

Living Villages



August 2017

*Water Newton, Thornhaugh,
Stibbington, Sutton & Wansford*

EDITORIAL

In our villages, the end of August is busy with Horticultural Shows and Musical Festivals. (See Diary Dates.) They are great ways of meeting each other and having a bit of fun entering the competitions. Once again this year Living Villages will be sponsoring one of the Classes at the Wansford Horticultural Show - this year the Rosie McDonnell Trophy will be awarded for a piece of artwork of any type/medium to represent Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony No 6. We look forward to seeing your entries in this class as well as all the others. We will also have a small stall at the show, so please come and speak to us, especially if you have any ideas for future subjects or articles.

Onto a gloomier topic, I've recently been contacted by a resident reporting an act of mindless damage. On Tuesday 18th July between 2pm and 9pm the gates to 28 Elton Road were damaged almost certainly by a vehicle turning around in their private driveway. If anyone has any information relating to this would they please come forward. Regular visitors to the shops and houses along this stretch of road will have seen evidence of inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous parking. The Parish Council are also looking at ways to solve this whole problem.

On a happier note - I am pleased to report that our first Hearing Dog, Victor, has graduated! He is now the faithful companion to Keith. I will share their story in another edition. We are now sponsoring Jade, an adorable golden Cocker Spaniel.

Tracy Sortwell

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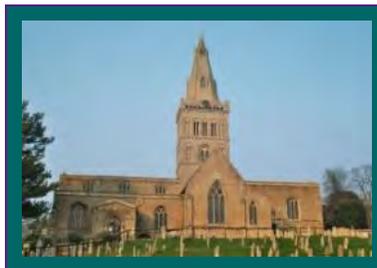
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WORSHIP AUGUST 2017



Date	Time	Location	Service
6 Aug	9.30am	St Andrews, Thornhaugh	Morning Prayer
	10.15am	St Kyneburgh, Castor	Holy Communion
13 Aug	9.30am	St Marys, Wansford	Holy Communion
20 Aug	9.30am	St Andrews, Thornhaugh	Holy Communion
	10.15am	St Kyneburgh, Castor	Holy Communion
27 Aug	9.00am	St Michael & All Angels, Sutton	Holy Communion
	9.30am	St Marys, Wansford	Morning Praise - Family Service
3 Sept	10.15am	St Kyneburgh, Castor	Holy Communion



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Prayer



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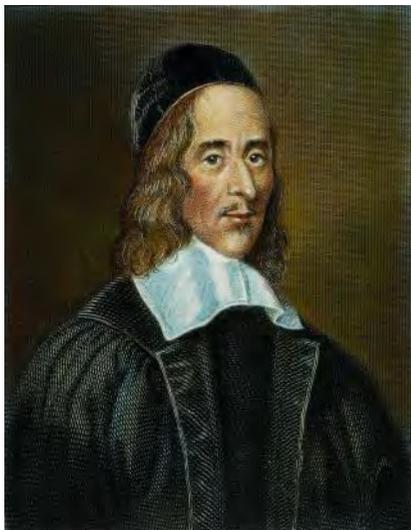
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Hymns form an important part of the worship which is offered in the churches of our benefice. We all have our favourite hymns and it is often the tunes which make a greater impression upon us than the words. This is a pity because the words of hymns contain many treasures. We use hymns to help us sing God's praises. They also provide us with insights into the mystery of God and help us to gain a better understanding of the Gospel message.

A number of hymns are poems which have been set to music. Many of the most familiar of these were written by George Herbert a humble country parson who lived in the early seventeenth century. His well known hymn "King of glory, King of peace" contains the line "*Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee.*" This is an important reminder that being a Christian is not something which only involves one day a week. Following Jesus' call is a commitment that involves living every day in a way that praises God. This is a challenge which is not easy to live up to. What does it mean to praise God for seven whole days in each week? The answer to the question is likely to be different for each of us.



