

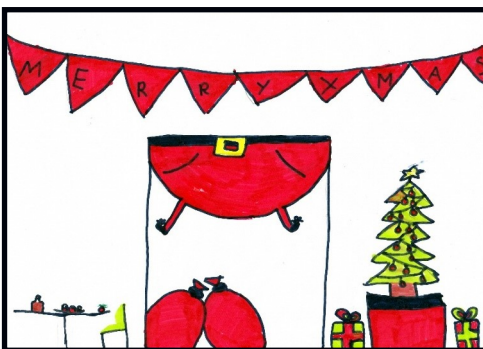


Congratulations to our winners

Christmas Picture Competition 2019

In early November the Village Link postbag (and inbox) was brimming with festive delights from local children. Our thanks and congratulations to everyone who took part. Featured on the front cover are the First Prize winners. Turn to the back page for the Runners Up, it was difficult choosing! Banner inspiration and Festive Family award goes to Sofie and Hugo Newborough of Guilsborough (explanation on back page). The beautiful Robin perched on holly (right) is by Francesca Darker, aged 8, also from Guilsborough. Father Christmas stuck in the chimney had the judges chuckling and wins for Evie McGregor, aged 9, from Naseby. Little Tilly Hanlovic, aged 5, was the stand out winner in the youngest age group with her picture of presents under the tree - and at the other end of the age scale Honey Goodrick aged 10¾ from Maidwell must have spent hours on the beautiful festive snow

globe featured bottom right. Well done all!



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Lot's On!

December 2019

- 5th - Christmas Tree Lights Switch On Guilsborough
- 7th & 8th - Creton Singers, Welford Christmas Tree Farm
- 7th - Northampton Male Voice Choir, Thornby
- 7th - Café Christmas, Hollowell
- 9th - Parish Council Meeting, Guilsborough
- 11th - Creton WI
- 12th - WI Guilsborough
- 14th - Creton Walking Group
- 15th - Carol Service, Thornby
- 15th - Advent Sheep Trail, Guilsborough
- 16th - MMM Christmas Party Guilsborough
- 16th - Carol Singing Guilsborough
- 17th - Creton Singers, Carols on The Green, Creton
- 19th - 'Blue Christmas' Service, St Denys Ravensthorpe
- 19th - FOSM History Group, Creton
- 20th - Hopewell, Hollowell
- 21st - Carol Services Cold Ashby & Creton
- 22nd - Carol Services, Cottesbrooke & Guilsborough
- 24th - Carol Service Hollowell
- 29th - Red Lion Quiz, Thornby

January 2020

- 1st & 11th - Creton Walking Group
- 14th - Creton WI
- 14th - Creton Parish Council meeting
- 16th - FOSM History Group, Creton
- 17th - Hopewell, Hollowell
- 20th - WI Guilsborough
- 28th - CAPFA Blinded by the Light, Cold Ashby
- Fridays: Short Mat Bowls, Cold Ashby



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Groups of 5 or more – £10 per head non-refundable deposit payable when booking – please advise menu choice five days prior to dining

Starter...

Chef's home-made soup of the season, *crusty artisan bread*
Award-winning Brixworth pâté, *melba toast, Louise's pear & cranberry chutney*
Creamy goats cheese & caramelised red onion puff pastry tart
North Atlantic prawn & smoked salmon cocktail
home-made brandy & lemon Marie-Rose sauce, crusty wholemeal bread

Main Course...

Local roast turkey breast, pigs in blankets
roast potatoes, seasonal jus & winter vegetables
Louise's rich beef steak & stilton proper pie with stilton pastry
creamed mashed potato, panaché of Savoy cabbage, peas & French beans
Sustainably sourced Salmon fillet, seared and dressed
white wine & cream sauce, roast potatoes, winter vegetables
Smoked chilli-stuffed aubergine bake
roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables

Cheese & Dessert ...

Kala's spiced Christmas cheesecake *with cream*
Home-made pecan pie, *salted caramel ice cream.*
Louise's chocolate brownie, *chocolate sauce & vanilla ice cream*
Traditional Christmas pudding
home-made brandy butter, custard or clotted cream
Port Stilton and aged Gouda,
cranberry & pear chutney, celery, grapes & biscuits
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Afterwards ...

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LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING CUSTOMERS OLD AND NEW THIS FESTIVE SEASON ...

THE WITCH & SOW WILL BE SERVING LUNCH AS USUAL ON CHRISTMAS DAY - MENU AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE. EARLY BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.

VILLAGE LINK

is a bi-monthly publication delivered free of charge to households in Cold Ashby, Cottesbrooke, Creton, Guilsborough, Hollowell, Teeton and Thornby. It is produced and distributed by volunteers. Due to restrictions of time and space there is no guarantee that copy submitted will be used. All funds received from advertising go towards printing costs.

Editorial team:

Andrea King 01604 740670
Angela Hubbard 01604 740379
Tony Hart 01604 740535
Sarah Dalzell 07917 608238
Katie Fulcher 07747 604067
Eve Wooldridge 07711 335771
Richard Hollingum 07887 652599
Mark Revitt Smith 01604 740240

Wherever possible **please email** your contributions to. editorial@villagelink.org.uk. This saves considerable time re-typing information! When providing hard copy materials, please post to Angela Hubbard, The Old Sun, High Street, Guilsborough.

Advertisements are welcome from local businesses, charities, clubs and societies. Commercial businesses pay advertising rates. One insertion: full page £140, half page £70, quarter page £35, eighth page £20. Two or more insertions: full page £120, half page £60, quarter page £30, eighth page £15. All prices are per insertion. Colour available in some issues, price on application. Private ads are also welcome. Back page 'lineage' cost £1.50 per line. Please contact Angela Hubbard on 01604 740379 to book advertising or email. advertising@villagelink.org.uk
Cheques payable to 'Village Link'

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:
Monday 6th January 2020

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Forthcoming Film and Social Nights

CAPFA have decided not to hold a Film Night in December as it would be at a very busy time so close to Christmas. However, on **28th January** they will be showing *Blinded by the Light*, a comedy drama set in Luton in 1987 and based on *Greetings from Bury Park* by Sarfraz Manzoor.



