## **WOODNEWTON NEWS**

## **May 2015**



The eclipse in Woodnewton on 20th March. Photo taken by Matthew Roberts www.woodnewtonhub.co.uk



## The Parish Council met on the 3rd April.

## Matters Arising from previous meeting

- Mowing by the new grass contractors is of a good standard. Two cuts have been carried out
- The partially blocked drain outside No 25 Main St has been reported to 'Street Doctor'

### Clerk's Pay

Following a performance appraisal carried out by Cllr Webb, Council discussed the Clerk's pay rate. Due to her rapid progress it was agreed to move her pay from Level 15 to Level 17 and her pay will increase in line with the guidelines set out by NCALC. This will be backdated to 1st April.

## Parish Council Election - 7th May

Five residents have presented nomination papers to ENDC. Andrew Hansford, Tom Holmes, Liz Holland, Roger Flack and Russ Jenner. All 5 will take office on the 8th May and sign their declarations of acceptance at the Parish Council meeting on 11th May. This will leave 2 casual vacancies on the Council.

## **Electricity Costs**

EON have increased their prices for the first time in 9 years by 50% from 8.24 pence per kWh to 12.40 pence per kWh. Despite the increase this does represent good value when compared with other providers. However Council were advised that the electricity is unmetered. Cllr Holmes will query with EON their method of charging and report back.

## **NCALC Subscription**

The annual subscription has increased from £288 to £400. The Clerk will query the significant increase and report back.

#### **Finance**

Cllr Webb had performed an internal financial review, and the accounting was found to be adequate and effective and in line with proper practice. The BDO external governance statements were read out and agreed by Council and duly signed by the Chairman.

Significant variances were discussed with a large increase in the projected reserves. It was confirmed that funds were allocated to the maintenance and replacement of playground equipment, and future boundary churchyard wall repairs.

## Clean up Day

This had been well attended and Cllr Hansford extended his thanks to all involved. A great deal had been achieved – 2 new stand pipes have been installed for the allotments, and bollards at the end of the car park by the village hall entrance. Vehicular access to the playing field via Ashby's drive has been blocked off at the first opening, to

avoid the risk of an accident involving anyone using the zip wire. Cllr Hansford was thanked for organising this as it is a community building exercise as well as improving the appearance of the village.

### **Diamond Jubilee Trees**

The trees were initially incorrectly positioned but this has been rectified. A watering rota has been put in place as the trees require watering each week for the first year.. At the same time the spoil heap from the village bonfire has been improved and grass seed has been put down. However a new site will need to be identified for the village bonfire later this year.

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

In an effort to encourage better attendance Council agreed to re-name this meeting to become The Annual Village Meeting and this year it will be held on 2nd June.

## **Outgoing Councillors**

Cllr Webb thanked Cllrs Haynes and Burgess for their service and contribution. On behalf of the whole of Council Cllr Burgess thanked Cllr Webb for his service as Chairman for the last 8 years.

The next Parish Council meeting – The AGM – will be on the 11th May at 7.30pm followed by the normal monthly meeting starting at 8pm.

David Webb - Chairman

## St Mary's Church

Dear All

Late on Easter Sunday afternoon, I went upstairs to change out of my clerical garb, and found in the far corner of the wardrobe, a red fleecy thing with a zip that looked warm enough for the afternoon, that was just turning cold. I went into the kitchen where my son, who was visiting for an Easter dinner, looked up in disbelief and cried out "That's A Hoody!" For that, it seemed, is what I had found; not that I have worn it with the hood drawn tight around me, or that I was about to 'mug' anyone.....so I tend to forget that is what it is and all the associations it may conjure up. Appearances though, can be deceptive, for clad as I was, the vicar was still inside.

A neighbour had warned me about her dog saying that he "was not very friendly" and on my previous visit he had been kept away either in her car or in another room, but on this occasion he was off for a walk with one of the family, but I was determined to have a look at him. I saw a mid-sized spaniel with a glossy black, rather charmingly curly coat with bright eyes and a wagging tail. I approached with a smile but was soon jumping back faced with some bared teeth and unmistakeable snarling. Appearances can be deceptive.

