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*Water Newton Thornhaugh  
Stibbington Sutton Wansford*

*October 2021*



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## Editorial

So far, no one has come forward to replace your current editorial team, so sadly this edition will be the penultimate one, unless there is a last minute rescue.

This month you will find the report of the 75th Wansford Show. In previous years I have published the winners of each class, but I was sent so many lovely photos of the event, I decided to share these with you instead.

It is great to read that the WI is starting to meet again and that they are taking advantage of the new servery and open area in the church since some pews were removed.

The A47 upgrade saga rolls on - Richard Clarke explains the current situation on page 16. Could this be yet another project which gets shelved just like the 1994 A1 re-route proposals? I hope not.

Please read the article on page 21 about the theft of mail and the resulting identity fraud. Also take time to look at the videos taken by Brian Andrews in the '90's, the village and it's inhabitants looked very different!

### Tracy Sortwell

#### \*\*\*STOP PRESS\*\*\*

Hold the date the Seasonal Singalong will be at the Christie Hall on Saturday 11th December at 7.30pm.

Inclusion within the Living Villages Magazine does not represent endorsement of particular products, tradespeople or *services*.

It is important that our readers make their own checks on businesses before deciding to use them.

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**Front Cover - John Measures**  
**Printing & Collation - PPS Print**

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# WORSHIP OCTOBER 2021

Every Sunday 5.00pm At Home service on Zoom. Log - in details from Rev. Jane

## St Leonard's, Apethorpe

10th	11.00am	Holy Communion for Harvest
24th	11.00am	Matins

## St Mary's and All Saints, Nassington

### Every Thursday at 9.30am Holy Communion BCP

3rd	8.15am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	All Age Communion and Harvest Festival
10th	9.30am	Holy Communion
17th	9.30am	Holy Communion
24th	9.30am	Family Service

## St Andrew's, Thornhaugh

3rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
17th	9.30am	Holy Communion

## St Mary's, Wansford

### Every Wednesday at 10.00am Morning Prayer

10th	9.30am	Holy Communion
24th	9.30am	Harvest Festival

## St Mary Magdalene, Yarwell

3rd	6.00pm	Harvest Festival
17th	11.00am	Holy Communion

## St Mary's, Woodnewton

3rd	11.00am	Holy Communion and Harvest Festival
17th	9.30am	Holy Communion
24th	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
31st	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion

## REFLECTIONS by Rev. Jane Tailby

Our Care for Creation theme continues this month as we celebrate our Harvest Festivals across the churches in our Benefice. This year it is Wansford's turn to host our Harvest Festival, which will be at 11.00 a.m. on 24<sup>th</sup> October. We are looking forward to our wonderful Harvest decorations (thank you, Chris and the team!) and we will be collecting non-perishable goods for the foodbank as a reminder of our commitment to share God's good gifts with those in need. There will be a special Coffee Stop Harvest Lunch on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October to get un into the Harvest mood! Thank you to Caroline and Liz and their team for our wonderful Coffee Stops! It's so good to have them back after the enforced "covid layoff".

Celebrating our Harvest Festivals is also a way of recognizing our responsibility for the welfare of our planet and our prayers leading up to the Climate Conference in Glasgow in November. This the prayer we are using in our churches each week until then. You might like to use the prayer yourself, or reflect upon the issues it highlights.

*Lord of creation,*

*We pray for wise national leadership on climate issues*

*And for preparations for the COP26 Climate Conference in Glasgow in November.*

*Give our leaders wisdom as they lead.*

*Give them courage as they act.*

*Give them perseverance as they face opposition.*

*Help each of us, also, to show leadership in our homes, our workplaces, our schools and our churches.*

With every blessing,  
Rev. Jane

*Are you a patient at the Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery?  
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## **40th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**on Thursday 21st October 2021**

**6.30pm at The Christie Hall, Elton Road, Wansford**

Doors will open at 5.30pm with light refreshments being served  
before the meeting commences

Brief official AGM business will be dealt with first followed by  
our three guest speakers .

