



Welcome to the Summer issue of the Wixford Newsletter

After a short hiatus the newsletter is back with a summer issue which includes some important information regarding possible traffic issues during the upcoming CLA Game Show at Ragley Hall – see the article to the right!

We are still looking for articles from Wixford Residents that we can feature as ‘guest’ content, so if you have an interesting story about the village or its surroundings then please drop us a line to discuss how we can include it.

You can send us email at WixfordNews@googlemail.com Alternatively you can drop your submission off with the current editor at “Fieldside” on the ‘main’ road half way through the village.

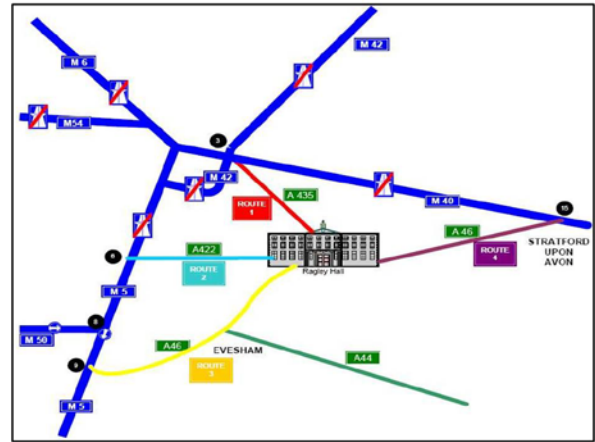
Community Matters

Hopefully you have all seen some of the positive activity related to controlling traffic speed through the village. We’ve already seen some visible signs of progress with the addition of a number of “Speed Aware” signs throughout the village and the hosting of a “Traffic Visor” speed warning electronic board for a few months earlier in the year. Wixford is now on the rota for the speed visor and we should see it reappear in the coming months. We’re also installing a new post to be able to mount the device more securely, rather than the more temporary arrangement used on its first visit. A new warning sign indicating the possible presence of livestock will also be added to the entrance to the village at the Bidford ‘end’. Additional changes to positioning of posts and signs will be undertaken to enable the Police to more effectively prosecute speeders when they are observed speeding by mobile Police speed camera units. This is necessary to avoid any appeals by speeders that signs were not visible etc. **We’re serious about controlling traffic speed in Wixford so spread the word.**

Thankfully Ennister Lane has now seen some more substantial repair work, so those of us that drive to Hillers farm shop on occasion will be able to keep charge of any fillings in our teeth. It is unclear if the water run-off issue on Ennister Lane has been fixed although the current bout of inclement weather may provide an opportunity to check ☺

The **Community Forums** continue to be an excellent way for local residents to engage with the local authorities with regards to what is happening in the local community. It’s a chance to have your concerns or views heard so if you have something ‘on your mind’ then please make time to attend and contribute. Next meeting is at Welford Primary School on Tuesday 21st September 2010 at 7.00pm.

CLA Game Fair at Ragley Hall



Most residents will have probably seen the signs, read in newspapers or heard radio advertisements for the CLA Game Fair which will be held at Ragley Hall on July 23rd, 24th and 25th. The Newsletter has obtained flyers relating to the event and we have included them with this edition of the Newsletter as background information (NOTE: we’re not in any way trying to advertise the event or encourage attendance!). The event is the largest ‘mobile’ event in the world and is expected to attract in excess of 140,000 people over the three days. This brings us neatly to the reason for this article being included in the Newsletter.

Inevitably with the volume of additional traffic associated with an event of this size there will be some traffic congestion problems. The Parish Council has been assured that extensive planning and measures have been exhausted to try to guide traffic along a number of approved routes. Unfortunately many drivers will either ignore the guidance or opt to follow the directions from their Satellite Navigation system. We don’t expect a large amount of event related traffic to pass through Wixford, although we will have to see what happens.

The most immediate impact for Wixford residents is that there will be a one way system in place between Arrow and Dunnington from 7:30 each morning (23rd to 25th). The intention is that the one way system will be lifted as soon as is practical, but the reality is that traveling to Alcester between 7:30a.m and 10:30a.m on the days of the event will be untenable.

Local traffic disruption is also likely during the late afternoon and early evening. Traffic issues may extend as far as 12 – 15 miles out from Ragley – obviously major intersections and roundabouts are likely congestion points.

