

Lois Weedon and Weston Newsletter

September/October 2023 – Autumn Edition

From the Editor

A slightly delayed publication for this edition. I had hope to get this one to you before the end of September but then tested positive for Covid – we thought we had seen the last of that – and so a few plans have changed. The Drama Group had been rehearsing a Murder Mystery, due to take place on Friday 29th and Saturday 20th but because one of the cast (yours truly) was testing positive it was felt wise to postpone and find a healthier option in due course.

New villagers: I would firstly like to take this opportunity extend a warm welcome to Clare Vachell and her daughter Evie who recently moved into Kettle End, Lois Weedon. 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 maybe in that 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 its growing use as a “Village Notice Board”. 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 2023 edition and all material for that edition should be given to me by Sunday, 29th October 2023. The first edition of 2024 will be in January.

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

Dates for your Diary

Tue., Oct 3	Film Club – October Meeting – “Top Gun: Maverick” – details on page 2
Fri., Oct 6	Macmillan Coffee Morning 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Support
Fri., Oct 6	Horse Race Night in the Village Hall in aid of the Village Hall & Cancer Research – details on page 5
Thu., Oct 19	Village Hall Annual Meeting , 7:30pm in Lois Weedon Village Hall – All welcome –
Sat., Oct 21	Harvest Supper in the Village Hall – proceeds in aid of the Church – see note below for tickets
Fri., Nov 3	Village Coffee Morning 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall
Sat., Nov 25	Village Dance and Social Evening - Village Hall - details on page 6
Mon., Nov 27	Parish Council Meeting - 8:00pm in the Village Hall - All welcome
Fri., Dec 1	Village Coffee Morning 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall
Sat., Dec 2	Christmas Craft & Gift Fair - 9:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall - Cooked breakfast, tea & coffee
Sat., Dec 16	Christmas Fruit & Veg - 9:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall – Tea, coffee & mince pies. Hamper Raffle Draw
Sun., Dec 17	Christmas Car Delivery Service - Deadline for delivery 18 th December – Details in next edition

Harvest Supper - tickets are available from Caroline Raven 01327 860475 carolineandbrianraven@gmail.com
Or Frank Hunter 07919 348697 Frank.hunter@btinternet.com.

Winners of Village Hall ‘200 Club’ Lottery

August 2023		September 2023	
Chris Seckington	84	Pete & Chris Templeman	37
William Hunt	150	Ro & Claire Cuttler	113
Anna Mackaness	23	Andrew Kirkpatrick	143
Shirley & Don Penfold	93	Graham & Linda Jardine	95

The lottery is usually drawn once per month.

Christmas Bonus Draw - £50 prize – Draw to take place on Saturday 16th December

Prizes are £25, £15, £10, £5. £50 bonus draw in December - 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!

To Film Club members and anyone who would like to join us.

We plan to start our autumn screenings on **Tuesday October 3rd** showing:

Top Gun: Maverick starring Tom Cruise

After more than 30 years of service as one of the Navy's top aviators, Pete "Maverick" Mitchell is where he belongs, pushing the envelope as a courageous test pilot and dodging the advancement in rank that would ground him. Training a detachment of graduates for a special assignment, Maverick must confront the ghosts of his past and his deepest fears, culminating in a mission that demands the ultimate sacrifice from those who choose to fly it.

Doors open at 7.30pm for a 7.45 film start at Lois Weedon Village Hall.

The following two showings will be on November 7th and December 5th.

We really hope you will join us.

Jane Pomeroy, Alan Davies, Graham Jardine, Pete Templeman

Parish Council

Here is a summary of the most recent Parish Council meeting held on **September 25th** in the Village Hall. The meeting was attended by 5 councillors, the Clerk and 2 members of the public. 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.

Finance Matters: Accounts 2023/24 to-date and budget performance to date were reviewed and approved

It was noted that the second tranche of the precept was due and the bank balance was healthy and a recent claim for repayment of £742.00 VAT had been received

2022 / 2023 Internal Audit Report: NCALC have again refused to correct inaccuracies in last year's report. A new auditor has been appointed and the Council will take no further action.

Payments were approved for CGM (Churchyard mowing and Millennium Field mowing), Clerk's salary and expenses, Horticultural Society (Rent of Millennium Field)

Planning Matters: Three planning applications were presented

- **WNS/2023/6279/FULL:** 12, Milthorpe, Weedon Lois NN12 8PP. Supported.
- **WNS/2023/6284/FULL** and **6285/LBC.** Barn College Farm, Helmdon Road, Weston NN12 8PX: Supported
- **WNS/ 2023/6349/FULL.** Pear Tree Cottage, 6, Helmdon Road, Weston NN12 8PX: Supported.

Decisions taken after visits to both sites in Weston by Councillors and the Clerk on 14th September, including a meeting at Barn College Farm with representatives of Saville's, who act on behalf of the owners, All Souls College.

William Blake House: Correspondence had been received from a neighbour about noise from William Blake House. WBH responded quickly. The situation will be reviewed again at the November PC meeting.

