



The new goal wall has now been installed on Trinity Park. It is a structure which combines goal posts and football target rings with basketball hoop and cricket stumps. It has been funded by the Parish Council and grant aid obtained by the Whetstone Youth Council. The tarmac pad will be marked out shortly and the grassed area will be seeded once the weather is correct. It shows the commitment to further enhance the facilities in the village for the children and youth of the village.

The cemetery has seen planned maintenance work successfully completed, with the pathways being resurfaced and the railings being repainted. It is good to see it looking more like its former glorious self.

We are unfortunately being besieged by vandalism in the village at the moment, with the Trinity road park being used by motorcycles, who see no wrong in riding on footpaths, on a public open space not dedicated to road users, and more alarmingly giving pillion rides to passengers who are not wearing helmets.

Perhaps you could remind your teenage sons and daughters of the consequences of not wearing a helmet and what tarmac and concrete will do to a head and face when it hits the ground unprotected. This will happen one day when the rider loses control of the motorcycle. It will however be too late for your son or daughter, and you will be left to pick up the pieces.

The park was also the target of racist graffiti and name tags as well as an arson attempt to several pieces of equipment which were covered in the plastic safety barriers which were in place to protect the work area whilst the Goal wall was being installed, and then set alight. This has damaged several painted surfaces as well as some of the safety surfacing. These acts are mindless and only go to spoil your children's enjoyment of the facilities.



The village green was the target of vandalism over consecutive nights by youths riding motorcycles over the flower beds and smashing bottles and graffiti on the memorial benches on the green. This has been reported to the police along with the names of the offenders. This can only happen with all of your support and determination to get the police and district council to take action against the offenders and remove this blight from the village. The police have an ongoing commitment to Whetstone and with your help in getting information to them no matter how trivial, we can make a difference. The village is not alone with the types of anti-social behaviour we are currently experiencing. Your parish council is keen to look at innovative ways to address it and make Whetstone the safe place it should be.

It is also true that teenager's as young as 13 are in the village on a Friday evening and are being found unconscious due to alcohol. If reported, and if found they are being taken home, or being taken to hospital for treatment. These are your children and perhaps you need to reassure yourself that your children are not leaving themselves open to the consequences and dangers that alcohol consumption brings. They will be powerless to stop indecent and gross acts whilst in this state. You can only hope that their friends are there to protect them, because if something wrong does happen, it is too late to undo.

We hope you like the fresher look Duckpaddle. Please do feel free to email any comments you have, or indeed anything you would like to bring to councils attention. We are here to serve you and the community of Whetstone..... Together we do make a difference

## Badgerbrook Primary School

Once again Badgerbrook Primary School has had a very busy year full of exciting events, not least our very successful Ofsted Inspection last October. How wonderful to end the year with fantastic SATs results, even better than last year. Well done everyone!

This is always a time of mixed emotions in schools. Whilst we are pleased to see our pupils progress and mature in readiness for high school, we are also a little sad to see them go after six or seven years with us. We are also sad to say farewell to a few other children who are moving house and two members of staff, Miss Foxon and Mr Foster. Miss Foxon was employed on a temporary contract for one year with a Year 3 class. Mr Foster has been here for one year providing support for ICT as part of his university course. We would also like to thank Mrs Richardson, one of our grandparents, who has helped in school for the last seven years. Not only has she supported class teachers with reading etc., she has also worked very hard to keep our library tidy and well organised. The Springwell Lane Walking Bus will finish at the end of this term. A very big thank you to all parents who have helped with the walking buses during the past two years, especially Mrs Smith and Mrs Cousins who have continued to run the Springwell Lane walking bus this year.

The start of the new school year will see Mrs Kallquist take up her role as Deputy Headteacher. The Assistant Headteachers are Mrs Sutton and Mrs Button. Miss Robinson will be joining us to teach a Year 6 class and Miss Brothwell has joined the cleaning staff.

Every year children from Year 2 to 6 enter the Harry Jones Memorial Prize for Handwriting. Ann Jones judges the entries and looks for a neatly joined style of handwriting. The winners receive a pen. The overall winner also has his/her name engraved on a trophy kept in school. This year the winners were as follows: Year 2 – Natasha Moore, Year 3 – Ria Jones, Year 4 – Tara Cox, Year 5 – Jessica Monk, Year 6 and overall winner – Sophie Tapping.

This year, three of our sports teams - tag rugby, basket ball and girls' football reached the finals and represented Blaby District Council on a very wet Sunday in June at the Leicestershire Youth Sports Festival at Loughborough University. All of the children played and behaved extremely well despite the appalling weather and we were very proud of them. Special thanks to the parents who not only generously gave up their entire Sunday to attend the event but also encouraged and supported the teams.

