



# WIXAMS NEWSLETTER

An Independent Newsletter covering all parishes across Wixams • [newsletter@wixams.org](mailto:newsletter@wixams.org)



Finally Lakeview/Willow Grove are connected by a path to Harrowden Green

 Lakeview Village Hall Management Committee 

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

All are welcome

<b>Saturday 26th November</b> 10.00am - 12.00pm Swan Room Lakeview Village Hall	Come and meet the Committee Members Find out more about how you can get involved
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**Why not join the Committee**  
The Village Hall Management Committee is run by a small group of volunteers from Wixams. We are looking for more people to get involved to help support the management and development of the hall. To find out more contact the Chairman

Can't make the AGM and would like to join the Committee or find out more, please contact the Chairman

[secretary@lakeviewvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:secretary@lakeviewvillagehall.co.uk)

# WIXAMS NEWSLETTER AGM

*The Wixams Newsletter is run by a small group of volunteers from Wixams. We are looking for more people to get involved to help with content and delivery of the Newsletter. Want to know more about the Wixams Newsletter and how you can get involved then join us at the AGM.*

**Tuesday 8th November 2022, 20.00 – 21.00**  
**Swan Room, Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams**

For more information to join the AGM or to get involved email [newsletter@wixams.org](mailto:newsletter@wixams.org)

## USEFUL NUMBERS

### 999 - Emergency

Where there is a risk of:

- Personal injury
- Loss of life
- Crime in action

### 101 - Non emergency

- Reporting a crime that is no longer in progress
- Giving information about a crime
- Contacting local police officer
- Getting update reported crime
- Suspicious incidents

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• Wixams Parish Council .....	07554 443800
• Lakeview Village Hall.....	07821 744848
• Lakeview School .....	01234 741653
• Wixams Tree.....	01234 608960
• Wixams Academy .....	01234 608950
• Houghton Conquest Lower School .....	01234 740202
• Welcome (Wixams Co-Op).....	01234 740404
• Portu Gallo's.....	01234 741116
• Lakeside Fish & Chips.....	01234 743942
• Wilstead Tandoori .....	01234 740904
• Wilstead 9th Kitchen.....	01234 740413
• The Red Lion .....	01234 402446
• The Woolpack.....	01234 742318
• NHS Direct.....	111
• Wilstead Pharmacy.....	01234 740609
• Bedford Hospital.....	01234 355122
• Doctors - London Road.....	01234 266866
• Doctors - Houghton Close .....	01525 300898
• Doctors - Greensand .....	01525 631390
• Doctors - Oliver St.....	01525 631395
• Doctors - Wootton.....	01234 762500
• Dentist - Cranfield.....	01234 752515
• Scotts Vets.....	01234 742423
• BPHA Customer Service.....	0330 100 0272
• Bedford Borough Council .....	01234 267422
• L&Q Estates.....	01926 339339
• Wilstead & Wixams Good Neighbours Scheme .....	07807 408928
• Wilstead Post Office .....	01234 740210
• Seasons Garden Centre .....	01234 741909
• Houghton Conquest Parish Council .....	01234 270016
• Houghton Conquest Post Office .....	01234 740208
• Stewartby Parish Council.....	01908 397959

**WRV bus shelter:** This is being funded from the borough councillors' ward funds. It has been ordered and the borough council are awaiting delivery; this is expected by the end of October. Let's hope it can then be installed before the end of the year.

**Bedford Road bus stop path:** BBC Highways agreed to share with the parish council the cost of a path from the existing footpath to the bus stop. Currently bus users have to walk across the grass or in the road.

**Wixams Rail station:** Planning applications have been submitted for Wixams Railway Station with construction expected for late 2023, opening by the end of 2024. There are two applications covering different aspects: 22/01922/MAR and 22/01954/MDC3. You can view them on the borough council Planning Portal and send comments to [planning@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:planning@bedford.gov.uk)

**Speed signs:** You may have noticed that there's a new speed sign on Harlequin Crescent. This is the first one for Village 2; Barratt Homes still own this road and kindly gave permission to site this sign.

**Youth club:** Following the signing of an agreement with BBC Youth Services we now have an assigned youth club provider called 4YP. Throughout October they will be making themselves known around Wixams to collect information on what you'd like your youth club to

# Wixams Parish Council

To let you get to know your parish councillors we will continue posting profiles in each newsletter. Last month you met Deb Bowman, Kelly Carr and Anthony Musgrove. Here are more of our councillors – you can find all the profiles on our website:



**Charlotte Day** - [charlotte.day@wixams-pc.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.day@wixams-pc.gov.uk)

"My name is Charlotte Day and I have lived in Wixams since early 2010. I live with my husband, 3 children and my cairn terrier. I have served the community on the village hall committee in the time when the centre was opened and set up. I was a parent governor at Lakeview School for nearly 4 years and one of the original members of the friends of Lakeview PTA. I have worked in children and family support and currently working in the third sector managing a local women's centre. I have a keen interest in equality and inclusion.

