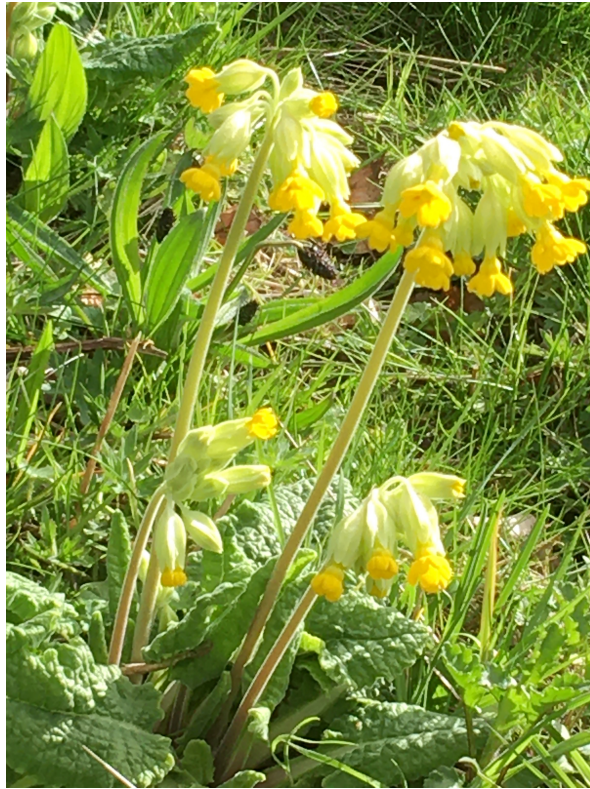


Reeds Well



Whitsome's Newsletter
May 2023

Whitsome Enhancement Group

This has been an exciting start to the year as WEG is celebrating its 30th Anniversary with events planned throughout the year. We held a coffee morning on 18 February which was well attended. More recently on 22 April we had a WEG @ 30 past and present afternoon tea that was a great success. Thanks to everyone behind the scenes who have helped us to celebrate. In particular thanks to the local guides who were hosts for the afternoon tea.

Now the weather has improved and plants have started growing we have sprung into action. Two trees have been planted, one to Commemorate the King's Coronation and another in Memory of the late Queen. Plaques will be put up in due course.

WEG intend to hold the Plant Sale on **Sunday 4 June 10.30am -1.30pm** so come along and give us your support. Also, a reminder if you have any plants, or are splitting any perennials that you wish to donate for the Plant Sale, please let us know. We will arrange collection if necessary. Compost is also available for sale in the Shop and at the plant sale.

The other exciting news is that the bid to the National Lottery Community Fund for a path to make the Loaning more accessible has been successful with work starting in the next month or two. More details to follow.

Finally, to all the young people of Whitsome remember the "Tattie in a Bucket" and the Sunflower competition seeds buckets and potatoes are available from the shop. There is also a design a new logo for WEG the closing date for this is **26 May**, with the winner being announced at the Plant Sale. We have hand delivered posters about these challenges, but if you have not received one or you would like more information, please feel free to contact any member of WEG. To take part in the design a logo competition you should be 14 or under and live locally. The design must include the work of the Group. Either email to chair@whitsome.scot, or leave your design and contact details in an envelope in the shop marked Design a Logo competition.

Anne Taylor- Clark
Chair WEG (On behalf of the WEG team)

WHITSOME ENHANCEMENT GROUP
30th Anniversary: 1993-2023

**THE ANNUAL
WHITSOME PLANT
SALE**

SUNDAY JUNE 4TH 2023

From 10:30 to 13:30

**PLANTS – SHRUBS -HERBS
BACON ROLLS
HOME BAKING!**

WHITSOME ARK – TD11 3NA

www.whitsome.scot

WHITSOME 50 CLUB LOTTERY 2023 – 2024 **THE START OF A NEW YEAR**

A ticket costs £14 and lasts a year, with at least 6 monthly chances of winning a prize (Prizes vary from £20 - £100).

The first draw for the 2023 - 2024 season will be at the Ark's Drop-in Coffee Morning on Tuesday 8th August 2023.

The profit from the lottery goes towards maintaining our wonderful facility of the Village Hall. The Hall not only houses the shop and Post Office, for all to use, but also provides a home for many sports, clubs, meetings and events. The basic maintenance and running costs are at least £10,000 per year.

So, if you haven't done so already, please print off the form below and purchase a ticket.

For more information, please go to the Village Website at whitsome.scot (Forms also available from the shop.)

Thank you again to all those who have purchased tickets in the past.

For those who don't like Lotteries, we are happy to accept a donation instead!

Whitsome Village Hall SCIO Charity Number SC010128

Coming Soon!

The village hall committee are delighted to announce that the brand new Petanque court (french bowls for the uninitiated) is nearing completion. The court will be officially opened at the summer BBQ on 22nd July but should be available for use within the next couple of weeks. The court is easily accessible from the hall car park and is free for the community to use, although donations towards its upkeep would of course be very much appreciated.

