

## WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has continued to be very busy dealing with a range of issues. Planning has, as always, been of considerable importance with several applications being considered and comments submitted.

Issues regarding the school bus at Wychwood Village have been addressed and representations made to Cheshire East Council to obtain the best possible solution for residents.

At this time of year, the Parish Council will examine its financial position and the Finance Committee will review expenditure in the first half of the financial year and estimate the projected outcome for year end.

A draft budget for 2019/20 will be prepared and submitted to the Parish Council at its December meeting.

Please take time to visit the website where full details of the Parish Council, its meetings and members can be found.

<http://www.weston-basford.co.uk/parish-council>

D G Owen DMA  
Clerk to the Council



*Our thanks to Amanda Balmain Photography for this edition's cover photo*

# Weston & Basford Community News



## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Winter 2018

## Community Comment

Looking back to last winter's copy of the Community News, we were commenting on the mild autumn. This year, it has been even milder, and we are enjoying above-average seasonal temperatures, even as the nights draw in.

As autumn turns to winter, the Parish Council continues to support the interests of the whole community across a wide spectrum of issues – from planning through to community concerns and activities. There has been a wonderful 'Community Flower Festival at Harvest Time' event during October, which saw many organisations and individuals contribute in many ways.

We are fast approaching the festive period, during which several events are taking place. One, amongst many that deserve our strong support, is the Christmas Lights display arranged by Graham Witter, now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year and supporting the Donna Louise trust.

We've also had a local company and its employees volunteer to tidy up specific areas of the parish, for which we thank them. The resultant effect has been extremely well received and shows what can be achieved by small groups of volunteers in an afternoon. Following the generosity of a resident, and in memory of her late husband, a defibrillator will be installed in Weston village. We as a community are extremely grateful for this kind and generous donation - thank you.

## Weston Village Primary School

The second half of the Autumn term has begun and in Weston we love this half term! As hectic as the festive period can be, it is always a magical time in school and there are so many things to look forward to.



The first week saw the children complete lots of Remembrance activities and Key Stage Two participated in a BBC live lesson. The activities were designed to promote understanding of the significance of the day and the symbolism of the poppy. The children have shown both empathy and a great desire to find out about the war and the sacrifice made by soldiers throughout the conflict and in conflicts since.

Every child in Year Two took part in an athletics competition at South Cheshire College, competing against teams from 17 different schools from across Crewe. It was an exciting morning for the children who all took part in various running, throwing and jumping challenges. The football team resumed their pursuit of this season's autumn league title at Nantwich Town's football stadium. We'll let you know how they get on! The children in Red class enjoyed spending an afternoon with PCSO Jolley, sharing stories, talking about safety and tucking into a picnic. We fill the curriculum with messages about safety at an appropriate level and involving the police is a great way to make certain messages memorable.

In addition to a visit to the New Vic Theatre to see the production of 'Wind in The Willows, we have our school choir performing at Shavington Academy and then the children will spend time practicing for the annual Christmas performances. The Christmas Fair is just around the corner, on 7th December. Watch out for more information soon! At Weston Village Primary we wish you all a Merry Christmas!

## Roast on Sunday – ROS

Our Christmas Lunch will be in All Saints Church Hall on **Sunday 9th December at 1pm.**

We will have a traditional roast beef lunch followed by plum pudding. There will also be a fun musical singalong too! This lunch must be booked.

For bookings please contact **Florence** on **01270 582541** or **Yvonne** on **01270 584612**. Please leave a message if necessary and they will ring you back. In September we went for a boat ride on the canal at Overwater Marina in the wheelie boat using the wheelchair facility which was very convenient. The weather was sunny and a little chilly, but we enjoyed the peace and quiet of the surrounding country. Remember we will have our first ROS lunch on **13th January at 1pm...** what about a New Year's resolution to come and have a Sunday lunch and company. Cost is £7 each for meal.

Greetings to all for the festive season and Happy New Year, too!

