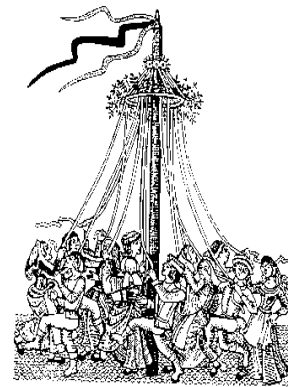


# WHITLEY VILLAGE NEWS

MAY 2009

Vol 31 No.2

[www.whitleyvillage.org.uk](http://www.whitleyvillage.org.uk)



Dear Readers

For the first time a Spring/ Summer Bird Watch challenge is being run for all to take part in. Ian Macpherson has very kindly compiled the quiz which can be found on the back page. Organisations and Contacts return as normal next issue. So for this month contact details can be obtained from any of the Whitley Village News committee members.

Please submit news for the **June** issue **anytime** before the deadline of **15<sup>th</sup> May** to –

Theo Critchley at Maple Cottage, Dark Lane, Higher Whitley or Tel 01925 730569 or email. [JamesTCritchley@aol.com](mailto:JamesTCritchley@aol.com).

Please note receipt of your email will be confirmed – if you do not receive confirmation please send again!

**Many thanks to all those who deliver the WVN.**

## Special Birthday Mentions



<b>Charlotte Barker</b> 10 yrs on 4 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Daniel Merrell</b> 10 yrs on 15 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>Eve Pennington</b> 8 yrs on 21 <sup>st</sup> May	<b>Laura Warburton</b> 2 yrs on 28 <sup>th</sup> May

**We Wish You All A Very Happy Birthday**

## Notable Dates in May

May Day ---- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
Spring Bank Holiday ---- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May

## Pat Gaskell

Thank you to everyone who sent me cards, flowers and best wishes after my operation. I really really appreciated them. I am feeling more myself now and hopefully will be getting around again. **Pat Gaskell**

## Whitley 10K and Fun Run – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009

This year's 10K and Fun Run was a great success attracting over 400 entries for the two races. Congratulations to all those who took part. The 10k winner was Daniel Cliffe from Warrington AC in a time of 31 mins 43 secs. First lady was Louise Wood, also from Warrington AC (36.36). The winner of the Fun Run was Daniel Appleton aged 15 (21.04), grandson of our own John Vaughan, followed by Louise Hayes aged 14 (21.57). Second boy was Harvey Booth aged 11 yrs (24.08) and third boy was Matthew Clayton aged 11 yrs (22.03), son of our own Peter Clayton. Second girl was Carys Mapelson aged 9 yrs (25.42) and third girl was Millie Wright aged 12 yrs (26.53). Well done to everyone and, of course, our thanks to all the many helpers who made the races possible.



**December 31<sup>st</sup> 2009**

**Volunteers required to join a small team to organise another fabulous New Years Eve party for the village in Whitley Village Hall.**

If you're interested in being involved please contact  
**Cathy Ure on 01925 730199**

## Whitley Rose Queen 2009

Whitley Rose Queen Nomination Evening took place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March and the selection of the Rose Queen and retinue for 2009 are :-

Rose Queen Emily Spencer

Chief Attendant Olivia Monaghan

Small Attendants Jamie McCracken & Hannah Scott

Train Bearers Jasper Ure & Antony Hough

Crown Bearer Alexandra Barker

(Unfortunately As No Boys Have Applied, We Are Going To Break With Tradition And Have A Little Girl, Of Which Only One Falls Into The Age Category.)

## Whitley Rose Queen Fete

Saturday 13th June 2009

Join us to enjoy the crowning of our new Rose Queen Emily Spencer  
More Details in the June Whitley Village News  
or contact Mrs Ann Tolson 01925 730910/  
Mr N Heavey 01925 730418

## Memories of a Whitley Lad

1945 - 1960

By  
Peter R Ratcliffe

Since 1988 Peter R Ratcliffe has wanted to make a record of life in Whitley going back some sixty years. This book is the realisation of that dream.

Filled with evocative childhood memories, fascinating facts - including details of a tragic murder circa 1838 - and photographs from yesteryear this is a wonderful read for anyone associated with the village.

The book is available from Peter tel no 01925 730287 at a cost of £5 with any profits going to charity

### Whitley School

THE FRIENDS of Whitley School have been selected as one of only 14 finalists in the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations (NCPTA) Gold Star Rewards scheme.

The Seed to Saucepan project, submitted in the Changing the Life of the School category, provided an opportunity for parents and villagers to work together, offering the school a weekly activity, enabling the pupils to learn about the whole cycle of planning, planting, growing, cooking and eating home grown food.

