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February 2021

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Editorial

It's that time of year when editing this magazine seems a continuous event, and with February being the shortest month, it's not until the March edition that things start to settle down. Hopefully that will also be the case around the country as more of us are invited for our first and perhaps even second vaccinations against this awful virus that has blighted our world for the last year.

My thanks this month goes to many people—our stalwart delivery team who have all agreed to ensure the magazine is delivered through your letterboxes; new contributors Tracey Goold, Gary Punter and Alan Frost, who will be writing about Health and Wellbeing, Gardening Tips and Retirement Advice at regular intervals over the next few months.

This month we are trying something new—it's a quiz. I hope you will find it entertaining and as explained in the instructions on page 20, there will be a prize. It's something that the whole family could take part in, with perhaps the younger members creating a list of different trees and the next generation trying to workout which tree fits which clue.

I hope you agree with me that the front cover photo is most spectacular this month. Once again it has been sent to me by John Measures. I'll let him explain the story behind it.

The Crow photo is my local friendly Carrion Crow, Sam, which I have been feeding with scraps of meat for about eight years. He and his partner call round each day for a snack and even bring their offspring with them to introduce to us every year. I took this photo last February of Sam silhouetted against the Crow moon, it is very special to me as it is a shot I had wanted to capture for many years but was always either no Crow or no moon! He sat there until it was dark and I had finished taking my pictures, I felt it was his gift to me. Sam against the Crow moon is probably a shot I will never be able to repeat. Hope you like it.

Stay Safe

Tracy Sortwell

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Castor Benefice Church Services

Although the government currently allows religious organisations to remain open for worship, and the holding of services is not illegal, it has become increasingly obvious that the local situation here in Peterborough remains very serious. The government guidelines are very clear that people should remain at home and that everyone should act as if they are a potential carrier of the Coronavirus.

Although I would very much like to continue with the pattern of Sunday services that we have been able to offer in recent weeks, and that a number of people would like to have the freedom to attend worship in our churches, it is becoming increasingly apparent that to continue with public worship would be irresponsible and inconsiderate in the current climate.

In view of this I have reluctantly decided, following consultation with our churchwardens, that Sunday services will cease with immediate effect. This decision will bring us into line with virtually all of the local churches who are also closing for worship.

Until further notice there will be no services, however the churches at **Castor, Marholm and Sutton** will open for private prayer each **Sunday** at the following times as they have done during previous lockdowns:

Castor 9am - 12noon

Marholm (subject to accessibility/waterlogged field) 9am-10am

Sutton 9am - 10am

In addition, my weekly recorded reflections (published on our YouTube channel) along with Fr Ray's written reflections (published on our church website) will continue to be made available online, as well as the weekly service of Evening Prayer via Zoom at 6pm each Sunday.

We will keep the situation under constant review and hope to resume services once again as soon as it seems appropriate to do so. Please contact us by telephone or email with prayer requests, if you are in need or you simply wish to talk.

David Ridgeway - Rector

January was another strange month for us all and although the vaccine roll-out is offering glimmers of hope as we move into February we know that we will be living with changes and uncertainty for a while yet. There were certainly changes in our service provision in church, as some of our ministry team became unavailable for service for various reasons during January.

In February, across the churches in our group, we will continue to offer one service a Sunday at 9.30 a.m. and one at 11.00 a.m. As you will see from the service list, this means that there won't always be a service at St. Andrew's or St. Mary's, but do remember that you are welcome at any of our churches for services. It may be that by the end of the month we might be adding in extra services, which will be advertised in the church porches. Do note that we also have weekday services at Wansford (Wednesday 10.00 a.m.) and Nassington (Thursday 9.30 a.m.)

February includes the beginning of Lent and we will be having a service of Holy Communion at St. Mary's, Wansford for Ash Wednesday at 10.00 a.m. on 17th February. I have heard people say that this last year has felt like one long Lent as we have had to give up so much in terms of what we might choose to do. Many have lost so much more as hopes have turned to ashes in facing economic uncertainty, restricted education, or even in the death or sickness of a loved one. However, Lent is only part of the story and we know that it concludes with our remembrance of Jesus' giving up of his own life for us on the cross, and his resurrection as proof that not even death can overcome the light and love of God. The phoenix, the mythical bird that rises from the ashes, has been used as a Christian symbol since the first century, and we can understand why. By God's grace, our hopes will rise from the ashes of this time as the risen Christ rose from the tomb; the ultimate sign of hope. May we know the comforting presence of Christ through the church season of Lent and this Lenten time in our lives, knowing that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

With every blessing,
Rev. Jane

WORSHIP FEBRUARY 2021

All subject to Government restrictions.