Badgerbrook recently hosted a Family Learning Fun Morning. This was an extremely successful event and was very well attended with over 130 participants. It was lovely to see families learning and having fun together. We hope to organise other such events in the future.

The Friends of Badgerbrook held a very successful Summer Gala on June 16th, despite the weather. They raised £2650. This year, thanks to FOBs we have been able to purchase 8 more laptops for class use and lots of extra reading and non-fiction books in addition to extra equipment for playtimes. All of the money they raise is used for the benefit of all pupils in the school and their support is really valued.

We are delighted that Kerry Windley and Rosie Buck, will be operating the After School Club on the school premises from the start of next term. They will also be running a Breakfast Club which will be open in the school hall from 7.30 until 8.45 a.m. daily. Children will be able to choose fruit, cereals, toast and fruit juice. There will be a 10% discount for siblings. Places are limited. There are currently vacancies for additional adults who would like to join the staff at the Breakfast Club. For further information please ring Kerry or Rosie on 07930869670.

Although this date seems a long way away at the moment, it would be helpful if parents with children born between September 1st 2003 and August 31st 2004, and who would like a place in our Foundation Department in August 2008, could contact the school to give us details. We welcome visits from any parents and children interested in looking round the school – please contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient appointment. (Tel: 0116 2752353)



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

At St Peter's, time seems to fly by quicker than ever. In July the school said goodbye to 39 talented children who are moving on to secondary education. At our Leavers Evening parents were entertained by children showing off their musical and dramatic skills. Many children received gifts to thank them for the commitment they had shown to wider school life and sport. St Peter's is a Church Aided Primary School, so the Leicester Diocese also gave each leaver an Encyclopaedia of the Bible as a useful memento of their time in a Church school.

The school also said goodbye to Mrs Gill Hammond-Evans—a teacher who after working at the school for 15 years was retiring.. Mrs Hammond-Evans had taught in both Infant and Junior departments, and had special responsibility for English and the library. At a special celebration Mrs Hammond-Evans was presented with a large blow up donkey that represented the donkey and 2 donkey support packs, which had been sent to Africa through Oxfam, paid on her behalf by contributions from staff, children and parents.

Now the holidays are over and staff are busy welcoming in 38 four year olds and a new teacher. In addition to this we have taken delivery of a new well equipped mobile classroom.

We are all looking forward to the new academic year and the interesting things it will bring.

### Creative Nature

Most people are fascinated by wildlife and increasingly people are spending more time outdoors, re-making connections with the countryside. In the past people kept nature diaries and used inspiration from the natural environment to feed in to all sort of hobbies from embroidery to poetry writing.

Now Leicestershire County Council's Community Heritage Initiative is offering free training through the Creative Nature programme on topics including creative writing, digital photography and botanical drawing. The programme of free training is running from June 2007 through to summer 2008.

People can also request a free Recording Naturally pack which is full of ideas to make their own wildlife diaries, with modern day twists such as wildlife web sites and digital scrap books. The free pack complements many of the wildlife and habitat surveys available from the Initiative, which is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Rutland County Council.

For more information on the Creative Nature programme and current courses or a free Recording Naturally pack, please call 0116 267 1377, email [chi@leics.gov.uk](mailto:chi@leics.gov.uk) or write to Leicestershire County Council's Environment and Heritage Resources Centre, Holly Hayes, 216 Birstall Road, Birstall, Leicester, LE4 4DG. To find out more information about recording the countryside, visit [www.leics.gov.uk/celebrating\\_wildlife](http://www.leics.gov.uk/celebrating_wildlife). A copy of the pack can also be downloaded from the website.

### Going Wildly Wicked

Anyone aged between the ages of 11 and 20 is being urged to go "wildly wicked" this summer with a prize winning photography competition. Leicestershire County Council's Community Heritage Initiative is inviting entries on the theme of answering the question "What matters to you about your natural environment?" Photos can include the area where you live, wildlife, favourite natural place, or a record of our impact on the environment such as climate change, graffiti, pollution and recycling.

The competition is hoping to inspire young people to capture the environment around them and give them an opportunity to highlight the issues that matter to them. Research has shown environmental issues are important to young people and this project hopes to record local issues in a creative and visual way.

Prizes on offer include £100 music store vouchers and entries can be sent by text, post, email or be dropped off at local libraries.

Photos will be displayed on the County Council web site and in local publications and displays. The closing date for entries is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007.

