# THE PARISH MAGAZINE

WOLVERTON, NORTON LINDSEY AND LANGLEY



March 2021

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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month with BCP Evensong at 6.00 pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Groocock Diocesan Spirituality Adviso	Oh Lord hear our silence – finding space and quiet in our prayer life
10 March	Christopher, Bishop of Cover	ntry 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

#### A PERSONAL VIEW...

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

You might be expecting a brief reflection on the imminence of spring but, actually, I want to go somewhere completely different this month. However, I hope it is a similar story in terms of being cheerful and uplifting.

Over the last few months I have had the pleasure and privilege of teaching a group of second year medical students on the topic of holistic care of patients, and especially about spiritual and pastoral care. In hospice and palliative care settings the importance of supporting and working with patients and their families within the context of their own beliefs has always been at the heart of our approach. Dame Cecily Saunders, founder of the hospice movement, famously said "You matter because you are you", a powerful statement of the importance of each individual and their life.

It is important to realise that this is not just about religious beliefs. Our lives and experiences are embedded with a whole range of beliefs that don't have anything to do with formal religion. I have always been fascinated by the research showing that many people who don't believe in God nonetheless believe in 'Life After Death'. Conversely, the ancient Israelites believed that when one died that was it, no continuation – which was yet another reason why Jesus' teaching was so controversial in his day.

However, my point is that working in such situations is inevitably challenging because one must strive to understand and work with another person's point of view; even when that might be something completely different and alien to one's own belief. One must put to one side one's own beliefs, if only temporarily.

The medical students reflected a wide range of what it is to be human, possessing diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, beliefs, and histories. But most of all they shared some profound commonalities. Some we have seen in the behaviour of so many members of the NHS during this year, compassion, dedication, a determination to serve their communities. Within our teaching sessions and during our group discussions they showed a real willingness to engage with new ideas and each other, to reflect on the impact that might have on their own lives, and they did it all with cheerfulness and humour. My experience has left me uplifted and heartened. The NHS and the care of our communities are in good hands with young people like these.

The Rev. Stig Graham

## MONTHLY READINGS AND COLLECTS

# 7th March Third Sunday of Lent

Readings: Ps 19; Exod 20 : 1 – 17; 1 Cor 1 : 18 - 25; John 2 : 13 - 22

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.** 

## 14th March Mothering Sunday

Readings: Ps 34: 11-20; Ex 2: 1 - 10; 2 Cor 1: 3 - 7; Luke 2: 33 - 35

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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.** 

## 21st March Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)

Readings: Ps 51 : 1 - 13; Jer 31 : 31 - 34; Heb 5 : 5 - 10; John 12 : 20 - 3

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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 March Palm Sunday

Readings: Ps 31: 9-16; Isa 50: 4 – 9a; Passion Narrative from Mark's Gospel

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.** 

#### LIBRARY SERVICES

## Library services from January 2021during national lockdown

Many libraries will remain open to offer <u>Click & Collect and Staff</u> <u>Select services</u> – 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 <u>pre-booked computers</u> will continue.

Browsing in the library is not available.

#### Mobile Library Service - Select and collect

A reduced Mobile Library Service is currently in operation. Staff can select up to 4 books per customer to be collected from over 150 designated locations around Warwickshire.

To arrange a collection of books, please contact the Mobile Library Team on 01926 851031 or mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Norton Lindsey	5 March	12:10 to 12:20
Gannaway Stables	31 March	
Norton Lindsey	5 March	12:25 to 12:40
The New Inn	31 March	
Langley	12 March	12:00 to 12:15
Spring Lane		

- It is not possible for customers to enter the vehicle.
- Only items that have been preselected by staff can be collected on the day.
- Customers can safely return items to the van.
- Requests for specific titles can be made by contacting the mobile library team directly.
- In line with government guidelines this is a contactless service.

#### LANGLEY NEWS

The first phase of Langley's tree planting exercise in and around the Village has been completed. 32 trees, 11 Silver Birch, 10 English Oak and 11 Rowan, have been sponsored by residents and planted. Each Village resident now knows which is his/her/their tree and is responsible for its nurture (mainly watering in dry spells). We are now hoping that this may become an annual event. Sponsored bird boxes also to be planted around the Village, are under way again.

The 'skew' railway bridge on Langley Road has claimed more flood victims. Langley PC was asked (surely not seriously) if it would approve a plan to level the road beneath the bridge, but as this would mean service vehicles taking excess deviations to reach Langley, Wolverton and Norton Lindsey, it was deemed not practical. Warning depth gauges may be the best solution. Fortunately, volunteers are putting out warning signs when torrential rain threatens – thank you, volunteers.

