



# Around Pattishall

220 • July - September 2020

VE Day in Eastcote, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Peter Hemming





On behalf of Sid Hall we would like to say a massive thank you to everyone in the Parish (and beyond!) who sent cards, letters and gifts for him on his 104<sup>th</sup> birthday. Also thank you to those who came to sing a socially distanced happy birthday. To say he was overwhelmed would be an understatement!

For those of you that don't know Sid he has lived in Astcote for 36 years, having moved from Hertfordshire to be closer to his family. He served throughout WWII in France, Italy and South Africa and after the war was a printer by trade. His passion is cycling and walking and I don't think there's a footpath around here that he hasn't trodden (with his secateurs in hand to trim as he went!)

He has hung up his walking boots now, but if he could see how much our footpaths are being used at the moment he'd be a very happy man. He says the

secret to his longevity is down to his miles of walking and marmite sandwiches!

Thank you again from Sid Hall and the Hodges family.



## **Pattishall Parish Allotments**

At the time of writing we are still in lockdown, who knows where we will be when this publication is delivered. However, one aspect of current life that is thriving, is the local allotments. There have been allotments in the parish since at least the turn of the century. Although the location may have changed, one thing that remains is the enthusiasm of people to grow their own fruit and veg.

The management of the allotments was recently taken on, at the request of the parish council, by a committee of plot holders forming the association of "Pattishall Parish Allotments". The association follows the guidance as set out by the National Allotment Society; the society provides a wealth of information that may be of interest to allotment holders and gardeners alike.

There are approximately 40 plots at the parish site with tenants growing a variety of fruit veg and flowers. Allotments appeal to a wide age group. Some with great experience and expertise and other more amateur gardeners like myself. The only criteria to hold an allotment plot is an enthusiasm to give it a go. Gardening and allotmenting can be a great way to keep fit physically and mentally, plot holders experience the seasons, witness the behaviour of birds, insects and other animals and gain an understanding of the eco-system.

A recent study in the Netherlands

showed that every 10 per cent increase in exposure to green space translated into an improvement in health equivalent to being five years younger, with similar benefits found by studies in Canada and Japan. A study of the health and well-being benefits of allotment gardening in 2015 found that overall one single session of allotment gardening can improve both self-esteem and mood, irrespective of how long participants spend on the allotment. Furthermore, allotment gardeners have a better level of self-esteem and mood and a reduced level of abnormal psychological functioning than non-gardeners. Well if this is true then I will certainly continue gardening come rain or shine.

Another source of information for gardeners is the RHS Facebook page which contains a link to the RHS Campaign for School Gardening. There are also some great gardening based ideas for those Zoom meetings. <https://www.facebook.com/rhsschoolgardening/posts/2846726572042915>

If you would like to join the merry band of allotmenters please drop the allotment association an email to [pattishallallotments@yahoo.com](mailto:pattishallallotments@yahoo.com).

Andy  
Pattishall Parish Allotment Association

## ***Pattishall Good Neighbours Club***

We hope all our members are managing to get through this unprecedented time without too many problems; it certainly is so different from any other age we have experienced.

It would be wonderful to be able to write about forthcoming outings and meetings but that is something to look forward to in the future.

It was with great sadness we learned of the death of Betty Smith in early May. Betty was a long-standing member, who also served on the Committee in differing roles throughout the years, and will be greatly missed.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her family and in the knowledge that we shall always remember Betty with real affection.

So, friends, it just remains to wish you well and safe and hope we can meet up again for our social afternoon in the not too far distant future.

Brenda Pitcher



## ***Gardening Club***

Unfortunately, like most other activities and meetings we have had to cancel the gardening club meetings and outings until further notice. We had hoped to go to Bourton House Gardens in June and to Cramden Nursery in Kingsthorpe on 1<sup>st</sup> July but the nursery doesn't think it will be able to open as normal at all this year. They are doing a "click and collect" service if you want to buy anything from them – their geraniums and other plants are extremely good quality. We wait to see if we're able to go to sample the cider at Eydon Cider Company in October.

Probably one thing that has benefited from Covid 19 and us all having to be at home is our gardens! In the words of our club chairman- "*Keep Calm and Carry on Gardening*"!!

Christine Russell  
01327 830012



## **VE Day 75** **8<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

### ***Cold Higham Parish***



The bunting is out, the picnic rugs and ginger beer in place and an overwhelming sense of “good British spirit” is in the air....must be VE Day celebrations in Cold Higham....Covid 19 lock-down style!



Dressed in red, white and blue and 1940s attire, nostalgic music playing in the background and flags flying all

around, on the afternoon of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020, residents of Cold Higham dusted off the picnic blankets, deck chairs and cake stands, and kicked off with afternoon tea in front gardens followed by a gathering on Church Lane for a “socially distanced” get together to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day.

“We’ll Meet Again” was sung – led by the village’s very own *Highamettes*, and a good time was had by all!



Around Pattishall July to September 2020

**VE Day 75**  
**8<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

## ***Pattishall Parish***





## **Elizabeth (Betty) Smith**

Elizabeth (Betty) Smith sadly passed away on May 4<sup>th</sup> after a short illness.

The family and I would like to thank everyone for their kind support after losing our lovely mum, grandma and my wing-woman.

We have been overwhelmed by the lovely messages and cards which have really helped us through this sad time. Mum would have loved and been delighted that she was so well thought of within the village community. Our lives will not be the same without her but having so many happy memories to hold onto as a family makes it a little easier.

Laura Bell and family



## **Pattishall Parish Hall & Playing Field Associations**

We were pleased that residents were still able to use the playing field for exercise during the Government's lockdown restrictions. Although there has been some lifting of the restrictions, please adhere to the current guidelines on gatherings. You are welcome to meet with family and friends but please note:

- **No more than 6, unless members of the same household.**
- **Please also remember that no BBQ's or dogs are allowed on the Playing Field.**

The play equipment is still out of bounds but the tennis court is open for use, please adhere to the safety measures on the LTA website. [Guidance for Tennis Players in England](https://www.lta.org.uk/coronavirus) lta.org.uk/coronavirus.

With the lifting of some restrictions for football the Sixf elds Rangers are training on a Thursday evening with groups of six. The youth football team, GLK, are also having one to one sessions during the week and other small training sessions at arranged times. They will be in a marked area to maintain social distancing. The car park and pavilion will remain closed at present and there are no toilet facilities.

Despite the lockdown the members of the committees and helpers have been working to maintain both the field and the hall. The pavilion has been redecorated both inside and out thanks to Mick Fleck. Work on the area for the cricket nets has started.

The hall has been cleaned on a regular basis and is undergoing some decorating.

Unfortunately we do not know when we will be able to open the hall for groups and other events. We will have to ensure that when restrictions are lifted we are able to follow any procedures for opening.

The Tote for the Playing Field has been suspended for the present but will resume as soon as possible.

Iris Illingworth

## ***Pattishall Picnic in the Park Music Festival – returns 2021***

Well, this is not the way we, on the Picnic team, expected this summer to turn out. This year's Picnic in the Park is cancelled, as you will know if you follow us on facebook or we have contacted you by email. No point fretting about it. All we can do is go with it, like so many other aspects of life this year. But we look forward to returning next year, as big and bold as ever, on Saturday 10 July 2021!

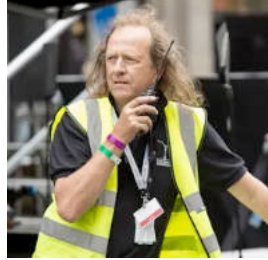
When we started in 2014 a local company, Unusual Rigging of Bugbrooke, gave us a huge helping hand by donating a professional stage for us to use. Their founder and owner, Alan Jacobi, continued to do this for our first four years. Very sadly Alan died of cancer this year on 13 April, aged 67.

