

# THE PARISH MAGAZINE

WOLVERTON, NORTON LINDSEY AND LANGLEY



APRIL 2020

Price 50p

<b>Rector</b>	<b>Rev Richard Mutter (day off Friday)</b>	
<b>Church Wardens</b>	<b>Mr Adrian Hopkinson</b>	
	<b>Mrs Dorothy Mann</b>	
<b>Deputy Church Warden</b>	<b>Mr John Cohen</b>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Mr Jonathan Toulmin</b>	
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	<b>Mrs Marion Austin</b>	
<b>Editor</b>	<b>Mrs Velma Neale</b>	

## PLEASE NOTE

If you need to speak to anyone about Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals,  
please contact: **Churchwardens**

Adrian Hopkinson

Dorothy Mann

John Cohen

## PRAYER GROUP

Prayer Group meets at 2pm in Marion's house..

**NEXT DATE TO BE ARRANGED**

If you would like to join us for a quiet time of prayer plus tea  
and cake, please ring:

Marion on XXXXXXXXX or Sue (at Langley) on XXXXXXXXX.



## AGM of PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - POSTPONED

The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council wish to inform you that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting scheduled for 27 April at 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity Church, Norton Lindsey, will be postponed until later in the year.

## QUIET DAY – WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020

A Quiet Day has been arranged for anyone in our Arden Valley Benefice of 5 Churches.

**Venue:** St Michael's Church Centre, Budbrooke, CV35 8QL. Set in rural Warwickshire, has lovely views, excellent facilities including a spacious terrace, use of the adjacent church and a **large car park**. Buildings have wheelchair access.

**Time:** 10.30am – 3.30pm

**Leader:** Bishop John

**Theme:** Thy Kingdom Come

**Cost:** £10

Tea, Coffee and biscuits will be provided from 10.00am and throughout the day but please bring a packed lunch.

It may be possible for individuals to apply to the Diocese for financial assistance if required. If you need assistance with travel arrangements please let me know.

Please reserve a place as soon as possible by contacting Joan on XXXXXXXXX

Payment should be made no later than 31<sup>st</sup> March.

Any small proceeds after payment of expenses will be donated to Tariro – Hope for Youth in Zimbabwe

## PARISH RECORDS

Peter Raymond Brooker	Norton Lindsey	Cremation	25 February 2020
Gilbert Harry Farmer	Langley	Cremation	25 February 2020
Jennifer Elizabeth Gardner	Norton Lindsey	Cremation	2 March 2020
Charles Lewis Ludford	Wolverton	Cremation	4 March 2020

### **5<sup>th</sup> April Palm Sunday**

Readings: Ps 31 : 9-16; Isa 50 : 4 - 9a; Phil 2 : 5 - 11; Matt 27 : 11 - 54

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **12<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day**

Readings: Ps 118 : 14 - 24; Jer 31 : 1 - 6; Acts 10 : 34 - 43; John 20 : 1 - 18

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

### **19<sup>th</sup> April Second Sunday of Easter**

Readings: Ps 16; Ex 14 : 10-31; 15 : 20-21; Acts 2 : 14a, 22 - 32; John 20 : 19 - 31

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **26<sup>th</sup> April Third Sunday of Easter**

Readings: Ps 116 :1-7; Zeph 3 : 14 - 20; Acts 2 : 14a, 36 - 41 ; Luke 24 : 13 - 35

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## COMMUNITY LUNCHES

### The Cottage Pie Club

This usually takes place on the third Wednesday of every month. However, due to the current situation, **THE NEXT DATE WILL HOPEFULLY BE IN JUNE.** Our lunches give people the opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones.

We would love you to join us!

Please ring Marion on  
XXXXXX

or email [sam@vasa.org.uk](mailto:sam@vasa.org.uk) if  
you are interested.

## VASA

VASA can provide transport through their Volunteer Community Transport Service.

You pay just 45p plus a £3 admin fee and you can use it for any of your social activities.



Just call 01789 262889 to speak to one of our friendly volunteers to book a journey. We do ask for 3 days' notice please!

## Available for Hire

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for parties, meetings and small events.

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Call Marion Austin XXXXXXXXXX or Pam Wilson XXXXXXXXXX

## ADVANCE NOTICE

Due to the current situation, we are postponing  
the **CHURCH FETE** until

**Saturday 19 September**

This year it will be held at Norton Curlieu  
By the kind invitation of Mr and Mrs A Hopkinson

## NORTON LINDSEY VE DAY CELEBRATORY TEA PARTY

We were organizing a tea party in the Village Hall on Friday 8 May for villagers , families and friends.