George Herbert

For some people it might involve the way in which they carry out their job. Many Christians praise God by carefully and diligently working in a way which seeks to build up the ideals of God's kingdom of love joy and peace. Others praise God by quietly helping others through voluntary work such as visiting the sick, raising money for charity or helping those in need. Yet others praise God by attending the worship which is offered in churches throughout the world seven days a week. Still others live out their Christian calling by taking part in house groups or study groups which take place during the week.

This month many people will take a break from their regular routine and go away on holiday. Holidays provide us with an opportunity to rest relax and think. Hopefully this extra leisure time will lead us to realise the importance of following George Herbert's advice. If we do this, not only will we be able to praise God each day, but we will also be able to say "*In my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.*" We will become more aware of God's presence with us at all times.

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FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AND ST ANDREW'S

There will be no official meetings during August.

The WEDNESDAY WELCOME COFFEE STOP will continue through August. These take place every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 10.30 to 12 after Morning Service at St. Mary's at 10 a.m. They are great fun and offer a lovely opportunity to meet up with friends and neighbours. So **DO COME ALONG !!**

Our Meetings will start again in September, on the first and third Wednesday of the month, the 6th, and 20th at 10.30 in the Community Hall after Morning Service at St. Mary's at 10 a.m.

We shall start planning our **Annual HARVEST LUNCH, which will take place on Saturday, 14th October in the Christie Hall.** Posters will be displayed nearer the time.

See you all then. Have a lovely summer.

Dora Baker

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This event is hosted by **Friends of Stibbington Church** and all proceeds go to our lovely church

Please advise us if you have special dietary requirements when booking

The Friends are once again celebrating Harvest Festival with a Harvest Supper on Sunday 8th October. The service in St. John the Baptist Church Stibbington at 6pm will be followed by a 2 course hot meal with wine. As we have arranged fewer events this year it would be lovely to see as many locals and guests as possible to enable a good catch up and a hearty sing song. Adults £10 and Kids £5. Book your ticket by phoning 01780 782932.

Stibbington 101 Club

Draw for July
The lucky winner is,

Mr Charles Palmer

well done and your cheque is
on it's way to you.
Suzy Story

St. John the Baptist Church, Stibbington

A message from church wardens Carol Lindsay and Richard Winfrey

We recently celebrated our Patronal Festival when Rector David led a service of Choral Evensong followed by convivial fellowship. Our worship was greatly enhanced by music and singing from members of St. Mary's choir, Wansford, for which we were truly grateful. It was delightful to see familiar faces in our church once again and great to welcome friends from Castor.

WATER NEWTON MUSIC FEST 2017

Bank Holiday Sunday 27th August

**Get Your Tickets for The Water Newton Music Fest
Sunday 27th August, 12noon - 7.30pm**

Tickets are now on sale. A great afternoon of music & fun on the village green of Water Newton. Gates will open at 12noon with live music commencing at 1pm through to 7.30pm. The line-up has now been finalised and includes: 'Pennyless', 'The Gangsters', 'Latino Sound', 'Gone to The Dogs', and our very own '**Wansford Ukulele Folk**'. Great 'street food' will be available, together with fresh wood fired pizzas. There will be a wine and beer tent with real ales supplied by Castor Ales plus a 'Pimms and Bubbles' bar. Tickets have been held at just £10 each for a great afternoon and are now on sale by visiting www.waternewtonvillage.co.uk with those under the age of 12 admitted without charge. There will also be games for the children.

All profits go to 'The Friends of St. Remigius Water Newton Church' for urgent repairs to the guttering and roof of this beautiful 13th century building beside the River Nene.

Bring along your own chairs and sun shades! There will be ample free parking.

Reserve the date now and get your tickets. Why not make up a party?

Kind regards

Tony Capon Chair - Friends of St. Remigius Water Newton.

