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EDITORIAL

I must begin by apologising to arachnophobic readers who may have been alarmed when this magazine arrived through the letter box. I couldn't resist using Charlie Brown's startling close-up of a spider found recently in his garden.

October is the month for celebrating harvest, and there's certainly plenty of opportunity to celebrate it at our local churches, with details of services, suppers and luncheons on pages 4, 5, 9 and 11. Supporting local food banks at harvest time is also brought to our attention on pages 7 and 36.

Health matters are a major focus too. In addition to the regular report from *Communicare* (p20), we have details of Dr Nally's The FIRM project (p21), as well as news of this season's flu clinics (p37).

October sees two changes in the line up of regular contributors listed below:

For the Reflections page, Rev Michael Matthews, representing Wansford and Thornhaugh churches, will be alternating with Canon William Burke;

And another new name appears below: We welcome Thornhaugh resident, Martin Lewis to the editorial team. Martin has volunteered to help with various aspects of the magazine's production, compilation and distribution. His first mission for next month: to analyse and report on responses to the readership survey circulated in September. So, watch this space next month for outcomes and action points for the future. *Rosie McDonnell*

Survey

Rosie McDonnell

Editorial team and contacts

Editor: Rosie McDonnell
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Reflections: Canon William Burke
Rev Michael Matthews

Local history: David Stuart-Mogg

Nature Notes: Graham Blagden

Younger readers: Marcus Arnold

Photographer: Charles Brown

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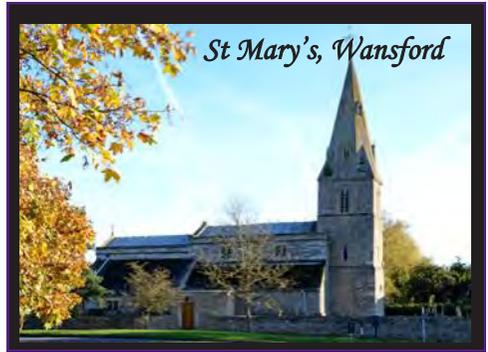
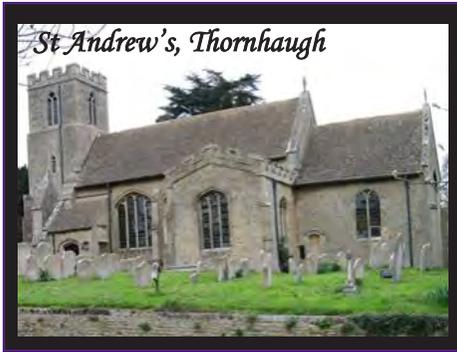
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WORSHIP



Our churches exist to experience the love of God and to share that love with others.

Date	Time	Location	Service
6 October	10.00am	St. Andrews Thornhaugh	Parish Communion
13 October	10.00am	St. Mary's Wansford	Harvest Festival
20 October	10.00am	St. Andrews Thornhaugh	Harvest Festival
27 October	10.00am	St. Mary's Wansford	Parish Communion
Every Wednesday	10.00 am	St Mary's Wansford	Morning Prayer

CHURCH CONTACTS

Churchwardens:

Stuart Foreman	6 Russell Hill, Thornhaugh, PE8 6HL	783220
Liz Kemp	Bonemill Pumping Station, Old Oundle Road, Thornhaugh PE8 6NW	782333
Paul Tate	2 Yarwell Road, Wansford, PE8 6JP	782965
Alan Jones	10 Bridge End, Wansford PE8 6JH	783205

PCC Treasurer:

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REFLECTIONS

By Rev Michael Matthews

HARVEST HOME

We only have to look around us to see how the season is changing. The early morning mist and dew, the colours of the trees and hedgerows with their autumnal hues of gold, red and brown are all signs that summer has passed and winter will soon be upon us.

For farmers, locally here in Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire, it has been a very good Harvest. The yields are up, and all is now safely gathered in. All our villages are in the throes of celebrating it at our Harvest Festivals. This means that there will be sufficient food in the shops for all of us and for this we should be thankful for God's goodness and mercy.



So we can count our blessings, but we may also feel uncomfortable at Harvest time, as we only have to look at our television screens to see that there are people, even in our small villages with no food to harvest, and no food in the kitchen cupboard. Many families in our villages, and especially in Stamford and Peterborough are relying on food donated via the 'Food Bank' run with the support of many of our local Churches.

All of our fruit, veg. and the small mountain of tinned groceries that we will collect together over some of our Harvest Festivals across our local Churches will be donated to the Foodbank to be shared and to be appreciated, so thank you for any donations you would like to make.



We should never take things for granted. In the Bible, harvest and judgement go together. So, it is right for us to be thankful for all we have, but we also need to ask ourselves how we can help to make it possible for all humankind to be thankful and to be fed.

Harvest is the time when we should be grateful for what we have, but also a time to reflect on how we can help those who have little to be thankful for, in order that God's Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

Have a very happy and bountiful Harvest Season.

For further information on food banks, see page 36

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

The Friends of St. Mary's and St. Andrew's are busy preparing for their Annual **Harvest Lunch on Saturday 12th October in the Christie Hall.**

The tickets are £8 including a drink. They can be bought from any of our members and from the secretary, Dora Baker: Tel.no. 01780 782519. As we can only sell 60 tickets and at the time of writing have already sold 40, you will have to hurry to book. The food and especially the puddings are usually delicious !!

