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JANUARY 2021

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WATSON

Editorial

Well December certainly threw lots of things at us! Floods, different tiers, last minute changes, a new variant and finally leaving the EU to name but a few. It was a year ago that we started to hear about Covid-19, the BBC first mentioned it on 12th January and the first case outside China was confirmed in Thailand just two days later.

But there is hope at the end of what seems like a never ending roller coaster—vaccines have been approved and perhaps by early summer our lives will begin to get back to something near to where we were this time last year.

So what will it be like this summer in our villages, are you hopeful that everything will go back to how it was, or are you able to treat this past year as an opportunity to change direction? There are reports that we will enter a world of a 'new normal' I wonder what that will look like.

This month the magazine is four pages shorter than normal, but I can only work with the copy I am sent. As ever I am so grateful to my regular contributors and fellow editorial team as without them there would just be adverts. I have had a few offers of articles (they all sound very interesting), so please do send them through. Copy deadline is virtually always the 20th of the month preceding publication, but if contacted early enough I can usually be a bit flexible with this. The exception always being this month when we publish the first week of January as our printers shut down for two weeks over Christmas and the New Year.

I leave you with a photo of the floods taken from Wansford bridge on 27th December 2019 looking out towards the Yarwell Road.



Stay Safe

Tracy Sortwell

2021 – a new year! I am sure we are hoping for a better 2021 than 2020! Thanks to the wonderful efforts of so many, Christmas in – and around - the church was celebrated in spite of the additional restrictions. Thank you to all those who decorated the church so beautifully and helped with our services, particularly our very special outdoor carol service! It was so good to sing together again and even the weather was kind! Different, but special memories, as we celebrated the birth of the Christ Child and the sign of God's love with us in all things and at all times – Emmanuel, God With Us, indeed! A message needed now than ever.

As we began 2020 I don't think any of us could imagine what the year would bring and how we would spend Christmas 2020. Yet here we are, at the door of another new year. So much will have changed for us; anxiety levels are probably higher, our way of life has certainly changed, masks and social distancing are now oh-so familiar words, some are facing great loss, whether of livelihood and security, or the loss of a loved one. So, what to make of the coming year?

A new year is traditionally time for new year resolutions, and as someone who was a teacher, and now in the church, I feel I have three new years: the beginning of the school year that still feels like a new start to me, the church new year at the beginning of Advent, and the calendar new year. Three chances at new year resolutions! I have to admit I make them, but am very bad at keeping them!

This particular new year may not feel like one for resolutions at all, and I can certainly understand that, when we need all our energy just to cope with managing each day and the chances and challenges it brings. This year, I've decided to take a new approach to new resolutions. I am avoiding phrases like "I ought to" or "I should" and I'm going for phrases that are a bit more encouraging. I am going to take time to let God guide my thinking and my resolutions with phrases such as "it would be good for me if...." or "I wonder what would happen if I tried to.." or "what if I..."

Quite rightly, there is a lot around at the moment about our mental well-being and it feels to me that these more encouraging "resolution-making" phrases are much kinder and, perhaps, more likely to be kept! God's will for us is not just that we care for others, but that we care for ourselves too. That will take a different form for each of us, but that is what we are called to do. "Love your neighbour *as yourself*" Jesus said. We hear the first part of that command, and there have been some wonderful and inspiring examples of that in this last year -for physical neighbours and those who are neighbours in our hearts – but what about the "as yourself" bit? As we seek to be kind to others, let's be kind to ourselves as well, because in that way we will be better equipped to show care. It was pointed out to me

recently that on an aircraft (remember those???) the safety instructions always tell you that in an emergency you should fit your own air mask first, before helping others, which makes a lot of sense if you think about it!

I wonder also, whether we could apply the same “resolution-making” phrases to our collective plans for the future as well. We will all have heard of speaking about “the new normal” or “the great reset” where we reflect and try to put into practice the things we are learning from this pandemic. I wonder what would happen if tried provide a warm and safe place for people living on the streets long-term, instead of just during the height of the crisis? Would it be good for us all if we learnt to respect our planet and use, rather than, abuse God’s gifts in creation? I wonder how life would be if I took more note of the people living near me now that our Thursday meeting on the doorsteps have ceased? I wonder..., what if..., would it be good if....? Perhaps as we begin this new year we could let God share those thoughts with us, so that we, our neighbours and our world might know life in all its fulness as He intends it to be.

