



Platinum Jubilee: Events Round Up

Seventy years ago, a young Princess Elizabeth took on the responsibility of becoming monarch to our nation. This June we will celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, a chance to rejoice in a long reign and a time to reflect on the changes that have taken place over that period. The Village Link communities are busy planning their celebrations and we feature their adverts on the front and back cover. Please make a note of these dates and events in your diaries!

Cottesbrooke celebrations will take place at the Village Hall on Sunday 5th and there is more detail on the Cottesbrooke page. Cold Ashby is organising a Platinum Tea for those residents over 70 on Friday 3rd, and a family celebration on the Playing Fields on Sunday 5th.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Guilsborough

Guilsborough Parish Council is coordinating what they hope will be a joyful, community and family orientated weekend for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Please contact:
Lisa Phillips 2088113200131 or
Amanda Miller 2088113200131
if you would like to volunteer to help.

We would also be delighted to hear from anyone with fantastic ideas that might work around the events that are planned so far...

THURSDAY 2nd JUNE
Approx 11pm
St Etheldreda Church
Beacons (TBC), Outdoor Church Service (Uplands Group)

SATURDAY 4th JUNE
5pm onwards
Witch & Sow Pub
BBQ & Live Music, British Legion Toast to the Queen (Home)

SUNDAY 5th JUNE
9.45am to 12pm
GPFA Cricket Pitch
Family Sports, Tea & Coffee, Baking Sandwiches

12pm to 6pm
Village Hall & The Green
Lunch, tea & coffee, Street Party, Baking Competition, Toast to the Queen, Ice Creams & Fete

Thornby are holding a street-style party at the Old Rectory on the Sunday and Hollowell & Teeton are having a tea party on Saturday 4th followed by a Jubilee after party. Creton are combining their celebrations with their annual Open Gardens event on Sunday 5th.

In Guilsborough, the Witch & Sow pub is holding a BBQ with live music on the Saturday. On Sunday 5th there will be family sports on the GPFA Playing Fields in the morning and a Street Party from midday. On Thursday 2nd June, at St Etheldreda's there will be an Outdoor Church Service for the Uplands Group. Many of these events still have to be finalised and you will be hearing from your village Jubilee organizing teams over the next couple of months.

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WHAT'S ON

APRIL

- 1st and 2nd Gmads Show Guilsborough
- 9th Creton Walking Group
- 9-10th Learn to sail (adults) at HSC
- 13th Creton Folk Band / WI talk
- 11th PC Annual Meeting Guilsborough
- 14th Guilsborough Friends
- 15th Good Friday MMM Guilsborough
- 23/4th Hollowell Pub Night
- 24th Cottesbrooke Hall Open Gardens
- 29th Quiz Guilsborough

MAY

- 7-8th Learn to Sail (adults) at HSC
 - 12th Guilsborough Friends
 - 14th Creton Walking Group
 - 22nd Guilsborough Open Gardens
- AND REGULARLY ...
- Monday mornings, MMM, evenings Knitwits Guilsborough; Tuesday evenings, Creton Singers, Sailing Tasters at HSC (pre-booking essential); Thursday mornings Indoor bowls, Creton; 3rd Friday Hopewell Cafe Hollowell; Sunday am and Tuesday pm, Tennis Guilsborough

CRETON in bloom

Open Gardens Jubilee Fête
Open Farm Sunday
Sunday 5th June

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Community support for Ukraine

It's been heartwarming to see so many of our villagers contributing to aid collections and deliveries to support Ukrainian refugees. If any readers have also signed up to the 'Homes for Ukraine' hosting scheme, the quickest way to pull the refugees through the system is if you have a name of the person you are sponsoring. A charity called RefuAid is currently in Poland working to link refugees up with suitable homes in the UK, side by side with the UK government. It might ease their sense of isolation if displaced families know others who are also hosted locally. Contact kate@refuaid.org who is the operations manager out there. Another option for putting hosts and families together directly is the website: www.ukrainetakesshelter.com

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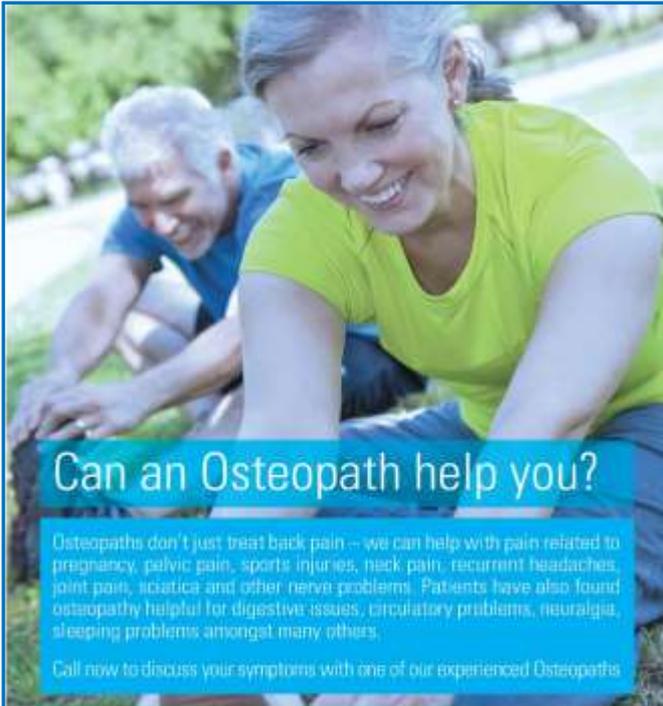
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VILLAGE LINK

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.

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Cheques payable to 'Village Link'

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:
 Sunday 3rd May 2022

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In this, the second in the Village Link series on how climate change is affecting where we live, the County Bird Recorder and Hollowell resident, Jon Cook tells of the plusses and minuses of this catastrophe for the birds.

Several changes evident in recent years would suggest that climate change is having a significant impact on bird populations. Some of these changes are obvious, while others are revealed by study of more detailed data, for example arrival and departure dates for migratory birds and nesting dates for breeding species.



