

# WIXAMS NEWSLETTER



Queen Elizabeth II  
1926 - 2022

A colorful Halloween-themed flyer for Wixams Kids' &amp; Adults' Halloween Parties. The background is orange with purple and yellow bunting at the top. A jack-o'-lantern, a bat, and a ghost are on the left. A yellow ribbon banner on the right says 'Saturday 29th October'. The main title 'WIXAMS KIDS' &amp; ADULTS' HALLOWEEN PARTIES' is in white and purple. Below are two party details: 'Kids' Party' (5:00-6:30 pm, Lakeview Village Hall, Ages 0-12, Tickets £3) and 'ADULTS' PARTY' (7:30-11 pm, Lakeview Village Hall, Teens 13+ and adults, Tickets £7). A circular call to action on the right says 'To buy tickets and for more information visit wixamsevents.uk'. The bottom right corner has 'illustrations by all-free-download'.

## 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



# Wixams Parish Council

*To let you get to know your parish councillors we will continue posting profiles in each newsletter. Last month you met our newest councillors, Zoe Gammie and Kevin Hunter. Here are more of our councillors:*

## Deb Bowman

*deb.bowman@wixams-pc.gov.uk*



I moved to Wixams with my husband in December 2010 and we love living here. At the time of moving in, Wixams was a very small community with no shops, village hall or amenities so it was extremely quiet and we have watched it grow – some good, some not so good.

I work for the East of England

Ambulance Service NHS Trust where I am the Executive Assistant to Director of People Services (formally known as Workforce or HR) in an extremely challenging environment and no two days are the same. My previous background was within the private sector of marketing, private nursing homes, medical research and property fund management.

My hobbies are reading, knitting, walking the dog, being pampered and talking. I love to talk!! Currently doing a diploma in reflexology, also enjoy a few glasses of prosecco or gin but obviously not at the same time.

An area of priority for me is keeping our community safe and cared for, having formed Wixams Community Watch with Kelly Carr and others, we are looking at different ways to do this and increase communication to residents.

## Kelly Carr

*kelly.carr@wixams-pc.gov.uk*

Kelly and her family moved to Wixams – Willow Grove – in 2019 after spending the past 15 years within the military. Kelly works as a Police Forensic/Custody Nurse Practitioner.

Kelly also spends time completing a degree, making handmade items for her online shop, training for a black belt in karate, and attending the gym. This is in-between taking all the children to their various clubs and interests. Down time includes eating way too much chocolate and drinking wine!

Wixams is a beautiful place with great prospects and great

community spirit. As a councillor Kelly will endeavour to be the voice of the community and raise any queries or concerns they may have.

Her key focus as a councillor is to bring the community together, increase local communications with neighbours and the local Community Policing Team, look at ways to encourage Wixams to be more involved in free local government schemes and tackle antisocial behaviour.

Kelly has formed The Wixams Community Watch Facebook Group and encourages Wixamers to get involved.

## Anthony Musgrove

[anthony.musgrove@wixams-pc.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.musgrove@wixams-pc.gov.uk)

Following a career in the British Army and then Independent Television, I retired in 2001. Since then I have been Non-executive Director of Luton Primary Care Trust combined with work at Luton Airport in terminal operations. My wife and I moved to Wixams in 2019 and are based in the retirement village. I have always had an interest in local government and when the opportunity arose to join the Parish Council I jumped at the chance. Although I have a particular responsibility for the retirement village my aim is to integrate the residents into all facets of Wixams life. I really enjoy it.



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



## Councillor Graeme Coombes

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

At the time of writing, I have just been informed that a long awaited footpath between Village 4 Wixams and the Green Lane schools, will open on 2nd September, in time for the start of the new school term.

Whilst this will be a welcome relief to some parents and pupils living in Village 4, who will no longer have to make a long detour by car, via either Houghton Conquest or Elstow Retail Park, in order to get to school in Green Lane, this footpath link is opening 2 years after it was first promised by Bedford Council.

We still have no indication of when the link roads through Wixams will be opened and it remains to be seen whether the opening of the footpath will actually reduce traffic through Village 1 and alleviate some of the daily chaos that we witness during the school run in term time. The continued expansion and popularity of Wixams Schools, makes it likely we'll see more traffic, not less.

