



COMMUNITIES RESPOND TO CORONAVIRUS

HELPING EACH OTHER IN DIFFICULT TIMES

COLD ASHBY

The Cold Ashby Village facebook page includes offers of help from Tracy Mutton (provisions, dog walking) and Daniel McNally (provisions, support) and David Hart (provisions, support and physiotherapy advice in the absence of an appointment). Sadly, at the time of going to press the impact of the Coronavirus restrictions looked like it would force the Black Horse pub to close.

COTTESBROOKE

A team of volunteers has assembled to support residents of Cottesbrooke who are self-isolating or just keeping themselves safe indoors. They are offering free help with picking up shopping or prescriptions, posting mail, the internet, or just a friendly phone call. All items should be left on the doorstep for collection or delivery. The volunteer team are: Joey on 07766 912793; Meg: 07717 711353 or 01604 505103; Louise & Mark: 07825 945090; Julia: 07970 892883; Holly & Henry: 07493 165731 and Theresa: 01604 505467 or 07949 482966.

CREATON

Creton Parish Council is coordinating with the village Shop and concerned villagers, to offer assistance to those in Creton who may be in self-isolation or unwell. At the time of writing, they are inviting any others who may already be offering assistance to make contact to ensure that there is no duplication of activities/efforts already underway, and to be as effective as possible. Equally if you or anyone you know needs help, support, or just contact with the outside world, then in the first instance email helpcreaton@gmail.com or phone 07943 595829. We are looking for volunteers to undertake deliveries to those who may be house bound and also those who would be willing to keep up social contact over the phone to those who would like a chat and to combat loneliness. Creton Village Shop is also offering home deliveries for customers who find themselves in self-isolation in Creton and the immediate villages. Deliveries are free and there is no minimum spend. Prescriptions from Saxon Spire Surgery can be delivered via the shop providing the patient has organised it with the surgery. To order from the shop, please call 07789 828423 or email shop@cretonvillageshop.co.uk

GUILSBOROUGH

A co-ordinating group has been set up made up of residents, the Parish Council, the GPs Surgery (Saxon Spire) and the church (St Etheldredas).

They are also in close contact with the shop (Seatons Stores) and the pub (Witch & Sow). They now have a volunteers group (more are needed!) and will try to ensure that everyone in the village and wider parish:

- has someone to turn to when they need support, or just a chat, with a dedicated support contact.
 - can get a hot meal delivered if they need one from the pub.
 - can get shop deliveries to their home.
- They are also supporting the surgery and other key workers and their families wherever possible. To start this off they have put through every door a set of leaflets with helpful information and your dedicated support contact. **If you haven't received this then text Amanda on 07508 058 998.** You can ring this number if necessary. Otherwise you would normally contact the person listed on your leaflet. If you would like to volunteer (e.g. willing to deliver food, or pub meals, to houses, check on an elderly/vulnerable person who knows you, or other jobs as needed) then please join the list by contacting Amanda.
- All main web links for NHS and Government advice, and other helpful sites are on the Parish Council Website (www.guilsboroughpc.org). **If you have Facebook then join 'The Guilsborough Hub' which is a good place to keep in contact.**

HOLLOWELL

The regular monthly Hopewell Coffee mornings in the Village Hall have been suspended for the time being. Updates will be provided on the Hollowell & Teeton News Facebook page. In the meantime the Hopewell team has put in place a support network for Hollowell and Teeton residents during the coronavirus outbreak. They want to make sure that the more vulnerable people in our community are supported. People are already offering to help through various activity groups—**thank you! It's been decided to use the Hopewell contact systems as these are already in place.** If you would like to be added to the group of people who are willing to help, please email: wearehopewell@gmail.com who will try to link you with people nearby.

If you would like support, please call, email or message the Hopewell Facebook page. The aim is to make sure that everyone who needs it receives regular contact, especially if they are self-isolating at home. A variety of support is on offer including shopping, dog walking or even

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What's On?

We're really not sure! Many events have been cancelled or postponed. Where we have been notified, we have updated the newsletter. Any remaining events listed were correct at 20th March, but we're really not sure what is happening as the situation is evolving. Please contact the organisers the day before the event to confirm it is going ahead.

horse care. There is also someone who will help you set up video conferencing, such as Skype, so you can contact family and friends by video link. It may be that all you would like is someone to give you a ring on a regular basis. Contact THE HOPEWELL TEAM. Tel and text: 07780 265614 Email: wearehopewell@gmail.com

THORNBURY

The lovely people at the Nagarjuna Kadampa Meditation Centre at Thornby Hall are offering to help villagers who are in self-isolation. Call 01604 743976 or email info@meditationnorthants.com. Also, villager Paul Gates - 01604 743280, email pw.gates@hotmail.co.uk has confirmed he is happy to help. At the time of going to press the Red Lion pub was closed for the foreseeable future. Please check their Facebook page for latest information or call 01604 740238.

