

## News from David Kidney MP

People get fed up, rightly, when they see a tiny minority causing the majority misery and heartache. The law is the same for everyone and when there is law-breaking it has to be stamped out. No excuses, no exceptions. This is what I have told the police in our area and in Wheaton Aston I know that Sgt. Tim Heap is determined to uphold the law.

Anti social behaviour may include criminal conduct but often it falls short of crime even though it is socially obnoxious. Labour stepped in to fill the gap in the legal remedies for tackling this problem with anti-social behaviour orders, curfews and alcohol-free zones. It is not just down to the police to make the most of these powers, it is for partners like councils and housing associations to work with the police to tackle unacceptable behaviour, whichever section of the community it comes from.

I congratulate the agencies involved in addressing Wheaton Aston's problems and working together to build up community spirit and social capital. As MP I have offered my help and met most of those who are working for the good of our community. But it is a top priority now for residents to see that action is being taken. This means prosecution for law-breakers and constructive activities for those who don't want to fall into bad company. The saying "the devil makes work for idle hands" comes to mind. Let's work together to create the right climate and provide appropriate facilities for all law-abiding citizens – from the youngest to the oldest residents.

The national context is a factor. A world-wide economic crash has caused a severe knock to the UK's economy and to people's confidence. The Government is doing all it can to protect and help businesses and individuals to get through the downturn. The recent Budget set out plans for us to grow our way out of recession and prepare us for the upturn that will follow. Included in these plans is a Future Jobs Fund, which will guarantee training or a job for every young person unemployed.

If anyone locally would like to talk to me about these issues – or indeed any other issues – please feel free to make contact by telephone (01785 224444) or e-mail ([kidneyd@parliament.uk](mailto:kidneyd@parliament.uk)) or by letter to the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

## Baby Clinic

1.30pm Alternate Thursdays at  
Wheaton Aston Surgery  
New Parent Group Mondays 1.30pm to  
3pm at Coven Memorial Hall  
Call Health Visitor on 01902 850682

## Old Peoples' Welfare

Every Monday, the Wheaton Aston and Lapley Old People's Welfare run a day centre in the village hall for housebound/disabled residents, where a meal and entertainment is provided. If you can spare some time on Mondays, the Wheaton Aston and Lapley Old People's Welfare would like to hear from you as more cooks and volunteer drivers are needed. There is a 4 – 5 week rota of cooks in operation which means that each cook only has to be available from 10.00am until 2.00pm once every 4 weeks. Again there is a rota in operation for the volunteer drivers who are needed to collect local residents at 11.00am to bring them to the village hall and to take them home after 2.15pm. If you can help please call Mrs Fellows on 840082.

## Congratulations WAWFC

Wheaton Aston Wanderers FC who were promoted to Division 4 last season made it to the final of Sunday Bowl Trophy after beating Crown & Anchor (Stone). A fantastic team effort and goals from Adam Spillard and James Milford secured their place in the final.

## Inter-Parish Games

A new Coordinator is required for our parish. If you don't feel that you can offer to coordinate the whole parish, could you organise just one team in the games? Contact the Clerk for details.

## St. Mary's Church

**Services of Healing & Wholeness**  
June 17<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup> & August 19<sup>th</sup>

Come along to St. Mary's for an less formal service of prayer and praise, in which we pray for our church, our community and each other.

### Church Fete

June 6<sup>th</sup> 12.30-3.30pm

Bigger and better than ever, more to see, eat and enjoy. Look out for your Lucky Programme coming through the door!

### Kids Clubs

**Noah's Ark**—Wednesday in St. Mary's church at 1.45pm on June 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. All pre-school children and their mums/carers welcome. We finish in time to meet older children from school.

**KFC** – Sunday mornings in the Village Hall at 10.15am on June 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. All 5-14year olds welcome.

**C Club**—for teenagers meets on Sunday evenings in the Youth Rooms at 7pm on June 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Transformation Update

Some of you may be wondering how the plans to transform the interior of St. Mary's are progressing. The architect's design, which incorporates a new level floor, rewiring, the addition of a gallery, flexible seating, and kitchen area together with legal requirements such as permanent disabled access, a toilet and a hearing loop have all been approved by the diocese.

2008 was quite a difficult year for the small committee that are trying to amass sufficient funds for the project, and a great deal of time has been spent filling in forms to chase a decreasing pot of money in these financially stressed times. However, on the bright side, the energy and commitment of the villagers and congregation has been most encouraging, and almost £5,000 has been raised in one year through a variety of events including coffee mornings, quizzes, cartridge recycling, garden parties and many others. Twelve of these were "Grow A Tenner" events, in which the church provided £10 to fund the event, the profits then returned to the Development Fund. We managed to 'turn' £120 into £2,183 through this scheme. From the many trusts and grant making bodies that have been approached, there have been some grants and pledges, and at the end of 2008 a total of almost £52,000 has been raised.

Many of the bodies that we approach compliment us on our project and are very interested in supporting us until they realise that as we have such a lot of money left to find we will not be able to start work in the next 12-18 months. To address this problem, we are considering ways in which we could split the project into stages, thus needing a smaller total to raise initially. We would then be able to show that we have a larger percentage of the money that is required, and this would hopefully make it easier to obtain grants.

Most funding bodies we have approached look for evidence that we are raising as much money ourselves as possible, and so far this has been easy to provide – please do continue to support the fund raising events that happen throughout the year, so that we can soon begin the work to provide not only an accessible, well equipped centre for worship, but an adaptable resource centre for the whole community.

If you would like to know more about the project, or make a donation, why not come along to the church on Wednesday mornings to the Drop In and chat to Garry, Kath and Joyce, our churchwardens, or call them on 840525 (Kath) or 840554 (Joyce)

### Family Service & Morning Praise

These are our two new informal services, happening on the first and third Sundays every month. They both have easy to follow words on a screen – no searching to find the right page in the book – and lots of modern and traditional music. Families are most welcome, and a few are already coming and enjoying these new services.