Egret at Pitsford Reservoir

Many summer visitors such as Swallows are returning earlier from their winter quarters. Species such as Blackcaps and Chiffchaffs, formerly only present as summer visitors in the UK, are now present throughout winter. Many of our resident birds are laying eggs much earlier in the year. Several species have expanded their range northwards and become commoner here, **for example Cetti's Warbler and Little, Great and Cattle Egrets**, formerly rare species which have become established in our county and indeed across much of the UK. These examples are representative of a poleward shift in the distribution of species. On the face of it, these changes would appear to be positive in terms of local biodiversity, and a recent British Trust for

Ornithology (BTO) study stated that 25% of British breeding species have benefitted from climate change.

An increasing body of evidence however suggests that climate change is having a significant impact in other less positive ways. The same BTO study found that 25% of British breeding species were negatively affected. There is evidence that climate change has adversely impacted populations of vulnerable upland and seabird species. A global decline in migratory species has also been noted, potentially as these species are particularly vulnerable to negative impacts. In the UK, 20 of our 54 species of long-distance migrants are in decline, particularly in southern Britain. The Cuckoo is a good local example of this, a formerly widespread summer visitor now scarce away from a handful of strongholds in the county.

Many formerly common species have vanished or become extremely scarce from Britain, and while this could be related to climate change, the causes are likely to be complex, including habitat loss, persecution, degradation, reduced food supply and other human pressures. The UK all-species Wild Bird Index, which represents population change across 130 species, shows a 10% decline since 1970 (Defra 2020).

Also remarkable is the speed with which many of these changes have occurred, with a measurable and notable impact per decade. While some of the changes described are examples of a species capitalising on an opportunity, for example better availability of food or milder winters - there are others which would suggest a species responding to stress or pressures elsewhere in their natural range.

Mitigating measures such as tree-planting for net-zero carbon emissions may help reduce the climate impact and may also create valuable wildlife habitat, but insensitive planting could be harmful to natural habitats. The requirement for biofuels may require expanded areas of cultivation to meet the demand, potentially reducing wild habitats. Cost-of-living increases and energy shortages are likely to add further to the challenges we face and create further pressure. This would appear to paint a gloomy picture, but through scientific research and robust decision-making, supported by public interest, it should be possible to protect the natural world in integrated, connected ways that achieve benefits for both nature and people.

Sources:

Pearce-Higgins, J.W. (2021): *Climate Change and the UK's Birds*. British Trust for Ornithology Report, Thetford, Norfolk.

Bellew, H (2017): *6 Ways Climate Change is Impacting Birds in the UK*. rspb.org.uk

COLD ASHBY NEWS

Entertainment at Cold Ashby Village Hall



Throughout January and February, the residents of Cold Ashby have enjoyed a variety of social events at the Village Hall thanks to the new committee. In January, two events were hosted. One was a social evening where residents could enjoy a drink and a chat with neighbours. The second event was a Race night where everyone who attended enjoyed having a flutter using monopoly **money (which they purchased for £5) and cast their bets on pre-recorded races.** Great fun was had by all, and the trustees would like to thank everyone who attended. Special thanks go to Steve and Mackenzie Roper who did an amazing job as the bookmakers. During February, a Skittles social evening was held and saw a variety of villagers and members from other villages battle it out

in a skittles match. Skittles has been a traditional past time in Cold Ashby and the village owns its own skittle table, which is now held at the Village Hall ensuring that residents and guests can play regularly when the hall is open. Regular skittles and social evenings are being planned throughout the year and we look forward to welcoming anyone to join us on such evenings. A full list of openings and events will be published in the next edition once finalised by the committee.

A quiz night was held at the end of February where 10 teams competed against each other in 12 closely contested rounds. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all and the committee would like to thank Dave Harris for designing and hosting the quiz. All monies raised at our social events go to Village Hall funds.

Cold Ashby Open Gardens save the date!



Work behind the scenes is being conducted for our annual Open Gardens Weekend which will take place on 23rd & 24th July in aid of St Denys Church. More details about this event will be published in the next edition of Village Link once they have been finalised.

Our bats need you!!!



The bat conservation society are looking for volunteers to help them collect valuable data about bats in churches. Cold Ashby and Ravensthorpe churches have been selected as

part of the study group and have volunteers enlisted to conduct the surveys of bats in the church. However, the bat conservation society are looking for volunteers to become church bat detectives in the following churches: Guilsborough, Hollowell, Creaton and Cottesbrooke. Taking part is easy and would only take a couple of hours and anyone can get involved. It is a one-off survey involving just one church visit and consists of two separate parts: a questionnaire and a daytime bat evidence survey which would take place between June and August.

If you are interested in getting involved more information can be found out on their website: www.batsinchurches.bats.org.uk where you can sign up to become a volunteer.



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COTTESBROOKE NEWS

The Greedy Squirrel



There are an estimated 2.7 million Grey Squirrels in the UK and **this is one that visits Steve Nicholas's garden bird feeders.** They can provide great entertainment, though it is well-known that these animals, a non-native species, have pushed the Red Squirrel to small enclaves around the country.

It is not surprising that the grey squirrel likes our bird feeders as their food of choice includes nuts and seeds, and the easier to get at them, the better.

Grey squirrels like to bury their food for later and have been observed pretending to do this to fool other squirrels that may be watching!

Platinum Jubilee



The Cottesbrooke Village Hall Committee alongside a group of enthusiastic volunteers are working to plan a fantastic event in celebration of HRH Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee on Sunday, 5 June.

Our celebrations will take place at the Village Hall from 4:30-8:30pm. All residents and their families are welcome. Further details will be posted through letterboxes in the upcoming weeks, so do keep an eye out!