Electronic Wixford

We're still trying to save the planet one sheet of (yellow) paper at a time so we'll continue to remind you that if you want to receive an electronic copy of the Wixford Newsletter then email us at WixfordNews@googlemail.com and we will include you on our distribution list. If we can get enough folks signed up for electronic distribution then we will move to a 'partial' distribution of the printed matter and save some paper.

How many of you have taken time to visit our village web site at <http://www.wixford-pc.gov.uk> ? If you're online then take a look! We're still looking for ideas for extra content and also any photos that you'd like to have published on the web site. If you have old PRINTED photographs of the village that you'd like to share then the Newsletter will be happy to scan them. It's completely painless and you'll get the photographs returned to you very quickly. For contact details see the introduction of the Newsletter.

Welcome Mark Sullens; our new Parish Councillor

After an extensive search the Parish Council was very pleased to co-opt Mark Sullens into the role of Parish Councillor in March of 2010.

Red boxes

Many of you will undoubtedly have noticed that our village Post Box disappeared during some of the renovations that are underway at Stone Cottage. This was unavoidable as the wall that hosted the Post Box was unsound and needed some serious work.

The Parish Council understands that this is an inconvenience to many village residents (including the Newsletter) and is working with the Post Office to rectify the situation. Unfortunately (as with a lot of these matters) there is administration to work through so it takes time.

The plan right now is that we will have a 'new' Post Box set up outside the Village Hall in the next month or two. There is still an intention to return the old Post Box to its original roost but that will certainly not happen for many months.

And as you may know we (the Village) now own our classic red BT telephone box (although the phone has been removed). The Parish Council have been looking for ways to make use of this classic item of street furniture and have reached the decision that we will investigate turning it into a replacement village notice board (the old notice board is becoming somewhat tired).

We hope to have room for village notices plus an area for public contributions. Keep an eye out for progress.

Bidford Fire Station Update

You may have heard that the time is rapidly approaching when some key decisions will be made regarding the structure of the Fire Brigade in Warwickshire.

There are currently three proposals under consideration and on the 20th of July 2010 Warwickshire County Councils

Cabinet will decide the future for local fire stations.

One of the three proposals is based on the suggestions created by the Bidford upon Avon committee and can be viewed at <http://www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk/pdfs/fireservice/presentation-091110.pdf>

Some of the options in other proposals include Bidford fire station as one of the stations that would be subject to closure. Bidford upon Avon Parish Council is providing a free 53 seat bus, leaving the Crawford Memorial Hall at 8.00am for Shire Hall, Warwick, for anyone wishing to attend the meeting.

Village Hall Corner

Macmillan Coffee Morning: Saturday September 25th

A coffee morning, 10:00 a.m to 12:00 a.m, will be hosted in the Village Hall in support of the Macmillan Cancer Support organization

All comers welcome, and if anyone would like to donate a cake then it will be gratefully received. Contact Shirley Talboys on (01789) 778840 for details.

Film Nights

Following the success of the Village Hall Film Nights we have decided to take a breather over the holiday season. So no films will be screened during July and August. The Village Hall Committee plan to resume with a new schedule of movie nights commencing in September.

As we approach September we will send an email to our regulars who have provided us with an email address and we will also undertake a leaflet drop around the village giving dates and details of the film choices.

Wixford by the Sea: Saturday 4th September

The Village Hall Committee are all working hard in preparation for our late summer fun, **Wixford by the Sea**.

We are planning a BBQ, Sandcastle competitions, music, village quiz, raffle, games and lots more. It promises to be a highlight of our year so put the date in your diary and bring along children and friends.

Full details will be provided by email and leaflet during August.

Hall refurbishment

The Village Hall Committee has investigated a number of options for refurbishment of the Hall. The building is in need of some immediate care if we wish to continue using it for many years to come.

Currently the committee is beginning the process of defining exactly what works need to be done – and once this is done then advice and assistance will be needed to undertake the works in an economical and efficient manner.

We will be looking for volunteers with some planning or building skill, or those who just want to give a hand under guidance to help drive this important project forwards.

Remember that it is your Hall, so if you want the Hall to look a lot better than it does now and be a credit to Wixford, please contact John Cain via email (jgd.cain@virgin.net) or phone (01789) 490743.