Alan transformed the entertainment industry, bringing a spectacular new dimension to technical performance, whether on stage or in stadiums. AJ, as he was known, revolutionised the way theatre staging and effects work. If you have been to the theatre in London you may have seen the chandelier that plummets over the audience in *Phantom of the Opera*, the descending helicopter in *Miss Saigon*, the moving scenery in *Les Misérables*, the flight of *Mary Poppins* – all made possible by AJ's ingenuity.

However, AJ did not just work his magic in theatre staging, but was also involved in the Royal Tournament for 27 years (I went every year when I lived in London). He worked on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary VE and VJ day celebrations, the 2002 Golden Jubilee celebrations, 2012 Olympics, to mention just a few of the prestigious events that benefited from

AJ's hard work, innovation and creativity. He always found a way. Not bad for a self taught engineer and rigger, who would admit that the only exam he ever passed was his driving test!

Thank you AJ, for the support you gave us at Pattishall Picnic in the Park. We appreciate it. RIP.



Suzanne  
Picnic in the Park

## ***Student Grants***

***Off to college or university?***

***Studying for an apprenticeship?***

***Online course due to coronavirus restrictions?***

If you are living in the Parish of Pattishall and are about to start, or will be continuing, a college or university course or an apprenticeship then you may be eligible for a grant from the Pattishall Waites Charity. This was originally set up to provide tools for apprentices but now we extend the grant to pay for books and equipment. Students may apply for each year of study.

Receipts will be required.

To find out more about the Pattishall Waites Charity or to download an application form, please visit:

[www.pattishallparish.org.uk/parish-council/pattishall-charities](http://www.pattishallparish.org.uk/parish-council/pattishall-charities).

Closing date: Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Grants will be allocated by the Trustees immediately after that date and no late applications will be accepted.

## **Pattishall Parochial Charities**

### **Widows and Widowers' Monthly Pension**

Currently we have two vacancies for the above pension.

If you would like to apply for this pension please write to the Clerk giving details of age and the length of time you have been resident in the Parish. In the case several applicants the eldest will be selected first. Closing date 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

Letters should be addressed to:

The Clerk to the Trustees  
Mrs Wendy Watts  
59 Leys Road  
Pattishall  
Towcester  
Northamptonshire  
NN12 8JY

## **Pattishall Neighbourhood Watch**



If you would like to receive up-to-date information on crime and suspicious incidents in our Parish it is easily accessible by:

- Joining our email loop:  
Contact the Coordinator
- Pattishall Parish Website:  
There is a quick link to the [NHW page](#)
- Facebook:  
[PattishallParishNeighbourhoodWatch](#)

Linda Hemming (NHW Coordinator)  
Linda\_hemming@hotmail.com  
Tel 01327 830744



## **Sleep Out for Hope**

On Friday and Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> May nights a group of

children from the reception class at Pattishall primary school wanted to join together and raise vital funds for The Hope Centre in Northampton. Children decided to camp in their garden, some in tents others under a gazebo in cardboard boxes. Other children slept on their kitchen floors in cardboard boxes.



Both children and families have been blown away with the generosity that has been raised for The Hope Centre so far....currently the grand total is £2640 !!!

These funds will go towards the incredible work that the Hope Centre does for the vulnerable and homeless people of Northamptonshire.



Some quotes from the kids:

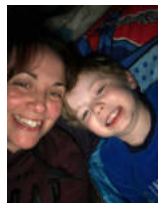
Oliver - *I was super duper excited to sleep outside in the tent. It was cold and wet but we raised lots of money to help*



*people find homes and to give them some food.*

Leo - *It's cold for them and it's sad..they don't have a house or covers to keep them warm..I want to give them all my money because they don't have any.*

Wilfred - *We camped out in our cardboard tent to raise money to help people who might not have a home and to help keep people safe.*





## **Pattishall & District Food & Produce Show – To be or not to be?**



What a year 2020 has been: rains, lockdown, near-drought, and now what looks like more typical June weather. VE Day commemorations became front garden socially-distanced tea parties, home-schooled children perfected their baking skills, and many of us discovered new walks around our beautiful villages. We sincerely hope that you and your families have remained well, and extend our sympathies to those who have experienced illness or loss at this time.

Whilst everyone would love to get “back to normal” as soon as possible, we are also aware that “normal” is likely to be “different” for some time to come – and this may include continuing restrictions on large gatherings of people. At the time of writing (early June) the Parish Hall remains closed and government guidelines don’t allow for more than six people from different households to meet (outside – and not at all inside). This could change over the coming weeks and we feel that it is too soon to cancel the annual (and much-loved) Food & Produce Show quite yet – particularly as so many people have been gardening and baking over the past months! We are looking at various options if we are able to go ahead including:

- Holding elements of the show outside / under cover of gazebos
- Holding some elements of the show (e.g. photography) online
- Introducing social distancing measures – possibly through a timed entry or one in / one out system

A provisional schedule is included in the

centre pages of this Around Pattishall and we will let everyone know by mid-August whether the show can go ahead, and, if so, what arrangements will be in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. Please look out for this on [our Facebook page](#), the Village Facebook page and on the [Parish website](#).

Thank you!

## **Cold Higham Parish Hall “Virtual” AGM Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

Owing to the current Covid-19 pandemic, and the restrictions put in place in relation to social distancing, Cold Higham Parish Hall Committee embraced modern technology and held their first “virtual” AGM on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. The meeting was held open to the public, allowing local parishioners to attend remotely and took place with only a minor level of technical hitches.

The Committee and guests discussed the events and financials for the past year and made plans for the months/year ahead. In these unprecedented times, planning for the next few months was difficult, however all agreed that a Parish event held at the hall to mark the end of the lock-down, would be a good one to plan for, whether this be Christmas 2020 or earlier in the Autumn 2020 – watch this space!

All in all, we agreed that prior to the onset of Covid-19, and the restrictions in place, 2019 represented a good year for the hall in terms of usage and events held, with several successful events taking place, including Christmas Carols, the summer fete and two well-attended quizzes. The Hall’s finances will inevitably struggle as a result of limited bookings during the lock-down period

however the Committee are confident that we can weather the storm. It is hoped that regular Hall users will recommence bookings in the near future and the Parish Hall will once again resume its calendar of bookings.

The Parish Hall continues to serve as a wonderful facility for parishioners and with renovations planned following the easing of the current restrictions, we hope will continue to remain as such for a long time to come.

Chloe Nickless  
Chairman, Cold Higham Parish Hall



## **Interview with Bill McColl (92) Fosters Booth**

**Q.** Bill, thanks for doing this interview for *Around Pattishall*. How long have you lived in Fosters Booth?

**A.** I've lived here now for 38 years.

**Q.** What do you remember of V.E. Day?

**A.** Very little, actually. I was away at school at Rugby and although I assume there must have been announcements or celebrations, neither I nor a contemporary I spoke to remember anything.

**Q.** Where were your parents living at the time?

**A.** At St Johns School, Tiffeld Turn. This was a Home Office Approved school for delinquents and boys needing care, where Dad was Headmaster and Mother was Matron.

**Q.** Where were you on V.J. Day?

**A.** I was at home then, as it was during school holidays. I remember flying two large kites (were they called Wombats?)

across the Northampton - Towcester road with a cord between them on which I tied some flags including the Union Jack. I subsequently lost one out to sea!

**Q.** What brought about your interest in kites?

**A.** My Godfather, who was a school master at Wellingborough, was very eccentric and knew a lot about man-lifting kites from his time in the R.F.C. during the 1914-18 war. He built one and tied it to his car and got the kite flying. Very shortly the kite began to lift the car off the ground and he had to cut the rope very quickly. The kite crashed!