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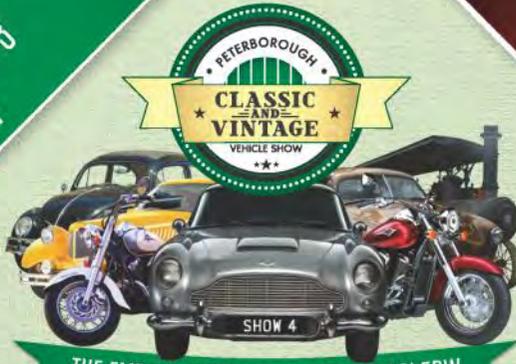
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Stibbington Community Classes

The stone carving workshop at the beginning of July proved very rewarding to those who attended. Although most would have had aching forearms the next day, they also had some very impressive pieces of work as you can see from some of the pieces shown here.

The Autumn classes are likely to be released shortly after the Horticultural Show at the end of August. So take a look in the window next time you pop to the shop!





Communicare

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Group)

The guest speaker at our meeting in June was Sarah-Jane Turner, Emergency Care Practitioner at Wansford surgery, who gave a brief resume of her career within the health service which commenced with nursing training at Peterborough hospital, progressing to paramedic and intensive-care work before taking up her post at the surgery. Along with Julie Jackson, Sarah-Jane line manages the nursing team and operates a triage system for patients who wish to be seen on the same day as an emergency. Her experience allows her to personally deal with many aspects of treatment and care with particular emphasis on medication reviews. These are carried out at specific times of the day but on occasions can be arranged to suit the patient by arrangement via reception. This also covers palliative care and the progress of end of life pathways. Much of her work entails telephone contact with patients – the previous week 270 calls had been taken for triage. However Sarah-Jane confirmed that patients were not contacted with test results, which have always been reviewed by a GP, unless there was a problem to be addressed – patients could contact reception staff but they can only divulge the basic information which may also be available on the patient’s web record in the future. Results can be obtained after 2.30pm when the phone lines are less busy. In addition to her role at the surgery, Sarah-Jane also undertakes cover at the City Care Centre for the ‘111’ and Out of Hours services and utilizes her extensive experience to train other staff in emergency treatments such as CPR.

As the defibrillator located at Wansford surgery had recently saved a patient’s life, the meeting unanimously agreed with the officials’ recommendation to fund the purchase of an urgently needed replacement defibrillator for the Kings Cliffe surgery.

Dr Takhar reported that the practice is in negotiation for the purchase of a four acre site in Kings Cliffe (the old middle school site) with potential plans for a new surgery complex including a pharmacy, sheltered accommodation, an intermediary care home, training facilities and also a technical hub for possible internet contact and interaction. A project manager responsible for overseeing this development, including sourcing other organisations for a joint venture, is due to commence work shortly -- An estimate of the costs involved is between £7M and £10M with a time scale of 2-2.1/2 years to completion once under way. Further updates on progress will be given at future meetings.

The next meeting will be our annual general meeting on Wednesday 6th September at 6.30pm at Wansford surgery.

There is no coffee morning in August but we have a day trip to Bourton-on-the-Water in the Cotswolds on Wednesday 16th - to book contact Clare Wagstaffe 01780 470437 / superfoguik@aol.com

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Over the next 12 months the GP Hub, which is run by a group of local GP surgeries called the Greater Peterborough Network (GPN), will provide an extra 20,000 GP and nurse appointments to local residents.

For further information patients should speak to their GP practice's reception to find out more about booking appointments, they can also visit www.greaterpeterboroughgps.nhs.uk, or find Peterborough GP Hub on Facebook

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our new venture, the two day coach trip to Great Dixter and Sissinghurst Castle on 1st and 2nd July, was a great success. As well as the wonderful gardens visited, we all enjoyed the beautiful views of the Kent and East Sussex countryside to be had from the coach. Great Dixter garden was an exuberant explosion of colour, the legacy of the legendary Christopher Lloyd, and was enhanced by a fascinating



guided tour of his house. Our hotel in Maidstone was most welcoming and laid on dinner for us in a private dining room so that we were able to socialise and mull over the day's experiences. We could not have had more perfect weather for our second garden visit on the Sunday. Vita Sackville West's and Harold Nicholson's iconic garden was at its best, bathed in glorious sunshine under deep blue skies.

