Wick/ersley P/arish Gala
11am - 4pm  24th June 2017 - Wickersley Park

JOIN US FOR A FAMILY FUN DAY OUT

We've organised another FREE EVENT, so join in the FUN this June with a fantastic family day out at Wickersley Parish Gala, located in Wickersley Park!

Featuring
Live Performances by:
The Dearne Big Band and Singers
The Love to Sing Ladies
Harmonics
Blu Crew (in aid of Bluebell Wood Hospice)

plus
A selection of talent local from schools and local groups

Wickersley Parish Gala is here

Car Parking is available at:
- Catholic Church on Northfirld Lane
- Health Centre off Wickersley Roundabout
- Methodist Church/Community Centre on Bawtry Road

Please do not park on Warren Road or Oak Tree Close.
Your Library... at a glance

After a very busy Spring at Wickersley Library, Summer has finally arrived and we are very excited about this year’s forthcoming Summer Reading Challenge! As always, it’s a fantastic opportunity for your child to keep on reading during the summer holidays with the added bonus of free goodies and regular craft activities throughout the six weeks! Keep a lookout for details in the library and also check out the Library Service’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/rotherhamlibraries for more information.

Plus there’s also all of our other fabulous services and activities - from free Wi-Fi to e-books, e-magazines and e-audiobooks, there’s so much on offer so do check out our programme of events below! Don’t forget to simply pop into the library or call us on 01709 544134 for more details or to book a place for any of these sessions.

- Rotherham Music Service are still offering Mini Melodies sessions for 0-5 year olds in the library every Tuesday at 10am! With “fabulous music making, live music and creative movement”, your first session is free followed by a small fee of £4 per session attended thereafter, although children under 6 months go free. Contact Rotherham Music on 01709 523107 or email music@rotherham.gov.uk for more details.

- Lingotot offer fun and interactive Spanish sessions for 0-7 year olds every Saturday! This is a rolling programme of 10 weekly sessions (in term-time only) so attendance is required at all sessions. Booking is essential with a small fee to pay so contact Paula from Lingotot on 07804 695917, email her at: paula@lingotot.com or find Lingotot on facebook: www.facebook.com/lingototrotherham.

- Rhymetimes for ages 0-5 years are held every Monday at 2pm-2:30pm and every Friday at 11am-11:30am, PLUS there’s Toddlertime for ages 2-5 years which is every Wednesday at 10am-11am. All totally free with no need to book!

And for the grown-ups, we have plenty to keep you busy!

- Basic IT sessions run every Monday at 9am-10am, 10am-11am & 11am-12noon, and Thursday at 10am-11am & 11am-12noon. Perfect for absolute beginners! Contact us for details and to book your place!

- Know the IT basics but would like to learn how to get more out of your laptop, tablet or PC? Then bring yourself and your questions to our IT Clinic every Monday between 10am-12noon. No need to book but it’s first come first served so don’t be late!

- Come along to our weekly Tuesday and Thursday night Family History sessions from 5pm until 6:30pm. No need to book, just drop in!

- Scrabble Club is every Tuesday afternoon so come along and flex your wordplay muscles at this free session with no need to book!

- Feeling crafty? Why not try your hand at a different craft each month with our Which Craft sessions on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 5pm until 7pm. Booking is essential and there’s a small fee to cover resources. Contact the library for details.

- Our free and impartial advice sessions take place every Tuesday from 4pm-6pm courtesy of Kiveton Park Independent Advice with no need to book an appointment.

- If you’re looking to expand your reading experience then join one of our readers groups! Contact the library for further details on dates and times.

- If knitting is your thing then come and have a natter with your fellow knitters at our weekly Thursday night Knit & Natter group, from 5pm!

As always, you can keep up to date with all the latest Library news by checking out the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/rotherhamlibraries and giving us a “like”! Once again, we’d like to say a huge thank you to our fantastic customers for your continued support, we really do appreciate it. Here’s to a wonderful Summer!

Gemma Smith

Northfield Lane School

We would like to say a huge ‘WELL DONE’ to all the pupils in Y6, for working hard and trying their best with their SATs tests. We are extremely proud of every one of them! On Friday 12th May, our Y3/4 hockey team played in the semi finals at WSSC. The team: Riley Ellis, Jay Hobson, Jack Ward, Georgina Heaps, Murad Ghani, Charlie Bull, Lucy Unwin, Scarlett Nash & Matilda Duncan. They played extremely well and won, so they will now be playing in the final at Abbeydale on 5th July. Friday 19th May, is Eco Day where everyone wore green to school!

Upcoming events include Year 3 are visiting Wentworth Garden Centre, Year 1 are visiting Cannon all, we are taking part in a 10 day active challenge where children are encouraged to come to school in an active way, Year 4 are visiting Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Week commencing 26th June is Year 6’s leavers week where they are invited to a prom, having a leavers trip of bowling and laser quest and taking part in a leavers assembly. Their last day at Wickersley Northfield will be Thursday 29th June.