**Q.** What was the food like at school?

**A.** Awful! The boys at Tiffeld ate much better. For example, my mother and I picked a laundry basket full of mushrooms for them. I was lucky because food was good at home. Mother kept hens fed on scraps and gleanings and there was plenty of fruit.

**Q.** Did you see any bombs falling?

**A.** No, but an RAF bomber crashed at Showsley just down the road to Towcester and I found a piece of it in a field. My Dad was at Blisworth Station when it was machine gunned by a German plane.

Bill, thank you very much for your time.

## **Farming Through Covid 19 Nita Pearson - Grimscote**



On the surface little has changed in farming life. The lambing season progressed

relentlessly, a time when everyone works as a team. We had a good crop of lambs without too many problems with

the lambs now skipping with their mothers in the fields.

But wait! Due to the lock-down we have not had the children who have special educational needs to visit during lambing. We have had groups of children coming to the farm for the last fifteen years. Many of these children have never been to a farm and although they may be nervous to begin with they begin to relax when with the lambs. If they are lucky they may be able to bottle feed any small lambs. They are then taken to see the cows and maybe see tractors and how big they are, then finally a cuddle with Bob our very laid-back spaniel. All finished off with snacks in the kitchen. How we have missed the laughter of small children.

Work now changes gear to drill the crops that were not planted in the Autumn due to the very wet weather: a wet Spring, a very cold spell but we carry on with typical British stoicism!

At long last the workload eases but no socialising as we are all asked to play our part in controlling the spread of the virus. Farming is often a solitary occupation with long hours working alone but not having any social interaction can have serious mental health issues. These may be compounded by financial implications especially when farm prices are controlled by so few people. Dairy farms have been hit hard and many have had to throw milk away, though thankfully no dairy farms in this area.

There is a plus side - we can hear the beautiful bird song, clear skies, less traffic, fewer aeroplanes overhead and time to enjoy the changing scenes of our beautiful countryside. So bear a thought for those who live in towns and cities when we return to normality with fresh eyes and a humility for the countryside around us.

## **Children's outlook on Lockdown**

**William (15) & Jasmine (12) *Campion of Grimscote***

Lockdown has had a huge impact on everyone in the country; however we rarely see how it has affected children. During the lockdown, children have been completely isolated from other people, with their parents being urged not to take their children when they run errands such as going shopping. We sent out an online survey to 30 teens in the area and we received 23 responses (summarised at the bottom of the page).



From this data, we learned that teens tended to be enjoying the lockdown, enjoying the freedom to learn new skills, work individually and spend more time with their family members. However, many teens are also missing aspects of normal life, yearning to have some of the more regular activities back in their life such as team sports, socialising and in some cases even school.

Many teens have come up with ways to keep themselves occupied throughout lockdown, with many taking up new hobbies including baking, gardening and even trying to learn new languages. Additionally, many have been spending more time doing exercise, enjoying cycling, walking and HIIT workouts.

Furthermore, the survey indicated that the lockdown may have a long term affect on teens, with many believing that it will negatively affect their grades and possibly decrease their prospects for careers, along with some feeling that the lockdown has negatively affected their mental health. These results correspond with similar surveys carried out by large organisations such as Unicef and Save



the Children, which found that ¼ of children in lockdown are now dealing with anxiety with 'many at risk of lasting psychological distress, including depression'. They also wrote that parents need to be aware these problems are lasting and so will continue even after lockdown.

Now that lockdown is beginning to ease, with schools soon to reopen partially and the ability to meet up with a friend, let us hope that we can return and establish a new form of normality.

### **Collected Data/Survey Results**

Do you prefer working from home or working from school?

- 65% preferred working from school
- 35% preferred working from home

Are you enjoying lockdown?

- 55% said yes
- 45% said no

Do you think your mental health has been affected?

- 43% said yes
- 56% said no

Do you think lockdown will affect your grades?

- 43% think it will make their grades worse
- 13% think it will make their grades better
- 44% think it will have no affect

Have you been doing more or less exercise than usual?

- 52% said more
- 34% said less
- 14% said no change

What are you looking forward to the most?

- Socialising with friends and family
- Sport
- Going to restaurants.

## **Foodbank Donations**

An enormous "thank you" to everyone in our villages who has been supporting the Towcester Foodbank since lockdown began. In April 153kg of food was donated, and in May this rose to 310kg which has helped result in the foodbank having a plentiful supply to meet the needs of local people facing financial hard times.

### **What does the Foodbank do?**

I visited the Foodbank's website <https://towcester.foodbank.org.uk/> to find out more about its work. The Towcester Foodbank was founded by local people and community groups, and is part of a nationwide network supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger locally and across the UK. It is staffed by volunteers and stocked with food donated by members of the public and local organisations.

### **How do people access the foodbank?**

People who need to access the foodbank because they cannot afford to buy food should contact their referral agency if they've used the foodbank before, or SNC Money Advice on 01327 322107, to be issued with an e-voucher code. They should then ring the foodbank, give the code, and confirm details. Their food bags will be delivered within 2 working days. Schools, health / medical centres and some clergy are also able to issue vouchers.

### **So, what's in a food parcel?**

These contain sufficient nutrition for at least three days of meals for individuals or families. They can be adapted to meet dietary needs, such as gluten free, halal or vegetarian. A typical parcel might include:

- Breakfast cereals
- Soup
- Pasta
- Rice

Pasta sauce  
Tinned beans  
Tinned meat or fish  
Tinned vegetables  
Table sauces  
Tinned fruit  
UHT milk  
Tea or coffee  
Biscuits  
Desserts & snacks

### **Is there really need in our area?**

Yes! UK charities, including the British Red Cross, Salvation Army and Trussell Trust have all noted that food poverty has increased during the coronavirus pandemic as families and individuals who were “just about managing” have lost jobs, livelihoods and incomes. An article in the [Guardian on 15 May](#) said that foodbanks had seen a [record 81% increase](#) in demand for food parcels in recent weeks – including a 122% increase in children relying on food aid. Locally, analysis comparing April and May 2019 with the same period this year shows a 61% increase in number vouchers fulfilled, reaching 29% more people.

Whether you are a one-off donor or a regular supporter, your generous contributions to the Foodbank are making a real difference to people in need in our local area – thank you so much for your continued support.

### **There are collection boxes for Towcester Foodbank in Pattishall, Eastcote and Astcote every Friday until 5pm:**

the porch of Holy Cross Church  
Pattishall,  
in front of Holmeview, 8 Greenway,  
Eastcote  
in front of 20 High Street, Astcote

Food must be non-perishable (tinned, dried or powdered), in-date and unopened.

In addition to the items already listed, the Foodbank will accept baby food, but NOT infant formula.

It will also accept donations of nappies and baby wipes, soap, toiletries and pet food.

The Foodbank isn't taking donations of clothing or plastic bags, so please hold on to these for when the charity shops are able to reopen!

To donate money to the Towcester Foodbank please contact Foodbank trustee, Christine Russell, on 830012, who will advise how to do this.

## ***Dog Walkers***

Please would all dog walkers not leave plastic bags of faeces either thrown on the ground or tied to tree branches and, more importantly, clear up after your pet. The footpaths and verges are becoming quite disgusting.

There has been an incident of a resident walking her dogs off the lead through a field with sheep and lambs resulting in severe injuries inflicted by her dogs on young lambs. Please ensure that dogs are kept on leads around livestock at all times.

Barry Evans  
Pattishall Parish Council

## ***Wartime Memories*** ***Blanche Smith***

Blanche Smith moved to Pattishall ten years ago from Kent. Here is her account of life during the war and her memories of VE Day in 1945:

The war started in September 1939, just before I was 9. We lived very close to Chelsfield Station at 1 Station Cottages.

