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March 2021

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Editorial

Dear readers, I hope you find this edition of Living Villages both interesting and useful. As I have often said I start each month without really knowing how I am going to fill the pages, but due to the support of our advertisers through the excellent work of Kate Hopkins, Advertising Manager and the excellent contributions from readers, I hope you will agree that even in these strange times the magazine content is both useful and informative.

The quiz that was published last month certainly provided some entertainment and I know it was attempted by many people, both locally and wider afield. I was delighted with the number of entries see page 38 for the answers and the winner

Reading the article submitted by the WI this month I was tempted to include a photo of one of the jigsaws I did during the first lockdown (I think I completed over ten.) I have a few still to do, but as many of you know we now have a puppy, who I am sure would pounce on any piece that accidentally fell to the ground and set about chewing it to oblivion. His latest 'treat' for us, having got bored of Amazon boxes was to completely shred every page of a copy of Private Eye. I'm not sure whether he didn't like the content or not, but to date it is his most destructive act with pieces scattered around the house. We are wondering what his next favourite 'toy' will be!

I am writing this on the morning that our Prime Minister will announce the proposed roadmap to end lockdown three. We already know that the schools will be going back in early March and we will probably find out the rest of the plans during the day as well! It has been fabulous to learn how many of us have received the vaccine, which is great and is at least one successful story that has come out of the last 12 months, but I think it's safe to say that things are unlikely to ever be the same again and a return to big social events is certainly going to take time. Our local businesses which have been closed will certainly need our support once they are able to reopen. Amateur sport and other leisure activities, dance and drama have and will face enormous challenges, these were an integral part of our society a year ago and have left a huge whole in many peoples lives.

Stay Safe

Tracy Sortwell

WORSHIP MARCH 2021

All subject to Government restrictions.

Every Sunday 5.00pm At Home service on Zoom. Log -in details from Rev. Jane

St Leonard's, Apethorpe		
14th	11.00am	Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday
28th	11.00am	Holy Communion

St Mary's, Wansford		
Every Wednesday at 10.00am Morning Prayer		
14th	9.30am	Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday
28th	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Mary's and All Saints, Nassington		
Every Thursday at 9.30am Holy Communion BCP		
7th	8.15am	Holy Communion BCP
14th	9.30am	Family Service for Mothering Sunday
28th	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Mary's, Woodnewton		
7th	9.30am	Holy Communion
21st	9.30am	Holy Communion
28th	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP

St Andrew's, Thornhaugh		
7th	9.30am	Holy Communion
21st	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Mary Magdalene, Yarwell		
7th	11.00am	Holy Communion
21st	11.00am	Holy Communion

Castor Benefice

To mark the 2021 Lenten season Castor Benefice will be running an additional live service of Evening Prayer via Zoom at 6.00pm every Wednesday evening, commencing 24th February up to and including 24th March, (at the time of going to press for this March issue one of the evenings will already have passed) Each service will be followed by a short reflection based upon a well known hymn. All are welcome and if you would like to attend any of the services please email the Rector, who will forward the Zoom link rector.castor@btconnect.com

The dates of these services and the hymns to be included are as follows :-

Wednesday 24th February	Hymn : Lord Jesus think on me Reflection to be led by Ray Hemingray
Wednesday 3rd March	Hymn : Just as I am without one plea Reflection to be led by Will Craven
Wednesday 10th March	Hymn : Come thou long expected Jesus Reflection to be led by Bridget Spencer
Wednesday 17th March	Hymn : My song is love unknown Reflection to be led by David Edwards
Wednesday 24th March	Hymn : Be thou my guardian and my guide Reflection to be led by Ollie Southgate

Carol Lindsay

I know many people are saying it, but it hardly seems possible that it is a year since we first went into lock-down. As I write this in mid-February, I am finalising plans for very different Lent, with online groups and finding ways of making connections in new ways.

It is encouraging though, that during this lock-down we have been able to continue with in-church services as well as on Zoom. As you will see we have all our usual services in March at St. Andrew's and St. Mary's. Mothering Sunday falls on 14th of the month, and I am hoping that we will be able to have a family service that day at Nassington for all the families of the benefice, as well as a Communion service with a Mothering Sunday theme at Wansford and Apethorpe. As with so much, it all depends upon the regulations when we get there as to what we can do!

Holy Week and Easter come at the beginning of April, but, rather as we did at Christmas, we will find ways of celebrating this significant time together in new and creative ways. Again, details will be on the noticeboard in the porch. At least if we plan outdoor services, the weather *should* be better, although we were fortunate with our outdoor carol service – chilly but dry!

The heart of the message of Easter is that death and darkness do not have the last word, and that God's love and power is stronger than all that we might face. We need to hold on to that, whilst admitting that these are tough times. Knowing that God walks with us can give us the strength to seek the light alongside us in the darkness of the tunnel, as well as looking for the light at the end of the tunnel, as we all are. May we seek God's love and light in all things and celebrate his presence with us.

With every blessing,
Rev. Jane

A graphic with a light pink background. The words "Mothering Sunday" are written in a large, green, cursive font, slightly arched. At the bottom, there are several purple tulip-like flowers.