St Leonard's, Apethorpe		
14th	11.00am	Holy Communion
28th	11.00am	Holy Communion

St Mary's and All Saints, Nassington		
Every Thursday at 9.30am Holy Communion BCP		
7th	8.15am	Holy Communion BCP
14th	9.30am	Holy Communion
28th	10.00am	Holy Communion

St Andrew's, Thornhaugh		
21st	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Mary's, Wansford		
Every Wednesday at 10.00am Morning Prayer		
17th	10.00am	Holy Communion for ASH WEDNESDAY

St Mary's, Woodnewton		
7th	9.30am	Holy Communion
28th	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP

St Mary Magdalene, Yarwell		
7th	11.00am	Holy Communion
21st	11.00am	Holy Communion

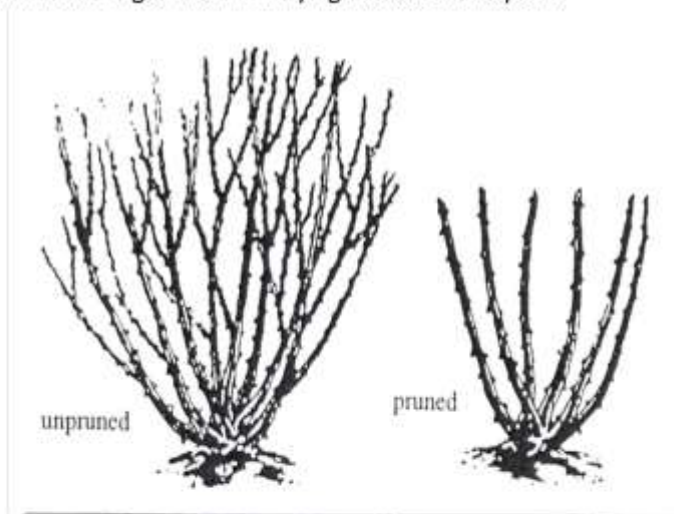
Garden Notes: When should you prune roses?

by Gary Punter, Wansford Horticultural & Crafts Society

Roses are fairly resilient and enjoy a decent prune to reinvigorate next seasons growth. February is a good time to prune roses, just before new growth gets going in early spring. Make sure your secateurs are sharp and you are wearing gloves.

We aim to get an open plant with 5-6 healthy stems that form a goblet shape with an open centre:

1. Remove dead or diseased stems
2. Remove stems which cross from 1 side of the plant to the other.
3. Hopefully you are left with 5-6 healthy stems that can form the goblet shape. Prune each of these stems just above an outward facing bud, making a sloping cut away from the bud to deter rot.
4. Advice varies on how hard to prune back these healthy stems. I used to cut back to half height. At Burghley they hard prune their 1000's of roses to 6 inches / 150mm from the ground. I am trying the latter this year.



For Climbers and rambles select the leading stems and ideally train these along horizontal wire. The rose will flower on the side shoots from these leading stems. When pruning, cut these side shoots back to 10–15cm (2-3 buds) from the leading stem to encourage new growth.



And we then wait for the
delights of roses in
summer !



If you are interested in learning more about local gardening and crafts,
please contact garypunter@aol.com

The Retirement Effect 1

What's This Retirement Thing All About?

In this series of articles, I explore why retirement, or the prospect of retirement can be daunting. I examine the transition involved and what to do to manage it, in order to create a compelling future.

The first step in this journey is to understand what the prospect of retirement is doing to our thinking and attitude, and why.

I have been researching the effects of retirement for some years now and have concluded that retirement is one of the biggest transitions we face. It's up there with marriage, divorce, having children or bereavement.

This is because retirement presents us with so many changes to many facets of our lives. Therefore, it can seem like the whole world has changed. To a large extent it has.

I regard the term 'retirement' as meaning no longer working in a career we have trained for or have become skilled at. This definition may seem slightly vague but it tries to cover many circumstances in which work (or work-like) career situations cease.

I mention "work-like" because, for example, I am aware of people who have 'retired' for a second time: the first time being a headmaster and the second time a semi-professional musician.

I have written above that retirement is one of the biggest *transitions* that we face. I use the word "transition" to describe a very special process. This happens to us when faced with a change. In this context transition means *the gradual reorientation process that happens inside us as we adapt to the external change*¹.

Transitions are needed all the time when people are dealing with changes. Sometimes people go through this form of transition easily, sometimes not so easily and sometime never at all.

An example of change and transition is becoming a parent:

The *change* is the birth of the baby.

The *transition* in becoming a parent takes much longer and involves many attitude shifts such as: realising we are responsible for this tiny being, adapting to a third person in our relationship, changing our leisure time and pursuits, adjusting our attitudes to life etc etc.,

the list of transitions is enormous.

Transition is personal and internal to us, and because it's personal, individuals go through it at different times and different rates.

Retirement transition is similar. However, my contention is that retirement is even more personal and goes even deeper.

Retirement can, in addition to the financial and more obvious issues, bring about:

- * loss of self esteem
- * loss of status (real or imagined)
- * loss of social standing
- * no time structure and no routine
- * loss of purpose or meaning to life
- * loss of personal identity (I once had a boss who said "my job defines me at work and outside work")

This list (which is not exhaustive), shows the width and depth of the transitions we may have to face in order to get through this change called "retirement".

It is not surprising, therefore, that some people find retirement difficult to cope with and may struggle to adapt to the changes it brings.

