



f o r u m

Westminster Park Residents' Association newsletter

Issue 52 March 2012

www.wp-ra.org.uk

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Chairwoman's piece

Firstly, thank you to all those who attended the first meeting of the over 60's 'Evergreen' Club, we had an incredible turn out with some 85 people in attendance! There were many ideas and suggestions for future sessions such as a history of Chester talk, gardening tips, environmental issues, IT session, concerts/ theatre trip, games, choir and community help to name but a few. Plans are in progress to put together a programme, so watch this space.

Plans are also in progress for a Diamond Jubilee celebration event with all the Westminster Park communities coming together to help organise it. The 1950's themed celebration at the Community Centre with picnic, fancy dress, games, activities and entertainment will take place on Monday, 4 June.

For all you keen gardeners out there, the next Gardening Club meeting will be held on Wednesday, 28 March, at the Community Centre. There will be an illustrated talk from local residents Paul and Sylvia Makin, as well as the usual plant swap.

Dates for your 2012 diary

3 March, 8 pm. Musical Evening,
Community Centre.
22 March, Evergreen, Community Centre
28 March, 7.45 pm. Gardening Club,
Community Centre.
4 April, 7.30 pm. WPRA AGM, Scout
Hut.
17 April, Evergreen, Community Centre.
15 May, Evergreen, Community Centre.
4 June, 12 noon. Diamond Jubilee,
Community Centre.

Advertise your local business or service on the Notice Board and/or in the Newsletter. It only costs £5. Delivered to 1200 households in the Westminster Park area. The next edition of the **forum** will be June 2012 so send your copy to the Editor by 6 May.

Since our last newsletter I can report that the road markings have finally been re-painted between Claypit Road and Rushfield Road, and Castlecroft Road and Rushfield Road. We are also still chasing up on our request to have the dead tree stumps removed from around the estate before they cause an injury to someone.

You may have noticed some new daffodils sprouting up in the area this year – namely on Rowcliffe Avenue and Vernay Green. These were funded and planted by WPRA, so please enjoy them. If there are any other areas you think could do with some colour, just let us know.

Well, the last 12 months have flown by and it is time again for our **Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, 4 April, at 7.30 pm in the Scout Hut**. Please mark this date, and new venue, in your diaries and come along to meet your committee and share any views or feedback you may have. If you fancy getting involved and would like to join the committee, then please do let us know. Due to other commitments, I will be stepping down as Chairwoman at the AGM this year, mainly due to my new demanding role as a mum! I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the WPRA committee for their support and all their hard work over the last year, and would like to encourage everyone to keep in touch within our community.

To stay informed, please 'Like' our Facebook Page, follow us on Twitter, or subscribe via email on our web site. You can follow the links on our web site, where there is also a contact form available for any feedback, questions or issues.

Julie Sams

Jubilee Celebration Monday, 4 June

As everyone should know by now, the Queen celebrates her Diamond Jubilee this year. There is an extra bank holiday on 5 June and many national and community events are being planned around that time.

We think that Westminster Park should have its own commemorative event and the Residents Association, the Community Centre, Belgrave School, local councillors and other organisations are working together to plan a family event that we will all enjoy and remember.

Many details are still to be settled but the date is Monday, 4 June, from 12 noon. The event will be a family fun day on the school playing field with the Community Centre providing bar facilities and a roof if the weather isn't quite what we are hoping for!

We want WP families to come with picnics though we hope to provide ice creams, hot dogs, etc., as well. Everyone is encouraged to come in fancy dress with a 1950s theme – there will be a fancy dress parade for those participating, with prizes for children and (maybe) adults as well!

There will be races and competitions for children and adults, the school choir will perform, opportunities for children to learn and practice circus skills and street dancers. We hope to have a display in the Scout Hut commemorating the history of Westminster Park and the Croquet Club may provide a chance to try out the game. We are also looking at the possibility of getting a band.

More information will follow but please put the date in your diary now.

Brian Westcott

f o r u m n e w s l e t t e r

WPRA membership subscriptions

Thanks to all members for their prompt payment and especially the number of additional donations.

For those who were members in 2011 but have not renewed their membership we hope you will renew and look forward to receiving your subscription.

We also wish all households to consider membership - the subscription fee is only £2.00 per household.

Cash or cheques (made payable to Westminster Park Residents Association) can be handed to any Committee Member or me.

*Nick Ryan, Treasurer
17 Vincent Drive*

Police information

PCSO Fox is now doing Police Surgeries outside Westminster Park Shops with Councillor Neil Sullivan on the first Saturday of every month between 10.30-11.45.

The Police Surgeries are an opportunity for residents to come and talk to PCSO Fox or Councillor Neil Sullivan and raise any issues they may have.

The next Police Community Beat Meeting is on Tuesday, 31 July at 19.00 at the Scout Hut on Manor Road, Westminster Park. The Beat Meeting is an opportunity for residents to come and hear what the Police have been doing around the local area and also raise any issues in the area.

The Police Non Emergency number has also changed and is now 101 in Cheshire. So if you have an incident to report or require the Police on a non-emergency basis the number is simple to remember.

