www.villagelink.org.uk



# 30 YEARS' SERVICE AT GUILSBOROUGH FIRE STATION



Stuart Oliver attended his final Monday night drill at Guilsborough Fire Station, after 30 years of dedicated service. He was joined by the current crew, past crew members, friends and family. It was a great turnout to pay tribute to, and thank Stuart for his long distinguished service, the second longest in the station's history. The knowledge, skills and behaviours that Stuart brought with him on every call were invaluable to the crew and the community that he served. Firefighters both past and present on the evening, accounted for well over 300 years of service at Guilsborough Fire Station. There was lots of reminiscing and recounting stories of fire calls from days gone by, and Firefighters catching up with colleagues they had served with, but hadn't seen for 27 years in some cases. It was a fantastic evening, with a BBQ and presentations to Stuart from a Brigade Manager, as well as from the crew. Stuart with his years of experience will be sadly missed, and the whole crew wish him well for the future.

If you think you would like to join the local On-Call fire service, either call into the station on a Monday evening for a chat over a coffee, or check out the fire service website for further information. www.northantsfire.gov.uk

#### ARCHIE - THE RECORD-BREAKING RUNNER



Creaton resident Archie Wright became a National Champion in 100 metres at Birmingham Athletics Stadium on 22nd July. The annual National Prep School finals pull together the best athletes from over 500 Prep Schools around England to compete across track and field events. Archie, representing Spratton Hall in the U13's category, started the campaign back in April when he won the local Northamptonshire heat. On the big day Archie produced an outstanding run in the heats breaking the school's record that had stood for over 20 years and setting a personal best. In the final, after a slow start, Archie powered through to take 1st place and gold medal, setting another school record and personal best of 12.29 seconds!

#### Inside this issue:

Birding Notes Р3 Cold Ashby P4-6 Cottesbrooke P7-8 Creaton P9-12 Guilsborough P13-15 Hollowell & Teeton P16-18 Thornby P19 Church P20-21 Long Buckby Library, P24 Hollowell Steam colour pic

#### WHAT'S ON

#### **AUGUST**

See p.6 for all Cold Ashby Events

2nd Cottesbrooke Coffee Morning
9th Creaton Walking Group
9th Party 'til the Cows Come Home (see back page)
14th Guilsborough Friends

15th VJ Day Guilsborough (see back page) 30th Cottesbrooke Produce & Craft Show

#### SEPTEMBER

6th Hollowell Big Breakfast
7th Tennis Tournament Guilsborough

10th Creaton WI

11th Guilsborough Friends

13th Creaton Walking Group

19th Creaton History Group

20th Millionaire's Evening Guilsborough

25th Cottesbrooke Soundbath

26th Hollowell Hopewell Café

28th Guilsborough Harvest Festival, then Pimms & Puddings (see p20)

#### AND REGULARLY ...

Monday mornings MMM, evenings Knitwits Guilsborough; Tuesday evenings, Creaton Singers; Thursday mornings indoor bowls, Creaton; Sunday am and Tuesday pm, Tennis Guilsborough; Thursday evenings, Badminton Guilsborough and Nia Guilsborough. Sunday am Soul Yoga, Cottesbrooke ... and Long Buckby Library & Hub events on back page.

# Creaton Village Shop

#### **Opening Hours**

Monday-Friday 7.30am-6pm

Saturday 8am-6pm

Sunday 8am-12 noon

The post office is open whenever the shop is open!

Take advantage of cash withdrawals, banking and foreign currency facilities



We stock a wide range of fresh and frozen produce, all your kitchen and household essentials, as well as, delicious bread and pastries from our in-store bakery.

There is even free parking right outside the shop!

#### We offer FREE home delivery!

It couldn't be any easier to shop with us! Just call to place yourorder.

Within 5 miles and minimum basket of £10

#### Enjoy our NEW bean to cup takeaway coffee

We now offer a wide variety of takeaway coffees, which pair perfectly with a fresh croissant baked on-site!

> Save 50p if you use your own reusable cup!



#### **Shop Local**

/hile we stock a wide variety of well known brands, we are proud to champion local makers, such as:

- Joseph Morris, meats and pies
- Jo's Your Cool Ice Cream
- Verdes Sandwiches
- Sally's Freezer Meals
- Wesses Bread



Our Shop Your Shop 2a Welford Road, Creaton, NN6 8NH www.creatonvillageshop.co.uk

Tel: 01604 328877



Osteopathic care for patients of all ages that maybe suffering from a range of issues arising from the musculo-skeletal system. We also offer sports/remedial massage, cranial osteopathy, tongue-tie assessment and breastfeeding coaching.



Lamport Manor, Coach House 2, Old Road Lamport, Northants, NN6 9HF 01604 328 260 info@brixworthosteopathy.com www.brixworthosteopathy.com

# COMPASS ENERGY >

Delivering fuel to homes in your area.

#### **Trevor Reay**

From 1983 Trevor has worked alongside Tony Watson developing an oil distributor in the area. After a change of ownership Trevor left the company in May 2018. Trevor has now teamed up with Compass Energy to once again provide a reliable personal service. Our chairman, Tony Watson has clearly defined our values.

#### **SERVICE – TEAMWORK- SAFETY**

#### Why Choose Compass Energy?

- ✓ No Brokers price savings go direct to you.
- Competitive pricing.
- ✓ Reliable personal service you can trust.
- ✓ Our own fleet of Tankers permitting a rapid response for urgent deliveries.
- ✓ Years of industry knowledge and experience.

Call Trevor to obtain a quote or place an order.

01604 345526 | 07702867349

Visit our website for more information compassenergy.co.uk



#### **VILLAGE LINK**

is a bi-monthly publication delivered free of charge to households in Cold Ashby, Cottesbrooke, Creaton, Guilsborough, Hollowell, Teeton and Thornby. It is produced and distributed by volunteers. Due to restrictions of time and space there is no guarantee that copy submitted will be used. All funds received from advertising go towards printing costs.

#### **Editorial team:**

Andrea King 07920 107903
Tony Hart 01604 740535
Sarah Dalzell 07917 608238
Katie Fulcher 07747 604067
Eve Wooldridge 07711 335771
Richard Hollingum 07887 652599
Liz Sibbald 07360 778276
Richard & Lynn Furnell 07754 298666

Wherever possible please email your contributions to. <a href="mailto:editorial@villagelink.org.uk">editorial@villagelink.org.uk</a>. This saves considerable time re-typing information! When providing hard copy materials, please post to Sarah Dalzell, Five Springs, Nortoft, Guilsborough, NN6 8QB

#### Advertisements are

welcome from local businesses, charities, clubs and societies.

Commercial businesses pay advertising rates. One insertion: full page £140, half page £70, quarter page £35, eighth page £20.

Two or more insertions: full page £120, half page £60, quarter page £30, eighth page £15. All prices are per insertion. Colour available in some issues, price on application. Private ads are also welcome. Back page 'lineage' cost £1.50 per line. Please contact Sarah Dalzell to book advertising or email. advertising@villagelink.org.uk Cheques payable to 'Village Link'

DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER & NOVEMBER EDITION:
Tuesday 2nd September

**Disclaimer:** the publishers cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions. They cannot be held accountable for the accuracy of advertisements appearing in this newsletter, nor for editorial information sent to them or published by them.