#### **Brian Keefe**

#### 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

#### **RECIPE – EASTER SIMNEL CAKE**

## You will need an 8 inch or 20 cm cake tin

#### **Ingredients**

8 oz butter

8 oz caster sugar

4 eggs beaten

1 1/4 lb mixed dried fruit

4 oz glace cherries

3 tbsp sherry (optional)

10 oz plain flour

1tsp mixed spice

1 tsp baking powder

1 ½ lb marzipan

1 egg yolk



Decorations: sugared eggs, sugar paste animals or marzipan shapes

#### Method

- Heat oven to 160C
- Grease round cake tin, line with double thickness of baking parchment.
- Beat together butter and sugar until pale. Gradually beat in the eggs.
- Stir in the dried fruit, glace cherries and sherry.
- Sift over flour, mixed spice and baking powder, then fold in.
- Roll out half the marzipan to an 8 inch round.
- Spoon half the cake mixture into the cake tin and place the round of marzipan on top.
- Add the other half of the cake mixture and smooth the surface.
- Bake for 2 ½ hours until golden and springy to touch. Leave in the tin for 15 minutes, turn out onto a wire rack to cool, peeling off the paper lining.
- Roll out the reserved marzipan to fit the cake. Brush the cake top with egg yolk and place the marzipan on top.
- Flute the edges and make a pattern on top with a fork. Brush with more egg yolk. Put the cake on a baking sheet and grill for 5 minutes to brown the top lightly. Cool before decorating with eggs etc.

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## NORTON LINDSEY PARISH COUNCIL (NLPC) REPORT

The Parish Council met, virtually, on Tuesday 9 February.

Please be aware at some future date, there will be some resurfacing of the road at Gannaway, though no date has been set.

The Dog Warden at Warwick District Council (WDC) has been in contact with NLPC regarding the possibility of WDC using floor stencils, with 'Clean it up', and 'Bin the Bag', sprayed in bright colours on our pavements in order to encourage dog owners to pick up and bin their dog's waste. However, it was unanimously rejected as a method for our village. We ask that owners please use either the black bin on the road at the front of the village hall, the red bin by the Millennium Green on Main Street, the black bin by the bus stop on Main Street or the red bin on Canada Lane for your dog's waste. Alternatively, you can take it home and put it in your grey bin.

We received an update on the Parish Council Action Plan relating to facilitating the rewilding of areas of the parish. Areas that have been put forward for consideration to be seeded/left uncut include: the top of Wards Hill area, part of the Millennium Green, the area by the Dorrell Oak Tree on Main Street and the common land by the Stanks Horse Trough. We invite parishioners to put forward their views and thoughts on potential rewilding sites within the Parish. Please see our website for ways to contact us.

It was noted that there has been numerous objections to the Hatton Country World planning application from the residents around Norton Curlieu Lane. NLPC has already raised its objections.

There have been difficulties, in some parts of the village, for traders, refuse collections (and potentially the emergency services) to reach some properties due to inappropriate parking on the roads, pavements and verges. Please be considerate when parking in the village especially on Main Street and Church Road at the moment.

Our main area of discussion was around the allocation of grant funds to local groups and organisations for 2020/21. The following grants were allocated and further details will be made available on our website. The applicants will be informed of the detail in due course.

Organisation/Expenditure	Amount Awarded for Financial year 2020/21
NL Public Access Defibrillator	£30
Norton Lindsey Playground	£350
Norton Lindsey WI	£200
NL & Wolverton Cricket Club	£200
WW1 Blue Plaques	£475
Village Hall	£250
Parochial Church Council	£550
Wolverton School	£250
Millennium Green Maintenance	£50
NLPC Christmas Decorations	£115

WDC Cllr Matecki, reported that the plans relating to the merger of services between Stratford DC and WDC are on-going with decisions to be made in August.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Cllr Caborn reported that CC had set its budget for 2021/22. The Council has set up a property company to provide market rate property rentals and that they will get a share of the profits.

All rates relating to Covid-19 in Warwickshire were on a downward trend.

It was also confirmed that the elections this year will go ahead, in May, as planned.

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

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 March 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

# NORTON LINDSEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

There is nothing to report this month. We remain closed during current lockdown.

