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May 2019

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Editorial

Welcome to the May edition of Living Villages. In a packed magazine you will find lots of events and information about your local clubs, churches and Parish Councils as well as two very informative articles about the history of our local area.

An event that you might miss, although it is mentioned in two other places, is a invitation to an **OPEN HOUSE on 10th May from 7pm til 10pm, by kind invitation of Richard and Janet Clarke, 29 Old North Road.** This is a follow on to the one we hosted earlier in the year. These are great ways of meeting people from the village who you may only see at the village shop or from the inside of a car. They are not formal events, you can stay for a short while or all 3 hours, more details on page 37. I look forward to meeting you.

Next month I am hoping to find enough space to share the updates I've recently received from Hearing Dogs for Deaf People on the progress of Victor, our Hearing Dog in training who we have been sponsoring and also share some exciting information about our new puppy.

Thank-you to all contributors for submitting their articles to me on time this month, especially as the deadline was over the Easter weekend.

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www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

WORSHIP MAY 2019

St Leonard's, Apethorpe		
5th	11.00am	Holy Communion
19th	11.00am	Holy Communion

St Andrew's, Thornhaugh		
5th	9.30am	Morning Praise
19th	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Kyneburgha, Castor		
5th	10.15am	Holy Communion
12th	10.15am	Holy Communion
19th	10.15am	Holy Communion
26th	10.15am	Holy Communion

St Mary's, Wansford		
<i>Every Wednesday 10.00am Morning Prayer</i>		
12th	9.30am	Holy Communion
26th	9.30am	Morning Praise

St Mary's and All Saints, Nassington		
5th	8.15am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Holy Communion
12th	9.30am	Morning Praise
19th	9.30am	Holy Communion
26th	9.30am	Holy Communion and Sunday School
	6.00pm	Evensong

St Mary's, Woodnewton		
5th	9.30am	Holy Communion
12th	9.30am	Holy Communion
19th	9.30am	Holy Communion
26th	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP

St Michael and All Angels, Sutton		
12th	9.00am	Family Service
26th	9.00am	Holy Communion

St Mary Magdalene, Yarwell		
5th	11.00am	Morning Prayer
12th	11.00am	Holy Communion
19th	3.00pm	Methodist Service
26th	11.00am	Holy Communion

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AND ST ANDREW'S

The Friends have had a busy Lent period, welcoming a lot of very generous people to our Lent Lunches in the Christie Hall. We do not have a final total yet, but will be able to send a substantial donation to Water Aid, our chosen charity. Many thanks to all who supported us.

By the time Living Villages is distributed, our Coffee Stops will have restarted. The May dates for Coffee Stops are 8th May and 22nd May at 10.30 in St Mary's church, and the Friends' meetings will be 1st and 15th May at 10.30 in the Community Hall.

Caroline Ashley



Like many others, I know, I watched the news broadcasts of the dreadful fire that engulfed the Cathedral of Notre Dame de Paris with a mixture of horror and anxiety for the well-being of those fighting the fire and the building itself. Thankfully there were no serious injuries, and that beautiful building still stands, although now roofless and needing much renovation. It was very poignant to see people of all generations watching and often praying and singing hymns. As I watched them, I felt a sense of connection them, perhaps because at one time I was a fairly frequent visitor to Paris and knew the cathedral and the area, and also because I shared their concern for the fate of Notre Dame. That connection was strengthened when, on Thursday evening church bells of the Watersmete Benefice, along with many others of our nation, rang out in solidarity with the people of Paris. I was also reminded by someone that these bells reflected solidarity with all those who had seen their places of worship destroyed through persecution or conflict; another important connection.

There was another connection when Rev. Peter Konig shared a letter he and his wife Anne had received in the same week about another fire, this time one in a slum area of Nairobi in Kenya called Mathare Valley which had completely destroyed the much-needed school there, although thankfully again with no casualties. In the Watersmete Benefice we are making a collection to contribute to the swift rebuilding of the school so that its 551 pupils can return to their education by the end of April – so by the time you are reading this, hopefully. Another fire in a very different building and in a very different place, yet connected in the devastation it caused to so many lives.

It is amazing how sometimes we feel connected to a particular event or group of people who then cease to be just a news item but become individuals and communities in need. I experienced that in another way recently when I saw a photograph of a child in one of the refugee camps where the families of ISIS fighters are being kept. The child must have been about two years old and was clutching a plastic toy truck. Such a natural pose, and how many times have we seen children we love holding tightly on to a beloved toy? Yet the eyes of this child transfixed me, these weren't eyes that were full of joy, playing with a toy, but they looked directly at the camera with such sadness and emptiness. What is the future for that child, I wondered, born into such a situation? Now, whenever I hear reports of these camps and the issues surrounding them, the picture of that child comes to my mind, and they are no longer "issues" or "problems to be solved" but people in need.