# **BIRDING NOTES**

#### New for the Garden List: Spotted Flycatcher

In twenty years of living in Hollowell I've seen Spotted Flycatchers a handful of times in the village, including a couple of times from my front door, but never actually in our garden. I was therefore delighted on the morning of June 5th to look up from my desk and see one land on top of a nearby wall. Soon after, a second bird appeared, giving close views as it perched on garden furniture. Over the following few weeks this pair became regular visitors, and it was



apparent that they were establishing a breeding territory. Evidence of this was 'courtship-feeding', a pair-bonding activity where the male bird brings insect food to the female, and other territorial behaviour, including chasing off an intruding Woodpigeon from a potential nest site. Writing this today in the second week of July, the pair is still present; they appear to have chosen a nest site in a nearby climbing Hydrangea.

Spotted Flycatchers are a scarce summer visitor in Northants, and after an 87% decline between 1967 and 2016 they are on the 'Red List' of Britain's 67 most vulnerable bird species. This decline appears to be driven by reduced first-year survival rates, although reasons for this are not clear.

In the British Isles, Spotted Flycatchers often frequent gardens, churchyards and farm buildings as well as open woodland or habitats, and they can be confiding and easy to observe. They will often use a perch such as a fence, wall, or a high exposed tree branch; from this vantage point they will fly up or out and catch insects in dashing flight, often returning to the same perch between sallies. An audible 'snap' can often draw attention to this feeding activity. When feeding their young, adults often gather an impressive beakful of insects, which may include large moths, butterflies and even dragonflies. The birds' bills are excellently adapted to this, each of the upper and lower parts being broad and shaped like the front end of a boat. Adult birds are more striped than spotted, their scientific name is Muscipapa striata – 'striata' meaning striped; juvenile birds do however have spotted plumage for a short time after fledging. They can be vocal and once learnt the calls are quite distinctive, but they have a fairly limited vocal range, typically one or two repeated syllables 'sip' or 'see-chhkk'.

Once breeding is complete, Spotted Flycatchers typically disperse and can become more evident and widespread; while migrating, adults and juveniles may be encountered feeding in large groups of twenty or more birds. They are one of our latest summer visitors to arrive usually from mid-May to early June and have usually departed by early October.

Spotted Flycatchers are often described as nondescript, or lacking obvious features, and their overall grey/brown appearance could be said to be unremarkable, however they are characterful and lively birds, and fascinating to watch. It's been a real privilege to be able to observe this fleeting and scarce summer visitor at close quarters over an extended period. *Jon Cook* 

#### National Theatre Live Screenings

Ravensthorpe Village Cinema will be adding to their programme for 2025-2026 all National Theatre Live Screenings for 2025-2026 starting on 3rd October with



"Inter Alia" and followed at approximately monthly intervals by "Mrs Warren's Profession", "The Fifth Step", "Hamlet" and two other titles yet to be confirmed. Details of the screenings and booking arrangements, including on-line booking, can be viewed at <a href="https://www.rvhall.online/cinema/">https://www.rvhall.online/cinema/</a>. To join Ravensthorpe's cinema mailing list please send your details to mailto:cinema@rvhall.online.

# **COLD ASHBY NEWS**

#### NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

#### May Day celebration tea



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our May Day celebration. It was a lovely afternoon and so lovely to see a new generation of children dancing around the Maypole. Special thanks to Fiona Gunn-Stokes, Carole Oliver and Julie Webb for making and serving the traditional tea. It is so important in our small communities to keep village traditions alive and we were delighted that so many joined us for our celebration.

#### 70s night



A fantastic evening was had by all who attended our 70s night in June. Huge thanks to Dave Harris for compering and delivering a fabulous playlist, along with a challenging and enjoyable tabletop quiz. Congratulations to Tina for being voted best dressed and to everyone else who made it such a fun occasion and dressed up in 70s outfits. Thank you to Mandy Carson and Gemma Sellers for making and serving the buffet supper.

#### **Cold Ashby Archive**

Just a reminder that the trustees of the Memorial Hall are collecting old village news cuttings, photos and any other memorabilia from Cold Ashby days gone by. If you have anything that we could have or re-photograph for the archive, please let Fiona or Mandy know. We will be holding a

Heritage Open Day at our café on Saturday August 30th so villagers can come and view our collection, so in the meantime please have a look in cupboards and drawers for anything that you may have that is interesting about our village history.

#### **CHURCH NEWS**

#### **Open Gardens**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our annual open gardens in aid of St Denys church. More details will follow in the next edition.

#### Harvest festival and Supper

Everyone is warmly welcome to join us for our Harvest Communion and festival on Sunday 28th September at 09:30. Our Annual Harvest Supper will take place on Monday 29th September at 7pm. Tickets available from Debbie Sampson @£10.

#### Farewell to Mick Lill

In June, Cold Ashby lost another of their well loved residents, Mick Lill. Mick was Cold Ashby born and bred and was actively involved with all village affairs. Along with his late wife Maureen, he was a dedicated church attendee who spent much time and effort fundraising for St Denys church. He also served as Chair of Governors at Guilsborough Primary for many years. He was instrumental in the opening of



Cold Ashby Golf Club over 50 years ago and he had a passion for farming and playing bowls and won many cups and competitions in both. He will be very much missed by us all and we are very grateful for all that he did for the village.

#### Learn to drive

with

MERRICK School of Motoring

est.1980



Merrick Bowles, DSA ADI 01604 740138

Towing instruction also available.

# **COLD ASHBY NEWS**



Everyone is warmly invited to join us as we celebrate Harvest
At St Denys Church, Cold Ashby

Sunday 28th September at 9:30am

Harvest produce donations will be very welcome, please leave in them in the church before the service.



Cold Ashby Memorial Hall

# Saturday Cafe And Heritage Day

Join us for brunch between 10:00-2:00pm

Saturday 30th August Come and look at our Cold Ashby Archive St Denys Church, Cold Ashby invite you to our:



Monday 29th September 6:30 for 7pm Cold Ashby Memorial Hall 2 course meal £10

Bar, Bottle tombola and Auction of produce

Tickets from: Debbie Sampson 07794179443 Fiona Gunn-Stokes 07488373629

**Cold Ashby Memorial Hall presents:** 



Join us on:

Saturday 27th September from 07:30pm

Enjoy a fun filled evening of song and dance with our DJ Dave Harris

A range of cocktails from plus our usual range of drinks to choose

## **COLD ASHBY NEWS**

#### COLD ASHBY EVENTS FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Everyone is welcome to join us for the following events and residents' support will ensure that we are able to keep these important village facilities open and provide opportunities for entertainment, social interaction and keep the village pool and skittle teams going.

Date	Event	Place	Details
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Skittles CAB v CSB	Memorial Hall	From7:30 pm
Fri 8th Aug	Social Evening	Pavilion	From 6:30pm
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Social Evening	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Skittles CAB v LBRC	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Skittles CAA v KA	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	Social Night	Pavilion	From 06:30pm
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	Social Night	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Heritage Day Café	Memorial Hall	From 10-2pm (See poster)
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Social night	Memorial Hall	From 07:30pm
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Skittles League pairs	Memorial Hall	From 07:30pm
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	Sunday Café	Memorial Hall	09:30-12:00pm
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Cocktails and Karaoke	Memorial Hall	From 7:30pm (See poster)

Pool nights some Mondays from 7.30pm at the Cold Ashby Playing Field Pavilion. Bar open.

# No room in the garage or the attic?



#### SELF STORAGE

Rent storage space by the week or for as long as you need

Archive Documents
House Contents
Business or Domestic
Tel 01604505050

email: <u>George@Loc-Box.co.uk</u> Loc-Box Self Storage Creaton Northants www.Loc-Box.co.uk



# **COTTESBROOKE NEWS**

cakes, washing up and taking money on the door.