## Community Cinema

We have started our third season of afternoon films on the second Thursday of each month. The next film will be on **December 13th at 2.00pm.**

The film is a story of a rags to riches romance with Julia Roberts and Richard Gere.

We look forward to seeing you in the church hall.

## Community Comment - continued

It is with deep regret that John Hammond, Cheshire East Borough Councillor, who covered most of our parish has recently passed away. We as a community would like to extend our deepest sympathies to his family at this time.

John was a tremendous asset and friend to the parish, nothing was too much trouble for him to take to the council and seek a solution. He will be greatly missed by all.

We have a change of editor for this edition. Susannah Collins, who has been ably fulfilling that role since the inception of the Community News, now lives in Edinburgh and feels that a more locally based person should take on that role.

I am pleased to say that Kevin Narey has agreed to undertake this for us. Kevin lives in the centre of Weston and has recently joined the Parish Council. We wish him well with this.

As always, we'd value more contributions and articles from groups and organisations in the community. If there are specific subjects you'd like us to cover in future newsletters, please feel free to get in touch.

In closing, I wish everyone season's greetings and look forward to the new year.

John Densem

Please send articles for future editions to [john@densem.co.uk](mailto:john@densem.co.uk)

**Weston Christmas  
Light Display**

Supporting 'The Donna Louise' for children and young people since 2013

**1st December - 28th December  
6.15pm - 9.00pm everyday**

Visit Santa every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening  
and the last few days before Christmas

**Carters Green Farm, Jack Lane, Weston, Nr Crewe, Cheshire**  
(Turn right straight after bypass bridge coming from Weston Village)

**Everyone Welcome!**

In 5 years we have raised an astonishing £65,550!

For more information contact 01270 586754 or  
email [info@westonlightdisplay.co.uk](mailto:info@westonlightdisplay.co.uk)

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**Sleigh Selfie • Santa's Grotto • Mince Pies  
Sweets & Chocolate • Music & More!**

## Community Flower Festival

We would like to thank all the people who helped to prepare for the festival throughout the months of planning. The church was busy beforehand with many helping with the arrangements and especially those who do not 'do' flower arranging! Amazing results all round - a special well done to Theo, aged 6!



Weston Primary School brought the Flowerpot Family which they made and a flower arrangement too. Poppy & Jacks nursery children painted stones with names and flowers. Thank you to the school staff and nursery staff for their contribution.

The Tom's Field allotment group came with a delightful array of fruit and vegetables which went to the Salvation Army in Crewe for their kitchen. John Williamson provided a vintage Massey Ferguson tractor outside to remind us that our fields need these to sow our land with seed, so we can have our harvest and enjoy the produce. The Mayor of Cheshire East, Cllr. Lesley Smetham, visited to open the festival and she appreciated the listed building and the beautiful stained-glass windows.

All the colours in our arrangements came from the song '*What a Wonderful World*'. Irene Webb and her team did a tableau of a harvest field scene. The various generous donations received are for the Restoration Fund for the church, and we would like to thank all those who visited and supported the occasion.

The exhibition of paintings by the late Harold Carless and other local artists was enjoyed by our visitors. Our thanks to Mrs Carless and friends for allowing us to view their artwork. The team were busy with teas and cakes and our thanks go to all who helped.

## Wychwood Village Hall



It was a quiet summer at the hall, with many of our regular classes paused for the holidays. However, we are now really ramping up activities. Not only do we have a new regular weekly class for “Meta Fit”, we’ve also started a monthly book club on the first Tuesday of each month at 10am. Other

events include a pizza night, Little Ones Pottery and more community events. Follow our Facebook page for more information: “Wychwood Village Hall - Weston & Basford”.

Finally, as we look towards the festive period, local residents are collecting funds for new Christmas lights to adorn the trees in the hall grounds. The current plan is for a “switch on” evening on the **2nd December**.

If you are interested in booking the hall, take a look at our website for booking details at:

[www.wychwoodvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.wychwoodvillagehall.co.uk).

Jeremy Edwards

Save the date - Quiz Night in aid of Alzheimer's **Friday 18th January** Wychwood Village Hall...



