

Lois Weedon and Weston Newsletter

September/October 2022 – Autumn Edition

From the Editor

A delayed publication this month. Apologies to regular contributors for any recent events not publicised ahead of time. I would firstly like to take this opportunity extend a warm welcome to Laura Marks and her family who recently moved into The Green, Lois Weedon and also George Gamanya who moved recently into Middlethorpe. I hope you enjoy all the social activity in the Village as we head towards Christmas and beyond and are encouraged to join in

Now if you are reading this as a printed hard copy, then you are in a select group of valued members of our community for whom I am happy to continue printing the newsletter. However, the majority of our community are now happy and willing to receive a “paperless” newsletter by email and so if you would also like to go “paperless” then just send me an email and I will stop trudging up your driveway to deliver. Also, if you know of anyone outside the Village who would like to receive the Newsletter then just let me have their details (email only).

For those of who are members of the Newsletter Facebook page you will be aware of the growing collection of old photos of the village and the community being shared on that page. Pictures of people no longer with us now, buildings still here but changed beyond recognition and events that occurred long before the advent of social media. I would encourage everyone to view the Facebook page and feel free to contribute.

If you are not a member, ask to join the group and browse, www.facebook.com/groups/LoisWeedonWestonNews

The next and final edition of this year’s newsletters will be the November/December 2022 edition and all material for that edition should be given to me by Sunday, 30th October 2022. The first edition of 2023 will be in January.

Paul Smith, 8 Vicarage Rise (01327-860626) (Email: loisweedonpaul@gmail.com)

Dates for your Diary

(Yes we are starting to advertise events !!)

Thu., Oct 20	Village Hall Annual Meeting , 7:30pm in Lois Weedon Village Hall – All welcome –
Tue., Nov 1	Film Club – November Meeting – “The Duke” – details on page 2
Wed., Nov 2	WI – November Meeting – SurpriseGuest – details on page 3
Sat., Nov 19	Village Dance and Social Evening - Fund raiser in aid Autism East Midlands- details on page 7

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who supported our Macmillan coffee morning.

We raised £600 including a generous donation of £223 from the 'Bard from The Crown' quiz team and The New Inn at Abthorpe. We hope we did Jenni Liv proud.

Thanks again. Jill, Sarah, Maureen and Pam

Winners of Village Hall ‘200 Club’ Lottery

August 2022		September 2022		October 2022	
Sally Neville	52	James Smith	7	Seth Wilde	46
Aaron McAuliffe	147	Dave Abbott	90	Don & Shirley Penfold	93
Colin James	87	Jonni & Sarah Bougourd	43	Edwina Kidd	197
Laura Johnson	151	Pete & Chris Templeman	37	Diane Whittaker	120

The lottery is usually drawn once per month at the WI meeting.

During Covid restrictions, the draw will still take place on or close to the first Wednesday of the month.

Prizes are £25, £15, £10, £5. - We still have lottery numbers available.

Many thanks to all the members who have renewed their lottery membership (and paid !!)

Rachel Smith (01327 860626)

E-mail: rachel.k.smith4@gmail.com

Weston & Lois Weedon Film Club

Memorable movies on your doorstep!

Forthcoming attractions:

Tuesday 1st November: **The Duke**. 2020 British Comedy/Drama

In 1961, a 60-year old taxi driver steals Goya's portrait of The Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London. He sends ransom notes saying that he will return the painting if the government invests more in care for the elderly. Starring Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren

Tuesday 6th December: **National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation**

A 1989 American Christmas Slapstick/comedy film.

Tuesday 10th January 2023: **Paris at Midnight**. 2011

While on a trip to Paris with his fiancée's family, a nostalgic screen writer finds himself mysteriously going back to the 1920's, every day at midnight. Directed by Woody Allen

Jane Pomeroy, Alan Davies, Graham Jardine, Pete Templeman



Lois Weedon & Weston WI



Looking back over the past year, here are some highlights and perhaps what you might have missed.

We began our new WI year with a Harvest Supper in the village hall which was enjoyed by about 35 people who dined on a meal of casseroles, jacket potatoes and traditional apple pie and custard.

On 24th **October** a special evening service was held in the church to present the kneelers made by WI members, other villagers and schoolchildren from St Loy's as a WI centenary project and gift to the church. These kneelers involved many hours of work and resulted in a truly beautiful array of new kneelers. Particular recognition must be given to our former president, Sue Taylor, who co-ordinated the whole project and made the most impressive wedding kneeler, not to mention completing and bringing together the combined efforts of the schoolchildren who were also helped by Rachel Smith, Paddy Elkington, Pam Palmer and Sally Neville. Recognition also goes to Jenni Liversidge, our late former secretary, who, apart from her own kneelers that she made, also mounted and backed those of many others who were unable to complete this part. Without the enormous effort from Sue, Jenni and their team this project would not have been the huge success that it was and we extend our thanks to them and all those who contributed to it either through making a kneeler or assisting children or others in making theirs.