Whatever the new year holds, may you know God is holding you and blessing you.

Rev. Jane

WORSHIP JANUARY 2021

All subject to Government restrictions.

St Leonard’s, Apethorpe

10th	11.00am	Holy Communion
24th	11.00am	Holy Communion

St Mary’s and All Saints, Nassington

3rd	8.15am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Holy Communion
10th	9.30am	Holy Communion
17th	9.30am	Holy Communion
24th	10.00am	Holy Communion

St Andrew’s, Thornhaugh

3rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
17th	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Mary’s, Wansford

10th	9.30am	Holy Communion
24th	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Mary’s, Woodnewton

3rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
13th	9.30am	Holy Communion
24th	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
31st	10.00am	BENEFICE Holy Communion

St Mary Magdalene, Yarwell

3rd	11.00am	Holy Communion
13th	11.00am	Holy Communion

St. Mary's Church, Wansford & St. Andrew's Church, Thornhaugh

I hope that you don't mind if I promote two easy ways of giving to our local churches. Our churches are focal points of our villages and we all love to drive past them during the daylight or see them floodlit at night. The maintenance of these historic buildings is an ongoing problem and so perhaps you might consider supporting them in one of these ways:-

- ◆ St. Mary's Church, Wansford, and St Andrew's Church, Thornhaugh, are now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for these churches every time you shop online. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to the St Mary's and St Andrew's joint account when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them, at no extra cost to yourself!

Since signing up last week, the church has received a small contribution when I have shopped online at M&S, Waitrose, John Lewis and Moonpig. I'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support our local churches. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our Easyfundraising page at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryswansford>

As we drift or rush into becoming a cashless society, our mobile phones are proving to be so useful! As with a lot of other charities you can now text a donation to support our churches. To donate £5, just text 5CHURCH to 70450. This will cost £5 plus your standard rate message charge.

With our thanks for your support, Judith Rogers



Castor Benefice Church Services

Firstly on behalf of all six churches in the Castor Benefice, may I begin by wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Assuming regulations remain the same regarding COVID, we will continue to provide a service of Holy Communion every Sunday in St. Kyneburgha's, Castor at 10.15 am with the usual restrictions. We also offer a service of Holy Communion at 9.00 am every Sunday at St. Mary the Virgin, Marholm. In addition to the above we enjoy a Zoom service of Evening Prayer every Sunday at 6.00 pm, if you are interested in joining us for this please email Father Ray Hemingray
rh@raymondhemingray.co.uk

Take care everyone and stay safe.
Carol Lindsay

What is the Waterways Chaplaincy?

Waterways Chaplaincy is about serving Christ on the waterways. It is an ecumenical activity of Workplace Matters providing a listening and supporting ministry to those who benefit from and use the inland waterways. The role focuses on being a visible presence along specific stretches of the river and canal network in England and Wales, by providing friendship, support and a listening ear to ALL those who have contact with the inland waterways.

I have been a Waterways Chaplain for 4 years along the River Nene from Yarwell to the Peterborough Embankment, but I am moving on in the new year. There are few chaplains in the east of England so there is room for many more chaplains. Amongst the issues I have dealt with was a bull beside a lock, a boater with wet bedding after his tarpaulin leaked, and a boater who couldn't cope with the advances of another boater!

This ministry is ideal for a Christian who loves walking beside the river and who enjoys meeting people. Full training is given and there is a huge support network regularly meeting by zoom. If you would like to discuss please contact Maureen Woodd on 01780 789908 or maureenwoodd@gmail.com

Warm wishes to everyone for 2021.

Maureen

Christmas at St Mary's



We were told by the Government a few days before 25th December that regrettably Christmas was cancelled, but as Rev. Jane Tailby wrote in her Reflections article last month, it couldn't be. Eid, Diwali, Hanukkah also could not be cancelled, although sadly none of these could be celebrated in the ways that we have managed in previous year. The Carol service in the Churchyard on 20th December was very special, and the church was decorated most beautifully for those who attended the socially distanced indoor events





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Time to plan your 2021 home improvements

Eileen Le Voi, Safe Local Trades

WHEN January rolls around, why not include your home – which has been working hard for you all year – in your resolutions?

Whatever the task – big or small – a few tweaks to some major revamping can bring your home right back up to scratch.

However, even in these unusual times, planning your home improvements is key to avoiding disappointment.

