

UNIVERSITY PRIMARY ACADEMY

As usual, the first half-term is busy, and there have been many fantastic things happening at the Academy in the first 8 weeks of this academic year. In addition to lesson time, we had a fantastic coffee morning in aid of the McMillan Nurses, raising a total of £300. The whole event was organised and run by our Year 6 class – a fantastic effort by the team. Soon after, we hosted an Open Morning, where visiting parents, (new, existing and prospective) could get a flavour of Academy life.

PE, Dance, Drama, Computing, Science, Art & Design, as well as Maths and English, all demonstrated the fantastic learning opportunities available to our children.

As I write, we are recognising Remembrance Day, and consequently, we launched a mini-topic on Remembrance at the start of the week. With Art, DT and Writing activities taking place across the Academy, we are creating a wonderful 'Lest We Forget' display of Remembrance in our entrance hall. Please come and see it if you get the opportunity! We now eagerly anticipate the exciting Christmas activities during this next half-term, starting with switching on the Weaverham Christmas Lights on Friday 25th November. ☞



Smith Head of School

ST BEDES CHURCH AND SCHOOL

St Bede's Church and Our Lady of Fatima in Barnton both evolved from St Wilfrid's in Northwich, and in October, we all celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the opening of the current St Wilfrid's Church, with Bishop Mark Davies coming to lead the celebrations. In September, a group went on pilgrimage to some of the principal shrines of France, and visited Lourdes, Lisieux and Nevers.

On a more social level, a lunch for older parishioners is held every month at St Bede's, and the Christmas Lunch party will be on the second Monday of December. There was a superb bonfire party in the church gardens on 5th November, and for January 2017, we are planning another parish dinner.

Our school held a Harvest Celebration on 11th October, and a Remembrance Day Mass was offered in school in November. The children have also been very active filling Christmas Shoeboxes with presents for less fortunate children throughout the world.

There is plenty to look forward to over the coming weeks, with the school Christmas Fair on 3rd December, the Christmas Play (which will be held on two consecutive days due to demand), a whole school trip to see Jack and the Beanstalk, and term will end with an Advent Mass in church.

Christmas Mass times in the area will be:

Christmas Eve

St Bede's - 5.30pm
Our Lady's - 8.00pm
St Wilfrid's - 11.30pm

Christmas Day

St Wilfrid's - 9.15am
St Bede's - 11.15am



WEAVERHAM FOREST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Weaverham Forest Primary has been awarded the **Sainsbury's School Games Gold Mark** in recognition of our commitment to, and development of, PE, school sport clubs and competitions. It reflects the hard work undertaken to ensure all pupils have access to a wide variety of sports opportunities within our school.

The Award acknowledges our school's outstanding provision of PE, sport and competition, achieving this by:

- Providing an After School Active Club run by our Sport Leaders to encourage children to get active.
- Providing opportunities to participate in competitions - Boccia tournaments
- Offering talented children opportunities to achieve their sporting potential
- Providing intra-house competitions so all children can access competitive sports
- Competing against local schools in various sports
- Utilised coaches - judo, dodgeball, football, rugby, tennis, dance and gymnastics
- Forming a Year 5 & 6 sports crew who led, managed and officiated in sport and PE activities

Achievements

Joint Runners-Up in the Year 5 & 6 Mixed Dodgeball competition
Semi-final: Year 5 & 6 Mixed Hockey Festival
Semi-final: Year 5 & 6 Mixed Netball Tournament
Third: Year 5 & 6 Mixed Football Tournament
Second: Year 5 & 6 Girls' Football Competition
Winners: Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament. The Team represented Vale Royal School Sport Partnership at the Cheshire & Warrington Winter School Games Festival

Are you interested in becoming a school Governor?

Weaverham Forest Primary School is looking for a governor who has a background in education and/or health and social care. For further details please contact the school office.

admin@weaverhamforest.cheshire.sch.uk



THE RUSSETT SCHOOL

We celebrated Harvest Festival at The Russett School recently and we received lots of donations from parents/carers for which we were very grateful.

