



# *Living Villages*

*July 2017*

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



# EDITORIAL

This month I would like to express my thanks to all the volunteer distributors of this wonderful magazine. In particular last month I was so grateful that Mark (and Kate) Hopkins did the main distribution for Rod as were we away enjoying the delights of the Hay Festival. However without the 20 or so 'house to house' distributors we have around our villages, this magazine would not arrive through your letter box each month. Occasional they like us have holidays which clash with the end of the month distribution, so if you would be interested in becoming one of our relief/occasional volunteers please let Rod know.

In this edition you are finally able to read the promised articles on Kairos Prison Ministry: Pre war occupants of Church Road, Stibbington: Home Security and the past residents of Sulehey Wood, which at some time will also be followed by an article about Kings Cliffe airfield and the 'Haycock Belle'. We also sent Mark Hopkins on a visit to an Archery club following an invitation to join them for a taster session. Elsewhere you can read reports about our many organisations and societies in the villages - many offer open invites for you to join them.

As always I am always looking for new ideas for articles about things connected with our villages. Please let me know if you have a suggestion or would like to contribute.

**Tracy Sortwell**

**Editor:** Tracy Sortwell  
**Treasurer:** Sue Kudlinski  
**Distribution manager:** Rod Sortwell  
**Advertising Manager:** Kate Hopkins  
**Printing and collation:** PPS/ Print

**Front Page:** John Measures  
**Special Reports** Rod Sortwell  
Mark Hopkins  
**Regular features writers:**  
Reflections: Jane Tailby  
Nature Notes: Graham Blagden

## CONTENTS

Contacts	4
Worship Lists	5
Reflections	7

### NEWS REPORTS:

Friends of churches:	
St Mary's & St Andrews	9
Water Newton	10
Stibbington Centre	15
Hort Society	23
WI	27

### PARISH COUNCILS:

Wansford	24
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### SPECIAL FEATURES:

Kairos	11
Village Memories	14
Home Security	16
The Lost Village	20-22
Archery	28-29

### REGULARS:

Nature Notes	35
Lottery	36
Letters to the Editor	36/37

<b>Diary Dates</b>	<b>38</b>
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**Editorial team** *For contact details see p 4*

Read your magazine on-line at [www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](http://www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)

# DIRECTORY OF CONTACTS

## Living Villages Editorial Team

Editor	<b>Tracy Sortwell</b> editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk	07841 382063
Treasurer	<b>Sue Kudlinski</b> sue.kudlinski@btinternet.com	07983 570684
Distribution Manager	<b>Rod Sortwell</b> r.sortwell@btinternet.com	01780 783403
Advertising Manager	<b>Kate Hopkins</b> katehopkins5@gmail.com	07580 218792

## Parish Councils

Sutton	Peter Lee (Chairman)	01780 782703
Wansford	Wendy Gray (Clerk)	01778 441312
Sibson-cum-Stibbington	Wendy Gray (Clerk)	01778 441312
Thornhaugh	Deirdre McCumiskey (Clerk)	01780 782668
Water Newton (Parish Meeting)	Stephen Went (Chairman)	01733 230628

## Churches

<b>Ministers:</b> Thornhaugh & Wansford		01780 782271
Stibbington, Sutton, Castor & Water Newton		01733 380900
	<a href="mailto:admin.castor@btconnect.com">admin.castor@btconnect.com</a>	

### Churchwardens:

St Andrew's Thornhaugh:	Stuart Foreman	01780 783220
	Liz Kemp	01780 782333
St Mary's Wansford:	Caroline Ashley	01780 782408
	Alan Jones	01780 783205
St John the Baptist, Stibbington	Richard Winfrey	01780 782431
	Carol Lindsay	01780 782338

### Friends:

St Mary's & St Andrew's	Dora Baker	01780 782519
St John the Baptist	Helen Facer	01780 782932
St Remigius Water Newton	Tony Capon	01733 237500

## Other useful contacts

Neighbourhood Policing 101		P'boro City Council	01733 747474
Wansford Surgery	01780 782342	Royal British Legion	01780 782200
(Out of hours	111 option 4)	Stibbington & Wansford WI . .	789996
Wansford Pharmacy	01780 781616	Cricket Club	01780 782109
Communicare	01780 470437	Horticultural Society	01780 782446
H'don District Council	01480 388388	Stibbington Centre	01780 782386

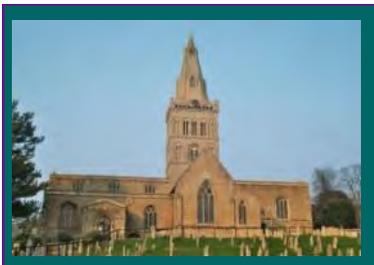
## Website

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# WORSHIP JULY 2017



<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Service</b>
2 July	9.30am	St Andrews, Thornhaugh	Morning Prayer
	10.15am	St Kyneburgh, Castor	Holy Communion
	4.00pm	St Remigius, Water Newton	Strawberry Service and Fayre
9 July	9.00am	St Michael & All Angels, Sutton	Family Service
	9.30am	St Marys, Wansford	Holy Communion with Choir
16 July	9.30am	St Andrews, Thornhaugh	Holy Communion
	10.15am	St Kyneburgh, Castor	Holy Communion
23 July	9.00am	St Michael & All Angels, Sutton	Holy Communion
	9.30am	St Marys, Wansford	Morning Praise - Family Service
	10.15am	St Kyneburgh, Castor	Holy Communion