However, in the light of the current situation, this event will be postponed. We are looking at rearranging it for 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> August. We will notify everyone in due course.

Debbie Hayes

## MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library will be available in **APRIL and MAY** at the following places and times:

<b>Norton Lindsey</b> Gannaway Stables	Tuesday 7 April Tuesday 28 April	2.00 pm – 2.20 pm
<b>Norton Lindsey</b> New Inn		30 pm – 3.00 pm
<b>Langley</b> Corner of Spring Lane and Ford Lane		15 am – 9.40 am
	Tuesday 5 May Tuesday 26 May	

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**DEADLINE**

FOR

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE

**MAY 2020**

PARISH MAGAZINE IS:

**WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL**

***Articles will NOT be accepted after this date, except with prior arrangement with the Editor***

# **Norton Lindsey Parish Council EMERGENCY PLAN**

## **re COVID-19**

The aim of this plan is to provide support to the community, especially those who are self-isolating, the elderly and vulnerable, for the duration the epidemic. It will be carried out in a neighbourly and safe way. Boundaries as set out below will be adhered to throughout. Our partners are The New Inn, who will act as the Hub for the Village, and The Sniffers, who have volunteered drivers and to co-ordinate deliveries.

The plan is based on Community Action Response (CARE) launched by Nextdoor, a neighbourhood hub, funded in part by The National Lottery. It is being widely used in many communities.

In order to remain safe, no volunteers are to enter the homes of their neighbours. Contact will be maintained by phone or email or at a 2 metres distance if outside.

- 1) The Parish will be divided up into areas (Appendix 1).
- 2) Each area will have two volunteer co-ordinators. They ideally should be known to most of their neighbours.
- 3) With prior consent from the neighbours, the co-ordinators will hold their contact details, including telephone numbers and email address, if the neighbour has one. Information and contact forms dropped through the door will be completed and signed by the neighbour. These can be dropped off at The New Inn (in a slot-box) or left in a pre-arranged place if the neighbour is housebound or already self-isolating.
- 4) The co-ordinators will maintain regular contact in whichever form is agreed on the completed form with those who are self-isolating, unwell or housebound. This communication will be two way as the neighbour can contact the co-ordinators and make requests or just chat if they are feeling isolated.
- 5) The Sniffers have offered to help with collecting items of shopping, collecting prescriptions, etc. If a need is highlighted (see Appendix 2), the co-ordinator will contact Tim Landreth who will allocate a Sniffer (volunteer) who is



available to carry out the task. We will also recruit more volunteers if the need arises and if villagers offer to help.

- 6) Items collected for the neighbour by a volunteer are to be left outside the house of the neighbour. Likewise, any money MUST be placed in a plastic bag and left outside. This must be done regardless of whether the neighbour has coronavirus or not. The New Inn has an up and running shop, and is providing take-away food and alcoholic drinks. Anything ordered from there will need to be paid for in advance when placing the order.
- 7) The volunteer dropping off items should keep at a safe distance (minimum of 2 metres) to check the neighbour is alright and is able to collect the items from the doorstep. If the neighbour is unable to collect the items, at the discretion of the person doing the delivery, they will ask the neighbour to go inside and then will place the items inside the door and close it. If there is cause for concern for the health of the neighbour appropriate services will be contacted and/or the next of kin if the neighbour has completed this on the form. This will preferably be done with the agreement of the neighbour.
- 8) Another key role of the co-ordinator will be to be aware of anyone who may be suffering from mental stress. Depending on need, some extra contact may be made by email or telephone, or the neighbour may be advised to contact professional services, eg telephone counselling helplines or The Samaritans. Anna Mace-Leska will be available to offer advice to co-ordinators\*.
- 9) Information sharing about services and providers will also be a key role of the co-ordinator and close contact will be maintained with the New Inn as the Hub of the community. However, strict confidentiality will be maintained about the circumstances of the neighbour unless there is cause for concern.

## Appendix 1

### Areas

- A) Snitterfield Lane/ Canada Lane
- B) Church Road
- C) Main Street

### Appendix 1 (Contd)

- D) New Road
- E) Wolverton Road (up to red Horse Corner)
- F) Mill Close
- G) Curlieu Lane
- H) Lower Norton
- I) Littleworth area

## Appendix 2 Possible Tasks

- Collecting Prescriptions
- Vital shopping
- Collecting essential supplies from The New Inn
- Collecting meal and drinks from New Inn
- Posting letters
- Walking a dog
- Getting a pet to a vet.