The food was to be donated to a local Food Bank and Maxine, a Food Bank Volunteer, came to school to collect all our offerings. The Food Bank we support is based in Northwich, so we are extremely happy to be supporting our own community. For more information about Food Banks in the Mid-Cheshire area, please visit:

www.midcheshire.foodbanks.org.uk



THE WEAVERHAM SURGERY

Surgery Training Half-Day Closures for 2016: Wed. 23rd November: closed from 1pm to 5pm. During this time, if you phone the surgery, you will be given information regarding the 111 service/Out of Hours.

Christmas/New Year Opening Hours: The surgery will be closed on Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th December and Monday 2nd January 2017.

Flu vaccination: If you are entitled to a flu vaccination, please book an appointment at the surgery.

Contact Information: Please keep the Surgery up to date with any changes in your contact details, including mobile/landline numbers and current email address. You can obtain a Change of Details form from the Surgery.

myGP: Important communications and health information is now being sent out to all our patients via the myGP app. Patients can download the myGP app via Android or iOS online stores and benefit from:

- Receiving useful health information through secure messaging with your GP.
- Better medication management and health tracking
- Booking and cancelling appointments
- Receiving messages and setting reminders for medication ordering, monitoring BP and weight.

If you would like more information please contact the surgery.

Winter Medicine Cabinet: Coughs, colds, headaches and other common illnesses can leave you feeling unwell and struggling to carry on as normal. Be prepared by keeping a well-stocked medicine cabinet which should include:

painkillers, such as paracetamol or ibuprofen, antihistamines for allergies, antiseptic cream, laxatives, sunscreen, first aid kit with plasters and bandages to manage cuts and sprains. *Always be careful to follow product instructions and check medicines are still in date. If you are not sure what medicines to stock or how best to treat symptoms of common health problems, ask your local pharmacist.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WEAVERHAM TRUST CHRISTMAS CARDS 2016 AND 2017 CALENDARS

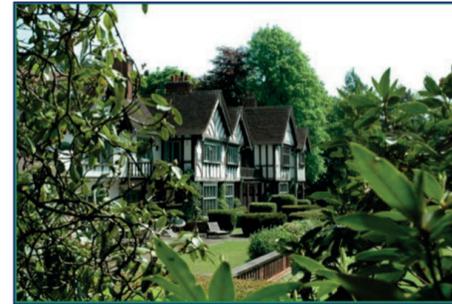
Christmas card - prints from a painting by a local artist.

75p each



WEAVERHAM AND DISTRICT GARDENERS CLUB

Winter has suddenly arrived, it seems, and it's quite a shock after the wonderfully warm and sunny Autumn. Weaverham Gardeners have had another successful year of interesting speakers and visits. Our last visit, in July, was to Manley Knoll Gardens, with fantastic views across to the Welsh Hills and its interesting Quarry Garden.



Our last speaker in October was Sue Makin from Clemency House, in Duddon, talking about creating a wildlife garden – she is certainly passionate about her subject and members went home inspired to create their own wildlife havens. Her garden is open to the public, in support of Cheshire Wildlife Trust, in June and July next year – June 17th and July 1st 1-5.30pm and June 21st 6-9pm.

Our final meeting of the year is our annual Quiz Night and Buffet, which is always an enjoyable evening, and the questions aren't all about gardening!

Next year's programme is promising to be as varied and interesting, with talks on Bats in your Garden, Bulbs, and the rejuvenation of Royalty Wood in Hartford, to name but a few. New members and visitors are always welcome: we meet at University Academy Primary School at 7.30pm on the last Tuesday of the month. Find out more about us by visiting www.weaverhamgardeners.btck.co.uk.

Members were saddened to say goodbye to our Chair, Barbara Cripps, who has moved away from the area. Barbara served as Chair for many years and kept the club thriving with her organisational skills and enthusiasm. She will be missed and we wish her all the very best in her new home.

THE WEAVERHAM NEWS

Published by the Weaverham Trust

For the village and its people

Supported by Weaverham Parish Council



THE WEAVERHAM TRUST CHAIRMANS REPORT

Over recent issues I have talked about the need for local people to actively support our village organisations or to risk losing them.

