Council.

You said, Together We Can Do It

As part of the recent village survey, the Parish Council received some excellent suggestions for more activities for younger residents in the village. The ideas were broad and creative and included new clubs, community and social activities and improved physical resources.

Tennis coaching, cycling club, gardening club, litter picking, Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme are all examples that could be facilitated without too much expense, but do require help and organisation. Likewise, a buddying scheme, a provision for under 8's and younger members were on the list. Also, one resident who has recently built a school in Malawi has suggested that links between Wolvey

village youngsters and families and youngsters and families in Malawi would be something that would be mutually beneficial. The Council is keen to support these initiatives and assist volunteers from the village community. Other aspects such as a skate/scooter park, improved access to the playing fields and the children's play equipment might take more planning and expenditure, but again the Council is keen to explore these possibilities further.

If you can assist in anyway in helping us turn these suggestions into realities – time, expertise, funding – please get in touch with Councillor Bozena Kuncewicz on 220771 or our Clerk.

Meteorological Mast Application - Wolds Lane

At a Planning Committee meeting of Rugby Council held on 24 September 2014, an application for the erection of a single meteorological mast in Wolds Lane was approved for a temporary period of three years. The meeting was well attended by residents from Wolvey and neighbouring villages - many being members of the local action group - to demonstrate their strong objections to the proposal.

Wolvey Parish Council objected to the approval of the application on three grounds.

Firstly, the mast represented a large scale alien feature in an idyllic flat rural landscape. At 60 metres high with a flashing red light it would be completely out of character to the adjoining countryside and will be visually prominent from Wolvey and surrounding villages. Secondly, the proposed mast is an engineering operation in the Green Belt and there are no very special circumstances to outweigh Green Belt considerations. Finally, the Parish Council is concerned that the mast would have an adverse effect on the bird and bat population flying in the area of the mast.

Despite the Parish Council's objections, the application was approved.

The purpose of the meteorological mast is to measure wind speeds. This is obviously linked with the possible installation of wind turbines. A separate planning application for wind turbines will need to be submitted and considered by the Planning Committee before any further development can take place. The Parish Council will consider its response to a potential application when this has been submitted. Unfortunately, we cannot know how soon this is likely to be, but the applicant does not need to wait until the three years temporary planning permission for the mast has expired. A new application can be submitted for a wind farm at any time.

Volunteers are needed to deliver this Newsletter.
If you can help, please contact the Clerk.