ALL VILLAGES

Local milkman Mat Haynes (based in Cold Ashby, is delivering milk, apple and orange juice, and free range eggs to households locally and in surrounding villages. Contact him on 07983 563135.

And a final 'thank you' to our wonderful distributor volunteers, for getting the newsletter to you.



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GUILSBOROUGH

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- Vegetable curry, rice, flatbread** £10 (10)
- The Witch beef burger, french fries** £10 (10)
- Steak & stilton casserole, mash, peas** £10 (10)
- Sausage & mash, onion gravy, peas** £10 (10)
- Mushroom stroganoff, peppers, rice** £10 (10)
- Vegetable lasagne, garlic bread** £10 (10)

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- Sausage, french fries, peas / beans** £6
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- Onion bhaji £1
- Vegetable samosa £1
- Peas £1
- Beans £1
- Rice £1
- Curry sauce £1
- Creamed mash £1.50
- Gravy £1
- Onion gravy £1

The Witch & Sow, High Street
Guilsborough NN6 8PY
01604 743888
www.thewitchandsow.co.uk

VILLAGE LINK

is a bi-monthly publication delivered free of charge to households in Cold Ashby, Cottesbrooke, Creton, 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 01604 740670
Angela Hubbard 01604 740379
Tony Hart 01604 740535
Sarah Dalzell 07917 608238
Katie Fulcher 07747 604067
Eve Wooldridge 07711 335771
Richard Hollingum 07887 652599
Mark Revitt Smith 01604 740240

Wherever possible please email your contributions to: editorial@villagelink.org.uk. This saves considerable time re-typing information! When providing hard copy materials, please post to Angela Hubbard, The Old Sun, High Street, Guilsborough.

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 Angela Hubbard on 01604 740379 to book advertising or email: advertising@villagelink.org.uk
Cheques payable to 'Village Link'

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:
Monday 4th May 2020

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.

Safari Supper Success

Thank you to everybody who took part in Cold Ashby's Safari Supper in February. Despite the date - Valentine's Day! - we enjoyed a fantastic turnout and **raised almost £200 for our three village groups:** St Denys Church, the Village Hall and the Playing Fields Association. A special thanks to our hosts, who very kindly served up some wonderful suppers for the benefit of the village!




At the time of going to press the Golf Centre was continuing to operate, but the clubhouse is closed..

'Takeaway hot drinks and food is available. The golf course is a good place to be for fresh air and exercise. Flags must be left in the hole. Ball washers are out of action. **Don't exchange score cards. Don't shake hands. Keep at least the social distance of 2 metres.** We will continue to monitor the situation and will keep everyone informed of any changes.

Cold Ashby Open Gardens



Cold Ashby will celebrate its 30th Open Gardens weekend on 25th and 26th July. We are currently in the throes of planning and we look forward to putting on an extra-special event to mark this milestone. More details coming soon - keep an eye on Village Link and our facebook page, Cold Ashby Events, for updates.



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BASED IN HOLLOWELL



NOTICE TO ALL READERS FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

As Village Link was about to go to print the government announced a string of restrictions related to Coronavirus/COVID-19. We contacted our correspondents and asked them to update us asap regarding planned events. This edition is as up-to-date as it can be in an ever-changing situation. Any remaining events advertised are likely to be cancelled, but we have not removed all announcements since some relate to dates in the Summer. Who knows what will be the case then? Please bear with us. Wash your hands, avoid physical contact (2m distance) and stay safe!

COTTESBROOKE NEWS

John Summerford

Cottesbrooke lost a resident and dear friend of the village in **January this year, a true artisan simply known by some as 'The Painter'. John Summerford had a rich and varied life and his skills** gave him much work in the finest properties including Althorp and grand London homes before coming to live at Cottesbrooke. Even after working in grand houses John would spend his spare time crafting and painting rocking horses for children or transforming the most mundane of objects into treasures and keepsakes for his family and friends.

John was a decorative painter who specialised in *faux* finishes favouring theatrical effects that were often more spectacular than the real thing. The main intention behind all *faux* finishes is to make surfaces look more impressive, to pass off a cheaper substance (such as wood, plaster or slate), as a more expensive one to either fit with the context of a building or piece of furniture and to create a more visually exciting design or texture such as marble, stone or tortoiseshell.

Even the Romans discovered that paint could be used to transform and counterfeit costly rare materials and it could be said that paint used in this way is almost as ancient as art itself. A new importance to the skills of the decorative painter was given during the Italian and European Renaissance. Churches, prominent homes, palaces and villas were decorated with *Trompe l'oeil* architecture framed in painted marble. Italian painters known as *depentori* were exceptionally skilled at marbling, and could produce versions of grey carraras, or breccias in purple, brown

and red still found in country churches the length and breadth of Italy.

