

# WINCHAM WORD



## PARISH PLAN- GRANT FUNDING SUCCESS!

PAUL PSAILA

### A VISION FOR WINCHAM

Great news for Wincham – we were successful in our application for grant funding to create a parish plan. We've secured a total of £3000 to go towards the creation of a formal Parish Plan.

#### What does this mean?

Parish Plans are an initiative to encourage parishes to decide how they would like to develop and improve the facilities available to residents. This is our biggest and best shot to date to push for what we really want for the village. It will cover all aspects of village life.

#### What happens next?

The first step is to gain a full appreciation of what we all want for the village. Back in October when we held our public meeting there were many things that were submitted covering what we like, dislike and want to preserve about Wincham. From this

information the Parish Plan team have created a questionnaire that will be coming out to everyone in the village at some point over the next eight weeks.

We're splitting the questionnaire into seven sections to cover off demographics, environment, planning and development, sport & leisure, transport & highways, policing and safety and communication.

After the questionnaires are collected and the responses analysed there will be a further public meeting where you will be welcome to come and discuss and feedback on the results.

#### Towards the Vision

From the information gathered, we will then go about putting a formal Parish Plan document together that will open up avenues of funding and drive improvement for the village.

It's a really important process that the Parish Council are fully

supporting and when complete will give them the right information to act on our behalf to push what we want for the village forward.

The main condition of the grant is that we have the whole plan process completed by the end of March 2010. There's a lot to do – and as always with these things we're always short of help! We'd welcome any help that you may be able to give along the way whether this is the sharing of ideas, bits of desktop research, dropping off or collecting questionnaires and leaflets or anything else you can think of. If you have any time (we're not asking for lots of commitment - don't worry!) then we'd be happy to hear from you – any age, any amount of time.

If you're interested in supporting the process please email [wincham.ppg@googlemail.com](mailto:wincham.ppg@googlemail.com) or call Paul Psaila on 01565 734141.

## A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Kevin Davies

On 22 April we held both our Annual Assembly and our scheduled Parish Council meeting, which was attended by our new Cheshire West and Chester councillors Malcolm Byram and Norman Wright. You may recall that in the last edition of Wincham Word that we informed you of the proposed traffic light installation at the Black Greyhound junction, well councillor Wright is on the Highways committee and he has assured us that this will happen in December 2009, good news.

The village children are using the new equipment on the Linnards Lane playing field enthusiastically. New football goalposts will be installed shortly on the grassy area. Unfortunately the swings failed their annual inspection by RoSPA and have had to be removed. We are currently looking at ways of replacing them but due to finances being tight this year this may take longer than we would wish.

I'm sure you will all join me in congratulating Wincham's Kim Darwent on completing the Moonwalk on 16 May in the fantastic time of 6 hours 46 minutes.

## WINCHAM'S GOT TALENT!

Tom, Joe and Nicola all graced the amateur stage in Plumley earlier this month in the World Premiere of 'Wish' a new musical written by Harry Kennedy.

The musical was staged by The Other Theatre Company. Tom and Nicola played brother and sister Victor and Lena whilst Joe was in the chorus.



This was Tom's debut in front of a paying audience after being 'spotted' in his starring role as one of the Ugly Sisters in Wincham School's Christmas production of Cinderella.

Joe has appeared in the chorus in a number of the productions by The Other Theatre Company and Nicola has been performing minor roles since her debut in Music Hall in 2005 when she was 9.

Typically The Other Theatre Company perform one play (often by Ayckbourn) and one musical per year.

The company is a member of the Cheshire Theatre Guild and is always on the lookout for new members whether as performers or backstage crew. If anyone is interested in talking to us further please contact Alison on 733751 or Sophia on 01606 46989 or visit the website [www.theothertheatrecompany.co.uk](http://www.theothertheatrecompany.co.uk)

## AND EVEN MORE TALENT!

Ten year old Sam Anderson from Wincham has beaten off a challenge from 65 girls and 4 other boys whose ages ranged from 10—15 to win the North West Royal Academy of Dance scholarship last month.

Sam has been taking ballet lessons with local teacher Wanda Kinder-Smith for 18 months since winning the X-factor competition at Wincham Primary School in 2007. His teacher, Mrs Stringer, told Sam's mum and dad that Sam had



demonstrated a definite flair for dance. Sam has achieved a place as an associate member of the Royal Ballet School and has secured a place to attend summer school with them this year.

Sam hopes to audition for a full time place at the Royal Ballet School at Christmas and if successful he will join the school at White Lodge, Richmond Park, London. The photograph shows Sam with his prize money and certificate.

## PORTRAIT OF A PHOTOGRAPHER - JANE BURKINSHAW

Wincham resident Jane Burkinshaw set up her photography business 'picture-it-big' two years ago having been made redundant from her job in International Marketing. Always a keen photographer as a hobby Jane found that having children Abigail and Sam now aged 8 and 6 respectively meant that she was taking more and more photos and was being creative with the results making calendars and cards. Work colleagues who had seen her flower photography and calendars suggested that she took photography up professionally but Jane had no formal qualifications and so lacked the confidence to do this. However a two year A level photography course at Mid Cheshire college helped to develop her existing talents and enhanced her skill of looking at the world in order to achieve certain photographic objectives.

Armed with her A level and the opportunity afforded by redundancy Jane decide to 'give it a go' for 12 months. She had spotted a gap in the market working with small businesses taking photographs of their products. Also as she was doing portrait photography for friends her reputation as an informal, affordable and approachable photography professional grew.