I joined the parish council soon after its set up and hope that we can help move the community to a place that is inclusive and supportive of all its occupants."



**Saqhib Ali** - [saqhib.ali@wixams-pc.gov.uk](mailto:saqhib.ali@wixams-pc.gov.uk)

Saqhib moved to Wixams in 2011. He is married to Shameem and has two adult sons and a daughter in secondary school. He has worked over 15 years as an accountant in the Automotive sector, and is a former Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire. He now works part-time as a CEO of a small children's mental health charity and with three nearby NHS organisations as a Non Executive Director and Audit Chair. Saqhib is a passionate community campaigner, trying to secure non-warehouse employment, road safety and GP provision in the Wixams.

**Average speed cameras:** Back in 2019, the parish council requested the borough council to provide two pairs of average speed cameras, to cover Bedford Road and Southern Cross, and put forward a proportion of the funding. The cameras are in high demand across the borough and we've been fortunate to have been allocated cameras for Bedford Road. We can expect installation in 2023.

#### Actions with the borough council:

We have a number of other items that I've mentioned previously that are awaiting action from Bedford Borough Council (BBC). Items get prioritised against the rest of the borough so the wait can often be long, but they are not forgotten:

**Highways Proposals:** BBC Highways have confirmed that the "No Footway parking" signs on Brooklands Avenue should be in place before the end of the year.

**Traffic calming and road safety measures:** We are awaiting details of the commencement of a feasibility study from BBC Highways to provide advice on crossings at three locations in Wixams. They currently estimate this could take 3 months to complete.

**Bollards:** Bollards have now been installed on Green Lane and Kingfisher Avenue to stop vehicles mounting the pavement – the parish council has funded these.

offer. If you don't manage to speak to them then you can contact them: [WendyMillgate@4ypuk.com](mailto:WendyMillgate@4ypuk.com) or 07780448599.

#### Grants:

At the September meeting the parish council approved a grant of £2,000 to Wixams Residents Social Group for a well being area in the grounds of Wixams Retirement Village for the bereaved and for dementia support. Grants were also approved for StreetWatch signage and for insurance for the Christmas Event run by Wixams Events Team. Please approach us if you wish to have an informal discussion in the first instance about whether you may be eligible for a grant. The application form can be found on our website.

#### Crossing attendant:

The borough council are still recruiting for a school crossing attendant to be funded by the parish council. The work will be at school times and be in the region of 7.5 hours a week. Full training will be provided. Please drop me an email if you are interested.

#### Next Parish Council Meetings

Our next meetings will be on 18th October and 16th November at 7.30pm in Lakeview Village Hall

[clerk@wixams-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wixams-pc.gov.uk) • [www.wixams-pc.gov.uk](http://www.wixams-pc.gov.uk)



## Councillor Rebecca Hares

Central Bedfordshire Independent Councillor

**Planning** – Recently there was a planning application from O&H Properties for an extension of Wixams that would see further increases in housing numbers but no employment opportunities or infrastructure; the size of the site has actually increased but 5 hectares of employment was removed for the benefit of more housing. Actually the S106 and infrastructure contributions this application would provide would not even balance out the deficit of infrastructure that the Wixams Community have been promised but will not have delivered; however, it is apparent that without this application the infrastructure for Wixams would be completely inadequate rather than just inadequate. The fact that previous S106 monies toward this promised infrastructure can apparently not be pursued by the Council due to the time period lapsing for the S106 provisions to be implemented and the delivery of the station hanging on objections from the Department for Transport and Commercial Agreements (between National Rail and Thameslink) which have not been agreed. The highways impact on the local road network and associated safety concerns were completely ignored. The Local Authority have dismissed these significant issues and the compounding detrimental impact further applications here will have on current and future residents and are ploughing on regardless.

There is now a live application CB/22/03496/OUT for the erection of a Care Home and ancillary structures, car parking, and external works in the centre of Wixams Village 3. Please feedback your thoughts on this application via the Planning Portal on Central Bedfordshire website, the planning officer Debbie Quinn@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or myself bex.hares@gmail.com.

There is another Wixams Application likely to come forward in the next few weeks, Mill View, that is currently out for Public Pre-Consultation and the applicant hosted two events locally last week. It will be for rental only properties and a small community space with a café/shop.

**Anglian Water** – I am aware that many residents of our village were left without water during record heat for periods of up to 9 hours. I have been working with Anglian Water since this situation became apparent, I have learned areas where I could have done more for residents. I have also discussed the situation at length with Anglian Water about the processes they currently follow, and how they could be adjusted, to ensure that residents are appropriately supported should this situation repeat. I would like to take the opportunity to inform residents that Anglian Water Engineers do not have the luxury of determining what work is to be undertaken and though they are a face at the site feedback of the issue should be directed to Anglian Water Customer Service, the Council, the Parish or myself directly; not through the engineers or social media. It is also important to note that though views can be expressed on how to avoid and prolonged outages, ultimately Anglian Water determine any work that may be undertaken.