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"Come and have coffee." That simple sentence can sometimes mean a great deal. It might be an opportunity for someone new to the village to feel welcomed and to make a new friend. It might give someone the chance to share a difficult time, a bereavement or an illness, with a sympathetic listener. Or it might just be a chance to catch up and have a chat. Whatever it is might be, having a cup of coffee or tea with someone seems to open social channels; it gives us an excuse to get together, if you like.

Getting together over coffee can be a village thing as well. In Wansford we have our splendid new Coffee Stop every other Wednesday morning in St. Mary's Church. It is wonderful to see people enjoying time with each other, catching up, maybe bringing a neighbour who doesn't get out much, and those coming on their own because they know they will find a warm welcome and someone to talk to. And the cake is very good as well!

Of course, there are many coffee mornings and the like around our villages, places where people give their time (and cake making skills!) to provide a place where people can meet and spend time with each other. We need those times to get together and share time with each other. That is important, of course for those who live alone, but also for those caught up in the world of work or family life with hardly any opportunity to pause and think about the world "out there".

Meeting together in such a way can also help us to share the tragedies and pains of life as well as the joys. It may be a personal tragedy or sadness, or the distress of a national disaster or act of violence, where we need to talk to others about how we feel about something so far away from us, yet that touches us so deeply. We seem to have had so many of those recently; terrorist attacks in London and Manchester as well as the dreadful Grenfell Tower fire. In the midst of all the horror of such events there are so many stories of heroism and kindness; whether it is someone putting themselves in danger to protect another, or offering a stranger lift to safety or a place to stay. Such moments reflect the sense of value of another person – they are worth helping – that stand out against terrorist attacks that see no value in those that are targeted, or the feeling that some of our communities have been forgotten and have not been valued by government or local councils.

Our "little" gestures of inviting someone for coffee, or organising a get-together can be our ways of showing that we value others; that they are worth making time for. That can be our own response to events that seem to devalue others. In the Bible we find so many examples of how much God values us, his love and his care for his creation, and we can reflect that love of God in how we treat others. How will we show someone else that they are valued today? There are so many different ways we can help and make time for others as our way of feeling we *can* do something in response to the distress that seems to surround us.

So thank you to all those who organise coffee mornings and cafés, you are making a difference, and not just to coffee lovers like myself! And thank you to all of you who are good neighbours and kind friends, that help others to feel that someone cares about them and that they are worth something. You are lights shining in the darkness of our world – light that nothing can defeat. Now, anyone for a cup of coffee?

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# FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AND ST ANDREW'S

At the Coffee STOP on June 14<sup>TH</sup> the local WI took over the catering and serving to help us celebrate The Great Get-Together in memory of Jo Cox MP. It was a very happy occasion. The Friends enjoyed sitting back and being served, as well as meeting new friends and neighbours.

At our last meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> it was decided to send £100 of the money raised at the Coffee STOP to "MAKE A DIFFERENCE SCHOOLS – MOMBASA", and a further £100 from our funds to the victims of the **Grenfell Tower** disaster.

**Date of the next Meeting** is Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July. We shall attend Morning Prayer at St. Mary's at 10 a.m. as usual and afterwards meet at The Haycock Hotel to celebrate several Birthdays.

This will be our last official meeting until September 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Coffee STOP meetings will continue to run through the summer months on every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at St. Mary's after Morning Prayer at 10 a.m.

Please come along and enjoy the lovely home-made delicacies and meeting new and old friends.

*Dora Baker*

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## An Evening of Musical Entertainment



It was a case of standing room only at a sell out Concert in Wansford Church on Friday 16th June. The entertainment was provided by the 21 strong **Wansford Ukulele Folk** whose membership is largely drawn from Wansford and surrounding village and who practice in The Cross Keys Wansford. The Band performed a wide variety of songs including Irish, Country, Beatles, 1960s, 1970s and even some modern hits. A number of the arrangements of the songs include instrumentals from a various different instruments.

Also on the bill was a 6 strong men's acapella group called **Fellacapella** who are based in Grantham. They provided a contrasting offering of serious and frivolous songs in 3 part harmony.



Audience participation was encouraged throughout and all seemed to have an enjoyable evening. Future events for Wansford Ukulele Folk include Stamford Music Festival in July and Water Newton Music Fest in August.

## FRIENDS OF ST REMIGUIS - WATER NEWTON STRAWBERRY FAYRE

Our next service and celebration on **Sunday 2nd July at 4pm** is our annual 'Strawberry Service' followed by an Afternoon Strawberry Tea. Come and celebrate summer in the sunshine in the idyllic riverside setting of the Church of St. Remigius, Water Newton.