Castle Mound :The tree work required by the last tree survey and agreed with Historic England has been done according to specification. Historic England has confirmed their second payment (£840.00) is being arranged.

A Maintenance Plan for control of ground cover and self-set saplings will be prepared. A copy of this will be reviewed with Historic England. Possible future developments were discussed with local residents present at the meeting.

There is again a problem with bubbling on the information lectern. The supplier has been contacted and has agreed to supply a much better-quality stove-baked panel at no extra cost to resolve the problem.

Millennium Field. The existing contract for the Parish Council's rental of the field from the Horticultural Society will expire in March 2024. It was agreed that a meeting should take place between the Council and the Horticultural Society to agree what should happen after that date.

Churchyard Mowing: At the previous meeting complaints were raised about the standard of the mowing. A meeting was held with the contractor and a new specification has been agreed.

Next Meeting: Monday 27th November, at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Weedon Lois.

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

Village Golf Day – Wednesday 16th August 2023

That time of year came and sixteen intrepid golfers met for the third running of the Weston and Lois Weedon Village Golf day since its re-inception back in 2021.

Another year goes by and we are all one year older. It was once again held at Cherwell Edge Golf Club where over 25% of the competitors are members. You would have thought this would give them an advantage, hmm, perhaps not.

Rookie for 2023, Charlie Mawle, was welcomed by all. Good to see someone under the age of 65 as 75+% of the field were past this age, perhaps well past in some cases. We were also blessed with the company of the previous two winners, David Isaac (2021) and Stan Shires (2022), and the new Ladies Champion of Cherwell Edge, Kate Shires.

A high class field indeed.

The competition took on its usual Stableford format with three lifelines to spice things up.

One – any player could kick their ball once during the round without penalty and no additional stroke added.

Two – each player in each team could nominate a hole where their score would be doubled, no two players on the same team could nominate the same hole.

Three – the team could select a hole to double the team score.

A draw took place to decide who played with who and, much to the “surprise” of everyone else, Anne Longley, Doug Longley, Stan Shires (last year’s winner) and Katie Shires (current Cherwell Ladies champion) were drawn together. Who would have thought your very own correspondent would be drawn in the strongest team.

As well as the usual, longest drive for men, nearest the pin after two shots for women and nearest the pin for all, a new category was created for this year, best shot of the day.

Unfortunately this year the event CEO forgot to arrange what has become the traditional fly past from the Red Arrows. A letter of complaint was signed by all other golfers and hopefully this unique event will reappear next year.

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 – **Jez Wilcox**

Nearest the pin – **Katie Shires**

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, Stan Shires, Katie Shires and yours truly**. (seems I keep getting drawn with the winners)

The new category of best shot was discussed and debated with some enthusiasm by all during the evening meal with the “ghost” shot being nominated by the eventual winning team. On the third hole, a par three, yours truly hit a magnificent tee shot and putted to leave the ball very close to the hole, marked the ball and lifted to avoid getting in the way of the other players. Sometime later when all three other golfers had finally putted out scores were shouted out for official records and off the four golfers went to the tee on hole four. Suddenly Stan Shires noticed a ball marker on the green, my ball marker. Challenged on this it became clear I had not finished the hole so had to walk sheepishly back place my ball next to the marker and very nervously putt the ball for the score I had previously shouted out. Very embarrassing for me but great amusement for the rest of the team for the rest of the round. Ah well at least I made someone smile for a change.

The Best shot was eventually given to **Jonathan Carpenter** who was nominated for two great efforts holing out from bunkers.

The big prize though, won last year by **David Isaac**, was a close run thing....But the winner, and village champion for the next twelve months, was **Katie Shires**. A well-deserved winner.

Before I go a special thanks to those who arranged and managed the day:-

Diane Archard-Jones – Event CEO

John Archard-Jones – CEO’s assistant

Katie Shires – Rules / Scorer Official

Finally a big shout out to **Jez Wilcox** and **Mike Elkington** for sponsoring the team prizes, very much appreciated.

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*

Race Night Returns – Friday October 6th, Lois Weedon Village Hall

The return of the ever popular (video) Horse Race Night is due to take place in Lois Weedon Village Hall on Friday 6th October. A fundraiser for the Village Hall and Cancer Research.

7:00 for a 7:30 start of the first race

Tickets price £10:

Entrance price includes supper - Bring your own drinks and glasses

If you require a table of eight please order early

Diane Hunt. (01327 350714), briarfurlong@yahoo.com

Rachel Smith (01327 860626), rachel.k.smith4@gmail.com

We are now in the process of contacting individuals who might like to sponsor a race or place an advert in the Programme or donate a Raffle Prize. Sponsorship £30 (includes 2 entrance tickets); Adverts £25 (half page)

All proceeds this year are for CANCER RESEARCH and LOIS WEEDON VILLAGE HALL. If you are interested in any of the above please contact us as soon as possible.

Rachel Smith & Diane Hunt



Weston & Weedon Horticultural Society



The weather was kind ... again!