***Wansford Practice Partner giving an update on current surgery  
matters and future plans***

***A representative from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical  
Commissioning Group will be talking about plans being introduced  
next year transferring responsibility for local health and social  
care to newly formed Integrated Care Systems***

***We will also be welcoming Simon Fairhall to give an update on the  
new community garden project at the Kings Cliffe Active sports site  
partly funded with a generous donation in memory of a former patient***

### **COMMUNICARE**

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Group)

## **Castor Benefice Church Services**

We are still maintaining the following service pattern every Sunday in each  
of our Parish churches until further notice.

**Marholm** 9.00am - Holy Communion ( Morning Prayer on 4th Sunday)

**Castor** 8.00am Holy Communion (said service) 10.15am - Sung Eucharist

**Sutton** 9.00am on 4th Sunday of the month - Holy Communion

Every **Wednesday at 10am** there will be Holy Communion at Castor.

We are pleased to announce that the following Harvest celebrations will take  
place....

3rd October 10.15am Castor Harvest Festival

3rd October 4.00pm Sutton Harvest Festival followed by supper

(tickets £10 per person must be obtained in advance from

Sarah Hilton sarobh@gmail.com )

We still continue to celebrate **Evensong via Zoom at 6pm every Sunday**,  
if you wish to join us please contact the Benefice office for the Zoom link and  
access code. admin.castor@btconnect.com

David Ridgeway

## St MARY'S WANSFORD



After a long planning and extended implementation period the new Servery in Wansford Church is now fully operational. We are most grateful to Augean plc for the financial support which they provided to make this project possible.

It is a very attractive and most useful addition proving much improved catering facilities. The bespoke high quality design and

installation was provided by a local craftsman Mark Harding of Simply Wood. (Mark has been a regular advertiser in LV and probably has an advert in this edition) Caroline Ashley the Chair of the Friends of St Mary's and St Andrew's described the new facility which includes a dishwasher as a joy to use.

The very popular Coffee Stop held in the church resumed in August and September raising funds for church outreach and our chosen charities.

The next planned event is a Harvest Lunch on Wednesday 20th October. Contact Caroline on 01780 782408 to book a place.

This project which is linked to the removal of further fixed pews creates much more space for a variety of other events to be held in the church which is very much a community building.

The WI are now holding regular events there and any other organisations wishing to explore the possible use of the church building are invited to contact the church wardens.

Alan Jones.

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## STIBBINGTON & WANSFORD WI

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INSPIRING WOMEN

There was excitement at the end of August, as the first major outing for our group, at The Wansford show. WI held a children's tombola, it was a fantastic day, a real team effort with the members setting up early, and volunteering to help throughout the day.

Many children won treats of toys, snacks and drinks.

Prizes were kindly donated by members, and all were won. Thanks goes out to the whole group, with a big thank you to Lucy (our Chair's granddaughter) who was an invaluable help throughout the day. It was so good to be involved as a part of a village event. Plans are already afoot for 2022!!



The stall enabled the group to raise much needed funds since meetings and fund raisers have not been able to take place, just the same as many other charity groups. Money raised will be put to good use, allowing a full programme as we go forward now that monthly meetings can take place, and the committee are putting together a programme



On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September we celebrated our first meeting with a wonderful talk by Susannah O'Riordan, from Butterfly conservation. She explained their current project 'Chequered Skippers – taking flight' The Chequered Skipper became extinct (England) in 1976, only a small population currently found in Western Scotland. Previous attempts to reintroduce the species have been problematic. Susannah's team

realised that it was important to get the habitat right for the caterpillars, Location, location, location! The search was on across Europe to find a

breeding population that lived in conditions that UK could replicate, providing suitable food for the caterpillars – damp glades, woodland rides, tracksides, wayleaves and woodland edges. Rockingham Forest fitted the bill, and a breeding population in Belgium where in 2018, 32 female and 10 male donor butterflies were given a full health check before transporting to Rockingham, the initial release was captured on Spring Watch. They were monitored, with butterflies seen in 2019. A second set of donor butterflies were introduced to help with the establishment of a stable breeding population. The observant amongst you will have noticed the work done within old Sulehay to set up the ideal habitat, the aim being that these small fast flying brown and orange butterflies (2-3cm) will be able to establish within our local woodland. Future talks will update us on this fascinating project.