In September school will celebrate our 50th anniversary. If anyone in the community has any news clippings/photo’s from when the school opened please could they contact Diane Sanderson at school on 01709 543704, We would love to take a copy and return to the owners for a celebration we are planning.

We have a vacancy for a school governor, if anyone is interested please contact Diane Sanderson on 01709 543704.

Could you be a Rotherham Local Hero?

Can you imagine telling a child?

You cannot stay at home and you are going to be placed with a family mile’s away or that no family can be found and you are going to be placed in a children’s home.

Can you make the difference to keep Rotherham children in families and close to their community?

If you can offer a caring loving home we will offer you competitive rates and an expert package of support from our unique Looked after & Adopted Children’s Therapeutic Team.

You too could be a “Local Hero”; become a Rotherham foster carer and transform a child’s life. If you think you have the time, energy and space to care for a Rotherham child or young person who needs a foster home, and you would like to join Rotherham’s fostering community, contact the Fostering Recruitment Team on 01709 823976. The team is particularly interested in finding local foster families for sibling groups and children aged over eight years.

Telephone: 01709 823976
www.fosteringinrotherham.org.uk Fostering in Rotherham
Annual Parish Meeting - 8th May 2017
Chairman’s Report 2016/17

Introduction
Wickersley Parish Council serves the people of Wickersley from the Brecks to Wickersley School and from the bottom of Northern Road to the end of Northfield Lane. It has a population of 8000 people housed in 3200 residential properties.

The village of Wickersley continues to thrive and attracts many visitors to its successful retail centre and social events.

During the year, two councillors have retired. Ted Bowmar was vice chair of the parish for several years, but it was his diligence to all planning matters for which he will be remembered. We are lucky to have Cllr Amy Wright who has filled this post admirably. Naveen Judah skills as an accountant served the finance committee well. They both brought a sense of humour to our work place and will be missed. Ted and Naveen have been replaced by Tracey Wallace and Maggie Godfrey. We have immediately utilised Maggie’s passed experience as planner has enabled the parish to utilise her great experience immediately.

Council Employees
This year has seen John the handy man retired after grafting so hard to keep Wickersley lovely, we hope he enjoys his retirement. The other John has welcomed Mike as a replacement. We are grateful that Mike settled in quickly; as John was due to have an operation. You will often see the pair providing a helpful hand around the village.

Rachel, Martin, and Julie are like a well-oiled machine, keeping the community centre running and at the heart of village life. Between them they tackle everything that needs to be done in a helpful and willing manner.

Recreation Grounds Committee, chaired by Cllr Andrew Bates
This year they finished the refurbishment of the neglected bike track at Sorby Way. It was celebrated with an opening event which saw two national BMX cyclists, the cycle hub and various cycling skills being taught. I am reliably informed that it isn’t only cyclist that are enjoying the track but also the local dogs.

The committee is to be recognised for their ongoing work in addressing the problems of un-booked use of the football pitches and of the litter that arises.

Woodland Committee, chaired by Cllr Peter Thirlwall
The Woodland committee are as always indebted to the Warden volunteers Brenda, Paul and Graham, without whom such events as the Bluebell walk; Himalayan pulling and Bracken pulling would not be possible.

The medium term plans for The Woods and The Gorse have now been completed which will map out all the work for the next few years. Their annual events continue to be incredibly well supported.

Finance Committee, chaired by Cllr John Barber
I am particularly grateful to John whose support for the Clerk on the closing of last year’s accounts was really appreciated. As the parish council work evolves, it is important that our financial procedures reflect our change in services; the committee are well aware of this and continue to work in this regard.

Environment Committee, chaired by Cllr Pat Beighton
As always The Environment Committee has again kept Wickersley looking lovely with hanging baskets and bedding plants bringing colour to the village.

This committee borrowed Councillor Peter Thirlwall to design and project manage the refurbishments of the public toilets on the Tanyard, he seems to have magicd extra room for the toilets as well as extra room for the handy man’s stores, and the opening of the toilets will be remembered with laughter for a long time to come.

Winthrop Garden
2016 saw the first season of the parish running the gardens. This took an incredible amount of work and we are extremely thankful to all of the volunteers who made it possible. We now know most of the challenges ahead and some of the solutions, it is an exciting time as the potential for the gardens to be a real community asset are beginning to be realised, with many interesting and fun events being planned for the forth coming year.

