



Fernwood

fanfare

<http://www.fernwoodra.com>

News and Events brought to you by Fernwood Parish Council and Fernwood Residents' Association

Autumn 2013

Lancaster Grange (see article on page 5)



Mike Parsons the founder of Barchester Healthcare and Councillor Jim Weale Chairman of Fernwood Parish Council.



A painting by local artist Ron Freeman presented by Fernwood Parish Council. L to R: members of Balderton RAFA including Secretary Mick Scatcherd Jim Weale, Leon Creese MOD, Caren Billingsley.



Cllr Jim Weale from Fernwood Parish Council, Howard Heeley trustee and local historian from Newark Air Museum and Sue Lowe, a leader from Barnby Gate Strollers and a 2012 winner of Newark and Sherwood District Council's Citizen of the Year Competition 2012 in the Over 60s category



Sue Lowe cuts the celebratory cake!

**Deadline for
Winter Issue
Saturday 02 December**

Send copy to the Editor:
meril.popple@btinternet.com
17 Cameron Lane

Welcome to our Autumn *Fanfare*. I always worry that I won't have enough material to fill the newsletter, but end up juggling to get everything in!

We welcome a letter from the Revd Ian Lambert, who is an Associate Priest at St Giles. Whilst the Revd Canon Tony Tucker is on sabbatical, Revd Ian is helping to keep things running smoothly. He is particularly keen to be involved in Fernwood, and has in fact already taken a worship service at Lancaster Grange. He is also running the Stress Management workshops in Fernwood. See the advert on page 7.

You will see on page 2 that FRA has won a further lottery grant - congratulations to the committee who put the application together and to all who had the vision to go for it!

Over the past few months I have heard comments and little grumbles from a variety of people. I hear that "it's the same people in Fernwood who do everything" and "Fernwood is a bit 'cliquey' - it's the same people involved in everything."

Well, you know, I think that is probably very true. That group of people who get involved in lots of

things are the ones who care about building a community and are fortunate enough to have the time to get involved and do it. It's the same in every community, not just in Fernwood. A handful of people see the jobs that need doing, get stuck in and get the job done. Quite often these people can leave you feeling exhausted and a bit inadequate, because while you're still thinking about doing something, they've got up and done it!

We are very blessed in Fernwood to have so many dedicated people doing the jobs that need doing, having a vision and just 'going for it'. These people do need help, though. So, even if you don't have the vision (or even if you do!) you can help. The Residents' Association will always welcome more on the committee. The Conservation Group also needs more people, not only to help with practical hands-on tasks, but also people to attend the committee meetings and give support with ideas.

For those who care about our village and want to see the community spirit grow there are lots of ways to help. If that's you, contact me, or any member of the Residents' Association.

Editor

Care in the Community—by The Revd Ian Lambert

WE OFTEN HEAR THE PHRASE "care in the community" and it seems to mean different things to different people. The underlying expectation is a good one, namely that vulnerable and needy people are cared for within their own community where they feel safe and supported. This does not mean that people will feel patronised in any way, it's simply a recognition that from time to time we all need help and support from others and it's best if this can take place within a familiar community.

I recently attended the formal opening ceremony of the Lancaster Grange Care Home in

Fernwood and it was a great privilege to represent the people of St Giles Church, Balderton at that event. What came home to me, both from that event and from a previous visit I had made, was the way in which this new facility really was about caring for older people within the community.

Representatives of the wider community were made welcome at the opening ceremony and we were assured of a welcome at future events as they arise from time to time. Lancaster Grange clearly intend to offer "care in the community" in the most positive sense possible so let's all support them by remembering staff and

residents in our prayers and taking an interest in the Home as it develops.

I came away inspired by what I saw at Lancaster Grange and I felt determined to put their example into practice in my daily life. As I get to know the area better I will ask myself the question "how can I show that I care about people in the community?" It's often in the small ways that we show we care, maybe a welcoming smile? Maybe supporting a local charity? The list is endless but it's up to us to think about how we as individuals can show "care in the community".