Future events:

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September. Our annual bake sale in aid of MacMillan, 10-12 noon, outside St Mary's Church selling baked goods both sweet and savoury.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October, Speaker Bethany Turner (Historian) to give a talk titled 'The three Duchesses'

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Lunch club, Elton garden centre

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2-4pm, new coffee and craft club, at St Mary's church. To be held fortnightly.

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# 75<sup>th</sup> Wansford Show

*Celebrating the best of our beautiful village life*

***'Bringing together more of the village than I have seen for some years.  
The Best One..... Honestly, this is a great Show.....'***



On a sunny August Bank Holiday Saturday 1,000 visitors attended the 75<sup>th</sup> Wansford Show. The money raised allows the Wansford Show to support Alzheimer's Society and fundraising by local sports clubs and organisations.

Many thanks for the many dozens of messages of great feedback. Your feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, which means a great deal to our committee and volunteers for the massive effort it takes to pull off a new format Show, in a brand-new location and amid a pandemic. We have a lot to be proud of and naturally many learnings to take forward.

The 'entertainment for all ages' was greatly appreciated with the live music, magician, classic vehicles, gardeners question time, local craft stalls and cookery demonstrations all well received. The tug of war added great fun and the rope breaking drama will go down in village folklore (**could it ever be repeated!**). The 20 colourful Stalls selling food and produce were really appreciated for their local nature and will be a feature to encourage and grow in future years.

Your exhibits on display in the Christie Hall showed just how much talent we have in the village and Society. The judges all remarked that the standard was exceptional and well done to the winners (table below). We also achieved our goal of encouraging more new entrants with 275 entries, from 68 people. It was marvellous that we had 18 children enter (see Victoria Sponge winner!).

Apologies that we started to run out of tea, cakes, burgers, and beer (indeed everything!) and we hope this did not detract too much from your enjoyment.

We will let you know how much we raised for charity and local clubs in due course. We also want to give great thanks for the hard work of our committee, our volunteers, The Haycock Manor for their very kind & significant sponsorship, Cricket Club, Jim Boulton, WI, St Marys Church, our PCC, and Mike Bradshaw for loan & preparation of the field. Finally, I think our Society and village have pulled off a remarkable Show. Lots of learning points but congratulations for a great team effort.

We look forward to seeing you, your family, and friends to support our 76<sup>th</sup> Wansford Show. We will be looking to expand our organising team. If you are interested in getting more involved in village life, then please contact me.

Best Wishes. *Gary Punter.*

Chairman of Wansford Horticultural & Craft Society



## **The Pictures tell the Story of the Show**

**The Tug of War** – Ready, Steady, SNAP – and then settled with a beer boat race and the trophy stays in the village!



## **Entertainment for all ages and the exhibits**

Yarwell & Nassington Brass band, Wansford Ukulele Folk, Herbie Lamb Jazz Quartet. Jason Fenn Magic, Childrens activities, Gardeners Question Time, Classic Cars/bikes & Haycock cookery demonstrations)



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

Sibson Parish Council met at The Christie Hall on Thursday 2nd September 2021.

## **THE MEETING WAS HELD UNDER STRICT COVID 19 CONDITIONS**

6 members of the Parish Council and Parish Clerk were in attendance and were also joined by 2 members of the public.

Apologies were received from Cllr M Beuttell and Cllr D Price, also County Cllr S Bywater.

Cllr Bradshaw welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Declaration of Interest in Business to be Transacted -- Cllr Bradshaw re Planning Application 21/01983HHFUL.

Public Forum –Mr Clarke, Old North Road, Wansford – Cllr on Wansford Parish Council explained situation re Living Villages Magazine – they will be discussing at their Parish Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> September, Cllrs from Sibson-cum-Stibbington would be welcomed.

Mr Clarke also provided an update on the A47 upgrade – planning application (DCO) now published – people need to register to view.