For details of how to enter and obtain a copy of the entry form, email [wildlywicked@leics.gov.uk](mailto:wildlywicked@leics.gov.uk), go to [www.leics.gov.uk/wildlywicked](http://www.leics.gov.uk/wildlywicked) or telephone CHI on 0116 267 1377



**JUST A MINUTE**

**YOUR** Parish Council 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 one week before. Parishioners are more than welcome to attend, whether you have a specific interest in an item on the agendas, you wish to alert or discuss with Council a matter relating to Whetstone you think is of importance, 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.

**June**

- HGVs using Springwell Lane/Grove Rd. because of satellite navigation systems, advertising signs on Enderby Rd. were items of concern to parishioners. Clerk to take appropriate action.
- Congratulations to Karl Coles on his appointment as Youth Champion for BDC
- Presentation from LCC Highways on proposals for traffic improvements for junction 21. All questions were documented as part of the consultation.
- Clerk to seek comments from BDC and LCC on possible new location for sports pavilion.
- Clerk awaiting meterage sizes from BDC to apply for full planning permission for allotments.
- John Kenney informed the meeting that Whetstone Youth Council had successfully been awarded a grant towards a Multi Purpose Ball Wall.
- Approval for painting of railings and tarmacadam in the cemetery and new lighting in the Edward Wright Room, sought and given.

**July**

- Seats on Trinity park—Burnham Drive Hail & Ride Bus stop—Noise of lorries on Dog & Gun Lane—Waste bin on Brook Street., were items of concern to parishioners. Clerk to take appropriate action.
- Inspector Jim Holyoak of Blaby LPU reported to the meeting on restructuring of the LPU. Specific policing issues appertaining to Whetstone were also discussed.
- District Councillor, John Kenney, informed members of the work of the scrutiny committee at BDC which were looking into section 106 monies and illegal Alcohol sales
- Clerk reported installation of new lighting in the Edward Wright Room, completion of painting of the cemetery railings and completion of tarmac in the cemetery. Permission was given to donate the notice board at the Memorial Hall to the Memorial Hall and remove the notice board from Station Street.
- Clerk updated Council on the planning application for the Allotments and subsequent works required, costs etc.
- Clerk advised on the BDC Community Safety Road-Show taking place during July.
- Agreed that where a major Planning Application was received that affected the village the Planning Committee would set up a system for informing parishioners.

**August**

- County Councillor, David Jennings, gave an update on the traffic calming scheme, Dog & Gun Lane; which had commenced. District Councillor, Karl Coles, updated the meeting on BDC Youth Bus which had visited Trinity Park as part of the BDC summer activity programme.
- Resolved the Clerk write to other Police beat parishes and ask if they would be willing to fund a bike each, totalling 3 bikes, for the 2 beat offices and CSO.
- The BDC housing stock transfer road show is visiting Whetstone.
- Clerk informed Council of incidents with youths vandalising the skateboard ramp and roundabout on Trinity park, The skateboard ramp was out of action for 1 week and parts had been ordered for the roundabout. Police had been informed of all incidents.
- Clerk informed that Bloor Homes had confirmed that a 6ft high fence would be used for the Shelduck open space before adopted by WPC.
- Letter from BDC confirming lease of land on Trinity Park for Playground equipment.
- Letter received from parishioner regarding flooding on Brook Street. Clerk to write to LCC regarding problems.

**Anonymous correspondence cannot be dealt with**

The next four meetings of Council take place on Thursday 18th October, 15th November, 20th December 2007 and 17th January 2008

E-mail:WhetstonePC@whetstone.org.uk Tel: Leicester (0116) 2751987 Fax: Leicester (0116) 2753395

The office is open Monday to Friday 9am-4pm (an answer machine is in operation at all other times)

**YOUR ELECTED DISTRICT and COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

District Councillor	John Kenney	100 Spinney Halt, Whetstone	2864508 Whetstone North
District Councillor	Alan Tanner	White Barn Farm, Cosby	2841596 Whetstone South
District Councillor	Janet Forey	7 Lady Leys, Cosby	2752363 Whetstone South
District Councillor	Karl Coles	96 Enderby Road, Whetstone	2774138 Whetstone North
County Councillor	Barry Garner	7 Riverside Court, Station Road, Littlethorpe	2867362
County Councillor	David Jennings	122 Station Road, Countesthorpe	2774263

**WHETSTONE YOUTH COUNCIL**

For all you young people- 13 to 18 years old - who wish to make your voices heard

If you are interested, wish to know more or feel that you would like to represent the views of Young People in Whetstone please contact by: E.Mail:youthcouncil@whetstone.org.uk or ring John on 2864508, or check-out the website www.whetstone.org.uk

Funds to provide the new Multi Sports Goal Wall on the Trinity Road Recreation Ground was a collaboration between Whetstone Youth Council and Whetstone Parish Council. The Whetstone Youth Council obtained a grant of £5000 from the Youth Opportunity Fund and the Parish Council provided the rest



30 minutes  
What you do  
is up to you

How much exercise should I do?