In **November** we welcomed Christine Farmer who gave an interesting and interactive talk about the life of William Shakespeare. We all had fun in **December** with Rebekah Morgan who showed us how to make pretty Christmas wreaths using scrap materials. We also tried our hands at hand bell ringing and managed an almost recognisable verse of Jingle Bells and The First Nowell! Also in December was a Christmas lights trail organised by Louise Marwick where villagers decorated a window, garden or porch with Christmas lights for people to walk around ending up with mulled wine or hot chocolate and mince pies in the village hall.

Sadly our **January** dinner had to be cancelled due to increased numbers of Covid cases locally.

In **February** we were treated to a very interesting and humorous talk by Colin Hill entitled 'Dancing with Diana'. Colin talked about his time as a Special Protection Officer with the Royal Family and gave us a little insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes'.

New villager Ro Cutler gave us an informative talk in **March** on his career in the fire service, and showed us firefighting protective wear and medical equipment.

In **April** we were entertained by Jane French with her talk on Poverty, Crime and Punishment in Victorian Lois Weedon and Weston when we learned about some surprising and interesting goings on in the local area.

May brought our annual resolutions evening and we enjoyed a fish and chip supper with our guests.

And in **June** we had a very humorous evening with Lucy Swales who talked about Madame Tussauds, its history and the often rather bizarre processes involved in making their wax figures over the years.

On a warm summer evening in **July** we visited Catanger Llamas where Mary Pryse told us of the history of her llama farm and took us on a little tour to see the llamas and their babies which resulted in lots of photos and laughs as the inquisitive cria (baby llamas) played around us.

In **August** we had a Celebration Garden Party in the Millennium Field. At long last we were able to celebrate our centenary in style with members past and present with a delicious 'Putting on the Ritz' afternoon tea.

Our **September** meeting brought a very entertaining talk entitled 'You Cannot be Serious' from a former Wimbledon umpire from 1988 – 2012.

Sally Neville

Our WI AGM took place on **October 5th** in the Village Hall, and the current committee was re-elected

Our next meeting in November when our guest speaker is a "Surprise Presenter" and in December we welcome back Rebekah Morgan for Christmas Crafts and to enjoy a Festive Evening – we hope you can join us.

Our W.I is seeking new members to bring new ideas and new faces and friends into our group to enable us to advance positively into our new centenary. If you are interested, please contact us, or just come as a Visitor to one of our meetings. We have had some fantastic speakers so why not come and enjoy them too.

The meetings are held on the **first Wednesday** of every month and start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The current committee are:-

President – Rachel Smith, Treasurer - Edwina Kidd, Secretaries - Louise King, & Sally Neville, Village Hall -Rachel Smith, Meet & Greet, Door & Raffle - Peggie Clarke.

*Rachel Smith
President*

Message from our local police

Do you suspect drug dealing in your area?

South Northants Neighbourhood Policing Team are committed to tackling co-ordinated criminal behaviour and identify signs of crime earlier and safeguard those at risk.

You can report concerns to us by:

- • Calling 999 if someone is in danger or a crime is taking place
- • Call 101 for non-emergencies (select option to report an incident/crime)
- • Report information online using our website www.northants.police.uk
- • Speaking to a PCSO or Police Officer

You can contact South Northants Neighbourhood Team for non-urgent advice on our email:

Towcester Team: NT-SouthNorthantsTowcester@northants.police.uk

Brackley Team: NT-SouthNorthantsBrackley@northants.police.uk

Or

You can share information anonymously with the independent charity Crimestoppers by:

Calling 0800 555 111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information

Parish Council

Here is a summary of the most recent Parish Council meeting held on **October 3rd** (delayed from previously scheduled ordinary meeting due on 26th September) in the Village Hall. The meeting was attended by 6 councillors and 2 members of the public and 2 representatives from William Blake House. Full minutes of council meetings are posted on the Village Notice Boards and on the Parish Council website. If anyone would like more on any matter, please contact the Clerk, Ken Power.

William Blake House

Representatives from William Blake House management attended the meeting to respond to complaints from local residents about noise nuisance and parking problems associated with the two WBH buildings. They promised that parking and noise problems would be addressed urgently and resolved and emphasized the wish of WBH to continue to be an integral part of the village community.

Matters arising from previous minutes and not covered elsewhere.

It was noted that the planning application in respect of Spiers Meadow had been approved by WNC and that it was disappointing that the Parish Council had not been made aware of any amendments made or clarification given in response to the Parish Council's concerns about access to the public footpath which crosses the site.