All donations will be handed to the local Salvation Army at our Christmas Bazaar on November 23rd.

Christine Turner and Kate Brumfield are overseeing the collection of food for the local **Food Bank.** Boxes are placed in both churches with a list of food, which is needed in Stamford and surrounding villages.

The next official meeting will take place in the Community Hall on Wednesday, 2nd October at 10.30 after Morning Prayer.

The next social meeting will take place at Rita Kendrew's home on Wednesday, 16th October after Morning Prayer.

See you at the Harvest Lunch.

Dora Baker, Secretary



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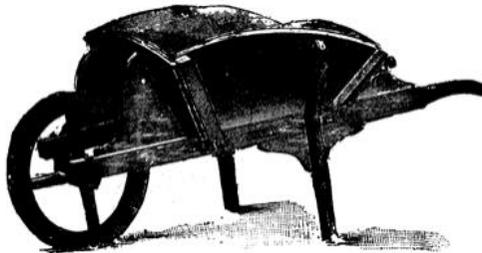
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FRIENDS OF STIBBINGTON CHURCH

After last year`s excellent turn out for drinks and nibbles after the Harvest Service, this year we are offering a hot meal and wine for our

HARVEST SUPPER

on **Sunday 13th October**

after the service at 6pm in
St. John the Baptist Church Stibbington.

Fresh locally grown produce will be used and will no doubt be welcome after some good harvest hymns have been sung!

Tickets are priced at £8 for adults and £5 for children and are available from all committee members or by phoning 01780 782932.

All proceeds go to our lovely ancient Church and we look forward to welcoming you. The service starts at 6pm.

Helen Facer

ST REMIGIUS WATER NEWTON CHURCH

‘The Friends of St Remigius’ invite you to join us

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STIBBINGTON & WANSFORD W.I.



The President, Jean Yerbury, welcomed 15 members and one visitor to the September meeting.

Jean gave an update on plans for the Group Meeting in Spring 2014, the Christmas Lunch and the next Book Club meeting to be held at the Haycock Hotel on 26 September. The date agreed for the next Supper Club is 17 October and the venue is to be Loch Fyne at Elton.

Sue Joyner agreed to book 2 teams for the Autumn Quiz at Stanground. The cake stall at the Horticultural Show was again declared a great success. Jean thanked all those who contributed cakes, helped on the day and supported us so generously.

Our speaker, William Arnold, then gave an illustrated talk on the history of Deene, the medieval manor in Deene Park. 2014 will be the 500th anniversary of the house being first occupied by the Brudenell family in 1514. This, William said, is especially poignant as the Hon. Mrs Brudenell had recently passed away and it is largely due to her efforts that the House is in the excellent condition the family and public can enjoy today. After her marriage in the mid 1950s Mr and Mrs Brudenell moved into what was essentially a crumbling wreck. Mrs Brudenell painstakingly

undertook the restoration of the House room by room, the last bedroom being completed about 5 years ago. As well as a collection of family portraits on display, there is a collection of Crimean War memorabilia and uniforms, Deene being the seat of the Earls of Cardigan; the most notable being the 7th Earl who led the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava in 1854. William was thanked by Val Reeves for his excellent talk and members look forward to visiting the House next Spring.

The next WI meeting will be held in the Community Hall on Tuesday 8th October at 7.15pm, when the subject will be Reflexology and the speaker will be Liz Brock of Lily Holistics. As usual visitors and guests will be most welcome.

Kate Brumfield
Correspondence Secretary

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The winners of the **September 2013** draw are listed here.



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WANSFORD HORTICULTURAL & CRAFTS SOCIETY

The list of winners of our trophies and cups at the Annual Show this year appears on the next page.

Also, a reminder to come along to our first Autumn talk on **Thursday, 3rd October**, 7.30p.m in the Christie Hall. Now that the evenings are drawing in it is a perfect time to start planning for next year and hear expert advice from **Linda Smith** of **Waterside Nursery** in Leicestershire (not the local garden centre). She will be talking to us about "Ponds and their Plants". Having just won her 3rd gold medal at the Chelsea Flower Show and with an impressive list of other awards at such prestigious events as the Harrogate Shows, Linda will be able to inspire us to improve our ponds, or create new water features in our gardens. Admission is free.

Talking of Chelsea, we are now selling

tickets for our celebrity talk at **the Haycock** on **Tuesday, 12 November at 7.30 p.m.** **Adam Frost**, whose garden design studio is based at Barnsdale and who is fast becoming a familiar face on television, appearing on the Alan Titchmarsh show and the One Show, is our guest speaker this year. Fresh from winning his fifth Chelsea gold medal with the Homebase Garden, **Adam** will talk on **designing and constructing a Chelsea Show Garden**. Please reserve the date and get your tickets soon! In advance the members price is £7.50, non members £10, and on the door, if available, all tickets will be £12. The price includes a glass of wine on arrival. Contact me or Mandy Veni on 01780 782397

Gill Fisher: 782446 or fisher.gill@yahoo.com

WANSFORD OPEN PARTY

The date was Friday 13th, and all did not augur well for Wansford's October Open Party:

The first problem arose when at short notice the proposed venue was no longer able to host the event, but Jane and Paul Tate stepped in to save the day, inviting party-goers to their home instead.

