



# *Living Villages*

*February 2020*

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

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**Editorial**

Thank-you to Richard Clarke and Maureen Woodd for their quick response to my request for additional articles for the magazine. I am pleased to say I have been promised a few more as well. There is no age limit - It would be great to have contributions from our younger residents as well, perhaps something on climate change?

Also thank-you to Dave Johnson for providing this months' front cover, he sent it to me in September, but I thought it was just perfect for February - I'm not hinting or suggesting anything :-)

We are lucky to have so many organisations and people willing to arrange local events for us. Many villages nowadays are not so lucky. Please continue to support those you can. Also remember to support our advertisers and let them know if you use them, where you saw their advert.

**Tracy Sortwell**

**Front Cover - Dave Johnson  
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## Other useful contacts

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(Out of hours	111 option 4)	Stibbington & Wansford WI	.781733
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Communicare	01780 470437	Horticultural Society	01780 782446
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## Website

[www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](http://www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)

# WORSHIP FEBRUARY 2020

## St Leonard's, Apethorpe

2nd	11.00am	Holy Communion
16th	11.00am	Matins

## St Kyneburgha, Castor

2nd	10.15am	Holy Communion
9th	10.15am	Holy Communion
16th	10.15am	Holy Communion
23rd	10.15am	Holy Communion

## St Mary's and All Saints, Nassington

2nd	8.15am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Morning Praise and Baptism
9th	9.30am	Holy Communion
16th	9.30am	Holy Communion
23rd	9.30am	Holy Communion and Sunday School
	6.00pm	Evensong

## St John the Baptist, Stibbington

23rd	6.00pm	Pancake Sunday
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## St Michael and All Angels, Sutton

9th	9.00am	Family Service
23rd	9.00am	Holy Communion

## St Andrew's, Thornhaugh

2nd	9.30am	Morning Praise
16th	9.30am	Holy Communion

## St Mary's, Wansford

*Every Wednesday 10.00am Morning Prayer*

9th	9.30am	Holy Communion
23rd	9.30am	Morning Praise
26th	10.00am	Ash Wednesday
		Holy Communion

## St Mary's, Woodnewton

2nd	9.30am	Holy Communion
9th	11.00am	All Age Informal Service
16th	9.30am	Holy Communion
23rd	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
26th	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday
		Holy Communion

## St Mary Magdalene, Yarwell

2nd	11.00am	Morning Prayer
9th	11.00am	Holy Communion
16th	3.00pm	Methodist Service
23rd	11.00am	Holy Communion



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It hardly seems possible that it is now twenty years since the world celebrated the Millennium. That event was marked in many different ways across the globe. Although not all of the events acknowledged the fact that the milestone marked the passing of two thousandth years since the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ; many of the celebrations did.

One of the most successful of the Millennium inspired events was undoubtedly an exhibition which took place at the National Gallery in London entitled "Seeing Salvation". This was the brainchild of the gallery's then director Neil MacGregor. The exhibition gathered together some seventy-nine paintings and other artworks that focussed on the image of Christ and how Jesus had been depicted from the earliest times right up until the twentieth century. Although the majority of the paintings were drawn from the National Gallery's own collection, some of the objects were loaned from elsewhere. It is of interest that one of the objects on display was in fact discovered in a field in our own benefice. This was of course part of the Water Newton Treasure which is acknowledged to contain the earliest overtly Christian silver objects known.

In his introduction to the catalogue MacGregor acknowledges that all of the great collections of European paintings are also great collections of Christian art. This is testimony to the important part that the visual arts have played in the history of the Church and the spread of the Gospel. Despite the great reluctance of the early Christians to create pictures of Jesus, for fear of idolatry, visual images of Christ and depictions of biblical scenes eventually became an accepted part of church decoration throughout the world. Statuary, stained-glass and paintings and frequently found in church buildings the world over and many of these precious objects are now to be found in museums and art galleries across the globe.

The clever title of the National Gallery exhibition, "Seeing Salvation", is a reminder of how helpful the insights of great artists can be for us as we reflect upon the biblical stories and the messages they convey about the way in which God revealed his love in the person of his Son Jesus Christ. I remember finding that a visit to this landmark exhibition was a profound experience and that the gallery spaces in which it was housed became places of hushed reverence filled with awe and wonder.

Although we cannot recreate the "Seeing Salvation" exhibition we can however still learn from the paintings and other artworks inspired by the Gospel message. By spending time contemplating some of the world's greatest Christian artworks and reflecting upon them our faith can be deepened and we can gain profound insights into the nature and power of God's love.

Taking this on board, our benefice Lent course for 2020 will provide an opportunity to gaze upon images of Christ created by artists, both familiar and unfamiliar, and use them to enter more fully into the saving work of Christ.

The course will take place at Sutton Church on Tuesday evenings throughout Lent. This will involve the following dates :- 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March. Each session will commence at 7.00pm with a bring and share supper and conclude by 9.00pm. Further details will be published in due course and can be obtained from the benefice office.