Mothering Sunday

Augean Community Fund

May 2021

The **Augean Community Fund** uses monies provided by Augean PLC under the Landfill Communities Fund.

The company's donations relate to its two landfill operations located at Thornhaugh near Peterborough, and King's Cliffe in Northamptonshire. Recommendations on all grants from the Fund are made by King's Cliffe Environmental Association (KCEA) and Thornhaugh Environmental Association (TEA).

These two committees comprise volunteers from the villages of King's Cliffe, Thornhaugh and nearby, who are best able to represent local community priorities.

Application Closing Dates

There are usually two funding rounds each year, the next two closing dates are:

Wednesday 12th May 2021
decision by early August 2021

Wednesday 3rd November
2021 decision by early

Who Can Apply?



Groups with projects that are located within 10 miles of the King's Cliffe landfill site or the Thornhaugh landfill site may apply for grants. Priority will be given to applications received for projects located within 5 miles of Augean's Thornhaugh and Kings Cliffe landfill sites.

What can I apply for?

Grants will be available for capital improvement works to public amenity projects. Examples may include:

- Village halls
- Community centres
- Sports fields
- Nature reserves
- Public playgrounds
- Sports facilities
- Village greens
- Cycle paths
- Country parks



You can apply for grants of between **£5,000** and **£50,000**.

Projects must be available and open to the general public as defined by ENTRUST (the Landfill Communities Fund regulator), as a minimum, for 4 evenings a week, or 2 days a week, or 104 days a year.

Where Can I Find Out More?

For more information about the Fund and how to apply, please visit GrantScape's website.

If you have a project idea that you would like to discuss before you apply, please contact the GrantScape team on:

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The Happy News Page

(Fun, uplifting or just plain quirky!)



The resilient WUF gang are still strumming away via video meetings. Of course a song that just had to be added to the repertoire has been "Zoom" by Fat Larry's Band!

www.facebook.com/wansfordukulelefolk



Blister packs for tablets are not accepted by most councils for recycling and so end up in household waste. The good news is that you can now drop-off your empty tablet blister packs at **Superdrug** in Stamford or Peterborough. Recycling the packs in this way helps Superdrug to raise money for www.mariecurie.org.uk



area by addressing biodiversity and climate change crises. Some of the money has come from the parishes themselves (the nearest being Caster and Ailsworth). In addition, the Earl Fitzwilliam Fund has made grants to support specific projects and the rest of the money is being allocated by the partners within the John Clare Partnership, including Natural England, PECT and the Langdyke Countryside Trust.

www.langdyke.org.uk/category/john-clare-countryside-vision

Yay! The clocks "spring forward" an hour on Sunday 28th March.



Although first suggested in 1784 by Benjamin Franklin, "daylight saving" (to increase productivity) was not introduced here until 1916, a few weeks after Germany. A more quirky time fact is that in 1901 King Edward VII stipulated that all clocks on Sandringham estate should run 30 minutes fast, thus creating his own 'Sandringham Time'. This made the most of daylight for hunting!

The Retirement Effect 2

The Hidden Feeling of Loss

In the first article I talked about the need to go through the process of transition in order come to terms with, and manage the changes we have to deal with when retiring.

Besides the obvious changes such as:

- not having a job,
- not having an income,
- no set routine and timetable of going 'to the office',
- not having meetings,
- not having to deal with the boss and staff,
- loss of status,

I have perceived there is something else going on that is unsettling and disruptive instead of feeling a wonderful sense of "freedom at last!!"; it's an additional feeling of loss.

I call this additional sense of loss "*Lack of Framework*".

From primary school we are introduced to a structure. This gives us an understanding of the behaviour, training, experience, concepts, relationships, rules and regulations. This structure is what we need in order to progress through our working lives.

In other words, a framework for getting on at work.

The Framework also provides a basis for the way in which we think society values us. It provides us with essential points of reference, and it defines the expectations on us whether in the job or outside of it.

All this can sound a bit constraining and negative, however, the Framework gives us a foundation from which to develop. It also provides an essential environment, sense of security and a structure that we can rely on and fall back on in times of uncertainty and change.

Stepping into retirement means we step out of the framework we have learned and used over many years. We have also lost the security and structure (in the broad sense) that has grounded us.

It is not surprising that some people feel at a total loss because this Framework has become hard-wired into their brain. So, too, have their mental and physical responses to it.

What seems to happen when the old Framework disappears?

My research and that of Dr Derek Milne¹ indicate that some or all of the following happens when a person moves out of the old Framework and after the retirement “honeymoon period”:

- personal values are questioned
- The need for work and/or activity
- Recognition of what’s been lost
- No social framework
- Loss of time structure
- Boredom
- Lowered self-esteem
- No goals
- Financial worries (real or imaginary)
- Makes the old hardwiring no longer relevant.
- Loss of one’s personal identity – and the difficulty of recovering it.

Knowledge of *The Lack of Framework* helps us manage this massive retirement transition. It indicates that we need to build a new framework. The new framework is to be focused on us as an individual and our circumstances and is built around *our* goals and desires for the future.

Clearly, the new framework bears some relationship to the old one but only in as far as it recognises the reality of the environment within which these goals and desires are to be met.

