

# *Living Villages*



*April 2019*

*Water Newton, Thornhaugh,  
Stibbington, Sutton & Wansford*

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## Editorial—some thoughts

The recent sad demise of the Elton Magazine has focused our thoughts on the future security of Living Villages. We are so lucky that David Powell and Rosie had the foresight to construct our magazine in the way they did, relying on advertising, Parish Councils, Church PCC's and local societies for income. The re-launch by Rosie in its current iteration in 2010 was an inspired decision upon which we have been able to build. So what do we need to think about in going forward for the next few years to ensure we don't run into the same problems as Elton.

Advertisers are key and we can assure them of the exposure they get through LV via the 750 print run so wonderfully distributed by Rod and his amazing team. Kate does an amazing job keeping many of the existing advertisers and coming up with new people all the time and Gordon keeps our accounts up to date and our bills paid.

Whilst we currently have no plans to relinquish our roles, succession planning is always a concern and so far we have been fortunate to have very capable replacements, but perhaps we should think about enlarging the team, having people who can fill in for us and possibly pick up the baton in the future.

We need to make sure content is interesting and lively while still treading the advertorial fine line. I am constantly complimented on our achievements, well done team. I think Jane and David do an excellent job and provide the best copy for Reflections I've seen during my time in the village.

Generally speaking, I get enough from contributors to provide, I hope, interesting subject matter, but there are occasional panics in the editorial office.

**Tracy Sortwell**

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# DIRECTORY OF CONTACTS

## Living Villages Editorial Team

Editor	<b>Tracy Sortwell</b> editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk	07841 382063
Treasurer	<b>Gordon Alleyne</b> gordonalleyne@hotmail.co.uk	01780 784531
Distribution Manager	<b>Rod Sortwell</b> r.sortwell@btinternet.com	01780 783403
Advertising Manager	<b>Kate Hopkins</b> katehopkins5@gmail.com	07580 218792
Special Report Writer	<b>Nicky Rogers</b> nicolajanerogers@icloud.com	01780 781770

## Parish Councils

Sutton	Peter Lee (Chairman)	01780 782703
Wansford	Wendy Gray (Clerk)	01778 441312
Sibson-cum-Stibbington	Wendy Gray (Clerk)	01778 441312
Thornhaugh	Deirdre McCumiskey (Clerk)	01780 782668
Water Newton (Parish Meeting)	Stephen Went (Chairman)	01733 230628

## Churches

<b>Ministers:</b> Thornhaugh & Wansford		01780 782271
Stibbington, Sutton, Castor & Water Newton		01733 380900
	<a href="mailto:admin.castor@btconnect.com">admin.castor@btconnect.com</a>	

### Churchwardens:

St Andrew's Thornhaugh:	Stuart Foreman	01780 783220
	Liz Kemp	01780 782333
St Mary's Wansford:	Caroline Ashley	01780 782408
	Alan Jones	01780 783205
St John the Baptist, Stibbington	Richard Winfrey	01780 782431
	Carol Lindsay	01780 782338

### Friends:

St Mary's & St Andrew's	Caroline Ashley	01780 782408
St John the Baptist	Carol Lindsey	01780 782338
St Remigius Water Newton	Tony Capon	01733 237500

## Other useful contacts

Neighbourhood Policing 101		P'boro City Council	01733 747474
Wansford Surgery	01780 782342	Royal British Legion	01780 782200
(Out of hours	111 option 4)	Stibbington & Wansford WI . .	789996
Wansford Pharmacy	01780 781616	Cricket Club	07860 278800
Communicare	01780 470437	Horticultural Society	01780 782446
H'don District Council	01480 388388	Stibbington Centre	01780 782386

## Website

[www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](http://www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)

# WORSHIP APRIL 2019

<b>St Leonard's, Apethorpe</b>		
7th	11.00am	Holy Communion
19th	2.00pm	GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTIONS
21st	11.00am	EASTER COMMUNION

<b>St Kyneburgha, Castor</b>		
7th	10.15am	Holy Communion
14th	10.15am	PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION (10am, gather at Castor School) AND EUCHARIST
15th	8.00pm	NIGHT PRAYER (SUNG COMPLINE, LED BY CHOIR)
16th	8.00pm	NIGHT PRAYER (SUNG COMPLINE)
17th	8.00pm	NIGHT PRAYER (SUNG COMPLINE)
18th	8.00pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMEMORATION OF THE LAST SUPPER
19th	10.00am	GOOD FRIDAY FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE
	2.00pm	GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY
20th	8.00pm	EASTER VIGIL
21st	10.15am	EASTER DAY HOLY COMMUNION
28th	10.15am	Holy Communion