The Weaverham Trust has been running with a depleted Executive for the last 12 months and we have now come to our own "cross roads" as a further four of its Executive Members have stated that they, due to changes in their commitments, will not be seeking re-election in 2017.

This leaves only five Executive Members, none of whom wish to take on additional key responsibilities, such as Chairman and Secretary. Given this situation, the Executive has no alternative other than to consider winding up the Trust.

Over the years since its formation in 2001 the Trust has achieved such a lot: Lakehouse Field has been registered as an open space, the construction of a large Network Rail Sub Station opposed, the village Blue Plaque Scheme introduced and Bottom Pitch Meadow purchased to prevent development. There are of course many more achievements, but these are our most notable.

The Trust has a stable Membership but it is sad that a village of nearly 3,000 properties can only muster around 170 supporters. Other Weaverham organisations suffer the same problems and I see the same faces again and again on differing Committees and volunteer groups.

I'm saddened by the situation that we are now in, but, unless a number of you come forward who are able and prepared to take on these roles the Weaverham Trust will have to cease.

If you feel that you can fill an official role please contact Lynne Rafferty (01606 853774) jimlynraf@gmail.com and an appropriate Executive Member will contact you.

John Wilson

PS The Trust Christmas cards (75p) and calendars (£7.00) are now on sale. Cards and calendars are available from the Post Office and Marjorie Gorril (01606 853 850) and calendars from Richards Newsagents. Please see the back page for pictures.

DISCLAIMER:

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of individual contributors, and are not necessarily those of the editorial committee.

DEDICATION AND REMEMBRANCE

The ecumenical service of Dedication and Remembrance at the Memorial Orchard, on 12th September, was a very moving experience. The service was led by local clergy and attended by representatives of the Woodland Trust, local CWaC and Parish Councillors, Co-op Funeralcare Northwich, Saltscape, Groundwork, Civic Voice, The Royal Voluntary Service, local organisations, individual sponsors and Weaverham villagers, as well as staff and pupil representatives of local schools.



The Orchard was dedicated to the memory of all who fought in the two World Wars and in more recent conflicts, and was followed by an Act of Remembrance. Members of the Sandiway & Cuddington branch of the Royal British Legion and the Northwich Branch of the Burma Star Association laid wreaths. Members of the Weaverham branch of the Royal British Legion were also in attendance. Following the service, CWaC councillor, Charles Fifield, representing Graham Evans MP, gave a speech.

The Memorial Orchard is a community orchard for local residents. We hope it will be a reminder of Cheshire's fruit growing heritage and will provide a place of quiet reflection for us to remember all those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Tina Johnson



orchard@weaverham.org.uk

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FRIENDS OF OWLEY WOOD

2016 has been a busy year for "Friends of Owley Wood": we had volunteer groups working with, and for, our group, helping improve access to the reserve for the public.

We received funding and support from The Woodland Trust, Saltscape, Weaverham Parish Council, Barclays Bank, Mersey Forest and, of course, Cheshire Wildlife Trust (C.W.T.). Sorry if I've omitted anyone, but you can tell how much support we have had this year!

Sadly, we said goodbye to C.W.T. trainee, Steph, and her constantly cheerful smile, whatever her task or the weather. Thanks Steph!

Though 2016 is almost over, work for the Friends continues and only pauses for a brief spell during Christmas. Before then, we hope to have a 'Stream Clean' late November, and visits from Petty Pool Vocational College and The Russett School to assist clearing the overgrowth on the bluebell areas.



Most paths and boardwalks have been improved, and plans for 2017 include the completion of South end (Walerscote). We will coppice some areas to encourage more undergrowth: bluebells etc. These pictures were taken



on the 7th and 8th November - what a difference the weather can make to what is always a beautiful view!

We hope you all have a peaceful Christmas and that you will visit the wood and walk the circuit - if only to work off any festive excesses!

WEAVERHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

A packed hall greeted Angela Rippon, the guest speaker at the CFWI Autumn Meeting, at the Winsford Lifestyle Centre on 4 Oct, where she was warmly welcomed by members and entertained them with tales of her early years as a young reporter and later, as a BBC presenter. At the VR Group meeting with Jean Finney, members were enrapt hearing about the origins of nursery rhymes. The *Climb Every Mountain* musical evening on 21 Oct featuring the Weaver Valley WI Choir raised over £2,000 in aid of the *Saving Denman* appeal.