You can be sure of fun, great company and a truly sumptuous strawberry cream afternoon tea with us by the river - Now that's quintessentially English!. A small charge of £5 to cover the cost will be requested for your delicious cream tea. Everybody welcome.

**Tony Capon**



# KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY

Changing Lives, Changing Prisons, Changing the World

**What is the Kairos Ministry all about?** The 5-day programme in Stocken Prison in March 2017 was an opportunity to show 17 men the love of Jesus and His wish to forgive those, who turn to him. We bring these truths in a tangible form to men who may feel that their crimes render them unforgivable and who may never have experienced Agape style love. On Kairos, men's hearts and lives change. Hope is reborn. ([www.Kairosprisonministry.org.uk](http://www.Kairosprisonministry.org.uk))

**Cookies? God feeds those he loves** Food is a way that God shows people He has not abandoned them and that He cares for them. It is love in an edible form! He fed the Hebrews manna and quails in the wilderness. Jesus ate with the publicans and sinners and fed the five thousand, 'lest they go hungry away'. So some of you were part of the team of bakers, who kindly baked 14500 cookies for all the men and the staff. Cookies are part of the Agape love we shared. The men were astounded that people they had never met were prepared to offer home baked cookies, a luxury to those in prison. They also gave packets of biscuits as peace offerings.

**Following on from Kairos Mission.** The mission week is only the start. The team continue to meet the men on the **Journey Programme**, which runs for 6 months. Of the 17 men on the first mission three have left the prison for other prisons, no doubt spreading the good news about the benefits of Kairos. The remaining 14 men are now firmly in the gravitational pull of Jesus' love. They all seem committed to completing their "journey". Chapel attendance has increased and there is a buzz everywhere!

We continue to share worship with the men showing them how 'spiritual listening' can lead to conversational door-openers, to help shy men to feel free to share their deeper issues, very different from the normal prison talk. The chaplain will be seeking to foster the setting up of Christ centred "Prayer-and-share" groups linking Kairos graduates with mature Christians on the wings, so that these groups can be places where Kairos graduates can not only grow their faith, but can be of support to prisoners who might for many reasons be feeling vulnerable. Hopefully they will be a positive influence on the wings.

**Personal Stories** There has been much fruit already. Participant N has left the prison and has connected with a church on release. He says he was much changed by the Kairos experience. Participant J has begun praying daily for the first time in his life and is engaging with Chapel activities and shows much greater confidence. Participant D has decided to join the Chapel band. Participant D and T feel more equipped to handle issues with officers than before. They plan to use their recently improved spiritual centering to try to mend bridges in the coming week.

So a big THANK YOU for all your prayers and cookies.

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# WATER NEWTON MUSIC FEST 2017

Bank Holiday Sunday 27th August

The full line up for this year's Water Newton Music Fest has now been released.

The organisers of this ever popular event will be showcasing a great selection of popular local bands including:

'The Gangsters', 'Latino Sound', 'Wansford Ukulele Folk', 'Pennyless' and 'Gone to The Dogs'.

The open air one day event starts at 12 noon and is held on the village green with continuous music through to 7.30pm.

This year there will be delicious 'street' food, wood fired pizzas, a beer tent serving real ales supplied by Castor Ales and a 'Pimms & Bubbles' bar.

Be sure to note the date in your diaries and let all your friends know of the event. Why not make up a party?

Tickets are now on sale:- [www.waternewtonvillage.co.uk](http://www.waternewtonvillage.co.uk)

This is a charity gig with all profits going to 'The Friends of St Remigius Water Newton' to help maintain and improve the ancient church in this delightful hamlet on the banks of the River Nene.

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

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017  
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*As promised last month here is the list of residents who used to live in what was then called the 'Council Houses' and are now known as Church Lane. Readers will remember that Nan used this list as a method of trying to get to sleep! She eventually decided to write them all down. The houses are no longer numbered in the same way - just the odd numbers being used. TS*

### CHURCH LANE, STIBBINGTON 1938/40 (numbered from east to west then)

- No 1 Mr and Mrs Jack Clipsham and brother Donald (worked at Miss Moulds, grocers)
- No 2 Mr and Mrs Rayment and son George
- No 3 District Nurse
- No 4 Mr and Mrs Theed (Paperman) and son Billy (German POW 2nd WWar)
- No 5 Mr and Mrs Dorrington (Postman) son Bobby. daughters Joan and Barbara, Mrs Baisley (housekeeper) and daughter Shirley
- No 6 Mr and Mrs Rogers (elderly couple) family grown up
- No 7 Mr and Mrs Adams (Peter Brotherhood) and son Ronnie
- No 8 Mr and Mrs Gilbert, Jim, Bertha, Hazel, Ivor and Rosie
- No 9 Mr and Mrs White (AA man) and son Raymond
- No 10 Mr and Mrs Frank Howard (wife Louie) (worked in fathers shop in village) Marlene and Brian
- No 11 Mr and Mrs Nobby Clark (Roadman)
- No 12 Mr and Mrs Eassom (Railwayman) and son Frank
- No 13 Mr and Mrs Roat Death (wife Ethel) (Haulage contractor), daughters Josephine, Vera and Celia Nancy
- No 14 Mr and Mrs Jack Howard (wife Edie) (Quarry worker) John, Malcolm, Peter and Carol