Heavy rain during the evening could have proved another problem, but more than 30 villagers braved the elements and their spirits were not dampened: a very pleasant and convivial evening with neighbours was enjoyed by all, thanks to Jane and Paul's hospitality.

MEMORIES FROM THE HOME FRONT

As Stibbington Centre's Heritage Lottery-funded "Memories from the Home Front" project draws to a close with the Home Front Festival on Saturday 28 September, the project team is gathering feedback on all aspects of the two-year project:

The launch event at this time last year was followed by several months of research, culminating in the publication and distribution of the booklet, "Memories from the Home Front", along with recorded interviews and documentary information on-line at www.cees.org.uk, and the "Keep Smiling Through" entertainment evening in May.

Feedback is welcome by email at cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or tel 01780 782386. **Rosie Edwards**

HORTICULTURAL SHOW Trophy Winners 2013

Cup Name	Name	Description
Skevington Cup	Callum Clipston	Best exhibit in Members' Vegetable Section
Christie Memorial Cup	Philip Wiles	Best exhibit in the Open Vegetable Section
The George Moisey Trophy	Ian Long	Best exhibit in classes 5 & 6
Dalgety Produce Potato Cup	Philip Wiles	Best exhibit in Classes 1, 2,
The Garden News Challenge Shield	Philip Wiles	Best exhibit in Classes 43 - 44
The Benton-Jones Dahlia Cup	Leonard Britton	Best exhibit in the Dahlia Section
The President's Cup for Flowers	Jean Hillier	Best exhibit in the Flower Section (except Dahlias)
The Elborne Cup	Gill Fisher	Best exhibit in the Floral Art Section (adult)
The Gilbert Cup	Karina Chappell	Best exhibit in the Children's Floral Art Section
The Coronation Cup	Trevor Lea	Best exhibit in the Adult Cookery Section
The Thompson Cup	Samana Lockley	Best exhibit in the Children's Cookery Section
The Elcombe Trophy	Stephen Samson	Best exhibit in the Drinks Section
The Craft Cup	Bunta Cooper	Best exhibit in the Adult Craft Section
The A.R.C. Shield	Ben Taylor	Best exhibit in the Children's Craft Section
The President's Cup for Adult Art	Felicity Racham Kidd	Best exhibit in the Adult Art Section
The Challenge Shield	Karina Chappell	Best exhibit in the Children's Art Section
The President's Cup for Photography	Mat Free	Best exhibit in the Photography Section
The Peter Cottrell Cup	Philip Wiles	The Gentleman with most points from classes 1-64
The Joan Spencer Trophy	Jean Hillier	The Lady with most points from classes 1-64
The Family Challenge Cup	Jack Veni	The most points from any section of the schedule by a family. The highest total points gained by a Member Senior Citizen. Women aged 60 and over.
The Evergreen Cup	Jean Hillier	
Yendall Children's Cup	Ben Taylor	The most points gained by an exhibitor under 8 years old
The Haycock Cup	Karina Chappell	The most points gained by an exhibitor from 8 to 16 years old
The Banksian Medal	Ian Long	The winner of the largest total amount of prize money in Horticultural Classes 1 - 64.
The Cracknell Cup	Pippa Bradshaw	Best Child's Exhibit in Show
The Len Hall Trophy	Bunta Cooper	Best exhibit in the Show
Top Tray	Ian Long	
Top Vase	Mary Long	
Merit Cup 1	Thomas Hunt	
Merit Cup 2	Harriet Arnold	
Chairman's Cup	Gill Fisher	Person with the highest number of entries
Tom Guy Trophy	Mandy Veni	Best exhibit in Class 27

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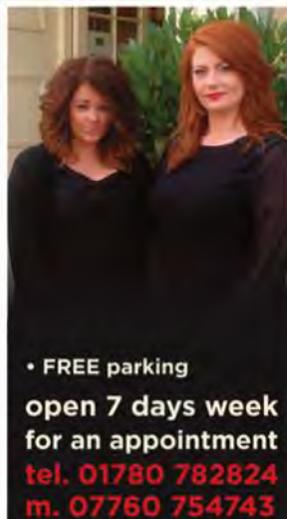
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WATER NEWTON MUSIC FEST: A HUGE SUCCESS

Sunday 1st September saw the village host the Water Newton Music Fest, a charity event organised by the Friends of St Remigius Water Newton.

The festival venue was the village green, the topography of which provides a natural amphitheatre. Festival-goers came armed with their chairs, tables & picnics and settled down in the warm sunshine to enjoy an afternoon of eclectic music, covering the genres of folk, jazz, pop & rock.

On-site there was a superb hog-roast, a home made cake stall and a licensed bar featuring some excellent ales from nearby micro-brewery Castor Ales.



The music was provided by four local acts, with all proceeds going to the worthy cause. Acts included 'Grounded', 'Aint Misbehavin', 'Identity Crisis' and 'Pennyless'.

Over 250 attended which greatly surpassed the target of 150 for the first of which the organizers plan to be an annual event. Sunday 31st August 2014

has already been pencilled in for next years' event.

Over £2000 was raised for the much needed repairs to the Church of St Remigius.