At the February Trustees Meeting we bounced around a few ideas about having a massive party/talent show in the summer, aided and abetted by the Sniffers. Maybe also some Easter activities may be permitted. We shall have to see, so watch this space.

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

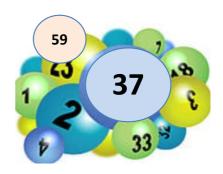
#### NORTON LINDSEY VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

## **February Winners**

First prize Number 37 - Michael Ledger £75

Second prize Number 59 - Judith Perks £25

There are only 10 numbers now available - please help us get to 100!



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FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE **April 2021**PARISH MAGAZINE IS:

# **MONDAY 15 MARCH**

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

EDITOR: karin.elmhirst@icloud.com

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# NATURE NOTES - VIRUSES.....

..... and how they make the world round, including Norton Lindsey.

Viruses are very abundant and diverse throughout the natural world, occupying a wide range of niches and are key players in evolutionary and ecological processes.

In the main they are associated with serious illness and pandemics such as influenza, ebola, small pox and of course Covid-19. Virus in Latin means poison or venom. But the vast majority are not pathogenic or detrimental to humans and indeed keep the living world in balance.

Although scientists knew viruses were around from late 18<sup>th</sup> century, the virus particle is so small it was not until the invention of the electron microscope in 1930 that they could actually be seen.

In molecular biology, a virus is classified as an intracellular obligate parasite. It is not actually a life form as it cannot make or store food or reproduce without a host. Without a host, a virus is just a packet of inert chemicals. This packet consists of a protein coat and a core of genetic material, either DNA or RNA. This means a virus is not totally inert and when it attaches itself to the host's genetic material (DNA or RNA) it rapidly reproduces and evolves through natural selection. A virus can do this with any and all living organisms.

Some viruses called phages, invade bacteria. These are really important as they literally eat the bacteria and kill them off. It has been known for some time that phages are a primary regulator of bacterial populations in the oceans. It is likely that this is the case for all the ecosystems on the planet. So if all viruses disappeared, the bacteria of the world would explode and kill off many living organisms.

Researchers studying insect pests also found that viruses are critical for species control. If a certain species becomes overpopulated, a virus will come along and wipe them out. This process called "kill the winner" is common in many species, including our own, as evidenced by pandemics. Viruses effectively keep all life form on the planet in balance.

Some organisms depend on a virus for survival or to give them an edge on a competitive world. For example, scientists suspect that a virus plays an important role in helping cows and other ruminants turn cellulose in grass into sugars that can be metabolised and ultimately turned into meat and milk.

Still in its infancy, research is being carried out on how healthy viruses are integral for maintaining healthy microbiomes in the bodies of all mammals including ourselves. (A microbiome is a community of micro-organisms, including viruses living together in a particular habitat). Already this role has found to be important for the functioning of a healthy gut and, in 2018, researchers found that a naturally occurring virus in our brain plays a key role in long term memory formation. In another example of the harnessing of the symbiotic properties of viruses for the benefit of the host, is their use in cancer treatment. In immunotherapy, specific viruses are used to invade cancer cells. Very simplistically, the virus attaches itself to a cancer cell and destroys it. For example, hepatitis B virus is used to treat liver cancer and herpes simplex (found in common cold sores) to treat brain tumours amongst others.

Scientists have only just begun to discover ways that viruses help to sustain life. The more that is learnt about all viruses, that better equipped we will be not just to develop defences against the ones that do us harm but understand further how they can be used positively. And most importantly, learning about the wealth of viral diversity will help us to unlock a deeper understanding of how our planet, ecosystems and bodies work.

This very afternoon, on completing this article, I am off to get my vaccination!

#### References used to write this:

'Understanding Viruses: Philosophical Investigations' by Pradeu, Kostyrka and Dupre, published in History & Philosophy of Biomedical Sciences (2016). BBC Future, 'Why the world needs viruses to function' by Rachel Nuwer (June 2020).

'Spoon-Fed' by Tim Spector (2020).

#### Anna Mace-Leska

#### **COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT**

Local elections will be held this year on 6 May. Councils are being indemnified for anyone catching Coronavirus due to attending a voting station, but the advice is to seriously consider a postal vote. Postal vote forms must be posted to Stratford on Avon District Council offices, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX. Forms can be downloaded by typing "*Apply for a postal vote*" into your Internet search engine. Otherwise contact me (tel. 01926 842068) and I will get one sent to you.