In the late 17th century, marbling and paint finishes became fashionable all over Europe. Like real marble the painted variety tended to be associated with architectural elements, for example in church decoration to match the real marble of alters, columns and pulpits.

Specialist craftspeople and conservators can still be found working in museums, restoration workshops and on site at historic houses and buildings of historic significance throughout the UK. As a nation we have always been strong at making things and working with real materials but this has sadly fallen out of favour, disproportionately given over to digital design skills. If we value and want to keep our most precious buildings, objects and artifacts for future generations to enjoy we still need John Summerfords, the decorative painters and restorers, the lime plasterers, the master thatchers. We must treasure and grow our most precious resource of true craftspeople.

JS

John's family would like thank everyone who came to his memorial service and celebration at the village hall. Thank you to the Estate and local friends who have helped us out over the past few weeks. A heart felt thank you.

Gillian Page

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IN LINE WITH GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES CONCERNING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) THE DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN TO POSTPONE OUR OPENING. THE HOUSE AND GARDENS WILL NOT OPEN AS PLANNED.

WE WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE NGS DAY ON SUNDAY 3RD MAY 2020 WILL NOT TAKE PLACE. WE ARE LOOKING TO RESCHEDULE THIS LATER IN THE YEAR.

WE HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO WELCOME YOU IN THE FUTURE BUT FOR NOW WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION TO TAKE TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL.

Over The Counter

We clearly live in troubled times and at the time of writing the shop continues to bring service to all of its customers. Planning for what lies ahead is also taking place and the shop wants to help all those who become confined to their home. One way is to provide a delivery service for customers who can phone through their order and have it brought to their front door. If you feel that you could help in supporting the community by helping with deliveries, please contact the shop.

Have you met the new face behind the Post Office counter? For some of you Dave McDermott is not unfamiliar. Why? Dave was the owner of the Post Office in Ravensthorpe but after running the shop for 24 years he decided that it was time to retire. So, since March 2019 Dave has been relaxing and having time off from work, "but" he says "I have missed employment".



This was lucky for Creaton Village Shop and since the end of January Dave has joined the team, working part-time, and, he says, "thoroughly enjoying it". Say hello to Dave when you are next in the shop.

For Easter opening hours please check our Facebook page or the website: www.creatonvillageshop.co.uk

Vigilis

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CREATON WALKING GROUP



Despite the very wet weather in the early part of the year, the Creaton Walking Group have been able to get out and have some lovely walks. In February the group walked from Illston on the Hill in Leicestershire through the beautiful grounds of Rolleston Park and Billesdon village before enjoying the delicious fare at the Fox and Goose.

March saw the group closer to home, starting from Creaton and enjoying the local footpaths. Spring has definitely come and the group found some pretty snowdrops in February, as you can see from the photo.



At the time of going to press, the Walking Group plan to continue walking unless Government advice changes, but we will insist on the 2 metre gap between individuals and the pub lunches afterwards will not take place.

If you enjoy walking with friendly people why not come along on the second Saturday of each month. We meet at Creaton lychgate at 10am.

CREATON SINGERS



The Creaton Singers are very sad that their next 2 concerts have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These were for a VE Day Commemorative Concert on May 2nd at Creaton United Reformed Church to help raise funds for their new boiler and at Creaton in Bloom, which has also been cancelled.

The Creaton Singers are not meeting currently to practice, in line with Government advice.

Hopefully this crisis will pass quicker than anticipated but in the meantime the Creaton Singers hope you keep safe.

CREATON WI



Unfortunately, Creaton WI meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Creaton Parish Council Contact Details:

Parish Clerk: You can contact our Parish Clerk for Creaton Parish Council, Katrina Jones on creatonpc@gmail.com or by telephone on 01604 740862.

Agendas and minutes of meetings are available on the village website www.creaton.org.uk



Meetings are held bi-monthly at Creaton Village Hall, Teeton Lane, Creaton at 7.30pm. The first 15 minutes are reserved for the public forum.

Parish Council Meeting dates 2020:

- 12th May
- 14th July
- 8th September
- 10th November

Parish Noticeboard

The Parish Noticeboard has been taken away to be restored by a local carpenter and is due to be returned soon. You can still find details of any notices and details of parish meetings on the village website: creaton.org.uk. We also share information on our Facebook page.

Litter Pick Update



As many of you will be aware the Parish Council was awarded **external funding by 'Tesco Bags Of Help' to support the community litter picks** in 2019/2020. The Parish Council has organised two designated litter picks in both spring and autumn along with a tidy up before and after Creaton in Bloom. In addition to this we have purchased our own village litter pick equipment for residents to use and at the request of Creaton Playing Field Association, replaced the litter bins. We would like to thank all those that have supported the community events, and in particular those residents that continue to keep our village clean and tidy. Litter pick equipment can be borrowed by contacting the Parish Clerk. Thank you.

