

Lois Weedon and Weston Newsletter

September/October 2024 – Autumn Edition

From the Editor

A bit delayed (again). This time last year I was recovering from a bout of Covid; this year's excuse is that I was on holiday following a family wedding !!

New villagers: I would firstly like to take this opportunity extend a warm welcome to Jessica and Stephen Lawley and children Conor and Phoebe, who recently moved into Middlethorpe, Lois Weedon. We've also had quite a few smaller people join our community – Welcome to baby Charlotte and congratulation to parents Thomas and Claire Greenaway, welcome to baby Moses and congratulations to parents Nadia Robinson and Chavis Desouza; welcome to baby Arabella and congratulations to parents Holliee Anna Stone and Charlie Phipps and welcome baby Florence and congratulations to parents Jessica and Carrick Barrons.

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 then answer the membership questions. We have recently been subjected to various unwanted advertisements or requests to post on the Facebook page from individuals who I don't recognise and who have not bothered to answer the questions. I'm not trying to be awkward just limiting irrelevant content or folks being pestered with unwanted adverts.

The next and final edition of this year's newsletters will be the November/December 2024 edition and all material for that edition should be given to me by Sunday, 27th October 2024. The first edition of 2025 will be in January.

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

Dates for your Diary

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Tue., Oct 1 | Film Club – October Meeting – “Saving Grace” – details on page 2 |
| Wed., Oct 2 | WI Monthly Meeting: Shirley Penfold “Decoupage Candle Making” 7:30pm in Village Hall, doors open 7:10 |
| Fri., Oct 4 | Village Coffee Morning 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall |
| Fri., Oct 4 | Harvest Supper in the Village Hall – proceeds in aid of the Church – Details on page 7 - see note below for tickets |
| Tue., Oct 15 | Parish Council Meeting - 8:00pm in the Village Hall - All welcome (delayed from Sept 30) |
| Thu., Oct 17 | Village Hall Annual Meeting, 7:30pm in Lois Weedon Village Hall – All welcome – |
| Fri., Nov 1 | Village Coffee Morning 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall |
| Tue., Nov 5 | Film Club – November Meeting – “The Last of the Blonde Bombshells” – details on page 2 |
| Wed., Nov 6 | WI Monthly Meeting: Philomena Liggins “Mata Hari – “Spy or Scapegoat” Meeting starts 7:30pm in Village Hall |
| Sat., Nov 23 | Christmas Craft & Gift Fair - 8:30am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall - Cooked breakfast, tea & coffee |
| Mon., Nov 25 | Parish Council Meeting. 8:00pm in Lois Weedon Village Hall |
| Tue., Dec 5 | Film Club – December Meeting – “Red Dog” – details on page 2 |
| Fri., Dec 6 | Village Coffee Morning 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall |
| Sun., Dec 15 | Christmas Card Delivery Service - Deadline for delivery 14 th December – Details in next edition |

Harvest Supper - tickets are available from Frank Hunter 07919 348697 Frank.hunter@btinternet.com.

CHEESE & WINE PARTY

I would like to thank everyone who contributed and attended the Cheese & Wine Party on August 16th at Home Close. With donations we made a total of **£460** for Church Funds.

Many thanks
Clyde Burbidge

Weston & Lois Weedon Film Club

Memorable movies on your doorstep!

Our members have come up with a great line-up of films to continue the 2024 season as shown below.

Entry prices are pegged at last year's rates despite an increase in village hall hire rates and offer great value for money.

It's just £5 to join the Club each year and watch your first film, £2 admission thereafter. You're welcome to bring along a friend for a further £3 each. The club is open to anyone in Weston, Lois Weedon and the surrounding villages

Please bring your own refreshments, except for December screening when mulled wine and mince pies will be served.

All films are screened at **Lois Weedon Village Hall**.

Doors open on our regular Tuesday evening events at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm film start.

