



Flower and Produce Show

Westbury's growers show that they know their onions!

A beautifully warm, sunny morning set the perfect scene for a really successful and enjoyable day at the Parish Hall on the first Sunday in September. Entries for the Flower and Produce Show were well up on recent years and showed that we have a lot of very productive and skilful people in our parish. With so many keen competitors, Jan D'Ambrogio and her team were busier than in recent years, providing gorgeous lunches which everyone could enjoy while the entries were being judged. There were also plenty who came to enjoy the array of exhibits, not to mention a good lunch.

With music on the patio generously provided by local group, Vanity Trap, and the usual wonderful array of cakes on offer, we were then able to enjoy a relaxing afternoon sitting in the sunshine. On the field, our 2nds Cricket team were getting plenty of support for their last match of the season, which they won, thus avoiding relegation, so a good day for them too. We haven't had many perfect, English summer afternoons this year, but sitting in this beautiful spot in such an active community, certainly made this one of them.



There were several key figures missing from the September Parish Hall meeting with Chairman Jan D'Ambrogio, Deputy Chair Helen Cracknell and Treasurer Sarah Mitten all unable to come, but Secretary Gill Smith stepped into the breach and there were enough members present to meet the 'quorum' rules.

Arising from last month's minutes, several people reported problems connecting to the BT WiFi so this will be followed up. Brian Wyman had repaired a lot of the patio benches and feels that they should now last a few more years and Mike Edginton had done the anti-fungal spray. The water heater and hand dryer in the ladies toilet have been fixed.

Mark Brill and Tim Smith had done a great job on the twenty page Fire Risk Assessment and Mark agreed to prepare a prioritised timetable for the work that needs to be done.

Treasurer's Report and Severndipity

Sarah had circulated the accounts and although these did not show any cause for immediate concern, a year of rising costs and reduced income from the bar indicate that income and expenditure need to be closely monitored. This led to discussion regarding how the two committees can work more closely together for the good of the Hall. Ken Boulton reported that the bar take is gradually increasing but is usually better in the summer than in winter. He anticipates that Severndipity will be able to contribute more this year in rent and covenant.

Fundraising

The Flower and Produce Show had been very successful, with an increase this year in the number of entries and lunches served. The plan for next year is to extend it slightly and Ken suggested that entries could be auctioned off afterwards if entrants are willing.

The Rod Stewart night was enjoyed by those who went but was not as well attended as hoped. There is to be another Tribute on 1st December.

The Kebabaret tickets are going well and raffle

prizes were requested. The Pre-Xmas Bash will be on Nov 25th. There will be a 2 course meal and Stuart Hawke's band, The Steel Weasels, will provide the music.

Members were reminded about the Craft Fair on 24th Sept and the Jumble Sale on 8th Oct. It was requested that jumble be either dropped off with one of the fundraising group beforehand or brought to the Hall on the morning and sorry, but no books.

Drs surgery

Gen Riley was not present so there was no update on the situation regarding the lease, insurance or electrical installation for the doctor's surgery. It was felt that progress was needed particularly on the electrical installation and it was agreed



The Boulton family's amazing entry in the sunflower competition.

that this could be given the go ahead as soon as the lease is signed.

Any other business

Clive Tempest reported that there are now two football teams so this will mean a bar at the Hall every Saturday. Unfortunately, there had been some damage to the changing room after a recent match but the football club intend to pay for the repairs.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 10th October at 7.30pm.
Di Landon



Westbury Parish Hall

on

Sunday 1st Oct at 7.45pm

Teams of four at £2 per head

Nosh and Natter

Westbury Parish Hall

Thursday 12th October 2023

**Food served between
12.30pm and 1.30pm**

Broccoli and Stilton soup

**Chicken thighs Normande with
vegetables**

Treacle tart with custard

£8 for 2 courses, £10 for 3 courses

**Please call or see Gail on 760495/ Jan
on 760630 to say that you are coming
and please let us know in advance if
you have any dietary requirements**

Good Old Fashioned
JUMBLE
FREE ENTRY Sale Charity Reg No 307644

A fundraising event for the Parish Hall
Jumble donations required
Call to donate your jumble
Some tables available
for private sellers. £5 per table
CALL 01452 229570