May this Lent truly be a time when we can "See Salvation" anew

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

The Friends' meetings have recommenced after the Christmas break. We've been able to donate £475 to Light Project Peterborough as a result of wonderful support for our Harvest Lunch in October and the Ladies' breakfast in December organised by Liz and Rosemarie.

Thank you to everyone involved in raising this amazing amount.

The Friends' meetings in February will be Wednesdays 5th and 19th February at 10.30 in the Community Hall after Morning Prayer.

Caroline

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, STIBBINGTON

We would love to see you at our next service, do come and join us.

**Sunday evening 23rd February, 6.00pm**

Just two days before Shrove Tuesday, we are calling it **Pancake Sunday!** Looking forward to seeing you there...

Carol Lindsay



## Lent 2020 in the Watersmete Benefice

This year we are joining with the Church of England Lent campaign "Caring for God's Creation". Daily reading booklets will be available in our churches, including one for families and children. You can also receive the notes online by signing up at [www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/len-2020-church-resources](http://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/len-2020-church-resources).

**#Live Lent: Care for God's Creation** will help broaden our view of Christ's redeeming mission - a mission Christians are called to share.

With weekly themes and prayers shaped around the first Genesis account of creation, it explores the urgent need for humans to value and protect the abundance God has created.

The **Adults' Edition** offers a daily Bible reading, a short reflection and an action to help you live in greater harmony with God, neighbour and nature.

The **Kids' edition** provides a daily challenge to honour and treasure the earth, weekly short prayers and Bible readings on creation themes.

Perhaps this year, instead of giving up chocolate or wine, we could think about giving up, or taking up, something that will make a difference to the environment and help protect our planet.

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, with services of Holy Communion** with the opportunity to receive the sign of the cross in ash, at 10.00 a.m. at Wansford and 7.00 p.m. at Woodnewton.

**Lent Groups will take place on Thursdays, starting on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30p.m. and 7.30 p.m.** We will use the material from the Live Lent booklets in our discussions and ideas from the Archbishop of Canterbury's 2020 Lent Book, *Saying Yes to Life* by Ruth Valerio (SPCK) which inspired and informed the campaign this year.

Do join us as we become part of something that is so relevant to our life in 2020.

# FRIENDS OF ST. REMIGIUS WATER NEWTON

## Some Dates for Your Diaries

Our next service and get-together will be 'A St. Patrick's Day Service on **15th March at 1 pm** followed by food and 'liquid refreshments' with an Irish theme. The most observant readers will spot that St. Patrick's Day is 17th March - well we have selected the closest Sunday to celebrate the Irish's great day to celebrate! Whilst on the subject of Diary Dates - here's our full service schedule for the rest of the year - make a note of the dates and times and do come along and join us - Enjoy great company amongst friends.

**3rd May at 6pm** - May Day Service

**5th July at 6pm** - Summer Service followed by BBQ

**27th September at 1pm** - Flowers at Harvest Time - see the church full of summer flowers

**18th December at 7pm** - Festival of Carols and Lights. Christmas food and music together with a 'pop up bar'

All Welcome from all of our villages

We will also be holding our Annual Water Newton Music Fest on Bank Holiday Sunday **30th August from 12 noon**. Expect some great bands throughout the day.

## CHRISTINGLE AT ST ANDREW'S

A number of local children, wonderfully supported by their parents took part in the Christingle service at St Andrew's just before Christmas. Nearly £200 was raised for The Children's Society

Liz Kemp





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## **Winter Night Shelter and homelessness.**

I expect you will have noticed that there are more people, who are homeless on our city streets and even some people begging at Bretton and other shopping centres. Perhaps I can update you on why there are so many. We have several people camping on Peterborough embankment who lost their shelters during the Nene floods. They are often employed but don't earn enough to rent from private landlords, or they own a boat which has suffered from the torrential rains, causing several boats to sink. Some people are ex forces suffering from PTSD and other serious mental health conditions. Some have split from their partners, left the family home and through redundancy or poor health or both have lost their jobs. Yes some have addictions or are ex prisoners who are excluded from going to their home town. But the guys we get in our winter night shelter are tired, despondent, vulnerable and short on self esteem and dignity. Most people tap into the food banks at various locations or receive food from supermarkets or restaurants through church based schemes in and around the city centre and get clothing from the Salvation Army and Deafblind charity shops, which work with us.

Every person at the night shelter is very grateful for the meals, bed and respect given to them through Light Project Peterborough. They register and are picked up in the town centre at 6.15pm, taken to the church operating the scheme that night, given hot drinks, evening meal, bed and bedding and full breakfast the following morning before being driven to the city centre at 8am. Teams of volunteers offer washing facilities and sometimes spare clothes, showers or cloak rooms, opportunities to talk in confidence and a warm welcome each evening.

This year is our 5th year of operation using a consortium of 17 churches over 20 weeks, with well over 300 volunteers. When they leave us they may go into permanent accommodation but usually it is into hostels with a 12 week turnover. We work with Peterborough City Council who provide advice and guidance, and agencies which run private hostels. On Friday 17th January we ran out of hostel spaces and our crash beds for emergencies and nights with particularly low temperatures. Yet we have at least 10 weeks of cold weather yet to come.