### Built in 1946

- No 15 Moira Smith and husband and 3 children
- No 16 Mr and Mrs Wilf Simmonds (wife Joan) and son

I remember playing on the village green in front of houses 7-10. There were steel chains on posts either side of tall trees at the front where we used to swing and we would play around the bases of the old trees using the roots as room dividers.





## STIBBINGTON CENTRE NEWS

What extremes of weather we have had lately! One of our visiting schools thought up the brilliant phrase **#drippybuthappy** when using social media to describe the children's mood during an activity! At other times, ensuring hats have been readily available and sunscreen applied has been a priority. This all backs up the saying that there is no such thing as bad weather just inappropriate clothing.



We are particularly pleased with how successful our new raised beds have been. These upcycled baths were recently installed by our valued volunteers and are well cared for by the children on residential visits.

### Stibbington Community Classes

As you can see, June's willow workshop was as popular as ever. This was very pleasing since this was the first time a workshop has been held on a week day.



Also held in June, the silk painting workshop proved to be just as relaxing as it sounds and I am sure a further session will be held in the future.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01780 782386

Email: [cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

You can also use the following links:

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Community classes: [www.facebook.com/stibbingtoncommunityclasses](http://www.facebook.com/stibbingtoncommunityclasses)

# Simple tips to avoid the post-holiday property burglary blues

WHETHER you've booked a week or two in the sun or have a planned a short family break – don't forget to add home security to your money, passport, tickets checklist. Make sure it's not a case of out of sight, out of mind when it comes to protecting your property when you are away. We can all greatly reduce the risk of burglary by taking a few simple security measures to help make our home less attractive to thieves. It is well known that most burglars are opportunists, and target homes and businesses that offer the least risk of being caught. Whether you're going away for a day or a few weeks, you should take steps to make your home look occupied. A dark home in the evenings and uncollected mail is a sign to burglars that no one is home.

Before you go on holiday:

- Cancel milk and newspaper deliveries
- Set up automatic timer switches to turn your lights on when it gets dark
- Register for the Royal Mail's 'keepsake' service
- Move valuable items out of view of windows
- Cut front and back lawns and trim back plants
- Don't discuss holiday plans on social media
- Ask a trusted neighbour to watch over your home whilst you're away

And there are steps you can take to keep your home safe and secure, even if you are simply spending an evening entertaining alfresco or are using a sunny day to get to grips with the gardening.

If you are at home, but are spending time outdoors:

- Ensure all windows and doors are closed and locked
- If you are switching between front and back gardens, don't leave lawn mowers or power tools unattended
- Make sure you lock all gates and sheds when you return indoors
- Keep the door chain in the front door
- Keep all valuables and keys out of sight and out of reach of doors and windows
- Keep items that could be used to break into your property such as ladders, tools and wheelie bins stored safely away
- Use pea shingle on driveways or under windows, as it crunches loudly when stepped on.

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***Eileen Le Voi - Safe Local Trades***

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**Mask Theatre** Central Park 10 to 15 July

## AUGUST

**Peterborough Lions Centenary Celebration** Cathedral Square 19 August



**CAMRA 40th Peterborough Beer Festival**  
Riverside Embankment  
22 to 26 August

**Itter Park Fun Day** Itter Park 6 August

## SEPTEMBER



**KeyFest**  
Key Theatre / Riverside Embankment  
2 to 3 September

**Classic and Vintage Vehicle Show**  
Riverside Embankment  
2 to 3 September



**Italian Festival**  
Cathedral Square  
9 to 10 September

**Peterborough Bridge Fair**  
Riverside Embankment 28 September to 8 October

## OCTOBER

**Civic Opening of Bridge Fair and Sausage Supper** Town Hall 3 October

**Perkins Great Eastern Run**  
Riverside Embankment  
8 October



**Diwali Festival**  
Cathedral Square  
14 October

**Mr Fips Circus**  
Riverside Embankment  
23 October to 5 November



## NOVEMBER

**Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday** City Centre 11 and 12 November



**Christmas Lights Switch-on**  
Cathedral Square  
18 November

## DECEMBER



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Little did I realise when I wrote my hastily researched article about a walk through Sulehay Woods that I would



be writing another one to correct some earlier mistakes and add a lot of new information. I was contacted by several people who had stories and family connections that made really interesting research. I think the most obvious error was that the woods provided shelter for US servicemen based at nearby Kings Cliffe airfield. A few may have been there but their main encampment was in Bedford Purlieus forest to the north of the Kings Cliffe road and incidentally completely within the Thornhaugh parish. But that is another story for a future edition.