I have talked with many people about their thinking concerning retirement and the effects that these thoughts have on them. One person, who was a consultant physician, really made me focus on the subject when he said "I fear retirement more than I fear death".

Such is the impact on some people of the retirement transition process. Whilst this reaction was pretty extreme, it is not unusual for people to be affected deeply by retirement or even the thought of it.

The next article explores what else might be going on other than the obvious, outward effects of retirement. This "something else" is unsettling and disruptive. It gets in the way of feeling a wonderful sense of "freedom at last!!" and "I am in charge of my own destiny".

It's like an additional, hidden feeling of loss.

Note: 1 *Transitions, Making Sense of life's Changes* by William Bridges
Published by Perseus Books

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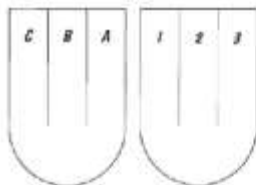
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HOW TO MAKE A WOVEN PAPER HEART FOR VALENTINE'S DAY.....

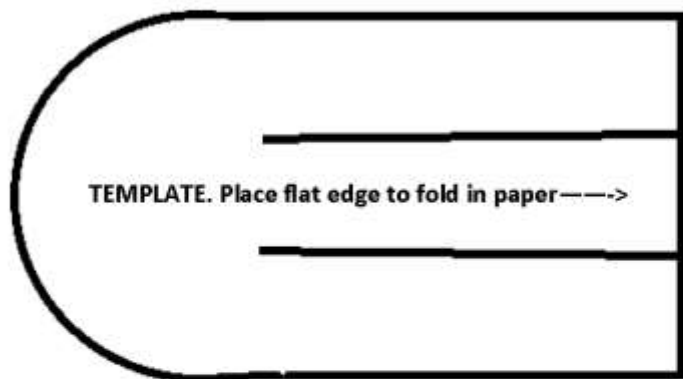


These have been made by children in Denmark from as far back as 1860. They are traditionally classed as Christmas decorations but are just right to make with Valentine's Day approaching. They are simple to do, once you have the knack! It is a good idea to make a "practice heart" the first time round using thick scrap paper and then you can repeat using nicer paper or felt. If you add a handle you have a small basket for sweets.

- Fold two pieces of paper (in coordinating colours) in half.
- Line up the flat edge of the template against the crease and cut around the arched shape. While keeping the paper folded, cut along the 2 inside lines.
- For your practice heart, you can label the 3 strips on each template. This will make it much easier to follow the weaving steps. Use a pencil to label the left-hand template with **C-B-A** and the right-hand template with **1-2-3**



- To start weaving, take Strip 1 and weave it through the loop of Strip A, then around Strip B, then through the loop of Strip C.
- Move Strip 1 up until it touches the top of the slits.
- Now take Strip 2 and weave it around Strip A, through Strip B, then around Strip C.



- Weave Strip 3 in the same way as strip 1. This is the trickiest bit!
- Give it a wiggle to neaten up your finished heart.

The Happy News Page

(We've had enough of the other kind!)

Take a look at some of the costumes Postman **Stewart McGeoch** has been wearing on his rounds in Stamford, Yarwell and Nassington over the past months with the aim of cheering people up. This Jolly Postman has now been presented with **The Rose of Northamptonshire Award**, part of Northamptonshire County Council's "Unsung Heroes" initiative. Stewart tells us that he started dressing up in the first lockdown, at which point his toilet roll outfit was very apt! This and his Darth Vader outfit resulted in such a good response that his collection has now grown to twenty outfits in total including some costumes donated by residents. After a short break wearing normal uniform in the autumn, he is now back in costume again, when the weather allows. Stewart says that



"Comments and messages of thanks make a real difference to Royal Mail staff. As for the award, I feel very humbled that people took time to put me forward. It's not just for me but all Posties who have worked so hard throughout this pandemic"



Di and Nick at **The Angel Inn** (Yarwell) have continued to engage with their supporters even when unable to open. During lockdowns they have been creating a fun atmosphere via online pub quizzes, going out live from their Facebook page. Di says "For whatever reason we decided to wear our Noddy and Dave of Slade fancy dress outfits, (seen at many a 70's theme party) for the first Music Quiz back in April 2020 ... and here we find ourselves with 27 quizzes now under our belt, somehow still managing to get "celebrity" presenters for each!" (See Wham! visit in January.) If you fancy joining in, Music Quiz is every Friday night and general Pub Quiz (normal dress!) is

every Sunday night – both start at 9pm via Facebook. They go live a little earlier to give people chance to join in, and of course to allow time for the celebrity performance(!) on a Friday. You just need a pen, paper and a beverage at the ready! **www.facebook.com/angelinnyarwell**

If you are interested in nature or just want ultra-gentle entertainment, take a look at "**The Travelling Bird Feeder**" one of the many "Cat TV" clips on Youtube. Although the thought of encouraging your feline friend to have even greater interest in birds is dubious, it is truly hypnotic to watch. 😊



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Health and Wellbeing ... A tale of 5 blueberries

With a role in nutrition, health and wellbeing, you can imagine the kind of conversations I have with my teenage boys around how to eat healthy and feed their growing bodies (or muscles as they would say!).