FILM CLUB EVENTS DIARY – October 1st 2024 to Jan 7th 2024

Tuesday October 1st Saving Grace 2000 Comedy/Crime

Set in Cornwall A small-town English widow, facing financial troubles after her husband's suicide, turns to agriculture of an illegal kind. *Starring Brenda Blethyn, Martin Clunes*

Tuesday November 5th The Last of the Blonde Bombshells 2000 Comedy/Drama

After Elizabeth's husband dies, she begins to play her tenor saxophone again and remembers when she was fifteen and a member of the Blonde Bombshells, an all-girl (with one exception) swing band. Accompanied by the exception and urged on by her grand-daughter, Elizabeth hunts up all the old members of the band and urges them to perform, and in doing so, learns more than she knew about the band. *Starring Judi Dench, Ian Holm*

Tuesday December 3rd Red Dog 2011 Family/Comedy

Based on the legendary true story of the Red Dog who united a disparate local community while roaming the Australian outback in search of his long-lost master.

At the 2011 Inside Film Awards, *Red Dog* was nominated in nine categories and won seven, including best feature film

Starring Josh Lucas

Tuesday January 7th 2025 Wicked Little Letters 2023 Comedy / Mystery

When residents begin to receive wicked letters full of hilarious profanities, foul-mouthed Rose is charged with the crime. However, as the town's women investigate, they suspect that something is amiss, and that Rose may not be the culprit after all. *Starring Jessie Buckley, Olivia Colmer, Timothy Spall*

We really hope you will join us.

The Film Club Team – *Jane Pomeroy, Alan Davies, Graham Jardine, Pete Templeman*

Winners of Village Hall '200 Club' Lottery

| August 2024 | | September 2024 | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Pam & Tom Palmer | 77 | Liz Carpenter | 81 |
| Frank & Maralynn Hunter | 115 | Sara Pickering | 22 |
| Anne Longley | 96 | Clyde Burbidge | 35 |
| Louise King | 79 | Jonny & Sara Bougourd | 117 |

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

Parish Council

Here is a summary of the most recent Parish Council meeting held on **July 29th** in the Village Hall. The meeting was attended by 4 councillors, the Clerk and 3 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.

Footpath Warden. It was unanimously agreed that Louisa Richards should be appointed as Footpath Warden for the parish.

Finance Matters: The accounts 2024 / 2025 to date and progress against budget were reviewed and approved. It was reported that VAT claims are up to date.

Payments were approved for CGM (Churchyard mowing and Millennium Field mowing), Clerk's salary and expenses, E.ON (Street lighting maintenance), Npower (Electricity Supply for street lighting in Milthorpe)

New Financial Regulations, Standing Orders and Code of Conduct

It was agreed that the new documents as drafted by NCALC and adapted for our use should be adopted. It was also agreed that if any clauses are found in the future not to be appropriate for the council, these will be amended at a later date.

Correspondence:

- **Emails from WNC and local residents about the Crown Inn.**

WNC have visited the site and concluded that changes on the outside of the building do not require further action by WNC. The changes inside the building require listed building consent, which the owners will be asked to apply for.

- **Emails from Chris Raven about trees overhanging the road at Weston Hall and blocked drains near Lois Weedon House and Lois Weedon Farm.**

The owners of Weston Hall were contacted and stated that they were awaiting permission from WNC for the tree work. This permission has since been given. The Clerk reported the two drainage problems on Fix my Street. One has been resolved by Northants Highways. The other is awaiting attention.

- **Request for support for legislation about the safety of lithium batteries, e-bikes and e-scooters.**

The councillors agreed that supporting or opposing national legislation does not fall within their remit.

- **Email from Cllr. Charles Manners of WNC about possible CIL payments for the Helmdon Road housing development project.**

Cllr. Manners is continuing to investigate possible entitlement to CIL payments on the Helmdon Road, Weston development, but these are likely to be small as most of the project replaces pre-existing buildings and is not classified as new build.

- **Email from Claire Worrall about blocked drains on High Street, Weston**

The Clerk has reported the matter to Fix my Street, who have confirmed they will investigate and respond.

Millennium Field. The Parish Council is awaiting details of the process for the survey that the Horticultural Society would like to conduct via the parish newsletter and/or newsletter email list. Cllr Sheppard agreed to contact them to check on progress.

