

Reports from village organisations

Youth Club

Tony Rice, Youth Club Chairman, gave the following report:

Youth Club meets on a Tuesday evening 7.30 to 9.00. It continues to grow and, having been going for over 30 years, is the longest running Youth Club in the county.

We have over 35 children registered with an average of 20 attending each week. Over the past year, the children have enjoyed a virtual VR trip, local walks, bike rides, orienteering.

Some of the larger pieces of equipment now need to be replaced/repared and some of the available S106 planning gain monies will be used for this together with helping to fund a weekend outwards bounds trip and to put on a show/panto later in the year.

A new starter BBQ will be held in July where all children going into school year 6 are invited to come along to a free taster evening.

Our only challenge is a lack of volunteers to help run the Youth Club. Our constitution states we need male and female youth leaders and we are very short of male youth leaders so please get in touch if you can help. Youth Club is run on a rota basis so it would be a once a month commitment.

Castlethorpe WI

Yvonne Hands, President of Castlethorpe WI, read the following report:

We lost a stalwart of WI, Joyce Markham - committee member, president, vice president and minutes secretary over the years.

A planter of the step of the village hall is our tribute to WI members we have lost recently.

WI was 90 year old recently and we celebrated with joint Christmas/90th birthday celebrations.

We had a talk on garden design tips.

Oliver Sawbridge gave a talk on his life growing up in Castlethorpe and following a family tradition as a blacksmith.

Our main fund raiser was a quiz and curry evening enjoyed by over 100 people. This benefitted Willen Hospice as well as our WI.

BBQ and games night was great fun.

The lovely weather saw an afternoon tea in Trish Cheesley's garden.

A flower arranging demonstration by Jill Chapman resulted in a photograph of us all in the Bucks WI newsletter.

We decorated masquerade masks, a photo of this was put on Facebook and we again ended up with a photo in the Bucks WI newsletter.

2023 so far this year....

One of our members, Jan Bance, lives on a narrow boat and she had many funny stories of her adventures on the waterways.

Easter crafts by Jan Bracey was a fun and messy evening.

Scott Humphries gave a talk on the archaeology of Castlethorpe and we all went home with a memento, artefacts dug up in the village.

We went to church in May where Fr Adam talked about his life and the time he lived and worked in Japan. He showed us several Japanese outfits and his memorabilia of ancient and modern Japan.

With renewed membership after Covid, we continue to thrive.

Update from Dance & Fitness Club

Chris Birchall spoke on behalf of his wife Nicky to report that her Dance and Fitness Club, which is held at 6.00 pm on a Thursday, is a great fun session which is well received by around 12-15 participants per class.

It's a fun way to keep fit and is fantastic for mental health. The music is upbeat and the class draws in members from surrounding villages so it's a great way to have some fun and meet new people.

New members would be made very welcome.