AMAZING CHARITY FUNDRAISER AT THE COLD ASHBY PLAYING FIELDS

Following the sudden, untimely and unexpected death of a young man, Shaun Taylor, who sadly passed away on the 19th May 2019 at the tender age of just 26, his parents and family decided to hold a charity fun day to commemorate Shaun's life. Shaun left behind a wife, Vickie, and his two gorgeous boys, Oscar, five and Ethan, only four.

To give his wife, boys, family and friends some comfort, a fun day was planned as a fundraiser to install a memorial bench in the playground at Cold Ashby Playing Fields. Shaun spent many hours there with his boys, nieces and nephews in the playground and playing tag and football with the children. He also taught the boys to ride their bikes here.

So, on the 15th September, the weather was perfect, the turnout was amazing and the support was incredible. It was, despite the circumstances, a fun, happy day. So successful was the event, that in addition to the funds raised for the memorial bench and tree, £4,000 was raised for the air ambulance which attended to Shaun. The Taylor family went to the Air Ambulance Base Unit in Coventry on the 9th October to present them with a cheque.

Both Cold Ashby Playing Fields Association and the Taylor family want to thank each and every one who helped them achieve this; it was absolutely amazing!

They are planning to do it again next year - bigger and hopefully better.

NEW TO COLD ASHBY:

Short Mat Bowls sessions are from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Fridays in the Village Hall. All equipment is provided (flat shoes are recommended) and coaching is also available. Everyone is very welcome to come along to have a go! **For more details please contact Gillian on 01858 575725**



Not Cold Ashby news... but hearty congratulations to Ian and Susie Pasley-Tyler and all of their gardeners and volunteers!



COTTESBROOKE NEWS



COTTESBROOKE CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER, 3PM
JOIN US AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH!

RICHARD UTLEY

We are very sad to learn of the death of Richard Utley, 84, husband of previous Village Link correspondent, Chris Utley. Richard was a keen racing driver, racing in Formula Junior in the early 1960s. In 1960 he designed and built the Caravelle Formula Junior whilst serving in the Army. However, after a big accident at Brands Hatch in 1961, Richard stopped racing but 40 years later he bought his Caravelle Mk1 back on the circuit and started racing again. Our thoughts are with Chris and their family.



Thanks goes to **Steve Nicholas** for these excellent pictures of some of the wildlife of Cottesbrooke. From top to bottom, Coal Tit, Nuthatch and Grey Squirrel. Why not send us your pictures of wildlife?



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COTTESBROOKE CORRESPONDENTS

If you have a story or a picture that would be of interest to your fellow villagers and neighbours, please get in touch and we can send out our roving reporter!

You can contact us by email editorial@villagelink.org.uk or you can phone Richard Hollingum on 07887 652599



Carol Service


CREATON

SATURDAY 21ST DECEMBER, 5PM

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BASED IN HOLLOWELL




UNITED REFORM CHURCH		
Minister: Rev Elizabeth Kemp		
You are warmly welcome to join us for our Sunday Worship and Junior Church.		
December 2019		
Date/Time	Service	Led By
1st 11am	Worship & Holy Communion	Jon Heard
8th 11am		Rev Elizabeth Kemp
15th 11am		Martin Buckby
Monday 16th 7pm	Candlelight Service	Rev Elizabeth Kemp
Sunday 22nd 11am		Rev Geoff Townsend
Christmas Day 10:30am	Family Service	Rev Elizabeth Kemp
29th 3pm	Carols & Cake	
January 2020		
5th 11am		Jon Heard
12th 11am	Worship & Holy Communion	Rev Elizabeth Kemp
19th tba	Joint Service Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	
26th 11am		Vaughan Griffiths
<p>The Ministers, Elders and Members of Creaton United Reformed Church wish you a joyous Christmas and best wishes for 2020.</p> <p>POPPIES COFFEE SHOP is open daily from 9am to 12 noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. All welcome.</p>		

Creaton Parish Council Contact Details:

Parish Clerk: You can contact our Parish Clerk for Creaton Parish Council, Katrina Jones on creatonpc@gmail.com or by telephone on 01604 740862.

Agendas and minutes of meetings are available on the village website www.creaton.org.uk

The Parish Council also has a Facebook page.



Creaton Parish Council

As you will be aware we meet bi-monthly with the exception of Planning Meetings.

Meetings are held at Creaton Village Hall, Teeton Lane, Creaton at 7.30pm. The first 15 minutes is reserved for the public forum.

Parish Council Meeting dates 2020:

Tuesday
14th January,
10th March,
12th May,
14th July,
8th September,
10th November.

Planning Applications:

DA/2019/0505 St Michael's Church, Violet Lane, Creaton, Northamptonshire:
Installation of handrail along path leading to church: Permission Granted.

Please look on the Daventry District Council website for Planning Applications



Dog Fouling on the Playing Fields:

The Parish Council would be grateful if residents could please not allow their dogs on the Playing Field to keep this as a safe space for children and free of any dog fouling. We also appreciate your continued support in picking up after your dogs around the village to prevent problems with dog fouling.



Police Liaison and Neighbourhood Watch:

We are still looking for a volunteer to take on the role of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator since the long standing village co-ordinator moved away from the area. If you can help please contact the Parish Clerk.



Village Litter Pick:

A big THANK YOU to the 11 residents who came to support the village litter pick. It was noted that there was less rubbish this year which reflects an improvement in the amount of litter generally in the village. It was also commented how much tidier the village is looking and we would like to thank all residents for the part they play keeping our village tidy every day.

Local Government Reorganisation:

As you may be aware, the Secretary of State announced earlier this year that two brand new unitary councils will be established in Northamptonshire on 1 April 2021. More information can be found on the Daventry District Council website: www.daventrydc.gov.uk/lgr



THANK YOU to Welford Xmas Tree Farm for generously donating the village Xmas Tree to Creaton.