We are extremely grateful for all the gifts and fund raising by local people, which keep us afloat. We have 1 full time person and 5 part-time paid helpers all on short term contracts. Staff need to be paid and our newly donated van needs fuel, but food and accommodation are donated by the churches. A big thank you from us all at Light Project Peterborough for your help and support.

Next month, with the editor's agreement, you can read about the other projects we run. Meanwhile, donations, legacies and volunteering time are gratefully accepted. Queries to [info@lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk](mailto:info@lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk) or visit our website [www.lightprojectpeterborough.co.uk](http://www.lightprojectpeterborough.co.uk), or facebook page.

Maureen Woodd



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New year, new start and our first speaker of 2020, motivated members to relook at their new year resolutions, in some cases reset them. Sonia Cullington's theme was – Start now and feel wow in 2020. She began by getting us to think about ourselves, with an aim to create a concrete sense of self, by asking three questions: What personality traits makes you – you? What are your values? And finally, what are your strengths?

From this Sonia gave us some practical approaches to move the negative to the positive e.g. if you are in a bad mood, go for a walk. If you are still in a bad mood when you return, go for another walk! She reinforced that we are responsible for every decision that we make, nature moves to its natural rhythm, and when you are outside you are natural.

Secondly, importance of sleep. Sleep deprivation is a problem for lots of people. It puts on weight and decreases your cognitive function and memory. Much of what happens during the day is processed during the night, allowing us to make sense of what has taken place, in some cases move to long term memory. Quite simply a lack of sleep makes us fat, nasty and stupid. Therefore, get more sleep to keep young.

Sonia went on to share her 5 wow rules;

1. Celebrate your life
2. Food is consumed guilt free
3. Spend quality time with loved ones
4. Appreciate time
5. Make wishes big

Sonia left her with her final thoughts – to get active, and most importantly 'Don't worry, be happy'

The group has seen some changes in makeup. Jan Armitage has unfortunately stepped down as president due to work and personal commitments, we all offered thanks for all her hard work and support while in post. Christine Turner has taken on the baton we wish her every success taking our WI group forward.

Knitting pouches for Joeys. To help support those animals left orphaned by the ongoing bush fires, we have decided to use the talents within the group to knit pouches or sew liners. **If any readers who like to knit a pouch or two, please contact Rhona on the phone number below.**



**Stop press** – just confirmed, Philip Amps; our speaker for Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020, Community hall 7.15pm

Come and hear about Fotheringhay Gin, How the Village and Warner Edwards got together to produce a gin, using the history of the village to raise money to help fund the renovation of the Church. We will also be having a sample of the gin on the night. This fundraising event is made up of a talk and a small tasting of the Gin for £3.50 a person. **If you are interested in attending, contact Rhona on the phone number below.**

More details of events and news can also be found on our Facebook page @sandwwi.

Rhona Punter 01780 592 514

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**PETERBOROUGH**  
  
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## Help pollinators thrive for VE75



Aren't bees amazing? Don't you just love watching a colourful butterfly flutter by? And what an incredible service they perform in pollinating so many of the crops we rely on for food! Sadly, our precious biodiversity is under threat.

The start of WW2 saw six million acres of grassland ploughed for cultivation. There was a great need for feeding the nation, with Hitler's bombers and u-boats attacking the merchant naval vessels that were relied upon for transporting necessary

food supplies. This was the beginning of great changes in British farming, which has further intensified. Today, 97% of our wildflower meadows have been lost. Meadows that we know provide the best possible habitat for our native pollinators.

Stibbington Environmental Education Centre invites local residents to join our community-wide habitat enrichment project. Our aim is to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity, and inspire people to create new habitats to help combat pollinator decline.

**"A third of British wild bees and hoverflies are in decline, according to a new study.**

*If current trends continue, some species will be lost from Britain altogether, the scientists say. The study found 'winner' and 'losers' among hundreds of wild bees and hoverflies, which pollinate food crops and other plants. Common species are winning out at the expense of rarer ones, with an overall picture of biodiversity being lost. Scientists warn that the loss of nature could create problems in years to come, including the ability to grow food crops."*

**BBC News 26 March 2019**

Across the country, people are increasingly aware of the need to bring back flower meadows, and the work of 'rewilding' is a theme in BBC Radio 4's 'The Archers'. The National Lottery funded project Polli:nation has helped numerous schools and communities across the UK to support pollinators and there is lots of useful advice for us to follow on their website [www.polli-nation.co.uk](http://www.polli-nation.co.uk)

Let's do something together here in Stibbington to make a special tribute to all those who struggled, suffered or were killed in WW2 in readiness for this VE75 commemoration. Let's remember the famous WW2 call to 'Dig for Victory'. Just as people worked together on the Home Front, let's make a difference on the land and this time help pollinators flourish. Every effort, small or large, will benefit wildlife and will be a great way to say 'thank you' for all that we have and to whom we owe so much.