**Cost of living** – I am keenly aware that many residents, particularly those on a fixed income will be struggling with the significant increases of the cost of living and energy bills. Central Government, the Local Authority and many charities are looking at providing different means of support for residents in different ways. You can reach out to myself or the Citizen's Advice Bureau if you require guidance in what support is available and how best to access it.

Citizen's Advice Bureau Ampthill, 10 Bedford Street, Ampthill, MK45 2NB 01767 601368

**Highways** - The majority of my focus has been on road issues regarding the existing issues of the rural network in the Haynes & Houghton Conquest Ward. If there are highways concerns, please report via the FixMyStreet application or 0300 300 8049 which can then be escalated to myself.



## Councillor Tim Hill's Report

Tim is currently the Borough Councillor for Elstow, Stewartby, The Wixams Retirement Village and Kempston Hardwick

**Coronavirus Autumn Booster** – Around four million people most vulnerable to COVID-19 are now being invited to book in their Autumn Booster vaccine, as the NHS' National Booking Service launches appointments for Autumn Boosters.

You can have a seasonal booster dose (autumn booster) of the COVID-19 vaccine if you are:

- aged 50 or over
- pregnant
- aged 5 to 49 and at high risk due to a health condition
- aged 5 to 49 and at high risk because of a weakened immune system
- aged 5 to 49 and live with someone who has a weakened immune system
- aged 16 to 49 and are a carer
- living or working in a care home for older people
- a frontline health and social care worker

If you are eligible you can book your vaccination by visiting <https://bit.ly/wn2210TH-1>.

You can have your seasonal booster (autumn booster) if it's been at least 3 months since you had your previous dose. If you have not had a 1st or 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine yet, you should have them as soon as possible. If you have a severely weakened immune system you should get an additional primary dose before you get a booster.

The NHS will also be rolling out the flu vaccine and encouraging eligible people to take up the offer where possible. Eligible individuals may be offered the flu and COVID jab at the same time subject to supply, with the doses approved to be co-administered: <https://bit.ly/wn2210TH-2>

**Broken Glass in Wilstead Road Underpass to Wixams** - Residents have also raised their concerns with me about all the broken glass in the A6 underpass, Wilstead Road. I have asked officers to ensure the broken glass is cleared very quickly.

**Litter on A6 verges** – Residents have reported that the waste and rubbish along the A6 dual carriageway between the BP petrol station and the recycling centre is increasing at an alarming rate. WRV residents should raise littering issues on this link, send me the case number raised and I'll chase it up. This means the issue is logged and can be actioned on quickly, and also gives the officers an overall view of where common problems are: <https://bit.ly/wn2210TH-3>

As part of the service reductions caused by the massive cut in the Central Government Support Grant:

- A. All the rural areas get a regular litter pick throughout the year. I think it is every 8 weeks.
- B. In between time, residents need to report any littering needing a collection sooner on the above link.



## Councillor Graeme Coombes

Graeme is the Wilshamstead Borough Councillor. Reporting to Wixams (October 2022)

Tel: 07815 302 318

E-mail: [wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk)

Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes

It was announced recently that Bedford Council is installing average speed cameras at various locations around the Borough, including Wixams. When this was announced at the September meeting of Wixams Parish Council, there was some surprise.

The Parish Council and I have fought a long battle to get various highway improvement measures implemented around Wixams, including yellow lines, no verge parking, 20mph zones, pedestrian crossings and average speed cameras, amongst other things.

In many of the discussions we've had with Bedford Borough Council, the response from the Highways Department has been words to the effect that "We have no money, so you'll have to pay for these things yourself." We were told that a set of speed cameras would cost the Parish Council £90,000. (they appear to have conveniently forgotten about the large sums of CIL money (Community Infrastructure Levy)

that have been given to the Borough by developers)

To that extent, a small pavement extension near the bus stop on Bedford Road, costing £8000, had to be 50% funded by the Parish Council. Contributions from the Ward Fund were required to get a bus stop outside the Wixams Retirement Village. This mantra of 'no money' has been repeated ad nauseum, despite the Mayor increasing our Council Tax by 3.99% earlier this year.

Now, miraculously, not just one, but fifteen sets of speed cameras are to be installed around the Borough, suggesting that the Council's plea of poverty was not very honest.

So, if the Borough Council can suddenly find the money for speed cameras, then I have a long list of other improvements at Wixams that they could also fund with OUR money, starting with some pedestrian crossings.



# WIXAMS COMMUNITY WATCH

CONTENT BY: ANTHONY OLISA

FACEBOOK: WIXAMS COMMUNITY WATCH

EMAIL: WIXAMSCOMMUNITYWATCH@GMAIL.COM

## TRICK-OR-TREAT

There is no denying it – Nowhere does Halloween better than Wixams!