It is the same of course with people; (and probable about all the new people I have met over Easter), that we never really know the other and cannot be sure at all

what joys or struggles are part of our neighbours' lives. It is easy for us to hit the wrong note in our relationships, which is why the presence of God who knows us perfectly is at once worrying and reassuring:

Psalm 139 puts it this way:

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue,

O Lord, you know it completely.

Worrying, because God knows all those things we think or dream, but would not wish others to be aware of and reassuring, because whatever our trouble or innermost thoughts God knows them already so we need not fear or hold back. To God, appearances are not deceptive.

Grasping this essential idea is only one of the many qualities that make having a conversation with God so especially fruitful, wherever we are in our lives and whatever the circumstances. Whether our eyes are bright and our tails are up or if we have withdrawn into a private hoody, God can reach us and sustain us for there is no pretence, image or appearance that might disguise or mislead God's perfect understanding.

All best wishes Michael, Vicar

#### **Church Services**

3 May	Sung Holy Communion	9.30 am		
10 May	Morning Prayer	9.30 am		
17 May	Sung Communion	9.30 am	Coffee served after service	
24 May	BCP Holy Communion	8.30 am		
	Family Service	4.00 pm		
31 May	Benefice Sung HC	10.00 am		
St Mary's Annual General Meeting				

The APCM took place at church on 12th April. Marilyn Jenner was re-elected as Churchwarden, and the officers of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were elected respectively; Peter Atchison ,Joyce Broadbent, Alan Midgeley. Lorraine Swift took on the position as Safeguarding officer and Rosie Atchison was re-elected as Electoral Roll Officer. Andrew Hansford, Michael and Augusta Barnwell, Jo Booth, and Paul Aspland were all re-elected to the PCC.

THE WATERSMETE FELLOWSHIP GROUP will meet on Tuesday 4th May at 7.00 p.m. in Nassington, at the home of Jo Booth. A light supper will be followed by a talk by a guest from The Salvation Army. All are most welcome to attend, but, for catering purposes, it would be appreciated if you would let Jo know in advance if you will be attending. Call Jo on 783060

Unfortunately, the PCC has had to postpone the musical event that was planned for 13th June in the church, due to another conflicting event in the village

## Woodnewton Neighbourhood | Watch

Neighbourhood Watch Contacts Meeting March 2015

We held our quarterly contacts meeting at the end of March. The meeting was attended by a new PCSO – Arthur Pereira. Arthur's brief includes a task to establish better communications across the Neighbourhood Watch groups within our area. Arthur also highlighted some of the current police concerns for our rural area:-

- Please ensure that items that are left in parked vehicles are kept out of sight.
- There have been recent cases of front doors and garage doors being found to be left unlocked during the day (and also at night!). Although residents may be inside the house, open doors invite opportunist thieves to enter you property and make off with what they can grab.

Other items that were raised in the meeting included:-

- Some residents only put their porch lights on when they go out at night. If a burglar
  is watching a property then he may notice this as an unusual occurrence and assume that you are OUT. Therefore try to leave the usual night time lights on in your
  property when you go out at night.
- The cuts to the police budget in the new financial year will result in a reduction in police numbers for our area. Therefore it's in our own interests to try to do as much as we can ourselves to secure our properties and our community. You can find (more) advice about securing your property at this web site address www.police. uk/crime-prevention-advice
- New cars these days have automatic headlight sensors that switch on when you are
  driving in dim/foggy light and obviously also at night. Please check that your car, if
  using this feature, has the rear lights switched on as well as there have been instances in foggy mornings where cars have their headlights on but not their rear lights.

### **Protect your pension**

With effect from April 6th this year, when you reach 55 and if you have been saving in a personal or company pension, you will have wider choices with what you do with the fund you have accrued. You will still be able to cash in the fund to buy an annuity giving you a guaranteed income for life, but now you will also be able to release as much of the fund as you wish ... to spend on what you like.

