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Editorial

We're back in print! Hopefully we will be able to continue to deliver 750 copies to all five villages now and for the foreseeable future. We have been able to restart as a result of amazing financial support from three individual personal donations, contributions from Thornhaugh and Wansford Parochial Church Council, Stibbington and Wansford WI, Wansford Parish Council and Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council. We also have some new advertisers and are so please to see that many of our regulars have stayed with us. On behalf of the Editorial Team—**Thank-you.**

So what have we got for you this month? As promised, there's a report from the coldest Village Show I can remember in 35 years and a personal account of a skydiving experience. We have something for some of younger residents in preparation for what will be an unusual but hopefully a fun and engaging #Halloween2020. Mark Hopkins has 'volunteered' to write some articles on cycle rides around our beautiful villages - he promises that some of them will be short journeys. It's great to read that 'Walking for Health has been able to start again and if you are not feeling very energetic, there's some great book suggestions from the WI.

Future editions It's pretty clear that things will not be getting back to normal anytime soon, so it's likely that many of my usual sources for articles about activities by groups and societies will not be forthcoming. So, over to you. Have you got an interesting or fun story to tell? I'm thinking along the lines of 'Coping with a Pandemic Puppy' or 'Converting the Conservatory (or any other space) into my Work from Home Office.' Maybe your articles would be helpful to other readers—sometimes even in such a friendly community as ours there is loneliness and it can be good to read that others are also experiencing similar problems.

A final request—if you do use one of our advertisers, please let them know that you saw their advert in the magazine.

Stay Safe Tracy Sortwell





Don't walk... so close to me.



Keep your distance.

No-one wants a return to lockdown.

Stay at least 2 metres away from those you don't live with, or 1 metre with extra precautions



For further updates and information check our websites which will be regularly updated www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk www.peterborough.gov.uk www.gov.uk



FLU Vaccinations

FLU PLAN FOR PATIENTS REGISTERED AT WANSFORD SURGERY

We have finalised our plans for this years' INFLUENZA vaccination programme. We will be doing the over 65's first. We are holding 2 'drive-through' clinics on the Kings Cliffe Active Site (Kingsmead, Station Rd, King's Cliffe, Peterborough PE8 6YH). The dates and times are as follows:

Friday 16th October 2020:

If your surname begins with A or B attend between 9.00 - 10.15 C or D attend between 10.15 - 11.30

E or F attend between 11.30-12.30 G or H attend between 13.00 - 14.30

Friday 23rd October 2020:

If your surname begins with I to L attend between 9.00 - 10.15

M or N attend between 10.15 - 11.30 O to R attend between 11.30 - 12.30

S to Z attend between 13.00 - 14.30

You will be invited formally by letter soon. YOU MUST BRING YOUR LETTER WITH YOU ON THE DAY as this will prove eligibility.

You will not need to exit your vehicle. You will be asked to switch off your engine and apply the parking brake when the nurse is giving the vaccination.

PLEASE WEAR A FACE COVERING.

There will be staff along the route giving you clear directions. There will also be staff on the site to explain where to go.

Please wear a sleeveless top or a top that can be pushed up right to the very top of the arm (either arm). We can vaccinate up to 4 people in one car.

WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 2020

St Leonard's, Apethorpe		
11th	11.00am	Holy Communion
25th	11.00am	Harvest Holy Communion

St Kyneburgha, Castor		
4th	10.15am	Holy Communion
11th	10.15am	Holy Communion
18th	10.15am	Holy Communion
25th	10.15am	Holy Communion

St Ma	ry's and A	Il Saints, Nassington
4th	8.15am Holy Communion BCP	
	9.30am	Harvest Holy Communion
11th	9.30am	Holy Communion
18th	9.30am	Holy Communion
25th	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Andrew's, Thornhaugh			
4th	9.30am	Holy Communion	
18th	9.30am	Harvest Holy Communion	ļ

St Mary's, Wansford		
11th	9.30am	Holy Communion
25th	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Mary's, Woodnewton			
4th	9.30am	Holy Communion	
18th	9.30am	Holy Communion	
25th	9.30am	Harvest Holy Communion	

St Ma	ry Magdale	ne, Yarwell	
4th	11.00am	Holy Communion	
18th	11.00am	Harvest Holy Communion	



WATERSMETE UPDATE

We have enjoyed a beautiful summer and as I write in the middle of September, it seems that, fortunately, the summer seems reluctant to leave us. However, the air is beginning to feel slightly more autumnal and the trees are reminding us of the turning of the seasons. Autumn usually brings our Harvest celebrations, and although things are a little different this year, we will mark the end of the harvest season at Thornhaugh on 18th October.