Tony Capon



COMMUNICARE

We held our AGM at the beginning of September and recorded the largest attendance for a very long time – around 50 people enjoyed our guest speaker, Dr Rhiannon Nally, talking about her recent involvement with 'The Firm' – a pilot project carried out across Peterborough and Borderline areas from February to July this year aimed at minimizing hospitalization of the elderly. Dr. Nally accompanied her talk with diagrams and statistics and subsequently answered questions from the audience. The Chairman, on behalf of the meeting, expressed grateful thanks to Dr. Nally for such an interesting and informative presentation. See Dr Nally's report below.

Several patients then left the meeting but a number remained to take part in the AGM business which included reports from the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. The annual accounts were presented – these showed a marked increase in donations over the year but due to funding major equipment purchases the balance held is now somewhat depleted. Under the new terms and conditions of our constitution two officers were required to stand down but as there were no nominations for either post, both were re-elected for a further term. To aid continuity it was agreed and passed by the meeting that the remaining officers should also be re-elected thereby potentially avoiding the necessity of further elections next year. However this will not preclude nominations being put forward in 2014 for the relevant posts and at any time casual vacancies arising can be filled until the following AGM.

The Secretary read out a letter from a patient expressing his immense gratitude to all surgery and pharmacy staff for their caring and attentive help during his late wife's illness.

Dates were set for meetings during the coming year – however we are actively seeking ideas for talks – if anyone has a topic they would like to hear more about, please let us know and we will endeavour to organise a relevant

speaker.

The social group's coffee morning will be at the Kings Cliffe Active Site hall on Friday 18th October at 10am – anyone requiring transport please contact Clare Wagstaffe - Tel: 01780 470437 email: superfoguk@aol.com. There are seats still available on the last day trip of the season on Wednesday 16th October – a shopping trip to Milton Keynes cost £15 per person – contact Clare to book.

Wendy Spencer

The 'FIRM' - For Immediate Review & Management - A six month Pilot Project.

You only have to open a newspaper or watch a news bulletin to realise that our 'ageing population' is presenting particular challenges when it comes to optimising Healthcare. In Peterborough and Cambridgeshire alone we are expecting a 66% growth in the 'over 65's' population over the next 20years. Furthermore we know that admitting our most senior citizens into hospital is not always in their best interests. They are quickly detached from their familiar routines and people who support them which can be disorientating. Social Service support is automatically 'switched off' after 48 hours of admission, only to have to be 'renegotiated' on discharge. Patients often don't eat, or indeed drink as usual. These issues compound and prolong health problems. We know that it is particularly the over 75's who are likely to be admitted and that reasons for admission may be simple. Urine infections (often causing confusion), chest infections, gut infections causing dehydration, loss of mobility and falls are common diagnoses.

The FIRM project sought to provide a Reactive and Skilled Team who were able to quickly assess patients who would otherwise be admitted to the Emergency

and 'The FIRM'

Department in Peterborough City Hospital. It consisted of GPs, a Medicine for the Elderly Consultant, a Social Worker and a Senior Nurse (Community Matron). We also had close links with the Mental Health Team, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists.

We quickly realised that we could help to keep patients in the Community when they became unwell in two ways. Firstly, by being able to talk to the referrer before they were actually admitted - we were able to find alternative and more appropriate pathways for the patient in 46% of the cases we declined (for example, organising urgent review by the patient's own GP - this was particularly valued by Paramedics). Secondly by providing a rapid Medical Assessment with Nursing Support and access to diagnostic tests such as blood tests and X-rays to patients when they became unwell. We were also able to increase the Social Support wherever possible, perhaps increasing carer input to 4 times per day, arranging night sitters etc . In this way we managed 52% of the patients we accepted in the home setting with 31% being admitted to the Intermediate Care Ward at the City Care Centre where we continued to look after them with increased nursing support. A further 10% of patients were admitted to nursing homes under our care, where they received support much more akin to home than hospital. We were also able to facilitate earlier discharge of patients mainly from A&E short stay ward, looking after them back in the Community rather than admitting them to another Ward in the Hospital.

Six months was of course a very short time in which to change the behaviour of referrers, but as the months went on the service was used more and more. Feedback from patients was very encouraging : they loved to 'stay in their own home close to family and friends', they felt the atmosphere in the City Care Centre was 'nothing like a hospital' , they remarked on the 'flexibility' of the service and felt that it benefitted patients and

carers alike in terms of 'things happening' .We were also able to demonstrate a modest cost saving.

So , moving forward, the Pilot is over ; but a new Service for the Elderly in our area has been commissioned . Future plans will include providing daily extended medical cover on the Intermediate Care Ward so that all inpatients can benefit from this model. There will continue to be an 'outreach team' dealing with patients in their own homes and in nursing home beds . It is also hoped to move towards a 'single point of access' for all over 65 referrals in order that all community options can be considered before hospital admission is arranged. All in all these six months have been an interesting and rewarding time for me personally. I have enjoyed the challenges of thinking about how we provide healthcare and implementing new systems - but right now I am delighted to be back in Wansford and taking up my role again as a good old fashioned GP!

Rhiannon Nally

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WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council Meeting was held in the Community Hall on 9th September 2013. In attendance were four Councillors, Councillor Diane Lamb and the Parish Clerk

Co-option of Parish Councillors: The Peterborough City Council (PCC) have confirmed that Wansford Parish Council are permitted to fill the vacancies by co-option. Two residents have indicated they wish to join the Parish Council, this will be on October's agenda.