The election will be for the Council and any elections postponed last year due to Covid-19. In Arden this includes Police and Crime Commissioner and Parish Council elections if required. The confirmation was due to the sound progress being made on vaccinations across the Country.

Speed of roll out of the vaccination at individual sites is driven by the schedule of deliveries of the vaccine from the NHS to locations. This is causing differences in speed of each area moving forward, and can be frustrating for those living in the slower areas who hear their friends have already had the jab.

The County Council decided its budget at a meeting on 8 February. The Government has only told Councils how much they will be getting next year rather than over the next four years and so the focus was very much on the coming financial year. WCC will increase its share of your Council tax by three percent. Two percent will be for all purposes and an additional one percent will be added to be spent in addition on Adult Social Care. Although taxes will increase 3% the County still has to make savings of £48 million from a budget of £700 million. This means Social Care will be around 79% of the discretionary budget in 2021.

As a result of the Covid-19 epidemic and the impact it has had on the economy the focus of the entire budget is to maintain employment. I had argued for more capital investment towards local road schemes and flood alleviation, but the will of the Council was to focus on jobs for next year. The Council will increase its borrowing and to offer loans and grants to help companies get back on their feet. The Council also has agreed to borrow additional sums to generate a future income, create social value and maintain Council assets. One proposal is to be a co-developer of housing being built on Council land rather than simply sell the land to a private developer.

Warwickshire County Council has provided in excess of 2,375 laptops to school children to help them with their lessons during lockdown. This is in addition to a Government scheme that can be accessed via the Department for Education.

The County Libraries Service has been making doorstep book deliveries to residents who are shielding during the lockdown. It also operates a befriending service where a member of staff calls the resident to check on how they are getting on and offer support.

The Government have recently signed an agreement with a UK based vaccine manufacturer to develop new vaccines to combat any variants of Covid-19, or any other coronavirus, that appear in UK going forward. According to the NHS on 8 February, the Pfizer and Oxford vaccines both work well against the current strains seen in UK.

#### John Horner

Tel. 01926 842068

Email: johnhorner@warwickshire.gov.uk

#### CLAVERDON COMMUNITY LAND TRUST (CCLT) UPDATE

What a start to 2021! National Lockdown continues, the EU Transition Agreement has ended and an exit from the pandemic is within sight as roll-out of vaccinations starts to build. The mixed challenges of the start of the year bring with them some good news concerning housing. Central government is still keen to encourage community housing through renewal of the Community Housing Fund. This fund supports the establishment of local non-profit initiatives, like the CCLT, to influence and guide affordable housing needs in local areas.

From my position as Chair of the CCLT, we use funding to try and grow our community by building beautifully designed homes at affordable prices. How many homes to build is always a key question.

Routine surveys (HNS) from 1990 through to recent times have put the Community Housing Need between 8 to 17 houses, depending on the year. Whilst the absolute number in the survey results can change, the general trend is one that of increasing need.

To meet the affordable home needs, tradition tends to lie with large developments providing between 10 to 25% of houses built being considered affordable. This could mean that, for a commercial developer to meet the latest HNS (2020) figure of 10 affordable homes, a development of around 60 houses would be sought - Quite a large site and one that would change the Parish and its local communities notably.

Rather than build 60 houses, probably in 6 blocks to conform to Green Belt national planning policy, our solution is to support the required 10 affordable housing needs directly through a small, carefully considered affordable homes development. Without the pressure of creating profits for shareholders and with everyone working unpaid, the homes built are kept as affordable and are only available to be bought or rented by people with links to the community. Sellers will have the right to sell the homes back to CCLT if a local family does not come forward to buy the house when it goes on the market. Through this approach the value of affordable homes is retained by the community. They will be available to families looking for safer environments to grow, or older people downsizing, and so meeting housing need without co-development of additional market housing or the need for large grants from Government.

Meeting the affordable housing needs, whilst retaining our community sensibilities, is central to why we directors volunteer to be members of the CCLT. I was brought up in Claverdon but could not afford to buy my first home in the Parish and now live in Leamington. My personal experience and prejudices of affordable homes being small pokey boxes were thrown aside having seen the designs proposed by the CCLT. The CCLT designs demonstrate the modern reality, that affordable does not have to be ugly, cheap and small. We have published details on our website <a href="https://www.clavelt.org">www.clavelt.org</a> demonstrating our vision of how such a development can look.

Our current planning application for the site off Curlieu Lane epitomises our vision. As it stands, we are waiting for the ground to improve to a condition when we can get equipment on to complete the needed percolation test. Local support and understanding of the CCLT mission is really important to us and we always welcome feedback of any sorts being submitted by email.

