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Mortimer Village News

Issue 2/14

THE NEWSLETTER FOR WIGMORE, LEINTHALL STARKES, ELTON AND PIPE ASTON

World War 1 War Grave Commission Cemetery

Recently the cemetery in Wigmore has been designated as a War Graves Commission cemetery.

It contains the grave of a soldier, Private John Deakin, from the Herefordshire Regiment who died in March 1917

Records show that he was born in Acton Burnell, Shropshire and subsequently lived in Wigmore, possibly at Chapel Farm near Crookmullen.

He died at home before the end of the war presumably as a result of wounds received in battle.

He was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

If any resident has any additional information on John Deakin, the parish council would be interested to hear from them particularly in this 100th commemorative year of WW1.



If you can help—please contact Linda Henry details on page 8



News from:

Wigmore

After one year since the Castle Inn was taken over, the transformation has been well received. With the renovation of both the bar and the restaurant, the compliments have been rolling in. With the reputation for great food growing rapidly bookings are now advisable. The restaurant is full most weekends and it is easy to see why.

Summer events are planned and with music nights already full, there is a lot Sean and his team are bringing to Wigmore.

With the "foodie" culture slowly hearing about our little gem, it can only be a good year for the village. The Castle Inn's lunch offering is also changing with our healthy eaters in mind after a long hard winter. Everyone at the Castle Inn would like to thank residents for their support and all the recommendations they have made. The team now looks forward to even greater things in serving our community in the future.



The restaurant at the Castle Inn

Leinthall Starkes



Floods, Cycling and Potholes

During the recent bad weather, Malcom Lyon rode round the back lane from Burrington to Leintwardine to enjoy the view of 'Wigmore Lake' but found the collapsed road was rather an obstacle!

Potholes can be reported on Herefordshire Council's web page at:

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes/cg-report-a-pothole/> .

Unfortunately only one hole can be reported at a time so hopefully readers will be active in notifying the Council about those causing concern. Jenny and Malcom's grandson, Joseph, is keeping cycling in the family and will be riding in the Velodrome at the Olympic Park on March 23rd 2014 for Sport Relief.

Wigmore and District Gardening Club

Diary for 2014

Thursday 20th March 'Tools for Self Reliance' Dave Thomlinson, Clun, South Shropshire

Thursday 17th April 'Cracks and Crevices' Pam Pittwood of Radnor Cottage, Clunton.

Thursday 19th June 'Thomas Andrew Knight Pioneer of Horticultural Science and President of RHS' Dr Murray Mylechreest, Worcester

Thursday 18th September Club Members talk 'Gardens where I have been, Plants I have seen'

Thursday 16th October 'Effects of Climate Change on pests, diseases and disorders' Dr Steve Reynolds, Clunton, South Shropshire

Thursday 20th November 'Pyrus Communis – the Perry pears, production and tasting cider and perry' Mr Tom Oliver Stanksbridge, Ocle Pychard, Herefordshire

The social aspects of any kind of club are nearly equal in importance with its meetings, discussions and good works, thus we were very happy to celebrate Christmas together with another excellent meal at The Riverside Inn in Aymestrey. The noisy chatter and squeals of excitement generated by hitting someone across the room with your rocket balloon would belie the average age of our members.

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Similarly, the wine and cheese served at our January AGM was much enjoyed alongside the more important decisions. The profit made from various events in the year (especially the record sum made by the plant sale; many thanks to all those who helped on the day) has meant that we are again able to make donations to charities. Those chosen for this year are The Air Ambulance, the Renton Unit and St Michael's Hospice.

Another varied and interesting programme of talks has been organised for this year—see adjacent column.

Unfortunately, our car trip to Grantsfield to see their snowdrops had to be cancelled as this wretched weather had rendered their ground too soggy for visitors. However, we have already had one talk: 'Pinks for Every Garden' given by Susan Russell. Susan gave us a fascinating talk on the history of pinks, which have been in cultivation for centuries and were one of the most popular flowers in the medieval garden. She followed this with a beautiful selection of photos of the different types of pink in cultivation today.