Notice Board



Fernwood Conservation Group

Invites Residents to join them for

Coffee/Tea and Cakes

at 7.30 pm on
Tuesday 15 October 2013

Come and see what the Conservation Group is about and the plans we have for the future.

We will also have Jenni Blakeman of Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust to talk to us about her work with the Wildlife Trust. She will also be able to offer advice on developing and encouraging all varieties of wildlife in Fernwood.

Admission Free



Fernwood Baby and Toddler Group

Upcoming Events

Monday 28th October - Halloween Party (Primary aged children welcome!)

Monday 16th December - Christmas party (ticket only)

All information is available on our facebook page or email
carlytoulson@hotmail.com or
josmith26@live.co.uk

Fernwood Bonfire & Firework Night

Sunday 3rd November



Volunteers required

If you are over 18 and willing to help steward the event, please contact the Parish Council at:
clerk@fernwood-pc.co.uk

or
call in at the Village Hall any Tuesday morning between 9.30 and noon.

Thank you for your support.

Two groups made successful bids for the Development Funding donated by David Wilson.

Fernwood Petanque Club made a bid of £1200 for the provision of 2 benches adjacent to the petanque terrain.

Fernwood Amateur Dramatic Society won a bid of £1781 for a lightweight portable lighting kit.

The Project Review Group agreed that further

Does your group have ideas for a project to benefit the village?

bids would be accepted at the end of October for the remaining £2019. If you or your group have ideas for a suitable project which would benefit not only your group but also the village community, please submit your application as soon as possible. The Project Review Group will review and prioritise the merits of the submissions.

The Review Group has attempted to make applications and awards as easy and

straightforward as possible. The rules and conditions which govern the process are set out below. First enquiries should be directed to the Chairman of the Project Review Group, John Proctor. Final submissions should be sent by the end of October. (jrproctor@talktalk.net).

Rules and Conditions for the application and award of grants.

- The applicant shall give brief details of the project and how it will benefit the group and the development of the village and residents,
- Projects awarded a grant must be completed within one year,
- The validity of any application must be supported by a bank account and/or Minutes from the group or supporting user group, thus giving confidence that there is sufficient backing for control of the expenditure and delivery of any project,
- If a project fails or comes in under budget all excess money will be returned.



LOTTERY SUCCESS - £9226

FERNWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION has been successful in a bid from THE BIG LOTTERY FUND and has been awarded a grant of £9226 from the AWARDS FOR ALL section.

It is for the provision of a Teenage Shelter and Outdoor Exercise Equipment in Fernwood Village.

A teenage shelter will be erected on the village green approximately 100m from the Village Hall near the existing exercise machines.



A double junior air walker machine will be added to those three machines.

Two other machines, an adult air walker and another double junior air walker will be erected on the green adjacent to Dale Crescent.



This is the second award that Fernwood Residents' Association has secured from

the Big Lottery Fund. We look forward to exploring ideas for further projects to enhance and develop the Village for the benefit of Fernwood Residents.



*John Proctor
(Chairman Fernwood Residents' Association)*



Sign Up now for our accounts and information service. You can view the latest Maintenance updates at your development, receive your Ground Rent and Service Charge invoice by email as well as access financial information and make payments online. For more information please register at 'OM-Online' via www.ompropertymanagement.co.uk

Please note: So that we can make sure your information is secure, we'll post your password to your address.



Customer Services: 08453 370272 (lo-call)* Lines are open Monday-Friday 8am-6pm

Email: customercare@ompropertymanagement.co.uk

OM Property Management, Marlborough House, Wigmore Place,
Wigmore Lane, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU2 9EX

www.ompropertymanagement.co.uk



*The 08453 number allows customers calling from BT land lines to have their call charged at a 'lo-call' rate wherever they are in the country. As mobile and other providers' charges may vary, you can call our Customer Services team on 01582 401818.



The Balderton Branch of RAFA is a new venture in this area and at present is mid-way through its fourth year.

It is often very hard for ex serving personnel to settle down to civilian life. RAFA is there to offer comradeship and support to those who we feel are in need of assistance with social and health problems, both to serving and ex serving members, be they male or female.