<b>St Mary's and All Saints, Nassington</b>		
7th	8.15am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Holy Communion
14th	9.30am	Morning Praise
18th	6.00 to 8.00pm	A PASSOVER FOR JESUS (Including Holy Communion)
19th	10.00am	GOOD FRIDAY ACTIVITIES AND SHORT FAMILY SERVICE
	12 noon	GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTIONS
21st	9.30am	EASTER COMMUNION
28th	9.30am	Holy Communion and Sunday School
	6.00pm	Evensong

<b>St John the Baptist, Stibbington</b>		
21st	6.00pm	EASTER HOLY COMMUNION FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

<b>St Michael and All Angels, Sutton</b>		
16th	9.00am	Family Service
24th	9.00am	Easter Day Holy Communion

<b>St Andrew's, Thornhaugh</b>		
7th	9.30am	Morning Praise
19th	1.00pm	GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTIONS
21st	9.30am	EASTER COMMUNION

<b>St Mary's, Wansford</b>		
3rd	11.30am	Lent Service
10th	11.30am	Lent Service
14th	9.30am	Holy Communion
17th	10.00am	Morning Prayer
21st	11.00am	EASTER COMMUNION
24th	10.00am	Morning Prayer
28th	9.30am	Morning Praise

<b>St Mary's, Woodnewton</b>		
7th	9.30am	Holy Communion
14th	9.30am	Holy Communion
19th	2.00pm	GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTIONS
21st	9.30am	EASTER COMMUNION
28th	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP

<b>St Mary Magdalene, Yarwell</b>		
7th	11.00am	Morning Prayer
14th	11.00am	Holy Communion
21st	11.00am	EASTER COMMUNION
28th	11.00am	Morning Prayer

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Our celebrations associated with the major Christian festivals now involve a number of traditions which would have seemed very strange to our ancestors. Father Christmas appears in the shops, and other places, from late Autumn onwards and the Easter Bunny seems to be making a more prominent appearance with the arrival of each Eastertide.

The tradition of the Easter Bunny originates with that of the central European Easter Hare. In a number of European countries the Hare became associated with the resurrection of Jesus. This is because large numbers of Hares were seen frolicking in the fields at the very time when the Church celebrates Jesus' death and resurrection. The tradition of the Easter Hare was taken by German immigrants to the USA where it was altered slightly to become the very popular Easter Bunny. This large rabbit then travelled back across the Atlantic to Britain where we now encounter him each year as the purveyor of Easter eggs.

Both Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny are enjoyable aspects of our festive celebrations; they add to the fun and excitement, particularly for children. However, despite the entertainment these relatively modern traditions may bring they also present us with a problem; they have the potential to obscure the real cause for celebration.

At Easter time we celebrate something far more fundamental than the arrival of a large rabbit bearing chocolate eggs. The bunny may bring momentary joy; but the eggs are soon eaten and if we eat too many of them, we quickly start to feel far from well.

What we celebrate at Easter is an event which had a profound effect upon a frightened group of friends who had seen their leader put to death on the cross. Their experiences on the first Easter Day transformed their fear and they went on to do great things in the name of Jesus their leader. Despite seeing him die in agony the disciples became aware that Jesus was still alive and active in their lives. Somehow, he had overcome death and they felt his power at work amongst them.

The power of the risen Christ isn't something that was confined to the disciples alone; it is a phenomenon that people have sensed throughout the centuries and still encounter today. If so many people at different times and places have had the feeling that Jesus is alive; he really must have conquered death and the good news of the gospel must be true. Thus, the message of Easter is truly important Jesus Christ overcame death and has thus destroyed the power of the one thing all humanity fears.

I wish you all a joyful Easter and pray that, like the disciples, you may experience the power of the risen Christ.



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# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, STIBBINGTON



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LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE...**

## WATERSMETE BENEFICE

### **Easter Celebrations.**

Easter is quite late this year, but whether we still have many daffodils or not, I know that our churches will be full of spring colour to celebrate the greatest festival of the Christian year, thanks to our wonderful flower arrangers. Details of our **Easter Day services on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> April** are on the service list.

This year, through Holy Week, that leads up to Easter Day, we have planned a number of special services that will hopefully bring us to Easter Day with hearts prepared and with a little more understanding of what God has done and is doing for us. As a group of parishes working together, everyone is warmly invited to any of the services in any of the churches; whichever village you come from.

