

Woodstown Village Residents Association Newsletter

Summer 2016



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Go



Woodstown Residents Association Committee

Chairperson: Brian Good
Vice Chairperson: Olga Gibbs
Treasurer: Orla Dunne
Asst. Treasurer: Eamon Power
Secretary: Gillian Treacey

Tidy Towns Co-ordinator: Gabriel Curtis
Committee: Kevin Almond, Stephen Costello,
Gary Deegan, Nysha Griffin, Keith Kelliher,
May Lynott, Tony McGaley, John O'Doherty,
Rosemary O'Hagan

Inside this issue

What's been happening on your doorstep?
What's planned for Summer?
For Kids, by Kids

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Easter Commemoration 2016

They say you can't predict the weather, but best to assume the worst and then it can only get better. No such dilemma with our 1916 Commemoration Event, which was held on Saturday March 19th amid mostly excellent weather.

Everyone assembled in Knocklyon Park, shortly before midday, to watch the parade begin. The Tallaght Youth Band was joined by Knocklyon United Football Club, Clane Scouts, the Boys Brigade and Dublin City BMX, followed eagerly by local residents and neighbours from the Daletree & Oakdale Residents Associations. SDCC Mayor Sarah Holland gave an excellent speech, followed by the Woodstown Residents Association Chairperson Brian Good, who read the Proclamation.

Brenda O'Riordan, from Woodstown Drive, played the harp beautifully throughout the ceremony and singer Barbara Galvin-Sheridan, from Woodstown Abbey, brought a touch of nostalgia with her wonderful song choices. Members of the Junior Committee then spoke briefly, to inform the attendant crowd, about the lives of the seven signatories of the Proclamation.

A very special thanks go to the following people who helped to make the day so special:

Chairperson Brian Good, SDCC, Mayor Sarah Holland, Clane Scouts, Dublin City BMX, The Boys Brigade, Daletree Residents Association, Oakdale Residents Association, St. John's Ambulance Knocklyon Division, Harpist Brenda O'Riordan - Woodstown Drive, Knocklyon United FC, The Junior Committee, Tallaght Youth Band, Right Price Furniture, TDs John Lahart, Sean Crowe, Colm Brophy, Councillor Deirdre O'Donovan, Pamela Kearns



A Moment in Time

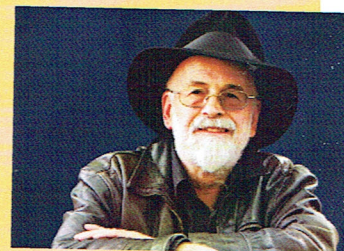
Our Time Capsule certainly caught the imagination of many, with 400 little packages of history buried on the same day. We are in the process of organising the inscription of the stone. A big thank you to everyone who helped to deliver and collect questionnaires over the past number of weeks and to South Dublin County Council for burying the capsule! We are now looking for volunteers to dig it up in 2066!

"Stories of imagination tend to upset those without one."

- Terry Pratchett

South Dublin County Council Mobile Library

Woodstown Park
every Monday 7pm - 8pm

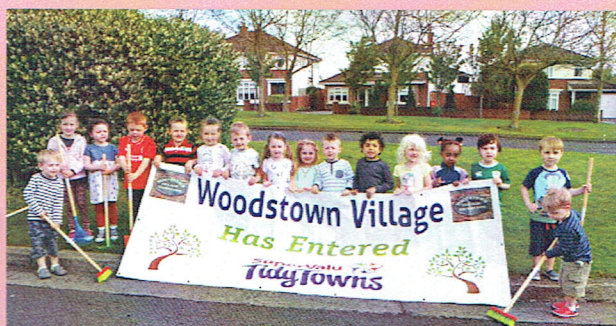


Tidy Towns 2016 GOES LIVE!

In May Woodstown Village officially entered SuperValu Tidy Towns Competition 2016!

Right from the start, the primary focus of Tidy Towns, was to encourage communities to improve their local environment and make their area a better place to live, work and visit. In May of this year Woodstown Village entered the competition for the third year running and although we didn't win last time around, we were awarded a respectable 229 points (out of a possible 450) and in doing so, we improved our 2014 result by 20 points. Let's give it our best shot this year!

To improve our chances, we are implementing one of our other priorities for 2016, as we plan to be more proactive with our Recycling activities. To help us this year we teamed up with a company called Recycled It. Recycle IT provide FREE Community Electrical Recycling for Residents Associations and local community groups. We have already begun, as 100 households took part in May and we hope to continue this throughout the estate in the coming months. Keep an eye on our Facebook / Website page or ask your road representative for more information. It's worth remembering that the emphasis has and always will be on participating rather than winning, as the very act of taking part brings benefits to Woodstown Village and all residents and with a focus on long-term results, rather than quick returns, we all benefit from the time and effort that everyone puts into it. A big thank you to everyone who has (and will!) champion this initiative. If we all play our part, it really doesn't require a lot of work.



Biodiversity Update

Report by Tony McGaley - May 28th.

OK we've listed all the Birds, and 33 species are, I imagine, above average for any estate. Would you believe, some people who have been feeding birds for years didn't attract a Goldfinch this year, while Woodstown has had more than 100! Thanks to all who helped compile the list and sent me their sightings.



For June and July, we will concentrate on Butterflies, Bees, Hoverflies and Ladybirds. In the last newsletter, we had the heading "Who's living in YOUR Back Garden?". Well, if we concentrate on just the four above, we can also include any you see as you ramble around the Estate, walking your dog or taking your children or grandchildren for a stroll. Why not start now? Keep in touch on our Woodstown Village Wildlife Facebook page and add your sightings. There are numerous aids to identification of each species on the internet, many in PDF format, on the Biodiversity.ie webpage, which you can import to your mobile devices, for easy reference. Biodiversity.ie also has a free app, for your phone, to record what you see and can be set to record the exact location of your sighting.