The idea came from Whitley WI who successfully applied for a £500 grant from Cheshire Year of Gardens 2008 to fund the cost of vegetable beds, equipment, plants and bulbs, which remain as a legacy for the project, as well as contributing from their own funds towards the costs of the cookery activities and taster sessions. The project is now carrying on into a second year, with greater parental support and continuing involvement from Whitley WI members.

The Friends have been invited to attend a presentation ceremony, being held at the House of Commons on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009, where two winners in each of the three Gold Star categories, will be announced. The winning projects will each receive a £1,000 cash reward.

*"The Gold Star Rewards are a way for the NCPTA to recognise and reward the everyday achievements of PTAs around the country and to share this good practice with other schools,"* said Karen Wood, NCPTA regional adviser. *"It's a real achievement to be selected as a finalist, as the standard of entries this year was extremely high, we wish The Friends the best of luck"* concluded Karen.

### Whitley W.I.

"Get involved", is the message at Whitley WI, "you never know where it may lead". For some members this has meant working each week, for three terms, with parents, pupils and teachers of Whitley Primary School on the *Seeds to Saucepan* project, which supported the Cheshire Year of Gardens '08. As a result of this partnership, the Friends of Whitley School have been selected as one of only 14 finalists in the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations Gold Star Rewards scheme.

Following the success of this venture, members are continuing their connection with the school and a recent *taster day* included making Easter cards, hessian bags for chocolate Easter eggs and Easter nests with nine to eleven year old pupils.

For others, involvement may mean going on one of the monthly rambles or discussing a book at the regular Book Club meetings or helping to create a new Whitley WI tablecloth. It may mean singing with the Weaver Valley WI Choir when it performs in the Northwich Memorial Hall on the evening of May 12 or discussing the plight of our native bees at the resolution meeting in May.

The Members' Night committee took over the reins in April and during the evening members were very interested and proud to hear about the recent visit of member Margaret Littler and former member Elsie Moss to the special service in Chester cathedral, held to honour the World War II Land Army Girls.

The speaker at the meeting was Kate Cawley, member of Frodsham WI and on the Board of the Cheshire federation of WIs. Starting with the arrival of William the Conqueror, Kate gave a lively and instructive talk, tracing the history and development of our legal system through the ages and describing her life as a magistrate on the bench in Halton.

For further information about all Whitley WI events, activities, monthly rambles and book club details visit our website [www.whitleywi.org.uk](http://www.whitleywi.org.uk), email [president@whitleywi.org.uk](mailto:president@whitleywi.org.uk) or ring Helen on 01925 730329. We always welcome visitors and new members. Meetings are usually on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm in Whitley Village Hall.

### Whitley Parish Council

The **Annual General Meeting and Parish Assembly** will take place in **May** at Whitley Village Hall.

All welcome

For more details including date/ time of meeting please contact John Shaw (01925 730390)

### **Car Boot Sale**

(Organised by Antrobus WI)

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

At

**Antrobus Village Hall**

**Open to the Public from 8.00 am**

**£7 for Inside Stall/ £6 for Outside Stall**

**To book a stall or for further details**

**Please contact**

**Jane Schofield 01565 777227**

### Whitley Birdwatch

April and May are my favourite months for bird watching. For one thing it is getting warmer, it is also lighter both ends of the day when birds are most active and whilst trees and hedges are still not in full leaf it is easier to catch sight of and home in on movement. There is plenty to see - our resident birds are busy nesting and migrants are arriving to claim their territories' and nest sites.

Over the last few years I have been involved in comprehensive surveys for Cheshire and Wirral Ornithological Society and British Trust for Ornithology (visit web sites for more details), but just to give you some idea, gauging form that experience and with no effort other than keeping an eye out whilst walking or cycling or riding the lanes, we should fairly easily tally over 40 species in the area centered on Higher Whitley and stretching 2km North to M56, East to Frandley, South to Cogshall and west to Grimsditch /Newton Lane. Take a few excursions onto footpaths and you can clock up another 15 types without even getting your feet wet!

Here are a few 'extras' to look out for: Siskin might just visit your bird table. Brambling, in the fields among flocks of chaffinches. Skylark high above the fields between Pillmoss Farm and Queastybirch Hall or between Lower Whitley church and Merryfall Farm. Ever noticed that one of the ducks in residence on Higher Whitley pool is quite a bit bigger than the normal mallard? It's a pintail mallard cross!

Not so common and already seen whilst out walking during March and early April:

Pair of grey partridges 15<sup>th</sup> March, The Grove footpath.

Little owl 17<sup>th</sup> March, Back Lane ash tree nest hole

Cormorant 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Raddel pool.