I wish you all the best and please get in touch with questions if you have any.

#### James Horner

Chair, Claverdon Community Land Trust

Email: contact@clvclt.org

# 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



#### 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.

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#### **NEW INN - OUR PUB POEM**

Back in the summer, The New Inn was offered some funding to write a short crowd sourced poem. The poem aimed to use thoughts and ideas from our regulars, to capture what we loved about our community pub.

We had a fantastic response with over 40 individuals and families answering three simple questions about what the pub meant to them.

We asked the respondents to be as descriptive as they could and ensured we had a good range of regulars from all walks of life.

Brenda Read-Brown (www.brendareadbrown.co.uk), a previous Gloucestershire Poet Laureate, then took our ideas and crafted them into a work of art!

To help ensure you don't forget about what you loved about the pub, please find enclosed in your Parish Magazine this month, our poem. We hope this reminds you of good times to come and look forward to welcoming you back as soon as we can!

If you're reading this and have a few spare minutes, it would be great if you could help us and write a **Trip Advisor review** about your last visit to the pub. All reviews are helpful and just a few could make all the difference during lockdown. We're currently rated the 5<sup>th</sup> best pub in Warwick and very keen to get to number 1 this year!

#### Sam Davies

On behalf of the New Inn Marketing Team

With thanks to The Inn Crowd and Live and Local for the funding.

#### NORTON LINDSEY WI



# Compton Verney Collection Highlights WI online Zoom Meeting

on Wednesday, 10 March 2021 at 7.30pm



We were all transfixed at our February meeting on Zoom when our WI Vice Chair, Julie Howard, offered to be our tour guide around New Zealand. We ventured on an extremely informative and engaging figure of eight journey from Auckland to the south of the 990 mile long country, taking in extraordinary volcanic mountains, coastal footpaths, long distance cycleways, cityscapes and wineries during their five-and-a-half-week expedition. Julie and husband, Pete, had

planned their

route through many fascinating towns, cities and locations of historical and geological interest, including the oldest church in New Zealand in the Bay of Islands (complete with bullets holes), the world's largest geyser with 38-day cycles and astonishingly beautiful and poignant ANZAC war memorials across the country. Thank you, Julie, how amazing for you to share your incredible travels with us.



We're always looking to support our members and, on 25 February, we held a virtual 'Coffee and chat' to give everyone chance to socialise and share their lockdown experiences in an interim catch up with friends. We even tried 'breakout rooms', a first for us!





On 10 March, our Treasurer Pam Wilson, who works as a Visitor Experience Interpreter at Compton Verney Art Gallery and Park has offered to share with us their Collection highlights in a whistle-stop tour from Naples to China, across 5,000 years of art history. This promises to be a fascinating insight into the Museum's vast and remarkable collections and one well worth checking in for so that you can plan your next visit to this amazing local venue.

Any ladies are always welcome to try a meeting with us and see if the Women's Institute provides you with new friendships and ideas. It is particularly easy to take part on Zoom at present, so why not give it a go?

If you would like further information about Norton Lindsey WI, please contact us: <a href="mailto:secretary@nlwi.org.uk">secretary@nlwi.org.uk</a> and we'll send you the link. Why not? You have everything to gain and nothing to lose!



## Sue Steel, President, Norton Lindsey WI



The Stilton Sniffers Annual AGM was a "triple zoomer", with no Dinner Dance the night before and The New Inn being closed, there was no need to finish the meeting early for well-earned refreshments in the bar!

The AGM Agenda focussed on election of officers, with me being reinstalled as Chairman for my second year. A big thank you to Danny Storer for agreeing to take on the Chair in 2022, Brian Parsons having his arm twisted for a further year of Secretarial duties, and Derick Gray agreeing to support Steve Russell, in the Treasurer's role.

Despite all that has happened, and probably somewhat because of all that has happened, the Sniffers, with the wonderful support and enthusiasm of the local communities including specifically the Team at Littleworth Farm (Tractor Runs), have managed to give over £8,000 to good causes during the 2020. Greg Judd should also be mentioned for persuading his employer Avison Young to continue their support of our causes too.