If you would like to help out on the day, or if you have some festive red, white and blue or Union Jack bunting we could borrow (the more bunting the better!), we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Meg Routhorn at megrouthorn@yahoo.co.uk



COTTESBROOKE

HALL & GARDENS



National Garden Scheme
Sunday 24th April 2pm - 5.30pm

Hall & Gardens open 2nd May to 29th September

May & June: Weds & Thurs 2pm - 5.30pm
July, Aug & Sept: Thurs only 2pm - 5.30pm
Plus Bank Holiday Mondays (May - Sept) 2pm - 5.30pm
Rescheduled Spring Bank Holiday: Thurs 2nd June 2pm - 5.30pm
Jubilee Bank Holiday: 3rd June - CLOSED

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CREATON NEWS

Creaton WI invites you to a musical evening with

The Cut-a-Caper Folk Band



Wednesday 13 April at 7.30 p.m.
Creaton United Reformed Church

Andrew Castley and his band will give a talk
with music and song:

“A Brief History of English Folk Music from the 1800s to the 1960s”

Tickets £5 to include tea, coffee and biscuits

Please do join us.

Just come along on the night or, for more information, contact Creaton WI President, Daphne Clark

01604 505546

daphne.clark1@btinternet.com



Creaton Playing Field Association

Charity No. 1085011

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and work over the last year.

As we are a small committee, we rely on the support of others to keep the field open and running. We would like to say thank you, in particular, to Martin and his team of mowers who strive to keep the field looking smart whilst driving our 50 year old tractor pulling an increasingly challenging set of mowing equipment. Special thanks must also go to Chris who regularly litter picks on the field in order to reverse the actions of thoughtless individuals. He really does a first class and important job. Thank you to everyone who **helped at our quiz as well as on our work parties. We couldn't do it without all of you.**

Of course the playing field would not exist at all where it not for the generosity of Cottesbrooke Estate who granted the lease which allows the field to exist in its present form.

We should also mention our local councillor, Jonathan Harris, who kindly assisted the Association in obtaining a Community Funding **Grant of £300 towards the replacement of two very wobbly gateposts.**

Can we remind everyone to abide by the Dog Notices on the field which prohibit the exercising of dogs on the field. Dogs on a lead are only permitted to cross the field on the two public footpaths which cut across the field. We are in discussions with West Northants Council regarding a Public Spaces Protection Order which recognises sports fields as protected spaces and permits **finest of up to £1,000. Please be considerate to other field users.**

We are always looking for new helpers so please look out for notices or make yourself known to one of the committee members.

Mark Woollven – Treasurer

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT DOGS MUST BE ON A
LEAD AT ALL TIMES WHEN ON THE FIELD

Creaton Walking Group

February's walk miraculously

escaped the winds and rain and the walkers enjoyed wonderful views as they walked above Pitsford reservoir and finished at The Griffin in Pitsford for a delicious lunch.

Cold Ashby was the starting point for the March walk and then over Honey Hill and via Winwick back. The Red Lion at



Thornby as usual proved a great venue for lunch.

Walks take place on the second Saturday of the month and are about 3 hours / 8 miles over footpaths, followed by an optional pub lunch. Meet at Creaton lychgate at 10am.

Next walks are on:

Saturday 9 April

Saturday 14 May

Saturday 11 June



Creaton Singers



Singing together is a joy and the Creaton Singers are delighted to welcome two new members.

Practices have started for Creaton in Bloom on Sunday 5th June when the singers will perform a few numbers at 3pm in the URC to entertain visitors having a cream tea. What could be more pleasant?

Save the date! Saturday 24th September, 7.30pm. The Creaton Singers are putting on a concert in the URC in Creaton High Street. This concert is to raise funds for the URC / coffee shop and has been postponed by over 2 years, when the singers hoped to raise funds for the new boiler.

If you are interested in joining this friendly singing group, we meet every Tuesday from 7.30pm to 9pm in the URC on Creaton High Street.

Over The Counter

I am delighted to be writing my first article as the New Manager of Creaton Village Shop and Post Office and I send my sincere thanks to everyone for making me feel so welcome. I bring twenty years of experience in running my own successful Village Shop to Creaton and I look forward to building upon the solid foundations that have been laid by the tremendous staff and volunteers since the Shop opened in 2018. Like all Convenience Shops, we aim to stock all of your essential grocery and household items combined with specialty products from numerous local suppliers, come and see if we stock what you need - I think **you'll be pleasantly surprised!**

Our grocery selection is being expanded with the introduction of many well known and much loved household named products and we are always listening to what you - our customers need. Look out for the EuroShopper or Happy Shopper brands which offer superb value for money.

As a Community Shop we rely upon a great team of volunteers to work within the shop for a couple of hours a week or fortnight - if you have time to spare and fancy a spell behind the counter, **why not pop in for a chat, it's good fun and extremely rewarding meeting people from all walks of life.**

Duncan Steward
Manager

Creaton URC

You are warmly welcome to join us for our Sunday Worship and Junior Church.

April		
Sunday 3rd 11am		Rev Geoff Townsend
10th 11am	<i>Worship & Holy Communion</i>	Jon Heard
17th 11am	<i>Easter Sunday & Holy Communion</i>	Rev Geoff Townsend
24th 11am		Rev Ann Jack
May		
1st 11am	<i>Worship & Holy Communion</i>	Rev Geoff Townsend
8th 11am		Rev Tim Huc
15th 11am		Rev Liz Adams
22nd 11am		Vaughan Griffiths
29th 11am	<i>Joint Pastorate Service at Crick URC</i>	Rev Craig Muir

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CREATON NEWS



Father and son Alan (left) and Daniel Odell taking their Aveling & Porter steam roller out for trip round Creaton. However, this was not just a pleasure drive as Daniel was taking his Steamroller Driving Test, which he passed. Congratulations!

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The Nuthatch can be a regular visitor to the bird feeders particularly in winter and early spring. They are more often seen moving quickly up and down trees looking for invertebrates in the bark.

Creaton Parish Council Contact Details

Parish Clerk

We are delighted to report that Katrina Jones has rejoined Creaton Parish Council as Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer and Burials Officer.

If you wish to bring any issues, concerns or ideas to the attention of the Parish Council, Katrina can be contacted by email at creatonpc@gmail.com or by telephone on 07739 435744.

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

Meetings are held bi-monthly. Please check the parish council website for details of future meetings and agendas.