Like most financial products, pensions and annuities are regulated by law, including how they are advertised and sold. However, this does not stop scammers approaching you to put your money into fraudulent or otherwise unregulated/ poorly managed annuities or investment schemes, with the result that you will lose some or all of the savings you were relying on for your retirement. Follow this web address to receive advice on protecting your pension - mwww.getsafeonline.org/protecting-yourself/pension-fraud/woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com

Please contact Stuart Shaw(470583) or Trevor Danks (470363) if you are interested in becoming a Woodnewton Neighbourhood Watch Contact

#### COMMUNICARE

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Group)

It has been decided to hold future meetings on a quarterly basis instead of bi-monthly - the next meeting will therefore be on Thursday 4th June 2015 at Wansford Surgery at 6.30 pm

Guest Speaker to be arranged - details will be published in June

### Social Group - Summer day Trips

The programme of coach day trips commenced in April with a visit to Sheringham and more are planned for June, August and October.

If you would like to join the planned visit to Wroxham with a boat trip on the Norfolk Broads on Wednesday 10th June 2015, please contact Clare on 01780 470437 / email: <a href="mailto:superfoguk@aol.com">superfoguk@aol.com</a> for further details and to secure your booking.



## Yarwell and Nassington Brass Band Concert With music from the shows

In aid of the Nene Valley Care Trust (Brighter futures for young people leaving care)

Friday June 5th 2015

Nassington church 7:15pm for 7:45pm Drinks and raffle Tickets £7.50 available from Rachel Taylor Tel. 01780781220 Or Moulds the Butcher Or Nassington Post Office



Tickets 01780 470 363 - Dillon 470 708 - Eunice 470 101 - Alex

The King's Head, Apethorpe...Coming up...

## SPRING SOIREE

BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 24TH MAY 4PM

Barbeque and live music from **The Collaborators** & **The Weekenders** plus extended happy hour 5—7pm (£2.50 pints/£3 wine)

## BAVARIAN BEER & FOOD FESTIVAL

Saturday 6th June 3pm—late

Bavarian food & drink, bouncy castle & live music from The Collaborators, The Lazoons, The Steradents and Bavarian inspired Oompah band!

Visit www.kingsheadapethorpe.co.uk or call 01780 470627 to book your table

Gary's Walk

The next village walk will be on Monday 25th May leaving from The Snooty Fox at Lowick at 10.00am.

Hope to see you there.

## **Annual Village Meeting**

This meeting formerly known as the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd June starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

This is your chance to find out what the Parish Council has been doing for the village in the last year.

In addition our District Councillor as well as Heather Smith our County Councillor will be there to answer any questions you might have.

Refreshments will be provided

So make a date in your diary and please come along

## **COLUMNISTS**

Keep Fineshade fine. Keep Jack's Green green.

On 18th Feb 2015 East Northamptonshire Council (ENC) Development Control Committee refused an Application for Fineshade with a unanimous vote. So Fineshade is fine for now. What about an almost identical Application at Jack's Green? (Jack's Green is in the triangle between Apethorpe, King's Cliffe and Woodnewton. If you walk from King's Cliffe to Yarwell Jack's Green is midway, 1,5 miles from KC).

The Application 14/02225/FUL was accepted by ENC on 18 December 2014, with consultation date running over Christmas period. The Application is for 55 three/four bedroom caravans, 9 camping pitches, access infrastructure (access road winding through from King's Cliffe - Wansford road to a potential connection to Nassington – Apethorpe road ), associated drainage, service provision, visitor facilities and landscape planting.

The Target Determination Date was on 19 March. However, the latest news from ENC is that the Application will not be decided before June 2015, 'or maybe later'. So there is still time for everybody to comment on the application. You can submit your comments via ENC website or if you wish to object to the proposal you can sign a petition at: https://you.38degrees.org.uk/p/stopjacksgreen. (To find the petition you can also google 'stop jack's green' - it will be one of the top hits.)

Most of the comments on ENC website object to the proposals which is quite logical. After all, the reasons for objecting to Fineshade Development could be carbon copied for Jack's Green: the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) guidelines deem unsuitable "development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitat", "unless the need for, or the benefits of, clearly outweigh the loss". Jack's Green is a wilder version of Fineshade with the wildlife and nature still undisturbed. In addition to dormice (protected species on both sites) there are two extremely rare butterflies at Jack's Green (purple emperor and black hairstreak) and the protected violet click beetle. Also, Jack's Green is close to the area of outstanding natural beauty (SSSI Belford Purlieus Ancient Woodlands) which the development overspill will damage.