There is also a belief that Italian POW's were housed at some stage during the war years but I have found

little to support this. There were of course many prison camps in the UK with the inmates providing a workforce for local farmers. However, it appears they were moved around as more and more arrived from the European front lines. National records appear incomplete, perhaps it is not unsurprising considering the urgency for national survival at the time. The Sibson airfield locality also housed German POW's and in post war years many refugees from Eastern Europe lived there up until 1959. They are mentioned by our reader Nan Alden who also commented on them being taken by bus to Peterborough on Saturday afternoon for shopping. A more detailed account is given by Peter Waszak in the Peterborough Local History Society Magazine 2011/12.



The foundations of a number of buildings can still be found in Sulehay and apparently these were built for British Army use in 1940 and first occupied

by the Royal Norfolk Regiment. During construction Roman coffins were found indicating very early human habitation. The Norfolks were followed by The Royal Engineers and by 1944 the Leicestershire Regiment took up occupancy prior to D Day. We know this from Nan Alden, originally from Stibbington, who was a pupil at the school during the war years. Through the village grapevine the children heard that they could see the army on the move one afternoon if they went and sat on the school fence by the A1. They were not disappointed as a long convoy of trucks drove south through the village and over the Nene Valley Railway crossing on their way to the south coast.

The woods were then occupied by the Polish Army Parachute brigade who had been hastily formed from men who had escaped German or Russian occupied territories to join the Allies in their conflict with Axis forces. These men were initially trained in Scotland before moving to Grantham for final training and then billeting in the woods.

as they did not fancy Eastern bloc deprivations in their homeland or were considered too contaminated by Western Ideology. I am indebted to Toni Palenski a well-known local military historian, whose father Leon was a paratrooper, for this information.



***Leon Palenski***



These men were then at the forefront of Operation Market Garden (Arnhem, A Bridge too Far) and experienced further personal hardship in this less than successful operation. Many of them returned to Britain after the war

His story is one of amazing fortitude and survival. Leon's village was captured by Russian forces in the early part of the war and able bodied men were sent to a Siberian camp as punishment for perceived war crimes. After a year or two the gates were opened and they were told that they could go free. This meant walking as far away as possible to avoid cold and further punishment, and many walked or hitched to Persia (Iran). Here they were able to link up with the Allies and by tortuous routes find their way

to England to join the free Polish Army. Having lost some toes to frostbite, Toni's father decided that jumping out of aeroplanes was preferable to marching. After the war he returned to Nassington to marry the local girl he met during his time here.

But the Sulehay story does not end here. Immediately post war many overcrowded local families saw there was some well-equipped local accommodation available. Eventually between 50 and 60 families totalling at least 200 and 300 people, including an aunt and uncle of Toni Palenski and my contact Terry Chalkley, lived in the woods until the late 1950's. The community also contained a hostel for single women from Eastern Europe while single men and families were housed at Sibson. It is said that RAF aerial photos showed a well beaten path between the two sites. This was a self-contained community with mains electricity, flush toilets, water supply and street lighting. There was even a shop/post office, a bar, a picture house and a Sunday School.



***Discarded kitchenware***

Our recently retired newspaper delivery man, Maurice Leigh, gave once weekly film shows to the

community. It was known locally as Tin Town presumably because all buildings had corrugated iron roofs. Road access was via the entrance at the western end opposite Old Sulehay Lodge. Terry, whose mother ran the shop, was born without midwife or nurse in attendance - apparently local services were reluctant to attend the woods and their inhabitants. Children attended Nassington or Yarwell Schools. It is difficult to imagine them walking through the woods in all weathers and then by field or road in contrast to the current school run. As always I am indebted to our local historians David Stuart-Mogg and Peter Waszak for their information and verification of facts, as well of course to Nan Alden, Toni Palenski and Terry Chalkley for their personal recollections.



***Photo recently taken of the area around the toilet block***

# HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Writing this during a mini heatwave with the garden thermometer showing 33 degrees in the shade and the house 28 degrees, I am hoping that our forthcoming summer events fall on days with no extremes , just warm, sunny and dry!

We have plenty to look forward with our two day coach trip to Great Dixter and Sissinghurst on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> July and the **Summer Social on 15<sup>th</sup> July**. This year it returns to the garden at Stone and Willow, 59, Elton Road after ringing the changes last year. (If wet in the Christie Hall.) We have to restrict numbers attending to an absolute maximum of 60, so please do contact me if you would like to join us for what is always a very sociable event. Start time 7 p.m.



This is followed by our private evening visit to the **Walled Garden at Blatherwycke on 8<sup>th</sup> August**. Joe and Helen Whitehead are looking forward to welcoming us back for our third visit. More details of this event will be included in the next issue of Living Villages, but do reserve the date.