SUNDAY
8 OCT FROM 2:30PM
Cakes, Coffee, Tea Available

**WESTBURY ON
SEVERN PARISH HALL**

18 RESTRICTED
Kebabaret EST. 1975

TITSLINA BUMSQUASH PRESENTS...
A FUNDRAISER FOR WESTBURY PARISH HALL

**BURLESQUE
COMEDY
CABARET
KEBABS!**

SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER
WESTBURY PARISH HALL
DOORS AT 7PM

TICKETS
VIP £25
STANDARD £10

www.ticketsource.co.uk/kebabaret

COCO DEVILLE **LENA LENMAN** **JOHN DORR**

SANDY BURE **AMUSE LA BOUCHE** **RAVEN NOIR**



Message from Jan

Thank you to everyone involved in the Flower and Produce Show. We were very impressed with the number of entries last year and we had even more this year and this means that the efforts put in by those that organise as well as those that participate are worthwhile.

There was a great atmosphere in the lounge and outside for those lunching or just enjoying a drink with live music from Vanity Trap, a cricket match and some sunshine – perfect day

We will be holding a good old-fashioned Jumble Sale on Sunday October 8th from 2.30pm and there will be a number of table tops available at £5 for private second hand sale opportunities. Free entry and refreshments will be on sale. Donations of jumble are welcome at the hall between 10am and 11.30am on the day.

On Saturday October 28th, following on from last year's success, there is another chance to come along to the burlesque night, Kebabaret, at the hall - posters are up with all the relevant info.

Saturday November 25th –Pre Xmas-Bash, why not join us for a 2-course meal and live music from Steel Weasels £15 a ticket, food and a boogie to live music - bargain

Looking forward to seeing you at one if not all of the above. We will be keeping the costs down as much as possible as we think it important for the community to have the opportunity to socialise in difficult times whilst ensuring the running costs of the hall and the events are covered.

If you want to contact us, please feel free to on info@wosph.co.uk or ring 01452 229570



SAVE THE DATE KIDZ NITE OUT

Friday 10th November and
Saturday 11th November



The theme this year is

‘All around the World’

at Westbury Parish Hall at 6:30pm

Food from around the world served and
lots of entertainment from the
Youth Project members.

Tickets available from

Nicola Atkinson
07972761345

Parish Council

I was unable to attend the September Parish Council meeting, so thanks to our Clerk Fiona, who kindly sent me her notes so that I was able to do this report.

Planning One application, to erect extensions with associated works at Chapel House in Broadoak, had been considered online prior to the meeting, and had met with no objections. There were also no objections, following a site visit, to the change of use of former agricultural buildings to three dwellings at Gamage Court in Lower Ley Lane. A resubmission of an application for change of use of land to tourism and erection of two glamping units and associated work at Sunnybank in Elton was supported, as was an application to establish whether a building at Camp Pitch in Upper Rodley Road, currently used as animal pens (cattle) and a self-contained flat since 1994 is lawful, Councillor Richard Hewlett having already declared an interest in this. There were also no objections to the prior approval for change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling at Cothill Farm in Lower Ley Lane.

Fiona reported the decisions on previous applications. Change of use of a disused farm building to workshops at Leycott Farm had been granted, as had the application for the erection of a two storey rear extension at Elton Nurseries and the erection of an agricultural building at Cleeve Farm. However, the application to erect an agricultural building for the storage of a specialist Unimog vehicle and associated items at The Paddocks in Goose Lane had been refused.

Finance

The accounts were agreed and the audit for the year ending 31st March 2023 had been completed with no matters raised.

Highways

The footway between the Vicarage and

the Old Police Station is completely overgrown and Chairman Simon Phelps has reported this on several occasions already but nothing has been done. It was suggested that County Councillor Robinson be asked to intervene. Richard Hewlett asked about some missing white lines on roads around Rodley and apparently these will be reinstated once the road has been resurfaced.

Burial Ground Extension and School Playing Field

Fiona had received an email with questions from the solicitors who are drawing up the new lease. Having discussed these, the Parish Council's response was agreed. The new area of burial ground will have to be consecrated and Chairman Simon Phelps agreed to pursue this. Simon reported that the fence between the school car park and the burial ground extension is covered in brambles, which need removing. However, they may be holding the fence up so it was agreed to add this to the works being arranged on the bus shelters.