Actions such a tolling church bells in solidarity, an urgently needed collection of money or the reminder of the people behind the headlines strengthen our connection with those in many different kinds of need. And it not always need or disaster that connects us; think of great national events or sporting occasions that bring together so many people celebrating, or rooting for the same team. Great international events such a solar eclipse or New Year celebrations across the globe widen our horizons. All of these can remind us of what we share, how we are the same as others, and can encourage a sense of fellowship and unity.

Perhaps in our divided world and our divided nation we need to look for connections and seek to find ways of expressing them. For Christians there is also the reminder that we are all beloved children of God, created not to be alone, but to be connected with one another. What connections will we make in the next few weeks that will make a difference to us and to others, I wonder?



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THEFT OF LEAD FROM St MARYS WANSFORD CHURCH ROOF

During the night of 1/2 April thieves stripped the lead from both the north and south side of the Chancel roof. To make matters worse heavy rain on the morning of the 2nd resulted in significant Water ingress into the chancel. A mopping up operation began and by late afternoon a temporary rubberised felt covering was installed over the roof. De-humidifiers and dryers were in operation for a week to dry out the chancel so that the church was back in use for a wedding on 12th April.

We were warned that the gang which carry out these sacrilegious acts often return and we were concerned to protect the remaining lead on the Nave roof whilst quotes were being obtained for an alarm system. The services of a security company were engaged to protect the building during the hours of darkness.

An alarm system is now in place which is monitored by a central control and would activate an audible siren and alert the police in the event of any intruder on the roof.

The focus now switches to replacing the Chancel roof. We are hoping to be able to use Terne coated Stainless Steel which is similar in appearance to lead but does not have a second hand value and is less expensive.

However this will still involve considerable cost and we are attempting to obtain some grants to help towards financing this project.



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FRIENDS OF ST REMIGIUS WATER NEWTON

SAVE THE DATE

WATER NEWTON MUSIC FEST 2019

Bank Holiday Sunday 25th August

Once again, the organisers of this ever popular event will be showcasing a great selection of terrific bands including the return of the ever popular 'Hounddogs'.

Further information will be released over the coming months.

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

This year there will be delicious 'street' food, together with locally made hamburgers and a beer tent serving real ales supplied by Castor Ales together with a gin bar.

Be sure to note the date in your diaries and let all your friends know of the event. Why not make up a party? Tickets will be on sale from June by visiting: www.waternewtonvillage.co.uk

AFRICAN DREAM START TO 2019 CHARITY MUSIC CONCERTS

A musical evening with a difference was the first charity event to this years series of concerts organised by Thornhaugh and Wansford Churches. The African Dream portraying the vibrant culture and music of Southern Africa was performed in front of a packed house at Thornhaugh Church on 5th April by Rutland Rejuvenated Singers. A sum of £550 was raised to support the Mazwi Village Project in Zimbabwe.

Three further events with various different types of music are planned for the rest of the year.

FRIDAY 28th June Midsummer Music at Wansford Church (further details in June LV)
FRIDAY 11th October St. Peters Singers at Thornhaugh Church
FRIDAY 13th December Seasonal Singalong with Wansford Ukulele Folk at Christie Hall Wansford



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, STIBBINGTON

St. John the Baptist Church, Stibbington
Invitation...

On Sunday 30 June at 6 pm we will be holding our Patronal Festival Service, after which refreshments will be served. Do come along and join us, you will be assured of a very warm welcome.

Carol Lindsay

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The Maypole (left centre) has been set up at the junction of London Road and Elton Road. In 1902 that was part of the Great North Road – so traffic in either direction must have been very light that day!

The banner reads:

1902
Stibbington School
God Save Our
Gracious
King

Queen Victoria had only died the previous year in 1901, so it would have been a very new banner.

Centre-stage is the enthroned May Queen duly crowned and garlanded, surrounded by her 'guard of honour' and appropriately dressed 'attendants'. To her left is the heavily garlanded royal 'coach' (a farm wagon?) in which she would likely have been drawn from the school by her schoolfellows. The band may be school members of the local branch of the Boys Brigade – does anyone recognise the uniforms as such? The wall to the rear of the photo is immediately recognisable as that of The Haycock. There is part of a two-storey building visible to the extreme centre right of the photo. Perplexingly, given the photo was taken in 1902, this building is not shown on my large scale (25 inches:1mile) Ordnance Survey map of 1901. The photo itself was likely taken from 18 London Road. At this date what later became the Paper Mills Inn, two doors down, was a private residence. I would like to thank Mr. Geoff Parker, a relative of the Dixon and Chambers families of 18 London Road, for the photograph.

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Communicare

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Group)

The quarterly general patients meeting was held last month when we welcomed guest speaker, Carolyn Noble from Volunteer Action in Oundle. The charity is entirely supported by volunteers, drivers and befrienders with only three paid employees – they have around 800 clients covering a large area – in Oundle drivers will transport clients for many reasons, but Communicare patients' journeys are solely for medical appointments. During last year 109,000 journey miles were completed and over 25,000 voluntary hours worked.