At our WI meeting in October, we learnt about the basics of acupuncture and a number of members volunteered to help with the demonstration. We had an enjoyable Hotpot Supper in November and look forward to our Christmas Lunch trip on Wed 7 December and the festivities of our December meeting on the 14th.

In January 2017 we celebrate our 90th Birthday with a Bring & Share Supper, and also hold our AGM which was deferred from November.

Meeting place: 1st Weaverham Sea Scout Hall, Church Street, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm. Visitors welcome. For more information contact Mrs L Rafferty ☎853774.

CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

We represent and serve the communities of Weaver and Cuddington Ward (Weaverham, Acton Bridge, Cuddington and Dutton). If you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are pleased to be able to support community projects in the ward so if you have a community project you would like assistance with, including a community grant from our Members' Budget, please contact us. The deadline for awarding grants in the current financial year is early January 2017.

The 100th Anniversary of the Somme took place this year and was marked by the new Weaverham Community Memorial Orchard on Northwich Road, between the villages of Weaverham and Hartford, and was partly financed by a grant from our Members' Budget.

We were also pleased to be able to support the "Summer Reading Challenge" at Weaverham Library and help present the awards on Saturday 17th September.

The long term redevelopment of Northwich town centre is coming to fruition with the new ASDA due to open at the end of November and the new Odeon Cinema in December. The new multi-story car park will also provide a further boost to the town centre.

The Council regularly runs a number of Consultations, which we recommend residents look at: http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your_council/consultations_and_petitions.aspx. We also encourage residents to use the "Report It" service for issues such as pot-holes, dog-fouling, rubbish collection, via the website or contact 0300 123 8 123: http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/contact_us/online_services/report_it.aspx. Or "SMYLE" smart phone "app".

If you have any issues you would like to discuss with us, or to enquire, on behalf of a group about community grants, please contact us via www.weaverandcuddington.com or 01606 854294. *Mrs Charles Fifield, Harry Tonge and Paul Williams.*

2017 WEAVERHAM & ACTON BRIDGE SHOW

Next year's Show, which will be our 24th, will be held on **Saturday 12th August**. The Committee is hoping for as much support as we had this year, if not more – all participating villagers are welcome!

We are gradually building up to our 25th anniversary in 2018. What started as a small seed in our village has grown and evolved organically, garnering endorsement and enthusiasm on its way, and Weaverham can justifiably be proud of our annual event. However, it could not happen without your support and interest, so please keep a look-out for the next edition of the Weaverham News, when we'll be capturing your imagination by publishing the subjects for the Photography categories.

If anyone has any ideas for this, or any other category, please contact myself or go online to our website www.weaverhamshow.co.uk to see how you can participate. Meanwhile, have a Happy Christmas and while away the winter months preparing your entries for next year's Show!

Elizabeth Gidley, Secretary
Weaverham and Acton
Bridge Show



DON'T FLOUT THE LAW

Over recent months the village has seen numerous fly posters being put up around the village on street furniture and trees. They advertise events, services, lost pets or birthday celebrations etc.

Businesses, Organisations and Residents are reminded that Fly Posting is, in fact, illegal.

Some posters are removed by the originators, but the remaining plastic ties, tape and string does not, and this detracts the village scene. Please refrain from doing this in the future. Your help in this respect would be appreciated. Thank you

HEDGE LAYING COMPETITION - 22nd JANUARY



The Saltscape Landscape Partnership is a 3 year programme of developments designed to protect, restore and celebrate the salt history and wildlife of the Weaver Valley. The partnership runs over 30 projects around mid-Cheshire and is funded by the National Lottery's Heritage Lottery Fund

The Saltscape extends along the Weaver Valley from Frodsham in the north to the salt towns of Northwich, Winsford and Middlewich in the south. The area has a unique mix of wildlife habitats, post-industrial landscapes, rivers and canals that result from Cheshire's industrial salt heritage

One key aim of the partnership is to reconnect people with their landscape and heritage via a series of heritage skills events. One such heritage skill is the traditional craft of hedgelaying. Hedgelaying involves cutting part way through the stems of the hedgerow trees and laying them over between stakes to form a living fence. It is used to promote vigorous re-growth and to maintain a stock-proof barrier. Although being labour intensive, it is much better for the hedge and for wildlife than mechanical hedge-cutting.