While Safe Local Trades has members across many disciplines; painting and decorating, plastering, electrician, kitchen / bathroom fitting, carpentry, handyman, carpet / upholstery cleaners, window/conservatory fitting etc, many are already reporting bookings up until March 2021.

It is the case with many tried and tested traders that they will be busy, so don't delay in getting in touch to secure a slot. Unfortunately, the majority of professions may not be able to start work within a couple of weeks of your inquiry.

Some projects, like a new kitchen for example, may be subject to a longer





lead in time; there is the quote to agree, designs to finalise, products to order and then securing the availability of a great kitchen-fitter.

Equally, if you are looking to sell your home come January, then time is off the essence if you required some property pick me ups and stay ahead of the game.

Interestingly, according to research, a

downstairs loo, built in storage (like wardrobes and cupboards), UPVC double glazing, a lawned garden and separate shower cubicle rank in the top five home improvement features to attract buyers.

But what do *you* have planned for the New Year?

Here are a few jobs to think about – and Safe Local Trades has someone to fit every bill in the Peterborough, Samford, Huntingdon areas and wider PE postcode.

Most things get worn out or look tired eventually, and carpets and flooring are no exception. Replace them or give them a new lease of life with a deep clean.

Painting and decorating – make 2021 the year you give your home a bright, fresh look.

Home security - protect your property with CCTV or intruder surveillance / security alarm systems / PIR external lighting.

Garden landscape and maintenance – think ahead to the summer months. Give your garden a spring makeover and get your project booked in now to beat the rush.

Extending your home - whether you desire a conservatory to relax in or a new home office or study.

Window cleaning – add some sparkle to your home, even in the winter months, with bright and gleaming windows and doors.

Our tried and tested tradespeople are just a click away at www.safelocaltrades.com

Looking forward to a 'Diamond' Gardening Year

by Gary Punter, Wansford Horticultural & Crafts Society

A big thank you to Gill Fisher who stands down as Chair after 20 fantastic years at the heart of our Society and village life. Our members gratitude was shown at both our AGM (Zoom) and earlier presentation of gifts (pictured). We are delighted that Gill will continue to be an active member. The new committee was elected (from right to left) Rhona Punter [secretary & membership]; Gary Punter [Chair]; Keith Alvey, Mandy Veni, Quentin Arnold [Treasurer], Liz Harris & Gill Fisher [retired]. To complete the committee and not in picture are Julie McAnally & Ian Wright. Many thanks to Anna Alder-

7. Incoming Chairman's Report – Thank You to Gill



son who steps down.

We have a full programme of events for 2021 which will include: entertaining talks; hands on workshops at Burghley; local 'open' gardens; plant sale, social events and visits (Hidcote, RHS Wisley and Kew at Xmas). An exciting highlight will be on August 28th, when we celebrate our 'Diamond 75th Show', since starting in the village in 1946 !

At a time of year when it is cold and our plants are quiet, it is great to cover your planting borders with 2-3 inches of compost or mulch to give your soil a boost of goodness ready for spring. Also, continue to rake up leaves/twigs and create a habitat for hedgehogs and helpful bugs.



If you are interested in learning more about local gardening and crafts, please contact garypunter@aol.com

Next Event for diary	'Curious Herbal' An entertaining and intriguing true tale of the people and history of medicinal herbs by Nancy Stevens	7.30pm Wed 27th Jan. online talk via ZOOM
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TOP TREE TIPS It's January, the decorations will be down soon, if they aren't already. Trusty artificial trees can be packed back into the loft while real Christmas trees can be repurposed in some surprising ways. So here are some suggestions to consider before you drive to the Household Recycling Centre or consider if they will be collected on waste collection day *



1. Prop the tree up in a sheltered corner of the garden, securing it so that it does not fall and cause injury or damage. Small birds and mammals will appreciate the **shelter** during cold weather.

2. **Attach homemade bird feeders** to the branches (fircones coated with peanut butter and bird seed, bruised fruit on string, orange peel bowls of seed)



3. After the needles have dropped, collect them up to spread as a **mulch around acid-loving plants** such as blueberries.

4. Branches from the tree can be used to support fleece around delicate plants or can be bound together as a wigwam over a plant to **protect it from frost**.

5. Use a securely fixed twiggy trunk or larger branches as a good **supports for climbing annual plants**.

6. If you have access to a shredder you can create a **useful mulch**. But remember to allow the chippings to rot down for a few months before spreading them in the garden. Avoid putting too much of the shredded material in the compost bin because it takes a long time to break down.