Clients are only charged for journey miles – VA reimburse the drivers for dead mileage. They are actively seeking more drivers in the north of their area – they currently have 12 clients in Kings Cliffe but no local driver – it was suggested that some exposure in local village magazines and on relevant web sites might prove beneficial. Communicare and the practice were thanked for their recent donations – good support is also received from Oundle School and other means of fund raising including sale of various items and quiz nights are regularly organized. Carolyn was warmly thanked for her talk and VA for their continued help and support of patients.

The treasurer presented the financial statement showing a current balance of £4498 (£2000 is ring-fenced) – it was noted with thanks receipt of £950 from the Yarwell & Nassington Brass Band concert last autumn. A request had been submitted from the Practice for funds to purchase a portable Doppler machine, costing £228.95, to be sited at Wansford for use by nurses in locating pulse points prior to identifying problem circulatory areas. The Officials recommended acceptance and it was unanimously agreed.

Dr Takhar reported that under a new government scheme being introduced in this area in July called National Primary Care Network, the practice is looking into a possible arrangement with Yaxley and Oundle surgeries. This will entail sharing of resources when necessary – ie services of specialist staff could be spread over the three locations to make them viable. He emphasized lack of GPs nationally which the scheme is designed to help alleviate - Wansford is generally fortunate in recruiting a sufficient number of trainee GPs. He confirmed that working with two 'Lakeside' practices would not present any anticipated problems with each practice retaining their autonomy. Tie-up of resources covering some 34K patients is in line with plans for the Peterborough area where the original 29 practices could now be condensed into approximately six groups.

He also updated the meeting on proposed expansion of the Wansford site with the addition of a nursing/care home – it has been decided not to proceed in close association with PCH - planning permission is now being sought but no problems are envisaged. The planned site at Kings Cliffe for a new medical/community hub has been rejected as too small and further locations are under consideration.

A new GP has been appointed – Dr Saber Alemi – he worked at the surgery some years ago as a trainee GP and more recently has covered on a locum basis.

Details were shared about a new project in Kings Cliffe called 'Never Alone' – this will be centered on the KC Active Site but will encompass a number of local groups attempting to combat isolation and loneliness for all residents around the area. Depending on progress of its introduction a representative may be asked to speak at the June meeting. Dr Takhar also suggested inviting the Research Team at Wansford to give a talk about their current work on a number of different topics where patients are invited to participate.

Two new self-referral services are now available. The first is a self referral Physiotherapy service (03000 555 0210) which offers a telephone triage service with advice and face to face appointments where necessary. The second is a Wellbeing Service offering a variety of free psychological treatments, ring 0300 300 0055 or visit www.cpft.nhs.uk. Both services are designed to successfully provide sufficient help – however if the problem is considered acute enough then patients would be advised to seek further medical help.

The meeting sent sincere condolences to Mrs Gill Caddick on the recent death of her husband, Lloyd – he was a regular and staunch supporter of the Group over the years and his interest was always warmly appreciated.

The next social group coffee morning is on Friday 3rd May at the Kings Cliffe Active Hall 10.0am. The day trip to Ely was cancelled due to lack of support but the next one is planned for June to Ashbourne & Bakewell. The spring coach holiday leaves on Monday 20th to Weston-super-Mare – there is still availability - further details from Clare tel: 01780 470437 or email: superfoguk@aol.com

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STIBBINGTON AND WANSFORD WI

Celebrating 100 years

At the monthly meeting, Michael Penhaligan was invited to speak on the work of a counsellor. His informative talk took us through how counselling began in 1950's, following the ideas put forward by Karl Rogers. He suggested that if you sat a person down and listened with empathy, then this will lead to something good. During his talk, Michael explained how the profession is changing and in particular a recently developed technique EMDR – Eye movement desensitisation and reprocessing. This exciting talking therapy was developed working with returning veterans suffering with PTSD, and now its applications are being widened. Throughout Michael related counselling practise to brain development and function.



Our Centenary celebrations began in earnest on Saturday 13th April with S&W WI hosting the group lunch. Four other branches within our area group attended – Hampton, Orton Waterville, South Nene and Elton.

Following a delicious lunch, we were all treated to a very entertaining performance by Stamford Shoestring theatre company. They performed excerpts from plays, books, poetry and songs all published in 1919, along with news highlights.

Finally reports were given by the visiting Presidents giving us a summary of the past year's events.

The annual Federation meeting saw 7 members attending in St Ives, as well as WI business, we were able to listen to 4 speakers throughout the day. We began with Jane Swadling, an ambassador for the charity Schoolreaders Cambridgeshire, that prompts reading in schools. Many readers may hear Sue Marchant on Radio Cambridgeshire, she regaled us with tales from her radio work. Jill Wadsworth gave an update on the work of Wangari Cecilia at the Scared Heart School in Navaisha Kenya.

The final speaker was Simon King. Starting with his early years in Kenya as a boy, Simon went on to describe his life and work, a funny, engaging talk full of stories and knowledge. He talked with passion and his desire to connect with the natural world.