Planning: Two applications were discussed

13/01226/OUT Land north of 15, Nene Close; The Parish Council are not able to support this application and this has been confirmed to PCC Planning

13/01313/TRE 4 Yarwell Road; The application was not supported by the Parish Council, who requested the original planning conditions should remain.

Matters arising from the Minutes: Speeding issues in villages to the NW of Peterborough are on the agenda of a PCC Committee. Councillor Lamb is on this Committee and suggested we arrange a meeting with Highways to find some solutions.

Cooks Hole Quarry; If residents suffer noise or dust nuisance from this quarry, they are advised to contact Alan Jones at PCC Minerals and Waste. The works carried out over the past year by Vtesse and Electricity Companies have to be re-instated to PCC Highways satisfaction. The replanted hedgerow adjoining the Seed's Field, Old Leicester Road, is to be monitored by the PCC Tree Officer. Also, work is to be carried out by PCC Highways to improve the hedgerow/drainage in that area. David Stuart-Mogg is pro-actively monitoring the situation very closely, thank-you David.

The Council have been informed by CAPALC that the Quality Status Scheme is to be re-launched in October.

Finance: Two accounts were presented for payment and agreed.

Leasing of Land: This is being progressed with the PCC

Village Notice Board/Map: The Chairman will progress this to conclusion

Toddlers Play Area: This is being progressed and liaison with the Nene Tots Playgroup maintained

Correspondence: Superfast Broadband, within the village. Information to be circulated to Councillors and progressed

Views on various issues have been emailed to the Chairman, and will be on the October agenda.

Reports: It is understood the 'Little Chef' site has been sold, but further information is not yet available.

Next meeting: The Parish Council will meet on Monday 14th October 2013, in the Community Hall, at 7.30pm, and everyone is welcome.

John Stannage, Chairman WPC

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SIBSON-CUM-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held 4TH September, 2013.

Councillors in attendance – M. Beuttell, P. Styles, D. Price, J. Wright, I. Turner. Parish Clerk – Wendy Grey.

Apologies for absence – N. Cook.

Cllr. Beuttell declared the meeting open and welcomed all in attendance.

During the Public Forum a request was made for the street lights to be changed at the top of Elton Road, so that they are in keeping with brightness of the new light recently erected. This may involve new brackets for lights and a quote for this will be obtained. Also it was brought to the Council's attention that a meeting was recently held in Nassington to discuss 35 acres of land which is to be covered with poly-tunnels. No information received at Sibson.

The Highways Authority has been contacted regarding the blocked drains on the slip road leading to the A1 at Stibbington.

All payments were duly authorised.

There were three planning applications, one of which previous comments stood, and two others which raised no objections.

There was no correspondence from residents. General correspondence received from Connection Cambridgeshire regarding an update for super-fast broadband.

Questions from councillors, asking about the change of ownership of the Chicken Farm on Elton Road, and any planning applications.

Councillor Styles reported that he would be stepping down from the Parish Council in due course and expressed his concern that the Council had no members from the Sibson side of the A1. He also enquired if we had received any further comments regarding the state of Wansford Bridge and the Parish Clerk will report back after the next meeting with Wansford Parish Council. He also commented on the state of the parking along Elton Road and the state of the eroding tarmac. Cllr. Beuttell is meeting with Cambridgeshire County Council regarding this and other issues with re-tarring of pavements. She will also discuss the erosion of white lines in those areas.

There are two grit bins which will be distributed within the village shortly.

No report was received from the PCSO.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 6th November.

Marge Beuttell

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THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

The First Meeting of the 2013/2014 Thornton Parish Council was held on 11th September 2013. It was chaired by William Rogers, present were Liam Higgins, Ian Molesworth, Brian Watts and Martin Witherington, and in attendance was one member of the public, Diane Lamb, Ward Councillor and the Clerk. There were apologies for absence from John Holdich, Ward Councillor.

Public Participation: The member of the public had no issues to raise.

Home Farm Matters: Martin Witherington had no new matters to report.

Village Sign: Brian Watts confirmed that Glyn Mould had been given the go-ahead to start producing the Village Sign. He will meet with Glyn Mould to confirm the exact location for the positioning of the sign which will be in an east-west position behind the stone on The Triangle.

Time Capsule and 60th Anniversary of Queen's Coronation

Celebrations: Ian Molesworth agreed to look into the purchase of a suitable Time Capsule.

Thornton Parish Council Records: Brian Watts confirmed that the Thornton Parish Council Records will be taken to Peterborough Records Office on 16th September 2013.

Relocation of Benches: William Rogers had brought along details of benches from Woodberry of Leamington Spa. It was agreed to purchase three of these and place them along the footpaths.

Website: The Parish Councillors were favourable to Liam Higgins' suggestion of a TEA Page on the Parish Council Website and possibly other local organisations such as the Thornton & Wansford Burial Ground Committee. Liam will liaise with John Allsopp, Website Manager and bring along an example to the next meeting. In the meantime, it was agreed to look at other Parish Council Websites to ascertain how they included information about local organisations whether by use of a page on the Parish Council Website or a link to the local organisation.

Relocation of the Pedestrian Sign: There will be no further action on the relocation of the Pedestrian Sign.