The 2 year delay over the footpath is symptomatic of the fairly inept response of Bedford Council to traffic issues at Wixams. The lack of urgency in creating safe routes for pupils, the absence of pedestrian crossings near schools, the continued separation of the two halves of Wixams, the failure to find a solution to the regular traffic misery for those living in and around Green Lane - and not holding developers properly accountable for any of this - suggests that Bedford Council isn't taking the issues of Wixams traffic and child safety as seriously as it should be.

Let's see what impact the new footpath has on the local traffic, but we need to continue to collectively hold Bedford Council's feet to the fire, in order to get them to address ongoing and unresolved transport issues.

Tel: 07815 302 318

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

Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes



## Councillor Tim Hill's Report

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

**Elstow Solar Farm** – Elstow Solar Farm has gone live and has begun saving over 900 tonnes of carbon emissions. It is now exporting low-carbon electricity to the grid. The project is made up of over 8,000 solar panels, is capable of generating up to 4.2MW of electricity and is enough to power approximately 1,000 homes. The official grand opening took place on 28th July and it was marked by the cutting of a ribbon by Mayor Dave Hodgson. Former open caste landfill sites can be problematic, but Bedford Borough Council has created an innovative solution which will transform the areas into a 21st-century solar farm. This approach will now generate huge carbon savings which will make a strong contribution to Bedford Borough on its net zero journey. The topography of the land is quite uneven, which made this a challenging project to install, but it's a great, new addition to Bedford's low-carbon energy infrastructure. Bedford Borough Council has set ambitious targets of becoming net-zero by 2030 and the solar array will play an important role in meeting these targets. The project has cost £4.15m – with Bedford Borough Council investing over £2.2million and the project being awarded more than £1.8million from the South East Midlands Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) toward the project.

**A421 Elstow Interchange** – Skid resistant surfacing – For safety reasons, I have been pressing National Highways (yet another change of name) to install skid resistant surfacing and relay the road markings on the A421 eastbound exit for the A6. To carry out the work safely, they had to close the A421 eastbound exit slip road to the A6 and divert traffic. Also, following my pressure, Bedford Borough Council carried out resurfacing work at the same A6 interchange starting on Monday 15 August for 6 weeks. For more information on this work please contact them directly at [Highways.Helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:Highways.Helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk) I was pleased that my request that both pieces of work are done at the same time to minimise the disruption, has been met.



# WIXAMS COMMUNITY WATCH

AUGUST CONTENT BY: KELLY CARR

FACEBOOK: WIXAMS COMMUNITY WATCH

EMAIL: WIXAMSCOMMUNITYWATCH@GMAIL.COM

## ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There have been several reports over the last few weeks with nuisance motorbikes and scramblers racing and wheeling around the roads and pathways causing distress and making residents feel intimidated.

Actively scaring children within the community and threatening residents is not nice and with the help of the police this will hopefully be tackled to keep Wixams a safe area for all.

Please continue to report to 101 or 999 as appropriate.

## DON'T TAKE THE RISK



Reports of kids swimming in the lakes again today, I know it's tempting but it says no swimming for a reason. There have been a number of deaths around the UK in the last few weeks not forgetting the poor lad who died at Stewartby lake recently!

That's should be enough to make anyone think twice. Please! Please! Make sure your kids are educated in why it is dangerous to swim in the lakes.

## ROAD REP GROUPS



If you have started a road rep group and want to let us know, please do, there are plenty of roads not actively involved and would be good to know people have a port of contact if they need one.

Some of the already established road groups work very well and encourages community spirit and a sense that someone is looking out for you.

## CRIME STATS

Recorded Date	Offence	Street	Area
24/07/2022	ASSAULT WITH INJURY	Piper Lane	Wixams
12/07/2022	ASSAULT WITH INJURY	Green Lane	Wixams
17/07/2022	ASSAULT WITHOUT INJURY	Magpie Gardens	Wixams
05/07/2022	HARASSMENT		Wixams
08/07/2022	MALICIOUS COMMUNICATIONS	Woodpecker Gardens	Wixams
05/07/2022	MALICIOUS COMMUNICATIONS	Knoll Gardens	Wixams
01/07/2022	OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ETC		Wixams
26/07/2022	POSSESS OF CONTROL DRUGS (CANNABIS)	Zander Way	Wixams
25/07/2022	PUBLIC FEAR ALARM OR DISTRESS	Brooklands Avenue	Wixams
04/07/2022	PUBLIC FEAR ALARM OR DISTRESS	Parkview Terrace	Wixams
09/07/2022	ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY	Green Lane	Wixams
13/07/2022	SEXUAL		Wixams
13/07/2022	STATE OR PUBLIC ORDER	Green Lane	Wixams
30/06/2022	THEFT FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	Meadow Road	Wixams
11/07/2022	THEFT OR UNAUTH TAKING OF A MOTOR VEH	Brooklands Avenue	Wixams
29/06/2022	THEFT OR UNAUTH TAKING OF A MOTOR VEH	Little Owl Lane	Wixams



## STREET WATCH

Street Watch welcomed a new member last month which was lovely to grow the already lovely group of people actively involved, please let us know if you would like to join us by contact Juliet Wright or WCW.