# From the heart of Cottesbrooke in early Spring...

Looking out from the comfort of my lounge armchair, I have seen a young muntjac, close beside its mother. Another time, an inquisitive fox came and stood looking at me through my patio window — he'll be back later in this report.

Through that same window, today, I looked at the unusual sight of two greater spotted woodpeckers clinging to the tube of peanuts on the birdfeeder. There was an even more startling spectacle in the yard beyond; a muntjac deer had its nose down, peering curiously at two cock pheasants fighting each other. When we first moved to Cottesbrooke, a badger ran across my front doorstep when I opened the door, giving me a real fright. That same spot is now home to two stray cats who curl up and sleep there.

Recently, the last of six full-grown white ducks, raised with tender loving care from incubated eggs, was snatched from the farm by the local fox - I wonder if it was the one watching me through the window.

So, from the greater spotted woodpecker's spot – and mine! – enjoy this beautiful spring and summer. I hope it is just right for you.

Keep up that patience and perseverance and God bless you.

Chris Utley

#### Produce Market

Our Produce Market on **30th August** is not to be missed! If you love fresh, local food, this is the place to be. You'll find everything from seasonal fruits and veggies to homemade goodies. It's a great way to stock up on delicious, locally-grown produce, and support our farmers and producers. Plus, it's always a lovely day out with lots of smiles and friendly faces. (See advert on next page.)

#### Soundbath

After a relaxing Summer Solstice evening, the Soundbaths will resume again on **Thursday, 25th September**, at 7pm in the Village Hall. For more details and to book a place, email Sally on <a href="mailto:sallyfordy@hotmail.com">sallyfordy@hotmail.com</a>

#### Coffee Mornings

Our next residents coffee morning is on **Saturday 2nd August** 10-12. If you would like to host a coffee morning please contact Holly on 07493165731.

# Over £500 raised for Marie Curie at Open Gardens in Cottesbrooke

I would like to thank everyone who donated monies at the Hosta Plant Sale on Sunday 8th June at the Open Gardens. Everyone was very generous and a total of just over £500 was raised for Marie Curie in memory of Yvonne Daw who died in 2023 from pancreatic cancer. She was an avid Hosta collector with over 380 different varieties of Hostas going up for sale. Thank you again.

Derek Daw and family

#### VILLAGE HALL

#### **Village Summer Party**

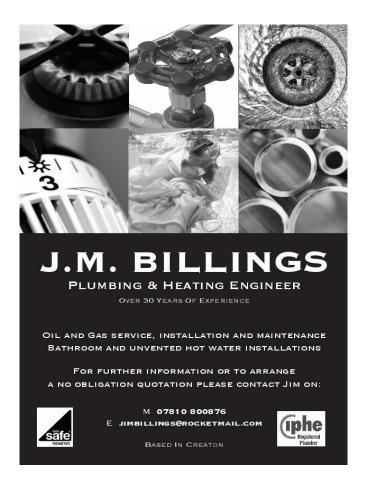
A great afternoon was had by all that attended the village summer party on 6th July. Despite it being the first day in almost 9 weeks that it rained we still enjoyed getting together in the village hall to catch up, play games, listen to music and enjoy great food together.

A special thanks to Sally & Alan from Creaton Cuisine who provided us all with delicious pork rolls, roasted veggies and salads to keep us fuelled up for an afternoon of fun.

#### Cottesbrooke Open Gardens

In early June we had a beautiful day for the village open gardens, with 7 gardens open throughout the village raising money for the Church. We welcomed visitors from far and wide who enjoyed cakes and refreshments in the village hall.

A big thank you to those who opened their gardens and gave their time to help on the day with car parking, serving tea and



# COTTESBROOKE NEWS

#### **COTTESBROOKE 7th ANNUAL PRODUCE & CRAFT SHOW 2025**

SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST 2025

COTTESBROOKE VILLAGE HALL

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 2PM

HOMEMADE REFRESHMENTS, AUCTION OF PRODUCE AND RAFFLE RAISING FUNDS FOR COTTESBROOKE VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS All enquiries to Derek on 01604 505627 or Holly on 074931 65731







# **MOBILE FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER**

# Michael Babb **DipFHP RFHP**

REGISTERED **FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER FULLY INSURED DBS CHECKED** 



#### **Professional foot health** treatments. Caring for your feet in the comfort of your own home.

- Routine Foot Care
- Nail Trimming and Filing
- Callus/Hard Skin Removal
- Verruca & Corn Removal
   Athletes Foot
- Ingrowing Toenails
- Trained in Diabetic
  - **Foot Care**
- Treatment of **Fungal Infections**

For more information and to book an appointment please call or email:

- 07969 139000
- Michaelbabbfoothealthcare@outlook.com

# **CREATON NEWS**

#### **Creaton Singers**

Creaton Singers were delighted to perform twice at Creaton in Bloom and were very pleased to receive so many favourable comments afterwards about the quality of singing and the variety of songs. We hope you enjoyed the performances as much as we did singing for you.

Attention has now turned to learning new songs for the concert on Sunday 5th October at 2:30pm in the URC, Creaton High Street, in aid of HFT, a charity that helps adults with learning difficulties to lead lives that we take for granted. Ollie Perrins-May is running the Athens marathon in aid of this charity. Tickets, which are available from Creaton Village Shop, cost £7 each and include delicious home-made cake and a hot drink. Please come and support this very worthy cause as well as your local singing group.

If you think you might be interested in joining the Creaton Singers, why not come along on a Tuesday evening from 7:30pm to 9pm in the URC, for a trial session. You will be made very welcome.

#### Creaton WI

Strange as it feels in the midst of a heatwave, we are now planning our autumn and winter meetings! From October to March our meetings will be held in the afternoon, which we hope will be a more accessible time, rather than going out in the dark, cold wintery evenings. The programme for the next 3 months is below, please do come along to any of the talks, all held in the United Reformed Church:

September 10<sup>th</sup> (**7.30 p.m**.) a light-hearted look at the history of fashion "From Crinolines to Tracksuits" with Patricia Heed.

October 8<sup>th</sup> (**2.30 p.m.**) "The Repair Shop and Me" with WI member and popular speaker, Christine Farmer. An interesting insight, perfect for fans of the television programme.

November 12<sup>th</sup> (**2.30 p.m.**) Jo Parish from Past Alive reveals the secrets of "Queen Victoria's Wardrobe" from the Royal drawers up!

For more information, please contact President, Daphne Clark, 01604 505546 or email wicreaton@gmail.com.

#### CREATON PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

The playing field continues to benefit from the dedication of our hard-working volunteers. Recently, the border surrounding the play area was replaced, and the posts around Tellytubby Hill have been carefully chamfered and sanded for improved safety and appearance. We're also hopeful that new play equipment will be added to further enhance the space.

#### **AGM**

The AGM was held on 28 May 2025 and was well attended. Rod Goldberg has been re-elected as Chair, Mark Woollven as Treasurer, lan Watson as Field Manager and Kate Tyrrell as

Secretary. Dorian Sanchez continues to serve the Association. We extend our thanks to all outgoing and continuing officers for their commitment and service. In particular, we wish to acknowledge Sue Martins, who stepped down this year after many years of dedicated support. Thank you, Sue!

#### **Curry Night**

After previous years' success, another Curry Night will be held at The Jomidar Lounge in September. Please look out for further details closer to the time.

#### Creaton in Bloom

Our thanks go to Creaton in Bloom for their generous donation.

