



TOTLAND PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Winter

Totland Parish Councillors

John Howe (Chairman)
John Honeychurch (vice Chairman)
Alistair Jones
Dr Brian Hinton MBE
Carol Bryan
David Filby
Vince Fennell
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The Council meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month (except August). Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings.

Contact details for future editions:

Pat Howe
Tel: (01983) 753414
e-Mail: iwjohn1@btinternet.com
or Totland Parish Council Office
(as above)

Totland Parish Council wish all Parishioners a Merry
Christmas and peaceful New Year



Message from John Howe - Chairman

We are almost at the end of yet another year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who have supported the Parish Council, in any way, throughout the year.

Art on the Turf Walk was again a huge success with another beautiful warm and sunny day. The flower troughs and beds throughout Totland have been well maintained and colourful throughout the year.

The Lantern Parade this year will involve all local schools commencing at 6.00p.m. 14th December at Totland Recreation Ground and will finish at St Saviours Church for Carol singing. There will be refreshments in the St Saviours Family Centre next door following the singing provided by Headon Hill W.I.

As Chairman of the Totland Parish Council I hope that together with my fellow Councillors we can work with the Community to continue to improve the facilities in Totland.

We are delighted to report that our Clerk Val Gallard has passed her Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA). She passed with 14 distinctions out of a possible 16. Val was the first Clerk on the Isle of Wight to pass first time and Totland Parish Council are proud of her achievement

Following on from this the Parish Council are now working towards Quality Status and Councillors will be attending training courses as shown below to help them achieve this. Once Quality Status is achieved this can lead to funding for Community projects within the area.

Courses being attended by Councillors are:

Striving for Quality Status Workshop; Freedom of Information and Data Protection Workshop; Isle of Wight Council 2007 Annual Parish Workshop; Engaging with your Community Workshop; Effective Councillor Skills and Chairmanship Skills;

West Wight Children's Centre & West Wight Nursery

West Wight Nursery is 'Flying High' and have been awarded the 'Flying High' recognition for the high quality assurance standards of childcare and learning. The awarding panel 'was impressed by the enthusiasm of staff and the presentation of evidence'. The Nursery staff comprising of the qualified early years teacher and experienced early years providers are thrilled to receive this award and receive recognition for all the hard work and input they give to the children.

In a report written by Terry Connolly from Together for children, West Wight Children's Centre was described as a, 'good community facility' that has been 'remarkably successful at securing funding for complementary activities and services, which augment and enhance the service offered to the parents and children in the reach area and beyond".

We have our family support and Children's Centre team who will be pleased to assist you in any way they can. We also have an IT team delivering courses for the Isle of Wight Adult Community Learning programme throughout the Island and they could deliver courses which you feel would help your school, parents or community.

West Wight Children's Centre is looking to widen its governance and we would like to invite you to come and meet our team of support workers and introduce ourselves and discuss with you how we could be of assistance or help for your children, parents, staff or the wider community.

This is regardless of whether or not we are still considered a Children's Centre by the Local Authority Early Years team.

For further information contact Pat Williams Tel: 752175

TOTLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

A Totland Residents Association is currently being formed, primarily looking at the overdevelopment in Totland. For further information on how to join or if you wish to be more involved, please contact: either John Veal on 752739 or Pat Howe on 753414