Juliet.Wright@beds.police.uk or contact us at WCW email address above.

## JOIN US

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

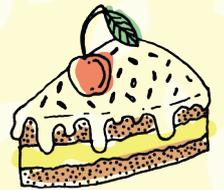
It's a great way to contribute to your community, so if you are interested, contact us at the email address at the top of the page or by scanning the QR code





# Wixams Community Café

Where would you go in Wixams if you wanted to meet new friends, or enjoy a cup of coffee with biscuits and perhaps a piece of cake? Maybe you're new to the area and want to know where to ask about best places to visit? Or simply on the hottest day of the year go and escape the heat in the air-conditioned Swan room in Lakeview Village Hall? It must have been one of the coolest places to be!!



The Wilstead & Wixams Good Neighbours Scheme has started the Wixams Community Café which runs every Tuesday morning from 10:30am until 12:00pm in the village hall. There's plenty of space inside if you have a buggy, mobility scooter or other walking aid. If it is a nice day tables will be seen outside as well and we welcome well behaved dogs outdoors.

There is unlimited tea, coffee, squash, biscuits and often homemade cake, all for only £2.00 each. Kids under 5 go free! The money is used to run the café itself and any extra helps the WWGNS to continue supporting people in need in both Wilstead and Wixams.

So do drop by and support your community café and why not encourage your friends and neighbours, young and old, to meet you there and be part of our community.



## Wilstead & Wixams Good Neighbours Scheme

If you need help at home, in the garden, with shopping or occasional lifts, the Wilstead & Wixams Good Neighbours Scheme (WWGNS) is here to help!

We have a dedicated team of volunteers who are ready to offer you assistance in a great range of ways:

- Lifts to the Doctors/Hospital/Opticians/Pharmacy etc.
- Prescription collection
- Help with shopping
- Pet care/dog walking
- Form filling/letter writing
- Small household or garden tasks
- Help with using technology or computers
- Even just someone to talk to

*Please get in touch with us today to see if we can help, or if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.*

07807 408928

Wilstead.Wixams.GNS@gmail.com

[www.wixams.org/wwgns](http://www.wixams.org/wwgns)



welcome!

The Wixams Community Café is open weekly and for just **£2 each** (kids under 5 go free) you get unlimited tea, coffee, squash and biscuits.

Everyone is welcome so why not pop in for cuppa and a natter?

**Tuesday mornings**

**10:30 am to 12:00 pm**

**Swan Room, Lakeview Village Hall**

# Upcoming Events & Things to do

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

Event	Date	Location/Details
Wixams Bike Meet	Sunday 2nd October, 11.00am	Monthly meet 11am - meet at seasons Garden Centre 12 noon
Elvis meet Neil Diamond Tribute	Friday 7th October, 19.00pm	The Forest Centre, Marston Moretaine For more information visit; <a href="https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/elvis-neil-diamond-tribute-2022">https://www.marstonvale.org/Event/elvis-neil-diamond-tribute-2022</a>
Mum2 Mum Market	Sunday 9th October, 14.00pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Harry Potter Wizarding Classes	Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th October Different classes running at different times.	Herring Green Activity Farm, Wistead For more information visit; <a href="https://birdsofpreycentre.co.uk/product/harry-potter-wizarding-classes-october-8th/">https://birdsofpreycentre.co.uk/product/harry-potter-wizarding-classes-october-8th/</a>
Harry Potter Evening with the Owls	Saturday 8th October and Sunday 9th October	Herring Green Activity Farm, Wistead For more information visit; <a href="https://birdsofpreycentre.co.uk/product/harry-potter-evening-with-the-owls-october-8th-6-00-9-00/">https://birdsofpreycentre.co.uk/product/harry-potter-evening-with-the-owls-october-8th-6-00-9-00/</a>
Wixams Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 18th October, 19.30pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams WI	Wednesday 19th October, 19.45 pm	Lakeview Village Hall
Wixams Halloween Party	Saturday 29th October 2022	Lakeview Village Hall
Halloween Crafts	Tuesday 25th October, 11.00am	The Forest Centre, Marston Moretaine For more information visit; <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>
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.