Chelsfeld was about 15 miles south east of London in Kent. The railway line was a strategic route to get tanks and equipment to Dover and at Chelsfeld there was an electricity substation making the area a prime target for German bombers.

My school was a mile away in Chelsfeld village and I would often miss school if there was an air raid. At the beginning of the war they were bombing Biggin Hill which was not that far away. Early in the war we could watch 'dog fights' from the back door of our house. The barrage balloons put up to protect London from air raids made the German planes come further our way and they would often drop their bombs anywhere in the area. Fort Halstead (an ammunition development centre) was another target and was just a couple of miles away. Anti aircraft guns (ACK-ACK guns) would be fired from the area and we could hear them and feel the vibration when we were in the air raid shelter.

When the first V1 (doodle bug) came over my Mum and a neighbour were looking up and wondered what it was. Mum said 'I don't know what it is but its back side is alight!' You could hear the engine stop and then the bomb would just fall from the sky and there was a thud as it hit the ground.

My Gran and her younger sons used to walk to their nearest station every night to get the train to Chislehurst Caves which was like an underground town used as an air raid shelter. When the train got to Chelsfeld she would shout across to me and my Mum 'Why don't you come with us? You'll stay there and get killed!' We never went. Towards the end of the war she was so frightened that she just stayed at the caves and didn't come home.

One Sunday lunch time I remember that a bomb landed within 50 feet of our house but didn't explode. We had to be evacuated while it was defused. We asked the soldiers to look after the chicken while we were away. They did. They fed them all the cabbages we were growing. My Uncle Scooter (real name Henry) watched the army detonate the bomb from a safe distance on the bridge over the railway line with a bucket on his head for protection! The explosion blew all the carrots out of the ground. We evacuated ourselves to Gran's a few miles away and that night a landmine landed nearby and exploded.



Our air raid shelter was meant to be for us and the house next door. Mr Morgan, who lived next door, was rather old and would have had trouble getting in and out of the shelter so he used to go to the local pub at the top of the road each night and sleep in the cellar where a bed was provided.

VE Day 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1945 Charlie Pye and Percy Ball (honestly, that was their names) from the Youth Club called round and said 'Are you coming with us tomorrow?' A dozen of us got the train to London Bridge, crossed the Thames over London Bridge and walked down The Strand and somebody had got a dustbin lid which they banged as we sang 'McNamara's Band'. We were swept along in the crowd up to Buckingham Palace. I remember climbing up on one of the lions by the Victoria Monument and everyone shouting 'We want the King'. The Royal Family came out onto the balcony of Buckingham Palace several times, and Churchill joined them. We mingled with the crowd during the day and got the train home from Charing Cross about 10.30pm arriving home before midnight.

There was great relief 'it was all over'.





## Pattishall Primary School

2020 certainly has brought our school community more than we bargained for. We began back in January full of high hopes for the Spring and Summer Terms ahead.

In February, following extensive rehearsals, our school choir sang with over 8,000 other children in the Young Voices concert at the London O2 Arena. It was an amazing experience, which would not have been possible without countless lunchtimes sacrificed by the choir to rehearse and the dedication of Mr May, Mrs Onley and Mrs Coventry. Thanks to our Parish Council who helped to fund the coach to get us there. The PC have also, more recently, paid for a new flagpole after ours collapsed during the lockdown! We are very grateful to the committee for their ongoing support of the school and the next generation of parishioners.

Two days later, our Year 3s performed at the Northampton Boy's School in 'Junction 20'. Their performance was truly fearless as they danced, cartwheeled and flipped over the stage in front of a packed house of secondary school pupils and their parents. Special thanks goes to Miss Dalton for organising the experience and to Jacob – an ex-Pattishall pupil and student at the Boy's School, who came in weekly to teach the children their routines.

Towards the end of February, we had unbridled success at the School Games,

where out of 100 schools we gained a podium place in 'New Age Curling'. One of the team – William – stepped in with just 20 minutes practice!

On 28th February, our amazing FoPs Team came together to run the annual Pancake Flip, which as ever was a flipping success! Little did we know that this would be our last FoPs event of the year.

On 5th March we celebrated World Book Day, with all the children and staff coming dressed as a word. We had: 'angelic', 'exotic', 'enveloped', 'environmental', 'courageous', 'affluent', 'sophisticated', 'angry', 'cosy', 'anomalous', 'theatrical', 'greedy' and 'yellow'. Much fun was had by all at the cosy story time at the end of the day too.

Then, at 3.15pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, after 48 hours' notice, we closed our doors indefinitely. It was an immensely unsettling time for everyone. Our teaching team went into overdrive, reinventing education from a virtual platform and the whole community pulled together to establish the 'new normal'.



Whilst we have been apart, we have come closer together as a school community. We raised several hundred pounds for the Brain Tumour Charity on 'Wear a Hat Day'. Our Reception class also raised close to £3000 for the Hope Centre by having a 'Big Sleep In', where they were sponsored to sleep somewhere uncomfortable to help remind us all of those who have no fixed abode. We also enjoyed sharing our photos of us all dressed in blue to

support the NHS and our VE Day tea parties.

On 10<sup>th</sup> May, the PM Boris Johnson announced that we are to begin our phased return to school. So, on 2nd June 2020, we welcome back our Reception and Year 1 classes and our Year 6 class on 3rd June. We will also be welcoming back children of critical workers, who are mostly in Year 4.

And whilst school will be a little different, it isn't scary. We have put in place robust safety measures and systems to help mitigate the ultimate risk; including an anti-microbial fogging courtesy of HPS Services. Our amazing teachers and support team are all very much looking forward to seeing some life breathed back into the building – the way it should be. And as the infection rate decreases, we hope to welcome more and more children over the coming months. We know that things will be a little different for a while yet, but we are optimistic.

I would like to take this opportunity to say the most enormous thank you to my team for their dedication and commitment to the children throughout this uncertain time. I'd also like to thank all of the parents for their support and good humour – even though things have been really tough at times, I have never felt so proud to be part of the Pattishall family. But the biggest thanks goes to the children of Pattishall CE Primary School, who have shown immense resilience, determination and grit as they have had to give up socialising with their friends as well as the routine that going to school brings.

I have missed you all very much – I can't wait to see you again – now is the time to begin to look ahead.

Mrs McLean  
Head Teacher

## **War and Peace**

### ***Memories of a small village in rural Buckinghamshire***

A manor house, church, a few farms and several cottages. Shire horses doing the work, we children riding astride them back to the stable or following the furrow behind the plough. The farmer's wife bringing tea to the men in her pony and trap, wildflowers everywhere.

This all changed as an aerodrome was built right up to the edge of the village cutting it off from the school. A new road was built, the workmen helping us on our way carrying our gas masks and lunch bags aged 5, a journey of 2 miles.

The hanger and bomb depot were a small field away from our home, it was scary. With damaged planes landing it was also rather exciting. Lorries and air people going from the station – we sold them violets picked from the hedgerows. Evacuees came to stay.

The village was never the same again. The manor house was turned into flats, Jewish evacuees came to stay to recover from the ordeal of the concentration camps. The walled garden and croquet lawn become all overgrown. Not the place I remember as a small child with all the staff, singing carols in the big hall at Christmas and having presents in the Butler's pantry.

Buildings used by the RAF were turned into homes for Displaced Persons, many who went on to marry local girls.

The aerodrome went back to farmland, it was almost as if it had never been there.

Mary Clarke aged 85  
Resident of Astcote



Given the current uncertainties, we are looking at whether or not this year's show can go ahead, and will let everyone know in August – via our Facebook page, the village Facebook page, and on the Parish website.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while we sort this out!

## PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE – TO BE CONFIRMED

Entry fee per item in advance: 20p adults, 10p under 14s

Entry fee per item on the day: 40p adults, 20p under 14s

|              |              |  |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| Thurs 10 Sep | 6.00pm       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced-price entry finishes</li> <li>• Deadline for entering 'tallest sunflower'</li> </ul>          |
| Sat 12 Sep   | TBA          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunflower measuring (in your garden – don't pick!)</li> </ul>   |
| Sun 13 Sep   | 9.30-10.45am | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PLEASE BRING YOUR ITEMS TO THE PARISH HALL – IF REQUIRED, SOCIAL DISTANCING TO BE IN PLACE</li> </ul> |
|              | 10.45am      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judging of Show categories, hall closed to public</li> </ul>  |
|              | From 1.15pm  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HALL OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Viewing of items – AGAIN, SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE IN PLACE</li> </ul>      |
|              | 3.30         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRESENTATION OF CUPS</li> </ul>   |
|              | 4pm          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Event ends</li> </ul>   |

Supported by: Pattishall Parish Council

Facebook: @PattishallProduceShow

Chair: Mr Barry Evans [sixpencesheep@aol.com](mailto:sixpencesheep@aol.com)

Secretary: Mrs Sarah Cockerill [sarah.cockerill@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.cockerill@gmail.com)



## **PATTISHALL & DISTRICT FOOD & PRODUCE SHOW – JUDGING SECTIONS**

### **SECTION A: VEGETABLES**

*Unless otherwise specified, all categories are 'any variety'*

1. Five onions
2. Five potatoes
3. Three carrots (with tops)
4. Five pods of French beans
5. Five runner beans
6. Five standard / large tomatoes
7. Five smaller / cherry tomatoes
8. Three courgettes
9. Three beetroot (trimmed)
10. One cabbage
11. Three leeks
12. Longest runner bean
13. Longest parsnip
14. Heaviest marrow
15. One pumpkin
16. One squash (not pumpkin)
17. Strangest shaped vegetable
18. Four culinary herbs

### **SECTION B: FRUIT**

19. Three cooking apples
20. Three dessert apples
21. Largest apple
22. Three pears
23. Five plums / damsons
24. Three rhubarb stalks (trimmed)
25. Tray of mixed fruit & veg –  
minimum of 5 kinds

### **SECTION C: EGGS (Poultry)**

26. One egg
27. Three matching eggs
28. Heaviest egg
29. Brightest yolk (egg to be brought in whole)
30. One decorated egg (decorated by entrant in 2020)

### **SECTION D: FLOWERS & PLANTS**

31. Three roses of same or differing varieties
32. Rose, one specimen
33. Dahlia, three blooms
34. Three stems of Michaelmas daisy / chrysanthemum (same variety)
35. Pelargonium / geranium in pot
36. One flowering pot plant
37. One cacti or succulent in a pot
38. Five fuchsia heads on a plate (same or mixed)
39. Vase of sweet peas
40. Vase of mixed flowers (horticultural not artistic quality)
41. Tallest sunflower

### **SECTION E: FLORAL ART 18"x18" max**

42. Flower arrangement in a mug
43. Arrangement "Green with Envy"
44. Arrangement on VE day theme

## Entry Form – continue overleaf if needed

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS to complete form – thank you!

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Telephone</b>            |
| <b>Address</b> | <b>Email</b>                |
|                | <b>Age (if 16 or under)</b> |

| Section & Class (e.g. K3) | Description | Entry fee (see below) |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             |                       |
|                           |             | <b>Total £:</b>       |

**Please use a SEPARATE ENTRY FORM for EACH PERSON and return your forms before 6pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to:**

Pattishall School, School Rd, Pattishall, or:

Barry Evans, Pear Tree Farm, 14 High St, Astcote – Tel 830 523

Kirsten Gibbs, 15 Church Street, Pattishall – Tel 830 707

Maggie Merris, 17 Manor Road, Grimscote – Tel 830 893

Stuart Bates, 18 Gayton Road, Eastcote – Tel 830 985

(All of the above will have extra copies of the entry form)

Entry fee IN ADVANCE: if received by

6pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September

.....20p adults, 10p under 14s

Entry fee ON THE DAY: between 9.30-

11am on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September

.....40p adults, 20p under 14s



## Rules & Conditions of Entry

- With the exceptions of Section L (Children) entries are open to all who **live or work** in Pattishall or Cold Higham Parishes;
- Class L is for those age 14 years or younger, who live, attend school, OR have grandparents in Pattishall or Cold Higham Parishes;
- Except where stated flower pots, bowls and troughs may be of any shape or size;
- **Enter early and save money! Entry forms received before 6pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 cost 20p adults & 10p under 14s PER ITEM; entry forms between 9.30-11.00am on the day of the show cost 40p adults & 20p under 14s PER ITEM;**
- Please use a SEPARATE ENTRY FORM for EACH PERSON;
- A maximum of 3 entries per individual class is allowed per person;
- The hall will be open to receive entries from 9.30-10.45am on Sunday 13th September 2020 – this may change if we need more time to allow for social distancing;
- Judging will begin at 10.45 am. The hall will not be open to the public until judging is complete – this should be around 1.15pm.
- Cups will be announced at approximately 3.00pm
- We won't have an auction this year – please collect your items from the hall after the cups have been announced – from c. 3.30.
- The judges' decision is final; no correspondence will be entered into;
- The Committee cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage to the property of any exhibitor at or in transit to or from the show;
- All lost property must be claimed within one month;
- All trophies awarded remain the property of Pattishall and District Produce Show and must be returned to the Chair by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021.



**Pattishall & District Produce Show**  
**Sunday 13th September 2020**  
**Cups and Trophies**

Points awarded: 1 point for each entry received on the day;  
 20 points for First, 15 points for Second and 10 points for Third.

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Miss Olney Cup.....     | .....Overall show winner                 |
| Horace Bates Cup.....   | .....Overall winner of Section A         |
| Gardening Club Cup..... | .....Overall winner of Section B         |
| Barry Evans Cup.....    | .....Overall winner of Section C         |
| Janet Steel Cup.....    | .....Overall winner of Section D         |
| Floral Art Cup.....     | .....Overall winner of Section E         |
| Dorothy Kirton Cup..... | .....Overall winner of Section F         |
| Eastcote Arms Cup.....  | .....Overall winner of Section G         |
| Peter Bull Bowl.....    | .....Overall winner of Section H         |
| John's Motors Cup.....  | .....Overall winner of Section J         |
| Maisie Cup.....         | .....Overall winner of Section K         |
| The Bartram Cup.....    | ...Overall winner of 'tallest sunflower' |

**Section L cups awarded for highest total of points per group**

**(Please note new age categories):**

|                                  |               |                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Up to & including 6<br>years old | 7-9 years old | 10-14 years old |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|

**!!! 2019 CUP-WINNERS !!!**

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR TROPHY BY 10 AUGUST TO BARRY EVANS**  
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A big Pattishall Produce Show 'thank you' to our judges.  
 They are all experts in their field who travel to the show and  
 volunteer their time to make our day a success!

