

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

WOLVERTON, NORTON LINDSEY AND LANGLEY



February 2021

Price 50p

Rector	Rev. Richard Mutter 01789 731475 (day off Friday)	
Churchwardens	Mr Adrian Hopkinson	01926 842422
	Mrs Dorothy Mann	01789 731635
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr John Cohen	01926 842751
Treasurer	Mr Jonathan Toulmin	01789 731332
PCC Secretary	Mrs Marion Austin	01926 842661
Editor	Karin Elmhirst	07923 094513

If you need to speak to anyone about baptisms, weddings & funerals, please contact one of the Churchwardens above.

CHURCHES NOW AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Holy Trinity, **Norton Lindsey** will open on **Sundays** from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm

St. Mary the Virgin, **Wolverton**, will open on **Sundays** from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm

St. Mary's, **Langley** will not be opening.

Please observe the custom of sanitising with the gel provided both going in and coming out.

CHURCH ZOOM SERVICES - Common Worship Morning Prayer Service at 11 am on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month with BCP Evensong at 6.00 pm on the 4th Sunday of the month.

To 'attend' these services contact **Celia Spiers 07710 198009**

ARDEN VALLEY BENEFICE LENT COURSE

Challenges for 2021

You are warmly invited to join us, via Zoom, on the Wednesdays listed below from 7.00 – 8.00pm for the following exciting and stimulating events provided by senior members of the Diocese of Coventry.

There will be a presentation followed by discussion on each occasion.

24 February	Archdeacon Sue Field	Pastoral Care in Pandemic and Beyond
3 March	Rev. Craig Grocock	Oh Lord hear our silence – finding
	Diocesan Spirituality Advisor	Space and quiet in our prayer life
10 March	Christopher, Bishop of Coventry	Living in Love and Faith
17 March	John, Bishop of Warwick	Christian Perspectives on Race Equality
24 March	Archdeacon Barry Dugmore	Church Growth in Rural Areas

If you would like the Zoom link to each of these events please contact one of the following:

celiaspiers@gmail.com

dorothymann1948@gmail.com

joanwilkinson25@gmail.com

LIBRARY SERVICES

Library services from January 2021 during national lockdown

Many libraries will remain open to offer Click & Collect and Staff Select services – order online, by phone or email and collect at the designated library collection point; follow the signs at your library. Book returns and entry for pre-booked computers will continue.

Browsing in the library is not available.

BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2020

On the advice from the British Legion HQ there were to be no house to house collections this year due to Covid-19. Sadly this meant an unavoidable loss of donated income.

However, all was not lost. Norton Lindsey and Wolverton joined together raising a total of £427.13, which in the very restricted circumstances seemed a worthy amount.

Grateful thanks to all those people who managed to reach the collecting box!

Hopefully the situation will improve during this coming year and that by November we will have returned to a more normal way of life and can do more for this extremely worthwhile cause.



Sue Pike

ASPIRING JOURNALIST/AUTHORS/LETTER WRITERS

We would like to try and get some new topics into the Parish Magazine and to that end we would like to invite anyone who feels that they could contribute articles of interest to contact the editor.

These could be on an ad-hoc basis or if you wish on a regular monthly basis.

Any topic, from any age, any length, would be considered. We look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact the editor at Karin.elmhirst@icloud.com

ENCOURAGING THE GOODNESS IN PEOPLE

A PERSONAL VIEW from Rev. Stig Graham, who is standing in for our Rector Richard Mutter.

Last week it finally stopped raining long enough for me to go for my first walk of the New Year. Being on my own, social distancing was not a problem. The depth of mud in the fields around where I live deterred all but the most crazy, or fresh air desperate. As I walked a light drizzle started, which slowly turned to sleet – being bald one does notice these changes – and then it became light snow. As the snow increased, so the clouds thickened, and the twilight darkened. As the wind rose the last 20 minutes of my walk began to feel challenging.

Inevitably, my thoughts turned to Covid-19 and the parallels. Though we know home, and light and warmth, is not far away, the last stretch was feeling the hardest. At times, with the snow swirling, it felt difficult to see the way ahead, or even what was under my feet. The snow was beginning to lie on my sleeves and chest.

It was then I remembered the words of my good friend and colleague, Abbas Khalifa. ‘People are like snowflakes. Swirling around you it is difficult to distinguish one snowflake from another. But find one on its own, and you realise how breathtakingly beautiful it is. More that its beauty alone, we also know it is unique and irreplaceable’.