If you wish to find out more about the application, the petition against the proposals, please contact George Smid on 01780 782 303.

#### On The Plot

As far as I am concerned, May is one of the most lovely months of the year. With weather that is often lovely without temperatures being too high, new growth and blossom everywhere and birds singing their hearts out its a great time to be outdoors and to be getting on with jobs in the garden.

The risk of late frost is never far away however, so do keep a few cloches or a supply of fleece handy. Potato tops will be showing now and it is best to protect these by additional earthing up. It gets to a point where this is no longer practical and then other tactics are needed. Fleece is not always a good protector as the leaves tend to be caught by the frost where they touch the material. I reckon that once I have earthed up as far as I can, then the plants take their chance. Any frost damage soon is replaced by new growth.

Try to sow some main crop carrots for winter use this month. I cover mine as soon as this is done, using Veggiemesh from Garden Naturally. This is done mainly to protect plants from carrot fly. The cover stays on until the last carrot is harvested, and using this method I have never had such good crops. I recommend it highly.

When planting tomatoes think about fixing the support canes about 30 degrees off vertical. In theory this method allows the fruit trusses to hang free of the leaves and the fruit to benefit more from the sun as a result.

As plants get into really active growth they need every bit of fertility the ground has to offer. Some people readily add fertilisers such as Growmore, but if you try to grow organically, try spreading a mixture of dried compost or manure and blood, fish and bone. This provides a very good top-up feed at just the time that plants need it to give of their best.



Talking of compost and manure, how is it best to store it? Well, a local team working under the name of 'Mr Muck' is now able to install their 'Muckbox' on your plot or in your garden. Here they are building a prototype using only the finest materials. Do let me know if you would like them to complete an installation for you but be quick, there is already a long waiting list (with an emphasis on waiting).

My second shot is of their most recent customer, clearly quite at a loss for words to explain his delight with their workmanship and product.

Right - time to pack my bags, I think.

Dodge the Flak



#### **Village Improvements**

During that lovely street party we had in June 2012 to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee a collection was taken to buy a commemorative 'something' for the village. The money (nearly £800) was entrusted to the Parish Council. Over the coming months ideas were discussed until finally a decision was reached to plant some trees on an un-used part of the allotment area.

Never ones to miss a bargain, the council were offered a great deal for a set of trees to be professionally planted at a very favourable rate, which they agreed to. Come the day before the agreed planting, the contractors turned up, got out their map and went ahead & planted the trees. With no-one there to put them right (our council reps did turn up next day at the agreed date & time!), the contractors mis-read the map and put the trees on the only piece of flat ground near the village hall.

Never ones to take such misfortune lying down, the council promptly negotiated an even more favourable deal on the trees allowing themselves the money to have them moved to the right place by someone who knew what he was doing!

Please do go up to the allotments/playing field and enjoy the Jubilee Commemorative Trees!

It's been a busy time for improvements on the playing field and allotments. At clean up day on Sunday 12th April, a group of willing volunteers installed wooden barriers to improve safety on the playing field by restricting vehicle access. You may have seen the improvements made a few months ago to the roadway to the left of the village hall. All vehicles should now use that access unless other permission is granted. There was also a record amount of rubbish picked up from around the village, showing the value of these days. Many thanks to those who were so diligent.

On Saturday 11th a (familiar) group of willing volunteers, had fun with a minidigger to install two additional stand-pipes on the allotments. Allotment holders have been asking for this for many years but now the taps have the added advantage of making watering the new trees very much easier.

With David Webb about to step down after 8 busy years as Parish Council Chairman, it is great to see our precept being spent on these improvements before he leaves. I'm sure he will reflect on his other achievements at the Annual Parish Meeting in June and we will have a chance to thank him for his time then, but I'd like to put a THANK YOU DAVID in the newsletter, too.

If you would like to be involved in projects such as these please consider standing for the parish council - there are vacancies now - or look out for details of the next clean up day in the Autumn.

Liz Holland

#### THE WHITE SWAN

It wouldn't be proper to plough into the "old style" lan, White Swan news flash, without firstly mentioning Julie and her time at the helm.