Fundamental to this process is the identification of one’s goals and desires for the future, in other words identifying one’s purpose(s). In this context, it means defining what would make living feel meaningful and worthwhile.

In my next articles I explore the fascinating process of managing this transition.

In the following articles I examine why defining your purpose(s) is so important and suggest the paths toward defining what would make living feel meaningful and worthwhile.

Note 1 : *The Psychology of Retirement* by Derek Milne Pub. Wiley-Blackwell

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Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery

Covid 19 Vaccination Programme Update

The Covid Vaccination programme is now well underway and we have now completed groups 1 - 4 (or at least all of these patients have been offered the jab).

Cohort 5 (65-69) have been invited via letter from NHS England. These letters will direct the patients to the mass vaccination sites at City Care Centre or East of England showground. The surgery do not have access to CCC or East of England showground bookings.

Cohort 6 (16-64 with underlying health conditions) have been invited by text to book at Stanground. Cohort 7 (over 60 up to 64) - this group are also being invited, sending texts to the oldest first.

Further groups will follow in the coming months - Cohort 8 - 55-59 and finally Cohort 9 - 50-55

If you fall into any of the above categories (5,6 & 7) and have not received a letter or text invite, please contact Wansford Surgery reception to arrange an appointment.

If able to, we are asking all patients that are fit and well to park at the Power League car park and walk to Stanground surgery as parking on site is limited.

2nd vaccinations - these will start from 19.3.21 (for those who were given the first jab 29/30/31 December). Patients will be invited nearer the time.

Mrs Kirstie Lawes - Practice Manager



All Change at Wansford Surgery



After 33 years at Wansford Dr Amrit Takhar retired on 31st January 2021. His years have seen huge changes to the Practice and to Primary Care itself. He arrived November 1987. At that time Wansford Surgery was a Branch surgery of the main surgery in Kingscliffe. The surgery was a tiny 3 or 4 rooms in a converted garage on Peterborough Road.

Amrit was a driving force in securing Old Hill Farm and its conversion to a state of the art GP Practice. The new surgery was opened by John Major in 1991 and Drs Holland, Tuck and Takhar moved in. This was the start of the

current Family Practice at Wansford. 4,000 patients and 120 square miles of rural territory. The core beliefs of personal high quality care were born. Amrit, like his partner John Holland before him became a GP Trainer and Wansford grew as a Training Practice, training many new generations of GPs. In 1994 Dr Holland retired and Dr Nally took over his role. We expanded into the Farm a little further and moved farm machinery out of the old barn to create a wonderful additional space which would become Wansford Research Centre and a Dental Practice : Wansford Smile Studio. Conversion of the piggery meant space for a Pharmacy ; another exciting development.

Amrit has been an inspirational leader of the Practice. He is a blue sky thinker: a strategist. He has driven change and kept the Practice at the forefront of developments in Primary Care for more than 3 decades. He is a gentle leader; always keen to ensure fairness and provide the best environment for staff and patients alike to thrive.

He leaves the Practice – an expanded, visionary team comprising Paramedics , Nurses who now manage much of the chronic disease, Clinical prescribing pharmacists, specialist nurses and a thriving Research Unit (which is currently participating in the exciting Novovax Covid Vaccine Trial), as well as of course 5 Doctors and a Research Team .

He leaves a legacy which we do our best to continue to develop and grow. I am delighted to announce that Helen Eastwood is going to join me in the next stage of the Adventure as we prepare to futureproof and maintain the highest standards of Primary Care at Wansford and Kingscliffe and the surrounding community .

We are delighted that Amrit will stay working with us closely as a Research GP which is his passion. We hope also that he will also enjoy easing himself gently into all that a well deserved retirement has to offer. We wish him all the very best and will endeavour to continue his great work.

Dr Rhiannon Nally

Don't let dodgy DIY become a drama or invalidate your home insurance

Spring is in the air – and with the green shoots of new beginnings comes a desire to tick off all those DIY jobs. But a word of warning before you pick up those power tools or reach for that repair kit, tackling jobs around the home or garden that you are not qualified to do can damage your health as well as your wealth!

Each year over 200,000 people find themselves in A&E as a result of a DIY accident in the home or garden. These range from mishaps with power tools and lawnmowers, to falls from ladders and slip ups with knives and scalpels – according to RoSPA, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Over-ambition and lack of knowledge are two of the biggest factors in DIY accidents causing death and injury. But as well as potentially damaging your health, you could be putting your property at risk if the DIY dream turns to disaster. Apparently, one in five of us hate doing DIY, but are happy to attempt jobs that may be out of our league in an attempt to save money.

However, a bodge job could lead to double drama. Recent research reveals that, worryingly, 29 per cent of DIY-ers said they would attempt plumbing jobs, just under a quarter (24 per cent) would undertake electrical work while 13 per would try to fix the boiler or central heating system. However, for safety reasons, electrical, plumbing and gas work should be carried out by a registered professional. Tackling jobs you're not qualified for could also invalidate your home insurance, leaving you liable for the cost of repairing any subsequent damage.