At the beginning of Holy Week there will be the lovely, ancient evening service of **Compline** to lead us into the events of Good Friday and Easter Day. The services will be at **7.00 p.m. at Wansford – Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April, Yarwell – Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April and Woodnewton – Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April.**

On **Maundy Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> April** we are holding a special meal and service called **The Passover for Jesus**. We will share in a meal similar to that of Jesus' last Passover with his disciples, drawing out the later Christian significance. This will include Communion and conclude with a time to remember Jesus' time in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. (For catering purposes, we will need to know who is coming to this.)

There will be our usual range of Devotions at the different churches on **Good Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April** and some children's activities and a short service at Nassington Church at **10.00 am** as well.

Do come and join us for as many of the services and events as you can – all are welcome!

## FRIENDS OF ST REMIGIUS WATER NEWTON

**Our next service is to be held on Sunday 28th April at 6pm. This is \*St. George's Day and we will be dedicating the service to our country patron saint. Our usual fellowship will follow the service where we will serve real 'English' sausages and mash accompanied by liquid refreshments. All are welcome to join us and celebrate the life of our patron saint but please leave your swords, armour and helmets at the door!**

**A small donation of £5 per head will be requested towards your 'bangers and mash' supper.**

\*St George is the patron saint of England and among the most famous of Christian figures. But of the man himself, nothing is certainly known. Our earliest source, Eusebius of Caesarea, writing c. 322, tells of a soldier of noble birth who was put to death under Diocletian at Nicomedia on 23 April, 303, but makes no mention of his name, his country or his place of burial. According to the apocryphal Acts of St George current in various versions in the Eastern Church from the fifth century, George held the rank of tribune in the Roman army and was beheaded by Diocletian for protesting against the Emperor's persecution of Christians. George rapidly became venerated throughout Christendom as an example of bravery in defence of the poor and the defenceless and of the Christian faith.

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Liz Kemp 07719 400467 [emilyowens1@me.com](mailto:emilyowens1@me.com)  
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## STIBBINGTON CENTRE NEWS



### Work with us....

Sometimes the magazine is delivered just before the beginning of the month. If that is the case for this issue, you may still be in time to apply for one of our two new positions:

Business Support Officer (focusing on finance operations) or Maintenance Supervisor.

Contact our Centre Manager, Helen Johnston for more details.

### Owl Pellets....

**Yes Please!** If you have an owl roosting nearby and are able to collect pellets for us (without disturbing the owl), we would be very grateful. Visiting children eagerly dissect these to study how the owl fits into the natural ecosystem. Unfortunately more readily available pellets from captive owls are not of use.

### Stibbington Community Classes

Our screen printing workshop at the beginning of March resulted in stunning pieces of work. Unique stencils created by attendees were complimented by the natural dyes provided. A satisfying afternoon, indeed.



**NEXT WORKSHOP: Saturday 11th May, 1 - 4**

**Lino printing with artist and printmaker, Janet Bates.**

Attendees will produce one simple and one, more intricate lino plate, to their own design. They will leave the session with several prints and their plates. These can continue to be used at home for paper or fabric printing. **£35**

### CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01780 782386

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# Communicare

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Group)

**A Communicare general meeting open to all patients will be held on**

**Tuesday 2nd April 2019  
at Wansford Surgery – 1.00 pm**

**Agenda items will include finance  
and practice update**

**Suggestions and ideas for future potential  
guest speakers or discussion subjects  
will also be welcomed**

The general patients meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd April at 1.0pm at Wansford surgery – We are pleased to be welcoming Carolyn Noble from Oundle Volunteer Action who will be talking about their services with particular reference to the transport scheme they operate for the benefit of local people. Other items on the agenda will cover practice update news, finance and hopefully some discussion about potential subjects and speakers which patients would like to be included for future meetings.

The next social group coffee morning is on Friday 12th April (a week earlier than normal due to the Easter weekend) at the Kings Cliffe Active Sports Hall at 10.00am. The first day trip of the spring/summer season will take place on Wednesday 10th April to Ely – the coach will pick up from local villages and 30 bookings are needed to make the trip viable. To reserve a place contact Clare tel: 01780 470437 or email: [superfoguk@aol.com](mailto:superfoguk@aol.com)

Other days out are scheduled for 12th June to Ashbourne & Bakewell and 14th August to Cromer & Sandringham - watch out for future prompts re booking.

The spring short break coach holiday leaves on Monday 20th May for 4 nights in the Grand Atlantic Hotel at Weston-super-Mare – there is still one twin room available – price £330 per person inclusive of all travel, dinner, bed and breakfast, and insurance. For further details please contact Clare.

***Wendy Spencer***

# STIBBINGTON AND WANSFORD WI



Since the last report, the WI ladies have been busy with several events. This began with the visit to Ely Cathedral for the Beautiful Stitch embroidery exhibition. Both members and visitors attended, they were amazed by the diversity and complexity of pieces on show including the photo on left hand side.