#### Walking Group

The June walk coincided with the glorious weather and 11 walkers and 2 dogs set out for a 9+ mile walk from Sywell over the fields to Mears Ashby and towards



Hardwick before returning to the Horseshoe pub in Sywell for some much needed refreshments. It was good to welcome a new walker along with many regulars. The countryside was blooming with the corn and oats growing rapidly, lambs still with their mothers and the odd hare bounding around.

In July the walk started and ended in Ravensthorpe, so that after a 3 hour walk to West Haddon and Coton, the walkers were able to find sustenance at the Ravensthorpe Beer Festival! A lovely, local festival with much fun had by all!

If you enjoy walking, come and join this friendly group who walk on the second Saturday of the month for about 3.5 hours followed by an optional pub lunch. Meet at Creaton lychgate at 10am. Bring walking boots and water.

Next walks are on:

Saturday 9th August Saturday 13th September

#### St Michael and All Angels

Creaton PCC is delighted to tell you that our beautiful Victorian pipe organ has now been fully restored by Cousans Organs Ltd and has been reassembled in the organ chamber. It was played for the first time since restoration at a Confirmation Service in June taken by Bishop John, and sounded magnificent. We are extremely grateful to the trustees of the Dennis Yardy Charitable Trust for paying for the full cost of the organ restoration. This was only possible because of their most generous grant. We are also very pleased with the refurbishment of the belfry which is now complete. The ringing chamber has a completely new floor finished with lovely oak floor boards, and the oak and heritage glass half screen has been erected and looks super. The local bell ringing team and also visiting teams have enjoyed ringing our bells in the refurbished tower.

Do call into the Church, which is open every day, to admire the changes we have made to make the Church a more comfortable and welcoming space for worshippers and also for social events.

# CREATON NEWS

#### Highgate House Reopens: A historic venue for faith and community



We're delighted to see Highgate House in Creaton come to life again. Officially opened in July last year, this splendid 17th-century manor is now a Christian conference venue owned and run by us at Christian Conference Trust. We already look after two other long-standing centres, The Hayes in Derbyshire and High Leigh in Hertfordshire, both of which have welcomed guests for over a century.

Its history is equally captivating. The house dates back to 1663, built on the site of an old inn just three miles from where a Civil War battle once took place. In those early days, it served both as a farmstead and as an inn, offering hospitality to weary travellers. When the turnpike improved in 1721, Highgate House flourished as a coaching station where visitors could rest, dine and stable their horses. Later, in 1785, Reverend Thomas Jones made the

house his home and founded Northamptonshire's very first Sunday school, as well as charitable initiatives for clothing and food to support those in need. Over the years, successive owners have extended and modernised the property. Lieutenant Colonel Charles Eyre-Coote made significant alterations in the early 1900s, and more recently the Chudley family established it as a hotel and conference venue.

Fast forward to today, and Highgate House is equipped to meet the needs of modern Christian gatherings. We offer 16 dedicated conferencing spaces to accommodate groups of varying sizes, all fully catered, and 82 ensuite bedrooms that combine comfort with character. Whether it's a weekend church retreat or a larger denominational conference, Highgate House provides a warm, welcoming setting in which to grow in faith together.

For village residents, Highgate House is more than just a venue; it's an opportunity. We're keen to welcome warm, caring and positive individuals to join our team across a range of roles. From casual food and beverage assistants, night porters and kitchen hands to housekeepers and receptionists, we frequently advertise vacancies. These roles offer flexible hours, making them ideal for students, parents or anyone seeking part-time or full-time work. If you've ever fancied working in a beautiful historic building surrounded by rolling Northamptonshire countryside, now is a marvellous time to get in touch.

So, whether you're searching for a fresh role or your church is in need of a friendly venue with character, Highgate House is ready and waiting.

For more information visit: cct.org.uk/highgate-house

#### History notes



Thank you to those of you who provided names for the little group shown in VL129 enjoying themselves at the evening entertainment at the 1977 Silver Jubilee celebrations. From left to right, May (?), Betty Mynard, Charles Mynard,

and Grace Dunkley.

The photograph this time (right) is from the collection of Bob & Rosie Farmer, again from the Silver Jubilee of 1977. A group of children possibly waiting for an event to start? You might need your magnifying glass for this one! You will find these pictures and more on the website: creatonheritage.wordpress.com





#### **FOSM History**

Members of the History Group spent a warm and enjoyable evening on a guided tour of the gardens at Canons Ashby. The trip came after a talk in the 24/25 lecture series about the history and renovation of the gardens and it was good to follow it up with a visit.

The next season of the History Group starts on September 19th.

# **CREATON NEWS**

#### **OVER THE COUNTER**

The summer has seen sales continue to increase, due partly to our ever-extending range of products. The increase in the temperatures has also brought customers in search of everything for your summer parties and barbeques.

Did you attend the AGM on 24th July and learn about how the shop is doing? Did you hear from Sally and Jerry Fell, our supplier of home-made meals, about their story to success? If you are not a member, pop into the shop and collect a Shareholder Form. It only costs £20 and you will then be part of our community shop. One of the Post Office staff, Archie, will be starting his degree this September in Accountancy at Northampton University; we all wish him good luck.

It is great to see our younger volunteers coming back to work in the shop over the summer holidays. If you are interested in volunteering, pop into the shop and have a chat. It is a great way to meet new people, and 2 hours per week, or more or less, is good fun!

Creaton Village Shop was proud to support Creaton in Bloom in many ways, especially supplying the bar, barbeque and teas.

#### An Every Day Story of Country Folk

An Archers fan for 50 years, I am really happy to suspend disbelief and enter completely into my parallel universe that is Borsetshire! When the newly broadcast Archers Podcast started airing, chaired by the lovely Emma Freud, I heard they were asking for ideas and feedback. Now Ambridge has a village community shop and Creaton has a village community shop with which I am involved as a volunteer; strangely goings on in the shop in Creaton seemed more dramatic than those in the shop in Ambridge and so I emailed the producer with some ideas. I was slightly smug when a story line concerning the village shop started to emerge a couple of months later but surprised and completely delighted when I got a phone call asking me to be a guest at a recording focused on 'The Village Shop.'

My journey to Broadcasting House was complicated by the fact that I was actually on a family holiday in Portugal on the week of recording. However this was not to be missed!

It was fantastic. Emma Freud was as natural and friendly as she appears on television and I sat in the studio with Archers' royalty, Susan Carter (Charlotte Martin) and Jo Toye, a longtime script writer and producer. Nothing was rehearsed but it genuinely felt like hanging out with friends so the conversation flowed seamlessly.

I was so excited that when later asked what I had said, I simply couldn't remember, so when I listened to the podcast when it aired on 6<sup>th</sup> of June it was all a bit of a surprise.

It was probably a bit insensitive to tell my husband that the experience was more exciting than my wedding day, especially as he rushes out of the room on hearing the opening bars of the theme tune.

Claire Morrell

You can listen to The Archers Podcast episode 35 on BBC Sounds.

#### Creaton URC

You are warmly welcome to join us for our Sunday Worship and Junior Church.

Sunday	August	
3rd I Iam	Morning Worship with Communion	Jon Heard
10th 11am	Morning Worship	Rev Geoff Townsend
17th I I am	Morning Worship	Allan Pope
24th I I am	Morning Worship	Rev Geoff Townsend
31st 11am	Morning Worsh	ip at Crick URC
	September	
7th I Iam	Morning Worship	Jon Heard
14th 11am	Morning Worship with Communion	Rev Geoff Townsend
21st 11am	Morning Worship	Andrew Howes
28th I I am	Morning Worship	Susie James

Poppies coffee shop is open every Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 12 noon. You will be very welcome.