Play Area A parishioner has asked if the play area could be upgraded and/or expanded. Although space may be an issue



the play area could be relocated to along-side the cricket

pitch with a net or fence to stop stray cricket balls from potentially hurting anyone. The parishioner has spoken with many of the families in and around Westbury, who agree that the play area is well used but could do with a revamp. However, although the Parish Council is re-

sponsible for the management of the play area, the land is owned by the Parish Hall. Unfortunately, due to the high costs of extending the burial ground the Parish Council has no funds available for such a project at the moment and even if grant funding was available, it would need match funds and currently there are no reserves. It was suggested that parishioners might want to fundraise for this project, as a similar project was successfully undertaken in Redmarley for the creation of Redmarley Play Park.

Doctors Surgery Alan Hyett reported that Forest Health Care, a well-established GP Practice in Cinderford, are now providing primary care services in Westbury as from 1st August 2023. This development means that services at Westbury Surgery are secure for the long term. NHS Gloucestershire has written to patients registered with Westbury Surgery to let them know about this and have provided contact details for the NHS Gloucestershire PALS team, who can help any patients who do not wish to transfer to Forest Health Care to find an alternative GP practice.

Other matters The government is inviting community organisations across England to bid for funding for an automated external defibrillator (AED) for their area. There is a £1m fund available to provide AEDs in public places such as town halls or public parks where they are most needed, and an estimated 1000 new defibrillators may be installed in community spaces across England. A short discussion took place as to which areas of the Parish were most densely populated and could therefore benefit most from an AED and Broadoak, Stantway and The Village were considered as possible locations. It was agreed that Fiona would ascertain the costs involved.

The manhole cover in the burial ground is overflowing with sewage, and although

this was immediately reported to Severn Trent, they had not taken any action. Chairman Simon said he would contact them again. The fire hydrant marker post by the Lecture Hall has been knocked over so Fiona will report this.

Having considered the quotations received for the works required on the bus shelters in the Parish it was agreed that the Clerk would ask Rob King to carry out the works as per his quotation.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, 16 October 2023 at 7pm

Road Closure

Grange Court Rd will be closed from 16/10/23 to 18/10/23 for network installation for Velta Construction. Emergency and pedestrian access will be maintained. If you require any further information regarding this closure, please contact :- streetworks@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Churchyard Working Party

Our September working party took place on one of the hottest days of the year and coincided with the Heritage Open Weekend, so it was a little briefer than usual. Our next one will take place on Sat 14th October from 10am to 1pm—all welcome.

August Weather Report

Warmest Day.	10th 25.5c
Warmest Night.	10th-11th. 15c
Coldest Day	31st 15.5c
Coldest Night.	29th-30th. 5.5c
Wettest Day	5th 21mm
Month's Total Rainfall.	75.5mm
Thunder occurred on 2nd	
Number of Days with Rainfall. 14	
Predominant Wind Direction. Westerlies	
Average Maximum Temperature. 20.8c	
Average Minimum Temperature. 10.6	

Church News

Our Family Service is at Westbury Church on Sunday 15th October at 10am. We're considering 'Do we have the time to stop to be kind or are we sometimes in too much of a hurry?'. What a difference it can make, bring an old bandage with you there might be someone who needs it and we could help.

I look forward to seeing you, and there's always coffee and biscuits to revive us afterwards. *Rev Sarah 01594 517157*



Heritage Weekends

Once again Westbury Church and Spire were open to the public for the two Heritage Open Weekends, to comply with the requirements of Historic England.

Both weekends proved to be very successful with a large number of visitors enjoying tours of the Spire. Some of the visitors had travelled considerable distances to view the inside of this highly regarded historic building, an added feature for this year's visitors was to view the Tower Clock now restored to working order.

Visitor numbers were very much the same as last year, with the Tower remaining a popular attraction. Visitors were also able to enjoy refreshments which, as usual, proved to be very popular. There was also a plant and produce stall which proved a popular attraction.

Westbury PCC would like to offer its grateful thanks to all those volunteers who helped once again to make this event such a great success.

Simon Phelps, Churchwarden.