Like you, we are really looking forward to seeing all the spooky decorations and costumes. But we also want to help you make sure that you avoid any unforeseen horrors! So here are a few useful tips from our resident 'Ghost-writer':



- **Stay visible** – It's getting dark out there, so it is important that you think about visibility when dressing the kids up for Halloween. Reflective tape, glowsticks, and flashing accessories are all great ways to ensure your child is easily seen whilst out trick-or-treating.
- **Buy your costumes from reputable stores/sites** – The majority of fancy dress outfits do not tend to meet the same safety standards for normal clothing. They can ignite extremely quickly and burn significantly faster. So always play on the side of caution and buy from reputable brands that will likely have more stringent safety checks in place.
- **Check for UKCA or CE labels** – Outfits with either of these labels have been tested for fire safety. So keep a look out for them when choosing your costumers.
- **Keep lit candles away from children** – We all love the sight of a candle-lit pumpkin. However, they are fire risks, especially when placed within paths that will be frequented by young children in costumes at night. So, try to keep them out of the way or even consider using outdoor battery-powered candles.

## NEW RURAL SERGEANT

Sergeant Carl Perri recently took over the reins as our new rural sergeant. He will be looking to work with our community to help improve the policing service on offer.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel to get in touch with Carl

Tel: 01234 842866

Email: [carl.perri@beds.police.uk](mailto:carl.perri@beds.police.uk)



## CRIME STATS

Recorded Date	Offence	Street	Area
01/09/2022	THEFT OR UNAUTH TAKING OF A MOTOR VEH	Brooklands Avenue	Wixams
06/09/2022	BURGLARY - BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY	Bedford Road	Wixams
06/09/2022	HARASSMENT		Wixams
06/09/2022	OTHER THEFT	Bedford Road	Wixams
06/09/2022	SEXUAL		Wixams
08/09/2022	ASSAULT WITH INJURY	Tawny Avenue	Wixams
13/09/2022	PUBLIC FEAR ALARM OR DISTRESS	Magpie Gardens	Wixams
17/09/2022	HARASSMENT		Wixams
17/09/2022	OTHER THEFT	Brooklands Avenue	Wixams
25/09/2022	MALICIOUS COMMUNICATIONS	Bluebird Gardens	Wixams
29/09/2022	HARASSMENT		Wixams
29/09/2022	POSSESS OF CONTROL DRUGS (CANNABIS)	Fisherswood Road	Wixams
30/09/2022	OTHER THEFT	Tawny Avenue	Wixams

## GET INVOLVED

Remember, The Wixams Community Watch group are always open to new members. So feel free to get in touch if you are interested in joining.

## JOIN US

The Wixams Community Watch team of volunteers is growing, but we are still open to new members.

It's a great way to contribute to your community, so if you are interested, contact us at the email address at the top of the page or by scanning the QR code





# Wixams Community Group

[www.wixams.org/community-group](http://www.wixams.org/community-group)



## Wixams Indoor Jumble Sale

[www.wixams.org/jumble-sale](http://www.wixams.org/jumble-sale)

**Come grab a bargain!**

**SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2022, 2-4 PM**

**LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL, BROOKLANDS AVENUE, MK42 6AB**

**£5 PER TABLE**

**BOOK A TABLE AND FIND INFORMATION ON WEBPAGE ABOVE**

*Some of the items you might want to buy/sell:*

- Clothes, Shoes, Trainers & Boots
- Sports Equipment
- Board Games, Puzzles, Lego/Construction Toys
- Dolls, Figures & Accessories
- Books & Magazines, DVDs & Blu-rays
- Xbox, Playstation & Switch Games
- Household Items, Kitchenware & Unwanted Gifts
- Unwanted/Unused Tools & Equipment



## Halloween Decorations Competition 2022

It's that time again soon when Wixams becomes a spooky and whimsical place for one night! We've joined forces with the events team for the Halloween Decorations Competition, which is now running for the fourth year. With so many fantastically decorated houses entering the competition each year, we ask residents to register their home at the webpage below if they would like to take part.

[www.wixams.org/halloween-competition](http://www.wixams.org/halloween-competition)

On All Hallow's Eve our judges will make their way around Wixams to decide which home stands out the most. The judges will start from around 5 pm and will hopefully finish by 8:30 pm, so please don't start taking your decorations down until at least that time.

Please see the webpage above for more information.

**To take part, register by Saturday 29th October**



## Wixams Community Run

Would you like to take part in a regular park/community run?

It takes a lot of volunteers to set up and run a group like this so please come along to the planning meeting if you're able to help out.

