

Wall Heath Community Association

Registered Charity No. 522810

Newsletter - Winter 2024

Edition 23



*Wall Heath's Ugly Sisters –
Phil Atkins and Andy Vaughan*

A few years ago I overheard a conversation which included the bland statement that “there’s nothing to do in Wall Heath”. If that was true, and in the writer’s opinion it was not, it certainly is not now. Since our last Issue we have seen five highly successful events being staged in OUR Village. In September the annual **Horticultural Guild Show** was once again a resounding success. October saw the **Halloween Hunt** organised by The Village People which virtually brought traffic to a stop. In November the long awaited Pantomime, this time **Cinderella**, saw the budding Thespians of The Village People take to the stage for six (up from three in 2022) sell out performances. The money raised was used for ‘Operation Santa’, enabling 120 children and parents to enjoy a three course meal, followed by entertainment. A good time was enjoyed by all.

The Community Association was once again delighted to play its part by making the Community Centre available not only for the show but also for rehearsals.

December saw the **Village Heritage Day** when visitors were able to see how the village has changed over the last one hundred and fifty years. Memories abounded with over two hundred photographs featuring many aspects of life in the village. Not to be outdone, to round off the year our Musicians Club staged a very successful **Christmas Concert**.

This Newsletter is produced, edited and delivered to your door by
Volunteers from Wall Heath Community Association

Horticultural Guild Annual Show



Viewing the exhibits



Winning Roses

Halloween Hunt



What a Result!

Heritage Day



Is that me on that photo?



*The Dando Dynasty,
Family members were out in force*

Wall Heath Horticultural Guild

Meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm

February 6	Pruning	Philip Aubury
March 9	AGM	
April 2	Travels in Japan	Diane Clement
May 7	Pelargoniums (plus Plant Sale/Fish and Chip Supper)	Richard Spiers
June 4	Plants for FREE includes Demo (extra charge)	Darren Rudge
July 2	Roscoea	Samantha Hopes

Wall Heath Flower Club

Meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm

Tuesday January 23rd	Beverly Artis	"Fire and Ice"
Tuesday February 27th	A.G.M.	
Tuesday March 26th	Linda Seabrook	"Spring Seasons Greetings"
Tuesday April 23rd	Leanne Williams	"A Carnival of Colour."
Tuesday May 28th	Penelope Harrison	"Contrasts"
Tuesday June 25th	Julie Pearson	"Afternoon Tea at the V&A"
Tuesday July 23rd	Jane Cowan	"Summertime"
Tuesday August 27th	Social	

Short Mat Bowls Club

The club is now in a position to expand its membership and welcomes new members to come along on Mondays from 2pm until 4pm. We have two mats so that everyone has the opportunity to take several turns at bowling. It is competitive but fun. In addition there are several games to enjoy while awaiting one's turn to bowl including Cards, Dominoes and Scrabble. Or you may prefer to sit and relax and watch the other members bowling. If you do need any further information please telephone **Karen Page on 01384 273744**.

Left but never lost

A letter was recently received from someone who was born and raised in the village but moved away several years ago. To quote him "I have been reading about our beloved home village. Those early days are always in my mind and forever in my heart, bringing back wonderful and poignant memories of my family and friends".

You can take the boy out of Wall Heath but you can't take Wall Heath out of the boy.

Jan reaches 100



Congratulations to **Jan Brockhouse** who celebrated her 100th birthday in 2023. Born in Rowley Jan came to live in Wall Heath in 1959. She involved herself in the life of the Community Association joining the Horticultural Guild, Flower Club and the Thursday Afternoon Club being a committee member of the latter for over thirty five years. Jan was also a member of the committee of the Community Association for over twenty years. Whichever group she joined Jan committed herself wholeheartedly – she was "a worker not a watcher".

Thank you Jan for all that you did for the Community Association

Wall Heath Community Association

The Wednesday Club

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 2pm.