Please get in touch with us at Stibbington Environmental Education Centre to make a pollination promise. If you want to plant up a new garden pot, create a new garden bed with pollen rich flowers or want to help us create a new wildlife meadow, we want to hear from you. If you are looking for ideas and inspiration try visiting [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk), [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) and [www.bbka.org.uk](http://www.bbka.org.uk). Let's commemorate VE75 and plan for Victory in the Environment.

We will be celebrating VE75 with an open event during the bank holiday weekend at the beginning of May. Further details to follow in the next issue.

Stibbington Centre 01780 782386

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Our 2020 programme will have started by the time you read this, but the first talk on New Zealand and its Gardens by Colin Ward of Swines Meadow Farm is still in the future as we write our articles. A report will appear in next month's Living Villages.

February's talk by Paul Herrington on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> should be inspiring and very different from any we have had to date. For many years Paul has been a psychiatric nurse specialising in day care as well as a gardener and garden designer. He is very aware of the therapeutic and positive effects of nature, landscapes and gardening on our health and in 2014 founded his organisation "Grow Places" to harness these positive effects. He currently helps



**Grow  
Places**

to design, construct and maintain private, care home, hospital and community gardens. In 2004 he won a bronze medal for his garden at R.H.S. Chelsea and in 2013 he was commissioned by music charity Squeaky Gate to design another Chelsea show garden which highlighted how common mental health problems are in our society. It was accepted by the Royal Horticultural Society, who described the design as 'bold and innovative' but funds were not forthcoming to realise the garden at Chelsea. Instead it was featured in 2014 at the National Trust gardens at Anglesey Abbey as part of their Winter Lights Festival. Do come along at 7.30 to the Christie Hall to hear Paul's uplifting talk entitled "Gardening for Health".

Other Spring talks include Patsy Rayner speaking about Japanese Gardens on 26<sup>th</sup> March and Diana Boston describing the Manor and Gardens at Hemingford Grey on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. We will make a private visit there on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May when the 4 acre moated garden should be at its best with the famous irises in full bloom hopefully and to enjoy a guided tour of the manor.

Coach trips planned for June and July will take us to R.H.S. Wisley and to Gloucestershire to visit Charlecote Manor and Park followed by Kiftsgate Court Gardens described as the creation of three generations of women gardeners. A reminder that it is just £2.50 per person to join us, so please do contact me if you would like to join us.

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

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7.00pm Wansford Christie Hall, PE8 6JS  
Wed 7.00pm YOGA CALM  
Kings Cliffe Memorial Hall, PE8 6XW  
Thur 10.00am Wansford Christie Hall, PE8 6JS  
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The Editor's request last month for articles about villager's professional skills prompted me to think about my normal drinks party starter conversation. This tends to go:- "What do you do?"..."I plan and design Ports."....Blank look..."You know, like Felixstowe or Dover"..."Oh! Do we still build ports these days? Presumably you are an architect."..."Yes we build lots of ports because world trade grows at 10% a year. How do you think your televisions and refrigerators get here from China? And, no, I am an engineer." Etc etc etc.

So why does a port designer live in Wansford, 80 miles from the nearest deep water harbour? When I left university, I went to work for a consultancy company called Posford, Pavry and Partners who were based in London. I went there because Ken Wylie, who ran the Cambridge university appointments board said "there is this guy at Posfords called Alistair Stirling who served under me in the army. He is as mad as you are so you should get on well". In the background Ken was also Vice-Commodore of the Royal Ocean Racing Club and I had sailed on his race crew so he knew the full extent of my madness. In 1974 Posfords moved their headquarters to Peterborough as part of the "Peterborough Effect" under the Development Corporation (we even featured in the advertisements for those who remember them). Over the next 30 years, inspired by a remarkable group of partners running the company, we built up what was arguably the best port

consultancy group in the world, being one of the first to integrate port planning, design, coastal engineering and environmental studies. Even in the 1980s we were told that environmental mitigation was something that only the stupid did. Good engineers strive to design projects that do not damage the natural environment. Much of the industry is still trying to catch up.

As an example Posfords have been involved in the design of the Port of Felixstowe (the UK's largest container port) since the late 1960s. Developing the port has required dredging but instead of dumping the dredged material out at sea, and damaging the fisheries, it has been used to rebuild the salt marshes that had been lost to agriculture in the 1950s on the river Stour.

In 30 years with Posfords I travelled all over the world including 5 years in Borneo and 4 years in Edinburgh starting a new Scottish branch of the company. Re-planning the port of Oslo produced the great quotation used in the title of this argument. A new political party took control of the city council and one of their policies was to abolish the port of Oslo. The port manager went on television and said "What the citizens of Oslo have to remember is that their televisions and refrigerators do not arrive by fax or email, they come in large steel containers. Abolishing the port will put 6 million extra truck miles onto the roads of Norway". Instead the port was taken over by the national government and still thrives.

Since leaving Posfords I worked to two other major consultancy

# Set Does Not Arrive by Email!



**It is not all about containers – Shipping Rice from Can Tho Vietnam**

companies and then set up my own one man business operating from home. There are a large number of such consultancy businesses in Wansford. These days I still travel all over the world but I only work for people who I like. Goodbye to Russia, goodbye to Nigeria! In many places I have worked with the port for more than 30 years so that I have simply become part of the team.