At the moment, with press reports simultaneously reassuring us that the vast majority of people are complying with the Covid-19 guidelines and shocking us with disgraceful examples of the way some people are not, it is easy to feel bewildered. Sometimes it is better to focus on the near at hand. Contemplate the beauty and truth of those around us who show kindness, helpfulness, and a willingness to go the extra mile. Consider our own unique beauty and truth. Yes, it is winter, but spring will come, followed by the warmth and light of summer. And in the meantime, should we be blessed to encounter a snowflake, unique and beautiful, on our sleeve or breast, wear it as a badge of honour; a reminder of who we can be.

The Rev. Stig Graham

MONTHLY READINGS AND COLLECTS

7th February The Second Sunday Before Lent

Readings: Ps 104: 26 - end; Prov 8 : 1, 22 - 31; Col 1 : 15 - 20; John 1 : 1 - 14

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things now and for ever. **Amen.**

14th February The Sunday Next Before Lent

Readings: Ps 50 : 1 - 6; 2 Kings 2 : 1 - 12; 2 Cor 4 : 3 - 6; Mark 9 : 2 - 9

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross; give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

21st February The First Sunday of Lent

Readings: Ps 25 : 1 - 9; Gen 9 : 8 - 17; 1 Peter 3 : 18 - end; Mark 1 : 9 - 15

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.**

28th February The Second Sunday of Lent

Readings: Ps 22 : 23 - 31; Gen 17 : 1-7, 15-16; Rom 4:13 - 25; Mark 8 : 31 - 38

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

RECIPE – CHICKEN AND VEGETABLE PIE

Serves 4-6

You will need an 8 inch ovenproof casserole dish

Ingredients

1 sheet of ready-rolled puff
pastry
3½ oz diced pancetta
1 large leek finely sliced
½ savoy cabbage – shredded
1 tbs Dijon mustard with herbs
1 tbs cornflour
7 fl oz dry white wine
7 oz button mushrooms- halved
3 parsnips cut into chunks
14 oz cooked chicken cut into
pieces
1 egg beaten



Method

- Cut pastry to the size of the casserole dish
- Put pastry into fridge, keep leftovers for decoration
- Heat oven to 190C
- In the casserole dish, cook pancetta until golden. Remove from pan.
- Add the leek – sweat with lid on, over a low heat for about 10 mins, stirring occasionally until softened, removing the lid after 5 minutes
- Add the mustard and wine and season
- Scrape the brown bits from the base of the pan and simmer for 10 minutes
- Mix in the mushrooms, parsnips and chicken, return the pancetta to the pan and check the seasoning
- Cover the pan with pastry and make a small incision in the centre
- Decorate if wish. And then brush top with beaten egg
- Bake in the oven for 45-60 minutes, until pastry is golden
- Cool for 10 minutes before serving.

LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT – DECEMBER

Notes of a Meeting held 14 December by Zoom. Newcomers to the video were fascinated that the complexion of participants could be optionally improved, but decided that all Councillors were handsome enough without requiring enhancement.

Minutes of previous meeting on 7 September were agreed.

Matters Arising

- Containers at Harrow House - only two were remaining so no further action.
- Blockage of stream below the ford - Mr Lewis (landowner) will remove when heavy lifting gear can be used (ground waterlogged at present).
- Village Plan - Our Village Plan dated 2012 had been received by Stratford-upon-Avon District Council (SuA DC) but never registered. Thanks to Ian Shenton (District Councillor) for arranging registration. Our updated version will await Government plans and guidance.
- Flooding clearance at Skew Bridge, Langley Road - Thanks to pressure from Ian Shenton and John Horner (County Councillor), the manhole cover has been replaced with a drain cover. Depth gauges still had not been fitted. Flood plain maps issued by WCC indicate the extent of the problem.
- Mowing of verges – withheld during the summer at our request to enable a wild flower count to be made and has now been done.
- Reports of a broken tread on the bridge below Harrow House on footpath ST 181. It has now been repaired.

Reports of District/County Councillors

- New waste collection in 2021 – introduction of food waste caddies (small one for home, larger for outdoor storage); Introduction of annual payment for Green Bins, £35 if paid between 11 Jan – 29 Feb before introduction in April 2021; Blue Bins acceptance of suitable items now broadened; Black Bins will now be emptied every 3 weeks.
- ‘Modest’ increases in car parking charges.

- Judicial Review of Stratford's Covid-19 Tier 3 was abandoned as there had been agreement between local councils, some of which had high Covid-19 incidence.
- Proliferation of Covid-19 related scams – take care.
- UK summit on Climate Change during 2021 - will influence future Government policy.
- County Budget - 3% increase for social care and another 3% general increase.