By the time you read this (I'm writing this 28th May) our Painted Lady Project will be almost complete. Two young residents will release ten Painted Lady Butterflies that they bred from a Butterfly Kit. What we would like people to do, is record any sightings of this Butterfly in your garden, how many, and what flowers attract them. Another five are being bred and will be released at a later date.

Some residents have enquired as to how to source these kits. They can be ordered online from CJ Wildlife at www.birdfood.ie and the whole process takes about 6 weeks, from the time you place your order. If you do order one, let us know, for counting purposes. While books list only wild flowers as food sources, I am very curious to find out what other flowers or plants they might enjoy, from the vast collection of non-native plants we have in our gardens. Wild flowers listed include Stinging Nettle, Artichoke, Thistle, Buddleia, Common Knapweed, Devil's Bit Scabious, and Red Clover. Of these, we have an abundance of Nettles and Red Clover in Knocklyon Park. Butterflies don't drink water, they prefer to suck the minerals from wet mud, so an old saucer or similar with some mud constantly kept wet will keep them happy. When the weather gets very hot, nectar in most flowers hardens and cannot be digested by Butterflies, although Bees and Hoverflies have no problem. Therefore, to keep Butterflies happy, spray your flower heads every now and then with water to soften up the nectar. Finally, Butterflies can move fairly fast, and don't always pose for easy recognition, so get a butterfly net and go hunting.

City of blinding lights

(apologies to U2) South Dublin County Council is in the process of replacing the bulbs in our street lighting. Work is currently under way and has also meant the removal of 15 trees and the pruning of many more. The aim is to increase the level of street lighting and in doing so, should make our roads safer at night. If you have any queries or require additional information, please contact South Dublin County Council.

Important Update for Dog Owners

There is no Poop Fairy!

Thank you to the many of responsible pet owners who understand the importance of cleaning up after their dog. For the irresponsible ones... a simple request, if your dog poops, clean it up.



Parking Considerations

During our recent "Slow Down" Campaign, Gardai highlighted double parking within Woodstown Village, as potentially hazardous. On certain roads (Close, Drive, Green, Heights and Vale), access by emergency vehicles could be seriously hampered. Please be mindful of this when parking and do what you can to ensure that you are not restricting access.

A Splash of Colour...

If you are thinking of giving the exterior of your home a lick of paint in the coming months, but are unsure if you can match the original colour, worry no more! Expert Hardware, using Fleetwood Paints, have developed a paint colour called Woodstown Original. Now available and can be made up on request.

Annual Subscriptions

Just a small reminder that the annual subscription for 2016 is €35. Thank you to those who have already paid their subscriptions. Your contribution has helped towards the upkeep of our estate, including the purchase of additional lawnmowers, the servicing of existing machines, as well as the planting of many trees and shrubs. Payment can be made at any time, given to one of the many volunteers who may call to your home or at the annual Residents Day, Christmas and Easter Events.

Date for the Diary...

Please note our annual Residents Day will be held on **Saturday, September 3rd**.
Scruffs Dog Show will be held in the morning (registration between 10 - 10.15am) with judging at 10.30am. The main event will run from 2pm to 6pm.
We look forward to seeing you all there!

BY KIDS, FOR KIDS

(And the 'not so grown up' Grown Ups!)

NASA's challenge...

To go to the moon!

Around fifty years ago, the United States of America and Russia were competing with each other to prove that they were the most powerful country in the world. Space exploration became a key area in which they could show their superiority. Russia beat the United States to put the first man in space, when in 1961 Yuri Gagarin flew into space in his rocket, Vostok 1. Newly elected US President John F Kennedy decided to show America's might by challenging NASA to put a man on the moon in less than ten years. John F Kennedy made at Rice University in 1962, outlining his plans for a manned American mission to the moon.

The first men to walk on the moon

On 20th July 1969, NASA met President Kennedy's challenge, and Neil Armstrong (left) and Buzz Aldrin (right) became the first and second men to walk on the moon.

Michael Collins (centre) waited for them in orbit around the moon, in the command module spacecraft that would take them all home.

When they landed, the first words said on the moon were "the Eagle has landed", and as Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon's surface he said "that's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

They explored the moon's surface for less than three hours, collecting 22 kilograms of rocks for study back on earth. When they returned to earth they were welcomed as celebrities, and international heroes!



Quiz

A Google Free Zone!!

- Which resident of Jellystone Park is 'smarter than the average bear'?
- What is the London home of the UK prime minister?
- What sort of animal is Basil Brush?
- What colour jersey is worn by the leader in the Tour de France?
- Which island country lies off China, Korea and Russia?
- Which train travels to Europe from St. Pancras Station in London?
- What is 75% of 200?
- What is the largest organ in the human body?
- How many years are there in a millennium?
- Who painted the Mona Lisa?

Send your answers by email to woodstownvillage@gmail.com.

All correct entries received by Monday, June 13th will be entered into a draw to win a €25 voucher for Easons!

The winner of our Spring edition quiz was Charles Faure, Woodstown Rise.

JUST FOR FUN!

$$\text{Apple} + \text{Apple} + \text{Apple} = 30$$

$$\text{Apple} + \text{Banana} + \text{Banana} = 18$$

$$\text{Banana} - \text{Coconut} = 2$$

$$\text{Coconut} + \text{Apple} + \text{Banana} = ??$$