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| 10th January | Chris O'Grady
Keep the sea on your left, remember to turn right at Land's End. An inspirational, life-affirming and humorous tale of a haphazard trek around the edge of our "Sceptred Isles". |
| 24th January | Kate Round
Cameo Glass. Through the lives of our local glassmakers and their superb artistic talents, for which Stourbridge glass is world renowned, we will follow the story of Stourbridge Cameo from the 1876 reproduction of the Portland Vase, to the present-day studio artists' continuing development of the craft. |
| 14th February | Sue Stevens
Contemporary and folk music for Valentine's Day. |
| 28th February | Geoff Tristram
A mixed bag of clangers. A comedic look at awful cock-ups, typos, bad translations etc in the art, publishing and advertising world |
| 13th March | Andrea Burley
John Corbett and the history of Corbett Hospital. The fascinating story of John Corbett from his early years and education, rise to fame and fortune and becoming an MP. Andrea also tells us about the hospital's history. |
| 27th March | no meeting |
| 10th April | John Butterworth
Editing the Black Country Bugle. As editor of the only weekly nostalgic paper in the country, John talks about how the paper started, the characters and some of the amazing stories feature |
| 24th April | Bob Booth
Silver to digital magic. The story of the designing and making, from hand production to computer-driven imaging, of the largest buildings to the smallest electronic components. Bob will show some of his own pieces in silver and will talk about the people who have influenced his work |
| 8th May | Kath Reynolds
Food glorious food. An interactive session looking at our changing eating habits and convenience food in our diet. From fish fingers to Angel Delight, Camp coffee to chianti in a basket, Spam to salmon paste- all the things we have loved...or hated. |
| 22nd May | Lauren Collier
Ordinary Lives with Extraordinary Impacts: The Ironbridge Gorge in the 19th Century. The events that took place in the Gorge provided a unique contribution to the birth of the Industrial Revolution, the impact of which is still felt across the world today. |
| 12th June | JDR
A return visit of the popular group with their music from the "Golden Era" of the 50's, 60's and 70's |
| 26th June | Kirsty Barrett
The Tipton Factory Explosion. In March 1922 Britain was shocked by the news of a tremendous explosion in a Tipton factory where 19 young girls died, we find out why they died and how it could have been avoided. Learn why these events of over 100 years ago still ring out today and how we still need to learn the lessons that this event should have taught us. |
| 10th July | John Fox
Fun quiz and strawberries/cakes |

Wall Heath Community Association

Thursday at 2 Club

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday at 2pm.

18th January	Karen Mckee Join in and sing some Popular songs for a social afternoon.	The Liverpool Singer
1st February	Billy Spakemon Enjoy an afternoon of song from the entertaining Black Country Radio Presenter.	Folk and Irish songs.
15th February	Rita John (Aka Christine Sephahi) "Every little Helps!" A very enlightening talk by an English author about her cleverly written, captivating, cathartic, emotionally moving and comforting book.	
7th March	Tim Barney A very entertaining narrative that explores a variety of military brainwaves and inventions that didn't work too well.	Mad, Bad and Dangerous.
21st March	Pen Turner A talk that is not exactly about penguins or travel, but a talk to inspire you and to turn your wish list into reality.	Travels with a penguin.
4th April	Pete Kelly Pete will be entertaining us with his Irish foot tapping music and songs of folk and the '60's.	Singer/songwriter
18th April	Paul Carpenter Paul will be talking about his travels around Africa searching for and studying the insects and arachnids and their amazing habitats.	Into Africa.
2nd May	No Club meeting	(Voting day at the Community Centre.)
16th May	Lesley Crawford A talk and display about decorating bottles, jars, pots and wooden Plaques using the decoupage method.	Crafted by Lesley.
6th June	Javad Hashemi An entertaining, illustrated and animated talk about the man and his inventions.	Leonardo da Vinci.
20th June	Kast in Stone Enjoy a Musical afternoon with popular summer tunes from the decades plus afternoon tea.	Summer songs and strawberries.
4th July	Alan Tumber Time for a laugh with a comical collection of 'Spicy Songs' and rhymes.	Rhyme nor reason.
18th July	Ron Popple Just in case you missed him last time, distinguished comedian Ron will be showering us with another dose of laughter from his pocket full of jokes.	Another Black Country comedy hour.