**WIXAMS KIDS' & ADULTS' HALLOWEEN PARTIES**

**Saturday 29th October**

To buy tickets and for more information visit [wixamsevents.uk](http://wixamsevents.uk)

**Kids' Party**  
5:00 - 6:30 pm  
Lakeview Village Hall  
Ages 0-12  
Tickets £3

**ADULTS' PARTY**  
7:30 - 11 pm  
Lakeview Village Hall  
Teens 13+ and adults  
Tickets £7

illustrations by all-free-download



Why not book a place on our Wizard classes over our Harry Potter themed weekend at **Herrings Green Activity Farm?**

The classes are a great activity for children to enjoy, choose from:

- 11.00 – 11.30 – Dry Ice Potions – create some magical potions.
- 12.00 – 12.30 – Wands: make your own wizard wand that lights up. and take home
- 1.00 – 2.00 – Owl Class: Get close to some of our beautiful owls, meet and handle different species and have a go at flying some.
- 2.30 – 3.30 – Herbology: Decorate your own pot and plant a succulent to take home.

**£8.50 per child per class**

\*Please note that this does not include admission into the event, you will need to purchase a general admission ticket



**Show everyone your spooky side...!**

Come along and decorate your own horrifying Halloween tealight holder at **Marston Vale Forest Centre!** We provide the art and craft supplies and a themed tealight holder ready for decoration - you just need to let your imagination run amok with creeeeepy designs! Ticket includes all materials for crafting, and the decoration to take home at the end of the session.

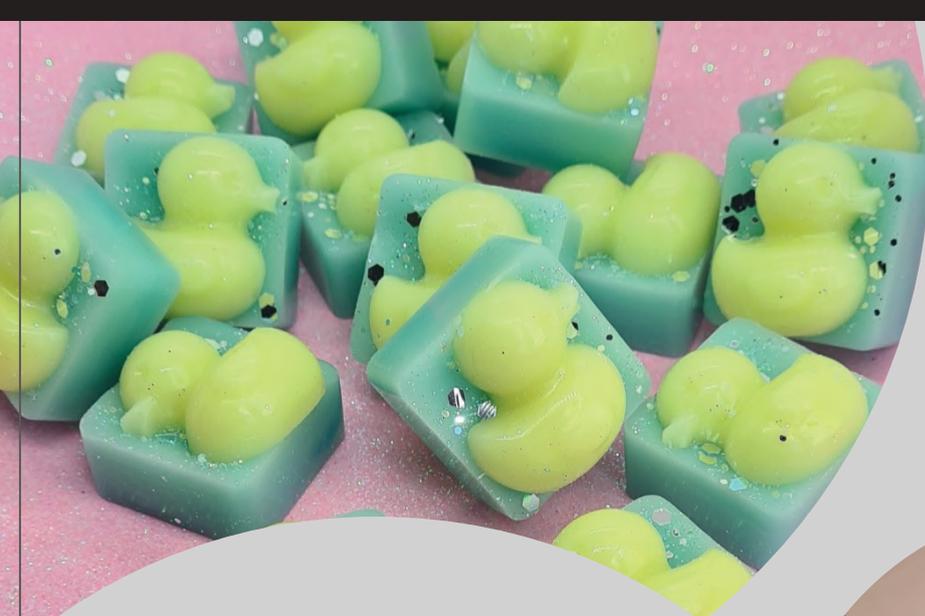
**Tuesday 25th October, 11:00am • Price - £4 per child (age 3+)**

Sessions last one hour and start at 11am and 1pm - please arrive in plenty of time, so that you are ready at the start time.