CREATON NEWS

CREATON SINGERS



With the Christmas festivities almost upon us there are plenty of opportunities to get out and hear the Creaton Singers, who have been practising hard for a variety of events.

- Christmas Tree Farm: The Singers will be singing a selection of Christmas carols on Saturday 7th December from 10.30am to 12 noon and Sunday 8th December from 2pm to 3.30pm.
- Carols on Creaton Green followed by a concert in Creaton Village Hall: Tuesday 17th December, 7pm on the Green and 7.30pm in Creaton Village Hall. Come and listen to a selection of carols old and new. Admission is free with a voluntary collection for the Salvation Army.
- Kislingbury concert: Saturday 21st December, 7.30pm. Kislingbury church. A varied programme of songs and Christmas numbers.

Come and support your local singers and enjoy the build up to Christmas.

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S HISTORY GROUP

19th December: **Radio Days** - Kevin Varty

16th January: **William Cowper** - Reg Darby

Talks take place in St Michael's Church and start at 7:30pm. They last approximately 1 hour and are followed by complimentary refreshments.

Annual membership is £14.50 or pay at the door, £3.50

CREATON WALKING GROUP



Autumn arrived suddenly with deluges of rain, leaving the fields very wet and the leaves turning to an array of brilliant colours.

The Creaton Walking Group have managed to get out every month and explore different parts of the county and also parts of Leicestershire and Warwickshire.

The October walk was from Lamport and covered some beautiful countryside. The Swan provided an excellent lunch afterwards for the walkers and made the dogs very welcome.

If you enjoy walking come and join this friendly group who meet at Creaton lychgate at 10am on the second Saturday of the month. Walks are about 3 hours and end with an optional pub lunch. Walks will take place on

- * Saturday 14th December
- * Wednesday 1st January (11am) Extra walk
- * Saturday 11th January

CREATON WI

We meet in the United Reform Church in the High St at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month. If the meeting is to be held at a different venue this will be stated.



Dec 11th Jean Bates - ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World)

Jan 14th Douglas Goddard - History of Abington Park

We welcome you either as a guest or a new member. Come along to meet old friends or make new ones. Please contact Daphne on 01604 505546 for more information.

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CREATON NEWS

OVER THE COUNTER

Tales from Creaton Village Shop

Gosh, what a busy couple of months. I am told that the trade in the shop and the Post Office just gets better and better—as does the selection of things on sale. In fact you may have heard that the Shop has been banging on about all the new things that it has on its shelves, especially all the local produce. There are now over thirty food lines that come from either within the county of Northamptonshire or within 30 miles of the shop. On top of this, many of the suppliers are based within that range as well. Hooray for local!

And it's hooray for local food heroes as Creaton Village Shop was nominated for the **Weetabix Local Food Hero Award** at the **Carlsberg Northamptonshire Food & Drink Awards** in November. In fact, not only was the Shop nominated, it was one of six finalists. This meant that representatives of the staff, volunteers and management committee had to force break out their glad rags and spend an evening at the awards ceremony at The Derngate.



Creaton Village Shop & Post Office Staff Sue Tew (r) and Bev

Alas, the Shop came away empty handed but it was up against some stiff competition. A great experience and great that the Shop should be recognized in such a way. Thank you to whoever the mystery person was who submitted the nomination.

Vigilis

Creaton Village Shop: Assistant Manager

We have a vacancy for a part-time member of staff to join our small team. The job entails serving our post office customers, supporting our volunteers at the shop counter and managing the shop whilst on duty. Previous post office and retail experience would be an advantage, but in-house training will be available. The successful candidate will be numerate, have an eye for detail and will have a cheerful disposition.

Hours worked will be between 20 to 30 in half day shifts, with flexibility to cover for absent colleagues.

Must be prepared to work 1 in 3 weekends.

To apply or seek further information, please contact charles@creatonvillageshop.co.uk



Readers may recall a story on the front cover of Village Link about Creaton resident John Love (above).

Now, his contribution to local and regional sport has been recognized officially by winning the 2019 Daventry District Sports Awards Lifetime Contribution to Sport. What next for John? Well, he has been nominated for a similar category on the Northamptonshire Sports Awards but we shall have to wait for that result. Good luck John!



Delightful 3 Bedroom semi-detached bungalow in Creaton
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This property can be seen on **Right Move** and consists of:

Three bedrooms Lounge/ Diner
Kitchen Bathroom
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Rear garden with views over a field

Contact Nigel 07725168453 or office@nvmholdings.com or Rob 01604 245486

GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

MMM



Monday Morning Meet
Guilborough Village Hall
9 – 11am every Monday (excluding Bank Holidays)
All welcome baby – OAP's.
Baby & toddler toys for youngsters
Meet for a chat, coffee/tea, cake.
Only £2/adult - includes refreshments. Children free.



Christmas Party
Monday 16th December
Christmas jumpers optional
For more information contact: Janet 01604 740640

SHOES BOXES AND BLANKETS 2019



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Shoe Box & blanket collection this year.
We will have sent a record 38 blankets & 130 shoe boxes in support of the Blythwood Project.
This year they will be going to Romania.
In 2018 the charity sent 115,000 boxes abroad!

theWI Inspiring Women
Meet new people and have a fun packed evening with women in Guilborough and the neighbouring parish ladies, all welcome. Meetings held at the Witch & Sow the 3rd Monday of every month unless a visit.

Time - 7.30pm for 8pm start, bar is open, tea/coffee complimentary after the speaker. (Bring your own Mugs). Visitors welcome, £5 per meeting. We normally meet in the Restaurant/top bar unless an event requires more space and then you will find us in the function room at the back of the pub.

As you can imagine we should be called women who love alcohol, hence the venue, we are no ordinary group. Women who like to experience ideas and motivations they otherwise would not come in contact with, all members get involved with booking speakers that

**GUILSBOROUGH
CAROL SERVICE**

**SUNDAY 22ND
DECEMBER 6PM**

JOIN US AT ST
ETHELDREDA
CHURCH



GUILSBOROUGH CHRISTMAS TREE

As last year we plan to erect a Christmas Tree On The Green and would like to invite residents to join us when we **Switch On the lights on Thursday 5th December at 6pm.**

We hope to turn on the lights and sing a few carols as a start to Guilborough's festive season.