**This project will be an evolving one over time. Attention will be paid to Government advice to safeguard all volunteers and neighbours. If there are any neighbours who develop Covid-19 and if they remain at home, extra advice will be sought on how to support them safely.**

\* For those of you who do not know me well, I have been trained to a postgraduate level in mental health and have worked in hospitals, the community and hospices. I am retired and no longer registered or insured, but will offer advice and signposting to co-ordinators.

***Anna Mace-Leska 15.03.2020***

## 37 WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR INTERNET SPEEDS

For some residents, even achieving a fairly modest broadband speed can be quite a challenge, particularly if they are living in areas that haven't yet been upgraded or where they can achieve faster but not yet superfast broadband speeds.

If you are fed up of YouTube or Netflix buffering all the time then Broadband Savvy's '[How To Improve Internet Speed](#)' guide might be able to help. This useful resource contains 37 different methods that you can try to improve your internet speed – all of which have been tried, tested and proven to work by the authors. The guide provides valuable information on how to test your internet speed, how to access your router settings, how to improve your WiFi speed and top tips and helpful hints on how you can make general improvements to the speeds you are currently able to achieve.

Each of the methods you can try are broken down into an easy to follow step-by-step actions and any technical jargon is explained so that it is easy to understand. So, if you are fed up with slow broadband speeds, some of these methods might be worth a try.

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## NORTON LINDSEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Beginning with good news, I am delighted to say that Ashley Hollinshead of Norton Lindsey has kindly agreed to be our Treasurer. Experienced in finance, Ashley will keep account of out finances and accept any donations you may wish to give. His phone number is at the back of the Parish Mag so can do this confidentially should you wish.



Staying with finance, we currently just have a positive balance with our income from bookings for hiring the Hall to classes, parties and evening events, which matches out goings - ie bills. I say just, so we are still encouraging regular hirers so that we can feel comfortable in having this regular income to meet the running costs of the Hall.

If you would like any regular classes of activities that are not fitness related ( we have plenty of those) do let us know and we will try to attract these for some diversity.

We had an immensely enjoyable and successful Concert put on by the Choir Tarantara. The evening raised a staggering £1,360. The Hall was completely full and several members of the choir, who perform in many venues around the Midlands, commented on the friendliness of the villagers and how this helps in enhancing their performance.

Our very big thanks go to Richard and Anne Cooke who organised this event.

Not only were they responsible for the ticket sales and advertising but also co-ordinating and serving the refreshments. Many thanks again.

As I write this, Covid-19 is spreading throughout the UK. Some events have already been postponed and we have been watching out for Government advice on managing public spaces. It may be that we will have to temporarily close the Hall to minimise the spread of this disease. We have the financial contingencies in place to weather a drop of income but lets hope it does not last for long.

There is a planning group in the Village for an afternoon tea in the Hall and entertainment to celebrate VE day on May 8th. I suspect this may not be able to take place but let us hope.

In the meantime, stay safe, keep washing your hands and most importantly, Keep Calm.

***Anna Mace-Leska, Chair of Trustees***

## NORTON LINDSEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE ON THE UPDATE!

Sorry to have to write this but the Village Hall will be **closed from 22nd March until further notice** due to current advice to help stop spread Covid-19. All class organisers and bookings should have been contacted. Take care and stay safe,

***Anna Mace-Leska, Chair of Trustees***

## NORTON LINDSEY VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

### March Winners

1st Prize	No 80	Rob Brook £75
2nd Prize	No 35	Ian Gold £25



***Carole Briggs***

## Norton Lindsey Parish Council PARISH ASSEMBLY 2020

The annual Norton Lindsey Parish Assembly which was due to take place in the Village Hall on Tuesday 21 April 2020 has been postponed due to the current Covid-19 situation.

Norton Lindsey Parish Council will be following Government advice regarding the holding of parish assemblies and other meetings, and will post updates on the website and village noticeboards as and when we have more information.

## NORTON LINDSEY CRICKET CLUB

To continue with the very negative stream of news that we endure every day, I can confirm that the Cricket Club Quiz scheduled for April 3rd has been cancelled.

Furthermore, the start of the cricket season has been indefinitely postponed following this announcement from the England and Wales Cricket Board –

"Following the Government's latest advice around social distancing, it is with sadness and reluctance that we recommend that all forms of recreational cricket are for now suspended," the ECB said. "This extends to training, pre-season friendlies and any associated cricket activity."

The ECB said it will "work with the game to understand what support is required across the cricket community, particularly local clubs and leagues".

So, the only person still smiling at the Cricket Club is our groundsman, who will be able to see his carefully manicured Square looking unsullied by games of cricket! Hey Ho!

