

DUCKPADDLE NEWS



Whetstone Parish Council

EASTER 2013

Whetstone Baptist Church



Thursday	28th March	8pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Friday	29th March	8pm	Good Friday Service
Sunday	31st March	9am	Sunday Worship
		10.45 am	Easter Family Service
		6.15 pm	Easter Praise

Whetstone United Reformed Church



Sunday	31st March	10am	Easter Family Service
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St Peter's Whetstone



Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday	24th March	10am	Blessing of the Palms
			Procession and Parish Eucharist
Monday	25th March	7pm	Stations of the Cross
Tuesday	26th March	7pm	The Eucharist
Wednesday	27th March	9.15am	The Eucharist
		7pm	Stations of the Cross
Maundy Thursday	28th March	7.30pm	at St Michaels Cosby
			Sung Eucharist of the Last
			Supper, followed by the watch until 10pm
Good Friday	29th March	3pm	Good Friday Service
Easter Sunday	31st March	10am	Family Eucharist, blessing of the Easter candle and Easter Garden

D.I.Y.

Easter Weekend ?

It's what most of us end up doing over the Easter weekend, isn't it ~ Bank Holiday DIY: Putting up some shelves, redecorating the dining room or maybe the joys of assembling flat-pack furniture!

Bank Holiday DIY: It's good to "do it yourself". It's certainly a whole lot cheaper. If only more things in life could be DIY.

But, if we're honest, there are some things we *can't* do ourselves. We hate to admit it but it's true. We've tried and it just doesn't work.

Of course, I'm not just talking about shelving; I'm talking about living.

DIY can't turn the clock back. DIY can't put life right. DIY can't redecorate the words I said and it can't make good the thoughts I've thought. DIY can't repair the things I have done. DIY can't *fix me*.

What would we do on a Bank Holiday, if there was no DIY? Watch some one else do it for us? That would be nice. But that costs, doesn't it?

That's what Good Friday is all about... Someone else doing it for us and it certainly cost Him dear:

"God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

"He was crushed because we had done what was evil. He was punished to make us whole again."

All our pride, our greed, our hate, our lies, our cheating and our resentment...

"All of us have strayed away like sheep. We have left his paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the guilt and sins of us all.

"This is one Bank Holiday when you don't need to "do it yourself". Thank the Lord for that!

Nick Swanson

Associate Pastor Whetstone Baptist Church



St.Peter's Church of England (Aided) Primary School

St Peter's Primary – a rising star in Whetstone!

Since the appointment of its new head teacher, Mr Michael Bailey, St Peter's School has had two successful inspections, rapidly moving from satisfactory in March 2011 to good this January. The whole school community is delighted with the result and proud of the school's achievement.

The head made the following comment: "I am really proud of all my staff and the hard work they have put into making this a happy thriving school. It's a result they truly deserve. I whole heartedly agree with the inspector that we are a 'harmonious community'. Teaching is now good to outstanding but this is just the start of our journey to become an outstanding school. Our pupils deserve the best education we can give them."

"Although St Peter's Church of England Primary School was founded in June 1864 and will celebrate its 150th birthday next year, it has been reported that some people don't even realise that St Peter's School exists. Well it is time for that to change; it's time for St Peter's School to shine!"



The school is planning a special celebration for June 2014 to celebrate its 150th birthday. In the meantime they continue to give their pupils a rich and exciting education. The full Ofsted report of the recent inspection can be found on the Ofsted website.



