



Wixams News

Neighbourhood
Watch

November 2016

Published by Wixams Neighbourhood Watch, part of Bedford & District NW Association

Caring for the community - Without Prejudice

NOT EVERYONE IS
AS NICE AS YOU...

View
this
important
booklet
online

The 12 Online Frauds of Christmas

[www.bedfordshire.police.uk/pdf/
online_fraud_xmas.pdf](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/pdf/online_fraud_xmas.pdf)

1. Online shopping
2. Auction sites and auction fraud
3. Email links and attachments
4. Holiday fraud
5. Electronic 'E-Cards'
6. Social networking specials
7. Donating to charity online
8. Making payments for presents online
9. Transferring money
10. Voucher fraud
11. Ticketing fraud
12. Mobile payments

Source: www.bedfordshire.police.uk

Using the car

- Park in a busy and well-lit area.
- Leave personal and valuable items at home. If you must have them in the car, store them in the boot before you leave.



Do not leave ANYTHING on show

- Don't store your bought goods in the car and then return to the shops for more - you don't know who may be watching in the car park.

Protecting your home while you're out

- Use timer switches to operate lights and radios tuned to a talk radio station in the house when you are out.
- If you go on holiday, ask a neighbour or friend to pick up your post - they can also park their car on your drive
- After Christmas, dispose of boxes and packaging carefully - don't leave them on the roadside or on the top of the wheelie bin.

Unexpected callers

- Watch out for Bogus Callers: pretending to be from a utilities company (water, gas, electricity, phone, even police).

Bogus emails

- Watch out for bogus emails asking you to type in a password or update your details!

Wixams Parish Council

Wixams Academy



Paul Spyropoulos,
Principal Designate
of Wixams Academy
attended our October
Parish Council meeting

to report on progress with the opening of the new school and to answer questions. His report can be downloaded from our website.

Trees

Unfortunately, trees around the village are struggling to thrive possibly due to unsuitable soil conditions. The Parish Council are trying to determine which trees need urgent attention or, in some cases, removal and replacing. If you know of a tree that is dead or dying, please contact either our Clerk or our Borough Councillor Graeme Coombes with further details.

One resident contacted the Parish Council to say that "The problem seems to be that because of the heavy clay soil, much of it compacted following the building work, the planted saplings take longer for the roots to get established. Each summer we enjoy periods of low rainfall and it is during these periods that the young trees struggle and die due to a lack of available water.



This year I watered two of these young trees during the dry spell in late summer. If there had been no rain for a two week period I watered with two watering cans per tree, pouring the water down the plastic pipes to the roots. I did this again at fortnightly intervals when there was no rain. Both these trees are fine and this watering took no longer than 1 hour across the whole summer. I will do the same next summer and from then on the tree roots should be established to cope on their own and the trees will thrive in the nutrient rich clay.

If other residents living close to young trees did the same the problem would be solved."

Many thanks to this resident - are there any of you out there willing to take onboard this advice (if you are able)? Hopefully, there are and we will all be able to enjoy these trees for many years.

Community Governance Review



At our December Parish Council Meeting, Local Council Support Associates Ltd will be attending to publicise the upcoming Community Governance Review which will be considering the following:

- The boundaries of Wixams Parish and Stewartby Parish (specifically in relation to new homes on the eastern side of the B530 and below or to the east of the disused railway line)
 - The boundaries of Wixams Parish and Stewartby Parish in relation to new homes built across the boundary with Houghton Conquest Parish in Central Bedfordshire
- Look out for further information soon.

'Nightmare in Wixams'

Congratulations to the Village Hall Events Team for their stupendous 'Nightmare in Wixams' held on 22nd October which involved a tremendous amount of effort to organise and was enjoyed by so many.

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