By Royal Charter the RAFA is a charitable organisation and supports all ex RAF personnel. At the present time it has 60,000 members in over 500 branches in various parts of the world. We operate several care homes and respite holiday get-away facilities for serving and ex serving members and their families.

Together with a full welfare system our aim is to help look after all our RAFA Family to the best of our abilities. You too could take part in this worthwhile cause.

Our catchment area in general is Balderton, Fernwood, Claypole, Long Bennington and villages around to Coddington. Personnel from other areas are also welcome to join us. Other ex services and civilians are welcome to join us as Associate Members. Adults or those holding rank in the Cadet Force are also eligible to join.

Young persons over the age of 16 who are members of the Cadet Force are now welcome to become Junior Members.

The Branch has fully elected Officers and

Committee. Our President, Mr Chris Gilroy, is a resident of Fernwood. Our Chairman, Mr Mick Scatcherd, and Treasurer, Mr John MacGillivray, are residents of Balderton and our Secretary, Mr Derek Rigby lives in Coddington.

Branch meetings, which are open to all members and prospective members, are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the St Giles Church Hall (opposite Tescos in Main St).

Our Tent/Gazebo will be appearing at various venues around our area - drop in and visit us to find out what we do and how we do it

To join or find out more about the work of RAFA please contact our Chairman, Mick Scatcherd, on 01636 678810 or Secretary, Derek Rigby on 01636 676306.

Our Patron is Her Majesty the Queen

Holy Communion at St Giles, Balderton

On the first Thursday of each month there is a service of Holy Communion at 9.45 am which is dedicated to all who serve in the armed forces.

At this service the prayers are for serving personnel and their families.

After the service, there is an opportunity to get to know everyone over a cup of tea or coffee.

Fernwood Petanque Club by Elaine Dickinson

Fernwood Petanque Club was started in June 2012 and has grown to 25 members. We are a very sociable group of people who look forward to our games each week.

Our first sessions were on grass but after some welcome donations from various companies, members and Fernwood Parish Council, we were able to purchase our own petanque terrain. This was officially opened on 5th June 2013 by Cllr Sue Saddington and Cllr James Weale, Chairman of the Parish Council.

We play three times a week:

Wednesday (Boccia) from 11.30 to 1.00 in the village hall.

Friday (Boules), outside on the terrain from 11.30 to 1.30

Sunday (Petanque) from 2.00 to 4.00 also on the outside terrain.

Friday Boules is our social event and each member brings a contribution to the food - either a savoury or sweet dish - and this has proved extremely popular.

We enjoy meeting with other clubs and have had visits from Mansfield Pentanque Club and Nottingham Pentanque Club (Brian Forbes). Both of these visits were extremely interesting and we all picked up lots of helpful tips and advice. Some of our members played in a Melee at the Bluebell Pub in Retford in September.

We are delighted to have recently received a grant of £750 from Newark & Sherwood District Council for competition equipment. A further £1,200 has been received from Fernwood Development Fund to enable us to site two benches around the terrain which will be much appreciated by the users. A further bench has been kindly donated by Cllr Sue Saddington and the official presentation will take place on Friday 4th October.

If you are interested in joining us, or have any queries, please contact me on 01636 640350 or John Proctor 01636 673736, or just turn up at any of the sessions.

IN MEMORIAM

Chris Gilroy

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Chris Gilroy at the end of September.

Chris moved, with his wife, to Fernwood in 2007. He always took a great interest in the growth and development of the community. He was President of the Balderton Branch of the Royal Air Force Association and had been a Parish Councillor in the early days of the Council.

Chris spent 18 years as a navigator in the RAF, retiring as a Squadron Leader. He was with BAE Systems for 25 years. Chris worked on various aircraft projects in Surrey and Lancashire, but ended his working life in Munich as Head of Airworthiness and Safety for a major international project.

Chris had been battling Cancer for a long time but had remained cheerful throughout. He will be greatly missed by many people.