Reports by Village Councillors

- Another planning application received for 'Lansdown' which did not change the 'footprint' nor the roof line. Passed as 'no representation', although SuA DC advised that withdrawal of the original application would be welcomed.
- Automatic number-plate recognition (ANPR) is working well with regular communication with Police to help enquiries. ANPR is however a deterrent and not a cure for crime.
- Broadband - In view of BT's lethargy in progressing fibre broadband south of the railway bridge, residents there have opted to make their own arrangements with the 'Wisp' organisation.
- Finance – Precept was £1,700 last year to cover donation towards ANPR installation. £1,500 for 2021 was agreed. Agreement has been made to help with Wolverton Church Yard extension to enable Langley residents to ask for burial rights there.

Any Other Business

- Consider any advantages of registration of Langley Church Hall as a Community Asset.
- Bank signatories – still no advice from Barclays whether AE is a signatory. NH to action.
- Dates of Meetings for 2021 were agreed.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their support in 2020 and wished them a Good Christmas and a Happier New Year.

Brian Keefe



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NORTON LINDSEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT - JANUARY

The Parish Council met, virtually, on Tuesday 12 January.

The Clerk reported that the dog bin, at the car park entrance to the playing field, will be closed and the one on Canada Lane will be reopened. The black bin at the entrance to the playing fields can be used for dog waste.

It was noted that the gullies on Main Street and Snitterfield Lane have been jetted. Also, on Snitterfield Lane, 3 gullies have been replaced and it is hoped this will alleviate the flooding that often occurs at the bottom of the lane.

The budget and precept for 2021/22 was discussed and agreed. The precept will remain at its current level of £10,000.

Following an investigation into the use of on-line banking, which is legally permissible, we have decided to switch to on-line banking. This is currently a free service with our bank and should save time and costs.

A planning statement recently lodged with Stratford District Council (DC) by Claverdon Community Land Trust (CCLT), regarding the development behind Brick Kiln Close, had misrepresented the Parish Councils and residents of Norton Lindsey and Wolverton. It was agreed that we would write to Stratford DC and CCLT to correct this.

A planning application from Hatton Country World has been put forward for a change of use of agricultural land next to the main car park. They wish to change its status so that it can be used as a site for tent camping, motor homes and touring caravans. Our concern was about the suitability of Dark Lane and Norton Curlieu Lane being used by vehicles with caravans, especially with the scenario of a large 4x4 car towing a caravan coming in opposite directions down single track roads! We agreed to write an objection to the application based on this.

Warwick District Council (WDC) Cllr. Matecki reported that there are plans to remove the ‘recycling bring’ sites at St. John’s Shopping precinct, Tesco Emscote Road and Reardon Court Shopping Precinct. This is because the Council now provides a comprehensive kerbside recycling service to all households in the district.

Cllr. Matecki also reminded us that there is a grant of £4,000 available for businesses that had to close due to Covid-19. Applicants would need to apply through the Local Authority i.e. the WDC.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Cllr. Caborn reported that school meals were provided during the Christmas school holidays in the form of cash vouchers and supermarket vouchers. A similar scheme will operate for the Easter holidays. 1,000 more computers have been ordered for children in care and from low-income families.

WCC has approached the government in order to change the timing of the May elections this year. If they get the go ahead they are likely to be postponed until July, when the children are not in school, thus preventing another school day being lost.

Norton Lindsey’s nearest vaccination centres, at the moment, are at Studley and Stratford. There will be a capacity of 47,000 jabs a week when all the centres in Warwickshire are up and running.

A new locally led testing service was set up to test people without Covid-19 symptoms (asymptomatic) in Warwickshire using lateral flow antigen tests (LFT). There is capacity for 15,500 tests a week. WCC is particularly keen for frontline workers to come forward and take up the opportunity to get tested weekly in order to reduce the spread of the virus. LFT operation has meant that WCC has moved some its staff around as 50 staff are required at each centre. Norton Lindsey’s nearest centres are in Leamington Spa and Stratford-upon-Avon. Details can be found on the [Warwickshire.gov.uk](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk) website.

Full minutes of the meeting will be available on our website at <https://nortonlindseypc.org/parish-council-meetings/minutes-of-previous-meetings/> or from the Clerk.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 February 2021 at 7.45pm. Details of how to access the virtual meeting will be published at the top of the meeting agenda on Council notice boards and on the Council website at www.nortonlindseypc.org

Karin Elmhirst

WANTED

My husband and I have recently sold our house and would love to move to Norton Lindsey. We were wondering if anyone would be interested in a private sale? Ideally we are looking for a 3/4 bed detached house or alternatively a bungalow which could be renovated.

We are due to move into rental accommodation mid-January so we will be chain free and very flexible. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be, we would love to hear from you. My email is sophietrim@hotmail.com, or call me on 07538838602.