Dog Foul: It was noted that an irresponsible dog owner is collecting dog foul in black plastic bags but, rather than depositing the bags in the dog foul bins, is leaving them on the roadside. As no Dog Warden or other person is employed to collect these bags, it is essential for the person concerned to take responsibility for this task.

Parish Watch: The Parish Councillors had been asked to comment on the future of Parish Watch. They felt that Parish Watch should disband due to a lack of interest noting that if an issue arises that is significant to more than one Parish Council, it would still be feasible to arrange a joint meeting to discuss the issue.

Continued on page 29

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Continued from page 27

Speeding/Dangerous Driving in the Village: Diane Lamb stated that she was involved with efforts to lower speed limits in local villages. She will ask Peter Tebb and Brian Rowcroft, both of PCC to visit the village and meet with the Parish Councillors to ascertain the possibility of lowering the speed limit in the village. Brian Watts said he was impressed by a "Quiet Lane, priority to Pedestrians, Cyclists and Horse Riders" sign in Sutton and the Clerk will contact the Sutton Parish Council Clerk to obtain further details so that one can be obtained for Thornhaugh.

Overgrown Trees/Back Road Hedges: The Clerk was asked to contact Matthew, Head Groundsman at Thornhaugh Hall, to request that the dead tree on the footpath is removed.

Planning Applications:

The Planning Inspectorate – Approval of Planning Application by Augean South Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for East Northants Resource Management Facility

PCC – Approval of Planning Application 13/00733 Refurbishment, repair and alterations to Mill complete at Mill House, Great North Road, Thornhaugh

PCC – Approval of Planning Application 13/00629 Temporary permission for 8 mobile buildings at Leedsgate Farm, Kings Cliffe Road, Wansford PCC – Planning Application 13/01265 Consultation on Conservation Area Trees Notification Fell 1 x Walnut and fell 1 x Blue Atlas Cedar at Greyside, Russell Hill, Thornhaugh

Road Drains: It was noted that the drain cover at the top end of Meadow Lane is full of debris and needs clearing out. The Clerk will report to the Highways Department. It was also noted that the drain half way up Russell Hill needs attention. The Clerk will report to Anglian Water.

Parish Boundary: Brian Watts agreed to investigate putting the Ordnance Survey Map which depicts the Parish Boundary onto the Website.

Diverted Footpath No. 4: Brian Watts reported that the above Footpath needs maintenance as it is barely passable, proper signage as the route is unclear and a bridge erected due to potential Health & Safety concerns. The Clerk will contact Mr Garnham, PCC Footpaths Officer.

Amalgamation with Wansford Parish Council: A discussion took place about the pros and cons of an amalgamation of Thornhaugh Parish Council with Wansford Parish Council (should Wansford Parish Council be interested). The pros are that there would be a reduction in the cost of running the Parish Councils and the cons are that there would be a minority of Thornhaugh Parish Councillors (due to proportional representation) on an amalgamated Parish Council.

Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 6th November 2013 at St Andrew's Church, Thornhaugh.

Deirdre McCumiskey, Parish Clerk

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I have been interested in wildlife since I was a boy but I have never really come across our indigenous reptiles, by which I mean our British snakes and lizards. The common lizard lives up to its name and I regularly see them sunning themselves on the south facing wall in my garden. But snakes are another matter. In fact I can only remember seeing a couple of adders in my life – before this year that is! I don't know whether it was last year's wet summer and winter followed by a much warmer 2013 summer but this year, in the space of not much more than a month, I have had a number of intriguing sightings.

Firstly, wandering through a forested section of the Norfolk Brecklands, I stumbled, literally, upon an adder sunning itself in the middle of a forest ride. My friends and I stopped and warily viewed its attractive warning markings. It is a dull brown in colour with a line of black diamond markings running down its back with a V or X mark behind the head. It is from 45 to 60 centimetres in length. Snakes are cold blooded and need the sun to warm them up so they can then move with any speed. This one was a full size male and, deciding we were neither prey nor enemy, slithered off into the bracken. Although adders have a poisonous bite they rarely attack humans and rarely still has someone died as a result of such a bite; probably about once in every five years in the UK. Nevertheless if bitten one should seek medical assistance immediately as any bite will be painful at least. The name adder is a corruption of the Anglo-Saxon *noedre* which became nadder, then a nadder and finally an adder!

My second sighting was of a grass snake slithering across a golf course in the Fens near Ramsey, an area particularly rich in wildlife. Both male and female are a dull olive brown in colour with two yellow patches on either side of the neck. They can be 60 to 90 centimetres long and may be found in suburban garden compost heaps and ponds as well as in the countryside. They are expert swimmers and hunt fish, frogs, toads and newts which are swallowed alive. They can live for up to nine years in captivity.

Finally I have recently returned from the Yorkshire Moors where, on a walk I came across a slow worm sunning itself in the middle of a stone farm track. This individual was 30 centimetres long and a silvery buff colour with a faint thin black line down its back. A slow worm is neither a worm nor a snake, but a lizard: a legless lizard. Anatomically it has the vestige of hips and shoulders on its skeleton, but to the common observer it looks like a small snake. This one had also absorbed enough heat in its body to slither away from our prying eyes.

Is it just a coincidence that I have seen examples of these three species this summer? As I get older do I have more time to walk in the country, or does age bring better observation? Maybe, though, our climate is just becoming more suitable for these reptiles. Time will tell.