Of course we are gearing up for the **Annual Show on Bank Holiday Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> August**. The schedule for this year's show is online at [www.wansfordhorticulturalsociety.org.uk](http://www.wansfordhorticulturalsociety.org.uk) with a few changes since last time. We are particularly keen to encourage more children to enter this year and to that end one of our hard working members has been canvassing schools in the area and delivering leaflets and posters to them. All the children's classes are grouped together at the end of the online schedule, but if you would like a copy emailed to you, or indeed the leaflet and poster, please get in touch at the address below.

As well as horticultural, culinary and craft delights on show in the big marquee on August 26<sup>th</sup> there will be music, stalls, lunches and teas. Once again there will be a fun dog show, which will be under new management this year, so look out for the different classes of entries. There is bound to be a category which will suit your family pooch to a tee!

**Gill Fisher, 01780 782446 [fisher.gill@yahoo.com](mailto:fisher.gill@yahoo.com)**



## WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Wansford Parish Council** met on 12 June, five councillors, the Parish Clerk and two members of the public were present.

### **A47 Picnic Site**

Highways England still procrastinates about doing anything to clear up the site and its unwanted activities, WPC are in contact with the Police and Crime Commissioner requesting assistance.

### **Planning**

17/00864/ful East Northants Yarwell Mill Country Park, application to widen stone bridge, WPC had no concerns.

17/00984/TRE Application to fell Larch Tree and lop a beech branch, PCC trees officer to advise.

17/00953/ADV Non illuminated sign to ArcHaus carpark, no objection.

### **Access to the Community Hall**

WPC is still continuing to progress a hand rail and lighting, our replacement contractor soon to start these works , hopefully it will be completed before the next meeting please!

### **Children's Play Area**

Peterborough City Council have been contracted to carry out annual checks on the structure.

### **20MPH Speed Limit**

WPC is still pursuing this speed restriction to the centre of the village and the bridge.

### **Christie Hall**

We were pleased to note the roof cladding has been replaced and decoration and other repairs are in hand.

### **BT telephone Box**

WPC are purchasing this for £1 from BT and will install a defibrillator.

### **Obstructions to Footpaths**

Concerns were raised about a hedge obstructing the footpath in Peterborough Road, and a yew tree branches from the Church Yard. There are other footpaths where low hanging branches are obstructing the path to taller residence!, could the property owners please give them a trim.

The next meeting of Wansford Parish Council will be in the Community Hall at 7:30pm on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July. All are welcome.

**Cllr Martyn Handley**

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## STIBBINGTON AND WANSFORD WI

Our end of May bake sale was very successful, raising £154 towards our funds and our annual Charity. Please note that the next bake sale will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> September as part of a Macmillan Coffee morning.

An intrepid 7 members braved the high winds of Liverpool to attend the WI AGM. It was a really interesting day with passionate speakers for both resolutions on loneliness and plastic soup. Both resolutions were confirmed by the membership, so watch out for new WI campaigning. Fortunately we were spared the need to slow hand clap any politicians!!



Our monthly meeting hosted a speaker on behalf of the ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World) which is a charity that the WI supports nationally. There are 9 million members of the ACWW worldwide, and each year they fund about 30 projects to improve the lives of women and their dependants in countries such as Kenya, Romania and India. We support the ACWW on a monthly basis by collecting any share change – we call it “pennies for friendship”- if you would like to collect and send us any small change for this worthy cause please contact me.

We were delighted to be able to work with the Friends of St Mary’s to hold a Great Get together coffee morning at the Church on June 14<sup>th</sup> in memory of Jo Cox. It is true that we have more in common than divides us!

We have a busy July. The **3C’s craft club** will meet on **7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July** in the Community Hall, 10 til 12 noon. We will also be visiting **Tolethorpe** on **July 6<sup>th</sup>** to see Hobson’s Choice – this fun outing will be preceded by a delicious picnic.

The **book club** will meet on **27<sup>th</sup> July** at The Haycock.

Our group meeting on **July 11<sup>th</sup>** is titled **At the drop of a hat** – this will be a demonstration of hat making, and in order to get in the mood members are encouraged to wear a hat. If you would like to come along and learn about hat making as well, please do get in touch. We always welcome visitors.

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](http://www.swwiblog.com)

**Jan Armitage 01780 789996**



## 'Struggle Stick' vs 'Training Wheels' - Which to Choose



*A few weeks ago, Living Villages received an invitation to join the Bowmen of Rutland Archery Club to have a go at archery. It sounded like a fabulous opportunity and our Advertising Manager's husband and occasional /relief distributor, Mark Hopkins was delighted to take up the opportunity. Here's his report - it looks like he enjoyed the day.*

Archery has a deep history in terms of how man has survived and grown to be the dominating species on the planet. A 'simple' device of a piece of curved wood and a sinew or flax string was honed to produce a tool which gave man the ability to hunt more safely and to target more difficult prey. Inevitably it found its way as a weapon of war and proved devastating when tactics were developed to suit the wide variety of its forms. From horseback archery employed by Genghis Khan, to the massed use by the English longbowmen at Agincourt, the bow was a force multiplier.