Jan Armitage on behalf of S&W WI, receiving the 100 year birthday certificate from Simon King.



Upcoming events:-

Friday 3rd and 17th May We have our 3C's regular craft, coffee and chat meeting (Community Hall 10-12am).

Tuesday 14th May – Resolution supper (Community Hall 7.30pm)

Tuesday 11th June – Wellbeing presentation by Vitalise4life (Community Hall 7.30pm)

Friday 21st June – WI Centenary quiz (Chrisitie Hall 7.30pm)

Thursday 30th May, Book club meeting (Haycock hotel, 7.30pm).

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

Rhona Punter 01780 592 514

{ Beaux Amis }

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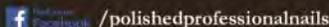
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WANSFORD HORTICULTURAL & CRAFT SOCIETY

Our Floral Art demonstration on Thurs 11th April saw 30 ladies and 3 gentlemen keen to glean ideas for the four classes included in the 2019 show schedule. Anne Biddlecombe, ably assisted by our committee member Lisa Chambers, demonstrated her ideas for tackling this year's titles: "Shoreline" a Modern Arrangement, "From the Garden" a display using a garden accessory as a container, "Tea for Two" a small arrangement and "Take



Three" an arrangement to incorporate 3 flowers only. Anne skilfully created two examples for each class and her arrangements were auctioned at the end of the evening. Hopefully we will have a lot more entries this year and at least one of the gentlemen assured us that he will be competing for the Elborne trophy.

On the subject of the **Annual Flower Show (Saturday 24 August) the schedule of entries can now be found on our website – www.wansfordhorticultural.society.org.uk**.

Our plant sale takes place on Saturday 11th May between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the drive at 59, Elton Road. If you have any surplus plants, flowers, shrubs or vegetables or indeed gardening equipment, we would be delighted to take them off your hands for our sale which subsidises other society activities. We hope to have a wide variety of plants for sale on the day at very reasonable prices so please do come and take a look. As most of the plants on offer are from local gardens you can be sure that they are suitable for our soil conditions.

And now continuing our feature: IAN'S ANNUAL SHOW TIPS!

Well, what a marvellous week to end April with for our gardening, although I must confess I have been praying for a few days of rain and hopefully no more severe frosts.

[Approximately 16 weeks to Wansford show, and how quickly that time will go.](#)

Timing now is the thing to get right for veggies: sow French beans soon, outdoors in your greenhouse, or window sill, germination to crop (8 to 12 weeks). Runners (12/14), Beetroot(12/40), Courgettes(10/14), Carrots(14/18), Parsnips difficult to start off (16 weeks plus.)

Your flowers will add colour and last a long time once in bloom. Aim for [Top Tray veggies and Top Vase with flowers](#), as well as individual classes. You can do it! Next month we hope to detail how and what to enter with the RHS rules. Good growing!

Gill Fisher: fisher.gill@yahoo.com

'Dr Stephen Upex and the Nene Valley Archaeological Trust (NVAT), is opening up a new phase of exploration on Durobrivae in an exciting collaborative project. The plan is to explore targeted areas of interest over the next five years using recent geophysical work completed by Durham University. This will include gates, public buildings and houses as well as the strange circular feature which has long baffled experts. The Friends of St Remigius will join the NVAT to present and illustrate findings from the first dig in summer 2019 at an event in Autumn 2019. This will be held in St. Remigius Church, Water Newton and further details will be released over the coming months'.

The 'small towns' of Roman Britain are one of the most enigmatic categories of settlement in the province. Our knowledge of 'small towns' is very limited and there is so much more to discover about these sites. Often on important communication routes, 'small towns' include a range of sites that exhibit some characteristics of Roman urbanism, (e.g. concentrations of population, formal boundaries, evidence for industrial production, or religious functions), although they lack certain other important features that we expect from towns and cities in the Roman Empire, (e.g. a street grid system and public buildings where administrative, legal and commercial activities took place). There has been little work on small Roman towns for the last few decades so the chance to work within the walls at Durobrivae is particularly exciting.

Durobrivae is one of the largest and most familiar of the Romano-British 'small towns'. Lying close to the River Nene and the village of Water Newton, aerial photographs have shown cropmarks revealing the street pattern and stone buildings. Of most significance is the Water Newton Treasure, discovered in

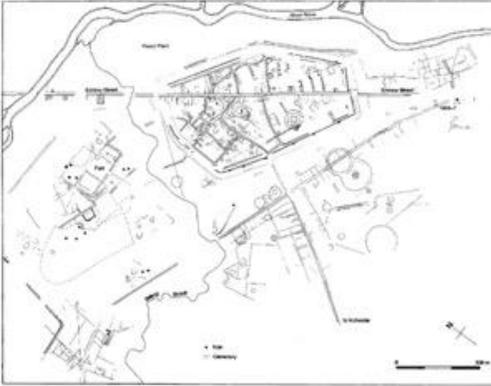
1975, (the earliest known collection of Christian silver and gold liturgical objects from the Roman world, currently in The British Museum). The town was an important place in eastern Roman Britain producing pottery vessels in its many kilns (known as Nene Valley Colour Coated Ware), which were traded widely, benefitting no doubt from Durobrivae's position astride Ermine Street and above the floodplain of the Nene.