Parish Council Meeting dates

Meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of the month (bi-monthly) at 7.30pm. The date of our next meeting is 10th May 2022 in the Village Hall. Details are subject to change depending on government public health guidance.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will also be held on 10th May in the Vaillage Hall. Further details will be confirmed shortly.

Planning Applications:

Please visit the Daventry section of the West Northamptonshire Council website for full details of all Planning Applications. www.westnorthants.gov.uk

Parish Council Vacancy

The council currently has one vacant seat for a Councillor. If you can give 1-2 hours of your time a month to help make decisions about how various matters in Creaton are managed and funded then please make contact.. As a Parish Council we have the ability to make change or influence outcomes in our community. Contact us for more information about what is involved, the day to day tasks and projects we have in mind for 2022 and beyond.

Cemetery and Closed Church Yard

It may surprise some residents to hear that CPC is responsible for the maintenance of the closed churchyard (that area immediately around the church) as well as the open cemetery that runs along the Knick Knacks footpath.

For many years this area was neglected but the new council has spent several years and made considerable investment in bringing both areas back up to standard. We are nearing the end of the program of work and moving into the maintenance phase from where the Parish Council will be able to keep on top of works rather than play catch up.

Recent items have included a safety audit and repair of headstones, tree works, and we have awarded a contract to repair and improve the stone retaining wall to Violet Lane.

The Creaton History Society has supported us with their records throughout much of our efforts and most recently have funded the restoration of the brick tomb which sits prominently at the front of the churchyard. We are most grateful for their support and dedication to the overall project.

Owl and Bird Boxes

Creaton Parish Council have kindly been donated bird boxes by The British Association for Shooting and Conservation for use in the church grounds. Three are for small birds that will hopefully soon be making them their homes for raising their young. There is also an owl box in position to accommodate the Tawny Owls that visit the churchyard most nights. With this help from BASC, the Parish Council hopes to attract some wildlife back into this area of our village for residents to enjoy. Our thanks goes to them for supporting us in this project.



Bob Farmer (r) and David Winter putting up the small bird boxes in the churchyard. .



GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

Football has continued at U15 age group this year and West Haddon JFC u15s are currently top of the NDYAL B league with 41 points (late Feb). They are 10 points ahead of the 2nd placed team after 15 matches. They have played all the home games at the playing fields and plans are in place for more teams to play at Guilsborough next season as the relationship with WHJFC continues to be a huge success.



Field with the Academy, with parents utilising the GPFA parking area for drop off/collection of children. This would need, assuming the parking area is suitable, the support of the GPFA, the Academy, parents and the Parish Council. If agreed, WNC and Highways would make a funding proposal in 2022 for 2023.

The GPFA have contacted the Guilsborough Parish Council and Guilsborough Academy for their support

Suspicious Behaviour The GPFA urges everyone to report suspicious behaviour at the Playing Field.

In February, a vigilant parishioner reported a Ford Fiesta parked outside the front gate at 2200h. The 4-camera CCTV system recently installed at the Field, detected 2 young men, searching the outside of the pavilion and tractor shed, both with intruder alarms, which stores lawn mowers and other maintenance equipment. Fortunately, no theft occurred; photos of the young men were sent to the police.

Footway to the Playing Field. The verge, which is the footway between Guilsborough Academy and Guilsborough Playing Field is a mess, resulting from car parking by parents collecting children from the Academy, despite a **Highways sign saying "Do not park on the verge"**.



In several places the verge is lower than the road level, which it should not be. Children and adult safety is therefore an issue, as the state of the verge results in having to walk in the road, with cars often speeding after passing the 30mph limit.

The GPFA therefore contacted a) Northants Police re illegal parking on the verge where there are zig-zag lines; community officers are patrolling parking on the verge from the Academy to the Guilsborough Playing Field, giving **words of "advice"** to those who park on the zig-zags, taking details of vehicles and people who are parked on them, so that they can take action if they are seen doing the same thing again and b) West Northants Council (WNC), who referred it to Northamptonshire Highways who are to fill in the depressions, and WNC have suggested a long term agreed solution to remedy the on-going concern; they have proposed a new footway linking the Playing

Volunteers Needed The GPFA needs and welcomes volunteers to its General Committee who are supportive of the Playing Field Association enabling sporting and recreational activities for the parish and surrounding villages for sports clubs, individual adults and children. Those with fundraising, maintenance and administrative capabilities are needed. Graham.Byars@hotmail.com

Jubilee Weekend. The GPFA has been asked by the Parish Council to organise sporting activities for children during **the Queen's Jubilee weekend at the Playing Field on Sunday morning 5th June**. More details will be published soon, but the GPFA would welcome help from parents to organise such activities.

Cricket Haddon CC is based across three grounds in Guilsborough, West Haddon and East Haddon running 4 junior sides, 1 ladies' side and 6 men's teams across local leagues. The junior section caters for children from 5 to 15 years old, with a variety of programmes, training and matches from February to September each year. The club is always keen to recruit new players across both senior and junior sections, we welcome players of all levels of experience and ability, if you or your children would like to give it a go for the first time or you are an experienced player looking to return to the sport please contact junior.cricket@haddoncc.co.uk or Jim Houghton on 07748920176 for more information.

Guilsborough Tennis Club
at Guilsborough Academy

Welcomes new and existing members for the 2022 season!
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£30 juniors, £50 individuals, £90 families

Try before you buy
Come along to a club night on a Tuesday evening 7pm, or a Sunday club morning 10am.

Contact Sarah Dalzell on 07917 608238 or Graham Metcalfe on 07894 424328 for details

GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

PRIMARY SCHOOL



We are now halfway through the academic year already and this Spring Term has been full of exciting learning, activities and curriculum enrichment events.

Our School Council ended the half term with a whole school assembly during which they were able to explain what they have been doing to make our school even better so far this year, and also what exciting things we have planned. They showed the whole school the new playtime equipment boxes which have been a huge success since being back. The children think the new equipment is ace! Thank you to our PTA for supporting this.