Water damage is among the most common household claims. However, policies **exclude** damage which has occurred gradually or, damage which could have been avoided by regular maintenance – such as cleaning gutters of leaves. So, it's important to keep on top of regular home maintenance jobs which could otherwise damage your property over time.

The top 10 maintenance jobs in UK homes

1. Servicing the boiler
2. Repairing cracked walls
3. Painting and repairing exterior paintwork
4. Fixing a damp problem
5. Replacing boundary fences or walls
6. Blocked or damaged gutters
7. Repairing damaged brickwork or mortar
8. Fitting smoke or carbon monoxide detectors
9. Replacing sealant around baths, showers or cracked shower trays or baths
10. Updating electrical wiring.

So, if you are unqualified, unsure or inexperienced – the message is simple 'leave it to the professionals'.

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Eileen Le Voi, Safe Local Trades

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which will be regularly updated www.peterborough.gov.uk

11/2021

Random Acts of Kindness

The week 15th to 21st February was Random Acts of Kindness Week. What a lovely thing to celebrate at any time but during this past year it has been practised more than ever. So much positivity, kindness and determination has come from this unprecedented situation we have all found ourselves in, from both individuals and groups of all kinds.

One of the many groups which was formed to help out in the beginning of the first lockdown was For The Love Of Scrubs. Our Stamford, Rutland and Lincs group, which I am a proud member of, supplied NHS Frontline with, wait for it...3679 sets of scrubs. I would say that was 3679 Random Acts of Kindness. As the demand for scrubs slowed down, our fantastic HQ came up with the idea of a name change to For The Love Of *Sewing* instead. Our amazing little community produces masks, dresses for Dress a Girl Around the World and syringe driver bags for NGNPUK with the same gusto and care and knitted or crocheted blankets for care homes and hospices are also on our list.



So when my friend Sam Sansbury who owns Colinette Yarns, the little shop in Elton Road bursting with bright colours of beautifully hand dyed yarn, happened to mention that he had some knitted sample squares in his stock room, I knew straightaway that they would make lovely blankets and FTLOS could be delighted to sew them together.

Sam was more than happy to donate them and delivered them on my doorstep with a big smile. They spent a day or so all over the living room floor being sorted into matching colours and sets.



Then off to the Drop off/ Collection box at HQ in Stamford and the ladies were straight on the case.

Colinette Yarns are known for not just fabulous colours but also lots of texture. So far 20 blankets have been produced and will very soon be out in the community strutting their stuff as colourful hugs, where hugs are in short supply at the moment.

Long live acts of kindness, whether random or specific.

Elin Styles



Lively start to the Gardening Year

by Gary Punter, Wansford Horticultural & Crafts Society

Welcome to our March update – the recent winter spell was harsh and came to a welcome & abrupt end during mid Feb with much warmer temperatures. In the garden, the early flowers (crocuses, miniature bearded iris) are adding colour alongside the elegant snowdrops and cyclamen. With the early signs of Spring, our thoughts are nicely turning to spending time in our gardens.



Our Society year has started well with 2 lively ZOOM talks each attracting 35-40 members.

In January, **Curious Herbal** by Nancy Stevens from Scotland told us the inspiring tale of Elizabeth Blackwell's journey from Edinburgh to Chelsea Physic Garden (with a rascal husband in tow). In Chelsea, she found a benefactor and in 1753 wrote the book on medicinal herbs that Captain Cook took on his voyages. She rightly ended up with a monument remembering her achievements whilst her husband was executed for 'upsetting just too many people'!

In February, **Kitchen Garden – Live from the Potting Shed** by Martin Fish. We were lucky to get Martin as he is a well known radio broadcaster, garden writer and Chelsea RHS judge. We got a live feed into his potting shed and in a packed 50 minutes learned all about kitchen garden activities relevant to this time of year – from broad beans, tomatoes, salad, potatoes, forcing rhubarb, strawberries and even citrus fruits for G&T's. The Q&A session was very good and interactive. An excellent speaker.



Our next event is a local interest story:

Thurs-
day
25th
March

Talk III: Nene Wetlands and Wildlife
Friendly Gardens

Toni Costello, Wildlife Trust

Confirmed
Zoom On-line
talk at 7.30pm

The committee is working hard and currently we are at early stages of planning for Plant Sale (April), Open Gardens (June) and Wansford Annual Show (August). Watch this space for more info or contact garypunter@aol.com.

Garden Notes: 'What seeds to plant and when?'

by Gary Punter, Wansford Horticultural & Crafts Society



We should soon start to get glimpses of the early signs of Spring this month. The soil begins to warm up around the end of February and we can see the buds beginning to swell on fruit trees and bushes. The days are beginning to lengthen and although it may not feel like it at times the temperatures are slowly increasing day by day. These are the signals that it is now safe to think about sowing seeds for early hardy varieties such as broad beans, peas, onions, garlic and shallots.

However the task of planning your planting depends upon: what vegetables and flowers you want to grow to eat and provide colour, how much space you have to grow plants and what seeds you have.

What do you want to grow ? I ask Rhona what she likes to cook as there is nothing like fresh vegetables from garden to table on the same day. I then tend to buy seeds for the more unusual varieties that you cannot buy easily. There is nothing like fresh cherry tomatoes, purple potatoes or my favourite from last year – Romanesco Cauliflower – a sensational looking nutty flavoured, actually an old heritage variety from 1600's.