Christopher Fox

WPRA

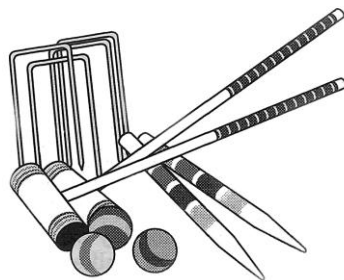
Gardening Club

**Our next meeting is on
28 March 2012, 7.45 pm
at the Community Centre.**

**An illustrated talk by
Paul and Sylvia Makin
on the design and development of
their garden in Cavendish Road.**

**Plant Swap: Please bring your spare
plants and seeds to swap.**

Chester Croquet Club



Summer's coming, make the most of it! Welcome for new members and learners

Croquet may not be an Olympic sport but it's a game that can be played and enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities. It does not require the strength or stamina needed for more strenuous sports and the handicapping system means that it can be played on equal terms by men and women from beginners to more experienced players.

Now that we are looking forward to warmer days and longer evenings, why not come and try your hand at croquet as an interesting and enjoyable outdoor leisure activity for the summer months?

This year Chester Croquet Club is offering a **free taster session** on Sunday afternoon, 15 April, from 2 to 5 pm at the club's lawns in Westminster Park off Hough Green in Chester.

For those who would like to develop their skills further, there will be two further **introductory sessions for golf croquet** at 2 pm on Sunday afternoons on 22 and 29 April. These sessions are ideal for people who have not played the game before and who would like to learn more about it. The club is also offering a more comprehensive **introductory course for association croquet** at 6.30 pm on Thursday evenings for six weeks from 3 May to 7 June. This course is aimed at people who have played some croquet before, perhaps golf croquet or garden croquet, and who would like to develop their skills and tactics for association croquet.

The club provides all equipment and the only requirement is that players must wear flat-soled shoes.

If you are interested in joining the initial taster session or the introductory sessions for golf croquet, please contact Pat Clare on 0151 3362606. For more information about the club or to enrol on the introductory course for association croquet, please contact the Club Secretary, Janet Davies, on 01244 350370.

Come and join in and make the most of the summer

Westminster Park Community Centre

2012 sees new activities starting in the Westminster Park Community Centre, like karate, yoga, Zumba, Evergreen (for over 60s) and even ballroom dancing. There are also a number of clubs and activities that have been running at the centre for some years: these include ballet, bridge, Weight Watchers and Pre School. There is also the Christian Family Church every Sunday morning. We are also interested in getting people together to play chess and crib in the bar.

All the community are welcome to attend these activities so please call Gill on 01244 671243, after 7.30 pm each night, for more information. We would also like to offer the hall free of charge for any charity or fund raising event. This would include a late bar - the last one raised over £500 for its charity, so it is a great venue. Again, you can contact Gill on the above number.

All residents, young and old, are invited to come and try our facilities, including a bar, which is open every night from 7.30 pm. Here you can play darts, pool or just sit down and meet other members of your community.

If we can get more support for the Community Centre, we would like to see if we could get funding for improvements. You can find more information on the Community Centre and activities on the WPRA website www.wp-ra.org.uk

For Community Centre membership details contact Mark Williams on 01244 671372 - we look forward to seeing you.

Mark Williams

Evergreen

WPRA's Over 60s Club

WPRA over 60s club 'EVERGREEN', has got off to a flying start. There was an overwhelming 85 people in attendance at our first meeting in January. We had a good and interesting variety of ideas put forward and we hope to provide a varied programme at each session.

Among the many suggestions was the formation of a choir. We feel this is a splendid idea and would give people the opportunity to come together in a further capacity within the community. We are looking for someone to take up the challenge of choirmaster in order to get this off the ground. If you are that person, or you know of someone who may be suited, please get in touch.

We would also like to hear from anyone who plays a musical instrument, i.e. accordion, keyboard, banjo, who would enjoy coming along to one or more of our sessions and entertaining us with an informal good old fashioned 'sing song'. Please contact Sandra Magilton on 01244 677373 if you can help. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing many of you at our 'Evergreen' meetings.

2012 meetings will be held on the following dates:

22 March, 17 April, 15 May, 19 June, 19 July, 23 August, 18 September, 25 October, 20 November, 20 December.

Butcher's Return

When I moved to Westminster Park in 1978 we had a Butcher's shop though, sadly, he left a few years later. However, after nearly thirty years, things are about to change with a new Butcher's shop due to open in April in the premises vacated by Threshers.

This is good news for Westminster Park! When it opens let us make sure we support it, along with all our other local shops.

Brian Westcott

Collect for our local school

Can I remind you that we collect Nestle cereal box tops and supermarket school vouchers for the benefit of Belgrave School.

When you have a quantity pop them into an envelope and address to me. Call me (680880) and I will collect them OR when you are at the shops leave your envelope at Al Dente and they will pass them on to me.

Thank you to the residents who responded to my previous appeal.

