



SPEAKERS' CORNER

One Way West?

WEST Street on an average day - a delivery van or two parked on the right hand side, full parking slots on the correct, legal left hand side, a South Molton bound bus trying to negotiate its way to West Road, and illegal parking outside the Post Office.

We all know and love to hate this common feature of our town. Some might say, well that's Wivey - shows how busy and vibrant the centre is!

The downside of this situation is that the bus company has already complained that it's so difficult to get through the West Street congestion that it might have to consider running the bus only along Croft Way, meaning that travellers would have to walk down to that road to catch the bus and back up to the town centre when alighting from their journey.

Milverton residents have already seen this happen with the centre of their village and the lack of a full village bus service.

We all know that parking is a real issue in Wiveliscombe and until larger options are available to us we could consider the following proposal:

Make West Road one-way running to the west out from the town centre, from



Parking solution ... size matters and small comes up trumps!

the corner at the White Hart and create a few parking slots on the right hand side to provide short term parking as in the front of Thorne's.

With traffic in only one direction, this would mean no face-to-face situations which we have at present and give a little more legitimate parking space for short stay drivers.

It could mean up to six legitimate half hour parking slots on the Post office side of the road. This amounts to 120 half hour slots per day, available to shoppers without risk of prosecution.

Let's have a discussion through the columns of the Messenger about parking in West Street. Let us have your comments by email at messenger@wiveliscombe.com or by letter at the Community Office.

Dog Din

Many column inches in the Messenger have dealt with the pollution, both environmental and health, caused by dog poo.

But what about noise pollution? I am unfortunate

enough to live near some dogs that yap, in a varied degree of frenzy, much of the day.

Their keeper is either completely oblivious to the annoyance caused or entranced by their ongoing lively engagement with the world around them or, more likely, out all day.

I can't help thinking it was a bloody-minded force of nature that made those long ago wolf-like creatures creep up to share the warmth of early man's fires.

Devoted companions to some; quadruped polluters to others.

SPORT MATTERS

Wivey Pool - busy and blooming in run up to 80th anniversary!

ANOTHER great summer has been enjoyed by hundreds of folk at the pool.

Firstly, a big thank you to all you fabulous volunteers who have kept the pool open for the many locals and tourists to enjoy this summer.

We are pleased to announce that we will be improving the facilities at the pool before next summer - the pool's 80th Anniversary; your help may well be called for and welcomed over coming months!

We are lining up permissions and grant aid to install solar panels to reduce our gas usage and carbon emissions by about 70%.

To install the solar panels we need to replace the changing room roof, so we are taking the opportunity to upgrade the toilets and install a shower or two, together with a loo and wet-room to allow access for all.

We also are planning to install a hoist for those who can't use the steps.

If you have any comments on how else we can improve facilities at the pool, please email or ring me.

The investments we made this year on the automatic chlorine dosing machine and

new steps have both paid off, with safer access to a cleaner pool.

The healthy, organic and Fairtrade snacks and drinks have sold well too; thank you all for purchasing these products which improve the environment and people's lives around the world.

The committee team are starting to think up ways to celebrate the 80th Anniversary; a story of the first 80 years is a must; if you have any stories and photos from over the years, please also do contact me.

We are also considering various 'swimming through the decades' events, so check out your wardrobes for those tasty 60s costumes or 30s bloomers!

As always, we would love to have more people playing an active part - so if you fancy being one of our committee or want to put your name down early for next year's Pool Attendants' course, please contact me.

Jo Harding
Chairman
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THE refurbished Wiveliscombe Community Centre kitchen was in use on Saturday 2nd September for a cream tea to mark 10 years of the Children's Hospice South West - the event raised £101.47.

The kitchen improvements, which include widening of the serving hatch and installation of a dishwasher, have been funded by grants from a number of different bodies including the Wiveliscombe WI, Wiveliscombe Parish Council and Wyvern Environmental Trust together with a legacy from the estate of the late Miss Alice Clarke.

Do more - play tennis in Wiveliscombe

THE tennis courts on the Rec have undergone a complete resurfacing as well having new net posts and nets.

The cost of refurbishment and upgrading of the facilities at the club are estimated to be in the region of £35,000.

The intention is to provide better all year round access for all to this fantastic local sporting facility, with improved playing surface, completion of floodlighting to all three courts and an upgrade to the clubhouse facilities and club entrance.

In particular we want to continue to encourage local youngsters to be involved in playing tennis.

To date the club has raised over £25,000 over the last seven years and big thanks must go to the following for their financial support: National Lottery Awards for All,

The Jim Laker Fund, Wiveliscombe Charities, Thorne's Butcher - one of the

world's top 100 retailers! - The Three Horseshoes, Wiveliscombe tennis club membership

We still have some way to go and more fundraising activities will continue over the next 12 months to try and raise the balance required to complete the project.

In the meantime we anticipate that the courts will have been out of action from the beginning of September for resurfacing. We expect this will be completed by the end of October and ready for use by those that wish to continue playing during the winter months.

For more information about becoming a member, junior coaching sessions and ways in which you can get involved financially to keep this sporting facility alive for future generations please call Guy Wilkes (chair) on 01984 624374, Helena Trump (secretary) on 01984 624409 or Emma Quick (junior coaching) on 01984 624272.

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