*Martin Neale*

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# The Norton Lindsey **Stilton Sniffers**

## **“Stop the press”**

As the publication deadline approached we Sniffers had some decisions to make relating to the planned event on 28th March. The likely escalation of measures relating to Covid19 and the fact that we want to minimise the risk of transmission has meant that we have taken the decision to postpone the event.

The Windmill Hill Brewing Company (beer) and The New Inn (food) have both been stood down, please support them where you can during this time.

The Cadillacs are looking with me for a date in the future, but without being too gloomy we can't say when that might be.

One of the founding tenets of the Sniffers is to help local people. We will be working with other village organisations to offer coordinated support for those who might need it over the coming months (I do hope not for too long).

We will resume normal Sniffers service as soon as possible and hope that our community works together to help each other out.

***Tim Landreth***

## **TO DOG OWNERS AND WALKERS**

It has been a while since I have written about this. Sadly, I feel I have to.

There have been reports of an increase in dog poo being left on the **Village Green, verges, footpaths** with a graphic picture on the FB page provided by Charlie Mann on a bag of dog poo being left in Canada Lane.

The Village Green is used by many as a recreational facility. It is unacceptable to not pick up after your dog where children and young people are playing ball games and might either fall on, walk into or pick up a ball covered in dog poo.

Just in the past few weeks, it has been reported to me, that three lots of poo were found in the middle of Playing Fields. This is just not acceptable - it is illegal too and everyone stepping out of their front door must have bags with them to enable them to clean up after their dog.

If you see anyone not picking up after their dog, it is your duty to report them to the Dog Warden. Apologies to all of you who are responsible dog owners.

Please help to Keep Our Village Clean

***CLlr Anna Mace-Leska***

## LOCAL HISTORY

The first harmonium in Norton Lindsey church was replaced by one from Radwell, Hertfordshire, in 1907. A brass plate in memory of Valentine Thornton, a casualty of World War I, was installed in the north wall of the north aisle after the end of hostilities. Two standard candlesticks for the sanctuary were presented in 1920 in memory of William Walden, churchwarden for 17 years. In the 1920's Fred Parsons, a noted cabinet maker and antiques restorer who lived at Victoria Cottage, made the crucifix, that hangs above the pulpit, the hymn board and the Sunday School shelf. In 1936, the oil lamps were superseded by electric lighting. The offertory box used to be fixed on the back of the pew on the right side of the entrance aisle as you enter. In the 1940's, the box was stolen. Cyril Castle sent his younger son running round to the Croft to inform the treasurer, Mr Knibb of the theft. When the door of The Croft opened, the breathless messenger stammered, "Someone has stolen the church!" As a result of the theft, a lockable metal box was installed in the wall just inside the entrance door. A brass plate was subsequently added to the face of the box in memory of churchwarden Trevor Howson. The Radwell harmonium was replaced in 1948 and a further replacement took place in 1962.

In 1961, the chancel was stripped of all existing furniture and fittings and completely refurnished in memory of the Hon Alexander and Mrs Winifred Parker. The altar carved by John Poole was in memory of Emma Addis, Geoffrey Barnsley, Madge Bullock, Arthur Haines and Beatrice Tallis. Other gifts are in memory of Mrs Callwood, Mrs Cumming, Mr and Mrs Knibb, Mrs Spencer and Mrs West. The standard candlesticks in memory of William Walden were retained. The underfloor boiler and heating system was removed in 1962 and, when the grille in the entrance aisle was replaced by tiling, stones from Coventry Cathedrals, old and new, were inserted. Overhead electric heaters were installed at the same time. Two churchwardens' staves were presented to the church in 1972 by Mr and Mrs T V Howson on the occasion of their silver wedding anniversary.

In 1979, four pews, two from the front of the north aisle, one from the front of the nave and one from behind the entrance door were removed by Alec and Maurice Parsons who also restored the crumbling stone-work exposed by the removal of the nave pew. The Parsons brothers also made and fitted book shelves in the entrance aisle. The harmonium was subsequently moved from the west end of the nave to the front of the north aisle. A small oak table made by Ron Burn, with carving by Jack Wilson formerly of Mayswood, was presented to



the church in 1981 in memory of Mrs P M Spreadbury. It is currently used to display items for visitors. Also in 1981, Dorothy Knight gifted new lamp shades in memory of her mother. A new organ, a Johannus Opus 220 electronic instrument was purchased and installed in 1984 after two years of fund-raising by villagers. In the same year, Ron Burn made and presented an internal notice board to mark the retirement of Rev A G Errey. He also made and installed a new external notice board in 1992. In the same year, the church was carpeted at a cost of £3000. A large number of village ladies spent many months fashioning new kneelers for the north aisle. They were dedicated and installed in 1996.