Badgerbrook Primary School

We've been **very** busy here at Badgerbrook Primary School in the start to 2013. In February the school received a visit from the Prison Service and local police officers, not to apprehend any pupils but to teach them that actions have consequences! Members of the teaching staff were encouraged to join in with role plays and activities as children were given an insight into life inside a local prison. The visitors were accompanied by HM Prison Manchester dogs, Charlie the springer spaniel and German shepherd Tyler. The event was well-organised and, although a serious message was being portrayed, it was delivered in a light-hearted, entertaining manner. This statement is issued by HM Prison following the event. "What we are trying to achieve with the children is an understanding of the consequences of their actions and this was a fantastic opportunity to promote that, it tackled issues such as stranger danger, anti-social behaviour and drugs awareness"

The Coldest Journey' Pupils and staff are currently following Sir Ranulph Fiennes and his team's latest adventure as they cross the Antarctic during the winter months. Their remarkable attempt aims to raise money for the charity 'Seeing is Believing'. This charity is an international initiative which is tackling avoidable blindness. Over the next few months our pupils will be learning all about this and we are also welcoming visitors from organisations throughout the UK who help children with visual difficulties. We will be raising money ourselves for 'Seeing is Believing' in various different ways throughout the school.

Our Foundation Stage pupils are currently studying 'people who help us' they have had visits from the school nurse, police officers and firefighters complete with engines, cars and sirens and have been off site to visit the Toby Carvery at Enderby, to link in with a healthy eating project. Our Year 2's had a visit from a JCB digger to aide their project on vehicles and Year 5 had a Samba Drumming day where they got the opportunity to play different drums and musical instruments and performed for their parents at the end of the day.

As the weather gets a little better, our sports teams are jumping into action; Congratulations to our girls football team who won the Junior Team of the Year award at the Blaby District Council awards ceremony and were also shortlisted for the Leicester Mercury Sports Awards. Our very own sports co-ordinator, Mr Williams, received a special recognition award for his services to school sports at the Blaby awards and was shortlisted for Coach of the Year with the Leicester Mercury. Congratulations Mr Williams.

Our basketball teams A and B played in a recent tournament with other schools from our Family of Schools, held at Thomas Estley Community College. Both A and B teams made it through to the finals where, unfortunately, they were drawn to play against each other. It was a narrow win for the A team and they now become the first team to win competitively in Basketball for Badgerbrook since 2007. Well done to all our Basketball players. Our hardy Cross Country runners (and brave parents, relatives and friends for standing out in the cold and mud on a Saturday morning!) are out in force. We compete as one of 16 schools in the local league and after 2 out of the 4 races the team standings are as follows; Year 3 girls 1st, Year 3 boys 1st, Year 4 girls 2nd, Year 4 boys 1st, Year 5 girls 2nd, Year 5 boys 4th, Year 6 girls 2nd, Year 6 boys 1st. A great start to the season and good luck to all runners for the next 2 races. Football continues when the pitches are fit to play on, our boys' A team are currently unbeaten and have reached the semi- finals of the cup and our B team have improved hugely as the season progresses. The girls' A team have defended their Blaby and County Championships so far and have qualified for the Blaby cup final.

Thank you to everyone who supported Mr Williams in his Movember appeal he raised £81 for the cancer charity and assures us he has no intentions of growing a moustache ever again. Well until next year Mr Williams!



VISIT OUR NEW LOOK WEBSITE
WWW.WHETSTONEPC.ORG.UK



JUST A MINUTE

YOUR Parish Council usually meets every third Thursday of the month, 7.30pm at the Parish Council Offices Cemetery Road, Whetstone. The agenda for the meeting is posted on the Parish Notice Boards. Parishioners are more than welcome to attend, whether you have a specific interest in an item on the agenda, or if you just wish to see Council in operation. Below are several extracts of general items of interest from the minutes of the last three meetings.

October

Cllr Coles thanked the Clerk and Members of the Council who had been involved in the Planning Inspectors appeal for Springwell Lane. Together with Cllr Greenwood they had "done the village proud" in presenting a factual case based on local knowledge. The result would not have been achieved without their input. A number of e-mails had also been received at the Council Offices thanking them for their work.

A petition had been received to keep the skateboard ramp on Trinity Park. This would be staying on Trinity Park and a new base would be laid.

The new look Duckpaddle had been well received, a local printer had been sourced and the printing was now being undertaken at a more competitive price.