TOTLAND PARISH PLAN

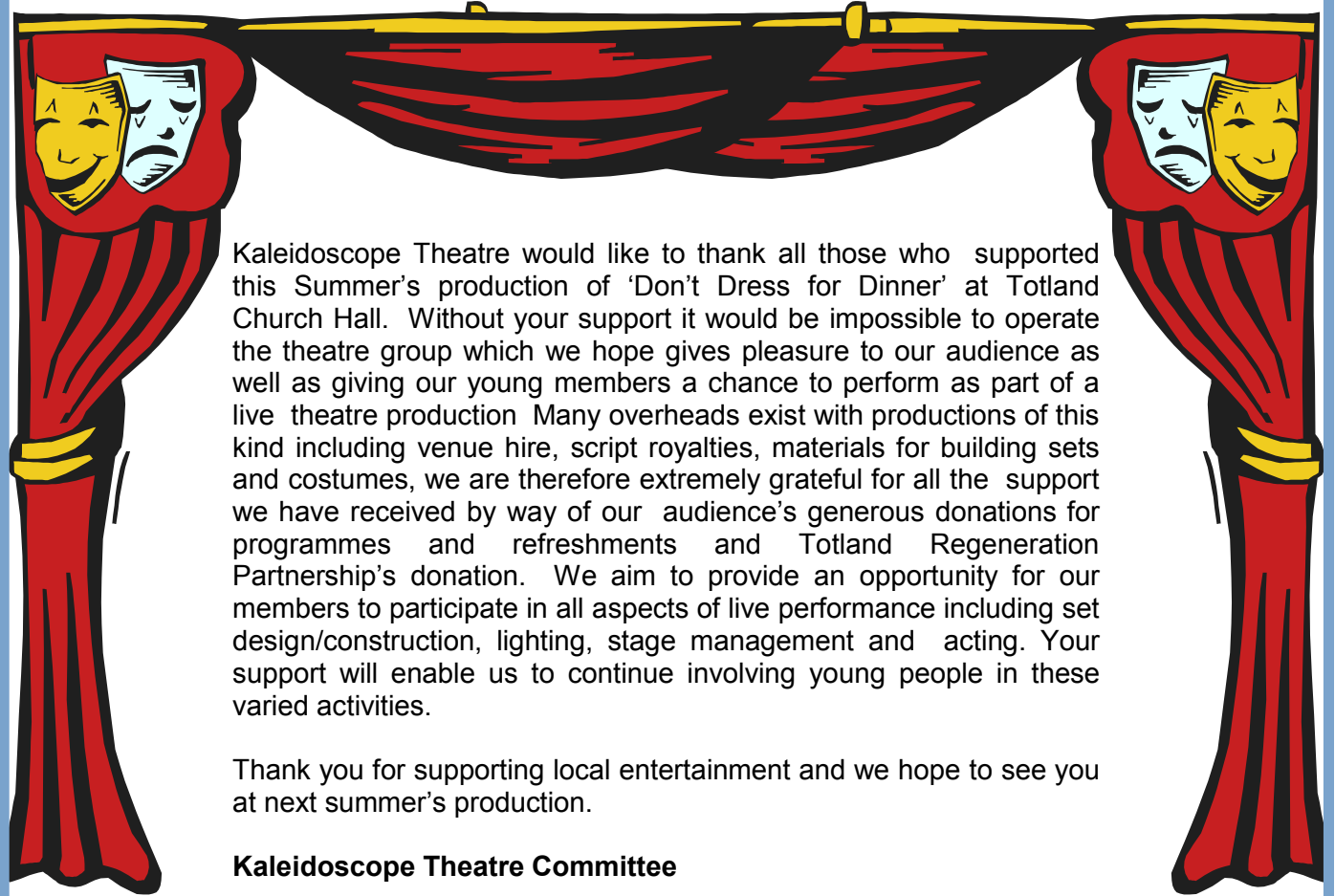
It is with great pleasure that I am writing this article for the Totland Parish Council's newsletter. At last, after many months, the construction of the Parish Plan is finished and has been passed by the Rural Community Council. In the November edition of the Beacon you should have received a Parish Plan, if however, you have not received a plan, please collect a copy from the Parish Office.

Now the really hard part begins:

The Parish Council is now responsible for the action plan and many tasks will fall for them to complete. However, small groups can be formed to bid for funding to action the projects that they feel strongly about; please feel free to keep in contact with the Parish Council to see how things are progressing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my steering committee for all their hard work, without them this Parish Plan would not have been completed and also to thank the residents of Totland who took the time to complete the questionnaires. I hope that you will find the Parish Plan informative and be pleased with the results that have been highlighted.

John Holsburt - Chairman Totland Parish Plan



Kaleidoscope Theatre would like to thank all those who supported this Summer's production of 'Don't Dress for Dinner' at Totland Church Hall. Without your support it would be impossible to operate the theatre group which we hope gives pleasure to our audience as well as giving our young members a chance to perform as part of a live theatre production. Many overheads exist with productions of this kind including venue hire, script royalties, materials for building sets and costumes, we are therefore extremely grateful for all the support we have received by way of our audience's generous donations for programmes and refreshments and Totland Regeneration Partnership's donation. We aim to provide an opportunity for our members to participate in all aspects of live performance including set design/construction, lighting, stage management and acting. Your support will enable us to continue involving young people in these varied activities.