How much space do you have ? I am lucky to have 3 raised veg beds and a greenhouse, but when I started, many years ago, we just had a few containers and pots in the garden. The experience of fresh veg was just as pleasing in pots versus veg beds. I have not ventured to allotment level yet but know the plots behind the village shop are a hive of activity.

How good a gardener do I have to be ?

Whilst there is endless stuff to read, actually the seed packets have clear instructions to follow. At this time of year you may want to find a warm window sill (indoors) to get some seeds started, or simply wait till small established plant 'plugs' appear in the garden centres and you can plant them direct into your soil in the Spring.



What am I planting at the moment ?

I have placed seed trays of tomato seeds (hoping for 'big brandy' variety in photo) on a warm window sill and broad beans in our conservatory. Shallots/ onion/garlic sets and carrot seeds will be planted outside soon. Potatoes will wait 4-6 weeks but 'chitting' of seed potatoes can start now.

I hope you have an enjoyable start to the planting year, with the promise of very local food to come.

Gary Punter

THORNTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Thornthorough Parish Council took place via Zoom on 18th January 2021. It was chaired by Chris Smith and present were Louise Molesworth, Ashley Kewney, Martin Lewis and Adrian Rodgers. In attendance were six Members of the Public, Peter Slinger, Prospective Green Party Candidate for the Ward Elections and Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk.

Public Forum

Robert Reeve had submitted two written issues - the Shell garage on the A1 northbound was supposed to have planted some trees when the upgraded work was completed to cut down the light pollution to the village but this has never been done. Perhaps it can be chased up. It was noted that 50+ trees were planted during hot weather and these have died. The Chairman had already chased this up on 4th October 2020 but has had no response. She will chase this up again; he had attached a map showing the nature meadow by the A1 with access from the footpath near the exit from the Wansford underpass. The gate to the meadow is locked although it is shown as an entry point on the countryside stewardship scheme. Perhaps it can be arranged to be unlocked to avoid walking alongside the A1 on the route from Wansford to Thornthorough. Louise Molesworth will send details of who lives there to the Chairman who will contact the resident.

Peter Sharpley had the following issue - he was sad to report that there had been two complaints to the police relating to the holiday lets on Meadow Lane. He asks if anyone has concerns that they contact him directly. Both complaints were found to be incorrect, and his use of the lets is within Covid guidelines, for

example the current residents are there because their house has been flooded and it is uninhabitable.

Police Matters - there were no police representatives present. No-one present had heard of any recent reported crimes but residents are reminded to be vigilant.

Footpaths - the Chairman noted that the footpath application alongside the chicken farm was still progressing. A notice has now been issued to seek any further comments/objections prior to 19th February 2021 after which the footpath will hopefully will be finally adopted. A testament to Martin Witherington and the others involved in this mammoth journey. The Chairman reported that the small bridge across the culvert of the footpath between the A47 and the Augean Site is very slippery. A warning notice will be put up and non-slip material will be fixed onto the bridge once the weather improves and the bridge is dry enough. Thanks were expressed to Augean for this work who were extremely helpful and responsive.

Defibrillator- the Chairman had not had a response from Rev Jane Tailby and neither had Stuart Foreman, Church Warden. Alan Frost kindly stated he would be happy for one of his out buildings to house the defibrillator. Louise Molesworth will meet with him to check this out. Louise Molesworth will obtain an up-to-date quotation for the defibrillator.

Christmas Tree - thanks were expressed to all residents who had made the tree happen again and to those who had put ornaments onto the Christmas Tree

including the two ornaments that were made by Stanley and Molly, two younger residents. The Chairman has written an article for Living Villages.

Planning Applications - 19/01889 Change of use from an agricultural field and woodland to form an adventure play scheme including erection of indoor play and visitor amenity barn, a supporting toilet and changing block, staff welfare facilities, outdoor play equipment and car park at Land off Sutton Heath Road, Southorpe – Objections - Awaiting Decision; 20/00733 Erection of new play area facilities, outdoor play equipment and car park at Land off Sutton Heath Road, Southorpe – Objections - Awaiting Decision; 20/00733 Erection of new play area within existing leisure site at Sacrewell Farm, Thornhaugh – No Objections – Awaiting Decision; 20/01178 Fell 4x Leylandii trees, 2x Cherry trees, 2x Fir trees, 1x Willow tree (All tree adjacent to dry stone wall) & Fell 6x Leylandii trees (Rear right side of garden/corner bordering Manor Farm) at 21 Russell Hill, Thornhaugh – Taking Tree Officer’s Advice – Permitted; 20/01537 Remove Cherry Tree and replace further from property at 1-3 Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh – Permitted; 20/01547 Proposed loft conversion with front and rear dormers, a new front porch and ground floor alterations at Alkenray, Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh – No Objections - Awaiting Decision; 20/01680 Variation of condition C1 and C2 (to revise the order of approved phasing and allow the storage of Hi-pod containers) pursuant to planning permission 17/00726/WCMM at Thornhaugh Landfill Site, Leicester Road, Thornhaugh – No Objections - Awaiting Decision; 20/01688 Discharge of conditions C1 (3 years), C2 (Cross section drawings), C3 (Stoneworks), C5 (Ventilation gap), C6 (Timber Permission), C7 (Ventilation