We offer our condolences to his wife and family.

Useful Contacts

Local Police: Tel 101

Emergencies: Tel 999

Fernwood Village Hall:
Tel 613024

Doctors:
Balderton Primary
Care Centre: Tel 705826
Newark Hospital: Tel 681681
Newark & Sherwood
District Council: Tel 650000

Fernwood Parish Council:
clerk@fernwood-pc.co.uk

Maintenance Issues

For any maintenance issues regarding charges, payments etc contact:

John Jeys
OM site office
at the rear
of 112 Goldstraw Lane

He is now linked to the main computer at OM and should be able to answer any of your questions.

OM Property Management:
omfernwood@fsmail.net
Mob: 07738 738910

Fernwood Residents' Association Website:

www.fernwoodra.com
Email: jrproctor@talktalk.net



APATHY by Cllr Barson

ON 3rd SEPTEMBER, I attended a meeting of roughly 100 or so residents, the majority of whom were fed up of the charges and increases levied by OM Peverel.

I offered to take the email addresses of all attendees, not only to provide a forum to construct correspondence with OM, but also to make an application to the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal (LVT) to get the increases halted.

Of the 100 or so residents, six put their information down. To say that I was disappointed and disheartened would be an understatement.

Six people out of the 2000 or so adults who live in Fernwood will be considered by the LVT as less than 1% moaning about the increase – this will not get the response we need.

The application to the tribunal will cost £50. We are going to ask the Parish Council to fund this initiative on behalf of all residents.

I urge everyone to provide a name and email address to

antony.barson@talktalk.net

in order that we can at least get the ball rolling.

Apathy will not work and no longer is this the time to leave it to others or hope it goes away – it won't. OM have proved they can do what they like and unless we make a stand, the likelihood is that charges will rise and rise.

Please, don't just stand by and let them demand what they like.

Join us in making a stand.

To help you get to know your Parish Councillors we are including here - and in the forthcoming issues - a few 'potted histories'. You can, of course, see this information on the Parish Council website, www.fernwood-pc.co.uk, but we appreciate that not everyone has access to the internet.

All your councillors are residents of Fernwood and freely offer their time to serve you. Without exception they all care deeply about Fernwood and in building a community. If you see any councillors around the village, do stop and speak and get to know them.

You are always welcome to attend the Council Meetings - in fact, if there is something you are keen to hear, or say, it is essential for you to attend. There is always space allotted for you to have your say. The meetings are held in the Village Hall, generally on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm.



Jim Weale

I am 68 years old and retired from full-time paid work. For 30 years I was self-employed in the soft furnishing business. I am married to Mollie, have seven grandchildren and have lived in Fernwood for eight years.

Although I have retired from paid work my various interests mean that I am fully occupied in many other interests and activities, which include sport, amateur

dramatics and anything to do with building a community in Fernwood Village.

As well as being Chairman of the Parish Council I am also Secretary of the Fernwood Football Club and Treasurer of the Over Fifty-Fives Club.

I feel very privileged to be in a position to help and encourage the growth of a community in a new village and put in place the groundwork for the future, making it a place where people want to come and build their lives..



Antony Barson

Currently 32 years old, living in southern part of the village, down by the A1 Slip road and Dale Crescent (old part of village).

I have lived in Fernwood since 2004. I was on the

original Residents' Association and was subsequently elected to the Council at its formation in 2008.

I am the data and communications officer for the council, instrumental in the roll-out of the Infinity Service in Fernwood. I am also on the Village Hall Management Committee, advising the Council and assisting in steering the Hall

into profitability, thus making our already great facility better.

I am employed as a contractor, specialising in data management and IT systems.

Personal bug-bears are much like everyone else's – OM charges, horrendous and inconsiderate parking, anti-social behaviour etc.

My leisure time is spent with my partner of 14 years, Rose and our 2 dogs. I enjoy cycling, cooking meals for friends and getting away in our motorhome.

Always happy to take on issues for residents - just let me know. I will be especially pleased to do anything to pull the community together.