A warm Winthrop welcome is always available for volunteers and visitors alike.
Companionship, friendship and fun are guaranteed!
• Dogs to suit your lifestyle
• Completely flexible
• Trial stays to ensure compatibility
• Full support and advice
• A playmate for your own dog

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I live locally, give me a ring on 07947 691675 or 01709 370366 & ask for Gavin or look at www.gdmonline.co.uk
Keeping an eye on things

Wickersley Parish Council own various assets around the parish which are maintained for the benefit of the residents of Wickersley.

With the beginning of lighter evenings there has been a significant amount of anti social behaviour, arson and criminal damage to these assets, which has recently peaked to an unacceptable level.

For the example the children’s slide in the Bob Mason ground was set on fire earlier this year, the cost of repair was over £300.00. Damage has been done to trees in the Gorse and Wickersley Wood. This behaviour all means extra work for our 2 handymen and expense for the Parish Council, which in the long run is paid for by you the residents!

We appeal to members of the public to be vigilant and report any instances to the police. The more reports that are made, the more likely the police are to take action.

Parish Council Facilities

1 Wickersley Community Centre
2 Wickersley Park
3 Bob Mason Recreation Ground
4 Tanyard Toilets
5 Wickersley Gorse
6 Wickersley Wood
7 Winthrop Gardens

Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

Father John Adikwu has now returned to Nigeria because his contract with the Diocese of Hallam expired at the end of May. At the time of compiling these notes we have no idea who will replace him as our parish priest.

We hope that news of his successor will be known by the time the next issue of this magazine comes out.

Whilst our Sunday Mass should remain at 9.30am, weekday Masses may be subject to change or cancellation but all details will continue to be displayed on the small notice board at the left hand side of the porch.

There will be just one social event in the coming months and this will take place on Saturday 1st July at 2.00 pm. Strawberry Teas will be available. We will have stalls selling home made cakes and plants and there will be a raffle and tombola. Everybody is welcome.

Rotherham Local Plan

Most residents are probably aware that Rotherham Council has been preparing a Borough wide Local Plan for a number of years and maybe are wondering what stage it has now reached. So the Parish Council thought it might be useful to set out its understanding of the current position.

The Local Plan is an important statutory planning document as it guides how much development should take place in the future and where it will be located. Of particular relevance to Wickersley is the proposed housing development planned within the period up to 2028.

The Local Plan comprises two documents, the Core Strategy and the Sites and Policies document. The Core Strategy sets out the broad strategic policies including how much housing land is required and where it is to be located. The Core Strategy defines Wickersley, Bramley and Ravenfield Common as a Principal Settlement for Growth where land for 800 new dwellings should be provided. Whilst Wickersley Parish Council did raise objections to that level of proposed development on the grounds that it would place an intolerable burden on the transport, education, employment and drainage infrastructure, the Core Strategy was approved in 2014 following a public inquiry by an independent Government Inspector. It therefore sets the framework in which specific sites are allocated for development in the Sites and Policies Document. This second document is not yet adopted by the Council, but it has reached an advanced stage of preparation having also been through a public inquiry.

The two main housing allocations in Wickersley are either side of Second Lane and are indicated to deliver some 185 houses on what is currently Green Belt land. The Inspector has recently reported back to the Council with his proposed modifications but did not raise any concerns regarding these two sites. There is therefore a high probability that those sites will be allocated in the Local Plan Sites and Policies Document when it is adopted. This is expected to be early in 2018 but in the meantime the land remains in the Green Belt.

Harron Homes have recently submitted planning applications to Rotherham Council for both housing sites and are proposing a total of 155 houses which includes 25% affordable housing. The Parish Council is aware of a significant amount of concern by local residents to this development and has requested that the Borough Council fully take those concerns into account when making its decision. The Parish Council has also raised its own objections to that level of proposed development on the grounds that it would place an intolerable burden on the transport, education, employment and drainage infrastructure especially where it abuts open countryside and loss of trees. It has emphasised that this development must be accompanied by improvements to the highway infrastructure and enhanced educational and medical provision given that these services are already being stretched beyond their capacity.

The Parish Council has always sought to represent the interests of Wickersley in making its representations to the Borough Council within the parameters of what is feasible given the development requirements of the adopted Core Strategy and the emerging Sites and Policies Document. A further update will be given in future editions of this newsletter.
St Alban's Church Wickersley

Members of St Alban’s Church were recently confirmed by Rt Revd Peter Burrows, Bishop of Doncaster, at Holy Trinity Wentworth. Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey at which you affirm for yourself the faith into which you have been baptized and your intention to live a life of committed discipleship. This affirmation is confirmed through prayer and the laying on of hands by the confirming bishop. The Church also asks God to give you power through the Holy Spirit to enable you to live in the way of Jesus Christ.

Wickersley St Alban’s Primary School

We are now in the last term of our school year. It is going so fast.