The Summer Social on 15th July was well attended and most enjoyable, particularly as we were lucky to benefit from a balmy summer's evening. It is swiftly followed by our private evening visit to the Walled Garden at Blatherwycke on 8th August. Joe Whitehead 's guided tours, which we have experienced twice before, first in 2012 then 2014, are so popular that it is already fully subscribed three weeks in advance of the event. Dare we hope for a dry, warm evening again?

The printed schedule for our **Annual Show on Bank Holiday Saturday, 26th August** will shortly be landing on your doormat. It is already online at www.wansfordhorticulturalsociety.org.uk . We will also be making our annual request for the donation of bottles – full, unopened! – to stock the society's bottle tombola at the show. It is an important element for us, as it raises valuable funds to help cover the considerable cost of hiring the marquee, paying for printing etc. etc. which roughly adds up to a staggering £2,500 each year. Many people in the village have been extremely generous in previous years and we would be most grateful for your support again for 2017. Of course we are also hoping for a record number of entries, so please take a look at the schedule with a view to supporting and delighting us with as many classes as possible. If you would like to run a stall or sideshow on the day, please get in touch.

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A Tale of a Lapsed Library Card and a Trip on the Book Bus

by Kate Hopkins

“Your mission, should you choose to accept it,” added our Editor in a serious manner, “is to investigate that mysterious blue van parked in the village every Tuesday.” Well actually, it did not start off quite like that but what a delight the “mission” proved to be!

The mobile library is staffed by Barry on some days and Roger on others. On a Wednesday in late May, I met Roger at Etton, his first stop. I climbed up into an Aladdin’s Cave of books for all tastes.* It is welcoming



and bright inside and there is even a children’s area at the one end complete with low level book storage and a play rug.

Roger gave me a brief tour and explained how, if a book is not available from the stock of 2500 on the vehicle, it can be ordered for collection, either from the vehicle or any of the Peterborough libraries. We then set off for the next stop since one of the priorities is to keep to schedule. In the unlikely event of the Mobile being unable to carry out a round, borrowers are emailed in advance and where possible, an alternative means of book delivery and collection are arranged.

Our next stop-off point brought an initial visitor with four books to return. There was a very quick turn around for these books since no sooner were they checked back in than they went out again with the next person up the steps, after what was essentially a condensed, informal book club review session held between the two ladies.



As we travelled to the next stop, Roger explained that the library service not only provides outreach into the areas away from Peterborough via the mobile unit, but also has a van delivery round taking boxes of books to care homes, home-schoolers and other individuals who may find it difficult to get to the regular mobile stops. In fact, the next stop fulfilled a similar purpose when Roger dropped off some

hand-picked books direct to the door of sheltered scheme resident. Here, we welcomed another first-time visitor who was delighted to find that there was a large selection of jig-saws stashed in the van, just waiting to be tackled.



The next stop was our busiest with five visitors and it was great to see this included two children brought in by their Mother for a weekly visit. Apparently the mobile also visits many day nurseries where small groups of children will visit the bus with a member staff so they may encounter the system even if parents are working full-time.

After a very pleasant morning, I contemplated how valuable it is that this moving venue provides a fixed time each week when people can have a quick chat with other local residents, Roger or Barry. Also, how useful it is that the children of busy parents can still be introduced to an endless supply of books, even if the main library is miles away. I realised that I



had not used the library system since moving out of Peterborough and I am pleased to say that I have since revisited the mobile, reinstated my membership, left with one book and ordered another which I was informed two days later, was now available for collection. How's that for service?



If you would like to find out more about the library service in our area I heartily recommend you pay a visit to the "Book Bus".

Drop-off times are shown on a poster on village notice boards. Alternatively you can find details online www.vivacity-peterborough.com/vivacity-venues/mobile-library or you can call 01733 864280. Hopefully we will have room in a further issue to print a "cut-out-and-keep" section of stops in the "Living Villages".