Francine McKay

My name is Francine McKay. I have been a Councillor on Fernwood Parish Council since September 2010.

I work on the Village Hall Management Committee alongside

two other councillors. We guide and support the Clerk in the running of the Fernwood Village Hall. I also organise the Gift/Craft Fairs that take place at the hall.

I love being part of such a thriving community and believe that the only way for it to grow and develop is to donate some time and effort into helping it do so.

I am currently in the process of setting up my own business, as well as being a mummy. I like to spend as much time as I can with my husband and son. Quality family time is extremely important and valuable to me. I enjoy baking, jam making and photography.



Parish Council Report - Cllr J Weale

The Parish Council and Residents' Association, who are at all times working for a better deal for us all, sometimes feel frustrated that they do not seem to be making progress and that there is little or no back up from residents. However, at the last FRA Meeting, which was well attended, the tide of feeling about current issues both with the developers and OM Peverel was considerable.

Both the PC and FRA find it helpful to hear what difficulties individual residents are struggling with so that we can be better informed and able to represent you.

As those who attended the meeting will know, your Parish Council is taking steps to address the fees and services of OM Peverel and are in the process of employing an impartial agency to look into it in order to assess whether or not we are getting a fair deal.

It is extremely important that all residents who feel they have not been fairly treated attend our meetings in order to present a united village on this. You may feel that there is no point in attending as nothing can be done but the more residents get behind this the better.

The Parish Council is

considering a door-to-door campaign in order to reach all residents and get an opinion.

We all know the problems with OM Peverel but there are other problems with the developers:-

- The indifference to our parking and speeding problems.
- Our non-bus service.
- Inadequate space for parking.
- Lack of lighting in existing parking areas.
- Drainage etc.

If we do not put our objections forward now, any other new developments will carry the same problems.

Fernwood Over Fifty-Fives (FOFFS)



The membership of Fernwood Over 55s Group seems to grow week by week but new members are always welcome. We meet on the 1st Thursday of the month from 11.00am - 1.00 pm in the village hall and on the 4th Thursday of the month we try to arrange an outing - depending on the time of year and weather.

Our activities range from cards/games/picnics to lunches out and full outings by coach. Twenty of our members have just returned from a week in Weymouth which was extremely enjoyable and we have photos to prove it ("old codgers" on the dance floor strutting their stuff) and we are already booking next year's trip to Warners in Norfolk.

We shall also be arranging our Xmas Dinner and Xmas Party in the next few weeks. Time flies doesn't it!

LANCASTER GRANGE OPENS!

LANCASTER GRANGE, a 60-bed care home in Fernwood was officially opened recently by three local heroes. Situated on



Members of the local RAFA Balderton opened proceedings by marching in their Standard in spite of the weather!

the edge of Newark, and built on the old airfield, the children of Claypole Primary School named the care home in honour of the brave airmen who flew Lancaster Bombers from Newark in the Second World War.

The three local heroes nominated to take part in the special day were: Jim Weale, Chairman of Fernwood Parish Council, who opened our information suite earlier in the year and has become a strong advocate of the home in the local area over the last few months. Jim unveiled the plaque and presented a painting to the home from local artist Ron Freeman.

Howard Keeling, Secretary to

the Trustees of the Newark Air Museum, is a local historian with strong links in the local community and he kindly planted a memorial tree in the grounds of the home for residents to enjoy for years to come.

Sue Lowe was the winner of Newark and Sherwood District Council's Citizen of the Year Competition in 2012 in the Over 60s category for her local community work. Sue is involved with the Barnbygate Strollers and leads some of their walks. Sue cut our impressive celebratory Lancaster Bomber themed cake.

Tutor Steve Pask along with several of his students from Newark College also joined guests at the event as they designed and produced the Lancaster Bomber inspired weather vane that you may well have spotted as you drive past! The links with Newark College will be strengthened with the home over the coming months.

With our Open Weekend following the VIP opening event on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd September and with stalls, entertainment and



Howard Heeley of Newark Air Museum and a local Historian tree planting with Manager Caren and Mike Parsons founder of

refreshments for all the family, a flypast by two Spitfire aircraft was a perfect climax to a busy week.