- SHOP
- CAFÉ
- EVENTS

GIFTS • COFFEE SHOP • LIGHT LUNCHES
HOMEMADE CAKES • CRAFTS • LOCAL PRODUCE
DOGS WELCOME • WORKSHOPS • EVENTS

OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY 9.00AM - 4.00PM

THE BARN @ WELFORD CHRISTMAS TREE FARM NORTHAMPTON ROAD, WELFORD, NN6 6JF T: 01858 657008

E: THEBARN@WELFORDCHRISTMASTREEFARM.CO.UK
W: WELFORDCHRISTMASTREEFARM.CO.UK





# CREATON PARISH COUNCIL

#### **Creaton Parish Council Contact Details**

You can contact our Parish Clerk for Creaton Parish Council, Katrina Jones on creatonpc@gmail.com.

Agendas and minutes of meetings are available on the Parish Council website www.creaton.org.uk and are also posted on the noticeboard on Violet Lane. We also have a Facebook page.

#### Parish Council Meeting dates:

Meetings are held bi-monthly on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at Creaton Village Hall. The next meeting date is: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025.

#### **West Northants Council Consultations**

West Northants Council hold regular consultations on a range of issues. Full details of current consultations can be found online at: https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/

#### **Planning Applications**

Please look on the West Northants Council website for full details of all Planning Applications:

https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/planning-applications-and-enforcement/view-and-comment-planning-application

#### **Fix My Street**

West Northamptonshire Council are responsible for highway issues such as potholes, fly tipping and grit bins. You can report concerns directly to them on the Fix My Street website: https://www.fixmystreet.com/

#### **Parish Councillor Vacancies**

There are now two vacancies remaining on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please contact the Parish Clerk for more details.

#### Police Liaison Representative Report

New Quishing alert

Action fraud alert reports that up to £3.5 million was lost last year due to bogus QR codes. Police are urging people to look out for roque QR codes.

What can you do?

- QR codes in pubs and restaurants are generally safe to scan.
- Scanning QR codes in open spaces like stations and car parks pose a greater risk, check for signs of tampering common themes are a sticker being placed over the existing code.
- Be cautious when receiving emails when asked to scan QR codes, it is recommended that you use the QR scanner on your phone rather than use the app which has been downloaded.

If you have been a victim of fraud report it to: actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 1232040

Keep safe.

#### Overgrowth

The Parish Council is aware that the boundary of the Knick Knacks footpath along the churchyard has become overgrown. This will be fully cut back once it is no longer nesting season. If residents could also attend to any overgrowth on their property impinging on footpaths after the nesting season it would be much appreciated.

#### **Bus Update**

From the end of July the 59/60 bus will no longer be travelling to Brixworth but a new route will be added to the service on a Saturday.

#### **Litter Pick**

The Parish Council will be holding a village litter pick on Sunday 5th October, 10am to 12pm, meeting outside the Jomidar Lounge. Equipment will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

#### CREATON IN BLOOM

A huge Thank You to everyone involved in whatever way with Creaton in Bloom 2025. It was another very successful year, thanks to you and the weather! Due to your efforts, we raised £8,508 for:

£6,657 St Michael & All Angels Church

£750 Creaton Playing Fields

£500 United Reformed Church, Creaton

£300 Creaton Village Hall £100 Fire Fighters Charity

£137 Creaton W.I.

£64 Ducklings

#### **CRIB NIB**



# **GUILSBOROUGH NEWS**



#### **FUND RAISING**

#### Hollowell Steam Bottle Stall



GPFA again ran a bottle stall at Hollowell and would like to thank all those volunteers who helped to make it such a success. Around £1,300 was raised over the weekend.



#### MILLIONAIRE'S EVENING!!!

#### **Roulette and Blackiack**

#### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September

In aid of the Guilsborough Playing Field

By kind permission of James and Vanessa Berry The Old House, High Street, Guilsborough, NN6 8PU

The Playing Field supports cricket and football for over 2,000 young people every year from a wide area of Northamptonshire as well as providing recreation facilities in a beautiful outdoor environment.

#### Tickets £45 (please pay in advance)

Includes \$100 worth of chips, glass of fizz and dinner. Pay bar.

RSVP <u>ec3people@gmail.com</u>

7.30 pm - 11.30pm Black Tie or Suits

Please pay by BACS to Guilsborough Playing Field Association Sort: 23 05 80 Account: 43237284



#### Cricket in Guilsborough benefits from a glorious summer

The cricket season is in full swing at the playing field at Guilsborough with numerous teams benefitting from the facility. The ground hosts Haddon CC Ladies and junior side, St Michael's CC from Northampton, the Bell CC mid-week side as well as a number of company and social teams. The fantastic summer so far, has allowed the teams to maximise use of the ground but has created challenges for the grounds team to keep pitches in good condition.

If anybody is interested in junior, ladies or men's cricket new members are always welcome at Haddon CC. We are also keen to hear from any volunteers who would like to participate in helping to maintain the grounds. Please contact Jim.houghton72@outlook.com for more information.

#### Pop Up Pub



The second pop up pub on 11th July was a great success. The weather was amazing and company plentiful. Everyone enjoyed drinks, chat and pizza. The event raised around

£630 for GPFA so many thanks to all who supported it.



# **GUILSBOROUGH NEWS**



#### From the Headteacher

It really has been a busy summer term with so much happening in our school. This is always an extremely busy time of year for us with lots of exciting events happening!

These have included our Summer Celebration where our children

performed to their families their house team project Friday songs. We also have had our whole school trip to Wickstead park!

The children have been taking part in our extended curriculum which included World Environment Day, church visits, as well as the many sports competitions and events. Year 4 have been taking part in swimming this term, which they have enjoyed and the progress they have made has been excellent.

Year 2/3 had a fantastic visit to Silverstone this term, Year 4/5 visited Warner Brother studios London and Year 6 enjoyed a 3 day residential at Caythorpe PGL!

Fire House won the end of term house point treat and celebrated with 'Fun, Games and Ice Cream' at the park! We had our own sports morning where all children and adults enjoyed the morning together. A huge thank you to Niall at Pacesetters for organising such an active and fun experience. .... Go team Guilsborough!

We have also completed our whole school seasonal walk around Guilsborough. As always it was lovely to be out as a whole school breathing in the fresh air, we are so lucky to be surrounded by such beautiful scenery. Thank you to parents who could join us!

As always, we are saying goodbye and good luck to our Year 6 children who have been an absolute credit to our school throughout their time here at Guilsborough. We are all very sad to be saying goodbye but also very excited for them in their new adventures at secondary school!

Please remember, if you need any information about what's happening at Guilsborough Primary we have lots of information on our website <a href="www.guilsboroughprimary.co.uk">www.guilsboroughprimary.co.uk</a> or you can keep up to speed and Follow us on X <a href="@@GuilsboroughPri/">@GuilsboroughPri/</a> <a href="www.guilsboroughPri/">X</a> and on our Instagram at <a href="instagram.com/">instagram.com/</a> <a href="guilsboroughprimaryschool">guilsboroughprimaryschool</a>

We wish everyone a super summer holiday and look forward to our 2025-26 academic return in September.





# MM



#### Monday Morning Meet

Guilsborough Village Hall
9 – I I am every Monday (excluding Bank Holidays)
All welcome, baby – OAPs.
£2.50 per Adult, Children Free
Meet for a chat, knit, hot drink & cake.
For more information contact
Janet 01604 740640

#### Guilsborough Friends

Are a local friendly group for ladies and gentlemen, usually meeting at 7.30pm, at Guilsborough Village Hall, the second Thursday of the month. During the summer months we arrange outside events. Weather permitting. Social activities include guest speakers, garden visits, meals out, visits to local places of interest and much more. £3 per meeting, unless otherwise stated, which is used to cover refreshments, costs and make charitable donations.