We would also like to remind residents that the tree is there to be enjoyed and request that it is treated with respect and that the advice on the safety notices around the area is adhered to by adults and children alike.

Should you have any concerns about the safety of the tree please contact Katie on the phone number below.

Thank you
Sue and Katie (07747 604067)

CAROL SINGING

Continuing on the Festive theme we will be carol singing around the village on **Monday Dec 16th—meet by the Christmas Tree at 6.30pm.**

Wrap up warm, bring a torch, children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Carol sheets are provided.

Mulled wine and mince pies usually included.

Any questions please contact
Katie 07747604067



interest them and share experiences.

Next meetings: -

December 12th – SOCIAL - THE GATE HOUSE By kind permission of Sarah Edwards (opposite the shop), 8pm start. Christmas Social after voting, bring your bottle & glass please, Christmas nibbles being served. A great way to see if our group is for you and meet neighbours and like-minded ladies. 2020 programme to be distributed.

January 20th – HISTORY: After such a great meeting by Biff Raven on the History of Lady Bird books, she joins us once more but this time speaking on "A Brief (and Slightly Unpleasant) History of Medicine, with a display of Nasty Things and also some amusing novelties for sale."

For more information about our group - Caroline Collins 07980-809002 Mandy Manning 07969-884713

GUILSBOROUGH NEWS



VE DAY CELEBRATIONS



FOOTBALL NEWS

Junior Football has returned to the Playing Field, as some of you may be aware. Following the most recent contacts with West Haddon Football Club Juniors, West Haddon Under 12s are playing their home games on a Sunday morning, and the Under 11s on a Saturday morning. The Under 12s are coached by Ged Lowry who lives in Guilsborough and has been instrumental in football being played at Guilsborough. He is also helped by Steve McGlasson who lives in Guilsborough. The main reason why the Under 11s and 12s football has transferred from West Haddon Playing Field to Guilsborough, is because of scheduling and ground wear issues at West Haddon. However, in both squads there are players from Guilsborough, Hollowell, East Haddon and West Haddon, with most kids going to Guilsborough school.

The new football pitch, created in part from the Bowls Green, has been marked out using R&G's satellite navigation marker, but is to be remarked by the West Haddon coaches. The cost to Guilsborough Playing Field is to be reviewed at the end of the football season, such that a contribution will be made by West Haddon Football Club. The West Haddon coaches have been made aware of the Health & Safety policies of the GPFA. Another training pitch with goals has been marked out between the pavilion and the cricket nets, and is frequently used, together with the other pitch, by boys from the village and boys at lunchtime from Guilsborough Academy. How about some girls playing football?



village sport & recreation 8th May 2020 is VE Day,

the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe. It was a shared moment of national celebration of peace that emerged after nearly six years of war, so the 75th anniversary on 8th May 2020 represents an important milestone in our history. The British Legion and GPFA believe that this event should not pass without reflection and celebration.

The British Legion and the GPFA will be organizing a village event at the Playing Field over the weekend starting on Friday 8th May, with a 1940s theme (dress, ancient cars, spitfires, BBQ, coconut games and more, plus wartime loaf, eggless sponge cake, vegetable turnovers, curried carrots and Lord Woolton pie, and of course Spam!). More details to follow.

CRICKET CLUB NEWS

WH&GCC are a friendly, local club that run 4 junior and 4 adult sides, including a ladies team. Matches and training run throughout the summer in both Guilsborough and West Haddon, new players at all ages and levels of experience are welcome. Our preparations for the 2020 season will start with winter indoor training sessions from January. Please contact Jim Houghton on 07748920176 or on jim.houghton@olivehorse.com for more information.

Congratulations to Archie Houghton. The Northants Cricket League awarded Archie, at its Annual Dinner in Northampton, the "Young Groundsman of the Year" award for his work at Guilsborough Playing Field preparing cricket wickets throughout 2019.



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TENNIS CLUB NEWS

A very successful and enjoyable Race Night was held on 12th October, raising funds to continue tennis in the community of Guilsborough, and ensuring that a coaching programme is available for children and adults next summer. We would like to thank all who helped with the organising and clearing up, and thank the race sponsors: Lowther Farms, Dychurch Lifestyle Ltd, ST Consulting, Collins Fresh Produce Ltd, Victor de Banke Leather Care & Laces Ltd, Lawrences Jewellers Ltd, Long Buckby Dental Practice, and Abbey Ross Property Consultants.

The Guilsborough Tennis Club at Guilsborough Academy AGM was held on Monday 18th November, David Collins was re-elected as Chairman, Sarah Dalzell as Secretary, and Eve Wooldridge as Treasurer.

Play continues Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings (weather permitting) throughout the winter. New members welcome. Call Sarah on 07917 608238

GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Lantern Noticeboard

The PC Lantern Notice Board in the centre of the village that was kindly made for the PC some 40 years ago by Bert Thompson is in bad repair. After consideration of our options we have decided it is uneconomical to make further repair to it and have plans to replace it in 2020.

Fix My Street

The PC would like to remind parishioners that this website is available for anyone to use to report street problems – pot holes, blocked drains, street sign issues etc. It is always useful to take a photo of the issue you are reporting to upload to the site. The PC are happy to have issues reported to them if parishioners are unable to use the website but otherwise would suggest people file the reports themselves for efficiency.

www.fixmystreet.com

Meeting Dates

The next meeting is Dec 9th at 7.15pm in the meeting room at the Village Hall. Parishioners are welcome to observe the meeting and may speak at the beginning of the meeting during the public forum for up to three minutes.

Dog Walking Field

The PC would like to extend its thanks to Hugh Lowther for the continued provision of the access to the dog walking field (General Field 1 off the Teeton Rd) and the fields around the fish ponds. Mr Lowther has always allowed access to this land and for the last 10 years this has been financially supported by government. The support has come to an end but he has kindly decided to continue to allow access.