Now more than ever, we are reflecting on our best asset, and perhaps you have gone through January thinking about what to give up, take away to detox, reboot and prepare for the year ahead. But I like to think more about what we can add into our diets and routines to support our body systems, and not just for January!

We sleep and move in a world where our bodies and cells are asked to deal with everything we are exposed to daily - what we eat, what we breathe in, put on our skins etc. We can become overburdened, feel sluggish and certainly without the joys of spring.

So, I have some simple advice to give yourself a boost and feel a little more 'tip top' as we approach this fresh and fabulous time of year.

This is all about **colour** therapy.

Are you having your '5 a day'?

My boys ask if 5 blueberries count.? I think you know my answer to that!

But 5 - 8 portions of fruit and vegetables should be the minimum right? Evidence now suggests that the ideal number is 8-10 portions per day. And it's not just the quantity but the different colours to add into your diet as possible.

The wonderful rich colours of the many different vegetables and fruit offer something nutritionally unique for our bodies. The phytochemicals which are responsible for the rich colour of plants provide an abundance of health benefits, a rich source of antioxidants and anti-inflammatory.

Antioxidants are our best defence, supporting our bodies and mopping up the little bad guys (from toxins) that try to destabilise our cells. A bit like the cavalry and we need as many on our side as possible.

These very antioxidants are the key to supporting our body's detox systems and a power charge for our liver being at the epicentre of this.!

With some beautiful seasonal vegetables and fruit at this time of year, there is no better time to pack in the nutrition, choose colour rich nutrient dense foods and give your body the best boost!.

As a Nutrition and Lifestyle Coach, I particularly focus on functional nutrition and health and how to support body systems for optimum function and vitality. If you would like more support and advice do please contact me.

traceygouldwellbeing@btinternet.com



A quiz about trees!

February has for many years been the month that the Stibbington Centre has hosted a quiz. To replace that we have asked the regular quiz master, Peter Kemp to set one for the readers of Living Villages. Some of you may be familiar with these styles of quizzes—they are a mixture of cryptic and descriptive clues, which we hope you will enjoy. Every answer is a tree of some sort!

As an incentive we are going to offer a prize—to the highest score and in the event of a tie, the entries will be given a number and someone will be asked to choose a number.

Entries can be sent to the editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk by either scanning or taking a photo of these pages, or they can be posted to me (please phone for address if you don't know.) Good luck!

1	Nation feels great longing (5,4)	
2	Seasonally cut down and lit up! (6,6)	
3	Popeye's girlfriend (5)	
4	Would confuse a monkey (5,4)	
5	Attacked by foreign beetle (3)	
6	Don't Nick the Berry or this PC might arrest you! (5)	
7	Paraded at Spalding (5,4)	
8	Concorde, Capital bound? (6,5)	
9	Metal, for flogging (6,5)	
10	Crying bat wood? (7,6)	
11	Used for packaging (3)	
12	Not a Hardy tree! (6)	
13	Made from dimple leaf (5,5)	
14	Hits small Megan on the head! (6)	
15	Sounds like the place for an acorn to live! (4,3)	
16	Takes you out of being in demand?? (6)	
17	Found at Wimbledon? (10,4)	
18	A tree to conquer, perhaps! (5,8)	
19	Found in bald eroded parts (5)	
20	Undomesticated religious ceremony? (4,7,4)	
21	From the Bill, on the sand? (6,5)	
22	Son et Lumiere, on a car?? (8)	

23	Brown haired lass, opens the bottle (9,5)	
24	May be found in the hedgerow (8)	
25	Change panes (5)	
26	Evergreen, from the Isle of Man? (7,3)	
27	Make edge of cloth secure, at 270°? (7,7)	
28	Does laps round the garden? (5)	
29	Able forced, sorted and added to unknown author (5,2,7)	
30	One for the mouse to run up, perhaps (7)	
31	Halogen lamp (9)	
32	Tree from the sea? (4,5)	
33	Put urn in album, when its sorted (8)	
34	Not a real tree?? (5,6)	
35	Partly an abnormal Monday (6)	
36	Planted at the pearly gates? (4,2,6)	
37	Half a carol! (5)	
38	Not one to trust! (5,4)	
39	When mixed, it's so creamy (8)	
40	Blow your nose on this (12,4)	
41	Stir, sup acutely (10)	
42	Remains behind when burnt! (3)	
43	A place to hang a young girl's tresses? (10,4)	
44	Sounds like an easily found pronoun (6,3)	
45	Grows tall on the boundary (7,7)	
46	American giant (10,7)	
47	Some of this leaf I recognise (3)	
48	Feline species (5,6)	
49	A good one to chew? (5,3)	
50	A roost for a partridge? (4,4)	

Wansford Horticultural Society

Calendar of events for 2021*.