The name Durobrivae means 'settlement/fort by the river crossing/bridges', and a small fort was identified from aerial photographs in the 1930s. Excavations in 2012 of the fort's timber remains indicate that it



Air photograph of Durobrivae looking east in the summer of 1976 showing the road layout and various other features.

OUR VERY OWN ROMAN TOWN



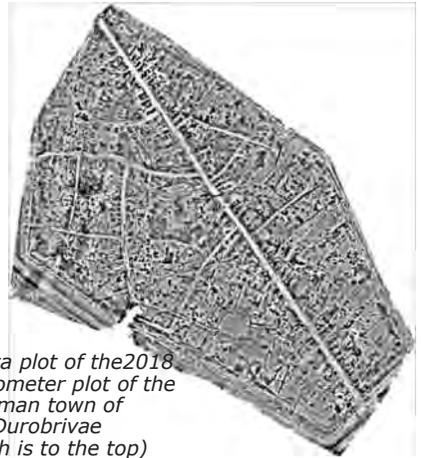
Plot of the crop marked features within the walled area of Durobrivae and the south western suburbs

was occupied a very short period of time in the early decades of Roman Britain, possibly after the Boudican Revolt when the bridge was constructed. The town grew up some 200m south of the fort and expanded to a significant size (approx. 160 ha.), although the town wall and ditch enclosed only some 18 hectares of the occupied area.

This urban boundary indicates the town enjoyed a formal legal status perhaps becoming a 'civitas capital' from which the surrounding region was administered. The very large and imposing building complex at nearby Castor is thought to be have been a palace, or to have served some official public function. Whatever its purpose, the building was situated to overlook the Nene Valley and Durobrivae, while its construction in the 3rd century supports a late date for the town's elevation in legal status. This might explain the absence of public buildings in Durobrivae like those found in other Romano-British towns (notably the forum-basilica), that were typical of the major programme of urban expansion in the first and second centuries

The town wall survives as a low earthwork forming an irregular polygon,

with gates on its' northern, southern and western sides. Investigations in the 1820s uncovered several buildings within the walled town and its' suburbs, including a large public-like building as well as numerous kilns. In the 20th century, aerial photographs revealed at least two sizeable courtyard buildings on the north-western edge of the town's centre that are likely to have served public functions. Excavations in the 1950s uncovered parts of the wall on the southern side. Other than the 1820s and 1950s excavations, Durobrivae has not been investigated archaeologically and this important site remained largely unknown.



Raw data plot of the 2018 magnetometer plot of the Roman town of Durobrivae (North is to the top)

In 2018 a geophysical survey was undertaken to try to provide a better plan of the town's layout within its walls. For the first time this gave a much clearer picture of what was inside the town.

An exciting new phase is about to begin. After gaining permissions from the land owner and Historic England, it is now intended to excavate in discrete areas to try to answer some of the major questions that need answering about the town and how it developed. If all goes well this work will commence in summer 2019.

THORNTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

[The Sixth Meeting of the 2018/19 Thornhaugh Parish Council took place on 18th March 2019.](#) It was chaired by Chris Smith, present were Ashleigh Kewney, Martin Lewis, Louise Molesworth, Adrian Rodgers, Penny Lewin-Watts, Alan Frost and Robert Reeve, Members of the Public, Diane Lamb, Ward Councillor and the Clerk.

Public Participation

The Member of the Public expressed his (and other residents' concerns) about the bird scarers which are sited too close to the churchyard wall and are going off outside daylight hours. The Chairman will write to Peter Sharpley.

Police Matters

There were no police representatives present and no reported crimes in Thornhaugh.

Hanging Baskets Update

Martin Lewis has ordered the summer baskets from a new supplier in Wisbech which will be 16" baskets instead of the 20" baskets but will cost half the price paid for the 20" baskets last year. In addition, the baskets will need to be collected and installed which Chris Smith, Martin and Kay Lewis have volunteered to do.

A1 North Layby Update

The Chairman had received a reply from Tom Lawman, Highways England who stated *"With regards to a temporary layby closure, we are still in the situation of not being able to define how long it would be until any potential permanent closure or layout modifications could be delivered. Any changes would be dependent on the outcome of a study, which has not yet been programmed. Then delivery of any proposed changes would then be dependent on securing the necessary funds for construction and when work could fit into the overall delivery programme. Therefore, we are just not able to quantify how long a temporary closure would be in place and we can't install a coned closure in that scenario"*. Diane Lamb requested copies of the e-mails sent between Tom Lawman and the Parish Council and she will ascertain if she can help progress the issue further.