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

  
KATE WREN FLOWERS



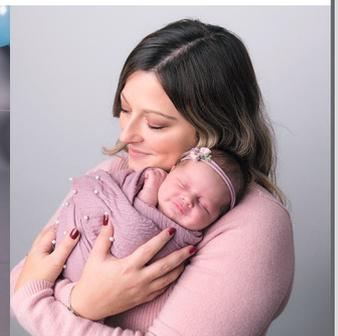
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*Miss Jones*  
PHOTOGRAPHY

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# Lakeview Village Hall Activities



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)
	15:45 - 16:45	Shine Theatre School	Lakeview	Luisa Hodges - 07749 091885	facebook.com/Shine-Theatre-School shinetheatreschool.co.uk
	18:30 - 20:00	Wixams Tang Soo Do	Lakeview	Nick	facebook.com/WixamsTSD
	20:00 - 21:00	Go box fitness	Lakeview	07727 113285	facebook.com/goboxfit
Tuesday	10:30 - 12:00	Wixams Community Cafe	Swan		www.slimmingworld.co.uk/group/558255
	18:30 - 19:30	Yoga	Munson	07825 561569	www.liviyoga.co.uk
Wednesday	18:30 - 19:30	Christ the Word Ignite Club for yrs 6, 7, 8 and 9	Swan	07879 716958	facebook.com/christthewordwixams www.christthewordwixams.org.uk
	17:45 - 20:00	Irish Dancing Primary, Intermediate & Open classes	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
	18:15 - 19:00	Go box fitness for kids	Lakeview	07727 113285	facebook.com/goboxfit
	18:30 - 19:30	Qi Gong Class Mind-Body-Spirit Exercises	Munson	07908 006677	Email: innertherapy@gmail.com
Friday	18:00 - 20:00	Scouts	Lakeview		facebook.com/1stwixamscouting www.1stwixamsscouts.org.uk
Saturday	09:15 - 10:00	Shine Theatre School	Munson	Louisa Hodges - 07749 091885	facebook.com/Shine-Theatre-School www.shinetheatreschool.co.uk
	09:30 - 11:30	Irish Dancing Beginners classes for all ages	Lakeview	Katie	facebook.com/stuartirishdancebedford
Sunday	08:30 - 09:30	Go box fitness	Lakeview	07727 113285	facebook.com/goboxfit
	10:30 - 11:30	Christ the Word Church Services	Lakeview		facebook.com/christthewordwixams
	15:00 - 16:00	Christ the Word Sunday Club For children aged 4-10 years	Munson	Alan - 07879 716958	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

1:30 - 3:00pm  
1st Thursday of the month

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

Baby area available if you want to stay and play

Book NOW!

# Wixams Yard Bombing Group News

Look out for our next Project for Remembrance Day

We have been very busy since the Queens Platinum Jubilee on our next Yarn Bombing project. We will be displaying a sea of poppies from the Village Hall – all handknitted with love. The display will be going up on 29/30 October which coincides with the British Legion Poppy Appeal collection. See a snapshot of our work so far to the right.

If you want to join us at our next meeting on Wednesday 28 September in the Swan Room at Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams from 7 pm to 9 pm we would love to see you all.

Alternatively, If you want to help us by making and donating poppies these would be very much appreciated. There are two types of Poppies you can make:

## Crochet Poppy – Using Size 4, 5 or 6 Hook



With black wool, chain 6, join into ring, chain 2 work 11 double crochet into ring, slip stitch together. Break off black. With red wool join to any stitch: work 2 chain, work 1 double crochet into same stitch. In next stitch work 2 double crochet and repeat 2 double crochet in every stitch. Join with slip stitch into 2nd chain.

### **Petals:**

Chain 2, work 2 treble in next stitch. Work 8 trebles (2 in each stitch), 1 double crochet in next stitch (1 petal), 1 double crochet in next stitch starts next petal. Repeat 3 times, making 4 petals in total.

Work 2 double crochet in each treble. Slip Stitch in between each petal, slip stitch to 2 chain, cast off.



Alternatively, you can knit a poppy – Using Size 6 needles



Cast on 56 stitches in Red.

Rows 1-5 Knit 4 Pearl 4 to end.

Row 6 Knit 2 together to end.

Row 7 Slip 1 knit 2 together pass slip stitch over to end Knit 1 (10 stitches)

Thread through join edges together.

### **For the Middle:**

Cast on 16 Stitches:

Row 1-2 Knit

Row 3 Knit two together to end (8 Stitches)

Thread through

Join Edges together and sew to centre of poppy.

Please drop any poppy donations to Jane Hirst at 86 Bedford Road, Wixams by 28 September.  
Thank you in advance for your help.