7. Lay the trunk down in a corner (chop up if necessary) and tuck bundles of twigs and branches around it to create **habitats for insects, small mammals and amphibians**. Bundles of twigs can also be tied in bushes to create insect habitats.

8. Create a **home for solitary bees** by drilling holes into a log and hanging on a south-facing wall, between 30 and 100 cm above the ground, in full sun. The bee home should hang with a slight tilt, so that rain cannot enter the open holes. The holes should be drilled 8 to 15 cm deep with diameters from 2 to 10 mm to encourage a range of species. If you put your bee home up in March or early April there will be ideal nesting sites for solitary bees laying their eggs. If nests have been built the ends of the holes will be sealed with mud or leaves.



*** Peterborough City Council area:** Real trees can be chopped up and put in brown or black bins. They will not be collected if left beside the bin. They can also be taken to the Household Recycling Centre in Fengate.

Huntingdonshire District Council: Real trees can be put alongside your green bin (chop down to same height or less if necessary).

Stibbington and Wansford WI

Today's women working for tomorrow's world



After a year that may not be remembered for all the right reasons, 2021 offers hope of a brighter future, so to all our W.I members and supporters – wishing you all a healthy 2021, at a safe distance of course.

Monthly meetings have not yet resumed, but we are hopeful that they will begin again during the spring or the early summer.

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The Happy News Page

(We've had enough of the other kind!)

Local charity "NGNP UK" raises funds to provide syringe drivers for pain control for use within local communities. In recognition of the importance of its cause, it has received a grant from The Evelyn Trust and more recently a £15,000 grant from The Britford Trust based in Scotland!

www.facebook.com/ngnpuk

www/ngnpuk.weebly.com

Studies have shown that smiling releases endorphins and serotonin. These can make you feel good from head to toe, by elevating your mood, relaxing your body and reducing physical pain. Smiles can also be contagious. (In a good way!) 😊

4.5 million people have joined the ZOE COVID symptom study, logging their health on a daily basis to help UK scientists with their research www/covid/joinzoe.com

Many litter-picking groups in villages such as the one in Thornhaugh have continued in a socially-distanced fashion. If you pick up one piece of rubbish every time you take a regular walk, it gets better every time you walk it!

"For the Love of Sewing Stamford Lincs/Rutland" describe themselves as a Community of Sewists, and Helpers (drivers, organisers and supporters). They were founded by Ashleigh Linsdell at the beginning of the Covid 19 pandemic as "For the Love of Scrubs Stamford, Lincs/Rutland", sewing scrubs, hats and bags. More recently they

have started making face coverings and cloth bags for the syringe driver units for NNGP UK. We are looking forward to see where their enthusiasm and energy next takes them. (It is bound to be colourful.) To date they have supplied a fantastic total of **25,531 garments** to the NHS, healthcare, care facilities and the community. Meanwhile we are delighted to hear that Ashleigh Linsdell has been rewarded with an OBE.

www.facebook.com/groups/FTLOSStamfordLincsRutland

www.fortheloveofsewing.co.uk

We have passed the Winter Solstice and now the days will start to get longer. More daylight, Yay!



We have had at least two sponsored feats in the past year which are worthy of a big pat on the back: Elin Styles raised £980 with a parachute jump in aid of www.HeartBuddies.org. Vicky Shaw raised £1200 for www.KidneyResearchuk.org by swimming 26 widths of the River Nene as her first open water swim.

New Fix Home Improvements took time out to deliver 7 hampers to help some families in need, to have a Happy Christmas.



WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Wansford Parish Council met on the 14th December using the now well established routine on Skype. Please remember that if you have anything you wish raise at a Parish Council meeting, please contact Wendy Gray at least 24 hours ahead of the meeting and we will dial you in either on Skype or on the telephone.

Tier 4

Of course the biggest event of the month happened a few days after the WPC meeting when the whole of Peterborough went into Tier 4 with very similar restrictions to the first national lockdown. Wansford is right on the edge of the Peterborough area with Tier 2 taking over at the bridge and a few metres up Yarwell Road. Despite the proximity of lower tier areas, please stick to the rules. They are for your own good and the good of your neighbours.

Speed Sign

The new Wansford speed warning sign has been in operation at the top of Old Leicester Road since early November. It appears to help reduce speeds with nearly all vehicles below 30mph within a short distance of the start of the detection zone.