Thank you for your time.

Sophie Trim

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DEADLINE

FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
March 2020
PARISH MAGAZINE IS:

MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY

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

EDITOR: karin.elmhirst@icloud.com

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NORTON LINDSEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE



The Hall remains closed until the Covid-19 situation is eased. Weekly checks will be continued in line with insurance guidelines.

The various works that were being carried out as part of the snagging have now been completed satisfactorily. This included the remedial work on the faulty installation of the air recovery system for which we did not have to pay. The retention monies have now been paid to the builder and we are signed off.

Thanks to Peter Woolford for steering us through this and superintending the work. Peter also fitted the steel protective cage to the Air Source Heat Pumps and has done a fantastic job, thank you again for that, Peter.

In January, in the absence of any volunteers coming forward, we appointed Jennifer Bendall as Secretary on an Honorary basis. Jenny's first job was to take minutes of the January Trustees Meeting by Zoom. This turned out to be a baptism of fire as we sped through the Agenda in 30 minutes as Boris Johnson was making a special broadcast that evening. Welcome, Jenny.

Carole Briggs will continue to run the 100 Club, there are some numbers left so if you have not yet joined, please do so as it supports to Village Hall and you could win!

Anna Mace-Leska, Chair of Trustees and Playing Fields CIO

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FROST BITE

There is an old adage that Eskimos have over 180 words for snow and ice, and this would appear true for the Sami people that live in Scandinavia and Russia. And, in English, we have a much smaller cornucopia to draw upon.

As far as snow is concerned, according to the Met Office, we can choose between 'wet' snow or 'dry' snow. However, when it comes to frost we have a, relatively, abundance of choice. Relative being 50% more.

We have three types of frost, the first and most widely known is 'ground frost'. This occurs when ice forms on objects whose temperatures are below the freezing point of water. This can be caused when objects are below freezing point but the air around them is warmer and it usually occurs on cloudless winter nights when objects lose their heat quicker than the surrounding air. The water vapour, in the air, condenses out on contact with the objects to form the frost layer.



Secondly there is 'air frost' and this is where the air temperature is below zero at least 1 metre above ground level.

And lastly there is the more intriguing hoar frost. The word hoar derives from the Old English, probably rooted in an Old Norse word, meaning venerable; grey haired with age. This frost is formed in the same way as dew but when the temperature is below freezing. The distinctive feathery effect is caused when freezing occurs before the dew forms. A fine example of this is shown on the hedge bordering Blacon Track.



Orlando Elmhirst

NORTON LINDSEY VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

Christmas Winners

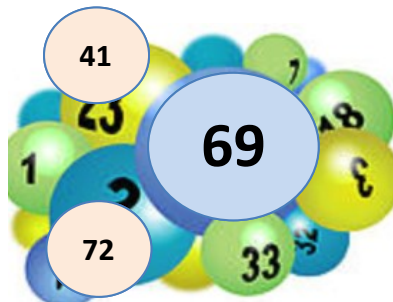
First prize Number **69** - Tim and Katie Landreth £150 Christmas Bonus

Second prize Number **41** - Angela Horsfall £50

Third prize Number **72** - Nick Peall £25

We still have some numbers available for this year - why not join the list of winners!

Contact Carole Briggs on 01926 843355



COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT – FEBRUARY 2021

When you read this report we should be about halfway through the lockdown. At the time of writing the GP practices in the Division were getting on very well with mass vaccination and I hope NHS logistics will hold up and we will be well into vaccinating the 60-65 year olds having already done the 16-64 with poor health. Depending on your GP Practice affiliation you will be contacted to go to either Studley or Stratford-Upon-Avon.

It has now been recognised that Lockdown can cause issues with mental health and family finances. The County has a number of services for mental health support that can be accessed and these are:

- Suicide prevention website (also with links to wider Mental Health services & support) <https://www.dearlife.org.uk/>
- Mental Health support available during lockdown (including arts offer for clinically extremely vulnerable):
<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/information-coronavirus/mental-health-advice-coronavirus-pandemic/1>
- Wider arts support available for adults over 18 with mild to moderate Mental Health difficulties has gone live this month (albeit virtually)
<https://arty-folks.org.uk/what-we-offer/>

For financial help please contact the local welfare scheme:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme and for wider support please go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship .

A caution has been issued regarding scams for Covid-19 testing and everyone should be very careful to check any offers are from the NHS. The RSC theatre ‘The Other Place’ is being used for rapid tests and these can be booked on <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/stratford-upon-avon-covid-community-testing-32080684767>.