The book club has also met, and the members carried out their annual review of the books that have been selected and read over the previous twelve months.

The ethos of the group is very much reading for pleasure, voting from a presented list of a wide range of books from various genres books to read, then the selected books are reviewed at the following meeting. This means that the readers can often read books that they may consider outside their normal genre choice, or comfort zone. This was true with this year's clear winner – *Beneath a Scarlet Sky*, by Mark Sullivan. The book was based on a true story of a young Italian boy who was a forgotten hero, saving the lives of many Jewish people fleeing Europe and the unfolding horrors that were taking place. The next meeting will take place in May.

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Early in March, members attended a Science lunch at the WI centre (Huntingdon). The theme was CSI, the first speaker was science writer Kit Chapman. He began by exploding many myths surrounding common plants known to be poisonous, explaining that it is the dose that makes the poison! He then went on to explain how poisons had been used both knowing and unknowingly over the years. Following lunch, the afternoon speaker was Evelyn Faucon, a scene of crime officer. She described her role within the police as well as her more recent work. She has been working on cold cases, re-examining sex offences with the help of new forensic evidence becoming available, which has resulted with a number of offenders being tracked down.

The March meeting saw this investigatory theme continue, our speaker being Chris Dent a Private Investigator. Following a career in all aspects of insurance, Chris set up GH Counsellors 11 years ago. His talk covered the many different areas that he becomes involved in from Fraud investigations - including scams, tracing people, accident and not forgetting divorce settlements. He also brought along tools of his trade, this included many types of cameras, one of which was hidden as a button. We were also regaled with many anecdotes throughout the presentation.



*Stibbington and Wansford WI is celebrating its centenary, and there will be several celebratory events, so advance notice of the quiz night on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June, Christie hall 7.30pm. More details will be available in future reports.*

### **Upcoming events:-**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April & 19<sup>th</sup> April** We have our 3C's regular craft, coffee and chat meeting (Community Hall 10-12am). Dates for **May - 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April**, The work of a Counsellor - M. Penhaligan (Community Hall 7.30pm)

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May** - Resolution supper (Community Hall 7.30pm)

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**, Lunch club is meeting at Elton Garden centre. Please call if you would like to join us, and maybe pick up a plant or two!

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May**, Book club meeting (Haycock hotel, 7.30pm). Please check if you wish to attend, as date is unconfirmed at time of going to press.

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

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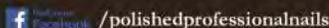
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## WANSFORD HORTICULTURAL & CRAFT SOCIETY



Our February talk by Joe Whitehead, Head Gardener at Burghley, was unsurprisingly very popular as Joe has become a regular feature of our activities, always greatly appreciated by our members. He introduced us to the many and varied aspects of the Burghley estate and we soon realised that he has already had quite an impact on the gardens there. At the end of the talk there was great enthusiasm for making a private evening visit to Burghley in July with Joe taking us round to see everything first hand.

On 14th March Geoff Hodge's talk on "Colour in the Garden all Year Round" was very entertaining as well as informative, providing us with plenty of ideas on how to "tweak" our gardens to achieve the desired colour. Above all, before rushing to the garden centres at Easter and impulse buying the most attractive plants, he suggested that we should identify and/or create the spaces which need filling with colour and consider carefully what would work in that location. It was pleasing that, as with our other talks this year, we welcomed 4 new members to the group.



Our final Spring talk is actually a demonstration. **On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April Anne Biddlecombe**, a very accomplished flower arranger from Stamford, will be showing us her ideas for tackling the Floral Art classes in our 2019 schedule. No excuses then this year for not entering! Her arrangements will be auctioned at the end of the evening.

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

R.H.S. guidance for horticultural-show purposes : "A vegetable is a plant normally grown in the kitchen garden, to be eaten either cooked, or less often raw, but not usually as a dessert or a pudding. Rhubarb, though commonly eaten as dessert, is classified as a vegetable. Aubergines, beans, courgettes, cucumbers, marrows, mushrooms, okra, peppers, peas, pumpkins, squash, sweet corn, & tomatoes, though botanically fruits, are classified as vegetables by the RHS for shows." Weeds however are classified as a 'blinking' nuisance!

So for Top Tray and the collection of 4 vegetables (class 26) it's time to get planting, provided no frosts are forecast. Don't forget to plant flowers too so that you can enter class 31, a collection of garden flowers grown in the exhibitor's garden or use them for Floral Art. By August 24<sup>th</sup> many summer flowers are over and our gardens can be quite depleted with just Golden Rod, Japanese Anemones and Asters still in bloom, so this year think about introducing some variety. Try planting Zinnias, Alstroemeria, Helenium, Rudbeckia, Phlox, Agastache 'Blue Fortune' and Salvia 'Amistad', all of which should flower at the right time.