The children took part in Safer Internet day which was organised by Mrs Holcombe. The feedback from the children showed us just how well-equipped our pupils are for being very **safe online**. We also supported **Children's Mental Health Week** and completed many different activities, including wearing our **clothes inside out**. We raised over **£100 for the YoungMinds** charity. Our Magnificent Mind Champions also supported our school in giving their advice and help to pupils throughout the week.

We had a number of other events during the Spring term too, including World Book Day and Science Week, which included a visit from Fizz Pop Science who will also be offering an after school club this academic year. Also, our Seasonal Walk, **Parents' evening and our new Project Friday, which will be exploring Spirituality and what it means to us as a school**. To find out about all of the exciting things we are doing at our school and for any important updates, please see our school website www.guilsboroughprimary.co.uk and our Twitter profile @guilsboroughpri.



**GUILSBOROUGH
OPEN GARDENS**
Sunday 22nd May 1-5 pm

Combined admission **£7.50**

Teas in the Gardens of Dripwell House

Refreshments in aid of St Etheldreda's Church and the NGS

MMM



Monday Morning Meet

Guilborough Village Hall

9 – 11am every Monday

(excluding Bank Holidays)

All welcome, baby – OAPs.

Baby & toddler toys for youngsters.

Meet for a chat, knit, hot drink & cake.

Only £2/adult - includes refreshments.

Children are free.

Good Friday (15th April)

10-12noon, £2 per adult to include Hot Cross Buns, hot drinks, children's snack and EASTER CRAFTS

For more information contact Janet 01604 740640



GUILSBOROUGH NEWS

HELP! VILLAGE HALL ROOF REPAIR FUND

GUILSBOROUGH Village Hall's flat roof has to be replaced urgently and it will cost nearly £50,000! The front of the hall was built around 1901, but the main hall area, kitchen and stage area were added in around 1975, and later the committee room, all with a large flat roof. It has been checked and repaired regularly but is almost 50 years old and has now reached the end of its life, and we need to replace the roof this summer. We also want to take the opportunity to insulate the roof properly, reduce the ever-increasing energy bills, make the hall warmer and keep down hire costs.

The village hall is the centre of the community in Guilsborough, providing a home for a wide range of activities and a social space for everyone, from the very young to our oldest residents. The hall is also a meeting space, a polling station, and a party venue. We have over 90 hours use a month and over 10,000 visits a year.

We now have quotes from specialist roofing companies, and the **cost of a replacement roof with insulation is around £47,000.**

Although the Village Hall Management Committee has been increasing usage and carefully saving surplus funds over the years, we do not have enough to fund such a large cost.

We urgently need to raise at least £20,000. Guilsborough Parish Council has kindly offered a £5,000 grant and we are applying for grants from other sources.

Community funding will be essential to close the gap and to prove our village is fully backing the scheme – which will help with getting the other critical grants. Our community fund target is a **minimum of £5,000.**

If we do not raise sufficient funds, then quite simply, the future of the hall is at risk.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR VILLAGE HALL ROOF REPAIR FUND:

Make a DONATION to our crowdfunding campaign by:
Weblink : <https://gofund.me/8de5cd37>

Cheque: Payable to "Guilsborough Village Hall" or cash
(Sue O'Neil, Nortoft Cottage, Nortoft, NN6 8QB)

Provide a Raffle Prize for the Quiz night

Get a QUIZ TEAM together for the 'Rescue our Roof Quiz'
on 29th April. Tickets:

eve@weycotthomes.co.uk 07711 335 771, or
emilylc81@yahoo.co.uk 0781 882 3558

GUILSBOROUGH FRIENDS

Are a local friendly group, usually meeting the second Thursday of the month.

Social activities include guest speakers, garden visits, meals out,

visits to local places of interest and much more.

£3 per meeting which is used to cover costs and make charitable donations

We are really keen to welcome new members who would enjoy participating.

Our Programme for the next 3 months:

Thursday April 14th

Harold Pinter

Saints, Sinners, Stars & Scandals

7.30pm The Village Hall. Meet some past residents of Northamptonshire famous and infamous. Derek F. Blunt

Thursday May 12th

Visit and talk at

The Royal Ordinance Depot

7pm Weedon Barracks

For further information contact

Janet Minney 01604 740640 janetminney1@internet.com

Rachel Humphrey 01604 770009 ianandrachel@gmail.com

Rescue our Roof !



Friday 29th April, 7:30pm

Guilsborough Village Hall

Help us raise money for a new roof on the hall

Teams welcome

£10 per person

includes Ploughman's meal !

+ Bar

+ Raffle



Tickets from: Eve: eve@weycotthomes.co.uk Tel: 07711 335 771

Emily: emilylc81@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 0781 882 3558

Event and Raffle organised by the Guilsborough Village Hall Management Committee.
All proceeds to the Guilsborough Village Hall Roof Fund.

A BETTER PLAYGROUND FOR GUILSBOROUGH CHILDREN



The Guilsborough Playground Action Group (GPAG) has been formed to improve the facilities and equipment at our Playground.

Initially, we will be focusing on additional equipment for families with Toddlers and Juniors. We will also consider the replacement of existing equipment as it reaches its natural end of life.

Do your kids want to Swing, Slide, Spin and Climb?

Of course, we wish to hear your families' views on what you think can improve your playground.

To capture your views, we have added a questionnaire to the Guilsborough Hub or you can email us at the address below. Your responses will be analysed, and the results will be published in the next Village Link.

The Parish Council have generously provided us with a seed fund to get the ball rolling. However, we hope that most of the project costs will be funded by grants from local and national organisations.

The survey will **close on April 21st** to allow us time to analyse the survey before applying for upcoming grant deadlines.

We would like to invite all children to design a simple logo for our Group to use. Entries will also close on April 21st and the winner selected. Please email your entries to GuilsboroughPAG@gmail.com.

Please fill in the Survey, your feedback is essential to the success of the project.

CONTACT THE GPAG by email: GuilsboroughPAG@gmail.com



Hugh Lowther planted an Oak at the PC playing field next to the playground to commemorate the Queen's 70th Anniversary.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Farewell Thanks: Councillors Jaggard and Woolridge have recently retired from the Council and we would like to thank them for all of their hard work. Cllr Jaggard served the Council tirelessly for many years, several of them as Chair. There are currently vacancies on the council, if you would like to join please see the website.