November

PC Nick Taylor attended the meeting to update Members of Council about the Whetstone Police statistics. He also updated the meeting on the reorganisation taking place in January 2013. An overview was received regarding the Beacon Officer Scheme. The Chairman thanked PC Taylor and PCSO Sharpe who had spent many years in the Parish.

The Leveret Drive planning application was scheduled to be heard at Blaby District Council on 3rd January. The Clerk had informed the Leveret Drive action group that the application was to be discussed at the December Full Council meeting.

Council has now received the lease for the High Street Car park which was duly signed. This is to run for a ten year period from 1st April 2013.

Council have received a grant of £6,500 for 750 trees, which are due to be planted in the Back Lane Meadows. A planting scheme was tabled by the Clerk.

December

The Chairman reported that the Carols round the Christmas tree at the Co Operative Foodstore was well attended and everyone enjoyed the event.

The work on Back Lane Meadows was progressing, and the tree planting was due to take place in February. The grant that was received was to facilitate seating, picnic benches, bins and signage.

A hand rail was due to be fitted to the front of St Peters Church, also replacement goal posts to be fitted on Oliver Park .

The next four meetings of Council take place on 21st March , 18th April, 16th May, and 20th June 2013

E-mail:WhetstonePC@whetstone.org.uk

Tel: (0116) 2751987—Fax: Leicester (0116) 2753395

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning applications are available for viewing on the Parish Council Website

WWW.WHETSTONEPC.ORG.UK

We also hold copies of all Whetstone Planning Applications which we discuss at our Planning

Committee Meetings. Please contact the office prior to wishing to inspect these, as a member of the staff has to be available during inspection.

Telephone: 0116 2751987— E.mail: whetstonepc@whetstone.org.uk



Edward Wright Room “Whetstone Parish Council”

Looking for a venue to hold a small intimate family/friends celebration in quiet pleasant surroundings with newly refitted kitchen facilities, disabled access and toilets, car parking for up to 25 cars all inclusive for £12 per hour, plus projector/computer links available at a small extra cost.

We have just the room for you at Whetstone Parish Council, Council Offices Cemetery Road, Whetstone

Tele: 0116 275 1987— Email:whetstonepc@whetstone.org.uk



Back Lane Meadows “planting day” with Kim Hawksworth from GroundWork Leicester and Leicestershire who provided additional volunteer tree planters. Chairman Mark Jackson and fellow Councillors John Dunkley and Alice Tyler were available to help on the day. Groundstaff Graham Hamilton and Roger Grzyb were joined by former groundsman Graham Bray who as part of the planting team, managed to plant over 250 trees out of a total of 750. The remaining trees are to be planted once the field to be known as the spinney is cleared of rubble and debris left when the old stable block was in use. A photograph is shown of the work in progress. It is hoped later in the year to hold an open day to launch Back Lane Meadows as a community area for the village. This will see picnic benches, seating, bins and signage installed to guide you around your very own 5 acre wildlife haven in the village.



**HAVE YOU EVER
WONDERED HOW
WHETSTONE PARISH
COUNCIL WORKS?
WE'LL READ ON ...**

There are 15 seats on Whetstone Parish Council and elections take place every four years, the next elections are due to take place in 2015.

Parish Councillors who are also known as members come from all walks of life and are all ages, although some Councillors may be a member of a political party, the Parish Council is not run on a political basis.

Councillors may also serve on outside bodies such as District and County Councils which brings added benefit to the Parish. These could include business and employment or planning issues.

Contrary to popular belief Parish Councillors receive no payment and no expenses, also no compensation is paid for time spent away from work. It is a purely voluntary position that they undertake for the good of their community. This is why some Parish Councils have trouble filling their seats.

As a Councillor you can serve on the Planning Committee or one of our working parties: Finance Resources & Policy, Community Premises and Public Open Spaces, and Staffing. It is at these meetings that much of the Parish work is discussed prior to going before Full Council as recommendations.