Following advice from his land agents Mr Lowther will be erecting signs stating “Permissive Walk....Access is with permission of Lowther Farms” so wants to assure villagers that the land is still available for locals to enjoy walks across.

For PC information please see the Lantern, the website www.guilboroughpc.org.uk or contact the clerk Carol Holfield guilborough.pc@gmail.com

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS



LOCAL SPORTS SCHOOL OF THE YEAR—RUNNERS UP

Guilsborough Primary School have received this award in recognition of their PE and School Sport throughout the Academic Year 2018-19 . The Primary School was nominated in the category ‘Sport School of the Year’ within the Daventry and South Northamptonshire District. The school attended an awards night in Daventry on Thursday 24th October and were named as runners up.

We were recognised for our dedication to young leaders, external sports competitions, 1-1 fixtures with local schools, inter house competitions, personal challenges, and school club opportunities (the school offered 8 clubs at school), so creating pathways to outside sports clubs and more.

We would like to thank parents for providing supporting statements—many of these described the impact that sport at school has had on their children and were instrumental in our nomination.



Mr Nick (PE lead at Guilsborough Primary and resident of Guilsborough)

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

A fun and well attended event raised an amazing £1,130 for Cancer Support. Half of this was from a superb raffle organised by Peggy and Paula. Many thanks to our generous donors of prizes and cakes, and of course to our villagers and their friends who came along to support

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



STORAGE

Self-contained storage units available for rent.

Secure with easy access. Approx 500 square feet.

For further details please call 07527 335499



The Village Gardener

Do you need help with

Autumn/Winter gardening, jobs and projects ?

Call Dave on 01604 505451

Email: davidei0929@gmail.com

Garden sheds, greenhouses, barns etc. also cleared.



GUILSBOROUGH NEWS



THE HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN—A COMEDY HORROR

This Autumn's production by GMADS was light and funny and, on the night we went, the audience certainly enjoyed it immensely. It was set in Baron Frankenstein's castle "somewhere between the 17th and 21st Centuries". The Baron lived there with his wife, his grumpy housekeeper and disabled assistant as well as the monster he had created and some lively talking plants.

The Baron had invited a number of strange guests, including the King of Vampires, the Queen of Vampires, Count Dracula, the Phantom of the Opera and a werewolf. They all wanted Frankenstein to help them solve their difficulties but unfortunately the famous scientist was not as clever as they had been led to believe and as midnight approached their issues surfaced and things got out of hand!

The set had been very well designed with lots of entrances and exits, enabling characters to appear and disappear with ease. All the cast gave excellent performances and there was plenty of fake blood and howling. The dialogue had nice references to current political issues and occasionally moved into a quick song and dance routine.

The finale was very successful with the discovery that lager helped all of these afflicted characters to feel better and solve their problems as they performed a last song - Monster Mash. Well done GMADs and well done Pam!

STOP PRESS: The raffle in memory of Nigel Townsend raised £550 for Northampton Association for the Blind. Thank you to everyone who contributed!



GMADS Frankenstein Nov 2019



GMADS Frankenstein Nov 2019



Scenes from the production showing the impressive costumes, make up and stage set

From top to bottom
 Countess Ilona Bathory (Angela Bumford)
 Count Dracula (Gip Ingles), Ygor (Tim Underwood).
 The Phantom (Richard Franklin)
 Harry Talbot (Emma Codd)
 Baron Frankenstein (Peter Dillon).
 Isabel Channing (Sally Coyne).
 Photos by Gerry Tilston.

Monday Morning Meet

GUILSBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL

Your Village Hall hosts many regular activities and is in all senses at the centre of village life.

To find out more about these activities, or about the hire of our well equipped facilities for your own event ..

Contact: Sue Needham
 Tel: 07342 382706
 E: info@guilbsboroughvh.uk

Or see contact details for the activity organisers at our website

www.guilbsboroughvh.uk

Clubs & Societies

Tai Chi
 Pilates
 Painting for Pleasure

Art
 Bowls
 Drama
 Dance

HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

We are
Hopewell.....

Tel and text: 07780 265614

Email: wearehopewell@gmail.com

Facebook: We are Hopewell

Coffee and a Chat
in the Village Hall.

We are Hopewell

"We are Hopewell" was started in response to the realisation that in small villages like Hollowell there are people who have no one to turn to when desperate and at the end of their tether or in crisis.

We called it "Hopewell" because we wanted to fill a gap where anyone who is feeling "Hollow" and their "well" of strength has run dry can find a source of "Hope".

We are going to launch monthly Coffee mornings in the village hall starting in November called "Coffee and a Chat" which is exactly what it says. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to be in need but just enjoy meeting people over a cuppa!

If you need a lift we should be able to provide that, just call or text 07780 265614 and let us know.

These will take place on the third Friday each month. Why not pop in and join us between 10:00 – 12:00 on:
20th December
17th January

Paul and Cheryl Charter



HOLLOWELL
TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER, 10PM
JOIN US AT ST JAMES CHURCH!

HOLLOWELL AND TEETON VILLAGE HALL TOTE WINNERS:

Wendy Evans, Stuart Litchfield,
Katherine Clarke, Malcom Jones,
Pauline Kirton, Francis de Clermont,
Gill Mister, Jacqui Rycroft, Cameron Brown.

HOLLOWELL HENS

The Hollowell Hens enjoyed a warm autumnal afternoon in Brixworth in September, visiting the historic sites of the village. We toured the original sites of many of Brixworth's 10 pubs, and were shown the bake houses and two of the original post houses. There were tales of murders, ghosts and village life and our trip was rounded off with a cuppa and a slice of cake at the Heritage Centre opposite the church. Many thanks to our tour guides Pauline and Sue and to Vanessa for providing refreshment. More information about the history of the village is available at: <http://www.brixworthhistory.org/home/4589410309>

WEDDING

Congratulations to Scott and Amy on their wedding in St James Church, Hollowell. The event was a joyous occasion with a poem of advice read by their children, Ebony and Joshua, the Bible reading by Scott's grandmother, and the stunning flower arrangements by family members.