WoS Parish Church Friends 100 Club

We have a few numbers available for our new 'year' of draws. We draw quarterly in October, January, April & July. Prizes are as follows:

1st £50, 2nd £20 and 3rd £10

It costs £12 a year to enter. All proceeds go towards the fabric of Westbury Church. Currently, we are raising funds to help with the re-wiring of the church. If you are interested, please contact:

westburychurchfriends@gmail.com



Westbury-on-Severn Parish Church Friends present

A CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

in Westbury Church

Saturday 2nd – Sunday 3rd Dec 2023

10am – 4pm

SPONSOR & DECORATE A TREE

as an individual, business, society, club or charity. (For more information:

westburychurchfriends21@gmail.com)

Come & light up Westbury Church with a tree to represent your club/society/ business/ charity. Please provide your own tree, stand, lights (battery operated only please) & decorations. You may also wish to display literature advertising your club/ business. Advertising available in the programme.

All decorated trees & literature to be in the church and ready for viewing from 7pm on Friday 1st and removed at 4pm on Sunday 3rd December.

If you'd rather not decorate a tree, how about advertising your business in our programme? For more details contact Carol Barker or Frances Down.

westburychurchfriends21@gmail.com

Walmore Hill School News

There is always a sense of excitement and expectation at the beginning of a new term at Walmore Hill. The children have returned refreshed after the Summer break and are ready to settle down to their learning again.

New staff have joined us this term as we have been able to divide our Key Stage 2 class into 2 smaller groups. Miss Freedman has been joined by Miss Williams in Bewicks Class (Years 5 and 6) and they have a teaching assistant, Ms Mills to support them. Mr. Apperley is the new teacher in Swans Class (Years 3 & 4). We are fortunate to have smaller classes and this has enhanced our calm learning environment.

Miss Price is the teacher of Little Fledglings and Cygnets (Pre-school, Reception, Year 1 & 2) The children have two rooms as well as an outdoor learning area. Miss Price has joined us from Pillowell School and is enjoying teaching her class as well as being Head of School. Mrs. Evans is now our Executive Head, working across the three schools in our Federation.

We are looking for a Co-opted Governor to join our Governing Body. Please contact Mrs. Rich in the school office if you are interested in becoming a governor.

We hold our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning in September and are joined by parents, grandparents and friends of Walmore Hill. It is always a lovely occasion when our school community comes together to support this cause.



We are inviting prospective parents of

Reception children who will be starting school in September 2024 to come and have a look around on Thursday 26th October. Please contact Mrs. Rich in the school office if you would like to arrange a visit.

Our pre-school is continuing to flourish. We have a lovely group of children who have settled into school really well. They play alongside our Reception children and love to meet up with older brothers and sisters at playtimes and lunchtimes. We still have spaces available in our sessions which run from 8.45 a.m. to 3.10 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Ofsted news: The school was inspected on 4th July 2023 and we are pleased with the outcome of the inspection as our overall judgement has been retained since the previous inspection in 2017. Walmore Hill has been judged to be a Good School.

The lead inspector wrote at the beginning of the report... 'Walmore Hill is a small, friendly and inclusive school, where everyone is welcome. Parents say it is a safe, caring, kind community where everyone knows and looks after everyone.'

Gem Superpowers: Last year we introduced the children to our new way of thinking about how they learn best as well as celebrating successes in school. 'Gem Powers' are a way that children can demonstrate successful learning and they underpin everything we do in our Federation.

Mrs. Evans has started the new term with a competition to design a character for each of the gems. There are prizes for the winners and the winning designs will be made into stickers, badges and postcards. These will be given out to the children who demonstrate the 'gem powers' in school throughout the year.

Suzanne Loten

Westbury C of E School



We have had a lovely start to the new term at Westbury on Severn CE Primary school with each class

starting their new themes. Oak Class (Y4/5/6) are learning all about the Kings and Queens through History and their theme is called "Off with their Heads!" Sycamore (Y2/3) Class's theme is called FunnyBones and they are learning all about the human body and reading the classic story Funny Bones by Allan and Janet Ahlberg. Willow Class (YR/1) are learning all about Animals and are soon to take a trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park. The youngest pupils in School, Chestnuts (Preschool) are reading Traditional Tales this term. They have read Rapunzel and are now learning all about Chicken Licken.

We are now providing Wraparound care at Westbury with the launch of our new after school club, run by Progressive Sports on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the first instance. We have also started up a chess club on Friday lunch-times, run by a kind volunteer within the community. This is proving popular and we have already seen the pupils playing chess during the inevitable wet playtimes this term.