**Saturday 5th November at 2pm  
Seasons Garden Centre Café**

# Upcoming Events & Things to do

Send details of your local events to [newsletter@wixams.org](mailto:newsletter@wixams.org)

Event	Date	Location/Details
Play Group (run by Early Childhood Partnership)	Monday 17th October, 09.30am	Lakeview Village Hall Runs 1st & 3rd Monday of the month - Term time only
Wixams Community Cafe	Tuesday 18th October, 10.30am	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 18th October, 19.30pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams WI	Wednesday 19th October, 19.45pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams Residents Association (Inaugural Meeting)	Thursday 20th October, 19.00pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Halloween Crafts	Tuesday 25th October, 11.00am & 13.00pm	The Forest Centre, Marston Moretaine <a href="https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-crafts-tuesday-25-october-2022">https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-crafts-tuesday-25-october-2022</a>
Halloween Kids Disco	Friday 27th October, 17.00pm	The Forest Centre, Marston Moretaine <a href="https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-kids-disco-thursday-27-october-2022">https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-kids-disco-thursday-27-october-2022</a>
Halloween Kids Disco	Thursday 28th October, 17.00pm	The Forest Centre, Marston Moretaine <a href="https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-kids-disco-friday-28-october-2022">https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-kids-disco-friday-28-october-2022</a>
Halloween Activity Trail	Friday 28th October 11.00am & 13.00pm	The Forest Centre, Marston Moretaine <a href="https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-trail-friday-28-october-2022">https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/halloween-trail-friday-28-october-2022</a>
Wixams Halloween Party	Saturday 29th October 2022	Lakeview Village Hall. Tickets: <a href="http://www.wixamsevents.uk">www.wixamsevents.uk</a>
Wixams Bike Meet	Sunday 6th November, 11.00am	Monthly meet - 11am - meet at seasons Garden Centre
Play Group (run by Early Childhood Partnership)	Monday 7th November 09.30am	Lakeview Village Hall Runs 1st & 3rd Monday of the month - Term time only
Wixams Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 15th November, 19.30pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams WI	Wednesday 16th November, 19.45pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams Community Group Committee Meeting	Saturday, 19th November, 14.00pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams Winter Wonderland	Saturday 3rd December 2022	Lakeview Village Hall

All upcoming events are correct at the time of publishing. Please check with the event organisers directly for more information.

**SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER**  
**WIXAMS COMMUNITY GROUP AND EVENTS TEAM PRESENT**  
**HALLOWEEN DISCO**  
**LIVE DJ**  
**LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL**  
**7:30PM - 11PM**  
**TICKETS £7.00**  
**WIXAMSEVENTS.UK**  
**AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED**  
**TEENS 13+ & ADULTS**



4YP have been commissioned to deliver Youth Provision in the Bedford Area.

We will be in Wixams on Tuesday 4th, 11th & 18th October from 4pm. If you see us come and say hi and let us know the type of activities/sessions you would like to see in your area!



For more information please contact Wendy Millgate on [Wendymillgate@4ypuk.com](mailto:Wendymillgate@4ypuk.com) / 07780448599



Visit our website for dates & bookings

Scan me

At Lakeview & Cotton End Village Halls

Magical pretend play for 3-6 year olds

Quote WIXAMS for 25% OFF Valid until 31.01.23

Below the Beanstalk where imagination grows

[www.belowthebeanstalk.co.uk](http://www.belowthebeanstalk.co.uk)

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
Wootton Village Hall MK43 9EU  
Bedford Lions Club Fundraiser for Sue Ryder St John's Hospice  
Doors – 6PM / Music – 7PM  
Tickets £20 Adult / Child £15  
Includes Fish & Chips  
And bring your own booze  
Ticket Office: Vicky Ciampa  
07935 576 600  
9 Fabulous Raffle Prizes to be won  
Pre-Booking is Essential

**FYNNIUS FOGG**

**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 1972 - 2022**

Payments to be made via BACS  
Bedford Lions Club  
Lloyds Bank  
SORT CODE: 309066  
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 01291923

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

# Wixams Events Group

## Christmas Winter Wonderland

Come and join us for our spectacular Christmas Winter Wonderland on Saturday 3 December we have lots of entertainment the annual switching on of the Christmas Lights and of course Father Christmas will be visiting so book your tickets in advance online at [wixamsevents.uk](http://wixamsevents.uk).

There are a varied amount of stalls already booked in, including craft stalls, pet accessories, baby baskets, cakes, Scentsy and much more. The hall is currently all booked and marquee spaces are limited, outside space is still available. Marquee stalls are £30 a pitch and outside is £25 a pitch but please bring your own gazebo, weights and tables.

If anyone would like to assist Santa, he's looking for a Mrs Clause and some elves for the afternoon to help deliver Christmas wishes to the children of Wixams.

Please e-mail [wixamsevents@gmail.com](mailto:wixamsevents@gmail.com) for further details and if you'd like to help.

We are also grateful for the support and sponsorship of Barrett and David Wilson Homes along with Wixams Parish Council who have provided a grant towards the costs of our community event.