Wet rot was discovered in the floor in 1998 necessitating extensive replacement and introduction of additional ventilation. New ceramic overhead heaters were installed in the same year.

In 2004, after 5 years of deliberation, new light fittings were designed and installed in the church, a project spearheaded by Don Woolley, and a new porch lantern was added the following year.

In 2008, Ron Burn and a fellow member of Warwickshire Woodcarvers designed and made a new, oak font cover to commemorate the octocentenary of the church.

In December 2010, Cumbria Clocks started work on the installation of an atomic clock with automatic winding. Nick Burns spearheaded the project through to completion. The new mechanism first chimed on 26 March 2011 and the clock was fully up and running by 28 January 2012, ending the chore of weekly hand-winding and restoring the chimes which were taken off at the outbreak of World War II. Also in 2012, Derek Saveker donated a Content digital organ to replace the electronic instrument.

In the last 15 years, several other developments have taken place to enhance overall facilities. A deaf-aid loop was installed, microphones have been provided, a video relay to the Church Room was set up enabling overspill congregations to participate in major services and security cameras have been installed.

As I conclude this series of articles about our oldest building a grade 2\* listed building, it is patently obvious that the church is people!! We have a rich inheritance from past generations of villagers to nurture and pass on in good order to future generations.

***Ken Chapman***

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This recycling centre is temporarily closed.

"We regret that staff shortages due to coronavirus (Covid-19) has resulted in the reduction of recycling centres that can be safely kept open in Warwickshire.

As I write this, Princes Drive is open at the moment

Princes Drive recycling centre  
Princes Drive  
Leamington Spa  
CV31 3PH"

Before taking recycling there, either ring **01926 412593** to check this is still the case. **OR**

Check the website for the latest information  
**<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/contactusrecyclingandwaste>**

## TARANTARA CHOIR

The following article was written by a member of the choir and was printed in the Stratford Herald the week after the concert:

'On Saturday 29th February the popular choir Tarantara performed to a full house in Norton Lindsey's brand new village hall.

The wonderful community spirit of this village was evident as they gathered to support the fundraising event and it was this spirit that helped to make the vision of building a new hall come to fruition.

The choir is known for its wide ranging repertoire, and on Saturday included a splendid variety, from Faure's *Cantique de Jean Racine* to Queen's *Bohemian Rhapsody* and all points in between. The choir was joined by their new associate musical director, Linnea Markgren, who shared the conductor's podium with MD Jonathan Hill.



The enthusiastic audience gave a standing ovation at the end of the concert, having thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The amount raised totalled £1,360 which will go towards equipping the new hall.

Tarantara have a full programme of concerts for 2020, which can be found on their website <http://www.tarantara.co.uk> '.

I don't need to add anything more than to thank everyone who supported this wonderful event in any way.

The choir would love to come back again and I know we would love to have them.

***Anne and Richard Cooke***

## **CLAVERDON & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

Another very successful and entertaining evening at the Annual Supper held on Friday 6th March at the Dorothy Mitchell Hall in Claverdon, with excellent food and joyful singing.

Many thanks to all the donors of raffle and auction items.

Stuart Hatton once again proved what a loss he was to the entertainment business with his enthusiastic leading of the event, supported by a hard working troop of helpers.

Don't forget to save 14th November for the Poppy Ball."

***Graham Cook***

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## VILLAGE RAMBLE

Ramble No.75 was held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020. We started from the Golden Ball Inn in the pretty village of Lower Swell which is a mile west of Stow-on-the-Wold. As we had several months of rain many footpaths were extremely wet and muddy and so I was looking for a 'dry walk'. I found this one in the Vale Magazine which Ted Read drops through my letterbox each month and which publishes a walk in each edition.

Our group of 14 left the village walking west along narrow lanes before turning north on an old Roman road which led us to the village of Condicote where we stopped for coffee using the newly constructed bus



shelter which had plenty of seating and which looked over the village green. After looking around the church we looped around and started south before then turning east along another narrow lane with lovely views. We then reach the Donnington Brewery which is located by a 13<sup>th</sup> century watermill and which began brewing in 1865. We stopped to have a look around although we couldn't try the beer as it is closed on a weekend. We then made our way to Upper Swell before returning back to Lower Swell on a muddy path, the only one on this walk of 6.5 miles. We

then enjoyed the hospitality of the pub who were very friendly and no doubt we will return again one day.

The date of the next ramble is Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April. **NOW CANCELLED**

Anyone wishing to join our group is more than welcome. Please call or mail me and I will include you on my list and send information of each ramble approx 10 days before. We are dog friendly too.