The subject of workplace dress codes appears in the media from time to time and often invites a variety of opinions. It seems that company culture and the need to project a certain image may not always be aligned with society's views. You may recall the issue of a London agency temp who was sent home because she refused to wear high heels in her role as a receptionist which went against her company's dress code. The agency temp raised a petition of 152,400 signatures supporting her case. The matter was subsequently discussed in the House of Commons and concluded that employers can continue to insist that female employees wear high heels, providing it is considered a job requirement and men are made to dress to an "equivalent level of smartness". Whilst I would not wish this subject to be the cause of indigestion over your dinner this evening, I would invite you to discuss the value of company dress codes and the reasons for where there may, or may not, be relevance.



In recent weeks an NHS midwife whose dyed bright red hair (and which has been so for many years), was cautioned at work for her hair colour as it no longer complies with her newly introduced Health Trust's dress code. The midwife has subsequently gone off sick with work-related stress. A woman in the middle of labour who is cared for by a midwife with dyed bright red hair is probably the very least of her worries. The check-out girl at my local Lidl has a particularly colourful head of green and purple hair and last week she served me with a cheery "hello" and efficiency and her hair colour is of no particular concern to me.

So what are dress codes trying to achieve? Conformity, decency, comfort, health and safety, professionalism, a certain image? Do the shorts-and-T-shirt-wearing employees of Google project a cutting-edge image over the booted and suited bankers of The City? Does a formally dressed employee bring in more customers and project a better image of reliability and honesty? On the one hand, wearing a suit to work makes the ritual of daily dressing relatively easy, compared to wearing a variety of different outfits – rather similar, in my view, to the ease of sending children to school in a uniform. On the other hand, wearing my favourite leggings with a long sweater are so much more comfortable and the work I produce is just the same as if I wear a suit.



**Picture supplied by Rich Baker**

One of his three tattoos, none of which are visible at work because they have to wear shirts with sleeves. A number of his other colleagues have visible tattoos

The issue of jewellery and tattoos displayed in the workplace can also be a problem. How do we feel about someone with a penchant for wearing numerous rings or studs in their brow, tongue and nostrils or sporting a prominent tattoo? Some company dress codes restrict employees to wearing a wedding ring and wristwatch only and for tattoos to remain hidden. Should employers be challenging themselves to how facial jewellery and tattoos affect a person's work and the company? Of course, the health and safety of an employee is of paramount importance within a dress code. Loose clothing and some jewellery can easily be caught in machinery, flip flops on a stairway are a danger, and I have witnessed the dangers of very long hair when using a paper shredding machine.

There is also the case for tradition and wearing clothes that are expected for certain non-workplace occasions: the bride in her beautiful dress; the ball gown worn for the school prom; the smart dinner suit for men; and a black tie for a funeral. The social norm is to wear these things and sometimes causes comment when not seen. It probably follows that there are still certain expectations of how we dress in certain workplace roles and for different situations. We expect our policemen, pilots, butchers and soldiers to wear a uniform and somehow they wouldn't be the same without them. Their uniforms project identity and image. Company dress codes will, no doubt, evolve over time, perhaps become less prescriptive for certain roles, and some companies may discard them altogether by transferring the ownership of how to dress to their employees, as long as they comply with health and safety requirements. I wonder how will we expect our future AI robots to dress?!

The author has worked in HR for 25 years



## ***“SUCH A LYRICAL LANGUAGE !”***

### ***Recollections of an Italian interpreter and translator***

With over 80 languages spoken just in Peterborough, it's no wonder the area's professional interpreters and translators are kept busy! Anne Castellano has been helping non-English speakers in various situations for over 30 years, working as a freelance Italian interpreter and translator. With many thousands of hours of experience in diverse settings, she is equally at home interpreting in operating theatres as in prisons and has vast experience of working with the Police, the Courts at all levels, the Probation Service, Solicitors, Hospitals, Clinics, GP surgeries, mortuaries, Social Services, Driving Theory Tests, dentists, opticians and many more.

As you can imagine, this has given rise to many interesting, humorous and sometimes scary situations! There are certain consultants and nurses at the local hospital who go into raptures when they hear Anne in full flow – “keep talking, it's such a lyrical language, it sounds beautiful!” is the cry. In the courtroom, Anne says, “if the Italian speaker shouts, I have to shout and if they swear, I have to too! It all adds to the passion and intensity of the exchange!” The mood and temperament have to be matched.