A major aspect of Jane's business is working with private day nurseries taking informal and unposed photographs of children playing over a number of days. Jane puts together flexible packages for parents so that they don't need to buy a lot of photos they don't really want.

Many private commissions are via word of mouth and Jane works in homes or out on location with families. She has also photographed large family gatherings and puts together a keepsake of all the photos for the principals. Her aim is to make family and portrait photography affordable. A new venture for Jane is running photography courses for beginners and one of these will take place at Willowspool Garden Centre on 16 June.

Jane says that the work is always varied and challenging. One of her latest commissions is for Nunsmere Hall and her work has also featured in recent editions of Cheshire Life. So the team at Wincham Word is delighted that Jane has agreed to photograph Wincham for this and future editions of the newsletter.

Jane's contact details are:

telephone 07962 899686; jane@picture-it-big and her website is [www.picture-it-big.co.uk](http://www.picture-it-big.co.uk).

## CHARITY CYCLE RIDE

CATHERINE GRAHAM

Wincham residents Chris Graham (16) and his father Alex are planning to cycle the 176 mile Cheshire Cycleway to raise funds for a variety of cancer charities.

All money raised will be split between The Christie, Cancer Research UK and 'Chad's Challenges' - a fund raising group at Chris's school that raises money for children's cancer charities in memory of a student, Chad Mulholland, who passed away last August. The

bike ride will take place after Chris's GCSE exams at the



beginning of July.

They have done many sponsored cycle rides in the past for Lepra, but wanted to specifically raise money for cancer charities as two family members and two family friends are currently battling a variety of cancers.

If you would like to make a donation please make cheques payable to AGSB and send to: Chris Graham, 1 The Willows, Wincham, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 6PW. Thank you for your support.

## WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk:  
Alison Dunabin  
69 Linnards Lane  
Wincham  
Phone: 01565 733751  
Email:  
winchampc@btinternet.com

**Chairman**  
**Kevin Davies**  
**O1606 330651**

## WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Jim Bate	01565 733432
Councillor David Couchy	01606 44048
Councillor Clare Dockney	01606 41680
Councillor Heather Holman	01565 733605
Councillor Joan Keelty	01565 733870
Councillor Roy Mainwaring	01606 41560
Councillor Christine Paterson	01565 734450
Councillor Neville Roberts	01606 331864
Councillor Frank Smith	01565 733663

## ARE YOU?

- ✓ A resident of Wincham
- ✓ Enthusiastic
- ✓ Interested in the village environment
- ✓ Keen to make a difference to the place in which you live

If so, you tick all our boxes!

**You** can make a difference by joining the Parish Council.

Please contact Kevin or Alison to find out how!

## REFLECTIONS

Following a suggestion from one of our senior residents it has been decided to include reminiscences of Wincham from times gone by in the October issue of the newsletter in a section to be entitled 'Reflections'.

What was Wincham like in those days? What was it like to live in the village when there were more farms surrounding it? What was the activity on the canal in those days? What was it like to attend the old school? And anything else you think would interest our readers.

Please consider contributing to this fascinating insight into the history of our village.

If you would like to contribute please contact Alison or Councillors Davies or Paterson whose contact details are at the top of this page.

## WINCHAM CP SCHOOL EVENTS

The 2009 Wincham CP School PTA Summer Fayre will take place on Saturday 11 July, running from 1.30pm till 4.30pm at the school. There will be hot food, a bar and over 30 stalls and activities to suit all ages. Arena events are Wincham School Maypole dancing, Debbie Street's Carriage Driving Donkeys, and display teams from Hartford School of Gymnastics and Rudheath Ju-jitsu club. Local band Racket will be performing. Admission will be by Programme and will be £3.00 per family or £1.00 per person.

School 'At Home' 15 July 6 – 8pm in the school.

Open Morning 22 October 9 – 10.30 in school. You are invited to come and look round the school on that day if you would like a reception place for your child in September 2010.

## POLICE MATTERS

Recently there has been an increase in reported incidents of anti-social behaviour on the Linnards Lane playing field. Residents have complained of under-age drinkers on the park and empty alcohol bottles being thrown onto their land.

There has also been an incident where scooters have been witnessed on the playing field. I advise residents to contact the police on the non-emergency number 0845 458 0000 immediately if this occurs and to gather as much detail as possible of the bikes/owners to assist us in identifying the persons responsible. This problem is a familiar one in other areas and unless it is dealt with immediately, the situation is likely to escalate.

As these incidents have been reported, we shall endeavour to patrol the area as regularly as possible. However we do rely on local residents to keep us informed of any incidents.

## FUNNY RED NOSES

By Ben and Jake Paterson and Jacob Snelson

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March to support Red Nose day everyone at Wincham School wore Red to do something funny for money. We are very lucky to have a good school and get lots of opportunities which is why we always try to help other people when we can, especially if we don't have to wear school uniform!

After school we wanted to try and raise some more money. We thought about washing cars but Mum said we would make more dirt than we cleaned off! So we decided to do a quiz.

We made up 5 different questions and checked our answers on Google. Our idea was to charge 50p to do the quiz and if you got at least 3 questions correct you would win £1. We went round our neighbours in Beechwood, Ashgate, Willows and Woodlands and raised £14 to send to Comic Relief. Thank you to everyone who donated money. Nobody won so we must have picked good questions!