Annual Meeting: The 2022 Annual Meeting is on April 11th at 8pm in the Village Hall, all parishioners are invited. Chief Inspector Pete Basham and a local PC will be attending to discuss and explain changes to local policing and how they will affect Guilsborough. Please come along if you can.

For more information visit: www.guilsboroughpc.org.uk/

HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

HOLLOWELL STEAM PIONEER COMES TO THE RESCUE THE 2022 RALLY IS FULL STEAM AHEAD !



Allen Eaton MBE, the man who set up and led Hollowell Steam Rally for over 30 years has stepped out of retirement to run a rally for one more year. Due to Covid there has been no steam rally in Hollowell for the last two years. When the committee met in the new year to start planning the 2022 event, they decided they could not go ahead, due to problems obtaining permission for use of some neighbouring fields traditionally earmarked for camping and for parking. The decision was made to cancel the 2022 event and shut down altogether. The news came as a surprise to Allen Eaton, who stepped down as Chairman three years ago. The rally is immensely popular and has raised 1.8 million pounds for local charities and community groups. It has come a long way since 1986 when it was started by Allen as a small event to raise funds to repair the church roof. Allen explains that the Steam Rally field owns the 25 acre field on which the main rally is held, but the rules of ownership are such that if no rally is held for three

consecutive years, the field must be sold and the proceeds placed in a charitable trust.

"It would be a terrible shame to lose this valuable local amenity, just because Covid came along," he says.

Allen and his wife Jane are proposing to run a smaller version of **the rally, with the new title "Hollowell Steam and Vintage Rally"**, on its usual dates of 2nd and 3rd July for just one year. "That will hopefully give everyone breathing space and time to think about how to move forward long term," he says.

The pair, who live on Creaton Road in Hollowell, are appealing for help from the community to get this year's show on the road. If you can offer some support please call Allen on 01604 505422 or mobile 07802 570590. Email alleneaton@hotmail.co.uk. Exhibitors, local charities and stall holders are also invited to apply to attend using the same details above.



A DIPLOMATIC ENCOUNTER WITH RUSSIANS

One day in October 1972 I was summoned by my boss at the Foreign Office and told that the Department of the Environment (DOE) needed some help to run a UN conference on marine pollution. I knew nothing about the prevention of the dumping of waste at sea, the main theme of the conference, but I had had some experience of UN meetings and that was good enough for the DOE. I was given the rather grand title of Deputy Secretary-General, a large office with red flock wallpaper, a cream coloured telephone (unheard of in Civil Service circles) and, best of all, the perk of my own Secretary. While absorbing the grand surroundings and feeling slightly overawed, I was told that a visitor wished to speak to me urgently. He turned out to be a Mr Faekov of the Soviet (Russian) Embassy who announced that a delegation would be arriving next day for the conference starting the following Monday. This was surprising news since the Russians had previously declined to participate, so we had made no preparations for their delegation. I pointed this out to Mr Faekov who brushed aside the problem and demanded interpreters, correctly insisting that Russian was an official language of UN meetings. He hinted that were his demands not met there could be serious repercussions on Anglo-Soviet relations. Promising to look into the matter urgently and let him know by telephone if interpreters could be found at such



short notice, I saw him out.

With Faekov gone, I found the right button on the cream telephone and asked my Secretary to come in as I needed to send an urgent message to the Foreign Office. Looking out of the window **across St. James's Park, I dictated a memo to Sir**

Thomas Brimelow, the most senior official dealing with the USSR, explaining the situation including the fact that there was no budget **to pay Russian interpreters a fee (as I had been told) of £60 a day.** I hoped he could help me find the money.

Turning to ask the Secretary to send the memo by messenger to the Foreign Office as soon as possible, I noticed that she had not written anything on what I took to be her shorthand notepad. Had I been dictating too quickly, I asked? Her response was **laconic: "No. I'm audio". There then ensued a frantic search for a dictating machine.** But once found, further delay occurred when it was discovered that the electric points at Lancaster House were different sizes on each floor. We hunted down a screwdriver and **changed the machine's plug.**

Eventually, we got the memo to Sir Thomas and he found the money for the interpreters. Face was saved all round. I telephoned the good news to Faekov. He, however, never apologised for causing so much turmoil. Diplomatic delicacy prevents me from recording what we called him.

Merrick Baker-Bates

HOLLOWELL & TEETON NEWS

HOLLOWELL VILLAGE HALL

EVENTS

The Steam and Whistle pub nights are back. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 23rd April 7-11pm for a beer and a round of skittles.

Please save the date Saturday 18th June for a summer Barbecue at the Village Hall.

HOLLOWELL VILLAGE HALL LOTTO

The first winners have been drawn for the 2022 Village Hall Lotto. The lucky winning names for Jan and Feb each receive a **crisp £10. There are still a few numbers up for grabs so if you want to purchase one or two, please contact Becky Gane bekyjgane@gmail.com. Numbers are £10 each. All funds raised will go towards the maintenance of the Village Hall.**

The winners are: Adam Suter, Julia Green, Alan Winterburn, Joan Leatherland, Graham Leah, Philip Litchfield, Mandy Crutchley, Linda Gilbert.

PARISH COUNCIL

Budget and Precept (Council Tax) 2022 – 23

The Council determined it necessary to increase the Precept for the coming year in order to maintain services and take account of likely increases in costs.

The 59 (Welford to Market Harborough) and 60 (Welford to Northampton) bus service requires financial support and Hollowell & Teeton PC will provide a contribution, along with other local Parish Councils, with the expectation that the remaining funds will be provided by West Northants Council.

Street lighting electricity charges will be reviewed in September 2022, as part of the annual contract, so costs for the first half year can be accurately assessed but will be subject to change for the second half and this factor has been taken into account in preparing the annual budget.