HOLLOWELL HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

St James Church in Hollowell held its Harvest Supper in the Village Hall attended by 50 people from across the Uplands Benefice.

They enjoyed a delicious cold ham and Quiche Ploughman's Supper cooked by John Evans,

with assistance from Wendy and other able bodied cooks. The fruit was all grown in the Vicarage Garden at Spratton and in the potager at Ivy Cottage. Claire Morrell made the crumble mix and all enjoyed a splendid meal, cleared away by Gill Brown's efficient helpers. The Bingo was called by Wes Suter who gave a generous first prize. It was great fun, a real community event. The Church Service on the following day was very well attended. Allen Eaton acted as auctioneer of produce and the proceeds went off to the Daventry Food Centre. It was a traditional village weekend. One not to be missed. Thank you to everyone involved.



HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

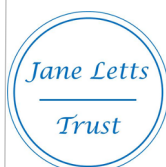
HOLLOWELL AND TEETON PARISH COUNCIL

Hollowell Pocket Park – seasonal work has been undertaken to keep the hedgerows and central area of grass tidy. Further work may be undertaken on the hedgerow bordering Hollowell Lodge Farm. This hedgerow was planted when the Park was opened in 1997 and has spread out into the Park. In particular, the blackthorn has produced off shoots that needed cutting down. Thanks go to Roger Heygate (Heygate Contracting Ltd) and Mark Hazle (H & T P C's mowing contractor) for undertaking this work.

The Budget (Precept – Council Tax) – the Council is required to set a budget for each financial year and this is prepared in the November to January period. This determines how much 'Precept' or Council Tax will be levied in the next financial year (April 2020 to April 2021). It is likely that with the changes to Local Government (The formation of two unitary authorities for Northamptonshire) and the ongoing difficulties with County Council finances, the Parish Council will need to increase its budget to account for removal of grants (e.g. mowing) and the loss of services (e.g. Support for maintaining Bus service).

VILLAGE HALL BREAKFAST

The Village Hall committee hosted a delicious breakfast in October. Residents enjoyed bacon, egg and sausage baps, coffee and cakes. £167 was raised towards the maintenance of the hall. Thank you to all who came along to support us. Our next event is Cafe Christmas on Saturday 7th December 9am – 12 noon. Coffee, cake, stalls, hand bells and festive fun. ALL WELCOME.



ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR HELP WITH YOUR ELECTRICITY BILLS?

The Jane Letts Charitable Trust was created in 1940 by a bequest from the estate of James William Boothe Letts. The bequest established an income to purchase coal or blankets for distribution amongst the **"poor widows and other deserving poor"** of the Parish of Hollowell & Teeton. In the mid 1990s, the terms of the Trust were altered so that it could contribute towards household electricity bills, rather than pay for coal.

To benefit you must be a resident of Hollowell or Teeton and be able to tell the trustees why you need help. Please email us at janelettscharity@gmail.com or write to the Jane Letts Trustees, care of Hollowell & Teeton Parish Clerk, 96 Martins Lane Hardington Northampton NN4 6DJ.

Just send the trustees your contact details and they will get in touch.

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Paul Chant
Branch Director



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EweMove respects any existing sole agency agreement already in place with another agent.



HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS



HOLLOWELL STEAM GIVE AWAY

It was the first “Give Away” for the new team running the Steam Rally this year and they’d done themselves proud, raising an amazing £76,000 to give to local good causes. In a packed tent, on a damp rally field, the cheques were handed out to eighty organisations, many of which had provided volunteers to help run the two day event in July. Among the beneficiaries were numerous local village hall, church and playing field associations, schools, scout groups, hospices, Tools for Self Reliance, Music and Drama groups and the police, fire brigade and RAF. Congratulations to Robin and Di Lewis and the Steam Rally committee for putting on such a wonderful weekend and supporting so many inspiring organisations.



NEW CIDER ENTREPRENEUR IN HOLLOWELL

Hollowild Cider is a new artisan cider company based in Hollowell and created by Jez Morris. For Jez this has been a lifelong passion, combining his love of the countryside around his home, with his love of craft and artisan cider.

All the apples are hand picked, washed, pressed, fermented and bottled by Jez himself in the cider house at his home in Hollowell.

Jez has made craft cider as a hobby for over 10

years, and has slowly refined and improved the procedure each year to produce the type of cider that he likes to drink himself. He is passionate about using the abundant natural fruit growing in the wild and in gardens that would otherwise go to waste. This is one aspect that he says makes Hollowild unique.

After winning awards at the British Cider Championships for two different blends in 2018, Jez made the decision to turn his hobby into a small business and Hollowild cider was born. His cider is now on sale at Seatons village shop in Guilsborough, and at Creaton Village Shop.

For more about Jez’s cider journey see <http://picpanzee.com/tag/wildciderlife> or his website <https://hollowild.com>



Welcome to



“Café Christmas”

in Hollowell Village Hall
Saturday 7th December from 9am to 12.00

Celebrate a Village Christmas with
Authentic bean-to-cup espresso coffees from our Baristas!
Hand made Mince Pies and other Christmas snacks!
Freshly cooked sausages in rolls & other savouries!
Craft and Art Stalls
A unique photographic exhibition of Hollowell in the last century!

(If you would like to have a stall at this event, contact Viv or John on 01604 743760)

Latte, cappuccino, americano, espresso....



HOLLOWELL STEAM BONFIRE

High winds in early November forced the postponement of the traditional, Saturday, Hollowell Bonfire celebrations. The lighting of the bonfire and fireworks display was instead moved to Tuesday – bonfire night itself. Despite the light drizzle and the week day night, the hoards poured in, for what is widely regarded as one of the best bonfire displays in the area. At £1 per entry it is certainly one of the cheapest! The bonfire, complete with two caravans and guys, was awesome and the fireworks spectacular. Thank you to all involved in organising such a splendid show.