Once, on a hospital ward, the patient in bed was being repositioned and the nurses ploughed ahead with their ‘manhandling’ as they thought she was saying, “that's better!” – until Anne pointed out that what she was actually saying was “Aspetta!”, ie. Wait!! Hang on!! Humour does play a part as Italian can be a very expressive language with much ‘allegria’ in it – a certain type of humour can also have its place as Anne often discovers when interpreting for Police officers in the custody suite - she comments, “how else can the boys in blue cope with what they have to put up with on a day to day basis without their black humour to keep them sane?!”

Nowadays people will say why employ an interpreter when we have Google translate? Anne's reply, based on experience, is always – “that's fine if you want the translation for a cricket ball to come back as a dance for insects!”... there simply is no substitute for face to face contact. No machine can reflect the subtleties and nuances of language and the message has to be conveyed in the right tone. The competent interpreter can gauge the setting and the appropriate register to adopt to ensure that the client or patient has completely understood.

Anne adds that it is equally true that a good interpreter should act as a mirror between the two languages and the best interpreters are considered to be virtually invisible, ie. the conversation or questioning flows effortlessly between the two languages without the presence of the interpreter being noticed or feeling at all intrusive.

Anne says how satisfying it is to be able to bring clarity to a situation and, often, calm people down. Imagine not fully understanding what a doctor or police officer or a social worker is trying to say to you...it can be very upsetting and nerve racking. Simply hearing your native tongue can be like adding a calming balm to the mix. Someone who can explain what is going on!

Anne always reflects that the presence of an interpreter can be a double boon to the non-English speaker – not only can they then understand what is being said to them, they are also able to express themselves fully in their mother tongue, asking whatever questions or explaining their situation in their own words.

It's clear that Anne gets a real buzz from her work, her favourite bookings are those that allow her to be present in the delivery suite for the arrival of a newborn baby. She reports, "I have helped deliver several babies over the years and it is always a real joy and privilege!"

The variety of the profession never ceases to amaze, one day Anne may be at her desk translating legal documents and the next she may be engaged in conference interpreting or a home visit to an elderly person or, on occasions, doing voiceovers for promo or training films.

Confidentiality is also paramount. Anne explains, "The local Italian community is still very tight-knit with virtually everyone knowing everyone else. It is therefore essential that whoever I am interpreting for has the utmost confidence that nothing that is discussed will ever be repeated. I always stress, right from the outset of any scenario, that our entire encounter is of the utmost confidence. It is this trust and confidence that has led to Anne's numerous excellent rapports with both professionals and Italian speakers alike."

**07748 155359 [anne.castellano@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.castellano@btinternet.com).**

## **SIBSON-CUM-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council met on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Stibbington Centre – 4 Parish Councillors, County Cllr S Bywater and 3 members of the public were in attendance.

Defibrillators have been ordered (which will be installed in old BT Kiosks) installation date awaited.

Planning Application 19/00194/FUL – one detached dwelling re-application 18/00402/FUL building East of 10 Waters Edge, Wansford – the Parish Council had no observations to make.

Individuals still parking behind bollards in Chapel Court, which were erected to protect both the verges and the paths. Cambridge County Council and Highways have been informed.

Date of next meetings: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May (Annual Parish Meeting/AGM/normal Parish Council meeting).



## WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

In expectation of a presentation from Highways England about the A47 upgrades, the March Wansford Parish Council meeting was held at St Mary's church instead of the Community Hall. In the event, Highways England declined to attend at 7 days' notice, saying that they were not ready for such an event. They are now due to come to the meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> April. The venue for this meeting will be decided once Highways England confirm whether they are coming.

In the absence of Highways England there was a useful discussion amongst the 20 people present about the A47, the main points being:-

1. Clearly the Highways England schedule for making their Development Consent Order (DCO) application has slipped again as they have not yet signed up a new consultant.
2. When the DCO has been submitted, there will be another round of consultation and WPC will keep people informed when this will happen and what the procedure is for making submissions.
3. The exact scheme for upgrading the northbound section of the A1/A47 junction is still not clear. One option put forward was to try and get a full revision of the junction as a second phase of the development but several people did not like this as it gave an indefinite timescale. The only comprehensive solution involves the realignment of the A1 as well.
4. Wansford Parish Council will continue to press for HE to change to an alignment that is all to the north of the existing road. This depends on the geotechnical conditions south of the existing road and the status of the Scheduled Monument. The soil investigations have been done but Highways England are reluctant to release the results.
5. The review of the Scheduled Monument by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport is ongoing. A response is expected in Early April.

### **Other Business**

WPC will be meeting later in the week with PCC Highways to discuss the various outstanding issues in the village such as replacement of the 20 mph sign on Old North Road, alterations to the other 20 mph signs, replacement of the A6118 road signs, renewal of the road markings at junctions and the A47 road layout.