60th ANNIVERSARY OF TRAGEDY IN WANSFORD

Sixty years ago Wansford village was headline news in all local and national newspapers with a story that ran for many days and shocked the nation for its brutality. In those days the village was a quiet community: it had already been by-passed by the A1, but the A47 was still using what is now Old Leicester Rd. It crossed the A1 at the now derelict Little Chef and continued towards Peterborough through the current picnic site. Colliers Garage on the Peterborough Road provided fuel and repairs to villagers and passing motorists, before being demolished for housing more than 10 years ago

In early October 1953 villagers were shocked to learn of the brutal murders of a local father and son who were shot at their home in Wansford in the presence of other family members. John (Jim) Winder aged 72 years was a retired groom from Sibson House and had been the part time village postman. His son Arthur, 40, worked at Colliers Garage and lived at home with his parents. This tragic event was the culmination of family turmoil which had been simmering for several years.

In 1934 Jim and his family were living at Sibson Hollow Cottage on the A1, when their daughter Dorothy (Dolly) married Fred Burtenshaw from Peterborough. Fred joined the RAF soon after the outbreak of war and served until being discharged on medical grounds in 1942. In 1945 they settled in Peterborough with their two sons, and Fred was appointed RSPCA inspector with a particular responsibility for the weekly large livestock market in the city. All was not well at home and Dolly complained of animosity shown towards her by Fred, culminating in her leaving home and returning to her parents in Wansford on 3rd October 1953. A meeting was hastily convened between her father Jim, Fred and a solicitor to arrange a divorce. Fred admitted that it

was all his fault and blamed a split mind which had troubled him for many years.

Early in the evening on Monday 12th October the family were in the sitting room of their home when the back door burst open and Fred appeared in an agitated state. Reaching inside his coat for a revolver, he shot both Jim and Arthur in front of Dolly and his mother-in-law. Leaving rapidly he made his way to the police house on the Peterborough Road, and confessed his crime to a very surprised meeting of local police officers. They recovered a .32 calibre pistol which Fred had been allocated for his role in the RSPCA. Fred was arrested and taken to Peterborough to be held until the magistrates' hearing the next day when he was detained in custody.

His Morris car was discovered the next day parked on the Yarwell Road outside Forest Lodge, and ammunition was found in the glove box. The following Saturday a double funeral was held at Stibbington for Jim and Arthur. It was attended by many local mourners.

On 30th October 1953 Fred appeared in Peterborough before the Hon Peter Brassey and entered a plea of Not Guilty, but had nothing else to say. He was committed for trial at Birmingham Assizes and appeared on 11th December. At the trial he was found guilty but insane and committed to the Broadmoor institution where it is believed he died within a short time.

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IN MEMORIAM

By David Stuart-Mogg

FRANK SUMPTER

I was saddened to learn of the recent death of Frank Sumpter, Wansford's senior 'elder' in terms of years of residence. Frank was born in Helpston in 1927 and moved to Wansford in 1934 when his father became Relief Railway Signalman. Frank was educated at Stibbington School. Those were the days, he told me, when the public footpath to the ford between Stibbington and Sutton was still maintained and he could ford the then un-dredged River Nene during summer months without the water reaching the bottoms of his short trousers. Frank left school at the age of 14 and became a Trainee Maintenance Engineer with the Air Ministry at Sibson Aerodrome. Four years later, during the Second World War, he was called-up and served in the Fleet Air Arm. When returning home on leave to Wansford, Frank told me that his love of dancing meant that he and friends would walk 5 or 6 miles to nearby airbases to collect girls serving in the forces to accompany them to the weekend 'hops' at Sibson Aerodrome; and then walk them back afterwards before trekking home. Ever the consummate gentleman, Frank fiercely assured me: 'There weren't no messing about like the youngsters get up to today. We proper respected them as ladies'. Personally, I was more impressed at his stamina and the thought of his walking a night's total of up to 20 miles on occasion – interspersed with a few hours' dancing in the middle!

It was during the war Frank met his wife-to-be Ethel (née Sims) in Wansford, a Land Army Girl from Chester-le-Street, Durham, whom he married in 1947. Ethel predeceased Frank in 1999, having celebrated their Golden Wedding two years earlier. To many villagers Frank will be remembered as 'the egg man'. Owning a considerable plot of land behind his house in Old Leicester Road (now The Old Nursery development), he maintained a highly productive market

garden as well as nurturing his beloved poultry. For many years Frank kept the price of his large, brown eggs at £1 a dozen; displaying them on a bench by his back door with a request that payment was made through his letterbox.

Frank was fount of local knowledge. He shared much of interest with me, such as which (named) local member of the Home Guard was responsible for the (still visible) bullet hole through the weather vane on St. Mary's Church; and who (pre-War) cycled to work in Wansford with a shotgun under his arm to pot pheasant and rabbits along Elton Road. It was he who told me that his house was part of four, once identical, pairs of brick-built houses that were constructed in Old Leicester Road in 1935 by local resident and builder Thomas Ellington as a source of future income for his daughter.