Our "giving back" plans for 2021 include -

- Donating £1000 from funds to a Cancer Charity so many of our Sniffers, villagers, friends and family have been affected by Cancer over recent years.
- Providing Curtains for the stage at the Village Hall.
- Making a donation to Colin Wilcox's Peak District 25 mile run appeal (further details next month).
- Making a donation to Katie Landreth's London Marathon appeal for Meningitis Research (look for Katie on Justgiving).
- Running a village event as soon as we are able, to include music, food, drink and a rerunning of Norton Lindsey's Got Talent.

Our fundraising plans are at an early stage. It is unlikely that a "live" event will be possible until later in the year but we do hope to run the Golf Day in September.

We do have some whacky ideas which may or may not come off (fingers crossed they do as they should bring some fun to the village)

We are very much looking forward to 2021 and hope that we can once again do a bit of good whilst having some fun!

#### Tim Landreth and the Sniffers

# LangleyLawnTreatments

Independent - Local - Est. 2001 by Former Groundsman Greg Camplin

Fertilise, weed control, scarify, aeration (hollow, solid, micro-tining)

Weed control on paths and drives

See website for full details of services

07733 11 35 88 - 01926 84 33 29





#### **WOLVERTON PARISH COUNCIL – JANUARY 2021**

By the time this hits your doorstep, spring might be in the air. Even if it isn't, it's time for a quick update on Wolverton Parish Council's activities.

Our January meeting covered some administrative details of our approach to implementing the Parish Plan, on which work continues apace. We are busy preparing the Action Update Plan for publication on the parish website in March. This plan will incorporate the work done since the first survey in 2014 and reflect the efforts of the Parish Council to concentrate on matters important to local residents.

In the meantime, the GRoW (Green our Wolverton) Team, established and led by Barbara Harland, has made sterling progress in recruiting litter pickers and drawing up planting programmes.

We also had a presentation from Smartwater, a company that works with Warwickshire police and other local forces to create an effective deterrent to burglary and recover stolen goods. See the article 'Wolverton Parish Council – Policing' below, for more information or contact <a href="mailto:sue.murphy@wolvertonpc.org.uk">sue.murphy@wolvertonpc.org.uk</a>.

This is also the time of year we set the Parish annual budget otherwise known as the precept. After last year's larger change to align with our annual costs, we were happy to propose a smaller adjustment of just £100 across the parish to keep in line with inflation. This means that the precept's contribution to individual council tax bills will be only very slightly higher.

We continue to work with our friends at Norton Lindsey Parish Council to respond to the proposed development off Brick Kiln Close. In recent months, Claverdon Community Land Trust has continued to make further submissions to Stratford DC, but without either, engaging with the Parish Council or addressing the clear planning concerns that we raised on the original application. We continue to monitor this closely.

We've taken the old notice board down at Norton Lea as it was unsafe and I had a skip to put it in! If you don't want to put your thermals on to read the Minutes at a notice board, you can read them by accessing the Wolverton Parish Council website (<a href="www.wolvertonpc.org.uk">www.wolvertonpc.org.uk</a>). Check out all the other fascinating things on it while you are there, including useful information relating to coronavirus and Trading Standards updates. Please let us know if you have any ideas to improve the website.

James Wynn-Evans

#### **WOLVERTON PARISH COUNCIL - POLICING**

#### KEEPING SAFE IN WOLVERTON

Looking for help or information on protecting your property and community?

#### Warwickshire Police website

Do you want to tell the Police about something or report an incident? Click on *Contact Us* and you will have a number of options which will take you to the relevant section to report something, make an enquiry, leave a message for an officer etc.

Introducing the **Safer Neighbourhood team for Wolverton**, Inspector Allison Wiggins, Sgt Richard Crowhurst, PC Catherine Morgan and PCSO's Liam Allen and Sarah Bailey. The Team are the Alcester North Neighbourhood Team and can be contacted through the Warwickshire Police *Contact Us* website.

The Local Policing Team are groups of officers dedicated to serving the community and are made up of officers based in the area, supported by additional officers from the wider area. The team work closely with local authorities, organisations, partners and residents to decide policing priorities. This helps teams find long term solutions to local problems.

The Rural Crime Project for Warwickshire is intended to help protect rural communities from crime. The police and other agencies give rural crime a high priority working with local communities to ensure that the best advice and protection advice is provided.

The Warwickshire Police Rural Crime Team is a small team of officers dedicated to helping protect our rural communities from crime through prevention, disruption and prosecution of criminal activity. Police and partners ensure they provide expert focus and bespoke crime prevention advice, working with communities to deliver the themes outlined in the Rural and Wildlife Crime Strategy.