New members are always welcome. We normally meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30 in Wigmore Village Hall and our car-trips leave the village hall at 1.30. We are a very friendly bunch of locals, of all stages of expertise, from the utter beginner to those who open their gardens for charity! Just come along and join in or phone Theresa and Ian Barlow on 770313 or Joy Ardy on 770023.

Neighbourhood Planning

Update—Mar 2014

- The parish council has established a forum comprising residents and councillors - **COMPLETED**
- A survey form will be delivered to all households with this newsletter – **COMPLETED**
- The forum will consider the results from the survey together with related issues – **COMPLETED**
- A plan and budget to be drawn up to support an application for government funding for the preparation of the plan – **COMPLETED**
- **Grant application to cover cost of the NP process submitted – GRANT AWARDED**
- A planning consultant has now been identified to assist in the compilation of the plan – initial meeting held – **CONSULTANT APPOINTED & FIRST MEETING PLANNED**
- Hard to reach residents will be identified and individual surveys will be devised – **IN PROGRESS**
- A draft document based on outputs from these open meetings and the previous Parish Plan will be prepared with assistance from the consultant
- Residents will have an opportunity to review and suggest amendments to this document
- The parish council will discuss the draft document with the local authority
- An independent planning consultant will review the document
- If the document is satisfactory the LA will arrange a local referendum
- If the referendum outcome is positive then the plan will be accepted.

A Dance Evening

With the talented **Rhythm Thieves** at Leintwardine Community Centre on
Saturday April 12th at 8pm

Tickets at £8 per person including nibbles on the tables.

Tickets are available in advance on 01547 540593 or on the door.

Knighton and District Rotary Club raising money for local charities.

Community Wheels

Community Wheels is an important local charity which helps anyone who struggles with transport. Our team of volunteer drivers take passengers to destinations all around the County – and sometimes beyond! We cover journeys to hospitals, doctors, clinics, supermarkets, social groups, day care centres and a host of other places. To be eligible, you must have no other way of getting to your destination. To use Community Wheels you will need to register with our office. This takes about 15 minutes and after that it is a simple matter of telephoning us to book a driver. We do need 48 hours notice in order to arrange your transport although if you have a last minute emergency we will always try our best to help you. Please telephone our Booking Line on 01568 615785 between 9.30am and 12.30pm. Monday to Friday. Iola or Mike will be happy to help.

Drivers: We are always looking for new volunteers to drive for us. You can give as much time as you would like to. You will need your own (four door) vehicle. We are able to help towards your driving costs by reimbursing you at a set rate per mile. To be a driver you need to be over 25 years of age and have held a full drivers licence for at least two years. Please telephone Wendy Schuster on 01568 617722 if you are interested in learning more.

Stuart, one of two drivers from Wigmore, has enjoyed driving for Community Wheels for over 5 years. He has helped many clients in that time, people such as Roland (pictured left with Stuart below).

Roland no longer drives and would find it impossible to get to Leominster or Hereford by public transport. Roland has used the charity for nearly 2 years and he, and the many others, values the freedom that this gives."



Community Shop AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the community shop will be held
on 14th May in the village hall at 7.30pm

All are welcome but only members will have voting rights.

However you can nominate members to the committee—
nomination papers will be available in the shop.

A light supper will be served prior to the AGM

So we have our community shop.....

Apart from selling bread and veg—what else does it offer?

- It takes in small parcels when the recipient is out at work
- Orders things you would like to have but don't want to go into Ludlow or Leominster
- Sells tickets for local shows
- Offers a listening ear for those who would like a chat or a moan
- Offers you a coffee if you feel a little bit down
- Provides directions to those delivery people who are looking for your cottage
- Keeps an eye on those older folk who may not be so nimble nowadays
- Carries your shopping home if it is a little heavy
- Displays your favourite arm chair for sale
- Provides cardboard boxes for our local hoarders and movers
- Even cuts up cucumbers if you only want a smaller piece!
- Sunday joints—order by Wednesday and collect from Friday noon.
- Special orders for meats and speciality breads.
- Free book exchange
- You would like more?—well we are working on it!