Nowadays, interest in the bow is still huge, and being invited on a sunny day, to shoot with the Bowmen of Rutland at their club ground at Greetham Valley Golf Club, was not to be missed. I was made to feel very welcome by a group of friendly and enthusiastic archers, shooting a selection of bows from modern target and high tech compound bows, to traditional longbows.



**Members of the Bowman of Rutland Archery Club**

There is nothing like being outside and testing your ability to shoot a target bow, feeling your muscles work as you draw the bow back, and seeing the arrow streak away to hit the straw 'butt', with a satisfying thud (hopefully!). It is addictive, and you quickly start to see an improvement in your ability. There is always the banter and chat as you walk to retrieve your arrows and it is a very sociable and pleasant way to spend time. The Bowmen of Rutland are one of many local clubs, and have proven very successful at producing Junior competitor archers whilst also having several highly skilled adult members. They are a member of the National governing body, Archery GB,



and a look at their websites will provide all the information should you be inspired to give Archery a go. I don't think you'll regret it, I'll be returning!

*(Our intrepid reporter shooting a recurve bow)*

### **Interesting Points** (no pun intended).

- ⇒ The bow was used on every continent on Earth with the exception of Australia where the boomerang took its place.
- ⇒ In the time of Edward the first, boys from the age of seven were expected to start shooting a bow, by law. Drawing a powerful longbow took years of training. Football, or its early loose equivalent, was frowned upon and even banned as it was thought to reduce training time for the Bow.
- ⇒ When Henry VIII's sunken flagship the Mary Rose was excavated, the skeletons of the archers were clearly identified by their adapted bodies, with uneven but very muscular development of their shoulder and arm bones.
- ⇒ 'Flight shooting' is a discipline where specialist bows are used to shoot arrows as far as possible. The record is 1222.01m (Dan Brown)
- ⇒ Finally: A "struggle stick" is archery slang for the longbow while the more modern, and mechanical-looking compound bow is sometimes known as "training wheels". Which would you choose?

### **Useful contacts**

The Bowmen of Rutland

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Yarwell and Wansford sit on or close to the River Nene on the edge of a large area of limestone rich countryside which was the reason for their very existence. Yarwell was surrounded by quarries, the remains of which can be seen today and was consequently the home for stonemasons and associated tradesmen. All except the most modern stone houses were built from the local limestone which naturally weathers and allows the cottages to merge into the landscape. The underlying limestone also provides a distinct character to the countryside which has enabled a number of specific wildlife habitats to develop. As a result we are fortunate to benefit from four local Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves close to the Villages.

Old Sulehay forest is the largest and most obvious and is one of the larger remnants of old Rockingham Forest. I hope you have all taken the opportunity to appreciate the carpets of snowdrops, bluebells and wood anemones this spring and only recently have we lost the characteristic scent of wild garlic in the air. The rides have wonderful displays of wildflowers and rich collections of shrubs and climbers. At various times of the day this summer the birdsong in the treetops has only been rivalled by the colourful butterflies along the rides.

Yarwell Dingle is an island in the river Nene just downstream from Yarwell/Wansford lock. It is a quiet spot for dragonflies and butterflies and water birds such as the heron and reed warbler.



Yarwell Pond is just upstream from the lock below Yarwell and is fed from fresh water springs which produce tufa, a light almost spongy limestone around the pond. It is home to many uncommon insects including stone flies. These may not be interesting to the general public in themselves but they demonstrate the health of the water system in the area.

Wansford Pasture lies between Old Sulehay forest and the old Roman road to King's Cliffe, directly on the county border, not far from Wansford Surgery. Grazing takes place over the winter months to keep down the coarser grasses which otherwise would crowd out the more delicate wildflowers. The pasture offers a range of wet and dry habitats with cowslips decorating the upper field in spring and marsh orchids nearer the stream in the summer. Many rarer spring plants can be found here.

All of these areas reflect the quality of our quiet countryside yet are within a mile of the Great North Road. Long may the traffic keep on its north or southward journey.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

*As an email subscriber to eCops (the messaging system from the Cambridgeshire Constabulary) I recently received the following, which I feel is worth sharing with you. TS*

We are currently receiving exceptionally high numbers of calls to both 999 and 101.

Staff in our contact centres are working incredibly hard to reach the people in most need as soon as possible. Please only dial 999 in a genuine emergency.

If the situation you are calling about is not an emergency, please consider reporting information online rather than dialling 101.

Non-emergency incidents where the suspects are not at the scene, such as theft, criminal damage and burglary can be reported via -

<https://www.contactcambspolice.uk/Report/Crime/>

Anti-social or careless driving can also be reported on our website -

<https://www.contactcambspolice.uk/Report/AcDriving.aspx>

Thank you for your co-operation at this busy time.