Frank shared his home with his grandson David, which was an especial source of comfort and security to him during the lonely years after Ethel's death. True countrymen like Frank are a fast-vanishing breed both in terms of their sturdy independence and their self-sufficiency. In the less paranoid days of yesteryear, he would likely pull a few shotgun cartridges from his coat pocket while searching for loose change. He was justly a proud man. I consider myself privileged at the slight acquaintanceship I enjoyed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



YARWELL & NASSINGTON BRITANNIA BRASS BAND

Join us at our annual concert, celebrating the music
from the film

"Brassed Off"

on **Friday 11th October**
at **Nassington Church**
doors open at 7pm

Tickets at £7.50 are available from Mould's Butcher in
Nassington, Nassington Stores or call 07949 555107

Bar and raffle
Supporting Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall appeal

NEW BEGINNINGS at SW31

It's new beginnings for hair and beauty salon
SW31 and the team in Wansford.

Two new stylists have joined the salon bringing a
choice of experience at great prices. Acrylic nails
are now available as well as a range of autumnal
offers. There's also a new children's second-hand
'designer' shop above the Salon called Carousel.

Come in and have a browse.
They're right opposite The Haycock.

Dear Rosie,

Would you let readers know that there is a box in the church where the kind people of Wansford can donate tinned foods such as meat, fish or vegetables, or cereals, longlife milk, jars, rice or pasta for the Food Bank at Stamford.

Kate Brumfield and Christine Turner will take the food to the Stamford Food Bank during the last week of each month.

Thank you,
Christine Turner

Dear Rosie,

I really would like to Thank You for putting the poster of our fundraising event we held on

Sunday 8th September in the Living Village magazine.

We had a great turnout supporting Labrador lifeline & Thorpe Hall Hospice Appeal raising £1350 in total.

Can I just say a big thank you to everyone who came and supported both charities.

Lisa Canham, Labrador Lifeline



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Hi Rosie,
I wonder whether it would be possible please to include the information below about this years flu campaign and clinic times in the October issue of Living Villages magazine?
Kind Regards, Kirstie Lawes, Deputy Manager, Wansford & Kings Cliffe Practice

Flu Vaccine Clinics 2013

A vaccine is strongly recommended for everyone who is aged 65 and over and for those under 65 who have any of the conditions listed below or are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person:

- Asthma/ COPD
- Diabetes
- Respiratory/Heart disease
- Low infection threshold
- Splenectomy (spleen removal)
- Chronic Liver Disease
- Kidney Disease
- Pregnant

Drop-in Clinics – Days and times: The open clinics will be from 7th October- 1st November

To assist us in reducing pressure on the car park and reducing waiting times we would appreciate it if you could please attend alphabetically as detailed below

Wansford

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

Surnames beginning A-M 2.15-2.45

Surnames beginning N-Z 2.45-3.30

Kings Cliffe

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Surnames beginning A-M 11.15-11.45

Surnames beginning N-Z 11.45-12.15

Alternatively for those that cannot attend the above drop in clinics there is a **"By Appointment only"** Clinic at Wansford on Saturday mornings – 12th, 19th and 26th October and the 2nd November.

Please call reception to book an appointment

REMEMBER – Prevention is better than flu – and the earlier you have the vaccine the better!

DIARY DATES – OCTOBER 2013

Date	Event	Time	Venue	Contact	Phone	p
Weds 2	Friends of St Mary's & St Andrew's meeting	10.30am	Wansford Community Hall	Dora Baker	782519	9
Thur 3	Horticultural Society meeting	7.30pm	The Christie Hall, Wansford	Gill Fisher	782446	15
Sun 6	Water Newton church Harvest Festival	6.00pm	St Remigius, Water Newton			11
Tues 8	WI meeting	7.15pm	Wansford Community Hall	Jean Yerbury	782510	13
Fri 11	Yarwell & Nassington Brass Band Concert	7.00pm	Nassington church		07949 555107	36
Sat 12	Friends Harvest Luncheon	12.30pm	The Christie Hall, Wansford	Dora Baker	782519	9
Sun 13	Harvest Festival	10.00am	Wansford church	Chrurch-wardens		4
Sun 13	Harvest Festival	6.00pm	Stibbington church	Chrurch-wardens		5, 11
Mon 14	Wansford Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Wansford Community Hall	Wendy Gray	01778 341496	23
Wed 16	Communicare day trip to Milton Keynes			Clare Wagstaffe	470437	20
Wed 16	Friends of St Mary's & St Andrew's social meeting	10.30am	Rita Kendrick's home	Dora Baker	782519	9
Thurs 17	WI Supper Club	7.30pm	Loch Fyne, Elton	Jean Yerbury	782510	13
Fri 18	Communicare Social Group Coffee Morning	10.00am	King's Cliffe	Clare Wagstaffe	470437	20
Sat 19, Sun 20	Pumpkin Festival		Sacrewell	Sacrewell	782254	6
Sun 20	Harvest Festival	10.00am	Thornhaugh church	Church-wardens		4

Sorry, no room for looking ahead to November

**Copy deadline next month:
Sunday 20 October**

rosied@globalnet.co.uk



This magazine is available on-line at
www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk

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To enjoy this offer, please bring this advert when you dine

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Tel: 01832 80298

Terms and conditions: 2 courses is one main course or sandwich with either a starter or dessert from the Fyne Dine menu which is available Sunday - Friday 12pm - 10pm. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Offer not available on bank holidays, Christmas, New Year or special event days (e.g. Valentine's, Mother's Day etc.). One Voucher per table, maximum of six diners. Vouchers that have been defaced or altered will not be accepted. Offer ends 31 October 2012.



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