Planning Applications (New):

21/01983/HHFUL construction of rear single storey extension to house and new car port in existing garden area at 1 New Lane, Stibbington – No objections raised.

Email from resident re NE/21/01184/LDP from North Northants Planning asking if Parish Council will be responding as very relevant to residents of Waters Edge.. No application found on website.

Flooding - Drains near Haycock, New Lane, right along the road.

Reports - Resident reported – people relieving themselves by the Churchyard – cars and lorries parking up – public right of way! Could we have a sign (to try to dissuade individuals (agenda item for next meeting)?

Cllr Engel – could we have a new dog bin behind end of New Lane? (Agenda item for next meeting).

Stibbington Diner – a lorry company applied for licence to work out of Café (Car Park area).

Gentleman with paddle board and dog seen down by the river poaching fish.

Front Garden dug out by Cllr Engel's property?

Cat shot near Cllr Bradshaw's factory. Someone also shooting on the airfield?

Bollard damaged on the bridge (New Lane) before turning into Café.

Pot holes also reported in New Lane.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 commencing at 7 p.m. in The Christie Hall.

## A47 Wansford to Sutton Dualling Update – October 2021

Highways England have now completed their preliminary work on the design of the A47 Wansford to Sutton Dualling Scheme. In early July 2021 Highways England submitted a set of documents to the Planning Inspectorate as the start of the Development Control Order (DCO) process. This is the equivalent of applying for planning permission except that, for a major infrastructure project such as this, the application is to the Secretary of State for Transport rather than to the local council.

After reviewing the documents, the Planning Inspectorate asked for some documents to be enhanced and they then accepted the application.

If you type **A47 Wansford to Sutton National Infrastructure Planning** into your favourite search engine, it will take you to the Planning Inspectorate web site which gives the full details of the scheme and how to participate. To take part in the DCO process you must register as an “Interested Party” with the Planning Inspectorate by the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021. To do this on line you must read **Advice note 8.2** which is on the Planning Inspectorate web site. Alternatively, you can dial the helpline on 0303 444 5000 or email [a47wansfordtosutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:a47wansfordtosutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk).

Once you have registered, you will receive information about the rest of the process. Essentially there is a Preliminary Meeting at the end of the registration period and then the Inspectorate will consider the application for about 3 months. After that there will either be a public hearing or, more likely, a further round of written submissions. Wansford Parish Council will be participating in all these processes, working closely with Sutton Parish Council and PCC.

Following a further period of consideration, the Planning Inspectorate will submit their recommendations to the Secretary of State who then has 6 months to decide. It is likely that the final decision will be made in the first quarter of 2023 with construction starting some 6 months later.

The full information set is approximately 180 files but I have them all on a memory stick. If you would like to copy these files please call Richard Clarke on 01780 784182 or email me on [rclarke9999@btinternet.com](mailto:rclarke9999@btinternet.com)

As reported previously, Highways England have made quite a few improvements to the scheme to the East of the A1. Controversially they intend to close off the southern access into Upton. Unfortunately, they are proposing to make no changes to the roundabout at the top of Old North Road Wansford because they consider it to be outside the scope of the project. It appears that Highways England think in “Corridors” not networks so they do not consider how the various corridors are linked together.

Not making any changes to the Wansford western roundabout will make entry onto the A47 at this point progressively more dangerous as traffic increases. Traffic is likely to increase by around 30% in the next 20 years and as a result the roundabout will choke up regularly, as it already does on occasions. The economic justification for the whole scheme is based on savings in travel time but the congestion on the western roundabout will significantly reduce the savings.

Building a traffic light controlled junction instead of a roundabout will make access onto the A47 safer but the only long term solution is a completely



different type of junction, as is being built for traffic leaving the A1 southbound to head towards Peterborough. Ultimately the A1 at Wansford will be realigned, as was proposed in 1994. When this happens depends on government funding. In the meanwhile, the residents of Wansford can look forward to steadily deteriorating access to the road network and an increased risk of road traffic accidents.

Richard Clarke, Wansford Parish Council

## WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL



The Parish Council (WPC) meeting was held in the Community Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

All Councillors were in attendance with two members of the public present. Councillor Elsey sent his apologies.