details), C8 (Building regulations), C9 (Re-used Ironmongery), C10 (Removal method) and C11 (Plans) of Listed Building Consent 18/01779/LBC at The Old Dairy, Home Farm, Leicester Road, Thornhaugh – No Objections - Awaiting Decision; 16 Meadow Lane – enquiry relating to positioning of boundary wall and vehicle access. It was noted that the boundary wall will be allowed as it is under a retrospective amendment to the Planning Permission; Croft Farm – compliance enquiry on hard standing area and progress on landscaping. The Planning Department has not replied to this issue; 16 Russell Hill - enquiry into change of use from agriculture to domestic use for play area. The Planning Department has not replied to this issue.

Correspondence – Lisa Chambers had sent an update about the situation regarding the Christie Hall; it was agreed that the Clerk will list the correspondence received between meetings from this point onwards; it was noted that the 10-yearly Census will take place in March 2021. This will be mainly online but paper forms will be available for those residents who do not have an e-mail account.

Budget and Precept 2021-2022 - after a short discussion it was agreed to keep the Net Parish Precept at £5,563 plus 75% of the expenditure on Parish Burial Grounds at £1,250 totalling £6,688 the same level as 2020-2021 as there had been an underspend in the budget due to the unusual year and Xanthe Pitts’ donation towards the cost of the hanging baskets.

Speeding Motorists Flyer - the Chairman will produce a flyer to include the issues such as speeding motorists, current projects, etc. A draft will be circulated for comment as soon as possible. In the flyer, it was agreed that the Chairman would ask if residents would like to receive communications electronically rather by mail-drop with responses on this being sent to the Clerk for collection.

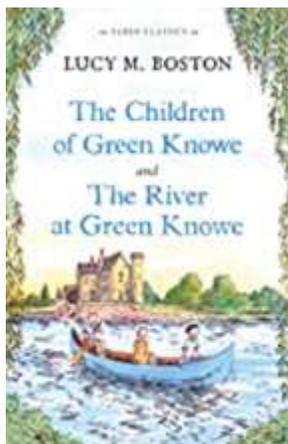
John Clare Countryside Project - Alan Frost gave an update on this Project. He will put an article in Living Villages asking residents what they are already doing to help the countryside so he can add to the data he is already collecting. He has been able to produce a definitive map of Thornhaugh Parish which will be very useful. Peter Sharpley gave an update of what his family are doing to help the countryside such as re-planting hedgerows and re-purposing low-yielding agricultural land. It was noted that it will be a Bird Watch over the weekend of 30th/31st January 2021.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual General Meeting - it was noted that the local elections are due to take place in May 2021 but may be postponed until October 2021. The Chairman said that, since the meetings had to be cancelled last year, the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual General Meeting will take place in May 2021 even if it has to be via Zoom. This is now allowable under new regulations brought in to manage during the pandemic.

Village Party - Alan and Joan Frost kindly offered the use of their garden for a Village Party once the Covid Restrictions have been lifted.

The next meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council will take place at 7.00 pm on 15th March 2021. Venue to be confirmed, although highly likely to be via Zoom once again.

I need to start with an apology. In the last edition I spoke about an author Elly Griffin. Sorry but the author is Elly Griffiths. I hope this did not cause too much confusion for anyone who tried to follow up on our book recommendations.



This month our contribution comes from Judith Rogers, from an Article that she wrote for The Nene Bridge Times, our WI newsletter. In it she explains what she has been doing to get through lock down

In August 2020 we had planned a visit to the Manor House, Hemingford Gray which was built in 1130 and is one of the oldest houses in Britain.

The garden at the Manor House was originally created by the author Lucy M Boston who based her Green Knowe children's books on both the house and garden. In the garden, the seasons of interest start in January with a mass of snowdrops and winter flowering shrubs, followed by the excitement of Spring, the bearded irises, the old roses and then interesting summer annuals take the garden through to the first frosts.

In the winter, Lucy Boston spent her time making many exquisite patchworks, most of which are on display when you visit the house. Rarely can such an important collection be seen in the house in which the exhibits were made.

As many of you know, I enjoy patchwork and quilting as a hobby. At the beginning of 2020 I signed up for a year's subscription to make a Lucy Boston quilt. This quilt will all be hand sewn. Needless to say, I have yet to complete it. So far, I have assembled 42 pieces (3 examples shown below) and my next task is to start putting them together. Watch this space.

Judith Rogers

If you have been working on something during the last 11 months, please share it with us. It could be a new flower bed, some writing or a craft, a complicated jigsaw



Rhona Punter 592 514



WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting held on Monday February 8th 2021 using Skype.

All Councillors were on the Skype call as well as the Clerk and one member of the public.