## **SECTION F: COOKERY / BAKING**

- 45. Four cheese scones
- 46. Three rock cakes
- 47. Tea loaf (any kind)
- 48. Decorated cake in the shape of an animal
- 49. Lemon drizzle cake
- 50. Cake to include any vegetable in recipe e.g. carrot, courgette, etc.
- 51. Gluten-free sweet bake (any)



- 52. Fruit pie or tart, minimum diameter 6"
- 53. Un-iced Victoria sponge, with jam-only filling
- 54. Six jam tarts
- 55. Six butter shortbread biscuits
- 56. Six any other biscuit or cookie
- 57. Three chocolate brownies
- 58. Yeast bread: any grain, with or without additional flavourings
- 59. Sourdough bread: as above
- 60. Three sausage rolls, homemade shortcrust pastry, maximum length 4 inches
- 61. Savoury quiche 6" diameter

## **SECTION G: COOKERY / HOMEMADE JAMS, CHUTNEYS, DRINKS & VINEGARS**

- 62. Jam or preserves, with or without a little tippie
- 63. Marmalade (any citrus fruit)
- 64. Jelly – sweet or savoury
- 65. Chutney and pickles
- 66. Homemade wine, flavoured spirit, or non-alcoholic beverage

## **SECTION H: ART**

**Any media, size and theme, unless stated otherwise**

- 67. A painting in watercolour, oil, or acrylic
- 68. A sculpture or mixed media work
- 69. Art on a postcard (any subject / any media; max size 4"x6")

## **SECTION J: HANDICRAFTS**

**Must have been completed in past 12 months (and not entered previously)**

- 70. Greetings card
- 71. Tapestry or cross-stitch item
- 72. Knitted, crocheted or woven item (or other yarn-based craft)
- 73. Patchwork or quilted item
- 74. Doorstop (any material)
- 75. Handmade toy (any material)

## SECTION K: PHOTOGRAPHY

**Max. 6"x8", including mount**

- 76. Animal or animals
- 77. Colour in nature
- 78. Lockdown Reflections
- 79. Movement
- 80. Farming
- 81. "A view through..."

***Please mount all photos so that they are not damaged when displayed.***

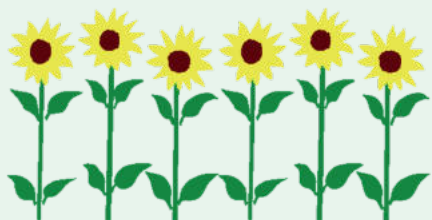
***Photographs of children MUST have parents' permission.***

**DON'T FORGET!**

**THE 'TALLEST SUNFLOWER'**

**CATEGORY IS OPEN TO EVERYONE!**

**USE CODE D-41**



## SECTION L: FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

*Children & young people may also enter any category above*

### **Up to and including 6 years old**

- 82. Three iced biscuits
- 83. Pasta picture
- 84. Hand print picture
- 85. Animal mask on a paper plate
- 86. An edible necklace

### **7-9 years old**

- 87. Decorated cupcake
- 88. Animal made of fruit or veg
- 89. Garden on a plate
- 90. Decorated wooden spoon
- 91. A painted rock – any subject

### **10-14 years old**

- 92. Three squares of any tray bake or biscuit / cereal cake (baked or fridge cake)
- 93. A birthday card for your best friend
- 94. Any "upcycled" item
- 95. A painted rock – any subject

**Thank you again for your patience – we will confirm whether or not the show can take place by mid-August.**



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7.30pm**

at

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*At time of printing we have no  
idea whether this event will  
be going ahead but if you  
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# **Pattishall Parish Council**

## **Chairman's 2019-20 Report**

The past twelve months have certainly been a time of change and one of reflection. The Coronavirus pandemic provided challenging times for young and old alike. Our parish school closed along with others nationwide from March 23<sup>rd</sup> and remain closed as I write this at the beginning of May. The Parish Council quickly swung into action, leafleting the parish and posting notes on social media websites asking for volunteers to help with shopping, collection of prescriptions, dog walking or connecting with those who may find themselves lonely in the lockdown. Residents were urged to contact the Parish Clerk should they require assistance. Ann Addison (Parish Clerk) co-ordinated this operation and many thanks go to Ann for all her dedication in helping our Parish at this most difficult of times and to all those volunteers.

I do believe that many have discovered how fortunate we are to live in such a rural location with over thirty designated footpaths in the parish covering some thirteen miles. Many residents have been out and about, especially as we have been experiencing such warm and dry weather during April and the gardens are looking magnificent as people have more time to dedicate to them. I hear that there are many growing fruit and vegetables for the first time and the Parish Allotments are looking quite splendid. It is too early to confirm whether this year's Produce Show will go ahead but surely it will be a bumper year of entries.

Although challenging it is heart-warming to see our community spirit is alive and well with residents enjoying a socially

distanced chat as they take their daily exercise. It has become a common site to see many families out walking, plus dog. Throughout the year there are those who help in many different ways and our thanks go to Linda Hemming who co-ordinates Neighbourhood Watch and often attends parish meetings to keep us updated, Michael Fleck for his continued management of the Garden of Remembrance and Bob Illingworth for managing the parish website.

Keeping our parish neat and tidy is always a challenge and both Laura Dark and John Stretton have helped by either attending to the planters on School Road or keeping the foliage at bay along the Suttons Walk footpath. Steve Parkinson continues to collect litter from Hodge Close to the A5 on a regular basis and this year saw over thirty volunteers turn out for the Annual Litter Pick in early March.

Thanks also to Ann Atkins for her tenacious efforts in keeping the number 87 bus service going. It really looked as if this vital artery for many was to be lost as the County looked to reduce its expenditure. Pattishall, along with other parishes banded together and at an agreeable extra cost to our budget we were able to support the bus service but the more people who use it the less the cost to the parish. Iris Illingworth is a stalwart of the parish and is deserving of thanks for all she does for the council and community, as too is Andy Stewart the editor of *Around Pattishall*. In conclusion the Parish Council would like to thank all those who run clubs and organisations that enrich the life of residents of all ages.

Sadly, the zip wire became unsafe to use and after continued efforts to get the firm that installed the apparatus to make good the metal poles' foundations the council concluded that we would have to



bear the brunt of the cost. The zip wire is now mended but playgrounds remain closed whilst governmental directives remain operational. Members of the Council have been in communication with South Northants Council about obtaining a grant for play equipment for the Booth Close play area. We are hopeful to have good news about this project in due course.

Parking throughout the parish can be problematic, none more so than along School Road at school drop off and pick up times. The verge was not only an unsightly mud bath but was being badly eroded. Wooden stakes known as Dragon's Teeth were installed and the problem appears to have been rectified.

After much deliberation it was with great sadness that Eastcote Chapel closed just before Christmas. For many years the congregation had been dwindling and as the years went by the fabric of the building started to deteriorate to a point that a considerable investment was required to keep the building structurally sound. The final service was particularly well attended with residents able to join one another in prayer and thanksgiving for the part the chapel had played in the life of the parish.

After thirty-three years Roger Clarke is retiring from the Parish Council. Roger has held offices as Vice Chairman and Chairman as well as serving for many years on the South Northants Council. His commitment to public service has been ongoing for many years and as a council we have benefited hugely from his knowledge and experience. Under normal circumstances we would be having our annual AGM in May with the election of councillors and officers. Under the 'Sunset Clause' AGM's may be deferred for a year and therefore a new date will be announced further down the line.

May I finally take the opportunity to thank my fellow councillors for their efforts and support throughout the year and to all I wish you well and hope that next year will not be as challenging as the last one.

Barry H Evans May 2020

## ***Cold Higham Parish Council***

The Parish Council Meeting, and the Annual Parish Meeting (APM), scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020, were both cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Chairman's Report, which should have been delivered to the APM, is included with this report. It covers the previous 12 months' activities up to the time of the lockdown, the last activity being the parish litter pick in the pouring rain on 15<sup>th</sup> March. Some of the plucky pickers can be seen in the photo.



Since the lockdown began, the Council have endeavoured to keep parish residents up to date with local activities by means of Nextdoor social media, and the parish web site. Two circulars were delivered to every parish household: the first offering advice and seeking volunteer helpers; the second offering support from the local emergency food larder for those most in need. Over a dozen people volunteered to support others within the parish, and although there has, mercifully, been little call for them so far, the PC are most grateful to them for their offers of help.