Caren Billingsley, General Manager at the home, said: "What a fantastic week! We are lucky to have such a supportive community ready to engage with us with a whole host of future events in the planning stage. It has been very special to share these days with residents and their families, too. There is plenty more excitement to be had and our flypast to mark the home's opening on Saturday was an emotive experience for many of us."

FADS

"CINDERELLA"

Friday 10th January

Saturday Matinee 11th

January

Saturday Evening 11th January

Tickets will be on sale from November.

This is our most ambitious production to date and we shall be adding some Young People from Fernwood to the cast, with a view to making this a Fernwood Community Pantomime.

We are also in rehearsals for two Murder Mysteries and a concert at the moment but always need more members, so if anyone wishes to join a busy drama group please get in touch on 647116.



Service Times at our local churches

St Giles Balderton (Main Street)

Sundays

8.00 am Holy Communion
(1st Sunday and Greater
Festivals)

9.30 am Parish Eucharist *

6.00 pm Evensong

Thursdays

9.45 am Holy Communion

*On the first Thursday of the month
the Holy Communion is dedicated
to those serving in the armed
forces.*

**In August, September and
October, on the first Sunday of the
month, the morning service at
9.30 am will be an All Age Service
without Eucharist.*

*For those who want Eucharist, or
Holy Communion, there will be the
8.00 am service at Balderton and
11.00 am at All Saints, Barnby in
the Willows.*

*For more information about
St Giles you might want to
subscribe to the Parish News, a
monthly publication which costs
only 50p. Contact the editor of
Parish News,
lorna.c.coleman@gmail.com*

Balderton Methodist (Main Street)

Sundays

10.30 am Morning Service

Mondays

9.30-11.30 am Coffee Morning

Holy Trinity RC (Boundary Road)

Mass times:

7.00 pm Saturday Vigil

10.00 am Sunday

6.00 pm Sunday

Salvation Army (Lowfield Lane)

Sundays

10.30 am Morning Service

10.00 am Coffee & Biscuits served
before the service

Lively Open Meeting on 3 September

A LIVELY MEETING TOOK PLACE in the Village Hall, attended by almost 100 residents and invited guests.

The discussion points covered were far ranging and excited a considerable amount of interest.

Education

Bob Hattersley, Head of Chuter Ede, advised that it is likely, based on the applications for places at Fernwood, that the proposed full seven-classroom school would eventually be developed. Further, that the school had achieved an 'Outstanding' rating from OFSTED, which announcement was acknowledged by well-deserved applause from residents.

Apply early for school places

Some concerns were expressed that Fernwood schoolchildren had not always been prioritised for placement at the school. Assurance was given that every effort would be made to accommodate our children within Fernwood, and parents were advised to make very early applications for school places. The entry programme for 4-5 year olds, effective September 2014, is being considered this November.

Future village development

Robert Galij of David Wilson Homes advised that 110 dwellings still need to be completed and sold prior to the developers leaving the village. Best estimates suggest that this would happen within the next two years.

In the interim, the road systems would not be adopted by Highways Department until at least September next year because of ongoing negotiations with the existing land owners.

This note was greeted with dismay, since early adoption of the road systems would have allowed long overdue controls to counter irresponsible parking and speeding.

Greater Fernwood Development

It is envisaged that greater Fernwood development – a total build of some 3200 homes under the Core Strategy initiative - will commence no later than July 2015 (and perhaps as early as January of that year).

David Wilson Homes had made an initial application to build around 1000 homes to the north of the village as part of this expansion. No firm ideas were volunteered as to what other building group would be employed to construct the remainder. Naturally, and bearing in mind the problems experienced to date, residents raised some serious concerns regarding the planning processes. Among the concerns raised was the provision of an extra school; access to

the new-build, possibly via the existing road systems within Fernwood; the idea of providing another access road directly into the new-build area; the controls to be exercised over construction traffic to minimise inconvenience.