Planning applications:

The Parish Council had no objection to the application to crown raise several trees in the back garden of 5 Black Swan Spinney so it was referred to PCC Tree Officer

Yarwell Mill: An application has been made for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the siting of caravans and the operation of boat moorings at the downstream end of the Yarwell Mill development. Following councillors' discussions with other councils and with the local resident present at the meeting, the granting of a Certificate of Lawfulness was vehemently opposed by all the Councillors. It is clear from the evidence that this area has not been in continual use for caravans, as claimed by the applicant. The site is also prone to regular flooding, making it unsuitable for this use in the future.

Replacement of a conservatory with open covered area at 2 Yarwell Road: The Council had no objection to this, subject to the condition that there should be adequate screening on the side facing the neighbours at 1 Old Leicester Road.

An application relating to the Peterborough Cycle West project was received too late to be discussed at this meeting. It was decided to ask PCC for an extension of the time for comments and to consult with neighbouring Parish Councils about the proposals.

Play Area: Repairs and a safety inspection have been carried out by the original installers. The Council is awaiting a further statutory inspection by PCC.

Flashing Speed Sign: This has now migrated to lower end of Old North Road where it will be monitoring speeds for southbound traffic within the 20mph limit.

Village Sign Posts: Costs are being sought to remove and the large PCC direction signs and replace them with "village style" finger post at the crossroads and the junction with Yarwell Road.

A47 Dualling : A meeting was held with Highways England in early February. A separate report on this meeting can be found elsewhere in this edition of Living Villages.

Other Business

The William Scott Abbott Trust is intending to sell a plot of land on Nene Close which is occupied at present by a series of wooden garages. The plot includes the footpath between Nene Close and Peterborough Road via the Community Hall. This path has been in continuous unobstructed use as a footpath by the public for more than 30 years. The Parish Council is taking steps to check the ownership of the land and they have applied to PCC to have the path designated as an official Public Footpath.

Councillor Clarke recently cleared some of the overhanging vegetation on the east side of Old North Road near the telephone exchange. He reported that the stone wall just to the south of the bus stop was bulging and at risk of collapse. Enquiries are being made as to owns this wall.

A huge amount of litter has built up on the new Nene Way path at the picnic area. Highways England to be contacted to request the removal of the litter.

Cllr Viv Thorley

A47 Wansford to Sutton Dualling Meeting Report Following Limited Consultations in Late 2020

On the 3rd and 4th February 2021, Highways England (HE) organised on line meetings with Sutton Parish Council and Wansford Parish Council to report back on modifications to the scheme following the limited consultation in November 2019. As usual the two Parish Councils arranged a presence at both meetings to ensure that all views were expressed.

At the last moment, Wansford Parish Council discovered that members of the public were invited to attend as well as councillors. An invitation was issued at short notice to those who had been in contact with WPC during the consultation and all attended.

45 responses to the consultation were received with the majority being about access to Upton and the Wansford western roundabout.

To the east of the A1, the scheme remains much as it was for the consultation apart from a few detailed changes to get a link under the existing railway bridge to provide a non-motorized traffic route under the A47 and to the north.

The main area of contention is access to Upton. When the Sutton roundabout is moved further west, the southern route into Upton is lost. This avoids the use of this route as a rat run but it puts pressure on the other route into the village. HE's preferred solution to this is to improve the length and quality of the passing places on the Drift but this is still being discussed.

Wansford PC has regularly asked for a confirmed estimate of the cost of diverting the road south of the Scheduled Monument. This is an important factor in government's consideration of the route. HE's design contractor does not think this is necessary, stating that they cannot impinge on the Scheduled Monument whatever the cost. We will keep pressing the point.

Further north up the A1, the intention is to remove the direct access onto the A1 southbound carriageway from 3 houses and instead give them access past Abbotts Cottages.

To the west of the A1, HE has decided that it is not practical to upgrade the Wansford western roundabout. They have removed the proposed additional slip road from the A1 northbound as it served no purpose and made the exit from the stretch of Old North Road north of the A47 much more hazardous. Their only suggestion is to write to the planning section of Highways England, pressing the need for an upgrade of the A1 and a complete revision of the A1/A47 junction.

Wansford Parish Council has pressed HE to investigate the option of using a traffic light junction instead of the roundabout as, with very unbalanced

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flows such as we have, they can give better traffic flow. Having traffic lights would make the exit from Wansford much safer and it would improve safety on the exit from the north section of Old North Road. HE has said that they will do this modelling but they have failed to do it over the last year.

Without some improvement to the Wansford western roundabout, the present problems can only get worse as traffic volumes increase. The main problems are increased rat running through the village in the morning peak, greater danger exiting the village onto the A47, greater danger exiting the north section of Old North Road and increased delays, particularly for traffic traveling east on the A47. These delays may well become serious enough to negate the time saving benefits of the rest of the scheme.

This whole problem originates with the original HE project brief which was to dual the A47 from the A1 to the Sutton roundabout. This focused on the A47 corridor without considering how that corridor connected to the rest of the road network. The problem was pointed out to HE on the very first day that the scheme went public in late 2016 but clearly no one was listening.

HE has said that they intend to submit the DCO application (the equivalent of a planning application) in May 2021. All the documentation will be made public in June or July 2021 and there will be a chance for the public to make comments

CLlr Richard Clarke
Wansford PC

SIBSON-cum-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council meet again on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 commencing at 7pm. The meeting will be held remotely.