Finance Matters: Accounts 2021/22 to-date and budget performance to date were reviewed and approved

It was noted that the £3500.00 second tranche of the precept has been received and there is a positive balance of £5324.00. There is currently £178.00 VAT available to be reclaimed. A claim will be made later in the year when the amount will be bigger.

Payments were approved for CGM (Churchyard mowing and Millennium Field mowing), Clerk's salary and expenses, NPower (electricity supply for street lights, Middlethorpe), E.ON (street light maintenance), Horticultural Society (Rent of Millennium Field)

Planning Matters: Two planning applications were presented

- **WNS/2022/1845/FUL:** Baptist Manse, 23 High Street, Weston. Single storey side extension. Supported.
- **WNS/2022/1892/LBC:** Lovells Farm, 9 Helmdon Road, Weston. Listed building consent for change of use from agricultural building to farm office. Supported

Millennium Field. It was agreed that the invoice from the Horticultural Society for rent of the Millennium Field for 12 months from 1st March 2022 should be paid and that an invoice for 12 months from 1st March 2023 will also be paid next year if no increase in the rent is imposed. That will be the last payment before the agreement between the Parish Council and the Horticultural Society regarding the field expires in 2024. Before the expiry, the Parish Council wishes to have discussions and a clear agreement with the Horticultural Society regarding future arrangements for the field and how to make best use of the facility for the local community.

Castle Mound. Subject to final confirmation of the costs, Historic England has agreed to give significant financial support for the tree work that is required to protect and preserve the site. They are also willing to support ongoing work to keep the ground coverage under control in 2023 and 2024. The Parish Council will set up a plan for monitoring and controlling the ground cover. The Council is also working on a project to install an information board on the site to explain its historical significance.

Local Government Boundary Review. WNC have started a consultation about reorganising electoral wards to take account of current and predicted population changes in the West Northants area. There will be no changes to parishes or their boundaries.

Streetlamp Maintenance. The Council understands that in spite of their merger with Npower, E.ON will continue to carry out maintenance work on street lighting for parishes.

External Auditor. The Council unanimously agreed to accept the new external auditors proposed by NCALC.

Next Meeting: Monday 28th November, at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Weedon Lois.

Ken Power, Parish Clerk, Tel: 01327 860054 (E-mail: wtwparishclerk@outlook.com)

Village Golf Day – Wednesday 10th August 2022

As with last year a draw was made as to who played with whom, captains nominated and rules explained where local rules were to be applied. Two new rules introduced this year :-

- 75cm string – each player was allowed one opportunity to move their ball up to the full distance of the piece of string for no stroke.
- Haircut – each player was allowed one haircut each, this means they were allowed to move the ball from the rough onto the fairway (but no nearer the hole) for no extra stroke.

With everything sorted the five groups, a four ball, three three-balls and another four-ball set off for the first tee and to start the serious business of playing golf.

Again as per last year various means were taken by each player to move round the course with their clubs. From walk and carry their bags, using a trolley to carry their clubs, electric trolleys that start moving at a flick of a switch while the golfer runs behind trying to stop it going too fast and of course the remote controlled trolley mentioned last year. On top of this two players used a buggy, an electric vehicle with golf clubs tied/strapped on the back which is driven round the course. Obviously this is the pinnacle but as with all things like this there is always something waiting to go wrong. The two players in question hit their first tee shots and motored down the course in search of their balls. Player one found his, hit his second shot, umped in the buggy and off it sped.... Unfortunately the clubs had not been strapped on well enough and a full set of clubs was unceremoniously dumped on the ground (crashing remote controlled trolley last year and now dumping clubs on the fairway this, well done AJ). As these players were in the first group all the other players were able to view this event and express their thoughts, most were polite if not a little sarcastic.

During the play the Event CEO once again had arranged a fly past from the Red Arrows. Yes this is true, they flew over in two waves at very low level to be followed some minutes later by a single plane. Such a wonderful idea and huge thanks to the Event CEO.

When the golf was done we all journeyed home to change and meet back in our village hostelry, The Crown Inn, for some light refreshment and a meal where the winners were announced to great fanfare.

- Longest drive for men – **Bob Devey**
- Nearest the pin all – **Bob Devey** (I know, I know, seems greedy if you ask me)
- Nearest the pin women only – This was after two shots on the tenth hole but not one female player was able to get close to the green let alone on it in two shots. Someone said something about hanging heads in shame, not sure who it was.
- Top Team – **Anne Longley, Liz Carpenter, Jez Wilcox and yours truly**

The big prize though, won last year by **David Isaac**, was a close run thing....

- 3rd equal – **Jane Jarman and Liz Carpenter**
- 2nd – **Bob Devey**, yes nearly a clean sweep

But the winner and village champion for the next twelve months..... **Stan Shires**

Last year talk arose regarding an inter village golf day, Weston versus Lois Weedon. No such event was held and Lois Weedon wait for Weston to organise themselves and pick up the gauntlet thrown down last year, or are you too frightened?