Unfortunately, the developers have been unable to provide any assurances at this point regarding these and other planning issues and it was recommended by County Councillor Sue Saddington that the Residents' Association and the Parish Council should organise a special meeting at which all of these problems could be discussed as and when the formal outline development plans are made available.

Lottery funding

John Proctor advised that there had been a successful bid from the Lottery Fund to build a youth shelter and for additional trim trail equipment. Questions were raised regarding the necessity for a shelter and it was determined that this is what the youngsters had requested in preference to any other facility.

Village upkeep

John Proctor advised that regular 'walkabouts' take place to monitor the effectiveness of the maintenance work undertaken. A joint report is produced by the Residents' Association and the Parish Council for implementation by OM and the developers (as necessary).

Maintenance charges

Criticism was received from residents concerning the latest Legal Notices regarding the adjustments required to allow for the increased communal 'green' areas to be maintained by OM. (The adjustments appear to be as a result of the build programme being less than expected). The possibility of deferring payment of charges will be considered by OM pending further investigations.

Discussions escalated to an extent which clearly underlined a high degree of dissatisfaction. Some of the concerns expressed were in respect of the level of manpower employed; whether the contractual processes between OM and the developers were subject to regular standard competitive tendering; whether a discount should be afforded by the District Council since Fernwood was naturally accessible by other communities.

Jim Gould, on behalf of the Parish Council, confirmed that an independent firm of chartered surveyors has been briefed to prepare a report to evaluate the effectiveness of the service received and to express an opinion on the value for money aspects of the charges made by OM.

.....Continued on page 7

Save the Date

Tuesday

10 December

Fernwood Carols

with Mince Pies and Mulled Wine



.....Continued from page 6

As soon as this report has been received another open meeting will be organised specifically to address the concerns of residents regarding their contracts with OM.

Council taxes

Overwhelming opinion was expressed that the public services received represented poor value for the cost thereof. This is the subject of an ongoing debate at the development meetings between all stakeholders to the village.

Media

Residents were encouraged to continue to submit editorial for the Fanfare – indeed this also applies for any modifications to the Residents' Association website - www.fernwoodra.com.

Village Groups

Mention was made of all the active groups operating within the village, demonstrating how much they contribute to the community spirit. Residents are encouraged to volunteer their time/service to build upon this success. Enquiries can be made to the Secretary of the Residents' Association, Mr Jim Gould.

Complaints were made concerning the Sports Association, specifically the football teams because of the uncontrolled parking. At a recent junior football tournament, youngsters were seen urinating against one resident's garden fence. Assurance was given that this would be addressed at the forthcoming meeting of the Association.

Full Minutes of the meeting can be obtained from the Secretary.

Malling Health Balderton Practice

Jenny Balls, the new Advanced Nurse Practitioner at Balderton Surgery writes:

"As you may have gathered there have been lots of changes over recent months within the practice and I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you a bit about what's been happening and some of the plans for the future.

We have two new GPs, Dr Peter Hubka and Dr Martin Attrup, and with our existing staff, Dr Val, Wendy the Practice Nurse, Ebere our Healthcare Assistant and myself, we now have a full quota of clinical staff. We have also had a change in management and we welcome our new Business Manager, Diane Hall, at the end of September. We feel that this change is going to mean great things for the surgery.

We have changed some of our appointments to be able to offer more early morning and late evening clinics and we have more pre-bookable appointments than ever before. You can book appointments online and we are just about to launch a new online service to order your repeat prescriptions.

Over the next few months, we will be introducing a new texting service to invite you to attend your various reviews and to let you know about new services that you may be interested in.

We should be grateful if you would ensure that the surgery has an up-to-date contact number for you.

For further updates, and for my articles in the Fernwood Fanfare which will hopefully keep you informed of any new changes, please keep an eye on our website www.mhbalderton.co.uk.

I am confident that services at Balderton Surgery are going to develop significantly for the better over the next few months and would welcome feedback as to how you, as patients, feel about the changes or any ideas which you think may help us develop further.