The reason I have kept focused on port planning is that every project has a completely different set of challenges. Planning the extension of Dover is very different to extending the port of Shanghai and when you want to build a new container terminal in Aden, you not only find a lot of bombs but you also find an intact Roman cargo ship. The

current problems include how to fit a large aquarium into Port Louis (Mauritius) and how to guide vehicles along a very narrow jetty 4 kilometres long in Brunei.

And why do we keep building new ports? The quick answer is that cheap and efficient shipping has made globalisation possible. You can ship 70,000 tee shirts in a single container from China at a cost of 2 US cents per shirt. That nice shiny Mercedes that you have just bought may well have been made in South Africa rather than Stuttgart.

The really nice thing about ports is that, unless we have got the planning seriously wrong, they are generally by the sea and I get the chance to go sailing, which is of course how it all started

## Are You Interested in Photography?

We are looking to form a Local Photographic Society (Group/Club) perhaps named something like 'Yarwell & District Photographic Society' and initially would welcome interest from people aged 18 plus to form the nucleus of the group, from which a committee could be formed to develop a constitution and the guidelines of the Group.

Who are we looking for? Quite simple really, ... like-minded people who have a genuine interest in either improving their photographic skills or starting from scratch and learning the basics. You could be a seasoned professional or Semi-Pro (great), an active amateur (brilliant), Art Student (fantastic), or someone who has bought themselves or been gifted a digital camera and wish they knew how to get the best out of it (marvellous – there is nothing more encouraging than seeing your own creativity in Print!), or you could be someone who does not own a camera but maintains an interest in Photographic Art and perhaps just wants to get involved in the administration side of the Society/Group, people with other skills who could benefit the Group e.g. Treasurer, Secretary, event organiser, membership secretary etc. I'm sure you get the idea. However, what we do not want is a committee made up of 'self opinionated fuddy duddy know it alls'. We have all met them!

Camera equipment etc. Hey..it doesn't matter what type/Brand of camera you have, Point & shoot, Bridge camera, entry level or Pro DSLR, mirrorless, medium format, It really does not matter, they all take photographs and the main object of the Group is to show you how to improve on what you capture.

We particularly would want to reach out to those persons in our communities who may feel they are or being isolated, disenfranchised, disadvantaged for whatever social, physical or mental reason. We all recognise that isolation can often affect the mental 'well-being' of individuals and it is generally thought that group participation gives a feeling of 'belonging' that could benefit this group of people.

The intention is to make this Society/Club/Group 'fully inclusive' and everyone is welcomed irrespective of race, creed, age or disability.

In passing, at this point I must add that younger persons aged, say 12 to 18 & vulnerable adults, will be welcomed once a committee has been formed and rules/guidelines etc decided. Nonetheless, Parents and Responsible Adults can register their interest in the initial stages.

If you are interested in being 'founding members' and are able to contribute an energetic, positive, and constructive approach in forming and laying the keystones of this project, could you in the first instance please contact Mike McHugh (Yarwell Parish Councillor...oh and Photographer).

[mike@screamingpixels.co.uk](mailto:mike@screamingpixels.co.uk)

[mike.mchugh@yarwellparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:mike.mchugh@yarwellparishcouncil.org.uk)

Tel: 01780 789830 (after 6pm)

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## Don't let online romancers steal your heart - or your money



WITH the most romantic day of the year just around the corner, Valentine's Day is not just for those people who are already 'coupled up'. An estimated seven million UK residents are registered on dating sites, and around one in three relationships in the UK now start online. However, while for many it may be romance and roses; for an increasing number of others it can spiral into heart break and a financial misery.

Romance fraud affects thousands of people; with woman making up the majority of victims. According to Action Fraud, scammers swindled victims out of an average of £11,145 each during 2018. Fraudsters trick victims into sending money or gather enough personal

information to steal their identities; resulting in an overall cost to victims of £50 million.

The majority of accounts on dating websites are genuine people looking for romance, but fraudsters may try to contact you by making fake profiles, getting in touch and building what feels like a loving relationship. Once a fraudster using a fake dating profile is confident that they've won your trust, they will tell you about a problem they're experiencing and ask you to help out by sending money. They may have arranged to visit you, but need money to pay for the flight or visa. They may tell you everything has been booked but their ticket has been stolen, and you need to send money quickly to get them on the next flight. Alternatively they may prey on your sympathies, telling you a family member or someone else they are responsible for is ill and they need money for medical treatment. Once you send them money, the fraudsters will keep coming back and invent new reasons to send them more.

There are a few simple steps to keep yourself, and your loved ones, safe from fraudsters - who often target the vulnerable, the lonely or recently widowed or divorced.

**D** - Don't rush into an online relationship. Get to know the person, not the profile, ensuring you ask plenty of questions. The vast majority of romance fraud is initiated online.

**A** - Analyse their profile. Protect yourself by confirming their identity. Check the person is genuine by putting the following into your search engine: their name, profile picture (by simply using a reverse image search) and any repeatedly used phrases, along with the term 'dating scam'. Be mindful that a fraudster could be hiding behind an alias and have changed details connecting them to previous fraudulent activity.

