



Lapley, Stretton  
& Wheaton Aston  
Parish Council

# News & Views

2019 – Issue 2



**Lapley Green** - Improvements to Lapley Green are now almost complete as you can see from the picture above. It has opened up the Village and the beautiful views can be better appreciated.

**Councillor Vacancy** - Following the Parish Council elections in May, there is a vacancy for co-option to the Parish Council for the Stretton Ward. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor. Please contact the Parish Manager..

**CCTV** - Planning permission has been submitted for the Parish Council to install CCTV on Marston Field. CCTV is being installed due to increasing levels of anti-social behaviour. Other options have been considered and various interventions implemented with, sadly, little success. SGS Security will be assisting the Parish Council with this project and will be monitoring the CCTV system 24 hours a day. This decision has not been taken lightly and is a result of multi-agency working.

**Christmas is coming** - This year's Christmas lights switch on is set for Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. If your community group or business would like an outdoor stall, if you would like to volunteer as a steward or even perform on stage, please contact the Parish Council Manager.

**Beware - Bogus Officials** - Bogus officials trick their way into people's homes to steal money and valuables. They often work in pairs, one to keep you talking at the front door while the other tries to access your house from a back door or window. Some might even ask for help, such as asking for a glass of water. Older and more vulnerable people are more likely to be a target. While the loss of money or valuables is very distressing, being a victim of crime causes a great deal of stress and may lead to loss of confidence and poor health. If you suspect a caller is bogus, please call the police.

**Who's Taking the Poop Bags and covering up our stencils?** - The Parish Council currently provides poop bags at Marston Road Dog Walk, Stretton Lay-By & Lapley Green for dog owners who may have run out or forgotten their own bags. They are also available at Doal's Food & News. Recently someone has been emptying the entire stock at Wheaton Aston. If you have any information on this, please call Staffordshire Police on 101. Anyone with information on why our stenciling is being painted over please email the office.

**M54-M6 Link Road** - Highways England is undertaking a public consultation on detailed plans for a new M54 to M6 road link. The consultation ends on Friday 5 July 2019. Visit [www.highwaysengland.co.uk/M54-M6linkroad](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/M54-M6linkroad) for more information.

**Jeremy Lefroy MP Advice Surgery** - For details of the next surgery please contact the MP office direct on 01785 252477 or at [jeremy.lefroy.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:jeremy.lefroy.mp@parliament.uk)

**Citizens Advice South Staffordshire** – This has now been taken over by the Citizens Advice Staffordshire South West. Contact 01902 897377

**Voluntary Car Scheme** - The Brewood and District Voluntary Car Scheme organises lifts for local villagers, usually the elderly or housebound, who have no transport of their own but need to get to doctors surgeries, clinics or hospital appointments. Could you help? Could you spare a few hours a week? You can contribute as little or as much as you like, on whatever days of the week that suit you or simply subject to your availability at a given time. Please give it some thought – all travelling expenses are refunded and you may be surprised to find just how enjoyable it is. Please phone the office on 01902 851786 between 9.30am – 12.30pm weekdays for more information. A voicemail service is in operation outside of office hours.

**Potholes** - The quickest way to report potholes/damaged pavements / problems with lighting columns and road signs is to call Staffordshire County Council Highways on 03001118000 or email [highways@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@staffordshire.gov.uk) or download the "My Staffs" app, which lets you send in photos and locations straight from your phone.

**Community Speed Watch Volunteers still needed!** - Can you spare some time to help with the newly formed Community Speed Watch Group? Would you like to be a volunteer trained by Staffordshire Police? The training will last for about 2 hours, is free and will cover all elements of Community Speed Watch. If you are interested please email the Parish Manager: [office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**If you see it, report it!** - If you see a crime in progress, call 999 immediately. Please also report any non-urgent crime including graffiti, damage and anti-social behaviour by calling the police on 101. Officers can only investigate matters which are reported.

**Staffordshire Police Smart Alert** - Get free, localised crime alerts and community safety advice with the Staffordshire Smart Alert App. This can be downloaded for both Apple and Android devices at: [www.staffordshiresmartalert.uk](http://www.staffordshiresmartalert.uk)

**Crime Prevention / Cybercrime** - There is a wealth of advice on the Staffordshire Police website. For more information please visit: [www.staffordshire.police.uk/crimeprevention](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk/crimeprevention) [www.staffordshire.police.uk/cybercrime](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk/cybercrime)

**Civil Weddings** - The new Ceremonial Suite at the District Council Offices at Codsall has now been completed. The suite offers an elegant and relaxed setting for civil weddings and partnership ceremonies, renewal of vows and naming ceremonies.