New Exercise Classes

There are a few new exercise sessions available for residents in the village, friends and family:

- Monday Mornings at the URC on the High Street - Keep Fit – Exercise to music, a great way to stay in shape, meet others and have a chat after in the Coffee Shop. The class starts at 10am, weekly fee payable. Come along and join in.
- Wednesday Mornings at the URC on the High Street – Pilates Taster Sessions at 10am, weekly fee payable to Ali Cooper Instructor. Come along, all welcome.

Clean up after your dog - it's the law



We'd like to remind residents that a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is in place across Daventry District. The PSPO states that people in charge of a dog must:

- Pick up after the dog
- Carry the means to pick up after the dog
- Prevent the dog from entering a fenced-off children's play area, such as Creaton Playing Field
- Put the dog on a lead when requested by an authorised officer
- Put their dog on a lead in graveyards, cemeteries and memorial gardens

Anyone who breaches the PSPO faces a **£100** fixed penalty notice or potentially court action, which could result in a fine on conviction of up to **£1,000**.

Creaton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

The consultation will run for six weeks from 10 am Monday 16th March - 5pm Monday 27th April 2020, during which time representations must be made in writing to Daventry District Council, either by post, email, online survey or at the exhibition/drop-in session (details of which are to be announced). During the consultation period the draft Appraisal, online survey and consultation notice will be available at:

<https://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/planning-policy/conservation-areas/>

Planning Applications:

DA/2018/1129 (Amended):

The demolition of existing buildings. Construction of 18 dwellings, associated access, landscaping, parking and other associated infrastructure: Land Off Teeton Lane (to the south of Berkeley House), Creaton, Northamptonshire

Please look on the Daventry District Council website for Planning Applications.

CREATON NEWS

Pat and Daphne Clark



Congratulations to Pat and Daphne Clark who recently celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Among the celebrations they had tea with all their friends in the village including lots of cake and, of course, a message from Her Majesty.

CREATON UNITED REFORM CHURCH

COVID-19 – A Message from the Minister & Elders

Due to the current situation all worship and meetings have been suspended.

Those who would like to follow a weekly podcast service (also daily devotions) from the URC may go to

devotions.urc.org.uk

Please Keep Safe.

Lord Jesus,

In the midst of a storm,

You said, 'Peace be still.'

Bid our anxious fears subside,

Sustain your church in faith, hope and love,

Bring our nation through this tumult,

Grant wisdom to those with heavy responsibilities,

And healing and hope to those who are infected.

Amen.



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GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

FOOTBALL NEWS

West Haddon Junior Football teams continue to play on the new football pitch at Guilsborough Playing Field, with around 24 games having been played by two Under-11 teams and one Under 12 team, the latter being coached by Ged Lowry and Steve McGlasson of Guilsborough. The inclement weather has resulted across Northamptonshire in many games being postponed because of the state of the pitches, and consequently the season will be extended into May. It is good to see the Field being used by many children from the village and senior school, plus parents and their children, who use the portable football practice goals left out at the Field.



AGM

This year's AGM should have taken place on March 23rd. It is currently on hold and will take place when circumstances allow. However, it is never too late for volunteers to get involved with the management, events and fundraising at the Field. Help is especially needed with the administrative aspects, such as A) secretarial work, B) organising any necessary maintenance work. Help is also needed for the VE Day celebrations (when and if they happen!) Those who would like to know more should contact the GPFA Secretary, Graham Byars, Graham.Byars@hotmail.com 07712649833.

The GPFA welcomes other uses of the Field for sporting activities, e.g. Nordic Working, Running Club, Archery, Rounders, and anyone who has the enthusiasm to organise a club or group of like-minded individuals should contact the GPFA Secretary



A NEW CRICKETING FORCE

This summer is an exciting season for cricket in Guilsborough as the **new local club "Haddon CC" plays its inaugural season.** The club which combines the forces of West Haddon and Guilsborough CC and East Haddon CC will field 5 senior **men's teams, 1 ladies team and 4**



junior age group teams as well as fun activity programmes for all ages from age 5 upwards. The new club will be able to offer social and competitive cricket to suit all ages, genders and abilities and will play and train across the three villages of East and West Haddon and Guilsborough. Indoor pre-season training for both juniors and adults is already underway, all age groups from 8 years and up are welcome. Outdoor training and the All Stars programmes for age 5-8 year olds will start in April and May. Please contact jim.houghton@olivehorse.com for more information. <https://www.facebook.com/westhaddoncc/>.

All new players or those that want to get back into cricket are very welcome regardless of age and experience.

GUILSBOROUGH FESTIVAL 2020

Save The Date : It's Festival Year Once More and for 2020 the festival dates are

September 18th-20th



This year's theme is an Autumn Fair and will include a **SHOW TENT** with displays and prizes for best Fruit, Vegetable, Crafts and Baked goods! Think ahead now and get your seeds and plants growing to give us a good display. **"Could you grow the biggest carrot, pumpkin or sunflower head?"** Give it a try you may win the Prize! More details to follow in next issue.



GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

PRE-SCHOOL

So what has been happening in Guilsborough Pre-School I hear you ask?



Well so much!! Christmas was a wonderful time and we then started the new year with lots of new focusses. Such a busy half term, the children have been learning about various new things, Chinese New Year, Australia and the colours around us. We also had an arctic themed Pre-school for 2 weeks which the children loved and we had lots of resident polar bears and penguins. We have been involved in lots of village fundraising; the silent disco was a fabulous event and we raised so much, specifically **£377 for us meaning lots of new items for Preschool.**

We also raised £420 for Australian Bush Fire Victims, our children were involved in sponsored events like a cake sale and a kangaroo hop, they were amazing, they did so well, and we raised a lot more than we thought we would. The Chronicle and Echo came to see us and there was a piece in the paper, we are very proud! We joined forces with our other 2 awesome village schools and raised in excess of **£2000. FABULOUS!** As part of the learning process we took the children to our brilliantly accommodating local fire station and we talked to the children about fire safety, they loved it, especially using the hose on the fire engine! We are looking forward to spring-time in Guilsborough and **I'm sure you will see us on walks round the village looking at nature or on our way to our allotment or forest school!** If you would like to talk to one of us about your child attending our lovely home-from-home setting please pop in or call us on 01604 740761.



PRIMARY SCHOOL



We are half way through the academic year already and this Spring Term has been full of exciting learning and activities here at Guilsborough C of E Primary

School. We were very proud of our children who took part in all of our Quicksticks hockey tournaments, particularly because we won them all! Our next focus is Dodgeball.

A huge note of thanks to everyone who supported our PTA Valentines cake sale! The children really enjoyed their delicious cakes and we felt Guilsborough Primary were super at spreading the love. Thank you especially to our wonderful PTA for organising this.

We are now reaching out to all local businesses to support us on our mission to make our playground even better. Whilst we are striving to fundraise through our usual channels, we would like to seek help in providing new playground equipment for our children. If anyone is able to make a monetary donation or provide professional services **we'd love to hear from you.**

Year 5 completed their trip to the Rock UK Frontier Centre for an exciting PDET schools Maths adventure day. They took part in many challenges and all came back to school bursting with problem solving strategies. It was a super day enjoyed by all. Our Safer Internet day was well organised by our Year 6 Digital Leaders who completed a very informative assembly and also went to each class to discuss how to stay safe online. Our young leaders really do make us very proud.

Over the next few weeks we have a number of other events coming up, including World Book Day which will probably have taken place by the time you read this (check out the pictures on our Twitter profile), a visit from the Northern Ballet who will be completing a workshop, our Seasonal Walk, Parents evening, Science day and our Easter Performance.

Please remember, if you need any information about what's happening at Guilsborough Primary we have lots of information on our website - www.guilsboroughprimary.co.uk, or you can keep up to speed via our Twitter profile - @guilsboroughpri.

GUILSBOROUGH ACADEMY

CHARITABLE DONATIONS & STAFF NEWS

Encouraged by Guilsborough Primary and Pre School, staff and **students at Guilsborough Academy raised £1421.86 to donate to** the devastation caused by the Australian wildfires. Special thanks go to Mrs Fretwell for coordinating this event.

From September the current Principal at Guilsborough Academy, Mrs Swales, will be moving on to become Executive Principal of Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust. This means the Academy will be advertising for a new Principal. The Academy will continue to benefit from the many years of experience Mrs Swales brings to the school whilst bringing in a new colleague with new ideas and ways of working.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

is 10th - 16th May this year.

If it goes ahead please look out for the door to door envelope collection in Guilsborough and give if you are able.

Christian Aid is a charity without boundaries tackling the root cause of poverty so that men women and children throughout the world are strengthened against future knocks.



GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

PARISH COUNCIL

BUS SERVICE

The contract to run our bus service has been renewed and will continue to run to the current timetable until the 17th July 2020. Again, this has only been possible by most of the Parish Councils along the route the bus serves joining forces and making a substantial contribution towards the subsidy needed to keep it running. Many thanks go to John Hunt, Chairman of Spratton Parish Council, for devoting a lot of time gathering information and coordinating the funding from all the Councils. The reason for it only being until 17th July is due to there being no certainty in the funding being received for the portion that NCC pay being granted by central government yet.

PLAY AREA

The Council is still holding discussions with the land owner **with regard to a longer lease for the children's play area** before committing any funding for new play equipment.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

We are planning, subject to advice from central government regarding public meetings with regard to the developing spread of the Covid 19 virus, to hold our Annual Parish meeting on Tuesday 14th April at 8pm. This meeting is for us, along with various other organisations within the village, to present to the parish reports on the achievements during the last 12 months. We would love to see as many of you there as can make it.

www.guilsboroughpc.org.uk



CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE: Guilsborough volunteers gather together, keeping 'social distance' ready to distribute information and offers of support to households around the village.