As well as displaying the speed of vehicles approaching the sign, it also counts the numbers of vehicles going both ways and records their speeds. This information can be downloaded to a computer and analysed to show the traffic counts over a given period and the percentage of vehicles within the speed limit. For example, 87% of the vehicles coming into the village were under the 30mph limit while only 70% of those leaving were travelling at less than the limit.

Very shortly the sign will be moved to the bottom of Old North Road to gather data to check the Highways England traffic counts used for planning the A47 upgrades. The recordings on Old Leicester Road have shown that the peak traffic flow is earlier in the morning than Highways England have assumed. This site will be within the 20mph limit.

We have the fittings to mount the sign in 5 locations, subject to suitable poles being available. If anyone has any suggestions where the other sites should be, please contact Wansford Parish Council.

The A47 Dualling

There was supposed to be a meeting with Highways England in mid-December to discuss the response to their consultation this autumn. This meeting was postponed to mid-January at the request of Highways England.

It appears that Highways England have not come up with any solution to the issues with the Wansford Western Roundabout. If nothing is done to improve the flow of traffic coming from Peterborough and going north up the A1, Wansford can look forward to increased rat running through the village, significantly greater difficulty getting out of the village and long delays both eastbound and westbound on the A47.

Wansford Parish Council will continue to press these points as well as alerting Highways England to the hazards to people leaving the north section of Old North Road to access the A47. If there are other specific issues that villagers have raised with Highways England, please let me know so that we can prepare questions for the meeting.

Planning

The only planning application discussed at December meeting concerned some minor tree works by Peterborough City Council near the church. This is to stop one of the trees becoming a nuisance to pedestrians.

Village Facilities

In line with the Tier 4 rules, the children's play area remains open but the Community Hall is closed until further notice.

Some of you may know that Sacrewell Farm have put up for sale the site of the wooden garages off Nene Close. Part of the advertised plot is the path giving access to the rear of the Community Hall. The Parish Council has applied to Peterborough City Council to have this route declared an official Public Footpath.

We are still pressing Peterborough City Council to repair the footpath along the north side of Old Leicester Road.

Next Meeting

The next Wansford Parish Council meeting via Skype on the 11th January.

Stay safe but do not forget to have a bit of fun along the way.

Unfortunately, it was wet on the Winter Solstice and Tier 4 restrictions prevented any gatherings. Instead, we can look forward to the coming of spring and the spring equinox. Hopefully some celebrations will be allowed by then.

Richard Clarke

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SIBSON-cum-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council met remotely on Wednesday 4th November 2020. 6 Councillors were in attendance. No members of the public attended.

Public Forum:

Question from Councillor on resident's behalf – Could bus service can be re-installed? Resident advised that it is not Huntingdon District Council who run the buses – would need to contact the Bus Company, Linc. The contact number for Cambridge County Council who oversee the operation of Bus services was provided.

Planning Applications:

20/01687/FUL – Response that Parish Council strongly object, further note will be sent following meeting.

20/01806/LBC – Response no objections raised.

20/02021/FUL – Response no objections raised.

Dog Fouling:

Noticeable (on pavements) first thing in the mornings – Cllr Beuttell will arrange for more signs to be placed around the village, it was reiterated that there is £1000 fine for anyone caught not picking up pet fouling.

Faulty street lights – information passed over for contractor to fix.

Neighbourhood Watch – Request for Signage - Resident advised to apply to the national Neighborhood Watch scheme for extra signs, as these are not provided by the Parish or District Council.

Fly Tipping opposite White House along Elton Road, dumping cuttings on verge opposite. Cllr. Beuttell to investigate.

Pure Fuels/Yellow Lines/Faeces nr Diner/Speeding through village etc – what is latest:

Pure Fuels still awaiting planning decision for change of use of buildings. – Cllr Beuttell and Cllr Bywater received approx. 80 emails over the past years with complaints. – both Cllrs due to meet with Head of Planning, to discuss.

Yellow Lines – applied for funding from Local Highways Improvement scheme – awaiting outcome.

Rubbish littering the verges on Old Great North Road Stibbington. Residents have very kindly collected this, which raised issues of exactly what is being discarded by HGV's parked overnight. The Parish Council and the District Council together with CCC Highways Officer are consulting on this issue.

Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 13th January 2021 commencing at 7 p.m. This will probably be a virtual meeting and if you would like to attend please contact the Parish Clerk.