# WIXAMS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Sign up online!

*It's been more than a decade since the first bricks were laid down in our lovely town and, even though Wixams is a great place to live, the journey so far has been pretty rocky. Residents have seen the plans for Wixams change a number of times and some much needed facilities removed. Below we have highlighted just a few of the key issues in Wixams and identified some cases where decisions have been made on our behalves by councillors and council officers which have sometimes gone directly against the wishes of the community. We think the best way to protect the remaining plans for our town is to form an independent residents' association which can work more closely with the community to push for change and to collaborate with parish councils and local authorities where needed.*

*At the bottom of the page you'll see a webpage where you can find out more information about the changes to the Wixams plans so far. You can also sign up to join a new Wixams Residents Association, or sign up to the group's mailing list so you can be kept informed about planning applications or other news and events related to the development which might affect you.*

## WIXAMS STATION

After many years of waiting the planning application for the Wixams Railways Station will be submitted soon, with the first trains expected in December 2024.

Good news? Yes, but only because of the actions of some very proactive Wixamites who campaigned in 2018 when the station plans were in peril. The station had been delayed due to a funding gap and after multiple attempts by Gallagher Estates (now L&Q Estates) to find a way forward,

it was clear that the station couldn't be built without the shortfall being met. After months of campaigning Mayor Dave Hodgson finally took action and committed the tax-payer funding which meant the station could go ahead.

## RETAIL UNITS

In March 2022 the Wixams Joint Development Control Committee (WJDCC) voted to remove a set of planned facilities across Wixams to help meet a funding shortfall for the primary school in Village 3. The proposals included the removal of the units in Willow Grove (Village 2) and Harrowden Green (Village 4), which would likely include a local shop and takeaway(s) in each, similar to those in Lakeview (Village 1).

This decision was based on arguments made by the principle planning officer for Wixams who suggested a move to internet shopping and the impacts of the pandemic

mean there wouldn't be enough demand to fill those units as well as the 10 planned for the town centre. Questions have been raised about this rationale by residents as local shops are always in need. There has also been more demand than predicted; within 24 hours of a post in our Facebook group LSP Developments received **25 enquiries** from local businesses interested in leasing one of the few town centre units being offered.

After a campaign led by the Wixams Newsletter 57 residents responded widely rejecting the removal of these key facilities. When the public objections were highlighted by Cllr Graeme Coombes to the planning officer at the meeting he simply responded with a shrug. The

WJDCC voted to approve all the revisions with 5 votes in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention (full story in the Apr 2022 Wixams Newsletter, available at [www.wixams.org/newsletter](http://www.wixams.org/newsletter)).



The S106 changes removed the facilities planned for village 2, pictured above in orange

## ZEBRA CROSSINGS

Parents have been calling for zebra crossings in multiple key locations in Wixams for many years, including on Brooklands Avenue near to Lakeview Primary, Green Lane near to Wixams Tree Primary and Bedford Road parallel with Green Lane.

Earlier this year a young girl was hit by a car on Brooklands Avenue, sustaining minor injuries, leading to her mum submitting a petition to Bedford Borough Council for crossings in Wixams. The petition was signed by **178 residents** and once presented to the council has led to them assuring a crossing will be installed on Green Lane as part of the extension

to Wixams Tree Primary School.

Whilst there has now been some progress, further action will likely be needed to pressure the councils to install more crossings to improve pedestrian safety (including Central Beds Council for a crossing on Meadow Road), especially for our children who are trying to get to school along our busy roads.

## THAT'S NOT ALL...

The doctors' surgery is still 2 years away, there are no planned dedicated facilities for our teenagers such as a skate park, there aren't enough parking spaces for residents in some areas, and the bus

services are inadequate for those who rely on them. We've also seen the addition of a giant logistics park, the largest in Bedford Borough. The warehouses have taken up all the remaining space allocated for employment, meaning fewer opportunities for Wixamites. There are no plans to build office spaces or small commercial units

which could be leased by local businesses to help them thrive and grow, and which would lead to more job opportunities for residents in the future. And the congestion on our roads is going to increase sharply when all the warehouses are operational.



Residents in Wixams need to work together to help make Wixams a town we can all enjoy for many years. Please visit the page below to join the Wixams Residents' Association committee or sign up for news and updates from the association:

[WWW.WIXAMS.ORG/RESIDENTS-ASSOCIATION](http://WWW.WIXAMS.ORG/RESIDENTS-ASSOCIATION)

# Caring for humanity

“Caring for Humanity, a registered UK charity (charity reg 1886786), held a fantastic fundraiser for Period Poverty on June 26th 2022 where they raised £860.97. They had a variety of stalls to help raise the funds for the fundraiser, such as henna, indian food, candy floss, children’s books, etc. This amount of money was used in Bangladesh to distribute varieties of products essential for women’s hygiene and health such as, sanitary products, painkillers, moisturisers, self care products. This was a fantastic opportunity to help girls and women within Bangladesh who struggle



to obtain sanitary products or self care products, especially since the flood which occurred in Sylhet this summer.