**South Staffs Community Lottery** – You could win up to £25,000, and help support local good causes by taking part in the South Staffordshire Community Lottery. This weekly online lottery takes place every Saturday night at 8pm and you can purchase lottery tickets by telephoning 01902 213777. or at [www.southstaffslottery.co.uk](http://www.southstaffslottery.co.uk)

**Additional Green bins** - You can now book additional green bins and collection of bulky waste items on-line from "My Account" the Council's personalised service giving residents on-line access to Council services 24/7

**Aspire Active Camps** - Looking for ways to keep your children active in the school holidays? Aspire Active Camps offer holiday clubs at Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, and Wombourne Leisure Centres. [www.aspire-sports.co.uk](http://www.aspire-sports.co.uk)

**South Staffs Leisure Centres** - offer affordable memberships with the use of 4 leisure centres for 1 great price and a list of benefits including affordable Prices Flexible Packages No Joining Fees or Long-Term Commitment-Free Inductions Open 7 Days A Week Free Health checks and Fitness Programmes Discounts for Students, Apprentices and Corporates

- 14-day advanced booking
- Free public swimming\*
- No joining fees
- No long term contracts
- Free Health checks and fitness programmes.
- Discounts for Students, Apprentices and Corporates

More information about memberships can be found at [www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure/memberships](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure/memberships)

**South Staffordshire Work Clubs** - If you are out of work, there are 7 Work Clubs throughout South Staffordshire to help you. Tel: Cllr Val Chapman 07718 911367 or email: [v.chapman@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:v.chapman@sstaffs.gov.uk)

## Brewood Community Managed Library

**Open: Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm; Tuesday 5pm-7pm; Saturdays 9.30am-1pm. Tel: 01902 850087**

Unless specified there is no need to book the activities listed. All activities are for adults unless the activity specifies it is for children.

### Regular Events:

**Storytime** – suitable for pre-school children. Free. Tuesdays. Every week, term-time only. 2.15-2.45pm

**Reading Group.** Read and talk about books. Books supplied by the Library. Free. First Thursday in month – 3.15-4.15pm

**Mindfulness & Meditation Sessions.** £5 minimum donation. Booking required, please contact the Library. Every Thursday 11-12noon

**'Brewood Walk and Talk'** – Free. Get more exercise. Part of the Health Watch Walk Scheme. For all ages. Please arrive 15 minutes early if it is your first walk. Car Parking at Library, meet outside the Library. Every Friday 10am.

**Brewood Quilters** — Third Tuesday afternoon in the month: - 2.30pm to 4pm.

### July 2019

-From 13th July throughout summer – Summer Reading Challenge Age 4-11. Free.

-Thursday 25th July 10am Space Poetry with Little Brown Mouse, creative writing workshop; Under 10 yrs. £1. Booking essential.

-Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2.30pm. Space Crafting. Make your own telescopes, planet mobiles, and invent aliens. Under 12 yrs. £1.

### August 2019

Thursday 8th August and Thursday 22nd August. Age 5-14 yrs. Coding and Tech. Clubs. Coding, VR Experience, Robotics. £25 per child per day.

Please bring lunch. Snacks provided. Book at [www.schoolofcoding.co.uk](http://www.schoolofcoding.co.uk) and click on 'summer events' or email to [info@schoolofcoding.co.uk](mailto:info@schoolofcoding.co.uk) Tel: 01902 509209.

Wednesday 14th August. 2.30pm. Age 5-12 yrs. 'Out of this World'; fun Science Workshop. Follow the footsteps of Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin & Michael Collins, astronauts on Apollo 11 Mission to the Moon. £5. Book in Library.

Wednesday 21st August. 2.30pm or 3.30pm. Storytelling, by Cath Edwards. Age under 11 yrs. £2. Book in Library.

Thursday 22nd August 10am Explore Space Poetry with Little Brown Mouse, creative writing workshop; Under 10 yrs. £1. Booking essential.

Fridays during August (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd). 2.30-4.30pm. Space Crafting. Make your own telescopes, planet mobiles, and invent aliens. Under 12 yrs. £1.

## St Mary's, Wheaton Aston & All Saints.

It's full steam ahead for the summer at our churches with all the usual events and services as well as a couple of new initiatives that you might like to try:

**NEW!! WWW Cafe** (for the questions Google can't answer). This is an informal discussion space where you can come with your own burning questions or use our gentle conversation starters. The Cafe will run twice a month - once in the evening and once in the afternoon, finishing in time for the school run.

**NEW!! Dying Matters** - a monthly Cafe Style space to talk about death, dying and bereavement, run in partnership with the Parish Council.

**RETURNING!! Family activities**, including crafts and games, will be available at our regular Tuesday and Wednesday drop-ins throughout the school holidays. 10-12 at St Mary's.

Our usual Sunday services are at 9am (All Saints) and 10.30am (St Mary's). Midweek prayers are usually Tuesdays @ 9am (St Mary's), Wednesdays at 8am (St Mary's) and Thursdays at 8am (All Saints). All year round, you can visit the **Drop In at St Mary's** for coffee, chat, second hand books etc. Each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10-12

Finally, we have two courses beginning in September for those who wish to be confirmed, or those who simply want to explore faith a little. **START!** is the adult course and will run on Thursday evenings, whilst **Youth Alpha** is for young people and will run on Sunday afternoons. Talk to Rev Rachel or Rev Cath if you'd like to know more.