**There are actually only a couple of steps up onto the Mobile, assistance is readily available if needed and there is a lift if required.*

THORNHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

The Second Meeting of the 2017/2018 Thornhaugh Parish Council took place on 17th July 2017. It was chaired by Brian Watts, present were Liam Higgins, Ashleigh Kewney, Louise Molesworth and Chris Smith and in attendance were Lee Moore, PCC Footpaths Office, Nicholas Bailey, MD Joice & Hill, six Members of the Public and the Clerk.

Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.

Public Forum The Members of the Public raised no issues at the Meeting.

Home Farm Matters including Dog Foul Bin

Following comments at the last Parish Council Meeting, it was agreed that there would be no further action on the siting of the Dog Foul Bin at present. Martin Witherington stated that the work to dismantle the Noticeboard will be completed in the next two weeks.

Repair of the stone wall at the top of Russell Hill

The work to repair the stone wall at the top of Russell Hill will be undertaken in September 2017.

Improvements to Access onto the A1 Northbound

Brian Watts had received further contact from Marcia Eastman of Highways England and a feasibility study of the junction may be undertaken subject to funding.

Lights adjacent to Apple Grove

The owner has not yet made any changes to the lights and Brian Watts will discuss the issue with him.

Gate via the Path by the Chicken Farm

Brian Watts gave an up-to-date resume of the situation regarding the locked gate via the path by the chicken farm. Nicholas Bailey, MD Joice & Hill addressed the Parish Council on his company's viewpoint and Martin Witherington addressed the Parish Council on the Thornhaugh and Wittering residents' viewpoint. Lee Moore, PCC Footpaths Officer gave an explanation about the legal situation. After Nicholas Bailey and Lee Moore had left the meeting, the issue was discussed fully by the Parish Council. A suggestion was made for a Public Footpath to be located around the field south of the sheds and exiting into Russell Hill. It is hoped that this will be a compromise as Joice & Hill will not have to erect a fence and it will lessen the risk of the spread of disease. Brian Watts will send a map send to the Clerk outlining this suggestion which will be forwarded onto Nicholas Bailey.

Overgrown Footpaths

It was agreed that the condition of the footpaths will be monitored on an on-going basis.

Peterborough Local Plan Update

The Parish Councillors were shocked to discover that there is a proposed site for the development of 418 properties on the edge of Wansford. The Parish Councillors are also still concerned about the proposed site for the development

of 2,500 properties on the edge of Wittering. It was agreed that the Clerk will liaise with Wansford, Wittering, Castor and Sutton Parish Councils to ascertain whether a joint meeting to discuss these proposals should be arranged as it was felt that a combined response may carry more weight. Brian Watts will produce a flyer about the issue and distribute it to the Thornhaugh residents. In the meantime, the Parish Council will submit a letter registering its extreme objections to any development at both these potential sites.

Planning Application 17/01290 Super Service Station, Great North Road, Thornhaugh Thornhaugh Parish Council had no objections to the above but made the following observations:-

1. That the site is adequately fenced
2. That there is low light pollution (across to the fields towards the village of Thornhaugh)
3. That the access to the entrance/from the exit is improved

Date of Next Meeting

The Third Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council will take place at 7.00 pm on 25th September 2017 in St Andrew’s Church.

Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk



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WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

11 members of the public attended our meeting on July 10th attracted by the outline planning item "Construction of up to **14 prestige self-build dwellings and associated infrastructure** with access secured and all other matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) reserved – Field (known locally as **Seeds Field**) to the East of Old Pump House (Paws and Claws), Old Leicester Road, Wansford".

Most of the residents at the meeting were from properties in Robins Field and Robinswood which back on to Seeds Field. Objections to this proposal were not just "Nimbyism" but reasoned arguments highlighting the fact that that the field is outside the village envelope, the proposal is contrary to the Peterborough Plan which designates Wansford as a "small village" and concern over implications for the rest of Seeds Field development and the village as a whole. The Parish Council is not in favour of this planning application as proposed.