Caring for Humanity thanks everyone for their kind contribution to this fundraiser and they hope to be able to do something like this again very soon.”



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# YOUTH CORNER

by Ellie

Hello everyone! Welcome back to the Youth Corner, where we're all welcoming back summer!

The hot weather

definitely hasn't been what we're normally used to here in the UK, however we're enjoying both the opportunity for splashing around in the pool and ice lollies. To add to your summer activities, I've prepared a summer word search.

BEACH  
ICECREAM  
ICELOLLY  
POOL  
BARBECUE  
HOLIDAY

PICNIC  
SANDCASTLE  
SUNNY  
SURFING  
SWIMMING

N	F	T	I	W	P	F	G	N	C	U	O	K	E	W	K	Y	F	F	
O	D	R	W	I	L	N	W	O	N	P	P	J	I	Z	R	Q	Z	H	T
F	A	R	W	W	Q	O	X	G	M	W	I	H	I	L	E	V	M	C	L
U	A	F	U	K	B	K	T	Q	F	Y	A	O	S	U	T	M	O	C	Y
O	X	E	I	F	P	E	E	P	I	T	L	I	C	C	I	N	Z	V	N
P	L	R	S	A	N	D	C	A	S	T	L	E	E	J	F	E	I	D	M
O	I	W	U	U	K	I	Q	P	L	M	B	K	O	T	I	L	T	U	Z
P	S	T	R	E	N	N	F	L	Y	R	Q	X	W	R	T	B	T	C	M
R	L	W	F	C	B	N	L	L	A	F	V	D	P	M	N	K	H	G	L
N	R	L	I	R	B	S	Y	B	X	W	Y	D	A	A	Y	N	P	P	A
G	G	P	N	M	Z	T	K	K	M	J	I	T	M	L	S	G	E	M	N
X	O	J	G	H	M	D	A	P	G	S	P	K	L	Z	O	E	M	Y	Z
J	V	Q	U	A	V	I	L	E	O	F	C	O	K	O	U	M	U	L	U
G	U	O	X	U	A	N	G	G	L	L	T	O	M	L	N	U	P	G	
L	G	A	W	M	A	Y	K	G	I	E	G	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	T
Q	T	W	J	L	O	P	Q	I	C	O	C	M	R	A	B	L	H	R	Q
L	M	A	W	J	P	C	Y	I	O	M	F	T	V	F	P	C	E	Q	P
S	Q	I	M	Q	U	Q	E	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	Q	R	C	
R	U	O	P	T	W	P	A	E	E	A	A	L	E	E	Y	Z	J	N	E
S	C	U	O	M	R	G	K	Q	J	L	T	O	B	G	M	T	P	M	O

How many of the 11 words can you find?

Answers:  
BEACH, ICECREAM, ICELOLLY, POOL, BARBECUE, HOLIDAY, PICNIC, SANDCASTLE, SUNNY, SURFING, SWIMMING

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**Helen Royle**  
Parent  
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**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.  
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  
1 Comment

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Due to expansion, we are looking for childcare playworker or sports coaches age 17+ to work at our setting at Lakeview Pre-School School.

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**the jobs hub**

helping you into **work/training/business**

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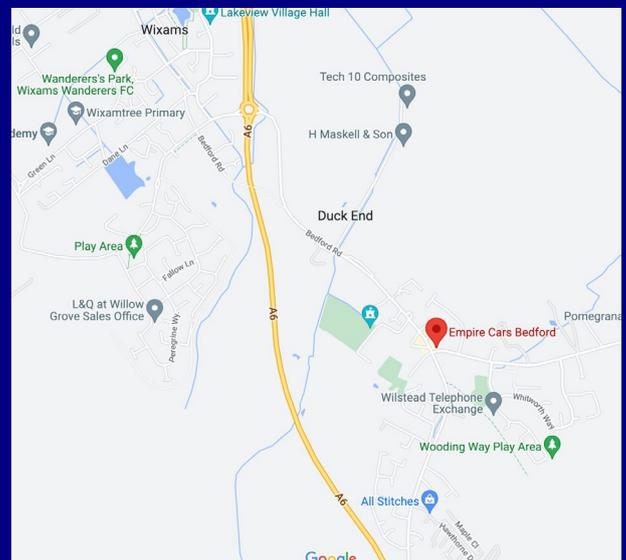
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- Do you want to help our school provide the best for all young people?
- Would you like to be part of a team dedicated to achieving this?