As always, please check the Church Noticeboards and Grapevine nearer the time for full details and for any changes. For further details, email [revracheldale@gmail.com](mailto:revracheldale@gmail.com) or call 01785 840395

### July

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup>: Monthly Bible Study, St Mary's @ 9am

Sat 6<sup>th</sup>: Care of the Graveyard Open Meeting, All Saints @ 4pm

Sun 7<sup>th</sup>: Evening Worship, St Mary's @ 6.30pm

Sun 7<sup>th</sup>: LCRF Treasure Hunt, from St Mary's @ 2pm

Thu 11<sup>th</sup>: WWW Cafe, St Mary's @ 2pm

Fri 12<sup>th</sup>: Short Walk from St Mary's @ 10am

Sun 14<sup>th</sup>: Messy Picnic, St Mary's @ 3.45pm

Wed 17<sup>th</sup>: Dying Matters. St Mary's @ 2pm

Wed 17<sup>th</sup>: Service of Healing & Wholeness, Blymhill @ 7.30pm

Thu 18<sup>th</sup>: Messy Grownups, St Mary's @ 9.45am

Sun 21<sup>st</sup>: Benefice Songs of Praise and Picnic, St Andrews @ 10.30am

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> LCRF Scarecrow Trail and Cream Tea, All Saints from 2.30pm

Wed 24<sup>th</sup>: WWW Cafe, St Mary's @ 7pm

Fri 26<sup>th</sup>: Short Walk from St Mary's @ 10am

Sat 27<sup>th</sup>: Cafe Church, St Mary's @ 6.30pm



## Are you paying too much for your energy bills?

Good Life Energy has been set up by South Staffordshire Council to help you get the best energy deal and save money.



Many people find their energy bills confusing and feel they don't have time to switch. Our team is here to help you find the best deal so you get the savings you deserve.

Here's how we can help:

- Best deals for you.
- Personal advice
- Home visits if preferred.
- Best deals on LPG and oil as well.
- Complete after-care service.



Freephone: 03333 058671

Email: [info@cebltd.com](mailto:info@cebltd.com)  
[www.sstaffs.gov.uk/energy](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/energy)



## Do you need assistance with Digital Skills?

Come and have a chat with us!

**Perton Library**  
Every Tuesday 11am to 1pm

**Penkridge Library**  
Every Wednesday 10am to midday

**Codsall Library**  
Every Thursday 2pm to 4pm



For more information or to reserve a place call **0300 111 8000**

## Your Council

### COUNCILLOR

A Anderson  
B Cross  
M Griffiths  
W Millington  
R Nelson  
T Noblett (Chairman)  
V Renfrew  
M Smith  
S Whittingham  
S Whittingham

### WARD

Stretton  
Wheaton Aston  
Lapley  
Wheaton Aston  
Wheaton Aston  
Wheaton Aston  
Lapley  
Wheaton Aston  
Wheaton Aston  
Wheaton Aston  
Parish Council Manager  
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[www.wheatonastonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.wheatonastonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Also find us on Facebook and Twitter

## Other Key Contacts

Jeremy Lefroy MP	01785 252477	<a href="mailto:jeremy.lefroy.mp@parliament.uk">jeremy.lefroy.mp@parliament.uk</a>
County Councillor Mark Sutton	01902 851682	<a href="mailto:mark.sutton@staffordshire.gov.uk">mark.sutton@staffordshire.gov.uk</a>
District Councillor Brian Cox	01785 840482	<a href="mailto:b.cox@sstaffs.gov.uk">b.cox@sstaffs.gov.uk</a>
District Councillor Ve Jackson	01785 840256	<a href="mailto:v.jackson@sstaffs.gov.uk">v.jackson@sstaffs.gov.uk</a>
Staffordshire County Council	0300 111 8000	<a href="http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk">www.staffordshire.gov.uk</a>
South Staffordshire District Council	01902 696000	<a href="http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk">www.sstaffs.gov.uk</a>
Police	101 (non-urgent) 999 (emergency)	<a href="http://www.staffordshirepolice.org.uk">www.staffordshirepolice.org.uk</a>
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	<a href="http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org">www.crimestoppers-uk.org</a>
Highways	0300 111 8000	<a href="mailto:highways@staffordshire.gov.uk">highways@staffordshire.gov.uk</a>

## 2019 Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings are to be held on the following dates (Thursday) at Wheaton Aston Village Hall:  
**4th July, 5th September, 24th October, 5th December (Precept 2020-21)**

All meetings commence at 7:30pm (unless otherwise stated) with a public forum where members of the public have the opportunity to ask questions of the Parish Council and raise issues. After this, they may stay and observe the rest of the meeting.