The service will be Holy Communion with a harvest theme, and everyone is invited to bring a gift of non-perishable food that will be sent to The Light Project Appeal for supporting those who are homeless in our local area, or to our local foodbank. We know that this has been a challenging year for our farmers and all who work on the land, so it will be good to gather to pray for all those upon whom we rely for our food, and our general well-being.

We are maintaining our social distancing protocols in our churches, so it is a great help if you could let me know if you are planning to attend church, particularly for the Harvest Communion on 18th.

As we continue to live with the uncertainty of the pandemic let us commit ourselves and those we love to God's care, knowing that he walks with us at all times.

With every blessing, Rev. Jane (01780 782271)

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Health Walks get a Re-boot!

After a break of six months owing to the Coronavirus crisis, the local area's health walks resumed in September, with two additional regular walks joining the more established locations. The walks are classed as *outdoor physical activity events* and are therefore exempt from the latest restrictions introduced on 14 September.

The newest additions to the programme are Barnwell Country Park and Fermyn Woods Country Park. At around 40 minutes, these walks are perfect for those just starting their fitness journey or wanting to get back into regular exercise.

Other than for Nassington, which pre-lockdown often saw 30 walkers participating, you do not need to reserve a place; just turn up on the day.

Full details of all our local health walks are as follows:

Kings Cliffe, Tuesday at 11am. Meet at the Ex-Serviceman's Club, Wood Road. Duration 1 hour. Refreshments available afterwards. Contact Barry Hurcombe – 01780 471070.

Barnwell, Wednesday at 1.30pm (term time only). Meet at the park café. Duration 40 mins. Refreshments available afterwards. Contact Amber McNaughton by email: educationrangers@northamptonshire.gov.uk.

Warmington, second Wednesday of the month, 11am. Meet at the Red Lion. Duration 1 hour. Bring your own refreshments. Contact Gill Coffey - 01832 280491.

Fermyn Woods, Thursday at 1.30pm (term time only). Meet at the park café. Duration 40 mins. Refreshments available afterwards. Contact Amber McNaughton by email: educationrangers@northamptonshire.gov.uk.

Nassington, Friday at 11am. Meet at the Black Horse. Duration 1 hour (shorter options available). Refreshments available afterwards. Contact Robert Phipps to reserve a place – 01780 782558.

Walkers are encouraged to go at a pace that suits them, and all the walks are planned to avoid difficult terrain and obstacles such as thick mud. The emphasis is very much on enjoyment rather than endurance!

For more information and details of other walks (there are 2,500 across the UK!), check out the Walking for Health website.

#frommywindow-Halloween 2020

Halloween isn't the massive event locally that it is in some places but I saw the following post on the Wansford Facebook Page and thought it was a great idea.



As Jane Hunt has suggested on the Facebook post, a pumpkin could replace the faded rainbows that many of us still have in our windows.

There are lots of templates of pumpkins to be found online from basic outlines to 'Zentangle' styles which will certainly take some time to colour in. My thanks to Kate Hopkins for finding the two on the next two pages.

What would be fabulous would be to have some photos of your creations, which I will publish in the December magazine.

Tracv

#FromMyWindow

Template for window display or buriting.

We would love to see photos of your decorations.

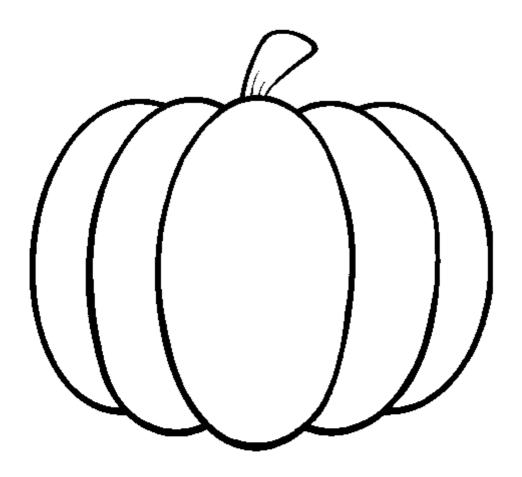


Image courtesy of www.supercolouring.com

#FromMyWindow continued

For those who prefer a little more detail in their colouring, why not joing in with this "Zentangle" style pumpkin. It will take a while but the result will be worth it!