Any such expansion of the village should be of concern to all Wansford residents who wish to continue to enjoy living in a small village. So, too, the implications of the latest Department of Transport Investment Strategy issued July 2017 which confirms their committed plans from 2015/16 – 2021 which include "£4.4bn on major maintenance and renewals, as well as £9.4bn on projects to tackle congestion and make journeys smoother including upgrading **all** of the A1 to motorway standard as far as Newcastle". Any new land between the new motorway and the village would be a target for housing developers.

The dualling of the A47 also has implications for the village, and the incompetency of those in charge of the project is a cause for alarm as is the failure of Peterborough City Council to renew the road marking in the centre of the village.

The Parish Council does its best to have an impact on all these and other matters and welcomes support and comment from all residents. If you come to our meetings which start at 7:30 in the Community Hall, you will be encouraged to have your say and you can feel free to leave before the end of the meeting (which is usually at about 9:30).

Our next meeting is on Monday 21st August.

Tim Pearson

SIBSON-CUM-STIBBINTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Council meeting on the 5th July 2017 which was held at the Environment Centre 6 Parish Councillors were in attendance. County Councillor Simon Bywater and 7 members of the public were also in attendance.

Cllr Beuttell welcomed everyone to the meeting. Items of interest were:

The resident of No. 12 London road, who is neither the applicant for the Planning, or issuance of an Alcoholic Licence, attended the meeting to enquire why the PC had made comments objecting to both applications. It was pointed out that the time for consultation on the planning had passed, being the 22nd June, and the hearing for issuance of alcoholic licence was on the 25th July. The Parish Council therefore could not comment further as this matter is now in the hands of Huntingdon District Council.

Hutchinson's Yard – Residents living near to this site expressed their concerns about the work that was going on, in particular health and safety issues. Emails had been received listing the issues and problems the residents were encountering. Cllr Beuttell requested Cllr Bywater to view the site after the meeting so that CCC can be appraised of the issues. Cllr Bywater agreed.

Drains (Anglian Water) – man came out measured distance between two drains, lorry attended site – flushed water through – area still floods.

Defibrillator – Cllr Beuttell meeting with company to look at various models.

17/01195/HHFUL - Demolition of existing rear and side extensions to be replaced with new rear side and front extensions. This includes a two-storey side extension, two-storey rear extension, single storey front extension and single storey rear extension. High Leys Farm Elton Road Sibson Peterborough PE8 6JZ – no observations made.

HDC (request for tree works) – HDC received letter from "Stibbington Residents" no contact address/name given – HDC will visit all sites that have been identified on their mapping system in Stibbington asap.

Traffic Calming and Parking still an issue – the Parish Council is investigating various solutions and once all information is obtained it will be circulating to the public.

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STIBBINGTON AND WANSFORD WI

The July meeting of the WI featured hat making. Our speaker, Dorothy Wood showed us a range of hats that she had made whilst telling us the story of her journey through hat making. Our members had also gone with the theme and sported a variety of head gear.

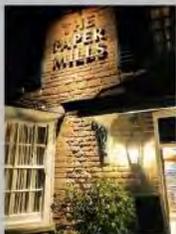
The WI also visited Tolethorpe to see Hobson's Choice, but sadly it was the evening of the huge thunderstorm and the audience found themselves entertained by the lightning and popping lighting systems as much as by the cast. The performance was brought to an early close for the first time in more than 20 years.

As we move into the summer holidays our events are less frequent. The summer social will take place on August 8th, but our 3C's coffee morning is suspended for the month.

Our meeting on September 12th will be an open meeting and held at St Mary's Church. The talk for the evening will be about the prison at Norman Cross, the lost town of Huntingdonshire. If you would like to hear more about this interesting topic please join us at 7.30.p.m.