Volunteers are being sought for training in the use of the defibrillator (the Scandinavian label of Heart Starter is much better!) that is now in the old telephone box on Old North Road. Doing the training does not imply volunteering to help others but it gives a useful skill. Please contact Wendy Gray if you are interested.

Work will start shortly on rebuilding the old village water pump in Nene Close.

Richard Clarke

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If you would like more details please contact NVCT  
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## March 2019

# Cricket season is finally here!

The long autumn and winter is finally over and spring is here. Which means cricket is right around the corner. It's been a long wait for everyone, but the club is excited to get going in 2019.

Thanks to everyone's efforts over the last year, Wansford CC is looking forward to a successful season. The club's new grass cutter will keep the outfield in good nick all year and we're all looking forward to getting inside the much improved pavilion. All of which is down to the hard work & efforts of club members and friends of the club over the last year. Wansford is now the ideal place to get involved with the sport.

We are through the last month in the calendar without cricket until October, which means we have very little time before our first game on 7<sup>th</sup> April and plenty of cricket to look forward to. Finishing touches are being made and pre-season nets are in full swing – pun intended. If you would like to get involved with cricket this season, why not get in touch. All ages and abilities are welcome and there's no better place to start than Wansford. Practice, or 'nets', are held every Tuesday from 2<sup>nd</sup> April and they are free to attend, so why not get involved!

Give our Captain Jason a message on **07734 815117**, or our Treasurer Matt on **07947 136134** if you're interested and they will make sure you can get involved.

The club has created a brand new Facebook page, so keep an eye on that as it is now the easiest way to keep up to date with fixtures, match reports, fundraisers and everything else going on within the club.

Thanks again to all who help with our club, we appreciate it all! Our first home game is on the 14<sup>th</sup> April and support is required and appreciated. We look forward to seeing many faces throughout the season, new and old.

Kelsey Brace, Media Officer  
Wansford Cricket Club



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Cold wintry days bring good opportunities to view less common birds on garden bird feeders. Conditions out on the fields, along hedgerows and on river banks can be pretty bleak at this time of the year and well stocked gardens will attract many a wary visitor. This week a Reed Bunting paid a fleeting visit. Normally a bird of the riverbank, often seen clinging halfway up a patch of reeds, it will struggle to find enough seeds once rain and wind have savaged its local habitat. Seeds in a feeder provide a lifeline and will often be visited for a number of days until normal conditions return. This bunting is not unlike a house sparrow in size but sits in a more upright pose. It's head is black all over with a white collar and a black patch reaching down from its beak to its chest. The bird is perhaps our commonest bunting, particularly where rivers or lakes can be found nearby.



It's cousin, the Yellow Bunting, or Yellowhammer, is more a bird of farmland and hedges, famous for its song promoted from the top of a hedgerow - 'a little bit of bread and NO cheeeese'. Once a common sound in the countryside it can still be heard by the farm buildings above Yarwell Mill where a small community find plenty to eat in the barns on Mill Road. In winter the bird can be identified by yellow stripes on its head and yellow-streaked breast. In summer the male is resplendent with an almost completely yellow head and a much yellower breast. In the cold winter three or four years ago a pair visited my feeders when they had exhausted their normal farm supply.

Two other buntings can usually be seen in the region, if not in our gardens. The Corn Bunting, another farmland bird, can still be seen locally in the Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire Fens. This larger brown bunting has suffered from changes in farming practice over the last fifty years. The switch from spring to autumn sown cereals and the grubbing out of hedges has removed a major food source and tall bushes from which it likes to look out over the fields singing its song. To be sure of a sighting the Scottish Islands provide the appropriate habitat, together with those other avian losses to our local farmland, the corncrake and the grey partridge.

Travel to the north Norfolk coast in winter and you will often find 'clouds' of Snow Buntings flitting about the dunes and shingle shoreline. These alpine breeders flock to our shores during the winter months and are recognisable by their mixed white and light brown colouring as they restlessly feed on wind blown seeds. If you want to see them in their fabulous snowy white summer plumage you will have to travel to Greenland or Scandinavia.

Bunting is a name often used for flags and ribbons hung out for a celebration and that is how one should feel when seeing any of these fast disappearing birds from our countryside.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

[editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](mailto:editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)

### **Yarwell & Nassington Britannia Brass Band**

Winter is almost behind us, hopefully! So it is time to look forward to the summer and where better to start than to get a few brass band concerts into your diary. I would normally be giving our St Georges Day concert a plug. However, St Georges Day is so close to Easter we thought we would be competing with too many other events, so it was a perfect opportunity to break the mould and do something new.