Despite the lockdown, work has continued apace on both the A5 refurbishment, and on the deployment of

high-speed broadband cabling by Gigaclear within the parish and Pattishall. Both activities have been the subjects of discussion on our local Nextdoor, enabling those who need the information to be kept up to date. Thank you to all contributors.

The planned VE75 celebrations for 8<sup>th</sup> May were, of course, cancelled, sad to say. But the residents of Church Lane did manage to hold a very successful socially-distanced street party – well done to them (see separate report).

Another casualty of the crisis has been the planned elections for the parish council. These will now take place in May 2021.

History was made on 21<sup>st</sup> May when the PC held its first 'virtual' meeting using the Zoom app. Preparations had been made beforehand, and the meeting went very well, with all appropriate business being conducted remotely. The Government had previously passed the necessary legislation allowing such meetings to take place. The PC officers were re-elected at the meeting; the list of all members can be seen on the web site. Plans are in hand to continue these online meetings for the foreseeable future. Agendas and minutes will appear on the web site as per normal, and members of the public are welcome to 'attend'.

The annual audit of the parish accounts has also taken place 'remotely'. The auditor commented that she was able to 'access a well ordered and detailed set of accounts and records' and was 'able to answer 'yes' to all relevant questions and has signed the Return as required'. Councillors are very grateful to the Clerk for her hard work in producing the accounts and audit papers under trying circumstances. The accounts and audit reports will be put on the web site after the next parish council meeting in June.

Cold Higham residents are reminded that, should they need help during the CV-19 crisis, they should email [chhelpchpc@gmail.com](mailto:chhelpchpc@gmail.com) or ring 01327 830521. Useful information is copied regularly to the special Coronavirus pages on the web site.

Parish web address: [www.coldhigham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.coldhigham-pc.gov.uk)

Digby Carter, Chairman  
01327 830521

## ***Cold Higham APM 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Chairman's Report***

I am pleased to present my third report to the Annual Parish Meeting (APM).

In contrast to last year, I am delighted to report that we have had no turnover in personnel this year. Furthermore, with the delayed Parish Council elections fast approaching in May, it is great news that all councillors have agreed to offer themselves for re-election. I would like to thank them all very sincerely for their support and work over the year. Our new clerk, Gillian Greaves, has settled in extremely well, and we all thank her, most particularly, for her help and wise guidance.

With the help of grants from South Northants Council we started the replacement of our street lights, changing to environmentally-friendlier LEDs. The ten lights in Grimscoate and along Banbury Lane were all converted on 30<sup>th</sup> September. There has been a delay for a number of reasons in replacing the remaining five, but some, at least, should be completed soon. The first quarterly electricity bill after the new lights had been fitted showed a reduction from £283 to £154 – almost

half. The Council is most grateful to South Northants Council for the New Homes Bonus Grant money which has enabled these lights to be fitted without cost to Cold Higham's precept.

The Council organised the usual Remembrance Sunday commemoration on 10<sup>th</sup> November followed by drinks and snacks in the Parish Hall. Both were well attended, and the Council is most grateful to Cllr Everest Hayes for the supplies courtesy of J Sainsburys.

During the year Cllr Forster has undertaken an overhaul of the cemetery documentation and records, which is still ongoing. The Council is most grateful to him for this labour of love.

The major refurbishment work on the A5 between Fosters Booth and Towcester, begun during the year, has affected travel in the parish. The web site has been temporarily adjusted to include regular updates on this work received from the Highways England contractor. This information has been largely responsible for a vast increase in page viewings on the web site - from 16 per day in February 2019 to 98 per day in February 2020.

Fibre broadband cables are about to start being laid in and around the parish by Gigaclear. This will bring ultrafast broadband to the parish. Meanwhile there will be additional roadworks disruption for a few months as the roads and pavements are dug up to insert the cables.

There are two grass cutting contracts The Churchyard, Cemetery and the road verges in Cold Higham and Grimscoate. This remains our most expensive service, though the cost has not been raised for next year. The Council is very grateful to Keith Hurford for organising these contracts.

The Churchyard. Last season the specification changed to include more regular cutting and collecting of the trimmings in the cemetery, a one metre strip along all footpaths in the churchyard and around the war memorial. This has improved the appearance of these areas. Also included is annual cutting of the hedge along the cemetery and No1 Church Lane boundary.

Road verges. This will be the third season the verges have been strimmed, and many parishioners have commented that it has improved the overall appearance and given a more cared for look to the villages.

Once again we have suffered from damage to road signs within the parish. Ultimately we as a parish will have to pay for the repairs.

The parish litter pick took place on 15<sup>th</sup> March in pouring rain! Despite the conditions, 16 people gallantly collected six large bags of rubbish from the parish highways. Many thanks to all of them, and to Keith Hurford for organising the clean-up.

Finally, the impact of Covid-19 coronavirus is an ongoing issue which will affect everyone. The delay of the parish council elections until next year is an obvious example. It is likely to have an impact on council activities. We will keep the web site as up to date as possible.

Digby Carter, Chairman

# **ASTCOTE METHODIST CHURCH**

## ***Sharing God's Love with All***

Team Ministry: Rev Romeo Pedro, Rev. Phil Snelson  
Deacon Richard Beckett, Rev Brian Kennard, Rev Francis M'Itiiri  
The Chapel and Ministers are available for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.  
To contact a Minister please ring the Circuit Office: 01604 702178

**All the following will be resumed in accordance with the  
corona virus lockdown being lifted.**  
**Please see the chapel noticeboard for details as the situation changes**

### **Sunday Services**

10.30am. Services are generally informal. Family Services on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month but families with children are welcome at any service and activities for children are always available. Refreshments served after all services.

### **Lunch Club**

For the elderly or retired on the second Tuesday in the month. Please contact Maureen Corbett on 830296 if you are interested.

### **Well Group**

12-2pm Ladies group that meets monthly for lunch followed by a speaker. Contact Alison Brierley on 830770 to book a seat.

### **Flowers**

can be placed in the Chapel on Sundays to celebrate an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Kate Stretton 830115.

### **Family Services**

45 minute service for all the family (usually led by John Atkin), normally on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month at 10.30am. Refreshments after the service. All welcome.

### **Praying for the Community**

There is 'Prayer Box' on the wall outside the Chapel. This is for any member of our Community to be able to drop in the name of someone they would like us to pray for. We don't need to know the details, just a first name is sufficient. That person will be included in our time of prayer on the following Sunday.

In addition, at 9.30am on the first Sunday of the month, there will be a half hour of prayer specifically for the Community. Anyone may join us for a time of quiet or simple spoken prayer. Our normal 10.30am service will follow after a cuppa.

## Mary Beach

Mary Beach, who will be well known to many people in the Parish, died on 6<sup>th</sup> May, just before her 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Mary moved to Eastcote 40 years ago. She immersed herself in the life of Holy Cross Church and spent much time on her other great passion of drawing and painting. A member of Harpole Art Group, her work was shown at local

fairs and shows. Her beautiful handwriting made any birthday card or letter a work of art.

What Mary lacked in family she made up for with her friends who she valued and kept in touch with over many years. Her Christian faith underpinned her life and despite its simple nature hers was a life well lived. She will be missed by all those who knew her.