**T** - Talk to your friends and family. Be wary of anyone who tells you not to tell others about them. Romance fraud involves grooming over a long period of time. Alienating a victim from their friends and family can make up part of that process.

**E** - Evade scams. Never send money or share your bank details with someone you've only met online. It doesn't matter how long you've been speaking to them or what story they give behind needing the sum.

**S** - Stay on the dating site messenger service. Fraudsters will often encourage their victims to use different communications channels that are often undetectable. Be confident that you know who you are speaking to and be wary if they fail to meet you in person.

**Eileen Le Voi -Safe Local Trades**



## WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2020.

Apologies for absence from Viv Thorley and John Stannage.

Discussion on planning was quite interesting as regards to 2 new dwellings at 23 Old North Road, the council had asked for them to be moved further away from the road line and the garages moved so there was only one new entrance on to the Old North Road. The plans were changed by the applicant and all the queries from councilors attended to, so it has minimum impact on character of the village.

We requested that it goes to planning committee which allows any residents of the area to have their say.

There was some discussion about a vacant plot within the existing Mews development of Peterborough Road. It might have been designated a public open space so obviously this needs looking into further.

The last item in planning was a proposed single story rear extension at Downderry House, 7 Bridge End, and as no one can see this extension there was no reason to object, and we will go along with the conservation officer's decision.

The council have been looking into getting a flashing speed sign for use in the village and have decided to purchase one which we can actually move between Old Leicester Road, Peterborough Road and Old North Road to analyze the impact it will have on reducing speeding. We can offset this cost against CIL receipts saving cost to residents.

We have at last a meeting arranged with Historic England to sort out the final route of the ~~A47~~ dualling and keep it away from the Nene Valley so we have a better route to the north of the existing A47 all the way through.

We are applying to East Northants planning office to reduce the number of lorries leaving Kings Cliffe industrial estate and having to turn right into Wansford Village.

East Northants get all the business rates from the Kings Cliffe Industrial Estate but all the vehicles are shunted straight through Wansford. The road by Paws and Claws and the Old Leicester Road/A47 junction always suffers as heavy lorry lorries turning causes deterioration to the verges which we are having to pay for.

The defibrillator is available in the phone box in the village and we should be having some training in early March. Any residents, teenagers to pensioners, who are interested in going to the training should contact the Parish Council

Clerk – Wendy Gray 01778 441312.

Graham Garner

## The Arts Society Peterborough -Lectures

### 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – The Bayeux Tapestry: The World’s Oldest Comic Strip

This lecture will present in detail the historical, cultural and artistic aspects of that unique masterpiece, the Bayeux Tapestry, which provides posterity with such a startling testimonial of peoples’ lives in the late Viking age. Everyone is aware about “1066 and all that” without, necessarily, knowing the exact facts about this momentous event.

### 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Contemporary Art and the English Stately Home

This lecture discusses the recent proliferation of contemporary art on display in Britain’s stately homes and parklands. Focusing on works at notable estates, such as Blenheim Palace, Chatsworth House and Houghton Hall, it explores the fascinating dialogue between landscape, architecture and the vibrant art of today. Among the major international artists it looks at are Ai Weiwei, Barbara Kruger and James Turrell, as well as Turner Prize winners, Antony Gormley, Damien Hirst and Richard Long.

### 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – Through a Glass Darkly

This lecture explores the way in which artists over the centuries have included transparent glass objects in their paintings, taking huge delight in capturing the shadows and reflections seen within the glass, as well as displaying their skill in portraying what lies behind and beyond. It will include the remarkable depiction of glass objects in Roman wall-paintings; works by artists such as Titian, Veronese and Caravaggio - where both the Gods of Olympus and the disciples are seen drinking out of fragile Venetian cristallo - and the proliferation of glass drinking vessels in Dutch still-life paintings.

### 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Roaring Twenties: Art, Design and High Society

This lecture looks at this period of enormous vitality in art and design, which followed the dark days of the Great War. Fashionable society was immortalised by portraitists like John Lavery and Cecil Beaton who brilliantly captured the glamour of the age. Leisure, pleasure and the excitement of jazz were portrayed in paintings by Burra and Roberts, while the speed of the city and travel were explored in work by McKnight Kauffer and Nevinson. Furniture and decoration showed the influence of Cubism, Vorticism and other styles associated with the avant-garde, while events like the discovery of Tutankhamun’s Tomb ushered in an obsession with all things Egyptian and Oriental. Women wore fur coats and cloche hats, donned new boyish fashions and had short, cropped hair. Men drove fast cars, mixed cocktails and smoked American cigarettes. Society ate in new restaurants like The Trocadero, danced the Charleston in ballrooms like the Savoy, and drank in clubs like the Embassy and the Café de Paris. Valentino, Tallulah Bankhead, and Noel Coward emerged as major celebrities through the growing popularity of cinema and the stage.

This lecture aims to conjure up the energy and originality of the decade and to explore the lives of its leading figures and examples of its most innovative art and design.