We are working with the Nene Valley Care Trust again to produce an early summer concert with a bit of a twist - or should that be a bit of fizz! Come and join us for a light hearted concert of brass band music and we will greet you with a complementary glass of prosecco and a few canopes. We will still be in Nassington Church and the date for the diary is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**

#### **May.**

Tickets are now on sale from all the usual outlets as well members of the band and the Nene Valley Care Trust committee. Online booking is also possible.

Some more dates for the diary as we start to firm up our 2019 programme - watch out for further details nearer each date.

Friday June 14<sup>th</sup> - Whit Friday marches (Saddleworth)

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Barnwell Country Park

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August - Wansford Annual Show

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August - Nassington Garden Show

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October - Nassington Church

Thank you to all who supported us throughout last year and I look forward to seeing you at our Summer Party concert.

*Quentin Arnold*

### **Wansford Walruses**

Have you spotted the unusual wildlife in Wansford's stretch of the river Nene ? A small band of swimmers meet under the bridge (usually on a Wednesday morning around 8.30 a.m.) We swim regardless of the weather, time of year or temperature. One of our group has already swam through an entire Winter and talks of her improved circulation and boosted immune system. Our motivations differ. You may fancy a speed or distance trial. Our male contingent wears as many layers as he can (hence the tag of 'walruses'). He runs from Stibbington, swims for 20 minutes and runs home after a sociable coffee and cake. Open water swimming is also a wonderful mindful activity to aid mental health and wellbeing. It can also lead to fun challenges . I have entered the UK cold water championships and am persevering without a wetsuit this winter to acclimatise for the event. If you fancy joining us, then contact me at

[rowenahoman@btconnect.com](mailto:rowenahoman@btconnect.com)



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### SAVE THE DATE

## WATER NEWTON MUSIC FEST 2019

**Bank Holiday Sunday 25th August**

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

Further information will be released over the coming months.

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

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

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

## DIARY DATES – APRIL 2019

Tues 2	Communicare General Meeting	1.00pm	Wansford Surgery	Clare Wagstaff	<b>470437</b>	15
Wed 3	Lent Lunch	12.15pm	Christie Hall	Caroline Ashley	<b>782408</b>	11
Fri 5	<b>WI 3C's Chat, Coffee and Community</b>	10.00am	Community Centre	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	17
Fri 5	The African Dream	7.30pm	<b>St Andrew's</b>	Liz Kemp	<b>07719 400467</b>	11
Sun 7	First Cricket match of the season		Away	Jason	<b>07734 815117</b>	29
Mon 8	Wansford Parish Council	7.30pm	****TBC****	Wendy Gray	01778 441312	24
Tues 9	WI Meeting—The work of a Counsellor	7.30pm	Community Hall	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	17
Wed 10	Lent Lunch	12.15pm	Christie Hall	Caroline Ashley	<b>782408</b>	11
Wed 10	Communicare trip to Ely			Clare Wagstaff	<b>470437</b>	15
Thurs 11	Horticultural Society Talk Anne Biddecombe	7.30pm	Christie Hall	Gill Fisher	<b>782446</b>	19
Fri 12	Communicare Coffee Morning	10.00am	Kings Cliffe Action Sports Centre	Clare Wagstaff	<b>470437</b>	15
Sun 14	Foraging Walk		Sacrewell			27
Sun 14	Cricket Match		Home—Haycock field	Jason	<b>07734 815117</b>	29
Wed 17	<b>Friends of St Mary's and St Andrew's</b>	10.30am	Community Hall	Caroline Ashley	<b>782408</b>	11
Fri 19	<b>WI 3C's Chat, Coffee and Community</b>	10.00am	Community Hall	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	17
Tues 23	WI Lunch Club		Elton Garden Centre	Jan Armitage	<b>789996</b>	17
Wed 24	Friends Coffee Stop	10.30am	<b>St Mary's</b>	Caroline Ashley	<b>782408</b>	
Sun 28	St Georges Day Service	6.00pm	St Remigius	Tony Capon	<b>01733 237500</b>	10

**Copy deadline next month: 20th April 2019**

**editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk**

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	7.00pm	Christie Hall PE8 6JS
Wed	7.00pm	<b>YOGA CALM</b> Kings Cliffe Memorial Hall PE8 6XW
Thurs	10.00am	Wansford Christie Hall PE8 6JS
	4.30pm	<b>Gentle/Chair</b> Easton on Hill Village Hall PE9 3NN
	6.30pm	<b>Mixed Ability</b> Easton on Hill Village Hall PE9 3NN

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