Image courtesy of www.primarygames.com

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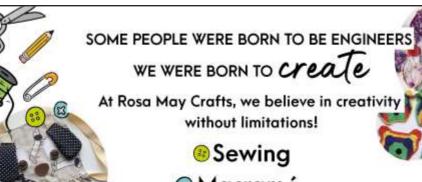










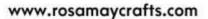




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nadia@rosamaycrafts.com



The hobby of cycling is rich in memories for me-Mark Hopkins

I remember learning to ride a bike, my dad holding the saddle and running behind me numerous times, patiently encouraging me to try again. I remember the time when the close sound of encouragement ceased but I was so concentrating on balancing it didn't register that he was no longer behind me. Like a small fledgling bird, I had taken off. The fact that stopping in a controlled manner was a skill still to be acquired didn't stop me from riding further and further away, it was a sense of freedom, control and innocent power that has never left me.

I cannot not remember a time when I haven't loved cycling. But what I particularly enjoy is seeing and meeting other cyclists, even if it's just a wave as we pass on other sides of the road.

The appearance of Covid 19 has caused a surge of interest in cycling, with people needing alternatives to public transport, but also with more emphasis on the health benefits of a sport that combines open air exercise with controllable social distancing scalable to small groups or allowing individual enjoyment. There is a remarkable increase in the numbers of people currently cycling, beyond any prediction I could have made a few years ago.

In future editions of Living Villages I hope to share some of my favourite rides in the area we call home. We live in fantastic cycling country, rolling hills, beautiful countryside, quiet roads, picturesque villages and a plethora of truly wonderful pubs serving fantastic food, and cafés offering coffee and cakes. They are all there to be discovered.

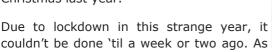


The motivation for riding can be as diverse wanting to quickly in small groups to riding purely for the of experience outside with distance and speed set by the individual. Technology has made riding even easier with easy to use gearing on a machine making everv hill achievable. if And additional help is wanted, there are

always electric machines which offer some assistance. As far as I'm concerned anything that gets people out enjoying the countryside without cars is brilliant. And the even better news is that we are close to some of the nicest cycling country the UK can offer. Enjoy!!

MY SKYDIVING CAREER by Elin Styles

Some 30 years ago I did a static line parachute jump at Sibson Airfield and loved it. I think it was from 3000ft and on a beautiful clear and sunny day. I wanted to do it again as soon as possible but it just never happened. 3 or 4 years ago I got the idea that it would be great fun to do a wing-walk (be strapped on the top of a small plane as it flies) with my little ukulele, playing and singing a song called "I'll fly away". No idea where that came from but Paul got fed up with hearing about it and whilst he didn't think wing walking was for me, he bought me a skydive for Christmas last year.





the jump was paid for it seemed a good idea to try to make some sponsorship donations for a charity. As lots of you know, we have been having "Ukulele Picnic's by the River" in aid of NoPainNoGain for a few years but as our lovely neighbour has a new little charity called "Heart Buddies" it seemed only right to help her to support so many little children who have to undergo open heart surgery.

So, dressed up looking like a giant orange and wearing pink trainers so I could be seen, there I was at Sibson and met with my poor instructor who I would be strapped to for the duration. The excitement was slowly waning and the butterflies multiplying. I was strapped up and we were all given our safety instructions. There was a distinct lack of chatter and giggles and the lady standing nearest to me looked petrified. I wasn't –yet...

Off we waddled, I managed to climb onto the plane and settled in for the ascent to 10.000ft. **10.000ft** as my lovely instructor kept reminding me and showing me on his watch thingie. He strapped us together and then it was time. We shuffled along and got to the big gaping hole in the plane. Me first. As instructed, I bent my legs under the plane as we got there and off we jumped.