STOP PRESS

We are looking to expand our delivery of Newsletters. Are you able to spare about one hour, twice a year? Please contact Karen Page. Telephone 01384 273744

Wall Heath Community Association

**Baby and kid-friendly fitness
classes for fierce feminist
mummas**

**luckyfrontwoman@gmail.com for
more info and prices**

Fridays at 1pm



Wall Heath Community Centre

@warrior_woman_fitness to book



Mondays 4.45pm Fridays 5.00pm

Unite TaeKwon-Do provides a high-quality service in teaching the art of TaeKwon-Do and self-defence in a safe and friendly environment. We pride ourselves on helping individuals improve physically and mentally, no matter age or ability, and reach their potential in their TaeKwon-Do journey.

Please contact Andy for more info. or to arrange your first session.

Tel. 07717 522039

Email. andyatestkd@outlook.com

Wall Heath Community Association

Zen Den Yoga and Mindfulness for children

Classes start 22nd February, weekly in term time

Thursdays 4.30-5.15pm Age 5-8

5.30-6.15pm Age 9-12

£7 per class

Spaces limited (to start with) to 10 per class

Hi, I'm Helen, the owner of the Zen Den, and I'm really excited to be bringing a new Children's Yoga and Mindfulness class to Wall Heath Community Centre.

The classes will be aimed at children between the ages of 5-8 and 9-12.

Today's fast paced world often places significant demands on our little people and this new class will allow children to take time out to just be.

Each week the class will be themed and children will learn a variety of yoga poses, mindful activities, enjoy music and stories and guided relaxation.

My class encourages children to feel their breath and the movement of their bodies, developing mindfulness and attention to the present moment. My aim is to give children their own tools to manage their own sense of self in amongst the chaos of today's world.

The class will run on a Thursday during term time. Places are limited, so please contact me via email for more information and to secure your place

Zendenyogaandmindfulness@outlook.com

Relax & Restore - An evening of relaxation with Crystal Sound Bowls

Sundays February 25th March 24th April 21st 7 – 8pm £15

Helen invites you to join her for a sensory escape, where comfort meets relaxation and restoration. Escape the hustle and enjoy an enchanting evening devoted to relaxation and the mesmerising resonance of crystal bowls. Immerse yourself in the gentle melodies as you let go of tension and embrace tranquillity.

One Sunday each month grab your favourite pillow and blanket, find a cosy spot and let the harmonious vibrations of crystal bowls guide you into a state of deep relaxation. Take time for you, to relax and restore.

Places are limited, so please contact Helen at relaxandrestorewellbeing@outlook.com

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What's happening in your Community Centre, at a glance!

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY
Monday	10.00am 2.00pm 4.45pm 8.00pm	Kurling Short Mat Bowls Club Unite TaeKwon-Do Adult Beginners Ballroom Class for Couples
Tuesday	10.30am 2.00pm 7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Sgt. Pepper's Friendship Club Kurling Horticultural Guild (1 st Tuesday) Musicians Club (2 nd Tuesday) Flower Club (4 th Tuesday)
Wednesday	11.00am 2.00pm 5.00pm	Tai Chi - Active Seniors The Wednesday Club (2 nd & 4 th Wednesday) Reflections Dance Company (Ages 4-18 yrs)
Thursday	9.45am & 11.15am 2.00pm 4:30 pm 7:00 pm	Active Seniors Thursday at 2 Club (1 st & 3 rd Thursday) Zen Den Yoga and Mindfulness for children Ballroom Practice Sessions
Friday	10.30am 1:00 pm 5.00pm 7.30pm	Crafty Chatters Warrior Fitness-Pre and postnatal child and baby friendly fitness classes Unite TaeKwon-Do Line Dancing
Sunday	7:00 pm	Relax & Restore - An evening of relaxation with Crystal Sound Bowls (Monthly)

To enquire about booking the hall or for further information regarding any of the groups please contact:
Karen Page Tel: **01384 273744** E-mail: **wallheathcommunityassoc@gmail.com**

Wall Heath Community Centre, Enville Road, Wall Heath DY6 0JT.

Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 10.30am until 12noon

www.wallheathcommunitycentre.co.uk