The Clerk's salary is determined at national level and negotiations have failed to agree salary scales which means when they are finally agreed it is likely to include a requirement for 'back pay' as well as an increase in future pay. The Council has determined to provide the Clerk with appropriate remuneration for her services.

HOLLOWELL PLATINUM JUBILEE FESTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE ON :

Saturday 4th June at Hollowell Village Hall Car Park. Please save the date. We would love to see everyone from Hollowell & Teeton there. Let's make it a day to remember. Contact Wesley Suter wes@steffans.co.uk

WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS

Nicole Smith and Sam Rowlett 2 Spring Close.

A NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations to Martha Corby and Robert Sutton on the arrival of their baby son George Roy Sutton. George was born Wednesday 16th February, weighing 7 pounds 13 ounces. We all look forward to meeting our newest resident. What lovely news!



A NEW SWING FRAME FOR HOLLOWELL POCKET PARK



Thanks to all the hard work at Hollowell FAFF last summer, Hollowell Pocket Park Action Committee was able to step in and assist the Parish Council with the purchase of a new double

swing frame.

The old swing had to be condemned due to rot in some of the supporting posts. HPPAC was able to use their portion of the funds raised at the FAFF to buy a new timber swing frame and the appropriate safety matting.

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Towing instruction also available.

THORNBY NEWS

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Decorate your Home for the Jubilee

In celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee we'd like to invite the neighbourhood to celebrate this joyous milestone with pride and decorate our homes. Winner for 'Best Decorated' to be announced at Jubilee Celebrations - The Old Rectory – 5th June.

Jubilee Celebrations

Please help us to make this a fantastic celebration. This will be an event for all our Villagers to get together in a safe environment and enjoy a fun filled afternoon. With any funds raised we are hoping to purchase an engraved Jubilee bench to be situated on the Naseby Road to commemorate this occasion and for us all to enjoy. If you have any Tombola items/Star Prizes, Plants, Bottles or Bric-a-Brac for our Stalls please drop them off to any of us below. If you have any Garden Games or a Gazebo/Marquee available on the day, **please contact one of us. We are also looking for a good 'Tug of War' rope.**

We have a small Committee to put this event together, you are very welcome to join us or contact us with any ideas or items available. See you there!

Contact - Jean Gates, Alex Todd, Lin Ockendon, Julie Hensman and Vanessa Sawford or any of the Village Hall Committee.

Thornby Village Hall Hire

Fully equipped and newly decorated hall with a capacity to hold 40 people. Ideal for intimate gatherings, childrens parties, courses, talks and meetings etc.

Tables, chairs and gazebos available for use on and off site.

Hire charge £10 per hour

Contact Alex Todd - 07872839199

THORNBY PARISH MEETING - FUEL INITIATIVE TO BENEFIT THE VILLAGE

Thornby has followed the example of other nearby villages and taken up the offer from Compass Energy to create a buying group that will benefit the village each time kerosene is purchased from Compass Energy by residents of Thornby.

Many will have spoken to Trevor Reay (formerly from Watson Fuels) and along with Tony Watson, he has been instrumental in the success of this relatively new company that is providing fuel users with an alternative supplier where customer service and good value for money is paramount.

Compass Energy have agreed to pay the Thornby Parish Meeting **£5 for every 1000 litres of fuel that is purchased by a resident of Thornby.** There is no contract involved and residents are free to buy their fuel from whichever supplier they choose, although we encourage you to give Compass a try. All you need to do is ask for a price and if you decide to order, make sure that you mention you are a Thornby resident and the donation will be credited to the Parish Meeting account. We are currently investigating purchasing village gateways to help try and reduce the speed of traffic on the Welford Road through the village. Any money received from Compass Energy will be put towards this cause, for the benefit of the whole village.

Contact Compass Energy on 01604 345526 or Trevor Reay on 07702 867349 or compassenergy.co.uk



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MESSAGE FROM REVEREND ALLISON TWIGG, THE UPLANDS GROUP OF CHURCHES

CHURCH NEWS

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another (1 Peter 4:11)

I want to start today by saying thank you. Thank you to all those who work quietly in the background to make the villages of the Uplands Group of Churches a great place to live. If I tried to make a list I am sure that I would cause offence by missing a group or organisation but you only have to flick through the pages of this magazine to see that there are many groups in our lovely villages where groups of volunteers work to provide activities and services to others.

The churches are part of this and the church would not run without its group of volunteers – I am so grateful for all that they do. Then there are the Parish Councillors, The Rec Committees, Village Hall Committees, Scouting and Guiding groups, Sports Clubs, Gardening Club, MMM, MU, WI, PTAs and those that put this magazine together to name but a few - all led by volunteers. Volunteers make an immeasurable difference in people's lives and serve with the intention of helping others. Did you know that volunteering can benefit your health, as well?

Firstly it improves physical and mental health. Volunteer activities keep people moving and thinking at the same time. Research has found that volunteering provides benefits to physical and mental health, with volunteers reporting better physical health than do non-volunteers. Research also shows that volunteering leads to lower rates of depression and anxiety. Volunteering reduces stress and increases relaxed and positive feelings by releasing dopamine. By spending time in service to others, volunteers report feeling a sense of meaning and appreciation, both given and received, which can have a stress-reducing effect.

Secondly, volunteering provides a sense of purpose and can teach valuable skills. The work that volunteers provide gives them a sense of purpose, especially when volunteering in the

areas they find meaningful. Volunteers experience greater increases in life satisfaction and self-esteem.

Finally volunteering gives opportunities to nurture new and existing relationships. It increases social interaction and helps build a support system based on common interests. One of the best ways to make new friends and strengthen existing relationships is to participate in a shared activity.

There are a wide variety of opportunities to volunteer in every community, whether you are interested in youth, environmental, health, religious or community causes. I am privileged to sit on a variety of local community and charitable committees, and I am glad to contribute to the villages in this way. Yet I notice that very often there is a great overlap between the group of people that serve in this way – which means that a lot of work is being done by the same smaller group of people. I am sure that all our village groups would welcome new volunteers to help them – in fact at a recent meeting I was at, the search for new volunteers was likened to that for the Holy Grail!