WIXAMS EVENTS GROUP PRESENTS

# Wixams Winter Wonderland

**SATURDAY 12PM - 6PM | 3 DECEMBER 2022**  
**LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL**  
BROOKLANDS AVENUE, WIXAMS, MK42 6AB

FUN FAIR RIDES • DANCERS • SINGERS • RAFFLE  
PLENTY OF CRAFT STALLS • FOOD STALLS  
SWEET TREATS • CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT  
LIGHT SWITCH ON 5PM • AND LOADS MORE

FOR MORE INFO, AND TO BOOK YOUR  
TICKETS TO VISIT SANTA, GO TO  
**WIXAMSEVENTS.UK**

EVENT SPONSORS

DAVID WILSON HOMES WHERE QUALITY LIVES | BARRATT HOMES | BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL | WIXAMS PARISH COUNCIL

## WIXAMS NEWSLETTER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

### WANTED - Volunteers for the delivery of our monthly newsletters

Wixams Newsletter Team need your help with the delivering of our Newsletters particularly in Village 4 for the Morris and Tilia Homes - if you have a spare hour a month please get in touch with Barbara Matthews at [newsletter@wixams.org](mailto:newsletter@wixams.org) for further details.

Any help will be very much appreciated.



## Remembrance Sunday



Remembrance Sunday is an opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life. The Local service of Remembrance, held at All Saints Church, Wilstead on Remembrance Sunday, provides the community with a physical reminder of all those who have served and sacrificed, supported by the local Scouting, and Girl Guiding movement. The parade will form at 10:45am on Sunday 13th November 2022 and the service will begin at 11:00am.

All are welcome to join the parade and service and show their respect for those that served or are serving.

# Wixams Founder launches Social Impact FinTech on Isle of Man

by Gemma Nettle  
gemma.nettle@iomtoday.co.im  
Reproduced from "The Isle of Man Courier"; originally published on 30 September 2022.

**A financial company has launched a programme designed to offer interest-free loans to Isle of Man residents.**

The service will be expanded to the UK in 2023 after the pilot here is completed.

ZeroPA picked the Isle of Man to launch its service through its wholly owned island subsidiary The Interest Free Loans Company Ltd.

The service, named Argid which is 'money' in Manx, 'offers financial education tools and crucially interest-free loans to the financially disadvantaged and vulnerable and a commercial return to lenders and investors', according to ZeroPA.

It will offer interest-free loans between £50 and £1,000 over one week to 52 weeks. People will be able to apply online and receive a decision and their funds within five days.

It was approved by the Office of

Fair Trading on September 8. The service will start on November 1 this year.

The Interest Free Loans Company Ltd aims to attract investors and encourage a and truistic lenders to lend to Argid borrowers at no guaranteed return.

It will then match lenders with borrowers 'thereby spreading the risk', according to ZeroPA.

It doesn't offer cash loans but instead offers vouchers and e-cards to spend with retailers, manufacturers and utility companies.

The running costs are covered through revenue share with retailers, white goods manufacturers, household repairers and partnerships with financial institutions.

The company wants its borrowers to improve their financial literacy and help them through interest-free loans.

ZeroPA said: 'Because we want to target our lending to those most in need, we only lend to those that have been referred to us by

a partner such as a credit union, citizens advice bureau, place of worship, school or food bank.

'By eliminating interest we make sure our loans are affordable and over time help our borrowers out of their financial situation through learning to manage their money better. If we feel a loan is not appropriate we may offer an emergency grant of up to £50 to help with food, utilities, clothing or furniture.'

The company added historically the vulnerable in the UK had only payday lenders to count on, with 'unscrupulous practices'.

It added: 'Fortunately high levels of customer complaints and interventions by the regulator have resulted in a progressive decline in the payday lenders' portfolios from £4bn during the peak of 2012 to £1bn in 2018.'

**Grants (that are not repayable) of up to £50 are available to Wixams families towards food, utilities, clothing and furniture. Please see contact details on back page of this newsletter.**

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# Lakeview Village Hall Activities



**f** Lakeview Village Hall

The groups advertised below are correct at the time of publishing. Some groups run term time only. Please contact the group directly for their class running times and further information.

