

# ***WOODNEWTON NEWS***

## ***JANUARY 2018***



Details of how to see the 2018 pantomime Pinocchio are on page 4

# News and Reports

**The Parish Council** met on 11<sup>th</sup> December

## Parish Clerk

For the last 3 meetings, since our previous Clerk resigned, the Council has been operating with a temporary Clerk. This is not an ideal situation but without a Clerk the Council cannot function or fulfil its duties. To enable us to continue to meet, and to represent residents, Liz Holland has been acting Clerk. The December meeting was the last meeting where Liz took on that role and it is hoped with will have a new permanent Clerk in place for our next meeting. Liz has done a tremendous job in picking up the pieces and the Council expressed its thanks to Liz for all the work she has done.

## Budget

As is usual at the December meeting the Council must agree the priorities for the forthcoming year, and set the budget to match. The budget influences the Parish Precept that residents pay towards services in the village. From national government, through county and district councils, all parishes are being asked to do more and pick up the costs for delivering services. In addition, the annual inflationary costs such as insurance, electricity, and wages continue to rise. While the Council does have reasonable reserves built up over the last few years, it also has significant liabilities for which it must be prepared. The Council also aims to cover the rise in basic running costs year on year as part of its commitment to be a financially sound and responsible. The Council has for the last 8 years spent the greater part of its income on grass cutting and keeping the village looking tidy. This has been the express wish of residents. The Village has a lot of grass to cut, and once again in 2018 this expenditure will be approximately 60% of Council income.

A long discussion was held on the rate of increase in the Precept for 2018. The Council is aware of the impact of rises in the Precept on residents, but felt it must balance income and expenditure at the very least. As a result, it was proposed that the Parish Precept for 2018 increase by 6%.

## Churchyard Trees

Residents may have noticed that the one of the three large trees in the Churchyard has been felled. The tree was diseased and dying and was a danger in itself and spreading disease to the two neighbouring healthy trees. A condition of the felling permission was that the Council replace the tree. To do so in the Churchyard would be to compound the problem in the long term so permission was sought from, and granted by ENC to plant the replacement tree in the Cemetery and this has now been done.

## Donation

The Council received a donation of £30 to put to a good cause, and it was agreed to spend this money on wild flower seeds to be planted in an area close to the allotments.

In due course the Council will be looking for volunteers to come one Saturday morning and help to prepare the ground so please watch this space. Many hands make light work.....

#### Fruit trees

The Council has been offered and accepted the donation of some fruit trees. There is a vacant allotment plot which is on very poor ground and it was decided this may make a suitable space for the trees

There are numerous activities, events and organisations that contribute to village life. These only continue with the support and active participation of village people. So, on that note, please consider that one of your resolutions for the year ahead could be to become more involved; you might never know the fun you could have! There is a current vacancy for a councillor. On behalf of the Council, may I wish everyone living and working in Woodnewton a very happy new year, and I look forward to seeing you at the various community events throughout the year.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 8.00pm

Andrew Hansford - Parish Council Chairman

### **St Mary's Church**

7th January	Sung CW Holy Communion	9.30am
14th January	Morning Praise	9.30am
21st January	Sung CW Holy Communion	9.30am
28th January	Said BCP Holy Communion	8.30am

It has been a very difficult few months in the area as there has been a considerable amount of churches targeted with regard to their roofs being stripped of lead. At the beginning of December, Warmington was targeted twice within 10 days. Not only did they steal the lead, but it rained and the water came through into the organ, which is going to cost thousands of pounds to repair.

At Woodnewton, there is no proposed repairs to take place at the church. so there will not be any lorries or vans parked outside the church at all. So, if you see anything suspicious please report it to the police immediately. It doesn't matter if it is a false alarm.

By the time you are reading your newsletter this month, the Christmas decorations will probably just about be put away, the tree will be back in the loft or waiting for recycling and the cards taken down. Maybe even the thank you letters will have been written, if people do still write thank you letters, of course.