**Graham Lewis**

## **WOLVERTON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT – MARCH 2020**

Wolverton Parish Council held its latest Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March. In the light of the current Government advice, we decided to postpone the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual General Meeting until later in the year. We expect to get advice from Government in due course as to how to proceed with future meetings when the position becomes clearer. In the meantime, updates on this and our response to the coronavirus will be placed on the Parish Website (<http://www.wolvertonpc.org.uk/>) and noticeboards.

In the mean time we will continue with our work on refreshing the Parish Plan and have already received a good number of responses to the Questionnaire. Thank you to those who have responded. As we have deferred the Annual Parish meeting (at which we were going to present our initial findings) there is still time to let us have your views. Please either pass your completed questionnaires back to the councillor who distributed them to you, or email them to [clerk@wolvertonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@wolvertonpc.org.uk). As we are such a small parish, your views really will count. We should also like to remind parishioners that Stratford District Council will start to charge for collecting green bins from 1 June 2020 and that there is an “early bird” discount if you subscribe for the service before 1 May 2020. Details of how to sign up for this are available on Stratford District Council’s website at <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/garden-waste-service.cfm>.

***James Wynn-Evans***





## Cancelled

**WI MEETING on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020**  
**Norton Lindsey Village Hall**

**These are unprecedented circumstances and sadly I have to announce the decision to cancel our April meeting in the light of the recent Government advice regarding Coronavirus COVID19 and because of the risk to our members. We will keep members informed of any further changes to our programme but we hope to be able to hold our May WI meeting as usual.**

We thoroughly enjoyed our March meeting as we had the chance to try lots of chocolate, courtesy of Sally Daniels, the very engaging Chocolatier from Yew Tree Farm Craft Centre in Henley-in-Arden. It's well worth a visit to her shop as they use real, sustainably sourced, local ingredients (including Gin from Stratford Distillery) to make an amazing array of divine chocolate delicacies and truffles. We can highly recommend her creations, absolutely delicious!

At the time of writing, we are planning to hold a **Puddings Evening on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April** in the Village Hall, which is open to everyone and will be a fund raiser for the NLWI. Tickets are now available from Maggy and Ruth at £10 each. Book soon as the event is popular and limited to 80 attendees.

Our next WI walk is planned for Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> April around The View in Wootton Wawen, so please add the date to your diary and get your walking boots ready. Meet at the Village Hall at 9:30am.

**Please note that we will of course follow government guidelines regarding the Coronavirus COVID19 and may have to cancel any of our public meetings at short notice, if it is deemed not safe to hold them. Please do not attend our WI events if you believe you have any symptoms, have self-isolated because of travelling or illness or have recently been in contact with someone with any symptoms. Thank you.**

**We realise members may be self-isolating during this time and if that means that you could do with some assistance in collecting supplies or just a phone call for company, then please let me or one of the committee know and we'll do what we can to help you.**

If you fancy trying a WI meeting please come along on 13<sup>th</sup> May or don't hesitate to contact me, Sue Steel

## WOLVERTON 1920s EVENING

Little did Wolverton villagers realise on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March that it would be last event for some time when a group of people could get together for a social event. Everybody dressed up in 1920 fashion with some very glittery attire from the ladies.



We were welcomed at the cocktail bar by Paul Anthony and Peter Mathias who were kept busy making Pina Coladas and 'Wolverton Wobblers', the latter being a very strong gin based concoction.

This was followed by an excellent dinner prepared by the ladies. Afterwards there was dancing to popular music from the 20s. A very enjoyable evening thanks to the Church Hall committee.

***Will Barnes***



## GN FORESTRY SERVICES

Glen Nicholds

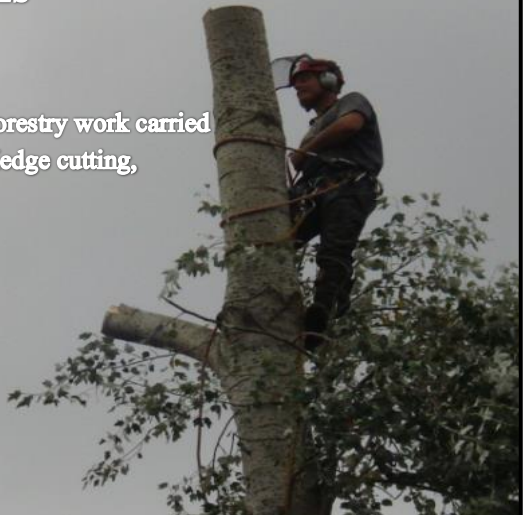
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## MANOR FARM WOLVERTON DIARY