THORNBY NEWS



THORNBY
SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER, 3PM
 JOIN US AT ST HELENS CHURCH!

THORNBY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Thornby Village Hall is available to let

This small and intimate Village Hall is suitable for Children's Parties, Meetings, Talks, Demonstrations, Yoga, Sales etc.

For more information contact 743860.



THE RED LION, THORNBY

Quiz nights: Grab a team it's Quiz Night!
Sunday 29th December

Maximum of 6 in a team. Entry £2 per person. 6.30pm.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★ **Congratulations!!!!** ★
 ★ The Red Lion has won the Carlsberg UK ★
 ★ Northamptonshire Food and Drink Awards in the ★
 ★ 'Community Pub of the Year' category. ★
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

**TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR
NORTHAMPTON MALE VOICE
CHOIR**

Performing at St. Helens Church, Thornby
Saturday 7th December 2019
At 7pm
 Tickets £10.00 including refreshments
 Call Ann 01604 7343860 – Barbara 01604
 743860 – Paul 01604 743280
 email pw.gates@hotmail.co.uk



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MESSAGE FROM REVEREND ALLISON TWIGG, THE UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES

As I write this letter it is the weekend that the clocks fall back for the winter and all of a sudden the world seems darker. We're waking up in the dark, we're getting on with daily activities and we're coming home in the dark.

For many of us this is a minor inconvenience but it can bring joy in an excuse for cosy evenings in with open fires and steaming mugs of hot chocolate. For some the darkness is a real problem: Lack of sunlight can cause low mood and even, for some, serious depression.

Yet we are on our way towards Christmas and that is bright and shiny; and a time of excitement and joy; a time of bright twinkly Christmas lights everywhere you look. For some however it doesn't matter how many lights the neighbourhood is decorated with, it still remains a dark time. Perhaps it is for you.

There are many reasons why you may be feeling the darkness of this time of year, maybe you are facing Christmas without someone you love because they have died or have gone away. Perhaps you or someone you love are facing illness or a personal crisis. Perhaps you are lonely or just worn out with life.



And whether you look forward with excitement to Christmas or whether you are struggling to see the light in your darkness, the message of Christmas is very much for you this year. I don't mean the sanitised, sentimental or commercial one we see in Christmas adverts, however much fun they may be, but the real message; Jesus being born into a dark world of uncertainty, a world that knew pain and loss. Jesus born as a human being to fully experience everything as we do so that He can truly walk with us in whatever darkness we face. But most of all Jesus coming to earth as the light of the world, to win a victory over the things that hold us hostage and to shine His light and dispel the darkness. In that Christmas message, I pray, we find hope and joy.

The light is coming. Come the 21st December the days will start getting longer and we will start to see the return of the sun. This Christmas and New Year I pray for the light of God to shine brightly in each of your lives.

Reverend Allison

An Invitation - Blue Christmas

As we approach Christmas, the constant refrain on the radio and the television; in the shops and in our community is about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends and of celebration.

Yet for some of us this doesn't reflect our inner feelings. Christmas can be a challenging and sometimes even painful time. The reasons for this can be many and varied. It may, for example, be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died or it maybe that Christmas is a complex negotiation of sharing your time and presence, as well as your presents, between different parts of your family. Increasingly there is a huge social pressure to produce a perfect family Christmas that can make us feel very alone in the midst of the celebrating and rejoicing.

It can help to make the space and time to acknowledge our feelings and our concerns; and to know that we are not alone in feeling this way. For this reason we have decided in the Uplands Benefice at St. Denys Ravensthorpe to offer a special service called "Blue Christmas" service on **Thursday 19th December** at 6.30 p.m. We invite you to join us in sharing and hearing prayers, readings, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for all of us, including those who struggle and for those who mourn - and that Jesus comes to us to shine light into our darkness and to bring us hope and healing.

This is not a service to make you feel sad, but one where you can come, lay down your burdens and share in the peace of Christmas.

THE UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES Guilsborough Advent Sheep Trail

Have some family fun finding the lost sheep!

The sheep hunt begins at Guilsborough Village Hall on **Sunday 15th December at 10.00 a.m.**

Follow the trail around the village ending back at The Village Hall ending with free brunch, craft, songs and Christmas message from 11.00.

Sheep Trail Competition - donation of 50p per entry in aid of Northampton Hope Centre. Winners will be drawn from the correctly returned entries



ST ETHELDREDA'S CHURCH/DAVENTRY FOOD BANK

We were pleased to send our gifts received at our Harvest Festival to the Food Bank. Thank you to all who contributed. For some time we have had a permanent collection box in church for items to be donated all year round. In addition, SEATONS have kindly agreed for us to have a collection basket in the shop too. Suggested items include: long-life milk; tea, coffee; tinned fish, meat, vegetables; pasta, rice, cereals, soups. Basic toiletries for children and adults. For people to receive free food they must first be referred from a front-line care organisation. All it takes is a sudden unexpected event – a bereavement, illness, redundancy – to throw someone into a crisis. Daventry Food Bank started in 2010 and since then has helped thousands of families. We hope that with the extra collection point in the shop we will be able to increase our support. Please help if you can.



This year, Advent Sunday is 1st December, so the **Travelling Crib** sets will be blessed at one of our Uplands Services and start on their travels around the Parishes finishing again at our Crib Services at Guilsborough 23rd Dec and Spratton on Christmas Eve. If you wish to be part of this and have Mary & Joseph, then please contact Pauline Jacobs, 01604 743792 or Sarah Crick, 07972 477690 so they can organise the best route for each box set. Ten years ago we started with one box going around the Uplands, we now have 4 boxes plus 2 school sets.