There is some confusion over the District Council’s changes to Green Bin and food waste collection service. After April 5 green bins will only be collected if a fee has

been paid. This fee of £35 for the year can be paid at www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/subscribe-for-garden-waste-service.cfm. Food waste will still be collected weekly as part of SuA DC general precept, but must be put out on the street in small green caddies. These caddies are about 14 litres volume and three can be ordered free of charge by phoning SuADC and asking for them or sending an email to: streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk.

Finally the County has started finalising its budget. The Government has generously allowed councils the option of raising your taxes by a maximum of 2% with up to 3% extra for adult social care. Warwickshire's residents are relatively wealthy and only a few residents are eligible for financial support for care when they need it. As a consequence I do not expect WCC to ask for more than 1% uplift for adult social care. Children's services are a very different matter and costs are rising very rapidly, a trend that has been exacerbated by Covid-19 epidemic. These services are a legal right and must be funded from the general precept. As a consequence other services like roads maintenance, flood relief, and public rights of way are being squeezed. A decision on the budget is expected to be made on 8 February.

Arden Clerks and Chairs met in January and heard that a new Police Sergeant, Stacey Naughton, would take over from Sgt Angus Eagles who has passed his inspector's exams. Water depth markers were added to the minor works budget and a grant towards a CCTV camera in Valley Road, Earlswood was agreed.

Local elections are scheduled to take place on 6 May. I would strongly advise anyone who is in a higher risk category from Covid-19 should apply for a postal vote. Please contact me if you wish to obtain a form so as to apply.

John Horner

Tel. 01926 842068 Email: johnhorner@warwickshire.gov.uk

We Need You!

We need volunteers to help get local patients to receive the Coronavirus vaccination.



Have you got some spare time during the day? We expect to be very busy in January, February and March once the vaccination programme begins to roll out. We are going to need many more:

Volunteer drivers: If you have a clean driving license and would like to **help people in your community who would otherwise struggle to get to their vaccination appointment and home again**, please get in touch. **45p mileage costs paid.**

Telephone operators: Have you got your **own computer, decent admin skills and like talking on the telephone?** We need plenty of people to help take transport bookings to vaccination appointments. If you could spare one or two mornings or afternoons a week we would love to hear from you? **Volunteering from home with training & support.**

**To help, please call 01789 262889
or email recruitment@vasa.org.uk**

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Majestic Dance Club

I am a teacher with the long established Majestic Dance Club in Warwick. From the end of this month, we are moving some of our dance classes from our usual location in Warwick to Norton Lindsey Village Hall and will be running a Beginners Social Dance Class from Sunday 4 October evenings from 7.30pm - 8.15pm. Below is a link to our website with further details.

<http://majesticdance.co.uk>

All our dance exercise classes will be carefully run in line with all the government regulations and IDTA (International Dance Teachers Association) Covid-19 free requirements and guidelines. I am happy to take calls or emails from anyone who might be interested.

Greta Needham

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Welcome to the GReen Our Wolverton (GROW) Team in 2021!

CLIMATE CHANGE & BIODIVERSITY are **BIG** in the news in 2021. The Wolverton Parish questionnaire highlighted your concerns and as a result we want to make Wolverton an even greener place to live. Our monthly bulletin will tell you what we are doing & what you can do to help. Thanks to those villagers who have already come forward to join the team, it's not too late! If you don't feel able to commit just now there will be chances for joining working parties from time to time. Feel free to lend a hand or make suggestions.

We will be working on:

- Recycling, litter & pollution prevention
- Energy & water conservation
- Biodiversity & climate change

Here are 5 things YOU can do this month to GReen Our Wolverton:

1. Volunteer for the GROW Team by contacting barbaraharland@gmail.com.
2. Minimize your waste & maximize recycling. From April you need to pay £40 per year for your green waste bin, but register by 28 February for the 'earlybird' £35 rate. Good advice about recycling is available at www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycle or phone 01789 260628.
3. Turn off lights and equipment when not in use. Consider changing to a renewable energy provider, it doesn't need to cost you more but do check their renewable credentials before changing as not all are as green as they seem!
4. Reduce car journeys. Use or lose our nearby village shops and shop local or share deliveries with neighbours.
5. Fill up your bird feeders; food is scarce in winter.

Everyone can do something!

GOOD NEWS We have already recruited 7+ people to the GROW Team as well as 8+ litter pickers. A great response. Anita Portlock is obtaining litter picking gadgets for the team which will also be placed outside the church hall. Please use gloves, bag and bin or recycle where safe to do so, wash hands thoroughly! To volunteer please contact anita.portlock@gmail.com.