Castle Mound - It was agreed that the project for planting bulbs on the Mound, with the involvement of St. Loys school, should go ahead in the Autumn. A maximum amount of up to £300.00 was approved for the purchase of the bulbs. The school will be informed that the project is going ahead, and again invited to participate. Iris Gregory asked that the bulbs planted should be indigenous British varieties. (This was also a requirement of Historic England.)

AOB

- Questions were asked about the tape on the school playing field and the dangerous condition of the pedestrian gate from Milthorpe. The Clerk will ask the school for an up-date.
- The double bend sign on the approach to Lois Weedon from Wappenham has been damaged or removed. The Clerk will report this on the Fix my Street website.
- It was reported that the hedge on Milthorpe is growing over the footpath, forcing pedestrians to walk in the road. The owner will be contacted and asked to cut back the hedge..

Next Meeting: Tuesday 15th October, at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Weedon Lois. Note this is a change from the original scheduled meeting date of 30th September

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

Village Golf Day – Wednesday 14th August 2024

It's that time of year again when intrepid golf players amongst our community met to play for the Village Golf Rose Bowl Trophy. Now before going any further, I need to explain that the "Rose Bowl" is in fact a decanter not a Rose Bowl. Apparently, many moons ago a certain individual was charged with acquiring a Rose Bowl to act as the trophy but when they turned up for prize giving the individual concerned had actually purchased a decanter. As the Rose Bowl sounded better than the Decanter it retained its name even though it wasn't actually a Rose Bowl.

Confused? You will be.

It might be worth also explaining something about golf to those members of our community who do not play golf and/or know very little about the game.

Basically golf is a game played by taking a walk in a well manicured nature reserve which has been split into eighteen specific areas (known as Holes). During this walk you carry a bushel of various sized and shaped sticks, using a specific stick for specific occasions to hit a pebble sized ball from the start (the Tee) until it falls into a large indentation in the ground (the Hole). The Hole is located a really well-cut area of grass called the Green (well of course it would be wouldn't it, grassed area, Green, hmm). On the way from Tee to Hole you will encounter a well-manicured lawn type area (the Fairway) which can be littered with sandpits (Bunkers) and various other types of hazards such as streams, ponds etc. Once you have managed to hit the ball into the hole you do it again and again until you have done it eighteen times. Why eighteen? I don't really know but its eighteen so that's it.

When the game is completed, the players usually meet up in the clubhouse to compare stories about what they did with what stick at which particular hole. Riveting to listen to for some.....but not all.

This year 13 senior citizens of our community and myself played for the Rose Bowl (a decanter). All walked except for two infirm individuals who needed a buggy to get around, it will come to us all eventually I suppose.

The competition took on its usual Stapleford format (points earned on each of the eighteen holes) with two lifelines to spice things up.

One – if you miss hit a ball you could take the shot again, this is called a Mulligan and could only be claimed once.

Two – each player was given a length of string and could move the ball up to the length of string, out of a hazard or into a hole for example. Again, the string could only be used once.

A draw took place to decide who played with who. Well, I say a draw was conducted but it has to be said the draw matched FIFA in its incompetence and lack of understanding by all. Conducted by two experienced teachers, who you would have thought could manage to draw fourteen names out of a hat, we were left with one player not being called and two players who had names called out who were not even playing. Anyway, we all eventually agreed who was playing with who and set off.

When we arrived at the course it was raining and when we left it was raining but during the game it did not rain. Someone was looking kindly down on us.

As well as each player getting points on each hole there was also a team competition so best two scores of each team were added to together. In addition, there was a "for nearest on the 13th hole" and "nearest the centre of the fairway on the 9th hole."

Unfortunately, again this year the event CEO forgot to arrange what has become the traditional fly past from the Red Arrows. A stronger 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.

- Nearest centre line of fairway – David Clarke
- Nearest the pin – John Archard-Jones
- Top Team – David Isaac, Stan Shires and John Jarman

The new category of best shot which was introduced last year was discussed and debated with some enthusiasm by all during the evening meal. Nominations included Anne Longley's shot on the 9th fairway which smashed into a tree but

because she hit it so hard the tree broke into small pieces and the ball flew on as if nothing had happened. Also nominated was a forty-foot putt from Katie Shires on the last hole, fortunately witnesses were present to confirm validity of this claim.