Before I go a special thanks to those who arranged and managed the day, and those who provided the prizes

Diane Archard-Jones – Event CEO

John Archard-Jones – CEO's assistant

Katie Shires – Rules / Scorer Official

Anyone wanting to get involved in the organising of this event please contact Diane directly. Maybe you could help in holding the event at a different course next year.

Doug Longley
Golf Correspondent LW&W Newsletter



Weston & Weedon Horticultural Society



The Rain Stayed Away But The People Didn't

The 80th Annual Horticultural Show finally took place on Saturday 3 September, over two years late.

But better late than never. We were very lucky with the weather and very encouraged by all the support we received.

This show was smaller than in previous years but perfectly formed and the quality of the entries was as high as ever.

We had vegetables of all shapes and sizes and many beautiful flower arrangements. There was a table full of Victoria Sandwich Cakes alongside the ever competitive Guinness Cake entries. Luckily we had strong tables to support the weight of the Giant Marrow and the many huge Chilli Plants. Our table was not really big enough to fit on all the Photographs. In a corner was a bottle of the prize winning Sloe Gin and nearby a table of very inventive Lego Models from the children. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and in the planning of the show. Big thanks to the very busy Sarah Webb and Jill Jones for the scrumptious teas. We are very grateful to Clyde Burbidge for the use of his field and thank you so much to Suzanna Sitwell who opened the show with some fascinating words. They were "just right" someone said to me. We appreciate the use of the Village Hall and Marquee. Thank you Paul for arranging that.

Once again thank you to everyone who came and big congratulations to all that entered.

Watch this space !!!

*Graham Ellis
Weston & Weedon Horticultural Society*

Running for Autism East Midlands – apologies to Luke for the late publication of this article

By way of further information from the last newsletter, I am now just a couple of weeks away from the London Marathon – (ran 2nd October 2022). It's going to be an interesting challenge for someone who doesn't really like running in London, doesn't like long distance road running and enjoys the tranquillity of the hills and trails (not what London will be like). "So why are you doing it" I hear you ask. Well, I'm doing it as it's about time I run a marathon. Also, I love challenges and getting through the crowds, the noise, and enduring the constant bounding of London streets will be an interesting challenge for me. However, the massive driver for me is to raise money for Autism East Midlands. They are a charity that support autistic children across the East Midlands by providing youth clubs and day trips (as well as various other activities) so they can spend time with likeminded peers and not feel "different". During lockdown their support was invaluable to many families and they provided zoom youth clubs and drove around the region providing ingredients and "distraction packs" to help their service users manage lockdown. This is the personal bit, but I've had first-hand experience of their services and how amazing they are. From "learning to fish" trips, to sailing, climbing, trampoline park days, and youth clubs. They do it all. Given how much they do, the least I can do is run in London and do some things to raise money for them.

You'll see the poster in this newsletter but on 19th November at 7pm there will be a disco, live band, food and raffle night in the village hall. There are already some amazing raffle prizes like VIP entry and treatment to a national exhibition at the NEC, High Tea for Two, Meal for Two and many, many more. So, grab the pennies from out the back of the sofa, "borrow" from the kids piggy bank and come prepared to donate to a great cause. Also, if anyone has something they would like to donate as a raffle prize that would be gratefully received.

Oh, and I forgot, there will be a bar as well.

If anyone would want to attend but can't, or just wants to donate anyway, here is the website where you can donate.

<https://tcs-london-marathon.enthuse.com/pf/luke-longley-7d702/post/1912456>



Village Dance & Social Night

Saturday 19th November 2022 @ 7pm

Dinner included (Veggie option)

Bar Available



Raffle



Live Music by Weston Union



+ disco



**Tickets available from Kate Isaac, Bob Devey,
Anne, Doug, Luke and Naomi Longley £12.50**

All proceeds to support

Tove Valley Broadband

Notice to all Residents
Lois Weedon and Weston

Fibre Optic Broadband is
coming to you
And installation is **FREE**

Tove Valley Broadband, the current supplier of internet services to most properties in Lois Weedon and Weston, have successfully applied for a grant to lay fibre optic broadband cable to each and every property in our community. **FREE OF CHARGE**

This will enable each and every property to benefit from the much improved, faster, and more reliable service provision received from cable rather than the existing radio network currently in existence.

Cable will need to be laid around the villages and to each of your properties. To facilitate cable laying to, and into, your property, a local volunteer (someone from your community) will visit you in the coming weeks to talk through the project and how and where we can run a cable for you.

Don't forget the **installation is free**, you will still need to pay for the internet service provision but NOT for the installation of the cable.

If you want to know more phone Frank Hunter
on 01327 860 597

or email frank.hunter@btinternet.com