The GROW team will be looking at how we can use our green spaces and gardens to maximize biodiversity. Watch this space GROW each month!

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE NEW INN!

We trust that you are all keeping well and we hope fervently that we will be back at the heart of our Community soon. We are missing you all!

Sadly there's not a lot to report regarding our beloved pub. The doors are closed, Danny and the team are all furloughed and we will most likely have to wait another month or so until we know what might happen next.

At the beginning of these current restrictions we looked at whether a takeaway service was an option but it was evident that we'd be losing quite a lot of money if we did. Thankfully, guided by our keen-eyed finance team, we have been taking advantage of every source of funding support that we can - the result of which means that our outgoings at the moment are a 'trickle' rather than a flood.



The accounts for the year 2020/2021 are obviously not going to be very pretty but, as things stand, we still have a viable business to look forward to enjoying when circumstances allow.

Given the shifting sands of Government guidance for the hospitality sector it would be imprudent to highlight any specific events that we hope to host this year, however rest assured that as soon as we can we will be open once again to serve you at the heart of the Community - and we look forward to extending you all a heartfelt New Inn welcome!

Quentin Hayes

On behalf of NLCP Management Committee

WOLVERTON RAMBLE/TREASURE HUNT

Following the excellent Christmas celebrations this year in Wolverton it was decided to have a socially distanced Ramble/Treasure Hunt which was held on Monday 28th December 2020. We had 23 family groups taking part who all started from the Village Hall at 5 minute intervals with one group going clockwise and the next anticlockwise. The route took us from Wolverton, up to the church and along to Langley Road, then through Norton Lindsey, along Snitterfield Road, back along the track past Blacon Farm and returning to Wolverton. The route was just short of 5 miles and with 30 clues. Residents of NL may have noticed various people gazing at houses and road signs looking around for inspiration.

Although cold on the day, this did not dampen spirits or indeed the competitive nature of the participants. There was a 3 way tie and so this led to a tie break question. Donna, Carl and Ella Jones were the final winners who took home a bottle for their efforts.

Normally each year we have our post-Christmas monthly ramble that day and I very much hope we can return back to our monthly rambles in the Spring. Rest assured as soon as restrictions are lifted I will send out details of forthcoming rambles. In the meantime if anyone wants a copy of the 12 local walks I have put together then please just let me know.

Graham Lewis Home 01789-731810 Mob 07850-847662

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Wolverton Parish Council - broadband

Following the Wolverton Parish Council survey of August 2020, details of which can be found on the Parish Council website, a number of views were raised by respondents. As a consequence, a small group of villagers was set up to see what could be done to address the issues raised. One of them related to the quality of broadband available.

The survey showed in relation to broadband services:

	No. of Respondents	% (approx.)
Good	24	38
Average	27	43
Poor	11	18
No view	1	1
Total	63	100

The survey results did not provide details for internet connectivity being rated “poor” by respondents, the packages and services used by respondents, or an overview of the expectations of broadband users in the Parish. Nonetheless, I have been tasked with writing this article to consider the present position and to comment briefly on potential issues.

Using the Parish Council’s House Plan and the Connecting Solihull & Warwickshire to Fibre website (www.cswbroadband.org.uk), it has been possible to establish that “Superfast Fibre” broadband is available generally throughout the Parish. There are few houses against which “Awaiting Funding” appears on the above website. All but one of the houses falling under that heading and which I have contacted have confirmed that they actually do have Superfast Broadband or do not wish to have it. There is a small cluster of houses in the centre of the village which are marked as “Awaiting Funding” and these are near a recently installed pole to which I believe they can now be connected to Superfast Broadband. Some have connected to it some have not.

The current average UK internet download speed is 54.2mb. This I would suggest is a reasonable benchmark for measuring the services available in the Parish. At the time of writing this article, I checked my own broadband speed at two separate times which were 54.06mb and 73mb. The former was taken early evening and is slightly below the national average but is more than enough for our household of

two active multi device users who download films and boxed sets regularly without any major buffering. The second of 73mb was midmorning.

The adequacy of the broadband service will depend upon user need. At the lower end of the spectrum might be a couple with a family which only use the it for downloading occasional video content or films through one output together with online shopping or banking. For them the present Superfast Fibre is probably sufficient, subject to my comments below. At the top end might be a larger family with all occupants of internet-using age who do most things separately, in separate rooms. They possibly all own smartphones, tablets, laptops and gaming consoles; and maybe even their own internet-ready smart TV or TV-with-streaming-box of some kind. This level of demand potentially creates times when, if they all stream their own equipment at the same time, there are internet crunch times. Usually between 4 pm and 8 pm, it seems.