Ohhhh my.... The freefall... downwards without a paddle... My face left its normal position and disappeared round the back. The noise was incredible and I was scared stiff. Cannot describe it in any other way. It went on for what seemed like a lifetime and apparently we were doing 120mph. Full on terror. Finally a great big tug and the canopy opened. Phew and double phew. We then floated on air towards our beautiful village and I could see forever. It was a clear, sunny day



and it all looked beautiful. I could see the river, the bridge, our boat and everything. It was fantastic.

Then back to reality and a quick safety check. Could I still pull my knees up and straighten my legs ready for landing. No.... Tight straps and slippery leather gloves didn't help and I was convinced that I was about to break a leg. To distract me the instructor told me to take my gloves off and shove them inside my jumper, which I did and then he asked me if I wanted to go round. Having no idea what he meant, I said yes. OOOhhh dear. Just as we were doing so well It meant swinging round like in a carousel at breakneck speed. To be fair to him he stopped straightaway when I shouted that my lunch was about to arrive...

Down we came (I knew I would be good at that) and luckily I managed to swing my jelly legs out and avoided any breakages. It turned out that there was quite a welcoming committee on the ground so I thanked the poor man and did my best to look like a cool and collected giant orange as I walked towards them. My career in parachuting is now over!!

It seemed like a great idea which is now well and truly ticked off the list and thanks to the fantastic generosity of the people around us £1190.00 was raised so it was worth every petrified moment. Nearly 120 children will be getting their very own little therapy Heart Buddy to help them through their heart surgeries and scary times. **THANK YOU.**

Just for the record, the team and my lovely instructor at Skydive Sibson were completely professional and extremely well organised. I can highly recommend them to anyone who feels they want to give it a go.



Volunteers Needed to Listen to Children Read in Local Primary Schools After Lockdown

Our reading volunteers are going to be desperately needed following the Coronavirus pandemic. Thousands of children won't have had enough reading practice during lockdown. In a normal year, one in four children leave primary school unable to read well. Most children will have missed a term of school, so the reading gap is now even wider. Children who struggle with reading are more likely to live in poverty and be unemployed as adults.

Schoolreaders needs more volunteers in the Peterborough area to support children's reading and prevent them falling further behind. If you want to make a difference to a child's life, apply to become a Schoolreader. No qualifications are needed; just a love of reading and some spare time each week.

To join us, please visit the website www.schoolreaders.org/volunteer-application-form or call 01234 924111 for further information.

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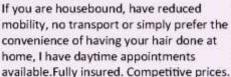


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Wansford Horticultural Society

Despite COVID and the coldest bank holiday on record we held a successful Show celebrating the community spirit at the heart of our Wansford village. Thanks to your generosity the Show raised £1,100 for charity.



House decoration: Elton Road



Best Doorstep: Jo Roberts

The village looked great in colourful bunting and doorsteps also decorated with vegetables and flowers. 43 people entered photographs for the 'mini show': best doorstep; most pleasing garden; best street; adult & child craft (during lock down) and best photograph (also during lockdown). In a change to tradition, we asked the

Despite COVID and the coldest bank members of our Wansford Community holiday on record we held a successful Facebook page to judge the 1st three



Most Pleasing Garden : Kevan Merryweather

categories.

Also, many thanks to Julie Walton and Neil Malton for judging the craft and photography categories respectively. The winning photographs for all classes are shown here and winners have received a small gift. Well done



Best Craft in Lockdown (Adult): Sue Arnold

Wansford Village Show (On Your Doorstep)





Best Craft in Lockdown (Child):



Best Photo in Lockdown: Sue Arnold

The Haycock team took a break from their major renovations and opened up a pop up gin bar, high class BBQ and entertaining cookery demos. Whilst all products were FREE, £400 in donations was collected and handed over in full to the Show charities. The team made a great impression and this bodes well for reopening of our historic hotel towards the end of the year



Haycock Manor Hotel Team



Prevost Cookery Demo

Also in the high street, there was Entertainment for sale (donated by local Horticultur- Colette. al enthusiasts and raising £400). Your donations to charity totalled £1,100 and will benefit The Alzheimer's Society £800 and The James Rutterford Trust £300, Many thanks.