*Entertaining gardening & wildlife talks. Hands on educational Burghley Workshops**. Social gatherings and garden visits. Village Show and Plant Sales. Our 75th year is full of promise*

Date	Event	Location
Wed 27 th January	Talk I: An entertaining story of 'Curious Herbal-intrigue and history of medicinal herbs' by Nancy Stevens	Confirmed Zoom On-line talk at 7.30pm
Date tbc	Workshop I: Preparing wildflower meadows.	Burghley House (outdoors) lockdown dependent
Thursday 25 th March	Talk II: Nene Wetlands and Wildlife Friendly Gardens – Toni Costello, Wildlife Trust	Confirmed Zoom On-line talk at 7.30pm
April tbc	Workshop II: Production of herbaceous perennials from basal cuttings.	Burghley House (outdoors) lockdown dependent
Sat 24 th April	Free Plants and seedlings (donations to raise funds for Alzheimer's Society)	Confirmed Goss Cottage 'Plants on the wall'
Thu 27 th May	Talk III: A beautiful tale of Japanese Gardens by Patsy Rayner	Confirmed Christie Hall (backup On-line talk by Zoom) at 7.30pm
Sat 12 th June	Open Gardens (for Society members only)	Local gardens within society
Sat 10 th July	Summer Garden Party	Location/format tbc
Sun 25 th July	Visit to Hidcote & Kiftsgate Gardens, Chipping Camden (local alternative, e.g. Milton House, Coton Manor...)	Coach trip or local alternative
August tbc	Workshop III: Summer pruning of fruit trees.	Burghley House (outdoors)
Sat 28 th Aug	The '75th Diamond' Wansford Show	Haycock Park (or on-your-doorstep)
Sept tbc	Workshop IV: Lawn maintenance or Auricula propagation	Burghley House (outdoors)
Sun 26 th Sep	Visit to RHS Wisley Gardens	Coach trip
Oct 14 th tbc	Talk IV: Creative crafts tbc	Christie Hall
Sat 20 th Nov	Christmas Lights visit, Kew Gardens (local alternative, e.g. Belton NT if coach not possible)	Coach trip
Sat 4 th Dec	AGM and Christmas Party	Christie Hall

*All events will be designed COVID safe, e.g. coaches will not be used unless safe

**A series of hands-on learning afternoons with Joe Whitehead, Head Gardener, exclusively for our Society.

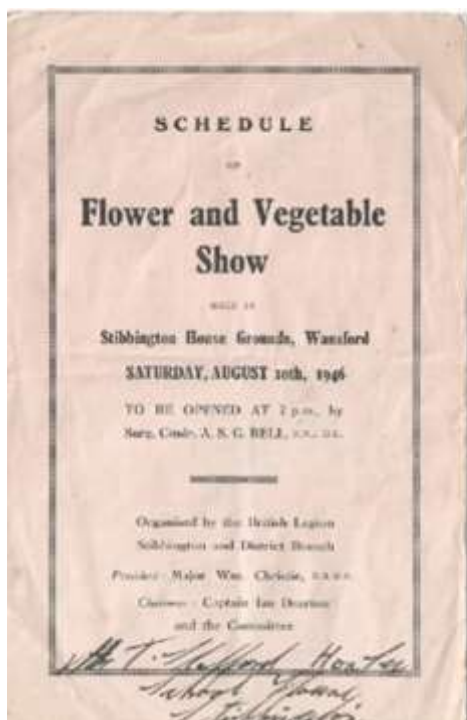
Interested in becoming a member ? (good value at £2.50 pp) please contact rhonapunter@aol.com

75 years of the Annual Show in Wansford.

Enter a world of tents, cream teas, vegetables, flowers, crafts, bunting & brass bands where everyone is welcome to participate and have some fun.

In these strange times, many of us are channeling our creativity and positive energies towards preparing our gardens, devising new recipes and developing our arts/crafts skills in our shed – looking forward to better & warmer times!

Our 75th Show in 2021 may in fact not feel so different to the 1st Show. in 1946, the country was emerging from World War II. With material shortages and food rationing there was an obvious importance of Dig for Britain, cooking for our families and DIY repairs to keep stuff working. The Show was a place for villagers, friends and relatives of all ages and abilities, to socialise and proudly exhibit the products of their necessary endeavors.



The 1946 Show, organised by the British Legion (with Major William Christie as President), was held in the grounds of Stibington House (at the south end of Elton Road). There were 52 classes to enter, primarily flowers and vegetables. My favourite was the Presidents Cup for the 'Best kept and cropped Cottager's Garden'. This really conjures up an image of a proud village gardener to win.

During the 1950's, the surplus monies from the Show contributed to building the Christie Hall. The location of the Show resided at the new Christie Hall for a few years before in 1986 finally settling at its current location behind The Haycock, with kind permission of the hotel. The organisation of the Show, which is an expensive undertaking, was taken over by Wansford Horticultural & Crafts Society in 1970's. In practice the success of the Show depends upon the generous support and involvement by most of the local organisations, businesses and volunteers from the local community (The 4 establishments – Cross Keys, Paper Mills and Mermaid & Haycock Hotel appear in many of the brochures).