If you are interested in sending your children to our school, we have some spaces in certain year groups. Please ring 01452 760303 Monday-Thursdays or email admin@westbury-on-severncofe.gloucs.sch.uk or visit our revamped website <https://www.westburyschool.co.uk/>

Anna-Mai Armstrong Headteacher

Cafe on the Green

Many thanks to everybody who attended the Cafe on 2nd September. A total of £151.72 was raised for the Crohn's Society. Thanks to the helpers, & bakers who helped raise this sum.

The next Coffee Morning will be on Saturday the 7th October *Kay Manning*

Northwood Green Gardening Club

The new season got off to a great start with an informative and entertaining talk by Ken Power on the benefits of compost, followed a few days later by our coach trip to RHS Wisley. As always, the gardens were looking stunning, and we were blessed with glorious weather.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 12th October, when Paul Green from Newent will give a "hands on" talk titled "Dark and Desirable: Plants and Shrubs with Dark Foliage". Paul runs Green Leaves, a specialist plant nursery well known for rare and unusual plants, and will be bringing plants for us to buy.



Meetings take place at 7.30pm in the Northwood Green Social Hall. Visitors are always welcome. Visitors £3, annual membership £12. Please contact karenfayjohnson@gmail.com or call 07879 386573 for more information.

Vale of Castiard W.I.

For our first meeting after the summer break, we had a fascinating talk and demonstration on preparing fish for cooking. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 18 October at 7.30pm in the Flaxley Schoolroom. Members of the Forest of

Dean Camera Club will be joining us to teach us how to take good photos with our smartphones.

Visitors are always given a warm welcome: £5, including tea and cake. Please contact Gill Western, President, on 07879 532060 or Karen Johnson, Secretary, on 07879 386573 for more information.

Craft Fair

The recent Craft Fair at the Parish Hall was an excellent prompt to remind us that



Christmas will be with us before we know it and a chance to start looking for presents. There were lots of

lovely gifts on sale and it is good to know that they have been locally produced.

Also on offer were lovely refreshments provided by Mrs D's Pots and Pans (or Jan D'Ambrogio as most of us know her!) All in all, a very successful event.



The next Craft Fair is on 4th November between 10am and 12 noon.



Memory Café - Tuesday 10th Oct 2023

The Memory Café aims to provide a fun, friendly, safe and supportive space for people living with dementia or memory loss, their partners, families and carers.

Supported by Artspace, Cinderford as part of the Mindscape Project, people can expect to enjoy a variety of craft and activities.

11.00am arrival and enjoy a cuppa and a cake

11.30am activities provided by Mindscape tutors

12.30pm – 1.15 Soup and rolls served.

There is no charge for attending this event so why not pop along and join us?

For further information:

Call: 07926 986 247

**The Harvey Centre, Main Road,
Minsterworth, Gloucester, GL2 8JH**

On-site parking, disabled access and facilities. Stagecoach Bus No 22/23 also stops and departs every ½ hour from outside the centre.

Westbury Players — It's Panto Time



Preparations for the 2024 pantomime have begun and the cast have had their first read through of the script. So the dates for your diary are :-

Box Office Sun 19th Nov 11am

Performances Saturday 20th January— with meal

Sunday 21st Jan—matinee

Friday 26th Jan with meal

Sat 27th Jan with meal

Rugby

On 16th September, Westbury played Old Cryptians in their first home game of the season. A good crowd gathered at the Ken Boulton Stadium of Light (otherwise known as Westbury Playing Fields), although the great man himself was not in attendance as he was in Europe showing the Greeks how to smoke a pipe.



The game set off at a blistering pace, Westbury taking the lead with a penalty, then a try from full back Paul. The next few minutes saw Old Cryptians fighting back and the lead changed hands - a theme that continued throughout the first half. At half time the score line sat at 13-19. The second half saw WoS secure the losing bonus point before the old C's pulled away, with some great passages of play from both sides. The final whistle saw the score at Westbury on Severn RFC 25 - Old Cryptians Rugby Football Club 2's 44

Lots to take forward & build on - Westbury try scorers were Paul Redden, Shay & Captain Robbie. There were stand out performances from far too many to mention, the WoS Man of the Match going to Shay returning from injury. A massive shout out to Old C's for coming over, we

really appreciated the effort and what a great bunch of lads (& supporters)



Gordon League RFC 2s v Westbury RFC
23rd Sept

It is always good to play at Gordon League RFC 2's on a warm late September Saturday, with perfect conditions, and



a perfect playing surface ... but unfortunately the result didn't go our way. Despite some good passages of play Westbury on Severn RFC ended the day on the losing side. Man of

the Match for Westbury was Max Kaufmann.