## Englesea Brook Chapel

It has been our privilege to welcome over 400 children to our Victorian educational days this half term and days are fast booking for the next half term leading up to Christmas. We have three days booked for the first week after the half term holiday and schools booking right up to the 19th December. What a lot of Christmas crackers, complete with gift and snap, we’ll have made with the children by then!



The Victorian Christmas workshops started in October this year, giving schools plenty of time to design and sell calendars with all the photos they took here. It is all good fun and learning and we are delighted to welcome new schools each year and those who return regularly. What a privilege it is to share our heritage with so many young people. It is a joy

to share our programme of events for the rest of the year with you too and we look forward to welcoming you again.

Our soup & study sessions are on **Wednesdays December 5th & 12th**. After delicious homemade soups we are looking at ‘Longing for bread & God’s promise’, ‘The prophets: bread is political’, ‘John the Baptist - bread is personal’ and ‘Mary & the bread of life’. If you have not been before do come to the first one and meet us all. It is free, and donations are welcome.

On **16th December** we have our carol service at 2.30. Coffee and refreshments follow the service. You may have noticed that the building of our new open store is now proceeding, and we hope to be up and open for the new season. In the meantime, we thank you for your support during 2018 and wish you all a happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

## News from All Saints Church, Weston

Our Harvest Festival was very special this year, starting with the wonderful Flower Festival. Many thanks to all who contributed, either with donations or with their time and skill arranging the fabulous displays. We are so lucky to have such talent in our Village! Special thanks must go to Florence Densem and Irene Webb for coming up with the idea and for coordinating the whole event.

Thanks too, go to everyone who contributed to our “LED Light” appeal and to the team who manned scaffolding & ladders to fit them. The new lights should cut our electricity consumption by over 80%!

Our Harvest Festival service was led by Reverend Cannon Jane Brooks, from Chester Cathedral and was an enjoyable and well-supported occasion. The celebrations finished with our traditional harvest supper – another wonderful response this year with a very full hall.

I am writing this just after Remembrance Sunday and it was good to see so many of you join us for our tribute to the fallen.

We are still seeking a new vicar, but all services and events will go ahead as normal during the ‘vacancy’ period (we remain grateful to our Lay Readers and visiting clergy for their assistance).

Full details of all our Christmas events and other services in December are included online and in our Christmas card (special thanks to our Parish Council for delivering it with this copy of Community News). We do hope that you will be able to join us to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Children will especially enjoy the crib service on Christmas Eve, whilst our traditional carol service by candlelight is always a very special occasion for everyone (it is also followed by mulled wine and mince pies!).

With our best wishes for a very Happy Christmas.

*Robert Galloway*

*Churchwarden, All Saints (01270 584922; [robgalloway@btinternet.com](mailto:robgalloway@btinternet.com))*

## News from All Saints Church, continued

**COULD YOU SPARE AN HOUR OR SO ONCE A FORTNIGHT** to join a small team of volunteers who help to clean All Saints Church Hall and keep it smart for everyone who uses it? If you might be able to help or just would like to find out a bit more, then please get in touch with **Sue Moore (01270 587566)**.

### FRIENDSHIP LUNCH

The Weston Friendship Lunch takes place every other Wednesday at the church hall in Weston at 12.00 midday. We have a happy and varied group of diners who come along to enjoy a meal of soup, savouries and cake, followed by tea or coffee. There is usually a small raffle table, and sometimes we have jam or marmalade and other produce for sale. The cost of the lunch is still only £2.50 per person and we would love to meet any new friends who wish to join us.



The lunch on **5th December** will be as usual, but Wednesday **19th December** is our Christmas dinner by pre-booked ticket only.

The 2019 lunches will be on **Wednesday 9th January/23rd January/6th February** etc. For more information contact

**Florence on 01270 582541 or Yvonne on 01270 584612**

Weston Church Hall is available for hire at competitive rates, offering kitchen facilities. A projector and a photocopier with printing facility are available at a competitive cost. For further details contact **Julia Cox on 01270-587076**.