Only a few weeks ago, a so-called “forward thinking” top civil servant issued an e-mail inside Whitehall stating that “Britain didn’t need farmers and that we could import all our food instead”. I wonder how he feels now in the light of the panic buying in the shops and a growing number of countries in “lock down”. This was just another story attacking farmers, after lamb and beef producers were supposedly responsible for excessive methane emissions and vegan campaigns based on what has proven by eminent scientists, to be grossly exaggerated figures. The media, especially the BBC and Channel Four, are quick to publicise these false figures, but they keep very quiet about them having been proven wrong. These stories, coming on top of what has been a record wet winter, are apparently causing a lot of mental health problems in agriculture, making many farmers feel worthless. In fact, UK agriculture has the second highest suicide rate of any profession.

On a brighter note, the spring weather is slowly improving and with the longer days the land is slowly drying out. It will need a great deal of patience to wait until the ground conditions are good enough to create a fine seedbed to produce a reasonable yield. Rushing in onto sodden soil will just cause compaction and poor growth, as the best gardeners know.

The cows are about to start calving and the arrival of new life is always a boost to us, albeit meaning long hours of tending stock with about 40 calves expected. Here again, we will need to be patient while the grassland dries out enough for the cattle to savour the new growth and their freedom in the fields.

*David, Dorothy and Chris Mann*

### ITEMS FOR SALE

**Spring is on its way and time for a Spring Clean!! Why not advertise in this magazine for a small donation to MUCH NEEDED church funds???** Sell your unwanted items in the Parish Magazine – we reach approximately 350 houses in the area!

Email [velmahclg@btinternet.com](mailto:velmahclg@btinternet.com)

or ring 01926 842668

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## COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT FOR APRIL 2020

I hope that by the time you read this report the unwanted bollards in Langley Road will have been removed on March 14.

As I suggested last month the Council did increase the county council tax by 4%. This increase comprised a special social care levy of 2% and a general increase of 2%. Social care costs absorb 70% of the budget and must be considered the County's core business. Funding for all the other services (non-core) increasingly comes from special one-off grants from central government. For example, the highways maintenance budget has been squeezed so that road markings which should be refreshed every 5 years are now waiting 8 to 10 years.

I have been urging the Council to consider new ways of funding the "non-core" services rather than just accepting a smaller and smaller budget. I feel that there is the belief amongst members that the squeeze from social care is short term and somehow Government will magically find extra money to restore non-core services. My guess is that Government will find it easier to leave social care being funded by Council tax rather than raise income taxes and may continue the practice of additional contributions as one off payments when finances allow. One possible indication of the way Government thinking is developing is the restructure of Northamptonshire after social care costs drove the County Council into bankruptcy. It seems there is a plan for a county wide social care agency and I will report more on this next month.

I have also been raising the issue of the Amazon warehouse at Redditch Eastern Gateway (Wynate Triangle) and the possibility that the HGVs running goods into the warehouse might not follow the agreed traffic plan and route through Arden Division on the A4189. So far I have not made much headway in getting officers to take the risk seriously.

***John Horner***

## **NORTON LINDSEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT MARCH 2020**

The Council met on March 10th in the Church Room.

A representative from the New Inn Management Committee attended the meeting to outline plans to carry out building works at the New Inn, subject to obtaining a significant grant from a body assisting community businesses in developing and improving the offering to the community they serve. The project would be in two stages – firstly, to extend the kitchen and provide a disabled toilet facility, and, secondly, to build a conservatory style extension on the side of the pub providing an additional 30 covers and facilities for separate functions. The project would be funded by the grant and a small bank loan – there would be no request for funding from the community or the local authority. A temporary closure of the existing kitchen facility would be necessary. There would be no impact on plans to operate a shop on site. An extension of the car parking area to the north of the current area would be part of the plan. A planning application would be made shortly, incorporating energy conservation facilities.

Enquiries to a local landowner about the possibility of establishing a footpath alongside the dangerous road bend leading to the Blacon Farm track, had been unsuccessful, but would be pursued again when the property had changed ownership.

Changes to the bus service affecting Alcester and Stratford schools were discussed and amended details would be posted on [nortonlindseypc.org](http://nortonlindseypc.org) website.

The water being discharged from the poultry farm site had been reported, but Severn Trent deny any water pipes are in the area and WDC Highways would be contacting the site owner. It may be that an underground spring has changed course, due to the wet weather.

It was agreed that the problem of waste being spread on the Church Furlong field should have been reported to the farmer as well as WDC Environmental Health, who subsequently, after a belated inspection, raised no concerns. An apology had been sent.