Saturday, 30 September 2023 Home
Westbury-on-Severn v Coney Hill II

The date is set for a Westbury on Severn RFC Vets game on SATURDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2023 v Frampton Cotterell RFC Vets AWAY KO at 2PM

Westbury on Severn RFC

Training

Tuesdays 7pm - all welcome.

Tennis Champions at 81 and 18

Clive Tempest, President of the Football and Cricket Clubs, recently won the Aston



Ingham Tennis doubles championship. The eighty one year old was partnered by fellow parishioner, Theo Crompton, who is eighteen,

and quite good at tennis. Theo then went on to also win the mixed doubles, partnered by his fifteen year old sister, Esme.

Cricket

By Mark Landon

As the cricket season draws to a close, the final game of the season can become a bit of a jolly with nothing resting on the result. Across the country these games are played out, usually in a relaxed, jovial way in front of a few relatives and a passer-by or two, who stop to watch a game slowly unfolding to a meaningless conclusion.

Not so at Westbury on Sunday 3rd September where the 2nd XI hosted Arcadians in a must win game to avoid relegation. "Sunday ???" I hear you cry. Indeed, the game was rescheduled at the oppositions request, which placed it smack bang in the middle of the Parish Flower and

Produce Show, including the hotly contested Treacle Lattice Tart and Best Onions etc competitions.

"Relegation, well that's not the end of the world" - that may be the neutral's view but being relegated into the same division as Huntley, complete with recent Westbury departures, would be the equivalent to Johnny Depp having to attend Amber Heard's next Hen-do (and then having to do the laundry.) Indeed some members of the local rivals were even in attendance, doubtless to witness a humbling defeat, and feast on some excellent home made cakes from the ovens of Jan D'Ambrogio and her team. Teas during a cricket match - that could catch on !

Anyway competitive juices were flowing in all directions as the sun beat down and Westbury started off proceedings with the bat. I missed the first few overs but based on the scorecard and some educated guesswork, openers Tom Burrows and Ian Dunn got off to a decent start with Burrows in typically forthright form well-lying a few muscular boundaries, while Dunn took a more finessed and cautious approach. However Dunn (8) and Burrows (21) soon perished to Vipin Judy, bringing young, and now shaven headed, Andrew Cueto to the crease and then club stalwart and in form batsman Fran Stirrup.

Sadly young Cueto was soon adjudged lbw, with scrupulous fairness, by umpire Alex Wyman, which did nothing to improve his mood and he left the field far from grunted and birds were soon flapping for cover as his bat went flying into the maple tree.

However, to the crease strode Ian "Lardy" Martin, just as the attending pop band, providing entertainment for the Parish Show, launched into their set, and so his innings was accompanied by fine renditions of 60's and 70's classics. He quickly

launched into the spin attack brutally sweeping boundaries as "Sylvia's Mother" was crooned across the field, although Martin has aged more gracefully than the lyrics which are a bit more stalker-y than I'd remembered. He danced down the wicket to "I'm A Believer" and looked to be heading for a fine musical fifty when the band took a well earned break and, like Samson shorn of his hair, he lost all rhythm and promptly ran himself out for 22.

Stirrup (21) continued to hold the innings together as skipper Glyn Bayley (21) and Tom Landon (20) took the attack to the opposition. Landon was bowled out playing what could only be described as an ice-hockey shot, which hit him on the foot and from there onto the stumps. Stirrup was run out and Bayley went lbw - I was buying some cake and checking the Flower and Produce results when all this happened, so details are sketchy.

Chris Wayman (22 no), drafted in at the last minute again gamely kept the innings going with a solid display, and young Ethan Hunt, having recovered from sunburn earlier in the season, appeared at the

crease, lathered to the hilt in factor 50 with mother looking on sternly, and smashed a quick fire 30.

A final total of 188 seemed a little short and the opening bowling partnership of Landon and Cueto were unlikely to be inspired by the collection of Dolly Parton's greatest hits that were now being

gamely knocked out by the band, as tea cups clinked on the patio and the Huntley contingent looked on hopefully. However, charge in they did and with great effect as they quickly knocked over the first four wickets (two apiece). Cueto's bat had reappeared from the tree, rescued by sports photographer Pete Wilson, so all was looking good.