Consequently, in choosing a supplier, it is essential to assess the household need, particularly at periods of peak usage and discuss it with potential suppliers. The well-known comparison sites list available suppliers against individual postcodes.

As part of preparing to write this article, I did a little research on packages which service providers claim are available in the Parish. I was surprised to find 15 potential suppliers claiming speeds between:

	Average Speed	Download limit	Contract length	Monthly subscription	Set up fee
Highest	67mb	Unlimited	24 months	£26.99	£5.00
Lowest	10mb	Unlimited	12 months	£18.00	Nil

*Notes:

1. This table shows the range under each heading such that the rows may relate to more than one supplier.
2. Prices of packages change from time to time and above prices may not remain available.

Delivered speeds and continuity of speeds may not be as claimed and may vary through the day, so a degree of scepticism is advisable. Clearly, there are also terms and conditions applying to each contract (such as inclusion of telephone services, set up fees and potential charges for changing supplier). Nonetheless, there seems to be a range of options to choose from.

Adequacy of broadband speed may, however, also depend on a number of other factors:

- Whether a household's routers match the service provided. An out of date router may result in an unacceptably slow service.
- Larger properties may need boosters to ensure a reliable and continuous supply throughout.
- Users using too many programs at one time may slow the service.
- Web browsers having too many add-ons can slow browsing.
- Insufficient Random Access Memory on domestic equipment will slow down response times.
- Insufficient capacity on popular websites being used may result in slow responses at times of peak usage.

In summary, it seems that decent broadband is available in the village for domestic users but suitable hardware and a service designed to match household usage patterns is essential.

David Wilton

A warm welcome to Wolverton!

New to Wolverton?

Do you know of someone moving into the Parish? Then take a look at our Welcome Pack, designed to help newcomers find out about amenities, services and social events taking place in the community. It includes information on the history of Wolverton Parish, walking routes, local council and other services, where things are, where to seek help if needed and opportunities to get involved, if you wish.

For a copy of the **Welcome Pack** please contact Paul Anthony on 07710 981456 or paul.anthony@wolvertonpc.org.uk

Happy moving in. We look forward to seeing you!

Wolverton Parish Council

WOLVERTON'S CHRISTMAS

I would like to thank the residents of Wolverton for their generous support for the church and church hall over the Christmas period. The “own doorstep” community carol singing raised £275 for church funds, whilst the Christmas card initiative raised £420 for the church hall.

We have all missed the hall activities, but the community spirit has continued through socially distanced activities, enjoyed by most of the residents.

The Church managed to celebrate Christmas with an open-air carol service in the churchyard, followed on Christmas Eve with an open-air crib service. A midnight communion service in church brought in a glorious Christmas morning.

Noon on Christmas Day found Santa visiting the village as usual, travelling on his sleigh pulled by a vintage tractor (reindeers having stopped for a bale of hay at the farm!) Everyone was out on their doorsteps to cheer him on his way and to spread a Christmas greeting along the village.

Many thanks Wolverton for a memorable year and the community spirit that keeps us all together. Long may it last!

Dorothy and David Mann

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New Zealand -
Land of the Long White Cloud
WI online Zoom Meeting
on Wednesday, 10th February 2021 at 7.30pm



Our speaker, Graham Harding, did a wonderful job of brightening up a cold wet January evening, when he had us all laughing at his wonderful renditions of George Formby's saucy songs such as 'When I'm cleaning Windows', 'Leaning on the Lamppost' and 'It serves me right (I shouldn't have joined)'. Graham's historical knowledge of George

Formby's life, family and occupation was extensive and he spoke of the endeavours of many other famous entertainers like Cliff Edwards, Charlie Chaplin and Gracie Fields as he built up a picture of George's career. It was fascinating to see how his life crossed paths with so many other famous stars and yet he was so grounded. It sounds like the old caveat of 'behind every successful man is a powerful woman' was true for George because he was supported and 'managed' by his wife Beryl.



Thank you to Rosemarie who regularly supplies us with information about bees in order to encourage us to participate in this year's **Bee Friendly** competitions. Why not take time to plan what delightful blooms will attract the bees into your gardens in 2021? What do you need to plant; when and



where? Whether you are a WI member or not, please have a think about participating to help improve our local bee corridors. Maybe install a bee and insect hotel to help them to survive and thrive over the coming months. If you provide it... they will come.

Ladies, why not join us on 10th February when our member, Julie Howard, will be whisking our thoughts away and presenting to us a whistle stop tour of her travels with her presentation called **‘New Zealand - The Land of the long white cloud’**.