The future of the Living Villages magazine was discussed at length and Rod Sortwell gave a comprehensive overview of the position. Advertising revenue has progressively declined and there has been a marked decrease in articles from the local community. Basically, income is less than costs. The present editorial team has been in place for six to eleven years and would like others to take over the running of the magazine. Options of quarterly publication, on-line and subscription were discussed, but none seemed viable.

So, community, what do you think? Any budding editors with fresh ideas? The Parish Council will support you, as it has the present magazine and our thanks go to Tracy and her team for the effort and dedication shown over the years.

We are still without a Clerk after the very sad loss of Jill Sardeson, but we do have two ladies interested in the position, and of course, if anyone else would like to apply, please contact myself at [j.stannage@btinternet.com](mailto:j.stannage@btinternet.com) at your earliest convenience.

A working party is to repaint the Telephone Kiosk on Old North Road, hopefully commencing on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

Planning Applications were mainly for tree work around the village although one was discussed that is in Yarwell Parish concerning gravel extraction. WPC support Yarwell Parish Council in objecting to this as it will further despoil the Nene Valley and likely create a considerable amount of HGV traffic through our village.

And now we come to the A47! The proposed route presented by Highways England (HE) to the Planning Inspectorate, it has to be said, is improved on the previous offering insofar as there will be less encroachment towards the river. This has been achieved by moving the proposed carriageway ten metres north into the SE corner of the Scheduled Monument field. As WPC has continually affirmed, there are not likely to be any artefacts in that section as it was quarried, probably to build the present A47. However, the western roundabout at the end of Old North Road will be a disaster waiting to happen as HE has chosen to exclude it from the present plan.

Another battle to fight, I would say!

The next WPC meeting is on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.30pm in the Community Hall and you are most welcome to come along.

John Stannage Chairman, Wansford Parish Council.

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[jonathon@hibbins.me](mailto:jonathon@hibbins.me)



## **BEWARE MAIL THEFT**

There have been a number of reports of mail being taken out of external mail boxes in Wansford and Stibbington and used for fraudulent purposes. Official Post Office forms confirming "redirection of mail" (to Lowestoft!) were received by two different households (which of course, were immediately stopped) and there has been a case of a new bank account being opened using personal details presumably from stolen mail.

The perpetrators, who have been seen hanging around Wansford after getting out of a taxi every morning for a week in mid September, are Eastern European, two ladies (one with bright auburn hair) and an older male. They have actually been discreetly witnessed watching our vigilant postie Ian and opening an external letter flap shortly after he left the house. They vanished before any action could be taken and the matter has been referred to the police.

By the time this has been published, they will no doubt have known they have been rumbled and moved on to another unsuspecting village. However make sure your letter boxes are completely access proof as they may be back for more pickings.

Dear Tracy

**I hope you can find space to include reference the following additional 1996 videos that have now been posted on YouTube. I have summarised the events covered in each video.**

<https://youtu.be/slUKEqDjC9A>

**Thornhaugh Church Floodlights;  
RBL 75th Anniversary in the Christie Hall;  
Horticultural Society BBQ at Stoneacre;  
Petanque at the Haycock;  
Wansford guided walk;  
Friends of St Mary's Lunch;  
Wansford Best Kept Village;  
RBL Remembrance Day Service.**

[https://youtu.be/DYVNRinu\\_0w](https://youtu.be/DYVNRinu_0w)

**Play Group Christmas Party (Some of these toddlers are probably in their 30's now!);  
At Home. OPUS 10;  
Stibbington Ladies Fellowship Fayre;  
W.I. Market;  
Friend's of St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar and Village Lottery.**

Best wishes,  
Brian Andrews

# DIRECTORY OF CONTACTS

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## Parish Councils

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

## City Councillor ( Wittering Ward) - Gavin Elsey

**07738930599**

## 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 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	. . 781733
Wansford Pharmacy	01780 781616	Cricket Club	07860 278800
Communicare	01780 470437	Horticultural Society	01780 592514
H'don District Council	01480 388388	Stibbington Centre	01780 782386

## Website

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

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