In the meantime—SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY SHOP!

It is your shop—it is owned by our community and run on your behalf by volunteers.

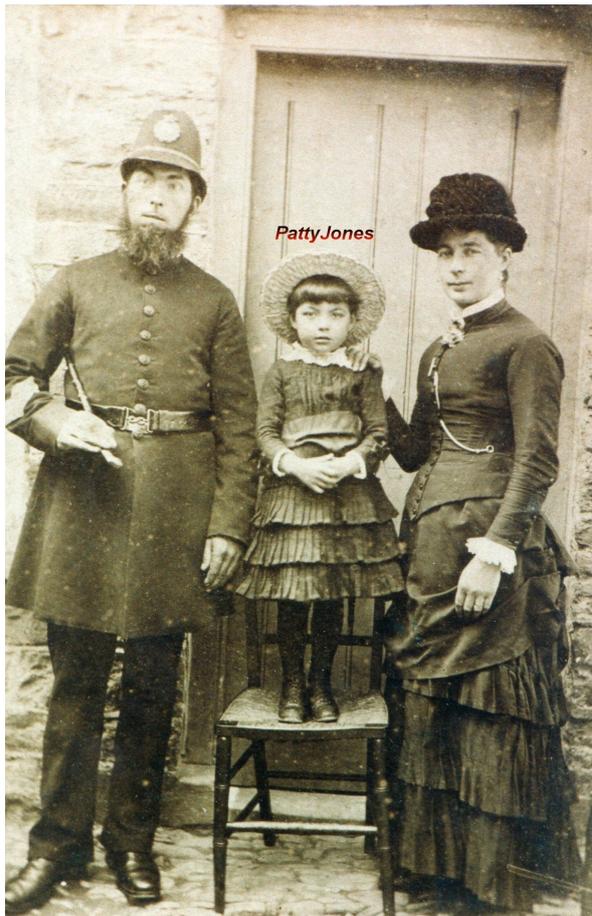
If you would like something different please tell us—we are always willing to listen!

Mobile Post Office @ Wigmore

(in the village hall car park)

Monday	11.00 to 12.30
Tuesday	15.00 to 16.00
Wednesday	—no attendance
Thursday	14.00 to 15.30
Friday	10.30 to 12.00
Saturday	10.30 to 11.30

The mobile post office can undertake most normal transactions and further information may be obtained by calling 08457 223344



Sergeant William Jones and Mrs Jones with their daughter Patty—Wigmore circa 1885
One of the photos from a resident which will be included in our proposed book on the development of Wigmore.

Funding for the parish

A quiet month for the parish in respect of further funding for projects.

The St James fund has now reached a point where work is scheduled to commence in March 2014

Our community shop has been awarded £1860 from the Co-operative Society community fund.

The Heritage Fund has invited us to submit an application in respect of our Wigmore community book.

Wigmore Group Parish Council

The group parish council meets every 2nd Monday in the month (other than August) at Wigmore Village Hall. Why not come along and have your say about anything you would like to discuss about your village? The meetings start at 8pm and residents have their opportunity at the beginning of the meeting. If you cannot make the meeting you can always contact the parish clerk, Linda Henry, and ask for a topic to be included on the agenda, or you can write in. On some topics such as roads and speeding, you can discuss the issue but please do not expect a simple answer in reply. Many of these issues are outside the control of the parish but can be referred up to the county council or other authority.

A village defibrillator

Thanks to one of our residents, Alison Merry, we now have sufficient information to proceed with acquiring a defibrillator and the associated training for our village.

A grant is available and will provide approx. half the cost of the equipment. We are proposing that the machine is housed in a "break glass to open" box adjacent to the Castle Inn.