The number of classes available to enter over the years appears to have reflected the hobby trends of the times. The early focus was expanded in the 60's to include cooking and crafts. The 70's saw a streamlining before a big expansion in the 80/90's with the inclusion of specific awards for children, art and photography. In recent years there have been just over a 100 classes and the original coveted trophies are still awarded - much to the surprise of new entrants !

Year	Vegetable	Cookery	Craft & Arts	Flowers & Floral Art	Children	Best Garden
2019	Philip Wiles	Jenny Manners	Maggie Cracknell Marie Murphy	Bridget Bradley Gill Fisher	Lena Cartwright	Liz Harris
2015	Philip Wiles Miriam Randall	Becky Eames	Sally Peaks Adrian Duffy	Gill Fisher Yvonne Banke	Samana Ismail	
2004	Ian Long	Quentin Arnold	Philip Wiles John Bennett	Pear Cracknell Winifred Lapidge	Thomas Collier	
1997	Philip Wiles Grace Brown	Mr N.Warnes	Michael Jensen Val Dunnakey	Mrs J.Warnes Winifred Lapidge	Dawson Bannister	
1987	David Moisey Ian Wright	Anthea Jones	Miss Everitt Mrs P.Byrd	Mrs S.Craggs Lisa Chambers	Caroline Lee	
1977	Mr R.Pike	Miss C.Everitt	Miss C.Everitt	W.Shepperson		
1960	Mrs J.Hull	Mrs C.Elbourne		Mrs N.Benton Mrs CA.Keeley	Miss PJ.Morgan	Mr H.Brown
1950	Mr H.Brown			Mr S.Kisbee		Mr H.Brown



The Show has also expanded outside the exhibits marquee to include a wide range of Show attractions. Some of the events perhaps considered unusual in today's terms: Baby Show (1950, judged by local nurses); music & dancing (1960); Fancy Dress (1978, photo courtesy of Quentin Arnold) and even a Traction Engine (1979).



Today, we have the welcome addition of high quality music (Wansford Ukulele Folk and Yarwell & Nassington 'Britannia' Brass Band), beer tent, classic cars, dog show, tombola and much more retro fun and games.

In 2020, we had to adapt to a 'Village Show on your doorstep' to reflect COVID safety and socially distancing. For future years we will hope for to return to the traditional format and keep a vigilant eye COVID. We also will reflect new trends and I can envisage greater inclusion of high quality local produce; sustainable gardening 'birds, bees and butterflies'; vegetarian/vegan food and creative arts & crafts. We hope to provide for plenty of opportunity for everyone to get involved in celebrating our village life.

If you are interested in learning more about your Annual Show, please contact garypunter@aol.com

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Although we have not been able to get together through our monthly meetings. The book club has been busy reading and sending reviews via WhatsApp. Here are some of the latest and hope that they will encourage both members and readers of Living Villages to pick up at least one of the books and enjoy a good read.

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell.

It was a really good read. It follows Shakespeare's family, although he is never mentioned by name, only his title. Such as son, husband, tutor etc. The main characters are his wife and children. Well worth a read. During part of the story, the plague hits the country. This made me think about how we are coping with COVID and what the characters could do when there was an outbreak of the plague. The actions by the people and its effects on families was/ are very similar.

The Tea Planters Club by Ann Bennett

Set in Calcutta and Burma during WW2, Tells the story of a very harrowing escape across the mountains to stay just ahead of the invading Japanese. It had some light-hearted tales of a more frivolous time, but it is a book that will certainly stay with me.

The Good Son by You-Jeong Jeony

If you like thriller, mystery, suspense, psychological thriller, this is a really good book, except for the end that you see coming twenty pages before the end – but you carry on, to see if it was correct or not.

Heatwave by Kate Riordan

A psychological thriller set in France, a real page turner.

Elly Griffin – a writer of mystery books, there are two series that we have discovered. The first is based around Dr Ruth Galloway, an archaeologist based in Norfolk. She becomes involved with the police to help solve a class. The second series is based in Brighton during the 1950's and 1950's. This time it is the local police force as the lead. In both series there is a strong set of characters that appear in most books, although each book can be read as a standalone story. Each is an easy read, an ideal escape during a lock down afternoon

Rhona Punter 01780 592 514

A decorative border consisting of small, stylized evergreen trees arranged in a rectangular frame around the central text.

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WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

All Councillors were available for the 11th January 2021 Parish Council Meeting albeit, via Skype video conferencing.

Planning. Applications

30/01680/WCMM Augean has applied to carry out improvements to their site storage, WPC had no objections.

20/01662/CTR Application at 10 Bridge End, to reduce dead willow by removing branches, reduce willow branches around street light Willow, reduce Beech tree height by 1-2 M and reduce small tree. WPC has no objections and will accept the advice of the PCC Trees Officer.

20/01728/CTR Fell Birch, Birch reduce height by 5m and prune and Walnut prune and shape at 1 Old Leicester Road, Wansford, Peterborough WPC has no objections and will accept the advice of the PCC Trees Officer

Minutes of previous meeting approved

Accounts and Budget approved for 2020/2021

Play area This is currently allowed to stay open under Covid Rules, WPC has arranged for minor repairs.