Flu vaccinations are now open and if you are eligible call and book into one of Wendy's flu clinics." Check your eligibility on www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/who-should-have-flu-vaccine.aspx

Money Matters

The SECOND of a series of 4 workshops on
Managing Stress in a Modern Environment

Led by The Revd I Lambert
Associate Priest at the Parish Church of St Giles. Balderton

Sunday 13 October

From 4.30 pm – 5.30 pm

In Fernwood Village Hall
Tea/Coffee and Cakes



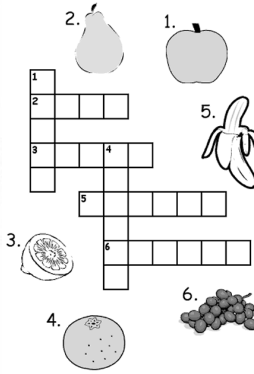


Bonfire Night Picture to Colour



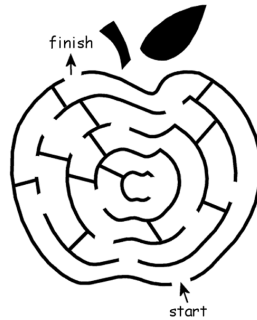
FRUIT CROSSWORD

Look at the picture clues and complete the crossword.



APPLE MAZE FUN

Find your way through the apple maze.



What to look for in Autumn

Visit a beech wood – in America Autumn is called 'Fall' – the time when trees turn amazing colours and then shed their leaves. Any woodland in late autumn will have trees showing autumn colours but beech woodland can be especially spectacular with leaves turning yellow, gold and orange before they fall. Magic! (You can find Beech Trees in Clumber Park and Sherwood Country Park, Ollerton)

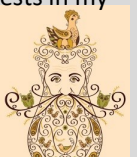
Visit a deer rut – Visit a deer park. This is the time of year when stags and bucks develop antlers and fight rival males to attract a harem of females. Red deer are our largest land mammal and the stags have the most spectacular antlers of any British species. Deer, of several species, are surprisingly widespread and at this time of year you may hear the barking of muntjac and roe deer or the roaring of red deer at night. You do, however, need to take great care as during the rutting season stags can get very aggressive.

Spiders' webs – on cold autumn mornings you suddenly realise how many spiders there are. Take an early morning walk and spot spiders' webs outlined in dew on hedgerows, in meadows even on house windows and car wing mirrors. Spider silk is truly amazing – see if you can find a spider actually making a web and watch carefully how it's constructed.



There was an Old Man with a beard,
Who said, "It is just as I feared!
Two Owls and a Hen,
four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard."

From *A Book of Nonsense*
by Edward Lear



Birds in My Beard by Rachael Nieto

Q: What do you call a fake noodle?
A: An Impasta

Q: What do you call an alligator in a vest?
A: An Investigator

Q: "What's the difference between a guitar and a fish?"
A: "You can't tuna fish."

Q: Why did the picture go to jail?
A: Because it was framed.

Fernwood Baby and Toddler Group

FERNWOOD BABY & TODDLER Group is a small, friendly group of parents, grandparents and carers who meet every Monday morning 10:00-11:30 at Fernwood Village Hall. We offer a fun, safe environment for children to play, while grown-ups get a chance to recharge their batteries and meet new people.

Formed six years ago by a group of mums with little more than a jar of coffee and a duvet to sit on, we now run a range of activities throughout the year (including school holidays) which include games, crafts and singing as well as offering

drinks and snacks for all ages. We have also had great success when putting on Sports Days, Halloween parties and of course our annual visit from Santa at Christmas time. We also have lots going on the rest of the week with trips to soft play, animal farms and theme parks planned all year round.

Additionally, we also have a busy social calendar for the grown-ups with past events including Christmas shopping trips to London, Bistro Live nights and fundraising activities with planning already in the pipeline for a spa morning and



Christmas drinks and nibbles later on in the year.

So, if you are looking for somewhere to bring your little ones on a Monday morning to have fun and meet new friends come along and join us!

See Diary on Page 2 for upcoming events.