## Bus News

The bus continues to run between Towcester and Northampton. Any queries etc. please contact Ann Atkin.

ann.atkin51@btinternet.com, 830907

Brackley • Silverstone • Towcester • Greens Norton • Pattishall • Hunsbury Meadows • Northampton

includes relevant X91 journeys between Brackley & Silverstone – see separate timetable for full details



### MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS except Public Holidays

|                                 | 87   | X91  | 87   | 87   | X91  | 87   | 87   | 87   | X91  | X91  |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                 |      |      | Sch  |      |      |      |      |      | MF   | Sat  |
| Brackley Market Place           | 0644 | 0703 | 0827 | 0935 | 0944 |      |      | 1445 | 1630 | 1635 |
| Brackley Tesco                  | x    | x    | x    | x    | x    |      |      | 1447 | x    | x    |
| Brackley Waynflete Ave          | x    | x    | 0830 | x    | x    |      |      | x    | x    | x    |
| Brackley Springfield Way        | x    | 0707 | 0833 | 0939 | x    |      |      | 1455 | x    | x    |
| Brackley Turweston Rd N         | 0649 | 0715 | 0841 | 0948 | 0949 |      |      | 1503 | 1633 | 1638 |
| Syresham Kings Head             | x    | x    | 0846 | x    | x    |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Silverstone UTC                 | x    | x    | 0853 | x    | x    |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Silverstone White Hart          | x    | 0724 | 0900 | 0957 | x    |      |      |      | 1642 | 1647 |
| Silverstone opp Catch Yard Farm | 0700 | 0725 |      | 0958 | 1000 |      |      |      | 1643 | 1648 |
| Towcester Tesco/A5              | x    |      |      |      |      | 1009 | 1248 |      |      |      |
| Towcester Brackley Road         | x    |      |      |      |      | 1011 | 1250 |      |      |      |
| Greens Norton Butchers Arms     | 0710 |      |      |      |      | 1017 | 1256 |      |      |      |
| Duncote Main Street             | 0712 |      |      |      |      | 1020 | 1259 |      |      |      |
| Astcote Main Street             | 0717 |      |      |      |      | 1025 | 1304 |      |      |      |
| Pattishall Church Street        | 0720 |      |      |      |      | 1028 | 1307 |      |      |      |
| Fosters Booth Butchers Lane     | 0723 |      |      |      |      | 1031 | 1310 |      |      |      |
| Eastcote Greenway               | 0726 |      |      |      |      | 1033 | 1312 |      |      |      |
| Rothersthorpe Banbury Lane      | 0733 |      | 0851 |      |      | 1040 | 1319 |      |      |      |
| Hunsbury Meadows Banbury Lane   | 0737 |      | 0855 |      |      | 1044 | 1323 |      |      |      |
| Pineham Village                 | 0739 |      | x    |      |      | x    | x    |      |      |      |
| Sixfields Stadium               | 0744 |      | 0900 |      |      | 1048 | 1327 |      |      |      |
| Sainsburys Sainsburys           | 0745 |      | 0901 |      |      | 1049 | 1328 |      |      |      |
| Northampton Rail Station        | 0749 |      | 0905 |      |      | 1053 | 1332 |      |      |      |
| Northampton The Drapery         | 0755 |      | 0911 |      |      | 1059 | 1338 |      |      |      |





Northampton • Hunsbury Meadows • Pattishall • Greens Norton •  
Towcester • Silverstone • Brackley

includes relevant X91 journeys between Silverstone & Brackley – see separate timetable for full details  
also extra buses run on route 55 between Northampton & Swan Valley – see separate timetable for full details

87

MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS except Public Holidays

|                                 | 87   | 87   | 87   | X91  | X91  | 87   | 87   | 87   | X91  | 87   |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                 |      |      |      | MF   | Sat  | Sch  | Hol  |      | Sat  | MF   |
| Northampton The Drapery bay 19  | 0918 | 1320 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1750 | 1800 |
| Northampton Rail Station        | 0921 | 1323 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1754 | 1804 |
| St James Square Post Office     | x    | 1326 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1759 | 1809 |
| Sainsburys Sainsburys           | x    | 1331 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1800 | 1810 |
| Sixfields Stadium               | x    | 1332 |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Sixfields Football Ground       | 0929 | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Pineham Village                 | 0932 | 1339 |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Pineham Sainsburys              | 0933 | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Swan Valley Cob Drive           | 0936 | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Swan Valley Pets at Home        | 0940 | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Hunsbury Meadows Banbury Lane   | 0945 | 1345 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1805 | 1815 |
| Rothersthorpe Banbury Lane      | 0949 | 1349 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1809 | 1819 |
| Eastcote Greenway               | 0956 | 1356 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1816 | 1826 |
| Pattishall Church Street        | 0958 | 1358 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1818 | 1828 |
| Fosters Booth Butchers Lane     | 1000 | 1400 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1820 | 1830 |
| Astcote Main Street             | 1004 | 1404 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1824 | 1834 |
| Duncote Main Street             | 1008 | 1408 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1830 | 1840 |
| Greens Norton Butchers Arms     | 1013 | 1413 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1834 | 1844 |
| Towcester Tesco/A5              | 1020 | 1420 |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    | x    |
| Silverstone opp Catch Yard Farm | 0918 | 1427 | 1554 | 1609 | 1702 | 1712 | 1848 | 1854 | 1858 |      |
| Silverstone UTC                 | x    | x    | x    | x    | 1710 | x    | x    | x    | x    |      |
| Syresham Kings Head             | x    | x    | x    | x    | 1722 | 1722 | x    | x    | x    |      |
| Brackley Turwestern Rd N        | 0928 | 1437 | 1604 | 1619 | 1727 | 1727 | 1858 | 1904 | 1908 |      |
| Brackley Springfield Way        | 0936 | x    | 1611 | 1626 | 1735 | 1735 | x    | 1911 |      |      |
| Brackley Tesco                  | 0941 | x    | x    | x    | 1740 | 1740 | x    | x    | x    |      |
| Brackley Market Place           | 0943 | 1442 | 1618 | 1633 | 1746 | 1746 | 1903 | 1918 | 1913 |      |

Sch runs on schooldays only  
Hol runs on school holidays only  
MF runs Mondays to Fridays only  
Sat runs Saturdays only

## **The Parishes of Holy Cross, Pattishall and St Luke, Cold Higham** (part of the Amelcote Benefice)

Our church buildings are currently closed for services but 'church' is very much open online as we are continuing our popular "Zoom" services led by Revd Karen Jongman at the following times:-

Sundays 9.45 for 10am      Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
Wednesdays 9.45 for 10am      Morning Prayer

The Zoom session opens 15 minutes before the service starts to allow time to say hello and sort out any technical issues. To join in, you will need a Zoom account (free). If you don't already have one, download the Zoom app or go to <https://zoom.us/signup> and follow the prompts. To join any service, use the meeting ID 323 560 1333, password Amelcote.

Alternatively, to connect by phone dial 0203 418 5237 / 5240 / 5691. Meeting ID 323 560 1333 password 296427.

For further support contact Chris Bulleid 07934 589685 or [amelcote.info@gmail.com](mailto:amelcote.info@gmail.com)

Plans are being put in place to open Holy Cross church for short periods for private prayer, commencing on 20th June 10-11.00 am. Please refer to the notice in the church porch or on the Holy Cross Facebook page for details of future opening times, or contact [amelcote.info@gmail.com](mailto:amelcote.info@gmail.com) or Rev Karen 01327 830569.

Everyone welcome.



All being well, final copy date for the planned October - November newsletter is 10<sup>th</sup> September. Copy should be sent to The Old Farmhouse, 13 High Street, Astcote (email [ap@stewarts.me.uk](mailto:ap@stewarts.me.uk), tel: 830042). Please use email if possible.

Pattishall Parish Council undertakes the production of the newsletter, it does not take responsibility for the accuracy of articles. Any views or opinions expressed are those of the author in each case.

Would you like to see your photograph or artwork on the cover of the next *Around Pattishall*? If so, please email. It should be something with a local and seasonal flavour.

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