Any groups interested in booking the court for exclusive use can do so using the usual booking form available on the website at www.whitsome.scot. The cost for such a booking is £2 per person and includes hire of bowls and access to the facilities in the hall for the duration of the hire. For more information, please contact the Bookings Secretary by email at: bookings.ark@whitsome.scot.

Whitsome Winter Warmers

What's the best antidote to shorter days, freezing weather and the cost of living crisis? The Whitsome Winter Warmer of course! The weekly event kicked off in late 2022 with the aim of encouraging the community to come together and use the Ark as a warm place to socialise with the neighbours while enjoying a hot lunch. All free of charge!

The village hall trustees were grateful to receive funding from the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund which covered the costs of ingredients for hot lunches provided every Friday lunchtime between November and March. But we would have got nowhere without the time and effort put in by our team of volunteers who managed to produce lovely hot meals (including vegetarian options) for around 20 to 30 people each week. Help with transport was provided for those who found it difficult to get to the hall, especially during icy weather, and food was delivered to those who could not make it.

The event was so successful that the brave volunteers carried on providing "soup and a roll" lunches through the early spring, with the final event taking place on 28th April. We are delighted to say that the funding we received will allow us to run the WWW again when those short, cold days come around again in November 2023. Please watch this space for confirmation of when the lunches will start up again - and it goes without saying, if you are able to volunteer, either to cook lunch (on the day or in advance) or provide help setting up, clearing up or delivering food, we would be delighted to hear from you!

Community Council

Road Safety

We are increasingly frustrated by Scottish Borders Council in this respect. Despite being promised a speed indicator for the village, improved markings at the village entrance and a meeting to discuss the issue of speeding we seem to be being ignored. We will keep on making as much noise we can, but if concerned residents could contact SBC to complain it might just help to get us noticed. Unfortunately, the consistent message small communities like us get is that little will be done until there is a serious accident!

Paths

We have had representations regarding footpaths to join our communities more safely. This is a matter we are trying to move forward. If anyone wishes to help in this campaign please do get in touch.

The Community Council meets monthly; the dates are on the back page of this Reeds Well. All meetings are public. If you wish to draw any matters to our attention we will do what we can. This could be anything from road safety concerns to ideas of how our area could be improved.

Jim Clark Rally

This is scheduled for the weekend of the 26th to 28th May. It will come near our area with a stage through Edrom on the 27th. Be aware that travel restrictions may affect your journeys that weekend.

Whitsome Community Shop and Post Office

Open 6 days a week 8am-1pm

Orders taken for papers, magazines and bread

Post, bank and much more.

Please support your local shop and Post Office

Last, but not least.....

Petanque

It has been suggested that we could have a Pentanque/Bowling meeting on a Thursday evening during the summer. Bill Wilson will happily organise it if people let him know if they are interested.

It is suggested that pentaque is played if it is a warm evening and indoor bowling if it is wet. We could start at 6.30, rather than 7.00pm if we are playing outside, but he is open to all suggestions.

Hopefully, the pentaque court will be finished this week, so we could start on the 11th of May. The cost would be £2.00/person. (Bill's contact details are on the back page).

Wildflower Meadow

The meadow in the Loaning is coming into flower with cowslips in bloom. Take a stroll and have a look over the next weeks, as more flowers emerge and the orchard comes into bloom.

Plant pots

If you are potting up plants to donate to the Plant Sale and need some pots, pop into the polytunnel in the Loaning and you will find some on the left-hand side.

Textile Bank

Unfortunately, we are still awaiting a replacement, which is due at the end of May. If you are able please keep your bags of donations until then; all the money we get goes into village projects.

What's your news?

If you've got a story to share relating to Whitsome let us know.

Items for inclusion in Reeds Well will be most welcome and if possible will be included in the next issue.

All contributions should be addressed to:- reedswellwhitsome@gmail.com or call June on 01890870256 (the current compiler).

We aim to publish 4 times a year in February, May, August and November.

Entries may be edited if space is tight.

Dates for Your Diary

8th May Whitsome Enhancement Group meeting 2.30pm in Ark

9th May Scones & Coffee 10.15am in Ark

15th May Community Council meeting 7pm Allanton VH

4th June WEG Plant Sale 10.30-13.30 at Ark

5th June Whitsome Enhancement Group meeting 2.30pm in Ark

13th June Scones & Coffee 10.15am in Ark

19th June Community Council meeting 7pm Whitsome Ark

3rd July Whitsome Enhancement Group meeting 2.30pm in Ark

11th July Scones & Coffee 10.15am in Ark

17th July Community Council meeting 7pm Allanton VH

22nd July Summer BBQ 4pm at Ark

To book the Ark call our Booking Secretary Bill Wilson on 07485109944 or
email: bookings.ark@whitsome.scot