The Best shot was eventually given to Ivor Jones who was nominated for chipping from some 20 yards away for the green and getting the ball into the hole without further assistance.

But the winner, and village champion for the next twelve months, was David Isaac (again). A well-deserved winner. Top three were as follows

- 1st – David Isaac 43 points
- 2nd – Stan Shires 39 Points
- 3rd – Katie Shires 37 points

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

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



Weston and Weedon Horticultural Society 82nd Annual Show

I am pleased to report another successful show day. A chilly breeze and lack of sunshine did not deter many from attending and supporting on Saturday 31st August and afternoon teas were enjoyed whilst sitting in Clyde's field.

Entry numbers were around the same as last year, but the wet and cold summer had done many growers no favours, although there were still some wonderful flowers, fruit and vegetables on display. Cookery classes remained popular and well supported, as did the photography sections. There were some superb wildlife photos. There were also some great entries in the children's sections. The 'garden flowers in a jug' produced some stunning displays.

I would like to thank our committee and judges for their tireless energy and commitment to this year's show, without them it simply would not have happened. Although the show is no longer on the scale of yesteryears, the workload is still enormous.

The continued support of villagers far and wide is crucial for the Horticultural Society to keep going. There is so much history in the village relating to the Society and the allotments and notably C.H Middleton. So please put in an entry or two at next year's show – we look forward to seeing you!

*Ivor Jones
Chairman
Weston & Weedon Horticultural Society*

Rectory View

Crossed wires between me and your Editor meant that this *Rectory View* comes after too long an interval since the last offering. I was poised at the keyboard a couple of months back, about to produce a scintillating contribution for the summer edition of the Lois Weedon and Weston News just before its latest deadline, when a message arrived that the edition had been published a few hours ahead of that deadline, without my contribution; a few hours, but crucial.

I was mortified. I needed to explain to a concerned public (I had been attending to the LWW rumour mill) that, after all, I hadn't resigned over the various issues I'd noted in the previous issue (mowing at the vicarage, walking pigs through the village and crows down the chimney) but was still with you as Rector. But should I now resign over your Editor's cavalier treatment of my copy? Actually, your Editor wasn't cavalier with my copy which never arrived – but he was, I felt, a little cavalier with the shifting deadlines.

I decided, however, that, whatever the justification, it would be rather petty to resign over the matter. He and I are, after all, brother Scotsmen, though he a bit more of a Scot than I.

So here is a new piece for the autumn – which might not have got written but for your assiduous Editor's timely intervention. He approached me smilingly at the Parish Show, asked considerately how I was, and then told me (smilingly still) that I was on a deadline for a Rectory View piece that very day. I knew that wasn't the case and showed him my diary to prove it. And despite my protestations that I had no entry in my diary as to the LWW News, your Editor asked to see the entry for 31st of August - and there it was - 'LWW News deadline' – which had got a bit confused with LWW Parish Show. What I knew, I knew wrongly. So time for me to admire your Editor's commitment and tenacity - and get writing!

To clear off ancient past business: I've bitten the bullet on mowing and its cost, so the view from the Rectory windows is pretty good (though the garden still needs development: any offers?); I've not had any further bird-down-the chimney visitations and I've given up on the idea of pig walking. I'm sorry to say that I had absolutely no response to my request that you let me know whether you'd like pigs to walk from Lois to Weston and back and whether you might be part of that operation. Maybe you thought I was joking. Not so! We are a pig village – or two pig villages - and we should be proud of our pigs. Perhaps it's only Lois that is the pig village and Weston disdains Lois for it. I'm far too much of a newbie still to make a good judgement on these matters. But the shaming fact remains: there were no replies.

As to the more recent past, the Show was a lovely occasion. Good work in garden and allotments rewarded and people meeting up to be part of something that goes back years, meeting up to enjoy and celebrate the LWW community past and present and to help that community, and its feeling of togetherness as a community, into the future; it was really good to see a lot of young people at the occasion. Congratulations to the prize winners and to all involved in making the event such a success.