The recommended target for physical activity is at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity on at least 5 days of the week (5 x 30)

Why should I do this?

To keep your heart, lungs, bones and muscles in good working order.

To find out more about what's on in YOUR area Contact your local Physical Activity Coordinator—Blaby—Hina Palmer 0116 272 7704



Beat Officer Pc Nick Ward

## CRIME AND DISORDER



Beat Officer Pc Nick Taylor

### "A Rest Assured"

Hello everyone, hope you all had a great holiday period. If you're anything like me with the little darlings back at school you are probably looking forward to a well earned rest.

That said I start this article with some good news. With the exception of a couple of minor blips the summer has gone off relatively quietly. Usually over the summer holidays the number of reported incidents of criminal damage significantly increases compared to other times in the year. I can say with some satisfaction that this year there has been a one third decrease compared to the same period last year. I feel that this is testament to the good behaviour of our children and is hopefully an indication of things to come. I know from reports made to me that some of you experienced problems with mopeds and mini moto's being ridden in an inconsiderate, if not dangerous manner. Myself and other members of the beat team have taken various steps to identify those responsible including knocking door to door at 'hot spot' locations to put names to faces. I must emphasize that without information provided by people such as yourselves, the job of identification is much more difficult.

To date a number of offenders have been identified and either reprimanded or prosecuted, with several bikes being seized under Section 59 of the Police Reform Act. In a nut shell this piece of legislation (where evidence exists that an offence of driving on land other than a road or careless inconsiderate driving has been committed and the actions are likely to cause antisocial behaviour), allows the Police to issue a warning in the first instance and to seize the offending bike on the second occasion. This type of action is starting to pay dividends, but I would still ask that anyone with information identifying those responsible contact either the Police or the Blaby District Council Community Safety Unit who do a lot of work behind the scenes which often goes un-noticed.

Lastly can I remind everyone to make sure they are not leaving valuable items on display in their cars when parking up. As I have previously mentioned many of the vehicles broken into are having 'Sat Nav's' stolen, as they are "hidden" in the glove boxes. The thieves aren't stupid (well rarely) and they are looking for signs of the cradles or sucker marks on window screens. At present we are offering a free cleaning cloth to those who want one to help remove those annoying circular marks left on the screen. There is a limited supply so please come into the Blaby Police Station front office if you want one.

And remember.....a lie is like a stone thrown into a still lake, the impact always causes a disturbance.

CSO Neil Walker applied for and was accepted to train as a Police Constable. Neil commences training in January 2008 but in the mean time has been seconded to other duties. CSO 6111, Teresa Frain has joined the team and will be working alongside PCs Ward and Taylor in Blaby, Glen Parva and Whetstone.

PC Ward, PC Taylor and CSO Teresa Frain are contactable on 0116 2485675 collar number 1716, 0845 and 6111 respectively.

General switchboard to report non emergency 222222 id. No. 1716, 0845 and 6111 respectively Email address for Blaby Local Policing Unit to report crime et al. [blaby.lpu@leicestershire.pnn.co.uk](mailto:blaby.lpu@leicestershire.pnn.co.uk)

#### Crime Figures for Whetstone 9th June 2007—6th September 2007

B/Dwelling	3	B/Other	6
Dam/Veh	9	Theft from Veh.	7
Theft Cycle	3	Robbery	0
Drugs	2	Public Order	0
Criminal Damage	10	Theft of Veh.	0



For independent confidential advice on alcohol abuse. : Drink Line 0800 917 8282

Comparison made of Criminal Damage and Burglary dwelling figures for the period 14th July 2007 to 30th August 2007 (school holiday period), against those for the same period in 2006. Both offences showed a decrease of 1/3. The only crime reported for this period in Whetstone to have increased is Theft from Vehicle, which showed an increase by 2/5. All other crimes reported remained either the same or had decreased compared to last year.

Enquires about parking enforcement in Blaby District should be directed to John Wells or David Knight at Blaby District Council tele: 0116 272 7545

Whetstone Parish Council  
 Council Offices  
 Cemetery Road  
 Whetstone LE8 6LL  
 Telephone: (0116) 2751987  
 Fax: (0116) 2861345  
 E-mail: [Whetstone\\_pc@whetstone.org.uk](mailto:Whetstone_pc@whetstone.org.uk)