THE ARTS SOCIETY PETERBOROUGH

The Arts Society is a leading art education charity, bringing people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. Each year The Arts Society Peterborough holds nine lectures on various interesting, informative and entertaining art-related topics. This year's programme includes glass depicted in paintings, a history of England's cathedrals, nomadic works of woven art, an armchair tour of street art, David Lean's art of cinema, the symbolism of the fan, the art collector Peggy Guggenheim, graffiti around the world, and Dickens' portrayal of Christmas.

The lectures are given by professional lecturers, each expert in their subject, and are held at The Fleet in Fletton on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10.45am. They are friendly, informal meetings where members can enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat before the lecture commences. Please note that due to Covid19 restrictions our meetings at The Fleet are not currently being held, but the Society now presents the lectures live online, for members and non-members to enjoy in the safety and comfort of their homes. These are the first three lectures of 2021.

14th January 2021

THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY by Jane Gardiner



Jane Gardiner 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. The lecture includes 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

11th February 2021

CATHEDRALS: SAFE PLACES TO DO RISKY THINGS by Janet Gough

A ravishingly illustrated virtual tour of the Church of England's 42 magnificent cathedrals, jewels in the crown of England's built heritage. This



talk looks at their history, evolving architecture and treasures, and considers the changing role of cathedrals over the centuries and specifically their role today. The audience will be treated to an overview of cathedral history and architectural evolution including their surprising stories and extraordinary treasures.

11th March 2021

TREASURES OF THE BLACK TENT by Brian MacDonald



The audience is taken on a journey beginning in Outer Mongolia in the 5th century BC and follows the 11th century migrations from Turkmenistan, the cradle of weaving, into the Caucasus, Persia and Afghanistan. They will be introduced to the nomadic tribes of these countries and their woven rugs, carpets and dowry bags, with particular emphasis on those of the 19th century and earlier. These tribal weavings illustrate the skill of the women who produced exquisite works of woven art, using vegetable colours and age-old designs whilst living and travelling in primitive conditions and hostile landscapes. The tribal weavings of the 19th century and earlier represent the pinnacle of achievement and wonderful free

expression of the art of the weaver. Today these weavings are highly desirable and collectable works of woven art.

Members will automatically be sent the link and instructions for each lecture by email, but non-members are very welcome to join us too – just email the chairman@theartsocietypeterborough.org.uk to be included on our mailing list and you will receive the link. For non-members a donation of £5 for each lecture is appreciated. For more information about The Arts Society Peterborough and the benefits of becoming a member please go to our website: www.the-arts-society-peterborough.org.uk

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR! editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

Food collections for homeless

A big 'thank you' to all who have given food donations so generously for the men and women who are homeless. I am moving house in January so will not be able to collect the food from the churches nor Wansford shop.

Would anyone like to take over collecting the donations once a week and take them into the Garden House in Peterborough.? If you would like to volunteer please contact Me on maureenwoodd@gmail.com or 01780 789908.

Another 'thank you' goes to the people who donated tubs of chocolates for the Peterborough Prison Christmas appeal. I collected 52 packs, enough for 2 sweets for each man and woman. A real treat during time away from family and an increase in lockdown as staff numbers are cut on the bank holidays. So many thanks.

Maureen

Dear Tracy

I am a local resident who has lived in Stibbington for 10 years.

I am writing to air my views on the people that frequent the Stibbington Diner. As a dog owner and a parent, we as a family enjoy our local walks. However, these walks are now less enjoyable given the human excrement and bottles of urine that litter the road from the diner, down to the Nene Valley Railway.

Whilst I appreciate that the diner had been closed and facilities were sparse, this is still happening although services are now back up and running.

The amount of rubbish, human deposits and wet wipes is absolutely sickening. The poor residents that live opposite the diner, had a bottle of urine outside their house although there was a bin 30 yards from their door.

Surely, the owners of the diner should be responsible for the mess left by their visitors? Given that we are in a global pandemic, with health and hygiene at the forefront of each and every one of our minds, what human being thinks it is acceptable to defecate on a footpath at any time let alone now?

As a resident who wants to live in a clean and well looked after village, I am at my wits end with the filth that these people produce.

Surely there is something we can do to stop it? I would quite happily see the diner be closed down to end this disgusting behaviour.

Name withheld.

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Wansford Surgery	01780 782342	Royal British Legion	01780 782200
(Out of hours	111 option 4)	Stibbington & Wansford WI	. .781733
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