A few hardy stoic souls sat out in the enjoying cold at 3pm, enjoying the company through the walled gardens in the of neighbours and friends and the pleasant, socially distanced company sound of music by The Nassington & of members whom they hadn't met Yarwell Brass Band (garden Wedgwood Cottage).



continued with brisk trade in luxury cream teas Wansford Ukulele Folk playing from (baked by Sue & Hattie Arnold, 4pm in the garden of the Cross Keys raising £300) and plants & bunting with a warm welcome provided by

> Next year we confidently look forward to our 75th 'DIAMOND SHOW'. Please join us again on 28th August 2021!

> Gary & Rhona Punter, Quentin Arnold & Mandy Veni

> Organising Committee on behalf of Wansford Horticultural Society

A visit to Burghley

Our private guided visit to the 15 acre Kitchen Garden site at Burghlev on 9th September proved to be quite a challenge logistically, with the need to ensure that it was Covid secure and complied with all regulations. Nevertheless it proved to be well worth the effort, with 42 participants the freedom to roam of for months and under gloriously sunny warm skies. As always the Head Gardener loe Whitehead inspired us with his enthusiasm and vision for the restoration and transformation of the site, and several members volunteered to help with the project once it gets underway in the coming months.

> The hard work of our sub committee to hold a mini show in the village on Bank Holiday Saturday was rewarded by a successful event, despite the weather.

Gill Fisher. fisher.gill@yahoo.com

Stibbington and Wansford WI



As I sit writing this, our tentative plans are being changed again. With the introduction of 'The rule of 6', our Macmillan coffee mornings hosted by individual members can still go ahead. In fact, by the time you read this, that event would have happened, so hopefully in the November issue I will be able to share with you how much we have been able to raise.

However, the AGM which was due to take place in November, will now need rethinking. We hope that members will be patient as we go back and re-plan this event, all members will be informed of the new format via our newsletters.

Book club have been active using electronic platforms to share books and reviews. The current book list has been put together by each reader suggesting a book that either they had read and wished to recommend, or one that they wish to read. The eclectic list is as follows:-

BecomingThe signature of everything3 hours

What lies beneathAfter you die

Nigel

Michelle Obama Elizabeth Gilbert Rosamund Lapton

Adam Croft Eva Dolan Monty Don

If you get the chance to read any of these, we will welcome your views, currently this would be best via email, but we live in hope that the book club will be able to meet in person.

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WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Stannage, Parish Clerk Wendy Gray Cllr D Johnson Cllr M Handley

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th August 2020:

All in agreement that the minutes recorded a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Matters arising from the above Minutes of 13th July 2020:

The footpath officer explained that the permitted footpath across Wansford Pasture could be closed at any time, but the right of way footpath was still open. The sight line for crossing the road from this to Seeds field was not good and he arranged to get hedging cut back to make it better but still not ideal due to layout of junction. Some discussion as to having path from permitted path to right of way alongside the Old Leicester Road on south side so people from village would cross road on straight section with better view in each direction.

Sacrewell Farm: An idea was discussed for WPC to draw up and present them with an ambitious plan for use of the land and river on their land to the south of the A47. This could include an enhanced picnic area, a launching site for river craft, new toilets etc. Cllrs asked to contribute ideas. This has been looked at and now needs drawing with heights on which Cllr R Clarke hopes to get.

Litter bin on green adjacent to church. Request to PCC to install.

Accounts to Date 2019/2020: Updated spreadsheets of Income and Expenditure have been circulated to Cllrs and were duly approved. Updated copy of Budget also circulated. Review of Parish Clerk Salary has been done so now we need to work out backdated payments.

Audit has been signed off

Finance Screen has now been purchased through the CLF Fund and pen with a spare bulb to be obtained.

To approve following payments:

Parish Clerk Salary – £265.79, Parish Clerk Expenses £79.68, Litter Warden (2month) £160.00), P.Taylor Internal Audit £150.00 The above payments were approved.

Wansford Play Area

Now open but some belting ends still not repaired

Wansford Community Hall The Community Hall was used for the September WPC meeting. The councilors decided on a "wait and see" strategy for October. **Old Leicester Road/A47 Junction:** Cllr Pearson has written yet again to report the damage and some work has been done but still not fit for purpose. Cllr Pearson will also write again to PCC to get backing for our application to ENDC to request change of route for lorries.

Flashing Speed Signs: Cllr Clarke reported that after considerable research, he recommends we purchase a solar sign for £2200 plus VAT, which is a very competitive price. It has clear mph signage and as it can be moved to different locations we need this ordering with 5 sets of kit to enable it to be moved around the village.