And looking forward? I was fingered on Show Day not only by your Editor but by the Church Treasurer who informed me that bits had been falling off the Church's north aisle roof and severe financial consequences would ensue. Editors and Treasurers are messengers of grief! So, whilst we at the Church had been in a relatively good financial position with enhanced giving from the village coming in – for which, many thanks – now we may have to get into difficult discussions about whether to pay for our building or for our Rector. I think we ought to be able to do both and I don't like the idea of my stipend being paid for by other parishes in the diocese when my sense is that we in the Astwell Benefice have the capacity to pay our way.

So, as I told you last time, though now for different reasons, I may have to be off!

However, I think the normal Church service provision in Autumn and across Christmas into the New Year is safe and you would be most welcome to as many of our services as you'd like to come to!

All good wishes,

Rev'd Hugh White
rectorastwell@gmail.com; 01869 347889

Friday 4th October 2024

at 7.00 p.m.

Lois Weedon Village Hall

**Enjoy a 2-course dinner, musical entertainment and
a look back at our past suppers**

A bar will be available to purchase drinks

Tickets £15.00 per person

Available (unless he gets to you first!) direct from Frank Hunter

frank.hunter@btinternet.com - or call on 07919 348607

Please purchase your tickets early so that we can get numbers for catering purposes

Organised by

Lois Weedon Parochial Church Council

in aid of our parish church

St Mary & St Peter

Weston Baptist Chapel.

What's happening at **Weston Chapel**. **Tuesday** morning walks are still proving very popular, we have an average of 20 walkers a week, they meet at 9.30 am at the Chapel, walk for an hour or hour and a half (sometimes longer) then back to the Chapel for Coffee/tea and cake. The coffee morning is open to anyone who wishes to join us, you will be warmly welcomed. **Thursdays** are Art Club Day - 2-4pm in the upstairs room, if you are interested in joining this group call in one Thursday afternoon and speak to Emi or Ros. Paintings by the artists are displayed in the downstairs schoolroom; Art Club are holding an exhibition of their work 1st, 2nd, 3rd November, timings and details to follow, there will be posters on our notice board outside the chapel, all proceeds from this exhibition go to Katherine House Hospice. **Sundays** we hold regular worship services at 10.30am, when there is a fifth Sunday in the month we join with the rest of **Tove Valley Baptist Fellowship** at the Tove Centre in Towcester. It's great that we are regularly joined at Weston on Sunday mornings by residents and carers from William Blake House at Lois Weedon and Upper Boddington, sometimes from the Blakesley House as well.

The premises are available for hire - any enquiries please contact Rosemary on 01295 760720, or email rosemarygulliver@gmail.com.

Rosemary Gulliver



Wappenham and District Royal British Legion

Poppy Appeal 2024 – Thursday 24th October 2024 to 9th November 2024

The launch date for this year's Poppy Appeal is on Thursday 24th October. This will carry through until Saturday 9th November 2024. Our Poppy Appeal collectors will be able to start their collections from Friday 25th October.

Hand held payment devices are not available for our collectors so it would help if you do have some cash available if you wish to donate when they call.

There is also a 'QR code' on the collector's box if you wish to donate electronically.

Online donations can be made at The Royal British Legion website:

<http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/>

Other collections and donation will be greatly appreciated to support the appeal. Cheques can be made payable to '**The Poppy Appeal**'.

The Poppy Appeal is a great cause providing social and emotional support to members and veterans of the British Armed Forces, their families and dependants in times of need.

RBL Wappenham & District includes: Abthorpe, Slapton, Wappenham, Lois Weedon, Weston, Sulgrave, Thorpe Mandeville, Greatworth and Marston St Lawrence.

Poppy Appeal Organiser
Bob Devey

Poppy Display Workshop.

Join us in making a poppy display for the church in November. Knit, crotchet, sew or whatever.

We will be meeting at my house (2a High Street, Lois Weedon) on Sunday, 22nd September at around 2.30 hrs to share ideas.

There will also be a workshop during the coffee morning on Friday the 4th October to follow up.

If you are interested, you can contact me (Terry Tyler) or Louise King (07856 201944) or simply turn up on Sunday.

There will be cake!