The church is always busy at Christmas with the special services and it was wonderful to welcome so many to our carol service, our crib service and on Christmas morning. Of course, these services don't just happen on their own, and this is my thank you letter

to all those who made our services possible. Our church warden, Marilyn, worked so hard to make sure that everything was planned and in place, ably supported by our willing, hard-working group of sidespeople, altar guild, refreshment providers, heating supervisors (!) and many others. Thank you all, for the hours spent in the church, and the early starts making sure the heating was on and the church unlocked. Thank you to those who decorated the church so wonderfully and lifted our spirits to God. Thank you to John for planning and leading our music and to all who used their skills to enrich our worship with their music. There is so much that goes on behind the scenes! Of course, this sort of thing happens all year round and our church relies upon a faithful band of people who work hard to make sure that our church is always open and ready to welcome people, whether for Sunday services, special occasions, or simply to have a quiet place just to “be” for a few minutes. As we begin this new year, we’d like to ask for your help in ensuring that the life of our church continues and flourishes for all. We are looking forward to an exciting new building project providing a toilet and kitchen area, and everyone is most grateful to those who have already raised funds for this, and for those who will continue to support to project.

As we plan this project, though, we want to have a living active church that can welcome people why-ever they come into our building. That also requires funds, indeed our costs of supporting the ministry of our church and generally maintaining the building is about £320 a week. We are fortunate to have those who support us financially (another huge thank you!), but if any feel they would be able to make a contribution to the life of our church, or increase your contribution, please contact Alan Midgely, our treasurer, Marilyn Jenner our church warden, or myself. If you could offer practical help in any way, we’d be pleased to hear from you. We want to make sure that our church will always be here for this village and we need your help!

May 2018 be a special and blessed year for us all, and needless to say, if we in the church can do anything for you at anytime, please do get in touch.

Every blessing,

Rev. Jane (01780 782271 – [jdtailby@aol.com](mailto:jdtailby@aol.com))

## **Communicare**

Sadly there was not room this month for the full Communicare report but here are details of their upcoming events:

As the social group have their post-Christmas lunch this month there is no coffee morning – the next one will be in February. The spring holiday still has limited availability for twin/double rooms - cost £313 per person – 4 nights at The Esplanade Hotel, Scarborough – Monday 28th May 2018. Price includes local pick-up, DB&B, and all coach travel. Anyone interested please contact Clare as soon as possible on 01780 470437 email: [superfoguk@aol.com](mailto:superfoguk@aol.com)

## Gary Says

*On our December walk we visited The Riverside Cafe at Yarwell Mill where we enjoyed a welcome break on our way to Nassington. The cafe is situated next to the lock and is run by Teresa and Hazel. It is worth a visit and is open 7 days a week from 9.30am to 2.00pm until 28th February then afterwards to 3pm. My first walk of 2018 will be on January 13th from the Montagu Arms Barnwell at 10.00am. I do hope you can make it.*



# Columnists

## An Open Letter to Villagers

St Mary's Hill Road Resurfacing Project  
– Thank You

Dear Villagers,

St Mary's Hill has been resurfaced - thank goodness! Over the years the combination of invasive churchyard tree roots, excavations, sewer repairs, frosty winters and traffic has caused the breakup of the road surface. Whilst the upper part of the Hill is a private road, old maps show the lower part of the Hill was an unadopted bridleway of indeterminate ownership. However, today, the responsibility for the maintenance of this roadway rests, in the main, with property owners.

These road repairs could not have been completed without contributions from NCC, the Parish Council, Western Distribution and the Trustees of Woodnewton Schoolhouse and Land Charity. Suffice it to say, the property owners on the Hill have contributed substantial personal funds to complete the project. Thanks must also be paid to Mr Richard Pike and his magnificent cutting machine for helping with the groundworks.



# What's On

Woodnewton  
Players



# Pinocchio

*the pantomime*

At Woodnewton Village Hall

Performance dates

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2.30pm (rowed seating)

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm

Licensed bar and refreshments

Tickets cost Adults £8 Children £5

Tickets on sale from 3rd January  
from Anne Galloway

[boxofficewoodnewton@gmail.com](mailto:boxofficewoodnewton@gmail.com) or 01780 479235

No advanced ticket bookings Tickets non refundable



More information visit our facebook page "Woodnewton Players"



Thanks also to Phoenix Resurfacing for the good work done.

As before, walkers, riders, joggers and vehicles with business on the Hill are all welcome. That said, the residents request that villagers do not use St Mary's Hill as a convenient vehicle short cut from Main Street to Orchard Lane. In this way, we hope the traffic load on the private road surface can be minimised.

Finally, this project could not have been completed without the enthusiastic support of Councillor Paul Blackmore who skilfully co-ordinated the task with all the many agencies involved.

With Kindest regards and thanks to all  
The Folks on St Mary's Hill

### **A Tribute**

Regarding the repair work to the road surface on St Mary's Hill, one other individual should be recognised. Seven years ago Grant Mcleod began work on getting the road repaired. He spent endless hours emailing, telephoning and talking to anyone remotely interested in assisting to carry out the work involved.