Guilsborough Tennis Club

at Guilsborough Academy

Subject to Coronavirus restrictions there will be an
OPEN MORNING on SUNDAY 24th MAY
10.00am until 12 Noon

Whatever your age or ability, come along to this fun open morning. A coach will be on hand to give help and advice.

Even if the above event is cancelled, why not become a Summer Member—as a member you can play:

Term-time; in day light out of school hours; after 6.30pm any weekday and all weekend.

School holidays; Anytime in daylight. (*We are awaiting confirmation of times during the school closure*).

We have a Club Night on Tuesdays from 6.30pm, and a Club Morning on Sundays at 10.00am.

We have Individual Membership (£40), Student Membership (£25) or Family Membership (£80), from 1st April—31st August.

For More information call Sarah on 07917 608238 or email:

SarahDalzell57@gmail.com



VILLAGE HALL – CANCELLATIONS

MMM is cancelled until further notice as are all public events in the Village Hall.

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Towing instruction also available.

HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

HOLLOWELL AND TEETON PARISH COUNCIL



Have you 'Noticed'?

Visitors to Hollowell Pocket Park should have noticed that the Information Board has been replaced. Thanks go to Sean Cooksley who gave his time and expertise to help design the new sign face and to Dave Rose and staff at D&H Sign & Display Service in Creton, for manufacturing and installing the sign.

VILLAGE BREAKFAST

Hollowell residents enjoyed a fantastic breakfast in February, with more than 50 people coming along to scoff bacon and egg rolls, slices of homemade cake and posh coffee. It was great to see so many people there, including new arrivals in the village and visitors from Guilsborough. The event was organised by the Village Hall Committee, assisted by the Hollowell Hens who produced the amazing array of cakes.

More than £300 was raised and all the proceeds will go towards the maintenance of the hall.



HOLLOWELL POCKET PARK

As soon as the ground in the park is sufficiently dry, work will begin to install two new picnic tables. The tables have been purchased by Hollowell Pocket Park Action Committee at the request of Pocket Park users, who wanted seating located closer to the play equipment. Much of the funding for this stage of the project came from funds raised at the last two

Hollowell FAFF events, so thank you to everyone who was involved. It may be necessary to close all or part of the park whilst the work is carried out.



HOLLOWELL HENS



The Hens and the Men of Hollowell recently enjoyed a World Wine Tasting "tour" from the cosy security of one resident's dining room, courtesy of Adam and Karen Shuter. Huge thanks to them both, particularly to Adam for his research and enthusiasm in presenting the wines. We all discovered something new. The Hens had been planning an Easter Crafts event on 5th April and a walk to the pub in Guilsborough on 15th May, but these are now under review. More information to follow. Please contact Sarah Mourant at: sarah@mourant.uk for more details.

NEW PILATES CLASS FOR HOLLOWELL

Got a bad back? Want to be more flexible? Why not try a new pilates class which has recently started in Hollowell Village Hall. 8.30am Monday mornings led by Body Control Pilates instructor Lola Adekanmbi. ALL WELCOME. Classes cost **£8.50 payable by the half term block. Please bring your own mat.** For more information email: pilatesbylola@gmail.com



HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

GOODBYE TO ALAN STOKER

Alan Stocker's funeral took place in a full Hollowell church, on Friday the 28th February. Alan had a love of all things steam **and was a founder member of the Hollowell Steam Rally** serving for 32 years before he was taken ill. He was **responsible for many tasks at the Rally, including setting up the Tea Tent, erecting the toilet blocks, plumbing and electrics.** Alan was a true gentleman in every sense of the word.; a self taught welder, he could replace metal as if darning a sock. His enthusiasm and willingness to share his knowledge was infectious. He was a huge asset and will be greatly missed.



Left: Mourners at Alan Stoker's Funeral outside Hollowell Church



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

The 33rd Hollowell Steam Rally will take place on Saturday and Sunday 4th and 5th July 2019. Two days of traditional entertainment for all the family.

FOND FAREWELL TO ANDREW FOUNTAIN

On Tuesday 10th March, family and friends from Hollowell and further away, gathered at St James Church to say goodbye to Andrew Fountain. Andrew was a true Hollowellian, having lived here all his life and was liked and respected by all who knew him. A country boy at heart he was a familiar figure at the Pytchley Hunt meets, the Point to Point and of course the Hollowell Steam Rally where he was a loyal helper for many years. His familiar figure will be missed by so many and many of us will feel that we have lost the friendship of a kind and gentle man. Our sympathy and support go to Dawn and the rest of the family. Sleep in peace Andy.



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Email: www.hopewell@gmail.com
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Supporting our
community during
the Corona Virus

SAVE THE DATE (HOPEFULLY):

Hollowell Hill 5 mile road race 19th July 2020 at 10am.