20mph speed restriction signs

PCC has given WPC permission to undertake the height reduction of signs in the village which has been done.

Sibson-cum-Stibbington (No HGV's - **Signage on Bridge):** An Email response received from Emyr Price to which Cllr Pearson has responded but still ongoing

Declassification of A6118 Highways England to be written to requesting they add signage changes to their work list as not all completed.

A47 Dualling another meeting this week to discuss western roundabout.

Kings Cliffe Industrial Site some contact but still not resolved.

Correspondence: None **Matters for Consideration:**

Overgrown greenery on bottom of Old North Road Clerk to write to British Telecom.

Email about John Clare Countryside project Clerk to find out what is involved and trying to achieve.

Next Meeting 12th October decision 10 days before to decide where. Meeting Closed 8;55







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A Personal Plea from a Local Rider

Following several dangerous incidents I have experienced on the roads recently where drivers have been driving dangerously when passing my horse and me riding on country roads, the following might be useful content for the next issue of the newsletters. I appreciate that the picture is graphic but sadly, this is the reality of an accident involving a horse and rider. Having spoken to friends I know I am not alone.



A horse weighs on average 500kg, larger horses (mine included) probably weigh in at 650KG. Imagine over half a ton of horse hitting your windscreen whilst you are driving past at 40 mph (a speed I have witnessed for sure as drivers approach Yarwell as it is recorded on the speed monitor). There is clear potential for death or serious injury.

As riders, we do everything we can to train, educate and de-sensitise our horses to the risks of riding out and the sights and sounds we encounter. However, the horse is an animal with a flight instinct developed over millennia. Just sometimes, this instinct overrides our careful training......

When spooked a horse can move very fast and in an unpredictable way. The Horses Road and Safety Awareness Organisation tracked the speed of a horse moving sideways: A horse that was 'spooked' whilst walking was registered to have travelled sideways at 54 mph by GPS tracking. If you were driving past in a car, would you have been at a safe distance and safe speed to avoid a collision?

More information is available from The British Horse Society:

bhs.org.uk/our-work/safety/dead-slow

The BHS is acutely aware that safe use of the roads is everyone's responsibility. We advise all equestrians to make sure they're familiar with the

Highway Code and to stick to it. Our Ride Safe Award gives riders the confidence to ride in the environments they are most often faced with, including on the road, keeping themselves and their horse safe.

As a driver you can help by remembering the following:

If I see a horse on the road;

Then I will

Slow down to a maximum of 15mph Be patient, I won't sound my horn or rev my engine Pass the horse wide and slow (at least a car's width) Drive slowly away

Thank you,

Kathryn Hibbins, on behalf of all local horse riders.



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Trees Obscuring Street Lights and Obstructing Roads and Footpaths

As we pass the autumn equinox and the evenings draw in, the street lights in the village become more important for pedestrian safety. Walking around the village it is clear that quite few street lights are rendered virtually useless by overgrown trees.

If a tree growing in your property reduces the effectiveness of a street light it is your responsibility to trim it. If you do not do this, Peterborough City Council can trim the trees and charge you for it.

Similarly you are required to make sure that your trees and hedges do not obstruct footpaths or roads. The legal requirement is that the full width of the footpath must be clear to a height of 2.3m above the walking surface. For a road the requirement is that a headroom of 5.2m is required for the width of the road and 450mm either side of it.

At the end of October, Wansford Parish Council will carry out an inspection of the village and any problems with trees or hedges will be reported to Peterborough City Council.

Wansford Parish Council

Stibbington Graveyard Autumn Tidy up.

The time has arrived to tidy the Stibbington graveyard once again.

As our present Church gardener is doing such an amazing job, we only need to concentrate this year on the hedges and weeding of the graves, please come and join us for as long as you wish, and bring along your secateurs/ hedge shears etc please.

The date is **Sunday the 25th October** 9am until Noon All children are welcome

I look forward to seeing you there.

Suzy Story

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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 & Wansfor	d WI781733
Wansford Pharmacy	01780 781616	Cricket Club	07860 278800
Communicare	01780 470437	Horticultural Society	01780 782446
H'don District Council	01480 388388	Stibbington Centre	01780 782386

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