Back in October 2013, Julie and I met many times to discuss her plans and desires for the future of the Swan, from a number of candidates interested in leasing the pub, she was far and away the most lively, bubbly and motivated.

What she lacked in hands on experience in the trade, I felt her zest for a new challenge and ability to add the much lacking feminine touch, would make up for, combined with a career of drink sales associated experience.

She was setting herself up in business as she was soon to be made redundant from a long standing position in the drinks industry.

Listening to the feedback from around the village, I believe that Julie was much liked, but perhaps didn't have a strong enough team behind her, particularly in the early months when she couldn't be here full time.

Many of the theme nights and particularly music based events were hugely popular, and I suspect her welcoming smile was much more popular with some of the gentlemen in the village than my brazen sarcasm.

Sadly, following disappointing Christmas trading Julie had to shut down The Piccalilli Pub Co and is now pursuing a career in sales again.

I wish her well for the future and thank her for the professional manner in which she dealt with the cessation of her lease.

\_\_\_\_\_\_

So the bit you all keep asking about - how have I been, are the kids well, what have I been up to???

NO - When's the first Woodite Night?

Tuesday, YES, Tuesday May 12th - I know it used to be Wednesday's, but this time it's a Tuesday, shake it up a bit.

For those who weren't here or can't remember Woodite Night
Starters £3
Mains £7
Pudding £3

And something else new, kids menu £3 for bookings between 5:30-6:30 arrival.

Monday nights are currently Mediterranean Monday's, offering a selection of dishes including - lasagne, fresh fish, garlic prawns, moules, Greek salad, tiramisu etc at £8.50 for 1 course, £13 for 2 courses or £15 for 3 courses.

Hope to see y	you all soon.
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Cheers.

lan

Where have the last 3 months gone? It was with great regret and sadness that I had to close the doors of the White Swan in January, but unfortunately these things happen. I have many happy memories of my time in Woodnewton and was fortunate to meet some wonderful people. I do miss the pub and all of you who frequented it, you wouldn't believe some of the things you hear and see from behind that bar.... Not to be revealed of course due to the oath of discretion I committed to when taking over the pub!

I hope you are all well and life is treating you good? I am happy to report that I am finally starting work on 5th May. I will be working for Oyster Bay Wines as their Channel Manager for the UK. The role will have its challenges and there will be lots of hard work, but I'm very excited and ready to get stuck into it. I'm not sure Phoebe is so excited about me going back to work though, as I think she's got used to me being around!

You all take care and I will come over soon to say Hello. Big hugs and Warmest Regards

Julie x

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#### **USEFUL NUMBERS AND INFORMATION**

For more see the village website: www.woodnewtonhub.co.uk

Village Hall Booking Abbie Smith 01780 470691

**Woodnewton Neighbourhood Watch** woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com **Police**101 (non emergency report, suspicious behaviour and enquiries)

**Doctors Surgeries** 

Oundle 01832 275375 Wansford 01780 782342

**Veterinary Surgeries** 

Oundle 01832 273521 Yarwell 01780 783910

Woodnewton Mobile Library 16:00 - 16:45 Orchard Crescent every fourth

Wednesday of the month.

#### **DIARY DATES**

May

Saturday 9th Bingo pg. 6

Thursday 7th Elections

Monday 11th Parish council pg. 2

Saturday 16th May Fayre back cover

Saturday 25th Gary's Walk pg. 7

June

Tuesday 2nd Annual Village Meeting pg. 7
Thursday 4th Communicare meeting pg. 5
Friday 5th Brass Band Concert pg. 5

## **NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE CONTACTS**

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be delivered or sent to June Moore, 5 Lindsey Close.

Closing date for all copy 10th of previous month.

The Newsletter is edited and published by Liz Holland, 26, Orchard Lane, Woodnewton.

Any views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council unless otherwise stated.

VILLAGE WEBSITE: www.woodnewtonhub.co.uk

Website Manager: Matthew Roberts. Email: info@woodnewtonhub.co.uk

## **Nassington School**

# MAY FAYRE

## Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May

Procession starts at 11.30am from Griffins coal yard

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Source: Delivering up to 50x faster broadband than he UK average. Okom's overview of fix broadband appeas published 3rd October 2014.

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