Lesser spotted woodpecker nut feeder, 31<sup>st</sup> March

Several sky larks 1<sup>st</sup> week in April

First swallow 7<sup>th</sup> April.

Why not try a short circular walk taking in Grimsditch Lane and Greenhill Lane. There's a beautiful little woodland dell on the path connecting the lanes between Crowholt Farm and the top end of Greenhill. There is a carpet of bluebells and wild garlic bordering Whitley Brook and lots of scrub and brambles provide nests sites for warblers and at ground or scrub level you should see wrens, dunnock (hedge sparrow) and robins. Ivy does well and rotting and fallen beech branches are good for tree creepers and nuthatch and because its quite steep you can be eye level to the canopy where you might just see a coal tit or goldcrest, two of our smallest birds 'squeaking' up there. Crossing the fields you are sure to see a buzzard and if you wonder about the pigeon feathers at the edge of the wood it's probably evidence that the sparrow hawk has dined well again!

Ian Macpherson

### Whitley Community Preschool

are holding a

**Fizz Fashion Show** on Tuesday **5<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm.**

Models will be showing a selection of women's clothing and accessories from the new Spring/Summer collection.

Prices range from £5.00 - £40.00 in sizes 8 - 20.

**Tickets £5 which includes a glass of wine, available from Karen Hood - 07881 658810.**



**WHITLEY W.I.**  
Invites you to  
**“PALM COURT”**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL**



**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – 2 pm – 5 pm**

Delicious afternoon tea with a string a quartet  
Fun for all the family, stalls, activities

**Single Ticket £5**

**Family Ticket £14**

(2 adults & 2 children up to 12 years –extra child £2)

Tickets Available from Beryl Medland

Tel 01925 730202

**Whitley Village Hall -- AGM**

The AGM of the Trustees will take place on **Thurs 21 May at 8pm** in the village hall. Business will include the presentation of the accounts and the Chairman's Statement for the year to 31 March, the election of six Ordinary trustee members (committee) and confirmation of the village organisations' representatives. This is your opportunity to raise for discussion any issues concerning the village hall and it's use. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**The Four Church's Songs Of Praise**

Antrobus, Aston, Little Leigh and Whitley are holding a **Songs of Praise** with the Westminster Choir from the Wirral, at **St Michael and All Angels Church, Little Leigh**, on **Sunday 10th May 2009, at 6.30pm.**

**The Lord Mayor of Chester will be attending.**

**All Are Welcome.**

**Whitley Homewatch/ Smartwater**

With this May issue of the Village News you will find a leaflet giving you the opportunity to join a security scheme to protect your valuables at a very reasonable cost.

Providing we can get about half the households to join the scheme the Parish Council can obtain the marking kits for £15 including the registration fee.

Please take advantage of this offer and fill in your details on the leaflet.

**Your area Homewatch Co-ordinator/ Deputy will collect the completed leaflets**

**Planning Applications**

Reference	Description	Address	Name	Date Parish Council Agree or Object	Date Vale Royal Approve or Refuse
09-00063COU 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2009	Change of use from vacant/agricultural building to veterinary therapy clinic.	Hattonview Farm, Tarporley Road	Mrs Sarah Newton	Object. The building has not been constructed as per plans or used for agricultural purposes. Minute 5/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 09	Refused 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2009
09-00121-FUL 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2009	Portal framed livestock building	Old Mill Farm Old Mill Lane	Mr G Warburton RS & PG Warburton	No Objection if cladding be of Yorks Boarding and use remains agricultural Minute 5/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 09	Approved 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2009
09-00127-FUL 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2009	Conservatory to side elevation	3 Grimsditch Barn Greenhill Lane	Mr Geoffrey Latham	No Objection Minute 5/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 09	
09-00345-FUL 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2009	Glass veranda to rear	2 Village Barns, Street Lane	Mr Robert Burton	Objection. Unhappy with the design and materials used. Minute 5/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 09	
09-00421-FUL 12 <sup>th</sup> March 09	First floor extension and study extension	Willow Cottage, Old Mill Lane	Mrs Linda Ince		
09-00449-FUL 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2009	Single storey extension to side and two storey garage extension to rear.	Whitley Edge, Village Lane	Mr Chris Wilson		
09-00504-LBC 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2009	Construction of chimney, demolition of internal wall and addition of door	Towngate House, Back Lane	Mr N Antrobus		
09-00400-FUL 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2009	Alterations and extension	Mount Pleasant, Goosebrook Lane	Mr & Mrs A Phillips		
09-00528-CERT 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2009	Demolition of garage, conservatory and porch and Two storey extension to rear	Mount Pleasant, Goosebrook Lane	Mr & Mrs A Phillips		