Shell Garage Update

The Chairman had met with Nick Perduno of the Motor Fuel Group Ltd. Confirmation has now been received that leylandii or another fast-growing conifer will be planted along 70 meters of the boundary of the Shell Garage and part of Starbucks in the next fourteen days. This will, provide the village with a living screen against light pollution.

Thornhaugh Conservation Area Appraisal

The Parish Council's comments have been submitted to Peterborough City Council and will be discussed at a Planning Meeting which is due to take place before May 2019.

Policy on Council Composition

The Chairman had e-mailed the three co-opted volunteers with a summary of the discussion and the agreed way forward. Penny Lewin-Watts had agreed to continue as the Christie Hall Committee Representative. Liam Higgins and Lucy Sharpley have decided not to continue as co-opted volunteers and they are thanked for their invaluable contribution. As Liam Higgins is the current TEA Representative, the Clerk will check how the Parish can remain kept up-to-date with TEA matters which may mean a Parish Council Representative at TEA meetings.

Finance

The Clerk will obtain quotes for the renewal of the Insurance Policy when it is due in September 2019. It was agreed not to renew the subscriptions to CAPALC and Cambs ACRE when they are due in 2019-2020 as the Parish Council has not needed to use the services of these organisations for several years.

Annual Donations to Wansford PCC and Living Villages

It was agreed to donate £190 to Wansford PCC (for the use of the church for Parish Council Meetings) and £80 to Living Villages (towards the cost of producing the newsletter).

Timing of Annual Audit and Submission of Expenses

The Clerk confirmed that she would be giving the financial paperwork to Karen Jones, who will be undertaking the Internal Audit, w/c 1st April 2019. Any outstanding expenses need to be submitted by 31st March 2019. PKF Littlejohn will be undertaking the External Audit.

Consideration of a Grant Application from the Augean Environmental Fund

It was agreed to make a Grant Application from the Augean Environmental Fund for the purchase of a Defibrillator, the installation costs for a Defibrillator, the maintenance contract for a Defibrillator, a first-aid course, the refurbishment of the Telephone Box (where the Defibrillator will be housed) and the updating of the Website to include information on the Defibrillator. Louise Molesworth will obtain a quotation for a Defibrillator and related costs including installation and maintenance.

New Format of Monthly Accounts wef April 2019

Thanks were expressed to Adrian Rodgers and the Chairman for their hard work in designing the new format of Monthly Accounts which will be used from 1st April 2019.

Planning Application 19/00137 - Maintenance pruning required to 10 trees (apple, cherry, damson, plum) at St Medard House, Russell Hill, Thornhaugh

There were No Objections to this Planning Application.

Planning Application 19/00346 - 1 x Ash Tree - Fell, 21 x Conifer and 11 x Poplar Trees – Fell at 16 Russell Hill, Thornhaugh

There were various concerns expressed about this Planning Application. It was agreed that the Chairman will write a letter to Diane Lamb who will discuss the Parish Council's concerns with the Planning Department. In addition, the Clerk will put the Parish Council's concerns on the Planning Website in the normal way.

Updating the Website

It was agreed, at present, to put any re-vamp of the website on hold.

Village Activities 2019

It was agreed to defer any decision on if/when to hold any Village Activities in 2019 until the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual General Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council will take place at 7.00 pm on 20th May 2019 in St Andrew's Church. Chris Smith gave her apologies in advance. She will prepare the Annual Chairman's Report in advance and Louise Molesworth will chair both meetings. The Guest Speaker will be Lisa Chambers who will give a talk on the Christie Hall.

Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk



WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

8th April 2019.

In attendance: John Stannage Chair, Cllr T Pearson , Cllr Richard Clarke, Cllr M Handley, Cllr David Johnson, Wendy Gray Parish Clerk. And City Councillor, Diane Lamb.

The Council dealt with the following matters:-

Planning

19/00324/TRE Removal of an unhealthy Ash Tree in TPO area, No objection raised.

18/02084/HHFUL Extensions and alterations to house in Old Leicester Road, Councilor's agreed with Conservation officer that some minor reduction in footprint would be appropriate.

Cambridge and Peterborough Minerals and waste plan, It was agreed to form a sub committee to analyse this extensive document.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Wansford Community Hall The refurbishment is completed apart from window blinds that are to be ordered.

Peterborough Cycle West Scheme. It was felt that this would not benefit Wansford Parish if the A47 cycle way proceeds as planned, WPC did not agree to provide a subsidy at this time.

Highways WPC Held a meeting with PCC with the result that some road white lining has been replaced, WPC are chasing for the remainder and the pedestrian crossing to be renewed. WPC again asked for the 20MPH signs to be correctly adjusted. WPC were promised that the large redundant A road signs in the centre of the village will be replaced with small village signs in April May (We will see!!)

A47Dualling There is no further news after the Highways England team have been replaced.

Kings Cliff Industrial Estate. WPC are still pursuing East Northants DC to stop the HGVs using the village.