He approached every local government agency and generally made a complete nuisance of himself. However it paid off and eventually he persuaded these same agencies to contribute financially, and together with some funds from the residents of "The Hill" we now have our new posh road surface.

So on behalf of all Woodnewton villagers, and in particular the other residents of St Mary's Hill - a great big thank you Grant.

### **Woodnewton History Group**

#### FRANEY HOUSE



Thirty Seven Main Street, known as Franey House was built in 1745 by John Franey, who was a stonemason. The datestone above the door confirms this date.

Originally, built as a two unit property, it was turned into one when it was under the ownership of John Victor Walker. A Dovecote, now an outbuilding, was built in 1769 and housed about 250 nesting boxes. Both the house and the Dovecote was registered as a Grade 2 Listed Building in October 1988.

So who lived in the houses? Upon John Franey's death they were left to the family and it was Hannah Franey (possibly the daughter in law of the John Franey who had built the houses) on her death devolved the properties to Esuebius, Louisa and Sally Herepath. The two sisters surrendered their right to the properties for a consideration. Esuebius then disposed of the houses to Ezekiel S Desbrow, a Surveyor, who had obtained a loan from Rev W H Fisher to purchase them. This must

have taken place after 1901 as Esuebius is shown on the 1901 census as still living at Franey House in the right of the two properties

Ezekiel defaulted on the loan and the Rev Fisher foreclosed and then sold to Thomas Barnes, a retired Brewer. Obviously, Barnes did not live in the properties as the 1911 census shows that the Walker family were resident in both of the properties. From research we know that Thomas Barnes sold the properties to Ebenezer Bradshaw of Perio Mill, who still rented out the properties to Frederick Walker and family.

The properties were subsequently purchased by Frederick Walker after the death of Ebenezer's widow Charlotte Bradshaw who died in 1944. The houses were later made into one property and the Walker family lived there until the death of Catherine Walker in 1978. John Victor Walker, son of Frederick, ran his greengrocery business from the property for many years.

# **Announcements**

## ***WOODNEWTON NEWS***

***IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT FROM FEBRUARY 2018  
GRANT NEVILLE WILL BE TAKING ON EDITING THE  
NEWSLETTER***

***THE EDITORIAL TEAM IS VERY GRATEFUL TO GRANT FOR  
VOLUNTEERING TO TAKE ON THIS JOB***

# ***THANK YOU***

**From the 4th January 2018  
Eunice Williams  
will no longer be 49 years old**





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For more details: call or text Elaine on 01832 280247 (07867 367353)

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After 13 ¼ years at Stibbington Diner, several aborted attempts and a little delay, Village Pizzas has moved to a new location.

We are now based at Leedsgate Farm which is roughly halfway along the Wansford/Kings Cliffe Road, opposite Kings Cliffe Industrial Estate ( the old KSR site ).

Leedsgate Farm was the communal site for RAF Kings Cliffe/USAAF Station 367 during WW11. Although we are in a wartime building we can't work out from old maps/plans what the building was used as during the war. After the war I believe the site was used as a chicken farm. We'd love to hear any memories or stories anyone has about the area.

We first started at Stibby Cafe in August 2004 and opened 7 nights a week until the end of October. We shut the weekend of Sat/Sun 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2004 when the final part of the Flyover went in crossing the A1 at Stibbington junction. Doesn't time fly!

## Village Pizzas

Open Tue – Sat for  
Collection 4.30pm – 10.30pm  
Or  
Delivery 6pm till 10pm

**01780  
784587**

View our Menu at  
[www.villagepizzas.co.uk](http://www.villagepizzas.co.uk)



### USEFUL NUMBERS and INFORMATION

#### Parish Council

Clerk [woodnewtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:woodnewtonpc@gmail.com)

#### Village Hall Booking

Abbie Smith 01780 470691

#### Woodnewton Neighbourhood Watch

[woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com](mailto: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

11:45 - 12:10 Orchard Crescent every third  
Wednesday of the month.

### NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE CONTACTS

Editorial Team: Liz Holland, Jane Martin; Grant McLeod; June Moore; John Russell, Ivan Walker, David Webb

Advertising: Ivan Walker, Tel 470438

Contributions: Please send articles by email whenever possible to

[newswoodnewton@googlemail.com](mailto:newswoodnewton@googlemail.com) Handwritten / non-electronic contributions can be delivered or sent to June Moore, 5 Lindsey Close.

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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.