We look forward to welcoming new members.

Our Programme for the next 3 months:

Thursday 14th August Historical Walk and Talk around Crick by Jim Goodger

Thursday I I <sup>th</sup> September The Agony and the Ecstasy of a Canal Hotel Boater - speaker Barry Watson Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October The Good Loaf Baker - speaker Suzy Van Rooyen

For further information contact:

Janet Minney T 01604 740640

Elizabeth Southgate T 01604 740064





# **GUILSBOROUGH NEWS**

#### Remembering Roderick Baird MacDonald "Roddy"

24th Sept 1934—30th May 2025

Roddy's funeral was held at Guilsborough Church on 1st July. The eulogy was given by Alastair MacDonald, Roddy's son and Adrian Bracken a long standing friend.



A fellow tennis player and member of the village link team Andrea remembers him with the following words:

"When we first moved to the village nearly 30 years ago, Rod used to coordinate regular informal tennis up at the school courts on a Monday evening. Each week, he would personally phone around people asking them if they wanted to play, and would also ring round if it was cancelled due to weather. But cancellation was a rare thing. I remember playing all through the winter, with hats and gloves - even when it began to snow! He collected cash on the night to pay for the lights and liaised with the school caretaker who would turn them on/off for us. Every so often, he would gather spare funds and buy the school a new net. It was all very informal! After the school became an academy things had to change. That was when the separate access gate became the focus and we became a 'proper club' with insurance, fees, and a formal school agreement. Rod was honorary President. The photo is from our first Open Morning after getting the new access gate installed. Rod was a real people person, gregarious, kind and generous, and a hardworking entrepreneur well after the normal age of retirement! Many will remember him with huge fondness - I certainly do."



Tennis for All at Guilsborough Tennis Club!

Join our friendly community tennis club at Guilsborough

Academy courts. We meet regularly on Tuesday evenings at

6pm and Sunday mornings at 10am.

First session is completely FREE. Annual membership costs just £10 for individuals or £20 for families.

Members enjoy court access during daylight hours (outside school times).

Whether you're looking to improve your game, get active, or simply make new friends, you're very welcome on court!

#### Date for your diaries:

The 21st Annual Guilsborough Plate Tennis Tournament will be held on Sunday 7th September

For more information, please contact Graham on 07894 424328 or Chris on 07857 707503.

#### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

We've recently removed a lot of books that were in very poor condition from our Book Swap, which is housed in the old phone box. Many were not even in a readable condition, so we ask that you only leave books that are of a condition that you would want to read. Books that have no life left in them can be put in your blue lidded recycling bins.

We have agreed to fund urgently needed tree works that Guilsborough Playing Field Association needs to have carried out to two trees, helping them to keep the public safe.

#### Things to look out for:

- Our Speed Activated Device has now been repaired, following damage that was incurred when the battery was stolen. It is back in use and is intended to make our streets safer, so if you notice anyone giving it more attention than it may deserve please do make us aware straight away!
- We will soon have some advisory 20mph speed signs coming and although only advisory they have been shown to reduce traffic speeds.
- We are aware of the ongoing parking issues throughout the village but in particular along The West Haddon Road. We are trying to get white lining across dropped kerbs which is the start of regulating parking. We're also hoping to engage with Guilsborough Academy to try and seek improvements to this significant problem.
- We will soon be having a Facebook page to try and improve our communication and engagement with the community.

And lastly, we still have two Councillor vacancies if you feel you want to contribute to village life.

#### How times have changed......

I saw in some old family records that my grandfather Col Jack Lowther, bought 90 acres of land for £2,570 (£28.50 per acre) and 3 cottages (£280 for 3) in 1937

My father sold one of the cottages (Pells cottage, Cold Ashby rd, Guilsborough) for £1,200 in 1970

It has just been sold for about £400,000

Hugh Lowther



... to Rae, Ted and Willow Nightingale, 4 Court Cottage Cold Ashby Rd

and to Thomas and Bethany Eaton, Pells Cottage Cold Ashby Rd.

# **HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS**

#### **HOLLOWELL STEAM REPORT**

Glossy traction engines, vintage roadsters, and a fleet of the

finest farmyard machinery in the county gathered at this year's Hollowell Steam Rally.

People far and wide came to celebrate the steam engine, and to peruse the many fairground stalls that pitched up in Hollowell's top field: Waxed jackets were bought, ducks were a-hooked, and ferrets were raced. Whistles hooted, horses neighed, Land Rovers roared, and brass bands trumpeted – all together, a merry harmony of noise.

And if the sights and sounds were not enough, the flavours of the rally were also charming: One could partake in the English classics – a hog roast, or some beer-battered cod – or could choose from a more exotic



menu of Thai noodles or peri-peri chicken.

On Sunday, the short spells of rain were a minor inconvenience to the festivities. But after a trip to the beer tent and a pint of ale from the local Potbelly brewery, spirits were soon lifted and bodies were quickly warmed.

At the top of the Ferris wheel that Sunday afternoon, this writer could focus on the centrepiece of the rally, as a parade of road locomotives were chugging through the stage field at that point.

Moreover, summiting that faintly frightening contraption, as the wind wobbled my carriage, I could take in the full spectrum of



the event – from the stationary MGs on one side to the exposed engines on the other. Because the view stretched as far as the reservoir, I could also see the wider village that hosted. It was a jolly sight to behold, just as it was a jolly event to attend.

#### HOPEWELL COFFEE MORNINGS

There will be **no** coffee morning in August, whilst we take our usual annual break. The coffee morning in September will be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup>. Why not come and join us for a cuppa, a piece of delicious cake and a catch up with friends.

We meet in Village Hall, 10.30am to 12.30pm
For more information, or for help with transport, please call Paul on 07780 265614 or email: <a href="wearehopewell@gmail.com">wearehopewell@gmail.com</a>. EVERYONE WELCOME.

# HOLLOWELL STEAM & WHISTLE SKITTLES NIGHT



Did you know? For table skittles in Northamptonshire, the throwing distance is 10 feet, but if you find yourself playing the game in Leicester or Rugby it is 9 feet! Such rules did not appear to influence 'The Village People', a hastily arranged table skittles team, that took part in the annual Hollowell Table Skittles championship, as part of the regular Village Hall pop-up pub nights.

Crowned 2025 champions in an enjoyable night of local chat, drinks and nibbles 'The Village People' held off stiff competition from the 'Cheese Gromit' team in order to secure their hands on the coveted skittles trophy! A sincere thank you to everyone who joined our regular pub night which helps to raise funds for an important part of Hollowell, the Village Hall.

Who will be crowned champions in 2026? You'd best get practising.....



# **HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS**



GILLIAN GREAVES (Clerk) 12 Berry Lane, Wootton NN4 6JX

Tel: 07771980598

Email: pc-clerk@hollowellandteeton.org.uk

Website: http://www.hollowellandteeton.org.uk

# Publication of Highway Maintenance Transparency Reports:

The Department for Transport (DfT) has introduced a new requirement for all local highways authorities to publish information about their highways maintenance activities to help local taxpayers see the difference that funding is making in their areas. The first report was required to be published on the highways authorities' websites by 30 June 2025 with a copy sent to DfT. Any highway authority not publishing a report by the 30 June deadline risks losing a proportion of their additional funding from government for highway maintenance. You will find West Northamptonshire Council report is at:

https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/highway-maintenance/local-highways-maintenance-transparency-report

The report makes very interesting reading and reveals the plans for 2025/26 and also the huge scale of the task. For more about the government's funding of highway maintenance, see:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/highwaymaintenance-funding-guidance-for-local-authorities

#### **Local Plan - Guide to Development**

West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) is in the process of creating a new Local Plan for the area to guide development in the period up to 2043.