Day	Time	Group	Room	Contact	Website/Facebook
Monday	09:30 - 11:00	Playgroup	Lakeview		1st and 3rd Monday of the month (term time)
	16:00 - 17:00	Shine Theatre School	Munson	Luisa Hodges - 07749 091885	facebook.com/Shine-Theatre-School shinetheatreschool.co.uk
	17:15 - 18:15	Rainbows	Munson		
	18:15 - 19:30	Brownies	Munson		
	18:30 - 20:00	Wixams Tang Soo Do	Lakeview	Nick	facebook.com/WixamsTSD
Tuesday	20:00 - 21:00	Go box fitness	Lakeview	07727 113285	facebook.com/goboxfit
	10:30 - 12:00	Wixams Community Cafe	Swan		www.slimmingworld.co.uk/group/558255
	18:30 - 19:30	Yoga	Munson	07825 561569	www.livyoga.co.uk
Wednesday	18:30 - 19:30	Christ the Word Ignite Club for yrs 6, 7, 8 and 9	Lakeview	07879 716958	facebook.com/christthewordwixams www.christthewordwixams.org.uk
	17:30 - 20:00	Irish Dancing	Lakeview	Katie	facebook.com/stuartirishdancebedford
	17:00 - 18:00	Rainbows	Munson		
Thursday	18:15 - 19:30	Brownies	Munson		
	09:45 - 14:00	Toddler Sensory Different groups running	Lakeview	Samantha - 07538 502587	facebook.com/toddlersensebeds www.toddlersense.com/bedfordshire
	16:30 - 17:15	Entertainia Dance Class Class 1 (4-7 years)	Lakeview	Nina	entertainiatheatreschool@gmail.com
	17:15 - 18:00	Entertainia Dance Class Class 2 (7-11 years)	Lakeview		
	18:30 - 19:15	Go box fitness for kids	Lakeview	07727 113285	facebook.com/goboxfit
Friday	18:30 - 19:30	QI Gong Class Mind-Body-Spirit Exercises	Munson	07908 006677	Email: innertherapy@gmail.com
	10:00 - 11:00	Little Stars	Swan		
	18:00 - 20:00	Scouts	Lakeview		facebook.com/1stwixamscouting www.1stwixamsscouts.org.uk
Saturday	19:00 - 20:45	AA	Munson		
	09:15 - 10:00	Shine Theatre School	Munson	Louisa Hodges - 07749 091885	facebook.com/Shine-Theatre-School www.shinetheatreschool.co.uk
Sunday	09:30 - 11:30	Irish Dancing Beginners classes for all ages	Lakeview	Katie	facebook.com/stuartirishdancebedford
	09:45 - 11:15	AA	Munson		
	10:30 - 11:30	Christ the Word Church Services	Lakeview		
	15:00 - 16:00	Christ the Word Sunday Club For children aged 4-10 years	Munson	Alan - 07879 716958	facebook.com/christthewordwixams www.christthewordwixams.org.uk

## Play & Learn

### 0-5 years

1st & 3rd Monday of the month  
(term time only)

Lakeview village hall  
155-160 Brooklands Avenue  
Wixams  
Mk42 6BE

\*We ask for a contribution towards the hall hire

See our full timetable here!

Booking required  
0300 323 0245

## Self-Weighing Group

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# YOUTH CORNER

by Ellie

Hello everyone! It's October, which means it's time to get ready for Halloween! Here is a colouring activity for this month.



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All posts are covered by the Children Act 1989 and are subject to a satisfactory DBS and reference checks and are not open to anyone on the ISA Barred List.



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- Willing to spare a few hours a week?
- Passionate about supporting young people to fulfil their potential?

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- Saturday 12th Nov 9.30am - 4pm
- Sunday 13th Nov 9.30am - 4pm
- Tuesday 15th Nov 6.30 pm - 9pm
- Tuesday 22nd Nov 6.30pm - 9pm
- Tuesday 29th Nov 6.30pm - 9pm

**The Youth Offending Service is looking to recruit volunteers in Bedfordshire to become community panel members. These roles involve supporting young people and their families and getting their lives back on track when coming into contact with the youth justice system.**

## If the answer is YES!...

...and you would like to know more, please contact the Referral Order Coordinator, **Geoff Ruskin**

Tel: 01234 276 400

Email: [Geoff.ruskin@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:Geoff.ruskin@bedford.gov.uk)



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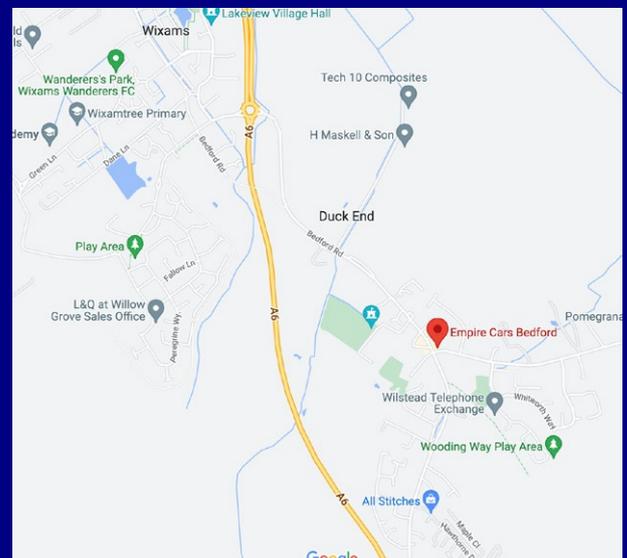
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Class 2 (Aged 7-11) 5.15pm-6.00pm

**Where? @Wixam's Village hall**

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## PARENT REVIEWS

**66** Helen Royle  
*Parent*

"I'm amazed at how confident my daughter has become. She got on with her maths homework without doubting herself and had complete confidence in what she was doing!"