**Time: 10.45am – 11.45am (coffee from 10.15am) Cost: Try it for free**

**Location: The Fleet, Old Fletton, Peterborough, PE2 8DL**

**Website: [www.the-arts-society-peterborough.org.uk](http://www.the-arts-society-peterborough.org.uk)**

**E-mail: [committee@the-arts-society-peterborough.org.uk](mailto:committee@the-arts-society-peterborough.org.uk)**

# SIBSON-CUM-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on the 8th January, 2020. All Councillors were in attendance together with 6 members of the Public. Ed Engel was duly co-opted onto the Parish Council replacing Helen Facer who resigned recently.

County Councillor Simon Bywater was in attendance to introduce Helen Johnson who is the Manager of the Environment Centre, In Sibson-Cum-Stibbington.

Helen gave a short speech outlining the work that was carried out at the Centre, and explaining their wonderful work with Children from all over the District.

It was reported that the light out side No. 6 London Road if flickering. The PC have initiated a full examination of the lights in the village.

The resident at No.6 enquired as to when the Dog Foul bin outside her property would be moved. HDC have identified an area and the Bin will be moved as soon as possible. There was also mention of the state of the area outside No. 6 and along the parking area. Highways are visiting to examine the area in February.

Would all residents please note that the larger black bins that have replaced the small Dog Foul bins, are to be used for disposal of wrapped Dog Fouling.

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Walking through Burghley Park last week, relishing the freshness and kicking up the leaves, showers of hoar frost sprayed through the cold air. What a beautiful landscape the cold weather has brought! Wrapped up well against the cold I looked around the extensive park enjoying views of the deer in their snowy paddocks standing motionless in the whiteness. Total peace and not a movement but for a couple of squirrels digging for acorns who then scuttled up into a tree at my approach.

Following their scrambling my eye was drawn to large clumps of mistletoe growing in the tops of the tall lime trees forming the main avenue. Mistletoe is an evergreen semi-parasitic plant living on the branches of broad-leaved trees mainly in the southern parts of Britain.

It is common in apple orchards where it grows at a height where it can be conveniently gathered but can also be found in oak trees and, as at Burghley, in limes.

Birds, commonly mistle thrushes but also other birds, eat the white berries in the winter and the seeds pass through the birds, often falling on a branch. The birds also wipe their beaks onto tree bark forcing seeds into cracks where they grow into the tree finding nourishment. Green shoots develop which keep dividing, eventually forming a shrubby mass up to 1 metre across. The custom of kissing under the mistletoe at Christmas probably originated from the custom of hanging mistletoe in a porch to signify peace and hospitality.

It is so unnaturally cold this month that we should all show some hospitality to our wild friends. The simplest of tasks is putting out some warm water for birds and other small animals several times a day as it is so cold. They desperately need the water. Regularly filling your bird feeders allows them to keep well fed and warm. I have erected a number of feeders this year and have been rewarded by large numbers of visitors including some special sightings. Reed buntings are common down by the river, and I know in gardens on Mill Road, but it is the first time I have seen them up in Main Street.

I was particularly pleased to play host to a pair of tree sparrows feeding both on and under the feeders with the finches and house sparrows. Tree sparrows are very slightly smaller than house sparrows and unlike their cousins the sexes are alike. Their cap is chestnut brown, without the grey top of the bigger sparrow, a very small black bib and a black spot on their white cheeks. They are not common at all now but their visit gave me great pleasure, without even the enticement of a twig of mistletoe.

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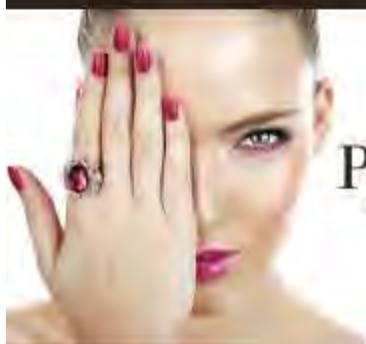
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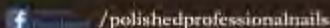
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**“Excellar Presents”** will be bringing an exclusive music event to The Prebendal Manor, Nassington on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May** (which is NOT the bank holiday, but the weekend after). It’s an evening of live music, 2-3 musicians, all singer songwriters. All the musicians are professionals who have been playing for a number of years, gigging all over and in some cases are played on the radio by people like Bob Harris. Headlining is Dessie Magee. For the Nassington event he will bring his band with him.

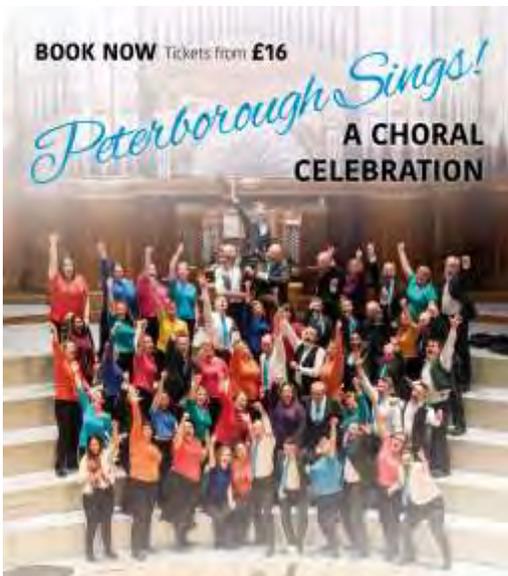
Brighton based folk/rock singer-songwriter Dessie Magee, hails from Belfast, Northern Ireland where his career began within the heavy underground music scene. With a diverse musical background, Dessie’s music has recently taken a softer approach drawing influences from the likes of Hozier, Ben Howard, Nathaniel Rateliff and Fink, though not leaving his heavy roots behind.