(Minute 5/2<sup>nd</sup> Mar 09 Refers to Parish Council Minutes which can be found on website [www.whitleyvillage.org.uk](http://www.whitleyvillage.org.uk))

**Village Hall Lottery April Draw**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize £125**  
**Christopher Hatton**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £50**  
**J. Partington**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £25**  
**Wendy Stewart**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize £10**  
**June Smither**

The Lottery is drawn every month with four winners. Would you like to participate in it?  
For an entry form please 'phone either Jane Gleave on 730773 or June Smither 730478

### Diary Dates

<b>PARISH COUNCIL AGM-&amp; PARISH ASSEMBLY---</b> WVH 7.30 pm A Mon in May ( contact J Shaw 730390) <b>VILLAGE HALL -- AGM</b> Thurs 21 May at 8pm)- WVH <b>MOTHERS UNION ----</b> --- Mrs Jean Pace 01925 730415	<b>WHITLEY BOWLS -7.15pm Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> May-</b> Chetwode Arms <b>FRIENDLY CLUB -----</b> 2 – 4 pm 14 <sup>th</sup> and 28 <sup>th</sup> May WVH 7 <sup>th</sup> May Outing to Barrow-in-Furness & Ulverston Leave WVH At 9.00 am
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**Mobile Library**

At Whitley Village Hall car park between 9.15 – 9.45 am every other Wednesday of the month. Please try to make use of the mobile library – we don't want to lose it!

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> May**

**The Cheshire County Show**

**Tue; 23<sup>rd</sup> & Wed; 24<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

**Tabley Knutsford**

**Tel 01565 650 200**

[www.cheshirecountyshow.org.uk](http://www.cheshirecountyshow.org.uk)

#### Whitley Village News Committee

Mrs A Brock 01925 730571 Mrs P Gaskell 01925 730573 Mrs T Critchley 01925 730569 Mrs J Smither 01925 730478  
 Mrs J Leicester 01925 730498 Mrs S Critchley 01925 730440 Mrs J Woolnough 01925 730430

### **Whitley Village News Bird Watch Challenge Spring/Summer 2009.**

Little Grebe	Common Sandpiper	Grey Wagtail	Long-tailed Tit
Great Crested Grebe	Black-headed Gull	Pied Wagtail	Marsh Tit
Cormorant	Great Black-backed Gull	Dipper	Willow Tit
Little Egret	Common Tern	Wren	Coal Tit
Grey Heron	Feral Pigeon	Duncock	Blue Tit
Mute Swan	Stock Dove	Robin	Great Tit
Canada Goose	Woodpigeon	Redstart	Nuthatch
Wigeon	Collared Dove	Whinchat	Treecreeper
Mallard	Turtle Dove	Stonechat	Jay
Tufted Duck	Cuckoo	Wheatear	Magpie
Ruddy Duck	Barn Owl	Ring Ouzel	Jackdaw
Buzzard	Little Owl	Blackbird	Rook
Kestrel	Tawny Owl	Song Thrush	Carrion Crow
Merlin	Long-eared Owl	Mistle Thrush	Raven
Hobby	Short-eared Owl	Grasshopper Warbler	Starling
Peregrine	Swift	Sedge Warbler	House Sparrow
Red Grouse	Kingfisher	Reed Warbler	Tree Sparrow
Red-legged Partridge	Green Woodpecker	Lesser Whitethroat	Chaffinch
Grey Partridge	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Whitethroat	Greenfinch
Pheasant	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	Garden Warbler	Goldfinch
Moorhen	Skylark	Blackcap	Siskin
Coot	Sand Martin	Wood Warbler	Linnet
Oystercatcher	Swallow	Chiffchaff	Twite
Lapwing	House Martin	Willow Warbler	Bullfinch
Snipe	Tree Pipit	Goldcrest	Yellowhammer
Woodcock	Meadow Pipit	Spotted Flycatcher	Reed Bunting
Curlew	Yellow Wagtail	Pied Flycatcher	Corn Bunting

**Rules: Between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 30 September 2009 tick off on this slightly condensed list of British Birds each one that you see in or around or over the Whitley area. The winner will be the entry with the greatest number of observations. In the event of a tie the number seen in one day will be the decider and if still tied the judges will decide based on the most interesting story. Prize will of course be a bird book.**

**Closing date for entries 15 October 2009.**

**We will advise where to send your completed entry forms in September.**

**Total species seen between 1st May and 30<sup>th</sup> September.....Most seen on any one day.....**

**Most interesting bird seen or activity witnessed**

.....

Name.....

Signature.....

Tel No.....