In a bid to raise awareness of this dying craft we are holding a hedgelaying competition in Weaverham. The event will be held at the Woodland Trust owned Thorn Wood on Sunday 22nd January 2017. The event is open to professionals and novices and competitors will have about 5 hours to lay a set amount of hedge. Prizes will go the best in each category. In addition to the hedgelaying, there will be fun for all the family - including willow weaving, falconry, green woodworking and bushcraft activities.

Saltscape is led by Groundwork Cheshire, Lancashire & Merseyside with key partners Cheshire West and Chester Council, Canal and River Trust, Cheshire Wildlife Trust, The Mersey Forest and a range of other local and national groups and organisations.

If you are interested look us up on the website <http://www.saltscape.co.uk> or call 01606 723 160 Follow us on

Facebook  and Twitter

Volunteers getting to grips with the hedge along Owley Wood Road.



WEAVERHAM LIBRARY

'The North wind may blow'.... but you'll always get a warm welcome here. What a great time to come and take out some books from your local library! We have everything here to satisfy most needs but you can always reserve something for £1 here or online. So come and see us - even if it's just for coffee! **And did we mention that for library membership is free?**

A big WELL DONE! - to the 131 children who completed the 'Big Friendly Read', this year's Roald Dahl themed **Summer Reading Challenge**. The Chocolate quiz was a great success and the prize winners received gift tokens.



Dates for your diary - Wednesday, 7 December at 3.30pm – Mother Christmas will be bringing gifts and having afternoon tea with your little ones. While she is here she will be answering questions about Father Christmas, singing songs and telling stories. The blue Bookstart Bear will be dropping in for tea as well! A £3 charge applies. Booking advised.

Saturday 10 December Junior Christmas Crafts.

Don't forget:-

Monday, Knit and Natter 11 - 12.30, **Wednesday** coffee mornings and **Friday** Rhyme- time 11-11.30. **Everyone welcome! Free** Ancestry sessions. **Free** internet access for 1 hour every day on our public computers. **Free wi-fi. A photocopier, fax, colour printer and scanner** are always available

Christmas timetable:-
We will be closed on Saturday 24 December until Tuesday 3 January 2017.

And finally, we would all like to wish you a

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Gill, Carol, Ann and Val.

Russett Road, CW8 3HY.
Telephone **01606 274344.**



ST MARY'S CHURCH

Over the Christmas period we have lots of different events happening: Saturday 17th December, 3.30pm - 5.30pm, is our Christmas Chaos – a family event with activities, food and fun. Sunday 18th December will see our wonderful Christmas Carol Service at 6.30pm: a service of readings telling the Christmas Story and traditional Christmas Carols.

Christmas Eve we are running *NATIVITY LIVE* - an outdoor event illustrating the Christmas Story, with real animals and a real baby, retelling the Story of our true Christmas. This will be at 4pm outside Church. Everyone is welcome to share in the Christmas Story. On Christmas Eve, we also have a Communion Service starting at 11.15pm and taking Communion shortly after midnight; Christmas Day. On Christmas Day itself, we have an early morning Communion at 8.30am and an All Age Service at 10.30am: again, everyone is welcome.

COMMUNITY CORNER

It's been a difficult time for Doris the donkey, as she's had a few problems with her feet since autumn arrived. Merlin, the blind and deaf Cocker Spaniel, has also had a few health concerns, but we are delighted that he is now fit and well. I didn't receive any entries to the Pet Photographic Competition so please do email them over if you would like your pet to appear in Weaverham News.

We attended the Community Pride Awards where Weaverham received Runner-Up in the "Community Safety" section. Well done, everyone, for continuing to ensure that our village is a safe place to live. If you are interested in helping with next year's Awards, please contact me. Also, if you can suggest any areas of improvement within our village, just contact me. We can't promise that we can sort out everything as funding is limited but if we know of problem areas, we can try to address them.