Wolverton is covered by South West Rural Area officers PC 1442 Andy Steventon and PC 1418 King. PC Steventon can be contacted on Mobile 07557033186 and PC King 07971050997 both officers have a wealth of policing experience and can offer practical advice on crime prevention particularly in rural areas.

Some simple inexpensive advice in protecting outdoor items such as mowers, plant and machinery – overtly mark larger items with your postcode using left over paint this may put a would be thief off stealing the item as it makes the marked item harder to dispose of. The marking also makes the item identifiable to the police on recovery enabling restoration to the victim and prosecution of the offender. Always record the serial number of your items. A project during Lockdown?

A great source of information is available through the Warwickshire Rural Watch website, providing Crime Prevention information and Crime awareness, links to support groups and partner agencies. You may wish to sign up to the FREE Warwickshire Rural Watch Email Messaging System for the Stratford Rural Area and receive alerts to local crimes and incidents within hours of a report and other articles.

#### **SmartWater Forensic Marking**

SmartWater is a traceable liquid and forensic asset marking system that is applied to items of value to help identify thieves and deter theft. The liquid leaves a long lasting and unique identifier, whose presence is invisible except under an ultraviolet black light (Wikipedia).

Wolverton Parish Council met with a representative from SmartWater on 21 January to discuss a package for residents interested in participating in this Crime Prevention initiative, which would be offered at a discounted cost of approximately £12.50 per pack should around 50% of residents wish to participate.

Each pack contains a tube of SmartWater forensic liquid, sufficient to mark over 30 items, window stickers and property stickers for use on items such as laptops. The property stickers are extremely difficult to remove and overtly identify that the item is SmartWater protected. Details on registering your unique identifier are also included.

Road signs identify the village as a SmartWater protected Village, to deter travelling criminality.

Further information is available at www.smartwater.com.

If you are interested in participating in this SmartWater initiative please contact <a href="mailto:sue.murphy@wolvertonpc.org.uk">sue.murphy@wolvertonpc.org.uk</a> or via the WhatsApp group Wolverton Neighbours.

#### A polite reminder that 999 is for Emergencies Only

#### Emergencies Include:

- A serious offence is in progress or has just been committed
- Someone is in immediate danger of harm
- Property is in danger of being damaged
- A serious disruption to the public is likely

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use textphone service 18000 or text 999 if you have pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

Use **101** for non-emergency enquiries or to report a crime. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use the textphone service on 18001 101

#### Report a crime anonymously to Crimestoppers

#### Online - crimestoppers-uk.org

If you want to report a crime, but you don't want to identify yourself, contact Crimestoppers. They will ask questions about the crime but won't ask about you. If you are concerned that your call will be traced, dial 141 before 0800 555 111 this will block your phone number.

#### Report fraud and cyber-crime to Action Fraud

Online - actionfraud.police.uk

Phone - 0300 123 2040

If you've been the victim of a fraud, online fraud, cyber-crime or you suspect one is being attempted, report it to Action Fraud. Action Fraud is the UK's National fraud and cyber-crime reporting centre.

#### **Anti-Terrorist Hotline**

Call the UK Anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789 321 or report online if you've seen or heard something you think could suggest terrorist activity.

#### Susan Whitehouse

## **GROW (GREEN OUR WOLVERTON)**

## March Garden Special Bulletin - SPRING INTO ACTION!

Spring is round the corner and is the time to get started in your garden if you haven't done so already. Here are our hot tips for green gardening.

- Use only peat free compost. Maintaining areas of natural peat is important for carbon recapture, we need to avoid destroying this environmentally valuable resource.
- Make your own compost with your garden trimmings and clippings, food peelings and scraps (avoid cooked food or meat). Your compost will also benefit from adding scrunched up old egg boxes or toilet rolls, coffee grounds and plastic free tea bags (details of brands have gone plastic free available on the internet).
- Don't be too tidy! Leave piles of dead wood, leaves or similar where insects or small mammals can hang out.
- Provide fresh water for wildlife in your garden an upturned container on the ground or a bird bath is all you need but even better make yourself a pond!
- Install a water butt (or two) to conserve this precious resource & keep your garden watered in dry spells. Severn Trent has offers on their website.
- Plant some bee and butterfly friendly plants and seeds. Suggested easy annuals are Cosmos, Sunflowers, Marigolds, Field Poppies or Love in a Mist all loved by bees and butterflies. Many herbs are also beneficial to wildlife, why not plant some Thyme, Marjoram or Borage? Please plant extra and donate these to our Green Our Wolverton planting projects.
- Avoid using 'cidal' chemicals in your garden which may be dangerous to pollinating insects, birds or wildlife.
- Plan your space and see if you could plant a tree(s) this is one of the simplest and easiest ways to help store carbon and mitigate climate change. Bare rooted trees are cheapest but should only be planted from November to March. A pot grown tree is more expensive but can