Wansford Community Hall This is remaining closed.

A47 improvements Awaiting further update

Old Leicester Road/ A47 Junction WPC continues to express its concerns to PCC as to the kurb and verge damage being done by HGV's.

Speed Sign This is up and running and will be moved to Old North Road in the near future.

Zebra Crossing The Belisha Beacon by the crossroads now been repaired.

Standens Pasture (opposite Doctors Surgery and in East Northants))

WPC have received a communication from the Wildlife Trust as follows:-
"Over the last couple of years we have had issues with people using the site as a private dog running site (I.e. tying the gate closed and letting their (often aggressive) dogs run off lead) which culminated in one of our staff being attacked by one of the dogs early last year. Since then, we have kept the site locked to protect staff who work on the site and livestock which graze through the winter. We are hoping to reopen the site in the spring so it can again be enjoyed by the local residents (the orchid displays are stunning) as the land was bequeathed to us for the benefit of wildlife and people". So, WPC request that dog walkers please respect these issues and then the area will remain open for all.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday February 8th at 7.30pm by Skype

Cllr Martyn Handley

Despite the odds, Christmas..... came to Thornhaugh



Despite Covid, and despite the sadness of not being free to see family and friends in the normal way this year, Thornhaugh came together through a decorated tree and telephone box. Despite not being allowed our normal Carols and Mulled Wine event, the tree was still resplendent with lights and decorations, many more this year from residents who added to the general cheer of Christmas 2020. Our youngest contributors – Molly and Stanley – made their own decorations and many other residents added their own tokens which made the tree this year even more special. The Book Exchange, having received a facelift in the first lockdown, was given a festive crown to light up alongside the tree.

Thanks to all those who helped make the tree more special this year. All the very best wishes for 2021 and let's hope that the vaccination comes along soon so that we can get together to share experiences and to enjoy a freedom that at the moment seems a long time ago!

Here's some of the personal decorations added this year – thank you.

Chris Smith



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SIBSON-cum-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council met remotely on the 13th January. 6 Parish Councillors attended together with 1 member of the public.

Planning Application No. 20/01575/LDE by Yarwell Mill was discussed. Although this is in the county of Northamptonshire, residents in this village with includes Waters Edge, were in agreement to object to this application. 13 local objections have been sent and published on the website. Cllr. Beuttell advised that the Parish Council had objected in 2015/2016 to the application for the erection of over 150 non static caravans on the site at Yarwell Mill. Further objections will be sent by the Parish Council, following on from the flooding in December, which saw a large area of this site under water. All members of the Parish council were in agreement.

3 Further planning applications, 20/02522/HHFUL, 20/02543/LBC and 20/02476/HHFUL had no objections raised.

The Flooding in December was raised, and it was reported that CCC are looking to have designated Flood Wardens in each area, to enable residents to be informed more speedily. CCC have received many complaints from surrounding towns and villages regarding the lack of drains being cleaned which added to flood issues. When further information is received it will be made available to our residents.

Dog Fouling continues, even though we have previously reported this in Living Villages. It is incredible that Dog Owners still feel that it is OK to leave their dogs "mess" on the pavements, and carry on walking as if nothing has happened. We have reported before that Huntingdonshire District Council could levy a fine on anyone seen to be continuing this practice in the amount of £1000. Evidence for prosecution is needed, so should any resident have such evidence, please report it either to the Parish Council or to HDC. Dog fouling should be removed in any area where dogs are exercised.

We continue to look at ways of preventing HGV's parking outside Stibbington Diner and along the Old North Road, and we are working with both CCC and Highways on this.

The next PC meeting will take place on Wednesday 3rd March 2021. Our meeting will probably be a virtual one, but any resident who wishes to join should contact the Parish Clerk, Mrs. W. Gray wendy7wansford@gmail.com



THE ARTS SOCIETY PETERBOROUGH

The Arts Society is a leading art education charity, bringing people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. Each year The Arts Society Peterborough holds nine lectures on various interesting, informative and entertaining art-related topics. This year's programme includes glass depicted in paintings, a

history of England's cathedrals, nomadic works of woven art, an armchair tour of street art, David Lean's art of cinema, the symbolism of the fan, the art collector Peggy Guggenheim, graffiti around the world, and Dickens' portrayal of Christmas.

The lectures are given by professional lecturers, each expert in their subject, and are held at The Fleet in Fletton on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10.45am. They are friendly, informal meetings where members can enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat before the lecture commences. Please note that due to Covid19 restrictions our meetings at The Fleet are not currently being held, but the Society now presents the lectures live online, for members and non-members to enjoy in the safety and comfort of their homes.

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11th February 2021



CATHEDRALS: SAFE PLACES TO DO RISKY THINGS by Janet Gough

A ravishingly illustrated virtual tour of the Church of England's 42 magnificent cathedrals, jewels in the crown of England's built heritage. This talk looks at their history, evolving architecture and treasures, and considers the changing role of cathedrals over the centuries and specifically their role today. The audience will be treated to an overview of cathedral history and architectural evolution including their surprising stories and extraordinary treasures.