With that in mind...if you could help your village church in any way perhaps by offering to clean, to garden, to flower arrange or fund raise, we would be very grateful of the help! This may not be for you but there are many other opportunities to be had in your village. Each of us has talents and gifts that could be used to help others and make our villages an even more wonderful place to live.

And if not you- then who?

With prayers for you all,

Reverend Allison



FOOD BANK—GUILSBOROUGH

Our Church has been involved with Foodbank Daventry for approximately 10 years now. We began by donating all the produce from our Harvest Festival each year. This gradually progressed to having baskets for donations, initially in the church and then at the village shop. This week we have also installed a donation basket in the porch of the church! All The donations are taken to Daventry approximately every four to six weeks depending on quantities.

Foodbank Daventry has been operating since 2010 via Vineyard Community Church and is run almost entirely by volunteers. The aim was to provide essential food supplies to residents of Daventry District and since then thousands of families/individuals have been helped having found themselves in a place where they had nothing to feed themselves or their children.

Access to the Foodbank is by referral from many different agencies. I.e. housing associations, DACT, all schools/nurseries, DDC, social services and many more.

Statistics: 2021 - 1054 referrals received which equates to 39,240 meals. In total 1304 children/dependents benefitted from

the provision. **Almost £35,000 of food donations and £7,000 of toiletries** were given out. Donations are received from major supermarkets - particularly in Daventry, churches such as ours, various individuals plus many other organisations. In these very difficult times I am sure the need will become even greater so we will continue to do what we can to support their cause.

EASTER SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY:

Guilborough 2pm Stations of the Cross with hymns

EASTER DAY:

Cold Ashby; 9.30 am BCP Communion

Cottesbrooke; 11.00 am BCP Communion

Creaton; 9.30 am CW Communion

Guilborough; 9.30 am CW Communion

Hollowell; 6.00 pm Evening Service

Thornby; 9.30 am BCP Communion

CHURCH ROTA

Uplands Group Of Churches – Service Planner April & May 2022

	3rd April 5th of Lent	10 th April Palm Sunday	14th April Maundy Thursday	15th April Good Friday	17th April Easter Day	24 th April Easter 2	1st May Easter 3	8 th May Easter 4	15 th May Easter 5	22 nd May Easter 6 Christian Aid week begins	26 th May Thursday Ascension	29 th May Easter 7 Christian Aid week ends
	Purple	Red	White	Red	White/Gold	White	White	White	White	White	White/Gold	White
Cold Ashby		10.00 Group Service			9.30 BCP Communion	9.30 BCP Communion		10am Group Service Ravensthorpe		9.30 BCP Communion		10am Group Service Cold Ashby
Cottesbrooke	11.00 BCP Communion	Creation			11.00 BCP Communion		11.00am BCP Communion					
Creaton	9.30 BCP Communion		7.30 Eucharist		9.30 CW Communion		9.30am BCP Communion		9.30 CW Communion			
Gullesborough	11.00 CW Communion			2pm Stations of the Cross with hymns	9.30 CW Communion	9.30 CW Communion	11.00am CW Communion		8.30 BCP Communion	9.30 CW Communion		
Hollowell					6pm Evening Service	11.00 CW Communion			11.00 BCP MP Communion	11.00 CW Communion		
Ravensthorpe	8.30 BCP Communion				11.00 CW Communion	11.00 Worship for All	8.30am BCP Communion		9.30 CW Communion	11.00 Worship for All		
Spratton	11.00 Worship for All				11.00 CW Communion	11.00 CW Communion	11.00am Worship for All		8.30 BCP Communion	11.00 CW Communion	8.30am Ascension service	
Thornby	9.30am BCP Communion				9.30am BCP Communion		9.30am BCP Communion					

Monday of Holy Week: 7pm Compline Cold Ashby. Tuesday of Holy Week: 7pm Compline Ravensthorpe. (before Lent group). Wednesday of Holy Week: 7pm Compline Thornby.

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Guilsborough Tennis Club

at Guilsborough Academy ●●●●●

Welcomes new members from surrounding villages - see page 10 for details



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COME AND JOIN US FOR A STREET
STYLE PARTY
SUNDAY 5TH JUNE
2PM AT THE OLD RECTORY

BAR • STALLS • GAMES
BRING YOUR OWN FOOD



HOLLOWELL PLATINUM JUBILEE FESTIVITIES
Saturday 4th June

12pm tea party at the village hall car park. (Bring your own food and drink) village hall bar will be open with food being served from 2pm if required.

- Child and adult games throughout the day
- Cake making competition
- Crowning of the king and queens of Hollowell/Teeton

7pm - till late. Jubilee afterparty the bar will be fully manned. Music and prize for best dress royal.

For more information call Lee on 07720 738861 or Wes 07545 198450.

Cottesbrooke

SAVE the DATE

—
QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE
5th of June

Cold Ashby
Celebrating the Platinum Jubilee
Friday June 3rd

Platinum Generation traditional afternoon tea for our residents aged 70 and over at the Village Hall.

Sunday 5th June
Whole village family celebration at The Playing Fields with traditional games and a village picnic.



HOLLOWELL SAILING CLUB
2-day RYA Learn to Sail Level 1 training course for adults:
April 9-10th or May 7-8th.
Plus... Sailing Tasters back for 2022 on Tuesday evenings from May-July.
Family or friend group bookings - only £20 per session/boat.
For more information and to book visit www.hollowellsc.org.uk



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The Nene Consort, an established recorder group in Northamptonshire (previously based in Creton and with players from our villages) is looking for new members. We play a variety of music and are looking forward, hopefully, to getting back to performing later in the year. New members must be willing to play, or learn to play, different instruments.

We meet on Wednesday evenings in Brixworth and if you are interested, please contact Mary Cooper: cooperm1@btinternet.com or 07977882493

The Uplands Hub is a new facebook group for residents of all our local villages. Request to join, and use it to share news of your **village / club events and activities**. It is not a 'for sale' group (there are other groups for that). For information contact Lisa Phillips on 07895 009099 or link up online!