Defibrillator Parishioners are reminded that if they want to be trained to use the defibrillator in the telephone box to contact the parish clerk Wendy at clerk@wansford-pc.gov.uk

Contacting Villagers WPC would request that any Wansford Parishioners who wish to receive the WPC meeting agendas and updates to send their email address and home address to Wendy the Parish Clerk at clerk@wansford-pc.gov.uk . A Statement of the WPC policy on addresses under GDPR will be sent to them,

The next meeting of the Wansford Parish Council including the AGM will be on **Monday 13th May 2019 2018 at 6.30pm** in the Community Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and participate.

Cllr Martyn Handley

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STIBBINGTON CENTRE NEWS



Hirers of the Centre over the Easter holidays included a children's activity group, two university rowing clubs and a Doctor Who costume group who were visiting the Nene Valley Railway! This is surely the widest range of interests we have ever hosted here but who knows what will be next? Could Stibbington Centre be just right for your club or family gathering?



Stibbington Community Classes

Saturday 11th May Linocut printmaking workshop with Janet Bates. Following immediate popularity, we now have two available sessions: **09:30–12:30 and 13:30-16:30.** A few spaces remain on each. Attendees will produce a linocut block to their own design and leave the session with several prints and their linoblock for further use on fabric or paper. **£35**

CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: **01780 782386**

Email: cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Private hire: www.groupaccommodation.com/properties/stibbington-centre-peterborough-cambridgeshire

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Refurbished Pavilion Opens for Business

April had the first games of cricket for the 2019, and we finally got into our much improved Pavilion, which has been absolutely transformed from its recent sorry state.

A HUGE thanks to everyone who has contributed their time, funds or effort over the last 6 months. The club is incredibly grateful for everyone who helped us rebuild the club into something to be proud of again – hopefully keeping cricket in Wansford for the foreseeable future. It has been great to see such active support from Friends of the Club as well as the people of Wansford Village.

As work on the building progressed we were fortunate to receive donations further to those we mentioned in an earlier article and practical help from Tony Palenski, Terry Hull, Gary Arbon & of course club members .

We hope you'll agree that the pavilion looks absolutely fantastic and truly is something to be proud of. Well done all! This however is not the end of the story as we still intend to make further improvements to the building as soon as funds permit.

As for the cricket - at the time of writing – Wansford have played 2 games. One at home and one away, both enjoyable games of cricket, with Wansford CC winning their opener. If you want to keep tabs on your local clubs progress throughout the season, we post match reports every week onto our Wansford CC Facebook page, so feel free to give us a like and keep up to date weekly with our progress.

We always welcome local support, so if you have a Sunday afternoon free, why not drop in and watch a game. Any support at our home games is very much appreciated!

At the present our outfield is being damaged by rabbits and moles which makes it uneven and dangerous for fielders. If anyone has the use of a motorised heavy roller which could be lent to us for a few hours the problem could be solved. If you can help please contact Paul on **07860 278800**

As always, we are always looking for new faces to join our club. So if you're interested in playing a bit of cricket, you can either message through our Facebook page or give our Captain Jason a message on **07734 815117**, or our Treasurer Matt on **07947 136134** if you're interested and they will make sure you can get involved.

Kelsey Brace, Media Officer

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NATURE NOTES

By Graham Blagden

NATURAL CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Just before Easter I was tidying up my garden before going away for a few days. A quick weed, a mow of the lawn, a trim of the edges and some moss killer under the fruit trees. All very neat so we could get away next morning leaving the garden tidy for when we returned.



Next morning I got up early, went downstairs and raised the kitchen blind. !!!! What a sight! The lawn looked as though it had hosted a rugby match on a wet day. Holes and piles of soil all over the formerly neat and level lawn. What had happened? I discounted a large worm. Rooks or crows would not have dug these holes. A family of squirrels could possibly be looking for nuts that had previously been buried - or possibly burying more for next year. A badger? No, not enough damage. Wild boar? They are not local, are they?

I eventually saw a sign that suggested something more familiar. Three of my bright red tulips had been neatly bitten off just below the flower. I remember this from last spring. A deer was the likely culprit then and almost certainly a Muntjac. A family group was laid up nearby last autumn and I have heard them 'barking' at night quite recently. On closer inspection of the holes some of the turf looked to have been cut sideways displaying the grass roots which Muntjac are known to eat. They have a pair of short horns which could be used to free the turf.

I looked for any footprints but the borders are very dry, I did notice the pads of a cat, or could it be a fox? No deer prints either and no signs of any droppings and that is surprising as the 'animal' must have been present for some time.

So a Muntjac it must have been but I am open to any other suggestion from readers for the identity of my night time visitor. I would also be grateful for knowledge of any other similar instances that local people might have suffered. And lastly, how should I deter them in the future? I have heard a range of options but none seem to be successful other than a six foot high fence.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

Dear Tracy

I am hoping that you will find the space in your publication to help promote this Marie Curie Charity afternoon on Friday 21st June.

As part of the Castor House and Gardens Centenary celebrations Mr and Mrs Ian Winfrey have very kindly offered to open their beautiful gardens for a Marie Curie Charity afternoon on Friday 21st June.