You can read more about the development of the Local Plan at West Northants Council website.

#### **Planning Applications:**

The Parish Council has received notification of planning applications for properties in Hollowell and Teeton:

Teeton: Application No. 2025/2200/FULL Hollowell: Application No. 2025/2414/FULL Hollowell: Application No. 2025/2420/MAF

All planning applications can be viewed on West Northants website.

A. G. Crisp Chairman



Plumbing & Heating Engineer

Central heating installations, repairs & service

Oil fired Boilers supplied & fitted Full bathroom installations

For all your plumbing requirements

No job too small

Over 20 years experience Call Mark on:

07841 572458

01604 740704 mjburdettplumbing@btinternet.com



#### PERMANENT UNWANTED HAIR REMOVAL

By appointment only: Wednesday and Saturday

Based at Green Podiatry & Chiropody Unit 1, The Yard, 105 Northampton Road, Brixworth, NN6 9DX

Call/Text 07860 590562 www.wyelectrolysis.co.uk wyelectrolysis@outlook.com

Wendy Coleman: C.R.P.E, M.B.I.A.E, B.A.B.T.A.C. VTCT Level 4 Qualified, NHS Registered Provider

# **HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS**

#### HOLLOWELL POLLUTION INCIDENT

In early June, Hollowell resident, Nick Mount, was crossing Stowe Brook on the Creaton Road when he realised from the niff in the air that raw sewage was running out of a storm drain straight into the stream.

The situation was reported to Anglian Water and within 2 hours a pollution team was on site. Chemical tests confirmed a high level of raw sewage in the brook.

Regular readers of the Village Link will recall from previous articles about Hollowell Sewage Works that effluent from Guilsborough, Cold Ashby, Thornby, Coton, Teeton and Highfield Park has been processed here in Hollowell since the 1930s. Most of the "contributions" from the surrounding villages arrive in Hollowell at the top of Church Hill, so the hunt was on to discover how raw effluent was leaking out of the sewer and into the road drains.

A tanker was brought onto the bridge, on Creaton Road, to suck out the sewage and stop it getting into the brook and after a prolonged period of testing the storm drains for traces of ammonia, the Anglian Water pollution detectives installed a second tanker at the junction of Spring Close. A section of pipe could then be cleared of sludge to allow the insertion of a camera and from there it was discovered that the sewer pipe was cracked and leaking into the road drainage system.

A temporary liner was installed, but further work will be required in July to dig underground and open up the pipework for a more permanent repair to be carried out.

Nick Mount was delighted with the Water Company's speedy and thorough response,

"Given the increasingly degraded state of our rivers and streams and the publicity around the damaging role that sewage pollution is having on river health, it is good to see Anglian Water reacting so quickly to this incident. It is a reminder that, when we see or smell something that doesn't seem quite right in our environment, it is worth acting quickly to prevent serious damage that can take ecosystems years to recover

from."





# PROPERTY & LANDSCAPING SOLUTIONS.

A LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS YOU CAN TRUST WITH YOUR BUILDING NEEDS

SPECIALISING IN NEW BUILDS, EXTENSIONS, HOME RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

GARDEN LANDSCAPING AND PATIOS, MAINTENANCE AND MUCH MORE

CONTACT US FOR A LOCAL TRUSTED QUOTATION

www.chestnutdevelopments.co.uk

@chestnutdevelopments

chestnutemail@aol.com 07976644121 OR 07912632329 STEVE JAMES & SONS



CHESTNUT DEVELOPMENTS

## THORNBY NEWS

# Sunday 28th September 10.00 - 1.00 £8 per car pitch All proceeds in aid of St Helens Church Enquiries to Ann Bennett. 07796466948

#### Thornby Parish Meeting

The meeting held Thursday 5th June was very pleased to welcome our new Member of Parliament, Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP and Christine Ware, Ward Councillor, elected in the local May elections for the newly formed Naseby Ward.

We were very fortunate to be one of the first village parish meetings attended by our MP since his appointment at the General Election.



Both guests addressed the meeting explaining their individual roles in Westminster & Daventry. They then kindly answered questions from Thornby residents. Electorates can access the monthly newsletter from our MP: stuart.andrew.mp@parliament.uk



#### Thornby Farm Walk

The annual walk through our unseen countryside was blessed with fine dry weather on Sunday 18th May (unlike last year when the April walk had to be cancelled due to very heavy rain, however all walkers and supporters still enjoyed the excellent hot refreshments before the rain returned! Another date was arranged in October, that was a dry day!!).

This year's walk started from the Red Lion, two tractors and trailers on hand for those needing lifts. The walk began with admiring the beautiful view across the Hollowell Reservoir down to Northampton. Through a field with cows and calves then on to look at some of the crops prior to crossing the A5199. Once on the Naseby side of the road we continued down a field into some woods where there is a small man-made lake (dug 35 years ago) full of tadpoles. We proceeded through a couple of fields with ewes and lambs all behind Lodge Farm, finally crossing the Naseby Road below Shepherds Cottage and into fields with more crops.

After the 5 mile walk, all were ready for hot homemade refreshments & deserts at Thornby House. Our thanks go to Peter Moyes, Manager of Thornby Farms for such an interesting route and informative narrative. Thank you also to all catering and raffle contributors and donators.

All proceeds were for our village church of St Helens.

Improve your concentration

A Buddhist approach

A HALF-DAY COURSE

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August
10.30am - 1.15pm

with Kadam
Bridget Heyes

NKT-IKBU National Spiritual
Director for the UK

Nagarjuna Kadampa Meditation Centre
Centre for Modern Buddhism • Thornby Hall NN6 8SW
Tel: 01604 743 976 • info@meditateinnorthants.com
Charity No. 1039957

www.meditateinnorthants.com

# **CHURCH NEWS**



As we move into the warmth of high summer, many of us find ourselves pausing to savour the simple joys that this season brings. The longer evenings invite us outside, whether to tend the garden, take a gentle stroll, or simply sit and watch swallows dance across the sky. There is a sense of life in full bloom at this

time of year – hedgerows heavy with elderflowers and early berries, roses opening to their fullest, and vegetable plots yielding peas, broad beans, and early courgettes.

One of the greatest delights of summer is fresh fruit. Strawberries, raspberries, cherries, and soon plums – there is something deeply satisfying about enjoying fruit in its season. Perhaps it's the burst of sweetness after waiting so long through winter months, or perhaps it is the knowledge that these fruits carry within them months of preparation: the hidden work of roots reaching down for water, stems strengthening, blossom attracting bees, rain nourishing them to ripeness.

For me, this is always a reminder of how our own lives grow and bear fruit over time. In the Christian tradition, we speak of

#### MESSAGE FROM REVEREND ALLISON TWIGG, THE UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES

the 'fruits of the Spirit' – qualities such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These are not things that appear overnight. They are nurtured gradually through life's seasons, often in quiet or hidden ways, shaped by our experiences, our relationships, and the choices we make each day.

Just as strawberries or cherries need sunshine, rain, good soil, and careful tending to flourish, so these fruits within us need nurturing. We grow in them when we take time to rest, when we practise patience with others and ourselves, when we choose kindness even in small and unnoticed moments. And like the garden or orchard, there are times of pruning and challenge too, which in the end can help us grow stronger and bear more fruit.