Restrictions getting you down? Why not take the opportunity to watch or participate in many online courses and presentations held by **Denman at Home** and **Warwickshire Federation of WI's**? Several WI members attended a brilliant presentation recently by Jackie Sumerfield called ‘How to write a journal’ and have embarked on a brand-new mindful hobby that brings joy to their lives every day. You can do it to! View their programmes to see what’s on offer online as they are often free or £5 per session and many sessions are open to non-members too.

<https://www.denman.org.uk> and <https://warwickshirewi.org.uk/whats-on/category/events/>

Our WI meetings will be held on ‘Zoom’ through to March 2021, so if you would like further information about Norton Lindsey WI, please contact us: secretary@nlwi.org.uk. You will be very welcome.

Sue Steel, President, Norton Lindsey WI

The Norton Lindsey **Stilton Sniffers**

The Sniffers tend to be quieter at this time of year, not quite hibernation, but a period of reflection and recovery from the previous year's exploits.

This leads us to our AGM will be taking place virtually at the end of January, a fairly dry affair, there are a few Agenda items including our plans for year and the election and re-election of those with 'roles'.

Unfortunately it looks like we might not be able to run a 'physical' event until the Summer, but as soon as we are able we hope to run one and that we can involve as many people of the village and surrounding areas as possible.

I have a friend in Canada who has run some really good Covid-19 friendly fundraisers that I will be presenting at the AGM, watch this space!

In the meantime if anyone needs anything, please get in touch with me and the Sniffers will see what we can do!

Happy New Year

Tim Landreth and the Sniffers



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With the dreary wet weather having brought all thoughts of autumn cereal planting to an end, surprisingly the weather still has a large influence on our daily workload. We have been waiting for some dry, frosty weather to be able to clean out the cattle yards. The hard frost meant we could take the muck to suitable heaps in the fields, where it will be spread on the land in the spring or autumn before the next planting.

There were probably 300 tonnes of good organic fertiliser and, of course, the hardest frost came on New Year's Day! Chris started about 6.30am to take advantage of the frozen soil and had to stop at 11.30am as the ground thawed. With a second icy morning following he completed the cleaning out of the two cattle sheds and the two heaps stacked in the yards. At last, we had a bit of breathing space in the yards which made life easier and healthier for the cattle.

Other than this major job we have been mainly busy on the cattle feeding and bedding routine, with various maintenance jobs fitted between. We are trying to ensure that the young cattle are in top condition as most of last year's calves will be going to market in early February. That is providing we get a clear TB herd test next week, so fingers crossed! One failure and we cannot sell any for at least 60 days and two clear tests. By then the cows will have started to calve again, and we are already at full capacity!

David, Dorothy and Chris Mann



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CONTACTING THE UNITED BENEFICE ORGANISATIONS

- Open to all Parishioners

POLICE CONTACT	Norton Lindsey Wolverton Langley	01926 410111 01789 444600 01789 414111
Subscription to the Parish Magazine	Marion Austin	01926 842661
WOLVERTON		
Brownies and Guides	Rachel Livingston	wolvertonguiding@gmail.com
Campion Trust	Rev R Livingston	Wolverton
Parish Council Clerk	Jennifer Bendall	clerk@wolvertonpc.org.uk
Rainbow Guides	Janet Livingston	wolvertonguiding@gmail.com
Wolverton History Group	Dorothy Mann	01789 731635
Church Hall Bookings	David Stone	01789 731488
NORTON LINDSEY		
Church Room	Marion Austin	01926 842661
Claverdon & District Nursing Fund	Anna Mace-Leska	07816 283973
Cricket Club	Martin Neale	01926 842668
Editor of Parish Magazine	Karin Elmhirst	07923 094513
Gardening Club	Marion Austin	01926 842661
Junior Football Club	Des Davies	01926 498285
Neighbourhood Watch	Anne Cooke	01789 730051
Mothers and Toddlers	Marion Austin	01926 842661
Parish Council Clerk	Jennifer Bendall	01926 843534
Rubbish Friends	Judith Gilmore	01926 842050
Sunday School	Marion Austin	01926 842661
Stilton Sniffers	Tim Landreth	01926 842587
Village Hall 100 Club and Bookings	Carole Briggs	01926 843355
Village Hall Treasurer	Ashley Hollinshead	07980 811192
Women's Institute	Sue Steel	01926 258016
LANGLEY		
Amenities Association	Brian Keefe	01926 843812
Claverdon & District Nursing Fund	Linda Hammond Brian Keefe	01926 843415 01926 843812
Parish Council Clerk	Nigel Hewin	01926 842200

The Parish Magazine is also available on line at <https://nortonlindseypc.org/parish-publications/parish-magazine/>