Our Year 6 children have been working very hard and have now completed their SATs. They will be taking a religious education test in June and the child with the highest marks will be awarded a special bible donated by St Alban’s Church, it will be called the Pycroft Bible, in memory of Alan Pycroft, who was our Chair of Governors. They are now looking forward to their leavers disco, end of school celebrations and moving on to Wickersley School and Sports College at the beginning of July. We will miss them all.

The Year 4 class have been on a residential visit to Castleton and had a great time. Our FS2 class have been to Sundown Adventureland, Year 2 are visiting Butterfly House, Year 3 are going to Murton Park for a stone age experience and Year 1 are going to build dens in Sherwood Forest.

Our Year 3 class will be taking part in the Shakespeare Festival and have been very busy raising funds to help towards the cost, they have had a book sale and have been selling toast and buns. Many thanks to Mrs Whyman, their class teacher, for all her hard work.

Mrs Jepson, our school sports coordinator, has been busy organising the children to take part in various competitions; golf, orienteering, athletics etc. They have done really well.

Greetings from Wickersley Methodist Church

We meet together for worship every Sunday from 10.30am – 11.30am. Holy Communion is included on the third Sunday of each month. We offer you all a warm welcome. Paster: Wayne Ashton - Contact: 01709 585767

Weekly Events:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wives’ Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>‘Drop in’ Holy Communion 10am-10.30am (1st Tuesday in the month) Girls’ Brigade Wickersley Youth Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Music Bugs - for preschool children Brownies</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Wickersley Art Group Fellowship Meeting 2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Coffee Mornings 10.00am ‘Forget me Not’ Dementia Café 2.00pm – 4.00pm (2nd Friday in the month) Scouts, Cubs and Beavers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Worship and JAM (Jesus And Me) Club</td>
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For information about room lettings and weekly events, please contact Anne Ashton 01709 543868

For information about weddings, baptisms/naming services and funerals or any of the above events please contact Pastor Wayne Ashton on 01709 585767

Please visit our website: Rotherham & Dearne Valley Methodist Circuit - Wickersley Methodist Church

You can also find us on FACEBOOK Wickersley Methodist Church

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A selection of your local MEETINGS

Parish Hall S66 2SA
Cross Street, Bramley / Rotherham
Mon 5:30pm

Wickersley Library and Community Centre S66 1JJ
286 Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham
Sat 8:30am, 10:00am

Northfield Junior School S66 2HL
Northfield Lane, Wickersley / Rotherham
Wed 6:15pm

WM & Social Club S66 1EN
Morthen Road, Wickersley / Rotherham
Thu 10:00am

Come and join us, we’d love to meet you!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

BRING YOUR BOOTS!

Wickersley Walks

Join us on a 4 mile walk around one of the area’s hidden gems. Explore the beautiful local countryside and enjoy some gentle exercise.

Wickersley Woods to Morthern Road Fields
Sunday 25th June 2017 - 2pm

Listerdale Woods to Silverwood Nature Reserve
Sunday 30th Jul 2017 - 2pm

Wickersley Gorse to Wickersley Woods to Winthrop Park
Sunday 20th Aug 2017 - 2pm

NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP!

Meet Outside Wickersley Community Centre & Library, Bawtry Road, Wickersley

The walks include some hill walking on uneven terrain so are not suitable for wheelchairs/pushchairs.

For further information contact 01709 703270

BRING THE KIDS!

Himalayan Baslam Pulling

Wickersley Gorse (off Air Mount Close), Wickersley.
Meet at end of Air Mount Close

Cllrs Ellis and Thirlwall say: -

“Like many areas the Gorse suffers from an invasion of these weeds which swamp any other plants where it occurs. Join us in the wonderful gorse and help preserve the natural landscape for all to enjoy.

Saturday 8th July 2017
10.00am -12 noon

For further information contact the Parish Council on 01709 703270

BRING YOUR GLOVES!

Fungus Foray!!!

Wickersley Woods is full of interesting wildlife, particularly if you know where to look. This will be your opportunity to find, identify and learn more about a host of different types of fungi in the woodland.

The walk will be lead by an expert in the field, Kevin Gilfedder, who leads many walks in and around South Yorkshire that are very popular.

The walk is planned to take 3 hours, finishing back at the start point at 1pm.

Saturday 14th October 2017 - 10am

Wickersley Woods - meet at Wood Lane pedestrian entrance / first entrance from Morthen Road

For further information contact 01709 703270

Teddy Bears Picnic

If you go down to Wickersley Gorse on Saturday 22nd July 2017 your sure of a big surprisefor

If you go down to the woods at 12 noon
You’d better go in disguise!
For ev’ry bear that ever there was
Will gather there for certain,
Because that’s the day the Teddy Bears have their picnic.

Meet entrance on Air Mount Close, off Bawtry Road.
Bring own picnic. Free Cold Drinks provided.
Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For further information contact Sue Ellis on 01709 540497 or Peter Thirlwall on 01709 541111