Their opener, though, stubbornly refused to give up and soon a partnership built up and the tension began to creep in. Balls were played and missed, appeals made and rejected and then at a critical moment a howl of rage and anguish went around the field! However, the game resumed when it became clear that it was caused by the results of the spiral plaited treacle tart competition being announced, I can say no more!



Glyn Bayley celebrates a famous victory

Jon Hargreaves came on to bowl whilst his mother looked on, somewhat distracted by also having to listen to the WOSP editor trying to remember how many grandchildren he had. As ever, Jon kept things tight and the run rate required continued to build. Rich Edginton twirled away (if Rich could ever be described as twirling) with his off

spin but eventually Glyn Bayley, a man with a golden touch when it comes to bowling, brought himself on and took the final three wickets to claim the game. He sank to his knees in joy, relief and gratitude that the band weren't singing "I'm Every Woman" at the moment of victory.

And so a vital win secured, no relegation and the Huntley crew were left disconsolate - or maybe not, but for sports reporting purposes let's say they were. Congratulations to all involved for what ultimately was a satisfactory season after some tricky times with weather and some unlucky narrow losses.

Club President Tempest was not available for comment - he was reportedly stuck in Saudi Arabia trying to get £200 million for Akeen.

Cricket Roundup 2023

Another season draws to a close and great credit should go to Ian Dunn as Chairman and Fran Stirrup as Secretary, plus Ted Edginton and the crew who kept the show on the road administratively and practically, providing an excellent square in Westbury and a "reborn" square in Newnham. Notwithstanding a mid season scare, with all teams looking nervously downwards at the league tables rather than optimistically upwards, in the end all's well that ended well with 1sts, 2nds and Wolfhounds (3s) all ending up mid table-ish.

Our Australian import Kade Clowes proved an excellent and popular addition to the squad, improving the team without making everyone else look rubbish, and also put in a good shift at the Apple Orchard Campsite banging in posts etc etc.

We won't get bogged down with numbers but Devin Rogers (481) had a great season with the bat for the 1sts as did Dan Jarvis (414) and Alex Wyman (412). With the ball, three of the top four wicket taking bowlers were spinners with Devin (29) leading the way and Dan Hockaday and Ted Edginton taking 20 each. Kade Clowes flew the flag for seam bowlers with 23.

The 2nds had a topsy turvy season, losing

some tight games in controversial circumstances ('twas ever thus). The ever reliable Ian Dunn (307) and Will Hargreaves (224) led the way with the bat and Fran Stirrup (202) also contributed some vital runs when not playing for the 1sts, where his return was more modest.

Skipper Glyn Bayley had a magic touch with the ball collecting 19 wickets, ably supported by the old warhorse himself, Rich Edginton (10). Sadly they were the only two bowlers who got double figures.

The Wolfhounds completed their first season, led by Chris Wayman who put in many hours with the committee sorting out teething problems and getting the squad together, and was rewarded by a successful season where most games that were played were victorious, with Olli Jelfs having an excellent season with the bat and ball and Andrew Cueto doing so well at the beginning of the season that he disappeared up to the higher teams.

The ladies of the team provided the bulk of the bowling with Charlotte Church (6), Talia Scott (8), Eve Powell (9) and Beth Powell(6) all taking wickets and prevented any team, except Lydney - once, posting a hefty total.

All in all a good season, enjoyable for all players and supporters but potential for improvement next year.

A special mention for Neil Wyman who played for all three senior teams although he did set an unwelcome record - the first player to get a duck for all three teams in

one season! Someone better buy him a beer when next at the bar as a consolation.



Onwards and upwards for 2024.

FOOTBALL

By Clive Tempest

Ellwood 0 Westbury Utd 4 Lydbrook 1 Westbury Utd Reserves 3

On 2nd September the beautiful game returned, and Westbury United kicked off against Elmwood away and . . . wait for it . . . the re-formed Second Eleven also kicked off against Lydbrook, away. There had been some trepidation that we might not raise two teams and it has to be said that the pre-season Charities competition had not gone well. However, tremendous recruiting by Jamie, the First Team captain, meant that we had two teams and two substitutes for each outfit.