The 81st Annual Horticultural Show took place on Saturday 2nd September 2023

We were once again very lucky with the weather and very encouraged by all the support we received. It was great to see so many of you enjoying the sunshine and meeting up with friends and family. At the end it seemed like many of you did not want to leave.

The quality of the entries was as high as ever and many were from people entering for the first time. This was very pleasing as we want the show to be accessible to everyone.

We had vegetables of all shapes and sizes and many exceptionally beautiful flower arrangements. There was a table full of cakes, delicious to taste, alongside the ever competitive Guinness Cake entries. Luckily we had strong tables to support the weight of the Giant Marrow and the very many huge Chilli Plants. Again we had a table full with all the wonderful photographs. In a corner was a bottle of the prize winning Sloe Gin and nearby a table of very creative entries from the children.

Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and in the planning of the show. Big thanks to 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 Clyde for opening the show [his opening speech reproduced below, Ed]

We appreciate the use of the Village Hall and Village Marquee. Thank you Paul Smith for arranging that.

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

See you in 2024?

Graham Ellis
Weston & Weedon Horticultural Society

Clyde Burbidge – Opening Speech for the 81st Annual Horticultural Show

Good afternoon, I was first involved in the Horticultural Society in 1955. I had just come out of the army – 11th Hussars Cavalry; I was approached by Mr Neep, who was chairman of the Horticultural Society. Mr Neep was involved in just as about everything in the village back then – a little bit like a present day Paul Smith.

Mr Neep asked me if I would like to join the Horticultural Society Committee. He said that he had asked Frank Wills and they thought they needed a little bit of “young blood” on the committee. The current committee then included Ben Jones, Ernie Wheeler, George Causebrook, Freddie Wills and Walter Hinton – A very good committee/

We were very fortunate in the villages of Lois Weedon and Weston to have people living here who knew celebrities... C.H. Middleton, born in Weston, went to school in Lois Weedon School, and then went to Kew Gardens in London to further his education in horticulture. He was a friend of Jack Warner, Dixon of Dock Green, who opened the show at Weston Hall. Elsie & Doris Waters appeared regularly on a lunchtime programme that was broadcast on the radio every weekday called “Workers Playtime” and they were sisters of Jack Warner. Hermione Baddeley actress opened the show at Weston Hall. You may have never heard of Hermione Baddeley but if you did ever watch the series of “Upstairs Downstairs” on television, Hermione Baddeley was Mrs Bridges, the cook. Moira Shearer, ballerina of the “Red Shoes”, married to Ludovic Kennedy, great friend of the Sitwell family, and as very great friend, even when Sacheverel died they both read poems in Lois Weedon Church. Well Moira Shearer opened the show at Lois Weedon House and in those days the show was in Lois Weedon House one year and Weston Hall the next. In my opinion when the show was in the gardens of the big houses it somehow had a different atmosphere. But that’s just my opinion. Roddy Llewellyn came a week early which wasn’t very much use for opening the show. Derek Nimmo arrived at Weston Hall in his chauffeur driven Rolls Royce and in my opinion was one of the best people we had to open the show. I thought he was marvellous. And then of course you’ve got Raine Spencer, known in the family as “Acid Raine”, step-mother of Princess Diana, came to Weston Hall with Diana’s father, Earl Spencer and opened the show at Weston Hall. And then of course you’ve got Barry Humphries, the great Dame Edna Everage who was another friend of the Sitwell family and opened the show on a couple of occasions at Weston Hall

And now I’m going to tell you a story. On several occasions I dressed up as Dame Edna for the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall in Lois Weedon. And I thought, now where can I borrow a bra. I daren’t ask Jennie Liversidge. I’ll go and see Hilda Wilkins, “Hilda, a very personal question to ask you, would you lend me a bra” - “Of course I would, my duck” she said and off she went and she came back with this black creation with a lace top to it – fitted perfectly . And on the Monday I took the bra back. “I’ve brought you bra back, Hilda” says I, “You keep it my duck, you need it more than I do.” said Hilda

I still have the bra and no, I am not wearing it today. And with no further ado, I will declare the 2023 Lois Weedon & Weston Horticultural Show open”....



PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FRAUD WANT TO KNOW MORE ?

Joanne Barlow from Northamptonshire Police will be giving a presentation on common fraud, scams, and fraud prevention advice with Q & A session.



Wednesday 1st November 7pm
Boddington Village Hall



If you have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, report it to Action Fraud by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk or alternatively call 0300 123 2040.
If you receive a suspicious email report it to report@phishing.gov.uk.
If you receive a suspicious text forward it to 7726 (free of charge)



Village Dance & Social Night

Saturday 25th November 2023
Lois Weedon Village Hall
From 7pm onwards.

Bring Your Own Drink and Glasses
&
Supper



Raffle



Live Music by Weston Union



Tickets available from Colin James & Friends **£5 only !!**
(More details to be published on Facebook and email nearer the time)

This is not a specific fundraiser – just a good excuse to get together and have fun