



Open Day- Guide Dogs Breeding Centre Saturday 17 June 2017

Guide Dogs National Breeding Centre is holding it's annual Open Day on Saturday 17 June from 11am- 4pm (last entry 3pm). This is a fun-packed day for the whole family and is an opportunity for the Centre to throw open it's doors to the public. There a chance to meet breeding and working dogs along with family games and food. Come and see the amazing work the centre does and join in the fun! There will be blindfold activities, sensory tunnel experience, puppy viewing, dog training demonstration, children's activities, gift shop, hog roast, cream teas and cakes. Free parking and free entry.

The Centre relies on the generous support of the public in order to keep its service going as it does not receive any government funding. It is hoping for record numbers at the event this June. The money raised from the event will help change the lives of people living with sight loss.

The Guide Dogs National Breeding Centre is based at Banbury Road, Bishop's Tachbrook, Warwick, CV33 9QJ. Please note pet dogs are not allowed. For more information contact Liz Hinckley on 0345 1430216

Senior Citizens Action Network (SCAN)

Engaging in social activities and feeling part of a community is vital to a sense of wellbeing and important as people age. Stratford SCAN group offers the chance for older people to come together socially whilst also providing information on local support services. The Alcester branch meets bimonthly at Alcester War Memorial Town Hall on Thursday mornings from 10.30am- 12 noon starting with a cuppa at 10am. This group is run by local people with support from Stratford District Council. A wide range of topics is covered over the course of the year and the group discuss and campaign on local issues of importance to them. Dates for the remainder of 2017 are as follows: 11 May, 13 July, 14 September and 9 November. New members over 55 are welcome. For more information contact Marie Darwen on 01789 260108

Great Alne Parish Councillors:

- Lynn Bowring (Chairman) – The Old Cottage, Henley Road, Great Alne, B49 6HR
- Paul Clark – 66 School Road, Great Alne, B49 6HQ
- Ian Millard – West Meadow Barn, Manor Court, Henley Road, Great Alne, B49 6HR
- Louise Bennett: 6 Nightingale Close, Great Alne, B49 6PE
- Marie Holding: 10 Nightingale Close, Great Alne, B49 6PE

Sarah Duran (Clerk) – 2 Flax Close, Alcester, B49 5DQ Tel no: 07833 790375

Any thoughts on the newsletter? Please let us know!

BITS & BOBS

Here are a few snippets that may be of interest to you!

➤ Fix my Street

This is a great service for reporting problems in the local area, particularly during out of office hours. Once registered with 'My WCC' residents can report online local faults or defects such as pot-holes and bridge defects and attach a photograph of the fault to help in assessing the problem. Other residents are also able to see if a fault has already been reported and subsequent progress. To use the online form for defect reporting please visit warwickshire.fixmystreet.com Or call WCC on **01926 410410** Mon-Fri 8am-6.30pm or Sat 9am-1pm

➤ Stop unwanted Junk Mail

For details on how to register please visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/junkmail

➤ Environment Agency

Any concerns about damage or danger to the natural environment, pollution to water or land, watercourses blocked by a vehicle or fallen tree causing risk of flooding, unusual changes in river flow, collapsed or badly damaged river banks then please contact the Environment Agency 24hr incident free hotline on **0800 807060**

➤ Dementia Cafes and services

The District Council has produced a leaflet detailing all the dementia cafes, day care and other activity groups which are available across the District for people living with dementia and their carers. Please visit www.stratford.gov.uk/healthcare/dementia-friendly.cfm

Parish Council Meetings 2017

Great Alne Primary School on Mondays

- 8 May (Annual Meeting & Ordinary meeting 6.30pm)
- 10 July
- 11 September
- 13 November

All meetings except the Annual Meeting have a 7pm start

Everyone is welcome!

Draft Minutes are available one month after Parish Council meetings. Please see the website or contact the Clerk for a hard copy

PARISH ASSEMBLY
Saturday 20 May
2017 10.30am-12.30pm
Memorial Hall
See inside for details

Parish Update

- Defibrillator- The Parish Council has been successful in obtaining a grant from the Big Lottery Fund for the purchase of a defibrillator. An Agreement for Sale has been signed for the telephone kiosk on School Road and sent to BT . The purchase price is £1
- Recreation Ground- The tree canopy lift has been completed, goal posts now realigned and the damaged Way marker post has been replaced at the Nightingale Close entrance. The worn matting beneath the Double Bay swing will be replaced in due course
- The Toddler area redesign project has been delayed due to the Sernal Lane planning application being approved later than anticipated. Monies have been allocated within the amended Section 106 Agreement associated with this new development, some of which will be spent on improving the drainage at the play area ahead of any equipment installation
- The Parish Council is still looking for just two more volunteers to assist with the Community Speed Watch initiative. Could you be one of them?!
- Green lane E5998 between Sernal Lane and Coughton Fields Lane- We are still encountering major problems with vehicles gaining access to the adjacent land and spoiling the terrain. The Police and Rural Crime Co-Ordinator are now taking the damage here much more seriously. They are in discussions with Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and Stratford on Avon District Councils (SDC) to achieve a sustainable remedy. The land belongs to WCC
- Another polite reminder- **Dogs are not allowed in the Recreation Ground-** Dog poo has been found during weekly playground inspections- please do not let your dog out unattended near the park. Thank you!

Vehicles and anti-social behaviour

The police have wide ranging powers to deal with people who use their vehicles in an anti-social manner. Apart from prosecuting offenders for motoring offences that could lead to being disqualified from driving, the police can also rely on a power to seize motor vehicles using Section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2002. The keeper of the vehicle will be liable to recovery/ storage costs when they eventually get the vehicle back. Section 59 also covers any such use of a motor vehicle off-road, such as common land, moorland, bridle paths, footpaths, tracks and fields. An official complaint does not even have to be received by the police for them to enforce the law.

What is 'off-road'? - Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 makes it an offence to drive any vehicle on 'any common land, moorland or land of any other description, not being land forming part of a road, or any road being a footpath, bridle way or restricted byway' apart from some exceptions such as saving a life! If a vehicle is used in this way, the police can seize it immediately or they may serve a notice to the owner and driver/rider. The notice warns all concerned that if the vehicle is used again in that way by anyone, on that occasion, it will be seized. It also warns the offending driver that if they drive or ride in the same way during the next year, the vehicle they are using may be seized - whoever it belongs to.

How to stay on the right side of the law - It's easy - just use your vehicle responsibly. Keep your driving safe at all times and don't bow to peer pressure and be tempted to mess about in the vehicle when driving or in car parks. Section 59 was written in law to stop anti-social use of motor vehicles. Effectively the law is there to stop inappropriate use of vehicles that annoy the public or place people at risk. It also stops offenders who disrupt the quality of life of others at homes nearby or when conducting their leisure activities (such as horse riding or rambling).

Can we help?

Please complete and return this form to Sarah Duran, Clerk to Great Alne Parish Council, 2 Flax Close, Alcester, B49 5DQ

Do you have any comments or suggestions about the state of the footpaths, overhanging trees or pavements for example?

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Thank you.