<https://www.northamptonroadrunners.co.uk/hollowell-5/>

TOTE WINNERS:

The winners of the Dec and Jan Village Hall Tote were:

Bob Carnell, Carrie Billings, Ian Brown, The Hollowell Family
Bo Wilson, Alison Grasby, Kathleen Litchfield

THORNBY NEWS

THORNBY VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR

The Defibrillator has now been fitted in the village on the Welford Road opposite the Red Lion Pub.

Training was given by Adam, Lee and Inge from the South Northants Response Team. They are a group of volunteers who were set up to improve the response time of a trained first aider, to help those of us who live in rural areas and would expect to get a slower response from the Emergency Services.

Also thank you to Simon and Louise for letting this training be completed in the Red Lion Pub.



FARM WALK



SAVE THE DATE: FLOWER FESTIVAL

Thornby is planning to hold a Flower Festival on Saturday and Sunday 11th and 12th July.

This will be in aid of St. Helens Church Thornby. As in previous years the church will be filled with flowers - tea/cakes served in the village hall and various stalls.

If you are interested and can help with a flower arrangement and to discuss the theme please call:

Ann - 01604 743860

Jean - 01604 743280

THORNBY FARMS WALK Sunday 3rd May 2020

Due to present circumstances with Coronavirus, we've changed this year's walk:

Do come and enjoy a walk through the lovely fresh air in the countryside.

Struggle to walk then enjoy a ride on the tractor trailer.

As the walk is across fields containing cattle and sheep unfortunately we cannot allow dogs.

There is no charge, but St Helens Church, Thornby would welcome donations.

Meet outside the Red Lion Pub in Thornby at 10.0am. - walk is approx. 2 hours.

If you are interested in going on this walk, please phone two days before: 01604 743280

For further details and information email - pw.gates@hotmail.co.uk

MESSAGE FROM REVEREND ALLISON TWIGG, THE UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES

CHURCH NEWS

Uplands Group of Parishes office (answerphone): 01604 743444

Email: uplandsgroup@btinternet.com

We find ourselves in uncertain times, as our television screens tell us of rising incidences of CV19 coronavirus, it would be **unusual if we didn't feel a level of anxiety or concern about** those we love and about ourselves. We have entered a strange period of time when many of us have had to withdraw from our regular routine and enter a period of social distancing and self isolation and with many regular events being suspended it feels eerily like we are entering a great hibernation.

We extend our prayers and best wishes to all who're suffering, alone, or self-isolating. The wonderful workers of the NHS, whether in our local surgeries, our communities and our hospitals, along with the emergency services are stretched to capacity and also need our support, encouragement and prayers.

I have been shocked to see people panic buying everything from pasta to toilet rolls and the fearful reactions as those out in public recoil in horror at the slightest hint of a cough or a sneeze. Yet I have also been heartened to see the best of things being drawn out of the people in our communities. Friends and neighbours going out of there way to offer help to those they **know and even those they don't; offering to buy shopping, collect prescriptions and walk dogs, in the truest sense showing that they really do, 'Love thy neighbour.'**

The virus has also significantly impacted on the life of the church.

Public worship is suspended.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York published a statement on 18th March, asking churches to suspend public worship, as our nation confronts the unfolding public health crisis. This means all our acts of worship on Sundays and during the week are suspended. Please do not come to church for worship services. Please be in touch if you need help - contact details at the end.

This means that we have had to suspend all our linked events and outreach groups for the time being, including Bus Stop Tots, Brunch@11, our Good Friday Family Event, The Great **Creaton Egg Hunt, Monday Morning Meet and Café Doris in Spratton**. We look forward to seeing you all again on the other side!

But church is not cancelled.

In their advice, the archbishops have asked us to 'radically rethink' the way we do things in the present climate, and we wanted to write to let you know what is going to happen in the short term. Much is changing each day, so please bear with us. If you would like to receive our weekly email please contact our administrator Katrina on uplandsgrouppoffice@gmail.com

Church members will still be praying **and acting as 'The Church' even if not** meeting together in large groups or in the church buildings for a while.

And we encourage you to pray, you may find these prayers helpful:



Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.
Amen.

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

May God bless and keep you over the coming weeks.

Please use The Vicarage phone number 01604 846099 to contact Rev Allison or revallisontwigg@gmail.com if needed.

Allison Twigg

Residents are joining together to save money on energy bills



The Big Switch is a collective energy switching scheme that uses people power to try and secure cheaper energy bills for residents.

Since its launch it has helped over 1,600 homes in Daventry District save an average **£198 on their energy bills** - and many have saved far more!

4 easy steps to switching energy provider in our Big Switch auction:

Step One

Register for free
Anyone who pays a household energy bill can register and it's an easy process, but you will need a copy of a recent bill or annual statement to complete the process.