David Pilling

Westminster Park Bridge Club

Are you interested in playing bridge?

We currently play in the Community Centre, Five Ashes Road, every Thursday from 7.15 pm to approximately 10.30 and all levels of players are welcome.

You are guaranteed to play even if you don't have a partner as we operate a host system; this means a current member is available for those players who turn up without a partner.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me on 675923 or email nrryan@hotmail.co.uk or, best of all, turn up one Thursday.

Nick Ryan, Chairman

Lent and Easter at St Mary's Church

Every Thursday during Lent at 7.30 pm there will be Compline with address.

Palm Sunday, 1 April

At the 10 am Holy Communion the Youth Group will give their presentation of the Passion of our Lord

Holy Week, Monday 2 – Thursday 5 April

7.30 pm Holy Communion with Address. Speaker: Revd Michael Tompkins.

Good Friday, 6 April

9 am Litany for Good Friday
10am – 12 noon Young People's Activity Morning.

2 pm Hour before the Cross, joint service at St Andrew's URC.

Easter Day, 8 April

8 am Holy Communion
10 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Evensong

Easter services at St Clare's Catholic Church

Downsfield Road, Lache, 671015

5 April, 7 pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper.

6 April, 3 pm: Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

7 April, 8 pm: Easter vigil.

8 April, 9.30 am: Easter Sunday.

Classic cars in WP

Do you own a classic or interesting car? Local resident Martin Williamson is hoping to form a network of classic car enthusiasts to meet socially and to help each other out, for example, whilst doing some repair or servicing work. Sometimes, all that is needed is an extra pair of hands and eyes to help on a job.

So, if you fancy meeting up during the summer for a run on a weekday evening to somewhere like the Horseshoe Pass, or getting together on a Saturday morning for coffee at WP's Golf/Coffee shop and have a natter about cars, please contact Martin.

It would also be really good to provide a display of classics to show at the Diamond Jubilee picnic.

Martin Williamson

Tel: 683331

Email: martin@kewengineering.co.uk

Glan Aber Tennis Club

Easter Camp Dates 2012

5-9 years 3 to 5 April inclusive
10 am to 1 pm (£55).
10-16 years 11 to 13 April inclusive
10.30 am to 4.30 pm (£70).

Summer Camp Dates 2012

10-16 years 24 to 27 July inclusive,
10 am to 4 pm.
5-9 years 31 July to 2 August inclusive, 10 am to 1 pm.
10-16 years 21 to 24 August inclusive, 10 am to 4 pm.
5-9 years 29 to 31 August inclusive,
10 am to 1 pm.

5-9 years play with red/orange balls.
10-16 years play with green/yellow balls.

Please contact Claire Ayton on 01352 780794 if you are interested in any of the courses or want any further information.

Forms for the Easter camps can be collected from the Club House in Westminster Park. Places are limited, so apply early to avoid disappointment.

The information section

Westminster Park RA Committee

Chairwoman: Julie Sams

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Tel: 680880

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Olwen Bellis	678719
Leah Dollimore	683100
Sue Eva	676697
Sandra Magilton	677373
Lesley Morris	679793
Mark Sams	680378
Richard Short	678559
Allan Stobie	683461
Brian Westcott	675431

Clubs & organisations based in Westminster Park

Please let the Editor know if any of the details are incorrect or if you have a club or organisation that you would like listed.

Belgrave Badminton Club: Keith, 671077

Belgrave Pre-School: Carol Welch, 671243

Bowls: Martin Fraser, 07966 334293

Bridge Club: Nick Ryan, 675923

Cricket: Craig Edwards, 07765 475095

Croquet: Janet Davies, 350370

Friends of Westminster Park: Allan Stobie, 683461

Evergreen (Over 60's Club): Sandra Magilton, 677373

Gardening Club: Mary Pole, 674439

Healthy Walking Group: Mike Lloyd, 680328

Junior Football: Tracy Sheedy, 680544

Lache and Westminster Local History Group:

Linda Shuttleworth, 679791

Mini Soccer (5-10 years): Tracy Sheedy, 680544

National Women's Register:

Betty McLoughlin, 677680

Shotokan Karate Club: Dave Craggs,

07711 009041

St Mary's Church Parish Office 671202

Revd Paul Dawson 675199

Tennis-Glan Aber Tennis Club:

Sue Britton, 677936

Westminster Park Community Assoc:

Gill Williams, 671243

Youth Club: Linda Eite, Chester 679559

SCOUTING:

Group Scout Leader: Sue Jones, 675538

Beavers (Wednesday): Jane Shorthall, 682136

Cubs (Monday): George Coward, 679259

Cubs (Thursday): Christine Owens, 676691

Scouts (Friday): Terry Coe, 676734

Explorer Scouts (Tuesday): Simon Ashton, 0151 339 4759

Network: Kath Kitchen, 379031

GUIDING:

Rainbows (Monday): Pat McGettigan, 677134

Brownies (Tuesday): Jan Hooper, 674701

Guides: Contact the District Commissioner:

Sue Fryer, 679945

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Francis Thomas

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