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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 illustrated talks on many interesting, informative and entertaining art-related topics. This year's programme includes talks about how glass is depicted in paintings, a history of England's cathedrals, the 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 talks are given by professional lecturers, each expert in their subject, and are held at The Fleet in Fletton on the 2nd Thursday of each month (excluding June, July and August) and start at 10.45am. They are friendly, informal meetings where members can enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat before the talk commences.

Due to the current Covid19 restrictions, meetings at The Fleet have been temporarily suspended, but the talks are now available live online, for members and non-members, to enjoy in the comfort of their homes. Members will automatically be sent the link and instructions for each talk by email. Non-members are welcome to join us too – just email the society's secretary, peter.g.lee@btinternet.com to be included on our mailing list and you will receive the link. For non-members a donation of £5 for each talk is appreciated. For more information about The Arts Society Peterborough and the benefits of becoming a member please visit: www.the-arts-society-peterborough.org.uk.

11th March 2021

TREASURES OF THE BLACK TENT by Brian MacDonald



The audience is taken on a journey 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 in primitive conditions and hostile landscapes. They 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.

8th April 2021

FROM BRONZES TO BANKSIE – an armchair tour of public art and street art by Ian Swankie



London not only has a world-class reputation for art in its many galleries, but also a remarkable range of art outside in the streets. We tour around the capital discovering some of the most interesting works from across the centuries. They range from huge and expensive commissions to unofficial graffiti, which is sometimes audacious and often playful, but they all have a place in our society. We look at why art is there, how it has developed over the years and discover many hidden gems.

13th May 2021

THE FAN IS A CURIOUS THING by Jacob Moss



The fan is a curious and complicated article combining utility with artistry. It is a weapon of seduction; it is portable art; it is a fashion statement. From a historical and cultural perspective, its significance cannot be underestimated. In East Asia, for example, where both men and women continue to use fans, they function in all sorts of ways beyond practical: given as celebratory gifts at weddings and births; used in Noh Theatre and Chinese Opera; even Samurai warriors and Sumo officials used fans. The story of how The Fan Museum came to fruition dovetails into the multifaceted history of the handheld fan.

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A quiz about trees!

This month I haven't received any letters for publication, but I have been pleasantly surprised at the amount of correspondence that the tree quiz has generated. As I explained in last month's magazine the quiz was included as a replacement for the annual quiz that has been held at the Stibbington Centre for a number of years and was set by the regular quiz master. The interest shown in this quiz and recognising that it was not to everyone's taste means that we are going to continue to include a variety of different style quizzes in future magazines, if there is space.

I've enjoyed marking the entries and there have been a number of very interesting answers and potential alternatives given, I have accepted two of these—questions 4 and 9, further clarification of some of the answers are explained on the next page. Only one person got 50 correct, so the clear winner is — Martha Powell — Congratulations! A number of other entries only got one or two wrong, so it was a close run thing

I will just publish the answers—if you haven't got last month's copy then it can be found at www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

1. Scots Pine
2. Norway Spruce
3. Olive
4. Chile Pine or Pewen Pine
5. Elm
6. Rowan
7. Tulip Tree
8. London Plane
9. Copper Birch or Silver Birch
10. Weeping Willow
11. Box
12. Laurel
13. Field Maple
14. Nutmeg
15. Holm Oak
16. Poplar
17. Strawberry Tree
18. Horse Chestnut
19. Alder
20. Wild Service Tree
21. Copper Beech
22. Hornbeam
23. Corkscrew Hazel
24. Hawthorn
25. Aspen

26. Douglas Fir
27. Western Hemlock
28. Larch
29. Cedar of Lebanon
30. Hickory
31. Whitebeam
32. Crab Apple
33. Laburnum
34. False Acacia
35. Almond
36. Tree of Heaven
37. Holly
38. Judas Tree
39. Sycamore
40. Handkerchief Tree
41. Eucalyptus
42. Ash
43. Maidenhair Tree
44. Common Yew
45. Leyland Cypress
46. California Redwood
47. Fir
48. Pussy Willow
49. Sweet Gum
50. Pear Tree

Some nearly, but not quite correct answers. None of these affected the result and I'm just publishing them by way of explanation.

18. **A tree to conquer, perhaps!** One very clever entrant gave the answer as *Malus Evereste*, which is admitted a great play on words, but this is the botanical name for the crab apple and that is the answer to another question

28. **Does laps round the garden.** A number of different answers were given for this one. *Caper*, only a bush, not a tree; *Snail*, there is a Tree Snail, but not a Snail Tree; *Elder*, I wonder if this is a link to Sir Tom Moore's amazing achievement? A great answer, but the quiz was written long before he thought of raising some money.

Inclusion within the Living Villages Magazine does not represent endorsement of particular products or tradespeople. It is important that our readers make their own checks on tradespeople before deciding to use them. Organisations such as The Home Owners Alliance (www.hoa.org.uk) provide useful information on accreditations, trade associations and other things you should consider before having work carried out. If you are unable to use online resources then you can phone the Citizen Advice Consumer Helpline (tel: 03454 040506) for advice.

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