The Mothers' Union 140th anniversary event in Chester was a huge success and this year, we have raised over £1,600 via community activities throughout the Diocese, in addition to our Branch fundraising. Mothers' Union branches meet monthly and are a great way to make new friends...so why not consider joining? Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2017.

Gillian Edwards. gedwardsweaverham@hotmail.co.uk

WEAVERHAM COMMUNITY YOUTH FC

Due to the support of the local community and Parish Council, youth football is once again being played on Lakehouse Field. Our under 11's now play their home games in the village on Saturdays at 10.30am. Two over 30's matches, organised by Tony Rogers and his brother Karl were also held on the field and have raised £597.00. Tony captained Tony's Giants to a 3-5 victory and was presented with the Ray Hodgkinson Charity Shield by WCYFC Secretary Rob Dickenson.

Further fundraising events are to be held by the U11 Yellows team including a prize bingo, 9th December at Owley Wood Club and a raffle sponsored by local travel company Eurocamp, which has provided a holiday as the top prize.

WCYFC now have 5 age groups playing matches in the village, with the U7&8 playing at the Cricket Club and the 9&10's at UPAW. Details of events and fixtures can be found on Facebook or at www.clubwebsite.co.uk/weaverhamcommunityyouthfc.

WEAVERHAM CRICKET CLUB

In May, our Club mourned the sad passing of ex-president Phil (PJ) Johnson. PJ was our greatest supporter, at all levels, and an active member of the Management Board for 20 years. PJ's drive made Weaverham CC the club it is today and we will endeavour to keep improving.

Phil was a charismatic character who always welcomed any visitor to the club: be they from the village; or from his days playing opponents. This was apparent in the myriad people at his funeral and numerous messages from all local clubs on his passing. We miss PJ every day. The club, although quieter, will continue to feature prominently in the Weaverham community, as PJ would have wanted. RIP PJ.

To playing: the 1st XI finished a credible 4th - an improvement on 2015. At season's end, we bid farewell to Wilden Cornwall, who has completed 4 years with WCC, but won't be returning next season. Also, Kevin Waterhouse, who has retired from cricket. Thank you both for all you've done for Weaverham: we wish you the best for the future. The 2nd XI again performed well, introducing a number of our U15 players into senior cricket during the season. Josh Brewer performed well behind the stumps and others, including Kyle Phelps, Hayden Bell, and Jack Westerside, have performed superbly when summoned. It is a credit to the Juniors in Weaverham that we have players capable of transitioning into Senior cricket when so young.

The Junior teams performed well: the U11 team had a great year, despite the majority of lads being from year 5, and we hope they exceed expectations when they enter Year 6. The U13 team won the NCJCA cup for the 3rd time in 5 years, beating the capable Christleton team which capped a fantastic year for them.

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Congratulations to Weaverham Gymnastics Club on another successful year and thank you to Paul Williams who attended the awards ceremony to distribute the medals.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year from all at Weaverham Community Centre.

ACTON BRIDGE PRE SCHOOL

Acton Bridge Pre-Schoolers have recently enjoyed learning all about Autumn, especially enjoying their trip to Delamere on the train. Some sessions are filling up, but we still have places available now, as well as the Spring and Summer terms, so please get in touch if you would like to register or find out more. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-12pm and 12-3pm

Footsteps Toddler Group (term-time Tuesdays 9.45am) have welcomed lots of new faces this year, and have recently been enjoying lots of fun crafts. We are looking forward to our Christmas party soon.

Our recent Halloween Spooktacular Fundraiser was a great success - thank you to all involved, and thank you to everyone who came along and contributed a total of £650!

Coming up next we have the Christmas Fair on Friday 9th December at the Parish Rooms in Acton Bridge, 4pm. A lovely, relaxed, local shopping experience, including mulled wine and mince pies, as well as carols. Please come along and support us. 07999 633011 07951 864638
contactus@actonbridgepreschool.co.uk
www.actonbridgepreschool.co.uk