Superintendent Martin Brunning  
Head of Public Contact

## THE CHRISTIE HALL COMMUNITY LOTTERY

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

With many thanks to,

**Dagmar  
At  
Boheme  
London Road  
Wansford**

for drawing the tickets

**Mat Free, Administrator  
Mat.Free@hotmail.co.uk**

<b>£60</b>	<b>Mr N Stewart</b>
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<b>£40</b>	<b>Mrs D Price</b>
<b>£30</b>	<b>Mrs M Barlett</b>
<b>£20</b>	<b>Mrs C Turner</b>
<b>£10</b>	<b>Mrs V Player</b>

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## Sat 29<sup>th</sup> / Sun 30<sup>th</sup> July - WOOFSTOCK CHARITY LIVE MUSIC & REAL ALE FESTIVAL, YARWELL

The 9th annual Woofstock festival is taking place at The Angel Inn Yarwell on Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 July 2017 raising funds for The Greyhound Trust over the two days, local musicians and bands will be playing live in the village pub, The Angel Inn's beer garden, accompanied by a real ale and cider festival and bbq. The fun atmosphere will be instigated and compered by DJ, Jim Boulton, who is joined this year by his PCRFM colleagues Kristy Read and Garry Overend from The Random Radio Show. The Greyhound Trust will be in attendance to answer any questions people may have.

Bands and musicians set to play include The Expletives, The Rocket Dogs, C.U.R.E, Demoniser, Gone to the Dogs, The Steradents, Y&N Britannia Brass, Half Price Drinks and Desperate Measures. More information can be found at [www.woofstock.rocks](http://www.woofstock.rocks)

### Background

Woofstock was created in 2009 by pub owners Nick and Diane Lander as a fundraising event for The Greyhound Trust (formerly known as The Retired Greyhound Trust - registered charity 269668). This now highly established village event is once again taking it's 'slot' of 'the last weekend of July' where at last year's event, over £2700 was raised for this amazing charity.

Approximately 10,000 greyhounds retire from racing in Britain every year at an average age of just 3 years, so with an average life span of 12 years, the Greyhound Trust is dedicated to finding loving homes for greyhounds when their racing days are over.

Having given a forever home to five retirees so far, the Greyhound Trust is an obvious choice of charity for Nick and Diane. And to date the festival has raised over £17.1k for the charity.

Dogs are of course welcome.

If any local people /businesses are interested in supporting, then we are always grateful to receive raffle/tombola prizes or items to auction – please be in touch with Nick and Diane at The Angel.



The Angel Inn Yarwell  
59 Main Street  
Yarwell  
Peterborough  
PE8 6PR  
01780 782582  
[www.angelinnyarwell.com](http://www.angelinnyarwell.com)  
[www.woofstock.rocks](http://www.woofstock.rocks)

## DIARY DATES – JULY 2017

1st/2nd	Hort Society Trip to Gt Dixter and Sissinghurst			Gill Fisher	<b>782446</b>	23
Sun 2	Cricket v Withamj	1.00pm	Away	John Stones	<b>782109</b>	
Sun 2	Strawberry Fayre	4.00pm	St Remigius	Tony Capon	<b>01733 237500</b>	10
Wed 5	Friends of St Marys and St Andrews	10.30am	Haycock	Dora Baker	<b>782519</b>	9
Wed 5	Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council meeting	7.00pm	Environmental Centre	Wendy Gray	<b>01778 441312</b>	24
Thur 6	WI trip to Tolethorpe			Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	27
Fri 7	<b>WI 3c's Coffee, Community and Chat</b>	10.00am	Community Hall	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	27
Sun 9	Cricket v Islip	1.30pm	Away	John Stones	<b>782109</b>	
Mon 10	Wansford Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Community Hall	Wendy Gray	<b>01778 441312</b>	24
Tue 11	Stibbington and Wansford WI meeting	7.15pm	Community Hall	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	27
Wed 12	Welcome Coffee Stop	10.30am	<b>St Mary's</b>	Dora Baker	<b>782519</b>	9
Sat 15	Hort Society Summer Social	7.00pm	Stone and Willow 59, Elton Road	Gill Fisher	<b>782446</b>	23
Sun 16	Cricket v Motley Crew	2.00pm	Home	John Stones	<b>782109</b>	
Mon 17	Thornhaugh Parish Council	7.00pm	<b>St Andrew's</b>	Deirdre McCumiskey	<b>782668</b>	
Fri 21	<b>WI 3c's Coffee, Community and Chat</b>	10.00am	Community Hall	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	27
Sun 23	Cricket v Rushden	2.00pm	Home	John Stones	<b>782109</b>	
Wed 26	Welcome Coffee Stop	10.30am	<b>St Mary's</b>	Dora Baker	<b>782519</b>	9
Thur 27	WI Book Club	7.00pm	The Haycock	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	27
Sun 30	Cricket v Uppingham	1.30pm	Away	John Stones	<b>782109</b>	
8 Aug	Hort Society visit		Blatherwycke	Gill Fisher	<b>782446</b>	23
26 Aug	Hort Society Annual Show		Haycock Feild	Gill Fisher	<b>782446</b>	23
27 Aug	Water Newton Music Fest	12.00 - 7.30pm	Water Newton Village Green	Tony Capon	<b>01733 237500</b>	10

**Copy deadline next month: 20th July 2017**  
**editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk**

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