11th March 2021

TREASURES OF THE BLACK TENT by Brian MacDonald



The audience is taken on a journey beginning in Outer Mongolia in the 5th century BC and follows the 11th century migrations from Turkmenistan, the cradle of weaving, into the Caucasus, Persia and Afghanistan. They will be introduced to the nomadic tribes of these countries and their woven rugs, carpets and dowry bags, with particular emphasis on those of the 19th century and earlier. These tribal weavings illustrate the skill of the women who produced exquisite works of woven art, using vegetable colours and age-old designs whilst living and travelling in primitive conditions and hostile landscapes. The tribal weavings of the 19th century and earlier represent the pinnacle

of achievement and wonderful free expression of the art of the weaver. Today these weavings are highly desirable and collectable works of woven art.

Members will automatically be sent the link and instructions for each lecture by email, but non-members are very welcome to join us too – just email the chairman@theartsocietypeterborough.org.uk to be included on our mailing list and you will receive the link. For non-members a donation of £5 for each lecture is appreciated. For more information about The Arts Society Peterborough and the benefits of becoming a member please go to our website: www.the-arts-society-peterborough.org.uk

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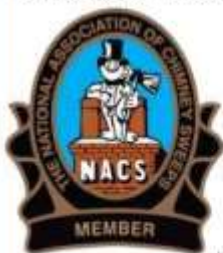
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR!

editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk



Recently, while walking on the new Nene Path, I saw some chaps loading the tangled mass of metal and wires from the burned down phone mast near the BP garage onto a flatbed truck. Apparently the heat was so intense that the 3in steel structure buckled and may have even caused damage to the concrete base. When asked, they couldn't say when it would be replaced but the good news is that the new equipment will offer 5G,

much earlier than was planned for this mast. However, the incredibly complex electronic work involved means it will be several months before a new mast is operational.

The temporary mast erected nearby definitely provides Vodafone service but they were not sure about O2 and certainly not EE!

Viv Thorley

Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery

NOTICE FOR ALL PATIENTS

Wansford Surgery is not currently a designated COVID-19 vaccination site. Our patients will be vaccinated in community settings and you will be notified by text with a link to book on an allocated day/time. For those patients that we can't contact by text we will telephone you. We are starting to vaccinate our over 80's on 22nd January 2021.

The vaccines will be offered to people at risk as soon as possible in their clinical priority order. The NHS is asking all patients not to contact them or your GP surgery to seek a vaccine before you are called.

The priority list is as follows:

Residents in a care home for older adults and their carers

All those 80 years of age and over and frontline health and social care workers

All those 75 years of age and over

All those 70 years of age and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individual

All those 65 years of age and over

All individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality

All those 60 years of age and over

All those 55 years of age and over

All those 50 years of age and over

Food Collection for the Homeless.



I was very pleased that as a result of my article in Living Villages last month, two people have volunteered to collect from Nassington and Wansford churches. Kate Hopkins from Wansford and Kate Ward from Waternewton will coordinate the collection from now on and Karen has organised a new collection point for Waternewton Church.

So a big thank you to the two Kates for taking this job from me.

However, none of this would be possible without the wonderful support from our communities.

Light Project Peterborough staff and volunteers deliver food to over 100 people every week. As a trustee this has been one of the positives of the COVID pandemic - the generosity over and over again to those in most need. So I am leaving the area knowing that this service will continue. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

When we were visiting the Garden House this week the house manager reminded us that there are about 6000 cases of where the bailiffs have not been active. However, when this lockdown is over and people cease to be furloughed, perhaps losing their jobs, then the situation will escalate with more families being evicted because they don't have the money to pay their rent. So the demand for food handouts will increase.

So please keep donating, perhaps even having a regular order for the Garden House as part of your online shop. We need dry goods, tins, packets - soup, cereal, UHT milk, Biscuits, tinned meat and fish, toilet rolls, pasta, rice, sauces, etc etc.

It was lovely at Christmas to see the packets of mince pies donated - a real treat to help people enjoy the festive season even if they are living on the streets, in hotels or hostels.

If you need help please contact :-

Kate H kate@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk
or Kate W Kateward636@gmail.com

Maureen Woodd

DIRECTORY OF CONTACTS

Living Villages Editorial Team

Editor	Tracy Sortwell editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk	07841 382063
Treasurer	Gordon Alleyne gordonalleyne@hotmail.co.uk	01780 784531
Distribution Manager	Rod Sortwell r.sortwell@btinternet.com	01780 783403
Advertising Manager	Kate Hopkins kate@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk	07580 218792

Parish Councils

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Wansford	Wendy Gray (Clerk)	01778 441312
Sibson-cum-Stibbington	Wendy Gray (Clerk)	01778 441312
Thornhaugh	Deirdre McCumiskey (Clerk)	01780 782668
Water Newton (Parish Meeting)	Caroline Nathan (Chairman)	07989 362514

Churches

Ministers: Thornhaugh & Wansford	01780 782271
Stibbington, Sutton, Castor & Water Newton	01733 380900
admin.castor@btconnect.com	

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
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