Significant pot holes in the roads near Littleworth Farm and Dark Lane, Hatton were to be reported, along with blocked drains (again) on

Snitterfield Lane and the broken manhole cover outside the Village Hall entrance.

A NLPC policy for providing grants was to be amended and re-circulated, incorporating the advice that it was not legal for a parish council to provide grants for church property.

Arrangements were agreed for the Annual Parish Assembly (Open Meeting) to be held on April 21st were agreed – subject to coronavirus restrictions.

The Council favourably considered a request from the Village Hall Committee for a funding grant for the planned VE Tea Party celebrations on May 8th. A similar grant request had been made to WDC and if this was successful the PC request would be superfluous and the monies returned.

It was agreed that no further action was needed at this time on the plans for affordable housing on Curlieu Lane – the application did not appear as an item on the forthcoming Stratford upon Avon Planning Committee agenda. Progress on the reported removal of hedges on Horsley Farm would be chased and it was noted that Wolverton School has made a planning application to convert part of the field behind the school for a playing field, following the non-renewal of the lease on the existing grass playing area.

Les Caborn, WCC Councillor, reported that WCC had a full emergency plan in place for coronavirus. The Council's plan for the next 5 years had been approved and it was good to know that WCC was one of the strongest shire counties financially.

Jan Matecki, WDC Councillor outlined the plan for Council tax to increase by 2% plus a Climate Change Action Plan surcharge of £57 p.a. (Band D). This surcharge would be subject to referendum approval in May. Council house tenants rents would increase by 2.7%.

The Parish Council's next meeting would be the Annual Open Meeting on April 21st at 8pm in the Village Hall, preceded by tea and biscuits from 7.30 pm.

*(Please note the Parish Council Report is a summary of the meeting minutes. The full minutes are available on the Norton Lindsey Parish Council website [www.nortonlindseypc.org] or from the Clerk).*





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## CONTACTING THE UNITED BENEFICE ORGANISATIONS - Open to all Parishioners

<b>POLICE CONTACT</b>	Norton Lindsey Wolverton Langley	01926 410111 01789 444600 01789 414111
<b>WOLVERTON</b>		
Brownies and Guides	Rachel Livingston	wolvertonguiding@gmail.com
Campion Trust	Rev R Livingston	Wolverton
Parish Council	Kathryn Hollinrake	clerk@wolvertonpc.org.uk
Rainbow Guides	Janet Livingston	wolvertonguiding@gmail.com
Wolverton History Group	Dorothy Mann	
Church Hall Bookings	David Stone	
<b>NORTON LINDSEY</b>		
Church Room	Marion Austin	
Claverdon & District Nursing Fund	Anna Mace-Leska	
Cricket Club	Martin Neale	
Editor of Parish Magazine	Velma Neale	01926 842668
Gardening Club	Marion Austin	
Junior Football Club	Des Davies	
Neighbourhood Watch	Anne Cooke	
Mothers and Toddlers	Marion Austin	
Parish Council Clerk	Jennifer Bendall	01926 843534
Rubbish Friends	Judith Gilmore	
Sunday School	Marion Austin	
Stilton Sniffers	Tim Landreth	
Table Tennis	Gareth Hepworth	
Village Hall 100 Club and Bookings	Carole Briggs	
Village Hall Treasurer	Ashley Hollinshead	
Women's Institute	Sue Steel	
<b>LANGLEY</b>		
Amenities Association	Brian Keefe	
Claverdon & District Nursing Fund	Linda Hammond Brian Keefe	
Parish Council Clerk	Nigel Hewin	01926 842200

## APRIL CHURCH SERVICES

As you will be aware, all church services are currently postponed for the foreseeable future.

However, churches in our three villages will be open for you to spend a quiet time of prayer.

Should you have any concerns, please ring Dorothy Mann, John Cohen, Adrian Hopkinson (Churchwardens – telephone numbers on page 2) or Marion Austin

CHURCH FLOWERS	WOLVERTON	NORTON	LANGLEY
<b>APRIL</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH OVER EASTER</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please ring Dorothy Mann or Sue Cleverley and Marion Austin to discuss Easter Flowers</p>		

## DIARY

<b>Mondays</b>	Tai Chi – Village Hall – 2pm <b>CANCELLED</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Pilates – Village Hall – 9.30 am and 10.30 (seated) <b>CANCELLED</b>
<b>Thursdays</b>	Pilates – Village Hall – 9.30 am and Mat Class 7.30 pm & CKMA Family Karate – Village Hall - 6pm <b>CANCELLED</b>
Friday 3 April	Cricket Club Quiz <b>CANCELLED</b>
Saturday 4 April	Village Ramble <b>CANCELLED</b>