**66** Lucy Roberts  
*Parent*

"My daughter's gone from scoring 60% in her weekly arithmetic tests to 100% since she's joined Tina at Wixam's Tuition!"

Thanks Tina, see you later. Sam has been getting 10/10 for his weekly tests and got 34/40 for his arithmetic. Waiting to receive these back but I believe he got 26/35 for reasoning 👍😊

11:19 am

**Bobby Mudhar** recommends Wixams Maths English Tutor. May 1 · 🌐

Tina is an engaging tutor who is committed to not only the academic but also personal wellbeing development of her students. Our daughter has benefitted immensely in the short time she has been with Tina, and is enjoying her maths lessons more at school as a result. Her confidence and ability in Maths has increased and this is a direct result of Tina's teaching style.

Wixams Maths English Tutor 1 Comment

**Therese Clelland** recommends Wixams Maths English Tutor. May 23 · 🌐

Son is thoroughly enjoying his maths lessons with Tina. Confidence and understanding has grown. We are delighted with results and certainly recommend. Tina always has a smile and such a positive can do attitude that it rubbing off on my son. Thank you

You and 1 other 1 Comment

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# Gardening Tips for October

by Marion Colledge



We have all suffered in some way or the other from the heat this summer. I, for one, have lost a hydrangea which I didn't expect to need to water and my blackberry crop which I had watered but is against a dry wall. That's the way it goes.

## Planning Ahead Veg

This is the time of year to plan for next summer. What are you going to put where? If you had potatoes in one spot, ideally they shouldn't be planted in the same spot for another 3 years to avoid build-up of pathogens. This is crop rotation. Vegetables are in three groups. Root vegetables, brassicas and pea family.

## Bulbs

Where do you want to see bulbs/corms next year? Now is definitely the time to plant most of them. Where do you want to see them? Do you want a spread? Crocuses in February, daffodils and fritillary in April, tulips and irises in May and camassia (shade) and dahlias for summer. Do you want them in the shade or in the sun?

## Herbaceous

If we're thinking about the future, it will be good to put plants in the herbaceous border which will be drought tolerant. It is worth buying plants like pale grasses to dot among your herbaceous flowers and silver-leaved plants such as cineraria, curry plant (grey leaves and yellow flowers) and stachys (lamb's ear) that will reflect light from their leaves. Now is a good time to divide stachys as the weather has cooled down and the roots will 'take' providing you water below them in the planting hole.

Remember to leave the dead stems of herbaceous plants such as stachys and Michaelmas daisies till spring as they are often an overwintering site for hoverflies and other insects.

## Herbs

Rosemary, thyme and lavender are good for drought, and provided you choose small varieties and can also go in trugs and raised beds.

## Ponds for Insects

Now is a good time to plan for a small pond. You don't have to be very ambitious to have a pond with the smallest grey shell from a garden centre. Plan a space in the sunshine and next summer dragon flies will be swooping down. You can add plants to the pond at any time, reeds or yellow flag don't cost a fortune and you might be able to get them on a garden swap website. A pond provides shelter for male frogs in winter, food for all manner of water insects and drink for garden birds such as blackbirds. Young children will enjoy looking at it and seeing what's in it. But if the children are under the age of five, a wire netting cover is advisable to avoid danger of drowning. My third child dug our pond out in the Easter holidays when he was nine. Our garden is composed of river gravel and so it took him a week of blunting his child's spade. We then got the shell (with two different levels) from the garden centre, and have had it ever since. It hasn't split and that was twenty years ago. You also ideally need to cover your pond with wire netting to stop too many leaves getting blown in in autumn.

## Garden visits in the autumn

I always think that Anglesey Abbey Gardens (National Trust) in Cambridgeshire is great for an autumn visit: the dahlias are stunning. The architectural trees and bushes come into their own in this season, and there's now a tree house for children.

Enjoy your gardening!



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# Advertising

Why not advertise in this newsletter?  
It is delivered to 2,650 homes and businesses.

A **50% discount and priority** will be given to Wixams and Wilstead based businesses as we will have limited space. Advertising options are shown here. If you would be interested in advertising in the next issue of the Wixams Newsletter then please contact Sheila Menzies on [advertising@wixams.org](mailto:advertising@wixams.org) or 07707 209698.

*There may be a limit to how many adverts of each style we can accommodate in each issue*

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Visit [www.wixams.org/newsletter](http://www.wixams.org/newsletter)

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**19th October 2022**

If there is anything specific you would like to see in the Newsletter or if you would like to write an article of interest to others please get in touch with us at [newsletter@wixams.org](mailto:newsletter@wixams.org)

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