Anyone who is interested in being trained is invited to contact the editor in the first instance.

Wigmore History

Following on the successful "Wigmore through the Ages" time line display at our summer event, a number of people have come forward with an interest in compiling a more permanent record of images and memories about the development of Wigmore and its fascinating history.

Originally we applied for funding through Awards for All but were unsuccessful. However the Heritage Fund (part of the Big Lottery) has indicated that our project would be of interest to them and invited us to complete and submit an application. This we are doing.

We have already had discussions with various organisations connected with Wigmore and received a quote from local printers.

Our aim is to produce a book based on residents memories, photos, pictures, artifacts etc and show these as a time line starting in circa 1000AD when our village was first identified as Wigmore, through to the present day.

Depending on the grant we would hope to give each household a copy of the book.

Mortimer Village News is published quarterly by Wigmore Group Parish Council

The next issue is on May 29th with copy by May 22nd

Editor: Bryan Casbourne
Email: casbourne@btinternet.com

Any opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors concerned and not necessarily those of the Wigmore Group Parish Council.

Police information

You can check local crime statistics by going to:

www.police.uk

and inputting your post code for information on reported crimes in and around your area. Alternatively you can go to:

www.westmercia.police.uk

for a wider range of information on policing activities in and around our county.

Your parish councillors are:

Wigmore

Vic Harnett – Vice Chair – 770445

Anne Gilbert – 770750

David Gardiner – 770446

Bryan Casbourne – 770155

Sean Kyle – 770203

Leinthall Starkes

Graham Probert – Chair – 770543

Charles Poole – 07974772850

Elton

Andrew Morgan – 07977140471

Pipe Aston

Clare Major – 770588

County Councillor

Olwyn Barnett – 01544 267289

Parish Clerk

Linda Henry – 770369

Email: linda-henry@live.co.uk

Exam Success for Seven Stars Dancers

Congratulations to Amelie Covill, Meg Hamar Plant, Ellie Preece and Felicity Preston who recently passed their Grade 1 Royal Academy of Dance ballet exams.

"I'm extremely proud of them," said their teacher Sophie Plant, Principal of Seven Stars Dance School, "the girls all passed their exams with Merit which is fantastic and reflects all the hard work they put in".



Classes with Seven Stars Dance continue each term-time Monday at Wigmore Village Hall. NEW for this term is Junior Dance Club from 3.40p.m. This class is suitable for boys and girls aged 3-5years and is a fun introduction to movement to music, where children gain a whole host of skills whilst keeping fit and having a great time. Ballet classes and Senior Dance Club are also available. For information, please call Sophie on 07962 103005

Wigmore Baby and Toddler Group

On Saturday 22nd March the Wigmore Baby and Toddler Group will be hosting a table top sale at the Mortimer Enterprise Centre on Queens Meadow between 1pm and 3.30pm. This will include lots of baby and toddler items together with local crafts, a raffle, and home-made cakes with tea and coffee. You will also have the opportunity to see our new extensive playroom and facilities.

The group looks forward to seeing you on the day.

Wigmore Bowlers Win the League Again!

After an exciting season, the winners could not be predicted until the last few matches. The Wigmore team clinched the trophy by beating Titley in their final match. The victory was made all the sweeter as it was the first time Wigmore had beaten Titley on their own mats since joining the North Herefordshire Carpet Bowls League some twelve years ago.

The match season is now over until October, but the bowlers still play informally every Tuesday in Wigmore Village Hall from 8-10pm. Beginners are very welcome.

The winning team:

Rear: R. Morris, V. Hughes, J. Holloway,
B. Mason, P. Probert (Capt.) A. George
Front: D. Hill, W. Hill, B. Holloway, J.
Johnson, C. Holloway



Wigmore Village Hall News

The Hall is being well used, with the Seven Stars children's dance classes, the social group CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other), Wigmore Garden Club, Wigmore Bowls Club, the Parish Council and various fundraisers and private events.