### **School Governors**

School governors are the largest volunteer force in the country and have an important job in raising standards in the school. The work of the governing board is to provide strategic management for the school. What does this mean? Governors, alongside the head teacher, set the aims and objectives for the school. They then oversee the policies for achieving those aims and objectives and finally set targets for achieving those aims and objectives.

### **Governing Board Meetings**

The governing board and Trust Board must meet at least 3 times in a school year. These meetings are usually after school or in the evening and generally last around 2 hours. Meetings are also informed by the work of governing board committees, to which most governors belong. The governing board elects a **chair** and **vice chair** each year and the chair is responsible for leading and facilitating governing board meetings.

**If you are a parent of Lakeview school, and would like the opportunity to join our Board of Governors as a Parent Governor, please contact our school office on 01234 741653 or email [school.office@lakeviewschool.co.uk](mailto:school.office@lakeviewschool.co.uk) for an application pack.**

**Jackie Normanton**  
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# September Garden Update

## by Deirdre Wilcock

Deirdre is a RHS qualified gardener and owner of Green Hands. For more garden updates find Green Hands on Facebook @deirdregreengrands.

The days are starting to become shorter and the air feels a bit fresher, it must mean September is upon us. For those growing crops this is YOUR month! Throughout this month you will be gathering up your harvest, lucky you! September is the start of the glorious shades of Autumn. If there is high pressure across the country we may enjoy an Indian Summer lasting into October! We've been very lucky this year with our long hot summer (we'll ignore those 40 degree days, nobody wants that again!) but it's been super dry. Let hope for a wet winter, my water butts are empty and have been for months!

### The dreaded clay soil

I think I speak for most of us that the majority of us are sitting on clay soil. This type of soil can be difficult to cultivate and hard to believe anything will actually grow in it! September is a great month to dig the soil whilst it's reasonably dry. Add organic matter such as compost, manure or bark. The winter weather will break it down and help improve the soil structure. You could also add pea shingle, this will help with drainage and help the soil warm up faster in Spring.

### My top 5 star plants for September:

- **Rudbeckia** - perennial. Bright yellow flowerhead that will brighten up the September garden
- **Any Dahlias** - My absolute favourite flower in the garden. I grow several varieties. They flower from late summer and can flower right up until the first frosts. So many different varieties to choose from, grow some you won't be disappointed!
- **Eryngium x tripartitum** - prickly perennial with sea green foliage
- **Sedum spectabile 'Brilliant'** - perennial, whose flowers are a late treat for wildlife
- **Plumbago auriculata** - sprawling shrub for a warm wall or fence

### Tasks for September:

- Take cuttings of tender perennials for next year's garden
- Start clearing autumn debris to prevent pests and diseases overwintering
  - Take hardwood cuttings from roses
  - Plant our spring flowering bulbs from this month. You could start planting bulbs now right up until December for succession flowering in Spring
  - Divide overgrown perennials
  - Move any evergreen shrubs that are in the wrong place
  - Collect seeds from perennials for next year's garden
  - Lift tender perennials

Happy Gardening!



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# Advertising

Why not advertise in this newsletter?  
It is delivered to 2600 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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**7th 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)

## The Newsletter Team

<b>Editor</b>	Saqhib Ali	<a href="mailto:newsletter@wixams.org">newsletter@wixams.org</a>
<b>Advertisements</b>	Sheila Menzies	If you are interested in advertising in this newsletter, please contact Sheila at <a href="mailto:advertising@wixams.org">advertising@wixams.org</a> or 07707 209698
<b>Distribution/Delivery</b>	Barbara Matthews	If you would like to help out and have an hour or so a month to spare please contact Barbara at <a href="mailto:newsletterdistribution@wixams.org">newsletterdistribution@wixams.org</a>
<b>Design and Production</b>	Dan James	Find out more at <a href="http://danjamesmedia.com">danjamesmedia.com</a>
<b>Editorial/Proofreading</b>	Barry Huckle	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anthony Musgrove	
<b>Wixams Community Group</b>	Leon Staszak and Adriana Schepankiewitsch	<a href="mailto:community@wixams.org">community@wixams.org</a>
<b>Committee</b>	Alan Pibworth, Nick Edwards, Kelly Carr, Emma Egan and Ellie Egan	

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