- be planted at any time make sure it is well watered during the drier months. Help us to plant a tree for every household in the village!
- Mulch your garden with leaf mould, compost, well-rotted manure or bark chippings which help to prevent the soil from drying out whilst adding nutrients particularly if you are adding new plants.
- Don't forget to pay Stratford District Council for a green bin. Food waste can go in this but better still avoid waste or put it on your compost heap.

GOOD NEWS this month: Wolverton is already cleaner and greener thanks to the litter picking team who are now out and about with their litter pickers and high-vis vests, thanks to Graham Lewis for supplying some of these. Plans are afoot to improve biodiversity & the general aesthetics of the village. We will be creating a border by the Church Hall where plants used will benefit our wildlife, birds, bees and butterflies throughout each season. GROW team volunteers will be preparing this whilst working in a Covid-19 safe way.

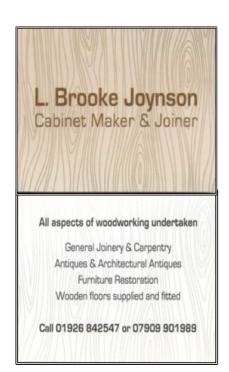
Other plans include a planter by the bench at the crossroads with some pollinator friendly plants.

Could you donate some spare compost to be used in our planting projects?

**Verges**: together with surrounding villages we are working on managing the mowing of verges to benefit biodiversity in line with the Plantlife Good Verge Guide. You can check this out at www.plantlife.co.uk. Watch this space!

If you have any comments or suggestions about reducing our village carbon footprint and improving biodiversity, or wish to donate compost please contact barbaraharland@gmail.com.

#### **Barbara** Harland





# **For Sale**

8 balls of Dolce knitting yarn 50 g each. Good quality, soft, a mixture of acrylic, nylon polyamide. Double Knitting.

Brown colour £10.

Contact Nina tel 01926 843322



#### MANOR FARM WOLVERTON DIARY

Good news this month. The TB test on the whole herd at the end of January was cleared without a hitch, to our great relief. This meant we were free to sell last years' youngsters with a clean bill of health.

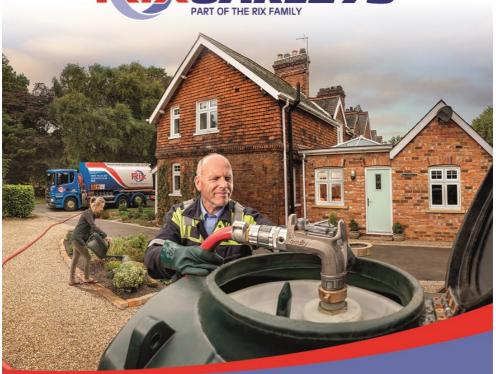
When the young stock go to market, we must sort them into different groups depending on sex and age. All the steers (castrated males) are sent, and they are bought by farmers who will feed them for six to eight months to grow into mature beef cattle. With the heifers, we have kept the best eight for breeding, and hopefully they should have calves in the spring of 2022 when they are about two years old. The remainder of the heifers go to market and are probably purchased for breeding rather than for beef.

Due to Covid-19 regulations the auctioneers operate a drop and go policy and we are asked to only remain at the market if we want to buy anything. This means no traditional day at market to be able to meet with buyers and farming colleagues. However, the cattle sold extremely well, and we were very pleased with the results.

We are also happy with the present (10 February) cold weather. It is giving the soil time to dry, and if the frost firms the ground, we will be able to finish the routine hedge trimming.

# David, Dorothy and Chris Mann





# Trust Rix to keep your heating oil topped up through the spring





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# CONTACTING THE UNITED BENEFICE ORGANISATIONS



# - Open to all Parishioners

POLICE CONTACT	Norton Lindsey	01926 410111
	Wolverton	01789 444600
	Langley	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	01926 843415
	Brian Keefe	01926 843812
Parish Council Clerk	Nigel Hewin	01926 842200

The Parish Magazine is also available on line at  $\frac{https://nortonlindseypc.org/parish-publications/parish-magazine/}{}$