The First team were boosted partly by the arrival of a new goalkeeper, Kane, (as our stalwart keeper from last year is awaiting surgery on his left leg) and also by the welcome return to action of Prem and Grzeg, our two Polish stars from Mr Cook's Emporium! The loss of our tremendous Captain, Alex Maton, from last year, due to serious illness, also caused some trepidation, not to mention enormous sadness.

The Firsts need not have worried. Wow! They were electric and dynamic from the kick off - so much so that the Ellwood Chairman walked away muttering that they could not live with that team. Within the first 20 minutes star striker, Akeen Wright, had cut Ellwood to pieces with two brilliant goals, one from his own half, cutting past half the team and brilliantly drawing out the keeper to pass it into the net. Then Harry Howells smashed another into the net. Three nil at half time! Ellwood meanwhile could not get a shot at goal as the new centre half Pierce and Greg were like an iron curtain, that could not be

pierced.

In the second half Akeen completed a superb hat trick and Ellwood limped away with nothing to show. Manager Derek Palmer and coach Gareth Lewis pronounced that it was a complete performance that augured well for the season. The whole team put in a great shift. Better was to come. A newly formed team, with lots of new untested players, the Reserves travelled to Lydbrook. What will happen, we all wondered, and new manager Michael must have been glad when grizzled former managers in the shape of Chris Epps, Michael Watkins and David D'Ambrogio turned up to help and watch. Club Secretary, David D'Ambrogio also had his talented son Joseph back in his first match for some months and he slotted into mid-field. New Captain Lee Brickley pushed his men on and Joel Phillips smashed two goals in. A third followed in the second half and the man of the match was said Joe Dambrogio. A great start to the season and if we can keep this squad together great things could happen.

Westbury Utd 2. Ruardean Hill Res 1 Westbury Res 2. Ruardean Hill 3s 1

The second week of the season brought two good results again, The Firsts at home completely dominated the match but constantly failed in front of goal. Ruardean Hill went ahead through a bizarre own goal from the only corner they managed! However, Akeen, with a characteristic piece of brilliance, brought it level in the second half. Battering away for the whole of the second half, but failing to score, Westbury then lost their Polish star defender, Greg, when his nose collided with the head of the opposing centre forward. Blood everywhere and the President took him up to Cookies, at

the end of the game, only to glance back and see Pierce, our other centre back, smash a superb header into the net. Arriving back five minutes later, said President found jubilation then muted by a series of disturbing occurrences. Our changing room, which he had left open, was locked and the key broken in the lock. Consequently, the door had to be smashed down to get in. Odd. The Seconds, at Dene Magna, recorded a second win through goal machine, Joel Phillips, and skipper Lee Brickley was chuffed with his whole team.

Mitcheldean 2 Westbury Utd 2 Westbury Res 7 Sling 2

On the 18th September Westbury Firsts were away at Mitcheldean and drew 2-2 with goals from Akeen and Lewis Cromwell (who being a chippy had fitted a new door on the changing rooms in the week!). The reserves beat Sling 7-2 and are way top of the league.



Westbury Reserves v Sling

Lee Brickley, skipper, scored a hat trick. What a great start for our reformed team. The reserves play in the our old kit donated by James Collick. The pitch looked superb marked out by ever dependable Dave D,Ambrogio. As there was no referee for the Seconds, good old Mike Watkins stepped into the

breech. Anybody who can ref the odd game would be very welcome.

Westbury Utd 1. Millwall 2. Staunton & Corse 1. Westbury Res 2

On September 23rd, the two teams played. The first team had 80% of the game and twelve corners but could not score. Ackeen got one from a mis-kick. Millwall had two shots at goal and one corner. Two goals. Result as above. Manager, Derek Palmer gave them a rollicking.

Pierce, our wonderful centre half from Leeds scored a great header at the end, from a corner but then the Millwall linesman called offside and the Referee accepted this. A bouncy castle man from the children's party happened to be in line and pronounced the linesman wrong. If only he had been refereeing. Despite missing their captain the reformed reserves marched on. Goals from Morgan and Andrew Cueto. They are top of the league.

October Fixtures

NGLP 07/10/23 14:30
[Harrow Hill Res](#) VS [Westbury Utd](#)
Larksfield Road Harrow Hill

NGLP 14/10/23 14:30
[Huntley](#) VS [Westbury Utd](#)
Huntley Recreation Ground

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