The Parish Council have organised for Broadband to be put in the hall, and have purchased a projector screen and two laptops with a grant. These may be used by hirers. The Parish Council are also trying to obtain funding to make the laptops and WIFI easily accessible to all on application, by altering access to the 'waiting room' at the rear of the village hall.

Our village hall

The hall was built by voluntary labour for the benefit of the village. We are always looking for ideas on how the village hall may be used for social events or fundraising for Wigmore parish and welcome any suggestions.

If you would like to come and have a look at the hall with a view to booking, or would like any information about the above,

please contact:

Jenny Johnson on 01568 770162

email jenny5johnson@gmail.com

OK we are a bit thin on news this time of year, so why not try this one?

What is the connection between the following:

A horses backside
The Space Shuttle
The Romans

Answers by email please!

Fancy seeing a film—locally

Why not go along to Aymestrey village hall on a Friday and enjoy watching a film.

For details go to
www.aymestrey.org/filmclub



IT courses

We now have the broadband installed in the village hall and it has already been used by some local groups.

We will be restarting the courses in the near future and information on dates and times will be published on notice boards, the community shop and our web site.

Some of the introductory courses will be fully funded by Herefordshire Council.

The Croft Ambrey Ladies team has won the county trophy, after a gap of 20 years.

Nicky Turvey, from Yarpole, was part of both winning teams 20 years apart. Sue Davies, Jo Marriott, Sam Harper and Irina Dale completed the 'A' team. Ruth Stafford, Kim Wood, Rachel Nelson and Elaine Rouse completed the squad. The men's team took bronze. There are five races between October and March, held in different places across the county and this is the 30th anniversary of the Herefordshire league. Croft is a small club, especially when compared to the two Hereford running clubs, so every runner helps towards the final result. On a couple of races this season we even fielded a ladies 'B' team. For all club members, participation is a real achievement given all the other commitments of family, work and general living!

If mud and hills are not your style, club members will be running the 5K (3 mile) road race in Hereford on 9 April at 7.15pm from Hereford 's Leisure Centre. Or why not join us for the club's own 5 mile time-trial on April 22 at 7pm, around the lanes of Leinthall Starkes? Contact Mike Blenkinsop for further details Phone: 01568 708119 Email: mike@croftambreyrunningclub.co.uk . As a sport, running fits in well with busy lifestyles and membership of the club is not expensive

MORTIMER *Village News*

Wigmore Walking Group

March 18th -Lingen walk of some 5.5 miles and meets at the Church (not Methodist) in Lingen at 10.00am
Contact Ros on 01568 770173

April 1st—Cross of the Tree walk of some 2 hrs and meets at the phone box on the Lingen Road 4 miles up from Wigmore.
Contact Kevin on 01568 770095

April 15th—Eardisland and Pembridge walk of some 5 miles and meets at the Eardisland car park near Cross Inn.

We are hoping to publish a brochure with all our popular walks shortly. These will eventually be available from the community shop in Wigmore.



Marquee Event

On the evening of May 4th 2014, there will be a fundraising event at Bramley House, Leinthall Starkes by kind permission of Joyce and Graham Probert. The proceeds will be shared between the Air Ambulance and Leinthall Starkes Church.

The community web site is up and running you can find it at

www.mortimervillages.co.uk

Remember this is a **community web site** enabling us to communicate more easily with our residents—it was devised and is maintained by volunteers at no cost to the parish.

Courtesy of the Wigmore Gardening Club

And just to brighten your day!



Snowdrops in
The Weir Garden near Hereford

Oil ordering group.

I have recently placed another bulk order for central heating oil for the syndicate that I organise within the Parish, again at a very advantageous price. The syndicate has been running for a year now and oil has been ordered quarterly. If there are any other households within the area that would like to join, to take advantage of the reduced cost of central heating oil that bulk buying allows, please contact me. The syndicate is privately run by me, a Parish councillor, and is not sponsored by the council.

Victor Harnett. Tel. - 01568 770445
email victorharnett@btinternet.com