Please contact me if you would like to join us for any of our events, and more details and news can now be found on our blog www.swwiblog.com

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The event was arranged to raise funds for **NoGainNoPain** which is a local charity raising awareness and supplying syringe drivers for use in the community and thanks to amazing support from everyone, the full £1100.00 to buy another for our area was raised





Wansford Ukulele Folk enjoying singing and playing

A special thank you to Satish and Heena at Wansford Post Office for supplying the welcome drink and Maltesers for the Malteser Challenge. Sainsbury's Bretton for the Doritos, Kings Cliff Bakery for the rolls, Joan and Alan Bolton-Frost for the pork pies, Angela Roberts for the smoked salmon, Barbara Jones, Jane Hein, Jennie Gatheral, Jo Roberts, Molly Turner and Sheila Presland for the cakes.

The Black Horse Nassington, The Paper Mills, Mandi Veni, John Hale, Sue Kirk and Jane Hein for their generous contributions to the raffle. - And last but not least, the lovely lady who donated the last £50 to bring it to such an amazing total.

For more information on **NoGainNoPain**, visit the website: <http://ngnpuk.weebly.com> or www.facebook.com/ngnpuk

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The July Monthly draw has been completed and the winners for the draw are shown here.

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Many years ago at school I carried out a project to collect and press a collection of wild flowers during the Easter holidays. Whilst expecting due praise for my efforts I was surprised to be asked 'Where are the grasses?' My teacher correctly pointed out that, botanically, grasses have flowers just as buttercups have large single flowers and dandelions have a mass of composite florets in their flower head.

Indeed grasses are the most widespread of all the plants. Any view of a green landscape is largely made up of trees and grass. There may be many green leaves on one tree but a relatively small garden lawn will be made up of thousands of individual grass plants and blades forming an attractive green sward. Gardeners also plant clumps of grasses as ornamental points of interest in their plantings, the vertical blades and flower stems of grass contrasting with the more rounded shapes of other garden plants.

Roadside verges and general sports fields will consist largely of ryegrass; your lawn will include finer grasses such as fescues in the mix. Golf courses display a wider range; the greens consisting of fescues and bents to provide the finest turf of all, fairway grass will be similar to your lawn and the rough will be rough - a mix of naturally wild grasses and a few broadleaved weeds thrown in.

Farmers grow by far and away the largest grass areas. Cows, sheep and horses graze in pastures consisting of a variety of species depending on the animal and type of soil. Ryegrass, Timothy Grass and Cocksfoot are favoured common species. These grasses are also grown for a hay crop as dried grass to save for winter feed or cut green as silage for the same purpose. However most of their other crops are grasses too. Wheat, barley and oats are cultivated forms of grass that have been bred over centuries to provide huge yields of food for our ever increasing populations.

Large tracts of wilder countryside show the greatest diversity of grasses: the Steppes of Central Asia and the Pampas of South America. The huge animal herds in central and Southern Africa could not exist without the grassy plains. The grass grows quickly in the rainy season and is grazed by the vast numbers of wildebeest and antelope. The herds move on and after a year the rains turn, engendering this vast clockwise movement of animalkind.

We may not boast large animals in our own countryside but we do have our own field of Elephant Grass. In a field near the bridge on the Yarwell/Elton Road is a field of Miscanthus. This giant grass grows three metres in a year and when dry is cut and baled and used as a biofuel in power stations. So don't ignore grass. It can be functional, useful and beautiful too.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

A warm hello from me; Chris Tomlinson, the new General Manager of the Haycock Hotel in our lovely village of Wansford. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the village and let you know of my intentions whilst I hold the reins of the hotel. I am a family orientated Derbyshire boy born and bred and have worked in many hotels during my career including the Red star, 3 rosette Bella Luce Hotel, Restaurant and Spa on Guernsey, the Hand Picked Hotels Group and the red star 3 rosette Peacock Hotel in Derbyshire. I still live in the beautiful Peak District with my wife Jade and daughter Rose who was born last August (pictured).