So as you savour summer's sweetness this month – whether picking berries from your garden, sharing a bowl of cherries with friends, or enjoying a fruit tart at a village gathering – may it be a gentle reminder of your own life's ripening. May you find joy in who you are becoming, and may your life continue to grow in the fruits that bring goodness and hope to those around you.

With every blessing for a joyful Summer,

Reverend Allison

#### **GUILSBOROUGH CHURCH**

# **CELEBRATION OF HARVEST SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH**

The church will be decorated with flowers and produce from village gardeners

PLEASE DO JOIN US FOR HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE AT 9.30 AM - with traditional harvest hymns.

#### PIMMS AND PUDDINGS AT THE CHURCH 2.30 TO

4.30 pm (donations welcome). Enjoy browsing round the flowers and produce with a glass in hand, tuck into a homemade pudding, have a close look at the special features of our historic church. (Do not miss the William Morris/Burne-Jones windows, the "Green Men", the roof bosses, St Etheldreda's window...)

- Raffle in aid of transport for the Blythswood Christmas Shoeboxes appeal
- Paintings by local artists for sale
- Donations of tinned and packeted goods are welcome for the Daventry Food Bank (please bring to either of the above events)
- If you have any garden produce it would be useful if it could be brought to church on Saturday between and 9.30 am and 11.00am. Offers of puddings please ring Janet Minney (740640) or Hilary Worton (740694)



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Guilsborough Christian Aid collection this year, either via the envelopes, in church, or online. We raised just over £300 plus Gift Aid and any online donations.

The focus this year was for agricultural training and support for farmers in Guatemala who are suffering from the harsh effects of climate change. Every pound goes a long way. Many thanks.

# **CHURCH ROTA**

		Uplan	ds Group of Ch	urches Service F	Uplands Group of Churches Service Planner August and September 2025	and September 2	2025		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> August	10th August	17 <sup>th</sup> August	24 <sup>th</sup> August	31st August	7 <sup>th</sup> September	14 <sup>th</sup> September	21st September	28 <sup>th</sup> September
Cold Ashby		10.00am Group Service Common		9.30am Prayer Book Communion	10.00am Group Service Common		10.00am Group Service Common		9.30am Prayer Book Communion **Harvest Festrival
Cottesbrooke	11.00am Prayer Book Communion	Cottesbrooke			Communion	11.00am Prayer Book Communion	Communion		
Creaton	9.30am Prayer Book Communion		9.30 Common Worship Communion			9.30am Prayer Book Communion		9.30am Common Worship Communion	
Guilsborough	11.00am Common Worship		Brunch @11 Village Hall	9.30am Common Worship		11.00am Common Worship		Brunch @ 11 Village Hall	9.30am Common Worship
	Communion		6.00pm Evensong	Communion		Communion		6.00pm Evensong	Communion Harvest Festival
Hollowell				11.00am Common Worship Communion					11.00am Common Worship Communion Harvest Festival
Ravensthorpe	8.30am Prayer Book Communion		9.30am Common Worship Communion	11.00am Worship for All		8.30am Prayer Book Communion		9.30am Common Worship Communion	11.00am Worship for All
Spratton	11.00am Worship for All		8.30am Prayer Book Communion	11.00am Common Worship Communion		11.00am Worship for All		8.30am Prayer Book Communion	11.00am Common Worship Communion
Thornby	9.30am Prayer Book Communion					9.30am Prayer Book Communion			









Welcome to our Village Pub Independent & Family Run for 14 Years

Open 7 days a week Our kitchen is open:

Mon - Sat : 12 - 2pm & 6pm - 9pm Sundays from 12-3.30pm



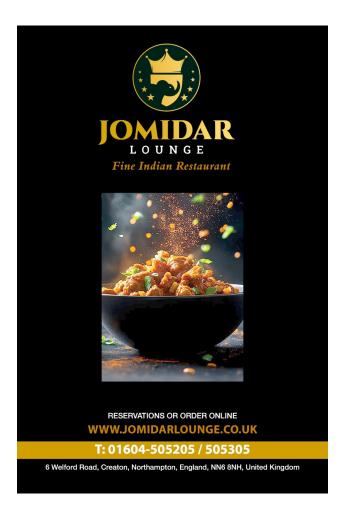


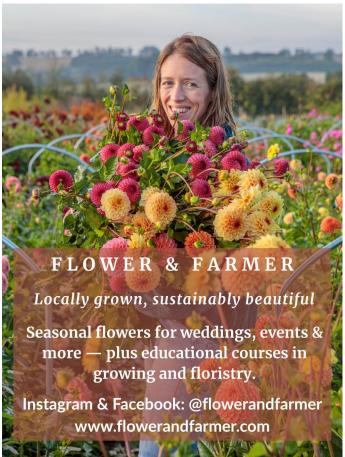


Simon, Louise & The Red Lion Team















#### LONG BUCKBY LIBRARY & HUB

The Summer Reading Challenge finishes 20th September. This year's theme explores nature and the outdoors, Story Garden - Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors. Buckby Library & Hub invites all participating 4-12 year olds!

Come and see our art exhibitions by local artists (all in our refreshment area). In August, 'To stand and stare' is an exhibition of paintings by Tony Keech. He works mainly in acrylics and his paintings are based on observing nature. In September, we will be exhibiting work from Northants & Rutland Studios. Please check our website for more details nearer the time.

We will be holding a Craft Fayre on September 20th, 2-4.30pm. This is a fundraising event to help support our community managed library & hub! There will be craft stalls, a raffle and tombola, a plant sale, book sale, glitter tattoos and refreshments (hot and cold drinks and cake). Come along to find your craft, plant and book bargains – all welcome!

Our new film season will be back in September, last Tuesday of the month. Please check our website nearer the time for our exciting new 10-month programme.

For all regular activities – health and wellbeing sessions, reading groups, craft groups, children's activities, services we host and more - please go to our website: https://buckbylibraryhub.org. You can also see our What's On calendar at: https://buckbylibraryhub.org/calendar/. Buckby Library & Hub, Station Road, Long Buckby, NN6 7QB. Email: sam.holst@buckbylibraryhub.org; tel: 01327 842591.

#### **ALPHABETICAL ADVERTISERS**

Abstract Limited, Architects - p13
Aga Wise Boiler Service - p23
J.M. Billings Plumbing & Heating - p7
The Barn at Welford Xmas Tree Farm p11
Brixworth Osteopathic Clinic - p2
Chestnut Developments - p18
Compass Energy - p2
Cottesbrooke Hall - p8
Creaton Village Shop - p2
Daniel's Landscapes - p14

Ewe Move Estate Agents - p16
Flower & Farmer - p23
Jomidar Lounge, Creaton - p23
LocBox Storage Solutions - p6
Michael Babb Foot & Health Practitioner - p8
MJ Burdett Plumber - p17
Merrick School of Driving and Towing - p4
Red Lion Thomby - p22
Wendy Yvonne Electrolysis - p17
Wills Direct - p6



# VJ Day - Victory in Japan

A shared moment of celebration

#### Friday 15th August 2025

Guilsborough, Hollowell & District RBL invite you to join them for an evening of remembrance and celebration at the Guilsborough Village Hall from 6.00pm

Everybody welcome, free admission,40's dress optional

GMAD's Presentation,

Music, sing-a-long & dancing Free Barbecue, Cakes & Hot Drinks

Cash only bar

Raffle

The troops that fought in the Pacific are often referred to as The Forgotten Army as they continued to fight after V E Day. Please join us to remember them and to celebrate their victory.