An informal Middle Eastern lunch will be served from 12noon till 3.00pm.

Savills of Stamford will be offering a glass of fizz on arrival.

Please register your interest by email to Carol Dickens : carol@31stablehouse.co.uk.

Tickets £24.00pp and will be available from early May.

I will be grateful for any help in promoting this charity event.

Thank you,

Carol Dickens

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<p>Admission</p> <p>Adults (16+) £5.00 Daily</p> <p>Accompanied children 16yrs and Under Free</p>		

Free Parking

Church will keep everyone going and the day will also feature a round the village quiz and promises something for all the family.

Entry is £5 for each day for all over 16 years of age and the proceeds will be for the support of St Mary's Church Nassington – itself expected to attract many visitors over the weekend. The gardens will be open from 1pm to 5pm each day and special car parking provision has been arranged.

Nassington will soon be laying out the chairs, putting up its parasols and throwing open its gardens.

For more information contact

Paul Tate : paul.tate53@hotmail.co.uk or 07432833519

Hilary Hardie: hilary.hardie@btinternet.com

Hundreds of visitors are expected to descend on Nassington the weekend of 29th and 30th June to wander through this lovely Northamptonshire village and take a look into the 20 plus gardens open to visitors. The event was last held in 2017 and was a great success attracting visitors from around the region.

The event is part of the National Open Gardens initiative and since the first sign of Spring has had many of the village's residents planting, pruning and planning for the big event. Visitors will be able to draw ideas from a wide spectrum of gardens – from courtyard to new build, from modern through to the Prebendal Manor. The Manor's garden is understood to be Europe's largest recreated medieval garden and has been featured on BBC2, Radio 4 and in top magazines including Country Life.

Tea, cakes and other refreshments at the village

OPEN HOUSE

Friday 10th May from 7pm

Following the excellent revival of Wansford open house evenings by the Sortwells, Richard and Janet Clarke invite you to 29 Old North Road from 7pm on Friday 10th May (you can also access the property from Robinsfield). Bring your own drinks, glasses and food. A barbecue will be available if you want to cook. We look forward to seeing you all.

DIARY DATES – MAY 2019

Wed 1	Friends of St Mary's and St Andrew's	10.30am	Community Hall	Caroline Ashley	782408	5
Wed 1	Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council AGM	7.00pm	Stibbington Centre	Wendy Gray	01778 441312	
Fri 3	WI 3C's Chat, Coffee and Community	10.00am	Community Centre	Jan Armitage	789996	17
Fri 5	Communicare Coffee Morning	10.00am	Kings Cliffe Action Sports Centre	Clare Wagstaff	470437	16
Sun 5	Cricket match	1.00pm	Upwood	Jason	07734 815117	29
Wed 8	Friends Coffee Stop	10.30am	St Mary's	Caroline Ashley	782408	5
Fri 10	Open House	7.00— 10.00pm	29 Old North Road	Richard Clarke		37
Sat 11	Hort Society Plant Sale	10.00— 1.00pm	59 Elton Road	Gill Fisher	782446	19
Sat 11	Lino Print Workshop	10.00 & 1.00pm	Stibbington Centre		782386	28
Mon 13	Wansford Parish Council AGM	6.30pm	Community Hall	Wendy Gray	01778 441312	24
Tues 14	WI Resolution Meeting	7.30pm	Community Hall	Jan Armitage	789996	17
Wed 15	Friends of St Mary's and St Andrew's	10.30am	Community Hall	Caroline Ashley	782408	5
Fri 17	WI 3C's Chat, Coffee and Community	10.00am	Community Hall	Jan Armitage	789996	17
Sun 19	Cricket Match v Howitzers		Home—Haycock field	Jason	07734 815117	29
Mon 20	Thornhaugh Parish Council AGM	7.00pm	St Andrew's	Deirdre McCuminsky	782668	23
Wed 22	Friends Coffee Stop	10.30am	St Mary's	Caroline Ashley	782408	5
Thur 23	Sutton Parish Council AGM	7.00pm	St Michael's and All Angels	Deirdre McCuminsky	782668	23
Sun 26	Cricket Match v Digby CC		Home—Haycock field	Jason	07734 815117	29
Thur 30	WI Book Club	7.30 pm	The Haycock	Jan Armitage	789996	17

Copy deadline next month: 20th May 2019

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Mon	9.30am	Laxton Village Hall NN17 3AT
	7.30pm	Kings Cliffe Memorial Hall PE8 6XW
Tues	5.45pm	Wansford
	7.00pm	Christie Hall PE8 6JS
Wed	7.00pm	YOGA CALM Kings Cliffe Memorial Hall PE8 6XW
Thurs	10.00am	Wansford Christie Hall PE8 6JS
	4.30pm	Gentle/Chair Easton on Hill Village Hall PE9 3NN
	6.30pm	Mixed Ability Easton on Hill Village Hall PE9 3NN

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