As General Manager I am very proud to take over the Haycock and drive the business forward setting new standards of service and hospitality en route. Speaking to many of you locally I concede that errors of judgement have been made in the past. Some of these I am unable to change however others are most definitely within my power and indeed I have the passion and determination for my own peace of mind to ensure these are changed. The Haycock is physically a large business in the heart of the village and I would like to work with you all to play our rightful part in village life and start to gain the trust of loyalty of the community back again. I cannot promise overnight change and it is important to note that this is a two way deal however I hope you will see the journey we are making and support us on it.



I very much look forward to working in the village and it will be my pleasure to greet you should you be visiting the Haycock in the near future.

Best wishes
Chris Tomlinson

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Dear Tracy,

Stamford and Rutland Photographic Society (formerly Stamford Photographic Society) was set up in 1996 to give local photographers, with a broad range of abilities, the opportunity to share their knowledge and experience, and the chance to hone their skills.

The society draws its members from a wide area and they meet in a friendly and informal atmosphere.

Competitions are held at the monthly meetings. Each has a specific theme, and they are usually judged by the members themselves. The competition subjects cover a diverse range. This year alone, such topics as 'Movement', 'Through the Glass', 'Timepieces', and 'Red' have been tackled. One of the most interesting and fun aspects is seeing how very differently the members interpret the image topics.

Two of the competitions each year are classed as 'Open', giving members a free hand to express themselves in their own way, and external judges are invited to adjudicate in the 'Landscape', 'Portrait', and the projected digital images competitions.

All of these take place during the first half of the evening meetings, and are followed by talks, photographic displays or informal discussions - after some well-earned refreshments!

Various photo shoots are organised throughout the year (we have just done one at Oakham Castle), and exhibitions are held to showcase members' work. Stamford Arts Centre is hosting one from 13th December, 2017 to 8th January, 2018, and Oakham Museum from 20th January to 3rd March, 2018.

Visitors and new members are always most welcome. Meetings

are on the third Thursday of each month, from 8.00pm to 10.00pm at Great Casterton Church Hall.

For more information, please visit www.stamford-photosoc.org.uk

Or contact the secretary Gordon Brown - secretary@stamford-photosoc.org.uk



DIARY DATES – AUGUST 2017

Sun 6	Cricket v Digby	1.30pm	Home	John Stones	782109	
Tues 8	WI Summer Social	7.15pm		Jan Armitage	789996	27
8 Aug	Hort Society visit		Blatherwycke	Gill Fisher	782446	16
Wed 9	Welcome Coffee Stop	10.30am	St Mary's	Dora Baker	782519	9
Sun 13	Cricket v Old East	2.00pm	Away	John Stones	782109	
Wed 16	Communicare visit to Bourton-on-the Water			Clare Wagstaff	470437	14
Sun 20	Cricket v Welby	1.30pm	Home	John Stones	782109	
Mon 21	Wansford Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Community Hall	Wendy Gray	01778 441312	24
Wed 23	Welcome Coffee Stop	10.30am	St Mary's	Dora Baker	782519	9
Sat 26	Hort Society Annual Show	1.00pm	Haycock Field	Gill Fisher	782446	23
Sun 27	Water Newton Music Fest	12.00 - 7.30pm	Water Newton Village Green	Tony Capon	01733 237500	10
Sun 27	Cricket v Orton Park	1.00pm	Away	John Stones	782109	
Mon 28	137th Nassington and Yarwell Garden Show	2.00 - 5.00pm	Nassington Cricket Field			
2/3 Sept	Peterborough Car Show		Embankment		01733 747474	13
6 Sept	Friends of St Mary's and St Andrew's	10.30am	Community Hall	Dora Baker	782519	9
6 Sept	Communicare	6.30pm	Wansford Surgery	Clare Wagstaff	470437	14
9/10 Sept	Italian Festival		Cathedral Square			
12 Sept	WI Summer Open meeting	7.30pm	St Mary's	Jan Armitage	789996	27

Copy deadline next month: 20th August 2017

editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

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