Tickets are £16.75 for the music. For an additional cost there will be a bar (wine, beer, soft drinks I think) and supper available. This is an intimate and exclusive event with only about 10 tables available.

You can find out more and book your tickets here at

[www.excellar.co.uk/Preb-Fest-2020](http://www.excellar.co.uk/Preb-Fest-2020)

Thanks and kind regards, Charlotte Baile



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It’s ten years since William Prideaux was appointed director of Peterborough Male Voice Choir, now widely regarded as one of the country’s finest male choirs, going on to establish women’s choir Peterborough Voices, Peterborough Youth Choir and the *Peterborough Sings!* charity, forming a choral organisation of over 200 singers...and the rest is history!



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR!

[editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](mailto:editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)

Dear Tracy

I am writing to highlight my concerns about the increasing problem of dog fouling in the village and surrounding areas.

Sadly the most significant problem appears to be on the land to the rear of the Haycock and in particular on the cricket field. Whilst this area is a convenient and wonderful area to exercise a dog it is not a canine toilet! Why then does anyone think it is acceptable to allow their dog to foul and not remove the waste. The cricket field currently resembles an obstacle course of fouling left by irresponsible owners.

I have owned and walked dogs in this area for over 25 years. It is my responsibility to clear up after my dog and as such I always carry a bag to enable me to collect any waste that will inevitably be produced whilst we are out. I pick it up in a bag and simply dispose of it in one of the many dog waste bins that are provided in the area, it really is very simple.

The attached picture is a typical example of what I see day after day. Whoever was out with their large dog would know that they had intentionally left this and should quite frankly be ashamed of themselves. If they had forgotten a bag they should have gone back and cleared up.

We are blessed to live in a beautiful area and a wonderful village and I therefore encourage all dog owners to be respectful when out and about and to ensure that they clear up after their animal thus leaving the village clean for all to enjoy.

Come on folks we are better than this!

Regards

Jim Bolton



*Editors note: It is such a shame that this is continuing to happen, the following is taken from the Keep Britain Tidy website*

**Dog mess is the most unacceptable and offensive type of litter on our streets. Our research tells us that dog fouling is the issue the public are most concerned about.**

Dog fouling is not only deeply unpleasant, it is dangerous. Whilst rare, contact with dog excrement can cause toxocarasis – a nasty infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea, asthma and even blindness or seizures. Anyone who fails to clear up after their dog can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100. If the case goes to court this could cost the owner or person in charge of the animal up to £1,000. The law states that being unaware a dog has fouled or not having a suitable bag is not a reasonable excuse.

## DIARY DATES – FEBRUARY 2020

Wed 5	Friends of St Mary's and St Andrews	10.30am	Community Hall	Caroline Ashley	782408	9
Fri 7	WI 3C's Craft, Coffee and Chat	10.00–Noon	Community Hall	Christine Turner	781733	13
Fri 7	Stibbington centre Quiz	7.30pm			784386	23
Sat 8	Thornhaugh Litter pick	10.30am	Village Green	Nikki Higgins	07773 287312	
Sun 9	Tree of Life Dreamcatcher		Stibbington Centre		07580 218792	23
Mon10	Wansford Parish Council	7.30pm	Community Hall	Wendy Gray	01778 441312	25
Tues 11	WI Meeting—Fotherinhay Gin	7.15pm	Community Hall	Christine Turner	781733	13
Thurs 13	Arts Society Lecture The Bayeux Tapestry	10.15–11.45am	The Fleet		01733 767539	26
Sat 15	Large Felted Woodland Picture Workshop	10.00–4.30pm	Stibbington Centre		07580 218792	23
Wed 19	Friends of St Mary's and St Andrews	10.30am	Community Hall	Caroline Ashley	782408	9
Fri 21	Communicare Coffee Morning	10.00–Noon	Kings Cliffe Active	Wendy Spencer		17
Fri 21	WI 3C's Craft, Coffee and Chat	10.00–Noon	Community Hall	Christine Turner	781733	13
Wed 26	ASH WEDNESDAY					
Thurs 27	Horticultural Society - Paul Herrington, Grow Places	7.30pm	Christie Hall	Gill Fisher	782446	18

**Copy deadline next month: 20th February 2020**

**[editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](mailto:editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)**

This magazine is available online at **[www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](http://www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)**

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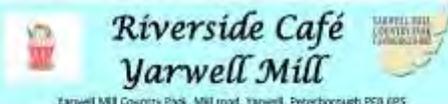
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