Thank you for supporting local entertainment and we hope to see you at next summer's production.

Kaleidoscope Theatre Committee

The Totland Gardening Gang!

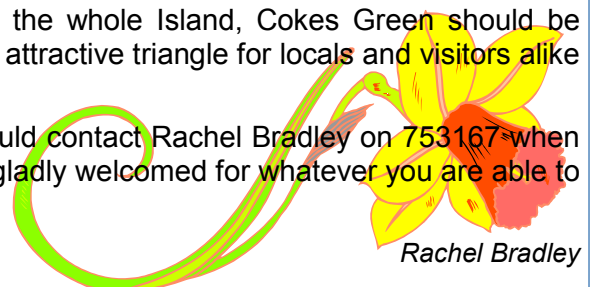
We hope that the addition of extra flower troughs and the planting up of all of them through The Broadway has brightened Totland somewhat. As a result of our appeal for help with planting, maintenance, watering etc, we have acquired a wonderful team ranging in ages from 3 to 70+. That same team plus owners of some of the premises are now planting bulbs and pansies or polyanthus so that the village will again be colourful in the Spring. We are extremely grateful to them all for their participation.

Naturally there is disappointment when flower heads are mindlessly snapped off but are pleased that the majority stayed intact and we are determined to ride the wave of occasional damage.

The round border at the top of The Avenue, the roundabout and the border opposite the Broadway Inn are included in the scheme so there is always room for more volunteers and if enough come forward it would be great to extend to other areas of Totland. A knowledge of gardening is not necessary and volunteering is a wonderful way to pick up a few gardening tips!

Under the Million Blooms project which covers the whole Island, Cokes Green should be enhanced in time, which we hope will provide an attractive triangle for locals and visitors alike to enjoy.

Anyone in a position to be able to volunteer should contact Rachel Bradley on 753167 when tasks will be matched to capability – you will be gladly welcomed for whatever you are able to offer.



Rachel Bradley

HEADON HILL W.I.

Headon Hill WI meets on the first Monday of each month except August and when there is a Bank Holiday and then it would be the second week. Our venue is the Holy Family Centre at St. Saviours Church and the meetings are from 7.30pm until 9.30pm.

We have a variety of speakers and activities during the meeting time but socialising with our friends over a cup of tea or coffee is a very important part of the evening. We like to take part in other activities during the month including walks and get together coffee mornings. We have recently visited a local honey farm, “punched the waves” en route to Spitbank Fort, tried our skills in fierce competition on the pitch and putt course, and battled the gales in our comprehensive tour of the Needles Battery. We also assist Totland Regeneration Committee with their event Art on Turf Walk by running the refreshment tent in August

In West Wight we have four WIs who form the West Wight Group of WIs. Within the Group we also have additional activities, anything from an uproarious Beetle Drive to more serious speakers or craft taster days mostly including a light lunch or delicious afternoon tea! This Group also won an “Awards for All” grant and we took 25 members to our own WI educational college at Denman last November,

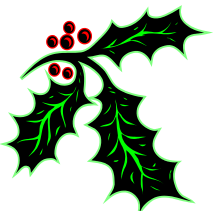
If you would like any more information please ring 756950 or come as a visitor to one of our meetings you will be most welcome.

Jim's Bird Table Raffle

The Bird Table raffled at the Art on the Turf Walk this year was won by Robin and Julie Day of Freshwater.

The raffle raised £51.00 for the R.N.L.I.

Thanks to Jim Newman for his hard work in making and supplying the table and selling raffle tickets.



News from Weston Community School

The new academic year is well under way at Weston Community School and as the name suggests its not just our pupils that have been joining in with all the activities. A large number of parents and grandparents saw first-hand how much school has changed since their day when they came along to Bring a Parent to School Day, part of Family Learning Week. Many thanks to all those who helped with the wide variety of activities taking place. Both Starfish and Dolphin classes have performed assemblies to packed out audiences, who have been treated to a whole-class rendition of Goldilocks and the Three Bears and a concert of boomwhackers. (Come along and find out what they are!)

There will be lots of other opportunities to hear the children sing in the lead up to Christmas. Look out for our carol singers around the community.