There is a full Parish Council meeting every month usually held on the third Thursday at the Council Offices in Cemetery Road, Whetstone. The meeting starts at 7.30pm and you would be very welcome to come along and see the Council in action.

There is a section in the meeting called Public Participation during which you can discuss a specific item on the agenda or you may wish to alert or discuss with Council a matter relating to Whetstone that you think is of importance. In order to participate please refer to the Public Speaking Protocol which can be located on our website www.whetstonepc.org.uk

The administration of the Council is carried out by the Clerk and Deputy Clerk. The Parish grounds are maintained by two grounds men. A litter picker and cleaner make up your Council staff. The Parish Council are responsible for your open spaces, your Parks: Warwick Road, Trinity Road, Oliver Park and your Cemetery.

Any other areas or services not mentioned are the responsibility of other authorities i.e. road issues, street cleaning, planning decisions are the responsibility of Blaby District Council or County Hall. The Parish Council consults with these authorities and offers its opinions and observations but is unable to force changes in these areas.

Once a year the Council meet to discuss how much money they need to ensure all areas of responsibility are financed, this includes maintenance, staff wages and the financing of any new projects. The total figure required is called the Precept, this comes from Whetstone Council Tax payers and can be seen itemised on your Council Tax bill. The rest of your Council Tax bill is made up of money needed for Leicestershire Police Authority, Combined Fire Authority, Blaby District Council and Leicestershire County Council.

CRIME AND DISORDER

Beacon Officer Pc Kirti Chauhan



PCSO Amy Stokes



Policing News for Whetstone

The neighbourhood team has seen a slight increase in damage to motor vehicles in the Whetstone area over the past month. We would like to advise you to secure your vehicle in a garage if you have one. Further crime prevention advice can be found on the website www.leics.police.uk

There have also been an increased number of calls in relation to anti-social behaviour (ASB) in and around Whetstone. In light of this police patrols have been increased during the reported times but predominately on Friday evenings.

Have you signed up to Neighbourhood Link, the Police community messaging system? By doing so you will receive latest news, updates and events information direct from the police. Just go to www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk

If you would like to take part in Blaby Police online webchat, log on to <http://www.leics.police.uk/blabywebchat> on the last Thursday of the month between 6.30pm and 7.30pm where a member of the panel, including a representative from Blaby District Council will be pleased to answer your questions.

We are continuing to use Social Media more and more to get our messages across and provide relevant news and information to people. The Blaby neighbourhood team is no exception and we have our own Twitter account and can be followed @LPBlaby. Blaby Local Policing Unit also has its own Facebook page.

Please follow us as it is an excellent way of staying up to date with local Policing.

However if you click on to <http://kimtag.com/BlabyLPU> this lists all the sites you can access on Social Networks for all the various neighbourhood teams that come under Blaby Local Policing Unit. It also has a QR code for smart phone users.

Please remember to now use 101 for non emergency to contact Police.

If you would like to leave a message for a member of the neighbourhood team, dial 101 and when prompted enter the officers ID number. For PC Kit Chauhan enter 4214 and for PCSO Amy Stokes enter 6588.

You can also email the neighbourhood team as follows:

Kirti.Chauhan@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Amy.Stokes@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Aaron.Biggs@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Michael.Brown@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Fiona.Mcgrady@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Emma.Hayden@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Robert.Western@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk



You can call Crimestoppers free and anonymously on 0800 555 111, although some mobile phone service providers may make a charge for the call.

Wishing you all Very Happy Easter from the beat team, a great time of year where you can indulge in chocolate delights and get away with it.

WHETSTONE CRIME FIGURES

Local crime figures are now available On the National Police website: www.police.uk. This website provides you with helpful information about crime and policing in your area. Enter your postcode, town, village or street into the search box, and get instant access to street-level Crime maps and data, as well as details of your local Policing team and beat meetings

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