CHURCH ROTA

Uplands Group of Parishes office (answerphone): 01604 743444

Email: uplandsgroup@btinternet.com

		DECEMBER 2019										JANUARY 2020				
Week of Month	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th
Sunday	1st December	8th December	15th December	22nd December	29th December	5th January	12th January	19th January	26th January	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Holy Day	Advent Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent	Third Sunday of Advent	Thursday	Saturday	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Monday	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	White	The Epiphany	Second Sunday of Epiphany	Epiphany	Fourth Sunday of Epiphany		
Colour	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White
Cold Ashby	9.30am BCP Communion		9.30am Morning Prayer	No Service	9.30am BCP Communion	9.30am BCP Communion		9.30am BCP Communion	9.30am BCP Communion		9.30am BCP Communion		9.30am BCP Communion	9.30am BCP Morning	No Service	
Cottesbrooke	11.00am BCP Communion	10.00am	No Service	3.00pm Carol Service	10.00am	11.00am BCP Communion		11.00am BCP Communion	11.00am BCP Communion		11.00am BCP Communion		11.00am BCP Communion	No Service	9.45am BCP Prayer	
Creaton	9.30am		9.30am				2.00pm Chib Service	10.00pm Midnight Communion	No Service		9.30am		9.30am	BCP Communion WOP Christian Unity Joint with URC at St Michaels	9.30am	Worship for All
Gullesborough	11.00am BCP Communion	UPLANDS	8.30am BCP Communion	6.00pm Carol Service	UPLANDS	11.00am BCP Communion	4.00pm Chib Service	11.30pm Midnight CW Communion	10.00am					8.30am BCP Communion	9.45am CW Communion	
			Brunch @ 11 Sheep Trail													
			5.00pm Evensong													
Hollowell	Invited to join Gullesborough	Common Worship with Communion	11.00am BCP Morning Prayer	11.00am CW Communion	Common Worship with Communion	Invited to join Gullesborough		10.00pm Carol Service	No Service					11.00am BCP Morning Prayer	11.00am CW Communion	
Ravensthorpe	8.30am BCP Communion	at Ravensthorpe	9.45am	11.00am BCP Communion	at Cottesbrooke	8.30am BCP Communion		5.00pm Carol Service	10.00am CW Communion					9.45am	11.00am BCP Communion	
			6.30pm Blue Christmas													
Spratton	11.00am		11.00am CW Communion	8.30am BCP Communion		11.00am BCP Communion	7.00pm	3.00pm Chib Service	8.30am BCP Communion					11.00am CW Communion	8.30am BCP Communion	
	Worship for All			5.00pm Table Talk			Carols in the Carpark	11.30pm Midnight Communion							5.00pm Table Talk	
Thornby	No Service		3.00pm Carol Service	No Service		No Service		No Service	8.30am BCP Communion					No Service	8.30am BCP Communion	

RUNNER-UP
Cotswolds
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
FOOD & DRINK AWARDS 2018/19
COMMUNITY PUB OF THE YEAR



FINALIST
Cotswolds
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
FOOD & DRINK AWARDS 2019/20
COMMUNITY PUB OF THE YEAR

The Red Lion, Thornby invites you to enjoy the festive season with

US...

A comfy, warm & welcoming local country pub with an ever changing selection of Real Ales, Craft Beers, Gins & Wine.

Fresh Country Pub Kitchen
Tues-Sat 12-2pm & 6-9pm
Sunday Lunch 12-4pm

Freshly prepared meals by our team of chefs, using the best seasonal ingredients sourced from local suppliers. Offering a lunchtime menu, evening a la carte & chefs specials.

Accommodation

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01604 740238 / enquiries@redlionthornby.co.uk
Welford Road, Thornby, NN6 8SJ

3rd - 24th December

Christmas menu available - please call us to book your table

2nd & 9th December

Wreath making evenings - please call us for details

22nd December

Join us to enjoy some Christmas Carols outside around the Christmas tree with the Salvation Army Brass Band. 6.30pm

23rd December

Monday Night Club Christmas Party. Live music from 9.30pm with Pete Watkins the human jukebox!

25th December

12-2pm everyone welcome for a Christmas Day drink

29th December

Quiz Night! 6.30pm. 6 per team. £2 entry per person

31st December

New Years Eve celebration, sit down meal & fireworks.
Advanced bookings only

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Christmas Picture Competition 2019 (continued)

Featured on this page are the close Runners Up in the Christmas Picture Competition. Also, for the first time a 3D entry in the form of the lifesize snowman pictured here with Hugo Newborough aged three, with help from his mother Sofie. We liked his Rudolph Handprint creation (also using his younger brother's hand) so much, we turned it into the banner for this edition of Village Link. Clearly a very festive and talented family! Eight year old Chloe Schanschieff of Guilsborough impressed the judges with her beautifully decorated hanging baubles (right). Rosa Harper, aged 9 and also of Guilsborough created a stunning nightscape full of atmosphere (below left). And the final runner up was 10 year old Faye Platt from West Haddon, with her bright, original and nicely detailed Elf. Well done to you all, we'll be in touch soon with your prizes!



WITH BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR FROM ALL YOUR VILLAGE LINK VOLUNTEERS!

ALPHABETICAL ADVERTISERS

- J.M. Billings Plumbing & Heating Engineer - page 5
- Brixworth Osteopathic Clinic - page 2
- Creton Village Shop - page 8
- David Sleight Conservation - page 10
- Dawn Mallard Hairdressing - page 4
- Ewe Move Sales & Lettings - page 14
- Happy Feet - page 16
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- The Red Lion, Thornby - page 19
- Storage - page 11
- Village Gardener - page 11
- Watsons Petroleum - page 19
- Wills Direct - page 7
- Witch & Sow Guilsborough - page 2



Pictured: Sarah Dalzell collecting the Village Link cheque from Hollowell Steam's Jim Hollowell. Our thanks to Hollowell Steam for this contribution to our running costs.

CHRISTMAS WASTE COLLECTION REMINDER

There's no garden collection during week commencing 23rd December as there's an additional blue recycling collection that week. Christmas trees can be put out in garden bins, alongside bins during week commencing 6th Jan or taken to a recycling centre. See www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/waste-and-recycling/



The Witch & Sow hosted four talented female singer songwriters and an equally talented guitarist on 9th November - a fabulous evening. Watch out for more on this in the next issue of Village Link!