Step Two

Sit back, relax
Once registration has closed, our switching partner, iChoors will invite energy companies to offer their best tariff to everyone in the scheme in a reverse auction process.

Step Three

Consider the offer
You will receive a personal offer tailored to your household on the new tariff secured by the scheme. Whether you save money depends on your current tariff.

Step Four

Make a decision
You will have until the end of the auction round to decide if you want to switch or not. There is no obligation to accept the offer and no fees or charges.

Register for FREE (you will need your annual electricity and gas bills)

www.daventrydc.gov.uk/bigswitchdaventry or call 01327 871100

NEVER TOO YOUNG OR TOO OLD!

Before all this Coronavirus madness started, Guilsborough Pre-School & GPFA joined forces to organise a fundraising Silent Disco at Guilsborough Village Hall. This was a new concept to many of us. But, encouraged by some of our younger friends who have tried it elsewhere, we bought tickets, and went along on Friday 1st February ... not sure quite what to expect!

On arrival we were given a pair of squishy comfy headphones, and told we could choose between three colour-coded channels. Each channel was pre-loaded with hits from different eras. You could switch between eras at the flick of a button on the headphone - easy! Whether it was the influence of the Gin Bar or the conventional bar, people really seemed to relax into the dancing and lose their inhibitions. Great fun! When the Coronavirus madness has subsided, please can we have another one?



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Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group

Carers Drop In's at Saxon Spires

The SSPPG is working with the Practice and Northamptonshire Carers to offer a Carers Drop In session each month. These will not be happening during the Coronavirus outbreak but hopefully will start later in the year. For more information about the SSPPG contact the Secretary, Barbara Hogg on 01604 880552 or email hoggbc66@gmail.com. There is more information about our meetings and events, on the Saxon Spires website.

For up to date Coronavirus information relative to the Surgery please go to the surgery website www.saxonspires.co.uk click on information on the top bar and then CoVID 19.

A New Way of Greeting

The other week I went to a meeting where the greeting was "Consider your hand shaken". This was not some starting point for an existential discussion but an indication that COVID-19 has led to people struggling to find new ways to greet each other. Another meeting, and the elbow bump seemed to be in order. Was this because we all knew each other that allowed this seemingly informal – and very un-English approach? Then of course there is the foot-shake, which seems even sillier than the elbow bump, and demands a centre of balance being kept in the process. No good avoiding bodily contact in greeting if quickly followed by falling into your hosts arms, especially if not a drop was drunk at the time. Prince Charles led, or rather did not lead the way with namaste. This clasping of own hands together is common across South East Asia, yoga teachers and, oddly, jazz musicians. It is also my greeting of choice but **then I've been to India don't y'know and am allowed to do it – a bit like being allowed to call Kilimanjaro 'Kili' if you have scaled its not insignificant heights.**

However, in this brave new world of greeting flux, there must be room for other options. The distant greeting of a long arm held aloft, often whilst on tiptoe, but brought to close encounter. Or nod of the head as



per two men passing each other on the street. Or, **my wife's preferred option, palm held up whilst saying "How". Then of course, there is always smiling and saying "Hello".**
Vigilis

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LOCAL BUSINESS IN FOCUS

Creton Crafts & Gifts

It is May 2014 and Lara Read and her family were happy and getting on and **enjoying life.** Lara's husband Stuart had had a very bad riding accident about 15 years previously where he had broken his back and was told he would never walk again. However, he did and life was good!



This is Lara's story:

"Then Stuart went to work one day, bent down and BAM!

His back just went. He ended up in Northampton General Hospital with no feeling from the waist down. After a lot of physio and pain killers he again managed to walk, but unfortunately this time it left him in constant pain and unable to return to doing the manual work he was used to.

With 2 small boys to support we needed to find an income and we came up with the idea of Creton Crafts and Gifts. We started off making wooden items for the home, which were very popular but due to Stuart's pain and mobility he wasn't able to make them on a regular basis. We were also making paper ornaments for the home from unloved books and we decided to set up our website and also a shop on a platform called Etsy. We make personalised fruit, animals and vases, all from books.

In 2015 we were contacted by Mama's & Papa's to make some of our book pumpkins for their Halloween displays in 22 of their UK stores. They contacted me on Monday and wanted them delivered by Friday. We ended up making 132 in less than 4 days! We didn't get much sleep and everywhere was orange by the time we finished, but seeing our idea and work displayed in their stores was amazing.

This inspired us to see how far our products could be distributed. We are now in Etsy's top 1% of sellers. We ship worldwide and it's fantastic to think that the items we have handmade in Creton are in Beverly Hills 90210, Thailand, New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Singapore and many other places.

To anyone thinking of starting a small business I would highly recommend it. It is a lot of hard work but highly **rewarding."**

You can view Lara and Paul's products on their website:

www.cretoncrafts.etsy.com

If you are a local business with an interesting story to tell, tell it to us at editorial@villagelink.org.uk